

KLAMATH NEWS

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KLAMATH TRIBES:
KLAMATH, MODOC, AND YAHOOSKIN
TREATY OF 1864



Volume 37, Issue 2

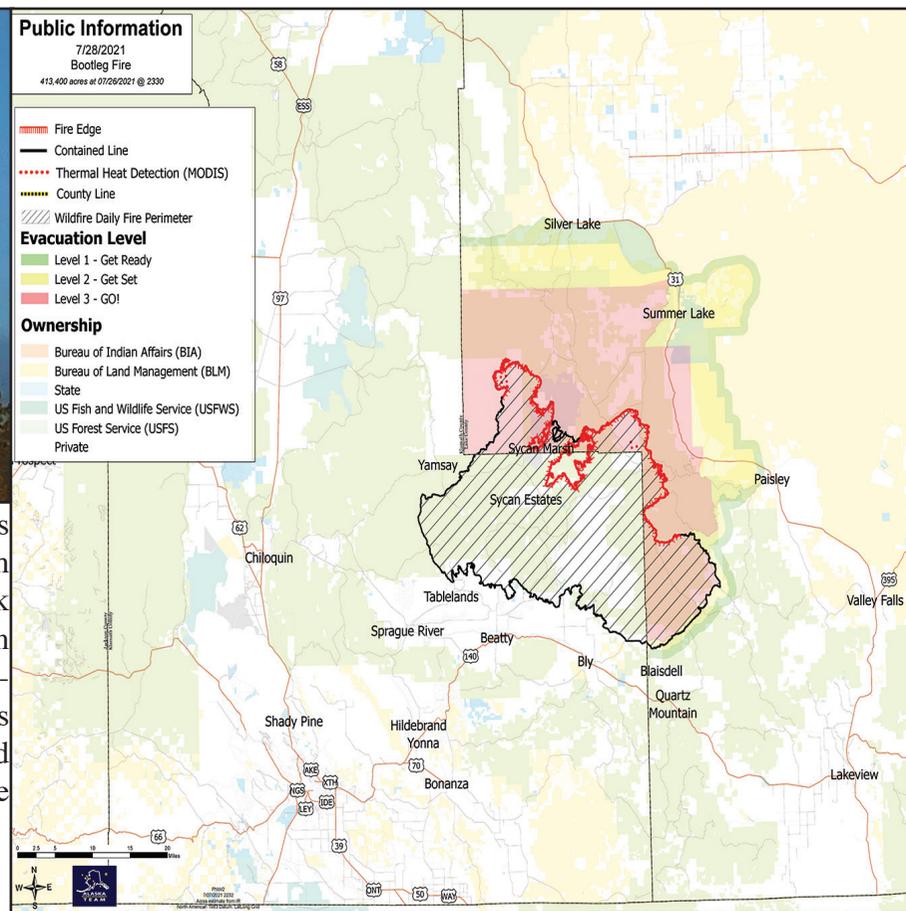
The Klamath Tribes, P.O. Box 436, Chiloquin, OR 97624
1-800-524-9787 or (541) 783-2219 Website: www.klamathtribes.org

2ND QTR. ISSUE 2021
APRIL-JULY

Oregon's Bootleg Fire- Largest fire in the United States burns on Klamath Treaty Lands



Photo courtesy of U.S. Forest Service



Chiloquin, OR.- Since the fire started on July 6, 2021, the Bootleg has been characterized by its size and speed. One reason for the rapid growth is its generation of dangerous fire clouds and fire storms that can spark their own lightening. Hundreds of thousands of acres, much of it within the Fremont-Winema National Forest (the former reservation and current Treaty Right land of the Klamath Tribes) has burned each day. As of July 29, 2021, the fire has burned 413,545 acres, it's Oregon's third largest wildfire since 1900, and it is considered to be the largest fire burning in the United States with only 53% containment.

The Klamath Tribal Council, the governing body for the Sovereign Nation is extremely concerned. They met again July 28th with lead department personnel to discuss planning efforts to move forward after such devastation. The Bootleg fire is within the Klamath Tribes Treaty Right area.

The magnitude of devastation to the forest and ecosystem is unimaginable. The Bootleg Fire has burned sacred parts of the Tribe's ancestral homeland. Klamath Tribal Chairman, Don Gentry said, "Our people still visit these areas to hunt, gather, pray and just spend time. There are traditional practitioners that pray and perform ceremonies there. It's just heartbreaking to think it actually happened and is still burning. It will take decades, and even then how will the trees, animals, water tributaries and ecosystem fully recover?"

The Klamath Tribes
P.O. Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624

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The *Klamath News* is a Publication of the Klamath Tribes, (the Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin Band of Snake Indians).

*** Distribution:**

Publications are distributed quarterly or as funding allows.

*** Deadline:**

Information submitted for publication must be received by the 15th of the month- (for the next quarterly publication).

*** Submissions:**

All submissions must be in electronic format.

Submissions should be emailed and not exceed 500 words. Submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number. Submissions are used as fillers and publication is strictly dependent upon space availability. We cannot guarantee publication of any article or submission.

***Order of Priority for Newsletter:**

- #1- Tribal Government/Administration Information
- #2- Tribal Program Information
- #3- Associated Tribal and Community Public Information
- #4- Fillers (when space is available).

Letters to the Editor: Letters are viewed as Associated Tribal Information. However, they must be less than 500 words. Any and All articles may be edited for clarity and length. Letters are subject to review. Letters/articles that may contain libelous, slanderous, or personal attacks will not be printed.

***Photographs** should be vivid and clear or 300jpg/ppi

*All internal photos by: Taylor Tupper -K-News, unless otherwise noted. ©All photos property of Tribes News dept.

*** Returns:** For any information to be "returned", please include a "self addressed stamped" envelope.

*Electronic submissions will not be returned.

*** Klamath News Rights:**

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*** Change of Address:**

Send address changes (for the Newsletter Only) to the following address. *Please include your old mailing label if possible.

*** Public Information/News Department:**



Ms. Taylor R. Tupper
Public Information/News Manager
News Editor/Publisher
Member of Native American
Journalist Assoc. (NAJA).

For More Information Contact:

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Email: taylor.tupper@klamathtribes.com

or for Daily News visit:

"Dwaa nee pqa - What's Happening"
go to: www.klamathtribes.org



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The Official Klamath Tribes Page

Chairman Gentry continued saying, "The Klamath Tribes have been through bad fires before, we're still recovering from last year's Two Four Two Fire. But at its peak, that fire reached just over 14,000 acres, a small fraction of the Bootleg Fire's current size." Chairman Gentry is aware of tribal and community members who had to evacuate, particularly near Bly and Beatty, but fortunately no tribal homes or structures have been destroyed so far, and the Tribe gives thanks that no lives have been lost.

He added, "Our people have been here for over 14,000 years according to the archaeological evidence, our oral history tells us we was created here since the beginning of time. We have been here, we used the area so there's cultural resources," he said. "It's a devastating impact, I just feel for the families and our community, we've been directly affected."

Members of the Klamath Tribes have been sitting in on Fire fighting meetings with the U.S. Forest Service and other agencies to ensure tribal needs are represented. "I bring that up so that everyone and all the different cooperators and stakeholders in the meetings are aware of the areas of significance to the tribes," said Klamath Tribes Emergency Manager Zak Jackson. "These areas are important to the Tribes, I try to make sure that's well coordinated with all the people there."

As the fire has continued to explode in size over the past weeks, its containment levels have also increased - up to 53% as of Wednesday evening. The entirety of the containment lies on the Bootleg Fire's southwest edge, closer to Hwy's 97 and 140. It continues to grow uncontained on its northern end and has officially merged with the nearby Log Fire.

"As the winds and the topography keep pushing the fire in a different direction, you're seeing decreased fire activity. This is also the oldest part of the fire. You're almost into the third week of the fire, so those fuels are already dying out," said Incident Management Team spokesman Scott Babinowich. "There's really not a lot of fuel and then everything is being pushed in another direction. That combined with the lines is allowing that [containment] number to rise." Crews battling the fire got an unexpected lift on Monday when some scattered rain hit the fire, but according to Babinowich, the forecast remains extremely dry and fire-friendly for the next 10 days. He says it's possible the fire will keep burning in some areas all the way until the end of the season and the beginning of the winter rains.

Many of the old-growth Ponderosa Pine trees lost were up to 500 years old. Gentry is worried some parts of the forest, particularly those crucial to the Klamath Tribes history and culture, may never come back."It's not going to be the same as it was in my lifetime, by any stretch of the imagination," he said. "We're survivors, and we'll survive this. But a big part of who we are, since we're so connected to the land, has been lost."

For more information contact Klamath Tribal Council at 541-783-2219 or Fire contact:



Incident Contacts



Bootleg Fire Information
Email: 2021.bootleg@firenet.gov
Phone: 541-482-1331
Hours: 7 AM - 8:30 PM

Many prayers for safety and blessings for all those who work tirelessly to protect us and save the lands from loloq's - Fire.

Exercising Treaty Rights in Bootleg Fire Closure Area of the Winema-Fremont National Forest

Dear Klamath Tribal Members,

The USFS has determined to close off large portions of Klamath Treaty Rights area due to extreme public safety risk associated with the Bootleg Fire. The Tribal Council has contacted those enforcing the closure and informed them to anticipate likely encounters with Klamath Tribal members exercising their Treaty Rights within the closure area, in areas where there is not an imminent safety risk. This communication has been made to ensure that our members will not be ticketed or harassed while exercising treaty rights.

If an encounter is made, please present your Tribal Identification to verify your Tribal identity and affirm that you are exercising your Treaty Rights. Please be aware that you may be prohibited access to some areas where there is significant safety risk due to the extreme, unpredictable fire behavior and fire suppression operations. If you believe that you been denied access inappropriately, even after presenting your Tribal I.D., please contact the Tribal Council at (541) 783-2219.



THE KLAMATH TRIBES
KLAMATH - MODOC - YAHOO SKIN

SPECIAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

In-person Social Distancing Meeting
501 Chiloquin Blvd. (Tribal Admin.) and
35601 Choke Cherry Way (Goos oLgi Gowa)
Chiloquin, Oregon

Agenda

- Glass Butte Mitigation
- Land Opportunity
- NAGRPA Ancestors Returned
- Draft Ordinance - C&H

JULY 31, 2021 | STARTS AT 10 A.M

To continue COVID-19 Mitigation we request G.C. members RSVP for this event. If you plan on attending please reach out to Tribal Council support staff:
Jennifer Vigil: jennifer.vigil@klamathtribes.com
541-783-2219

&

Joseph Allen Jr.: joseph.allen@klamathtribes.com

Notice! Current Office Protocol!

July 28, 2021

The Klamath Tribes announce current Protocol for Klamath Tribal Offices to the Public regarding the COVID-19 Health Pandemic

During these uncertain times, things are subject to change without notice, however we will do our best to keep you informed.

Follow us on Facebook: "The Official Klamath Tribes" & "Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services" - For daily notices -

Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services

***Requirements for the Public at Tribal Health facilities: Entry screenings and Temperature checks will still be required. *Face masks required for employees and public!**

Dr. Obinna O. Oleribe; DRPH, FRCP, MBA
Klamath Tribes, Health General Manager
For more information contact:
Office (541) 882-1487
Kimberly Kent - Admin Officer
kimberly.kent@klm.portland.ihs.gov

Klamath Tribal Administration

***Requirements for the Public at Administration buildings, etc: *Face masks required for employees and public!**

For more information contact:
George B. López, MPA
Klamath Tribes, Administration General Manager
Office (541) 783-2219 or Cell (541)363-2188
email: george.lopez@klamathtribes.com

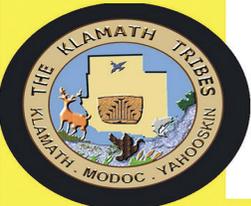
Upcoming General Council Meetings

July 31, 2021 – Saturday – 10:00 am –
Special General Council - Items will include:
Glass Butte Project - NAGPRA Issue,
Draft Ordinance - C&H

August 26, 2021 – Thursday - 2:00pm –
Regular General Council – Items to be determined

For more information contact:

Roberta Frost
Tribal Council Secretary
The Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624
(541) 783-2219 ext 170
(541) 892-1458





The Klamath Tribes

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions): Additional COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance from CARES Act Fund (June 2021)

This document provides answers to FAQ's regarding additional general assistance fund allocations to both tribal members who have previously applied via "COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program 2 (the second distribution) and those who have not yet received emergency assistance. The latter group has not yet expressed need and demonstrated impacts through The Klamath Tribes COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program application process.

For those tribal members who have already applied and received assistance (the second distribution), the Klamath Tribes will utilize the previously approved applicant information. The forthcoming assistance (third distribution) is for mitigation of continuing economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on tribal members as demonstrated through the previous application process. For these tribal members (those who have already been through the application process), we will generate payments and include the following disclosure:

"In recognition of the continued financial impact Tribal citizens are experiencing, The Klamath Tribes Tribal Government has determined it necessary to offset those impacts by providing additional COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance. As a Tribal citizen who received prior emergency assistance, upon endorsement of this payment you are certifying those needs still exist and that if your circumstances or financial impact no longer remain you will return the assistance payment to The Klamath Tribes Tribal Government."

Tribal members who have turned 18 since the second assistance program, or who were enrolled after December 31, 2020, or who did not apply for the second assistance program, must submit an application to be eligible for the COVID-19 General Welfare Assistance Program.

Q&A:

1. Question: How much is the additional COVID-19 general welfare emergency assistance to adult Tribal members?

Answer: The additional assistance was approved by Tribal Council in the amount of \$2,000.00 per eligible enrolled tribal member over the age of 18.

2. Question: How does this apply to multi-generational homes or multi-adult homes?

Answer: Tribal Council approved the benefit for every eligible enrolled adult Tribal member; in homes where two or more eligible adults reside, each adult will receive \$2,000.00 in assistance.



The Klamath Tribes

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions): Additional COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance from CARES Act Fund (June 2021)

3. Question: Is there a new application that needs to be submitted by each Tribal Member?

Answer:

- No, applicants who have completed an application for Program 2 will not need to complete an additional application. Additional COVID-19 general welfare emergency assistance will be provided based on the continued impacts and necessary expenditures in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- For those Tribal Members who did not apply for general welfare emergency assistance in Program 2, you will need to complete and submit a COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance Application.
- However, if your address has changed since the last distribution, contact Shanti Treetop at 541-783-2219 to update your file.

4. Question: How long will the additional assistance and new application period be open?

Answer: From July 15, 2021 to December 30, 2021.

5. Question: Can The Klamath Tribes put COVID-19 Relief funds in minor trust accounts?

Answer: No, COVID-19 Relief funds are to mitigate the *immediate* effects of the COVID-19 Virus Pandemic with an expiration date of December 31, 2021.

6. Question: Why does the additional assistance not include additional benefits for COVID-19 positive tests?

Answer: There is assistance for COVID-19 positive individuals through other Tribal Programs. With the advent of vaccinations, Tribal Members are encouraged to protect themselves and others through those provisions.

7. Question: When do I get my check?

Answer: The target date for mail out is August 15, 2021.

**FREE COURT TRAINING!
ARE YOU INTERESTED
IN LEARNING ABOUT
PEACEMAKER COURT?**

PEACEMAKER COURT

Did you know that the Klamath Tribes has a Peacemaker Court? This court provides a non-adversarial alternative to traditional court and uses culturally appropriate mediation to solve problems collaboratively.

Tribal members and members of other tribes are invited to attend this free training to learn more about Peacemaker Court. The trainings are limited to the first 20 people that register. Please call today to sign up. Trainings will be provided by Klamath Tribes Judiciary.

TO ENROLL CALL (541) 783-3020 FROM 8 AM TO 4:30 PM, MON-FRI. PLEASE CONTACT GEORGENE NELSON, OR MICHELE LYON.

Trainings will be July 22, 2021 and August 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Training location is at the Klamath Tribes Administration Auditorium in Chiloquin. Light refreshments will be available.





The Klamath Tribes

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions): Additional COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance from CARES Act Fund (June 2021)

8. Question: If a married couple or a couple in a relationship filed one application that was inclusive of both individuals, will that couple receive one general assistance check in the amount of \$4,000?

Answer: No, each eligible Klamath Tribal Member will receive their own \$2,000.00 general assistance payment. Information will be retrieved from the initial application and processed.

10. Question: How will newly enrolled members and Tribal Members who recently turned 18 years old be notified of the COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance Program?

Answer: New Klamath Tribal Members will be mailed an application. Contact information will be obtained from Member Benefits Department.

11. Question: If I am a non-Klamath Tribal Member and have a minor dependent who is a Tribal Member am I eligible for a general assistance payment?

Answer: Yes, you are eligible for a \$2,000.00 general assistance payment per household.

12. Question: What if my address has changed since the second COVID-19 General Welfare Emergency Assistance program closed?

Answer: Contact Shanti Treetop at 541-783-2219 to update your address information.

####

LIFE SKILLS LEARNING CIRCLE

**A time to connect with others
&
Learn new skills for healthy living!**

Who: Open to all Tribal community members

What: Budgeting, Time Management, Nutrition, Self-Care, and more .

When: Every Thursday from 2pm to 3pm

Where: Klamath Tribal Health
Youth & Family Guidance Center
635 Main St. ~ Klamath Falls

For more information, please call 541-884-1841

Klamath Tribes Referendum and Election Notice 2021 Referendum

Due to a lack of quorum at General Council Meetings and the need to conduct Tribal business, the Tribal Council has opted to have a referendum that provides an opportunity for all eligible Klamath Tribal Members to vote on the following documents.

- Electronic Meeting Policy;
- Standard Operating Procedures for General Council Meeting Facilitation via Electronic Technology;
- General Welfare Ordinance;
- Domestic Violence Ordinance;
- Worker's Compensation Ordinance

Referendum Ballots will be mailed out on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. **Your referendum ballot must be returned by Thursday, September 30, 2021** or it will not be counted. Counting of ballots will be done on October 1, 2021.

2022 Klamath Tribes Election

The Klamath Tribes nominations for Tribal Council and Chief Judge Positions will be held in February, 2022. If you wish to be nominated and accept that nomination for placement on the election ballot, you must be present at the February General Council meeting to accept your nomination in writing before the adjournment of that meeting, per the requirement of the Klamath Tribes Election Ordinance.

Per the Klamath Court Ordinance, the Chief Judge process for placement on the ballot is as follows: Any person who is certified by the Tribal Council as meeting the judicial qualification requirements of this Ordinance shall be eligible to be placed on an election ballot of the Klamath Tribes or be otherwise nominated to fill a vacancy on the Tribal Courts. Requests for a certification from the Tribal Council shall be made in writing on the forms provided by the Tribal Council, and submitted not later than the second Tuesday of January before the judicial election.

***Please make sure that your mailing address is current with the Member Benefits Department as ballots will be mailed to those addresses on file.**

For more information on the Election Process, contact Kathy Rich, Election Clerk at 541-783-2219, ext. 101.



Orange netting outlines what will become a lake channel, allowing endangered fish safe passage.

Wetlands transformation

July 13, 2021 by ODOT Communications Team

Orange netting outlines what will become a lake channel, allowing endangered fish safe passage. Dr. Alex Gonyaw photographed, Senior Fisheries Biologist for the Klamath Tribes.

ODOT- Oregon Department of Transportation partners with Klamath Tribes to turn a construction project into a wetlands restoration. An amazing transformation is taking place on a 40 acre parcel of fallow land on the shores of Klamath Lake. This land, the ancestral home of the Klamath and Modoc people, is coming back to life thanks to a partnership that includes the Klamath Tribes, the Oregon Department of Transportation and contractors.

In 2019, ODOT's Highway Region 4 team began acquiring an area on the southeast shore of Klamath Lake. This arid parcel of land would serve as an ideal place for crews to restore, helping offset construction impacts affecting wetlands on the other side of the lake. "This is part of a larger wetland restoration that will be an offset for not only Oregon 140 but future projects, too," said Jamie Speer, project manager with Western Federal Lands, ODOT's contractor for the construction portion of the restoration project.

In several locations around the state, we manage wetland mitigation banks, where we make "deposits" of restored habitat land from which we can make "withdrawals" when our projects impact or disturb wetland areas. This project will be a deposit.

Working together for good

The Klamath Tribes quickly realized this wetlands project could possibly serve as prime habitat for two endangered species of sucker fish reared in hatcheries and needing a home: the shortnose sucker and the Lost River sucker. Working together, everyone agreed that this re-made wetland full of marshes, ponds and lake channels would be the perfect new sanctuary for these fish – ones that have been nearly eradicated from Klamath Lake.

Klamath Tribal member and Tribal Aquatics Employee, Kenny Knight, holds the celebrated sucker fish (C'waam) during their annual ceremony. *The c'waam- The cleaner of the waters.



According to Dr. Alex Gonyaw, Senior Fisheries biologist for the Klamath Tribes, these fish are extremely important to tribal members. For thousands of years, the Klamath Tribes considered both species of sucker fish a key food source, Gonyaw said. "When winters were tough and seemed to never end, the Tribes could count on seeing the plentiful return of the fish up the rivers each spring," he said. They knew then that the struggle of winter was ending.

As time progressed and settlers began moving into the area, farmers turned wetlands into cattle fields. Habitat loss and poor water quality made life challenging for young fish, and the return of this valuable food source to the rivers dwindled. By 1988, both species of suckers were listed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as endangered species.

A hopeful future

The Klamath Tribes have been raising these endangered sucker fish in their hatchery on the Sprague River. When the water levels rise next spring, staff will stock the new ponds with around 500 suckers as a test to see how they survive. The U.S. Geological Survey is providing tracking beacons for the fish, so their movements in and out of the wetlands can be monitored.

ODOT Environmental Program Coordinator Allison Cowie said the project will help young fish survival rates and make it easier for them to make their way into the deeper parts of the lake.

"I feel very encouraged to work with the Klamath Tribes and try something new that hasn't been done yet to help these fish," she said. "I feel really good about this project."

Today, the Klamath Tribes hold an annual ceremony called "Return of the C'waam" (the Klamath language word for the Lost River sucker), where they gather to pray for the plentiful return of this sacred fish. With a little bit of help, the future will bring a larger return of these important fish.

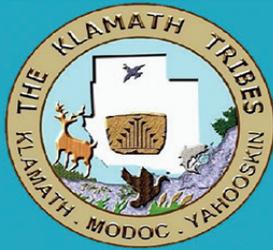
Western Federal Lands plans to have the wetland restoration construction completed by September of this year, while planting and stocking of fish will continue throughout 2022.

There are a few things left to do for ODOT project:**Comments by Dr. Alex Gonyaw**

Since July 13, soil material has been moved to create a mix of permanent emergent and ephemeral wetland, open water, and wet upland habitat. This approach creates the most benefit for fish and wildlife by creating a mosaic of habitat types and niche diversity. Channels are now being dug from Upper Klamath Lake to the ponded area, creating permanently watered healthy aquatic habitat for juvenile C'waam and Koptu raised by the Klamath Tribes to use prior to entering the lake.

The final connection to the lake will be performed at some point during the summer, allowing the new wetland habitats to be hydrologically connected with Upper Klamath Lake. Root wads will also be added to create habitat complexity and hiding places for many species. In this and subsequent years, native plants will be established until the wetland reaches a satisfactory functional state. Once the water quality in the new wetland reaches an equilibrium, the Klamath Tribes will regularly release fish to ensure the continued existence of these endangered and sacred species for perpetuity.

For more information,
Dr. Alex Gonyaw
Senior Fisheries Biologist
Office: 541.827.5224
Alex.gonyaw@klamathtribes.com



Community Services Department

LIHEAP COOLING ASSISTANCE

\$210-\$600 towards Electric Bill

as per Benefit Matrix

Elder's application period begins June 1, 2021, elder's applications will be priority first 2 weeks of June, all others may begin applying second week of June.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2021

Applications available via postal mail, email, Tribes website, and several Tribal offices. No in person appointments. If there are questions, in-take staff will call you. Shut-off is not required.

The regular LIHEAP will resume October 2021, and eligible households may apply for assistance again

For information contact Rachel Miller at 541-783-2219 ext. 174!

Did You Know?**The Klamath Tribes has a Respite Relief Program:**

Respite Relief Services are to provide temporary relief to the primary caregiver, from their caregiving responsibilities. The Native American Family Caregiver Support program can serve two types of unpaid family caregivers: (Note: foster care payments are not considered "income")

1. Family caregiver: An adult family member, or another individual, who is an unpaid informal provider of in-home and community care to an older Indian (60+ years of age, enrolled in any federally recognized tribe) or to an individual with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder with neurological and organic brain dysfunction.

Respite is in the form of contracting the Elder's family or non-family member(s) to provide care to the Elder. Schedule, care and duties are determined on a case-by-case basis.

2. Grandparent or older individual who is a relative caregiver: A grandparent or step-grandparent of a child, or a relative of a child by blood, marriage, or adoption, who is 55 years of age or older, enrolled in a federally recognized tribe, and:

- Lives with the child;
- Is the primary caregiver of the child because the biological or adoptive parents are unable or unwilling to serve as the primary caregiver of the child; and
- Has a legal relationship to the child, as such legal custody or guardianship, or is raising the child informally

Respite may come in many forms such as: a Child Care Provider, on-call Babysitter, After-School Program Fees, Summer Camps, Spring/Winter Break Programs, etc.

3. Must reside within the Tribes service delivery area; Klamath County of Oregon.

For information or application
contact Donna Weiser at 541-783-2764 ext. 108

**Are you aged 60 years or older?
Do you live alone?**

**Would you be interested in a Medical Alert
System and/or Security Monitoring System?**

**Community Services is collecting data
to determine interest.**

**Interested elders, please contact
Rachel Miller in Community
Services at 541-783-2219 ext. 174**

FREE Expungement Services: Removing Criminal History From your Record!

The Klamath Tribes is working with RecordSponge to provide FREE criminal record expungement services this summer. The law governing expungement eligibility have recently changed, and so many more people will be eligible than before.

Criminal record expungement may be an important step for folks looking to get back into the workforce.

If you are interested in having an attorney take a look at your record for free, please go to: www.qiu-qiulaw.com/clinics and complete the form. Once you do, an attorney will look up your records and reach out to you within 48 hours with detailed notes on the eligibility of your charges.

*Please note that this service only applies to Oregon criminal records.

An expungement clinic for those who qualify will be August 23rd from 10am to 3pm in Chiloquin and will be conducted by RecordSponge attorney Michael Zhang from qiu-qiulaw.com.

Go to the website www.qiu-qiulaw.com/clinics and see if you qualify today! And it's free!

For more information contact:
Jennifer Ochoa
Klamath Tribes Executive Secretary
(541) 783-2219 ext. 148
email: jennifer.ochoa@klamathtribes.com
www.klamathtribes.org

Dozens of safety measures are in place as schools in Klamath County do everything they can to operate safely for students and educators. Schools all around Oregon are using face coverings, testing for COVID-19 onsite, washing hands with soap and water or using hand sanitizer, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces. Oregon schools are also using distancing of three to six feet apart, relying on stable cohorts to group kids safely, and maximizing airflow in closed spaces and more.

“We are so excited students are returning to the classroom,” said April Campbell, director of Oregon Department of Education’s Office of Indian Education. “This has been an extremely challenging year, and many tribal communities have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and this impact has upended every aspect of our lives, particularly for our kids. Knowing native peoples are resilient, we are optimistic for the future. The first priority is the safety of our students, youth, families, teachers, staff and the community. All school districts are taking the necessary steps to keep students and our communities safe.”

Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has stressed the importance of in-person learning for students.

“Schools and in-person learning not only provide the education that Oregon’s children need to succeed, but schools also provide for social, mental and emotional growth and support, nutritious meals and access to medical care,” said Colt Gill, director of the ODE. “Going back to in-person learning is also an opportunity for students to have fun and see friends, which can help ease anxiety, depression or other mental and emotional challenges caused by the pandemic.”

For more information about how local school districts are keeping kids, families, teachers and staff safe, visit <http://www.kfalls.k12.or.us>. For more information about the steps schools throughout Oregon are taking to operate safely visit Oregon.gov/readyschools.

The Joseph S. Ball Scholarship Information

The Joseph S. Ball scholarship is currently accepting applications. The scholarship was created by Joseph S. Ball for individuals who are members of the Klamath Tribe, which is defined as those people currently enrolled or who can prove descendancy from someone on the 1954 rolls.

Mr. Ball was a Modoc/Klamath Indian, born in 1914 on the Klamath Indian Reservation. He built, owned and operated the Sand Creek service station and coffee shop with his wife, Evelyn, from 1954 until they retired in 1973.

He was a former tribal councilman and was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Remaining Members. Mr. Ball passed away in 2005.

High school seniors who are planning to attend a trade school, community college or four year university and expect to have a 3.0 GPA their senior year of high school are encouraged to apply for this scholarship. Please note the application deadline is October 31, 2021 (May 1st all other years).

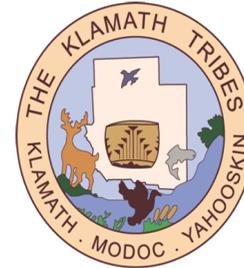
This scholarship is being administered by U.S. Bank Charitable Services Group and applications may be obtained by emailing charitableervices@usbank.com



Social Services Department Children & Family Services (CFS) Program Program Spotlight

Who	16 Youth most previous ICWA cases and either in guardianships and few currently in foster care 2 Adult Relatives 11 Staff 2 SSD, 4 CFS, 1 YFGC, and 4 Oregon DHS
What	CFS Trip to Lava Beds and Medicine Lake, California
When	Tuesday, July 13, 2021
Where	Lava Beds and Medicine Lake, California
Purpose	The CFS Program invited Tribal children (at least 9 years of age) in foster care, relative placement, in-home case, active assessment, adoption or guardianship to participate in the event. The purpose of the event was to provide cultural support for children, families, and guardians involved in the child welfare system. <i>The CFS Program wants all its Tribal children in foster care or guardianships to know that <u>you matter and we care about you</u>; we look forward to facilitating more events and activities in the future.</i>
Highlights	The event was enjoyed by all who attended. This event served as a major milestone for the CFS Program, which has not hosted a trip in many years. Some of the highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Began our day with prayer, smudge, song, and introductions • Youth introduced themselves in the way they knew how; CFS Program Manager explained to some youth who their grandparents are to assist with understanding their genealogy and connection to The Klamath Tribes • Bonding which took place between youth who just met for the first time • Youth listening to details of the Modoc War (along with pre and post context) while being in the physical spaces the events took place • Prayer ties were prepared by Staff which included sage, cedar, wild celery root, tobacco, and lavender; each participant was given a tie to leave at the post • Listening to the youth sing loudly to songs on the radio was heartwarming • DHS Caseworker outside of Klamath County brought enrolled Tribal youth hundreds of miles and overnight to participate in the event • Local DHS District Manager and Child Welfare Director participated in the event; first-of-its-kind collaboration between CFS Program and the local office • One staff member and some youth had previously been in foster care, while some were still in foster care. One staff member had previous engagement with child welfare and worked hard to get their children returned back. It felt full-circle in that everyone had some connection to child welfare in different aspects, but all were able to come together and enjoy the day.

KLAMATH TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION IS HIRING!



The Klamath Tribes is looking to fill a wide variety of positions, both regular and temporary positions. We have an excellent Employee benefit package.

Please visit The Klamath Tribes' Website to see what is available. You can reach a list of open jobs and an application by going to the following:

<https://klamathtribes.org> -> Administration -> Employment -> Jobs

Frequently Asked Questions:

Does the Tribe hire Felons?

- Yes, we have numerous positions that don't require a background check or have reduced restrictions.
- Positions that work with children must clear more stringent backgrounds as per public law 101-630

Does Indian Preference prevent non-enrolled people from working for the Tribe?

- No, Indian preference gives qualified Tribal members the first opportunity for hire, but does not prevent non-tribal people from hire, if they qualify.

What are the Employee Benefits for Regular Hires?

- 14 paid holidays, plus 2 paid personal leave days
- 4 hours of accrued paid sick leave for each two week pay period
- 4 hours of accrued paid vacation leave for each two week pay period; increases to 6 hours after 5 years of employment and 8 hours after 10 years of service with the Tribe
- Fully paid Employee Medical/Dental/Vision insurance; partially paid for dependents
- \$50,000 employer paid life insurance
- Employer paid short-term disability
- 401(k) retirement plan, employer pays the equivalent of 3% without a match to the plan
- And more



THE KLAMATH TRIBES

RENTAL ASSISTANCE

You may qualify for assistance if the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your ability to pay your rent and utilities

The Klamath Tribes Housing Department Pandemic Rental Assistance Program is here to help everyone, regardless of tribal affiliation!

COVID-19 Rental Assistance can help with:

- Past Due & Future Rent
- Unpaid & Current Utility Bills
- Avoiding and Ending Homelessness (see below)

Who Can Apply?

- Enrolled Tribal Members or Descendants Worldwide
- Non-Tribal Low Income Households

How to Apply:

- **Online:** www.klamathtribes.org
- **Call to Request an Application**
 - **KTHD COVID-19 Program**
 - **(541) 783-2219 ext. 200 or 201**

Other Eligible Expenses:

- Relocation Fees
(Temporarily/Permanently Displaced due to COVID-19)
- Application/Screening Fees
- Accrued Late Fees
- Rental Deposit
- Avoiding Homelessness (One Week or Longer at Motel/Hotel)



Eligibility Criteria:

- Must rent your home
- Must earn 80% or less of area median income, reference (<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html>)
- Experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 such as:
 - Reduced income
 - Job loss (unemployment)
 - Reduction in hours/pay
 - Unable to work due to no childcare/school
 - Underlying medical condition-staying home to prevent exposure
 - Over age 50 enduring increased costs due to covid-19
 - Disabled and enduring increased cost due to covid-19
 - Incurred costs (hospital bills, medication cost)
 - Costs and expenses to protect and preserve individual health
 - Costs that directly affected household's ability to provide food, housing or other subsistence needs
 - Funeral cost
 - Emergency needs to preserve or protect Klamath Tribal lives, traditions and customs
 - Other financial hardship

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by a federal grant awarded to The Klamath Tribes Housing Department by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Financial assistance shall not be duplicative of any other federally funded assistance provided to such household for the same claimed expenses.

Program subject to availability of funds.

NOTICE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS Surplus Office Furniture Give-away

Klamath Tribal Administration will be making available to tribal members on Friday, August 20, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, the following office furniture that has been declared surplus.

Office Furniture

(chairs, desks, file cabinets, office equipment)

*Note: items are “as is” and may not be in operating condition. Repairs may need to be made to be functional.

LOCATION

All surplus office furniture items will be set up at the Klamath Tribes Maintenance Building located at:
Tribal Administration, 501 Chiloquin Blvd
Chiloquin, Oregon

TIME SCHEDULE/Bring I.D.

Tribal Elders/Veterans: 8am-9am

Tribal College Students: 9am-11am

Tribal High School Students: 11am-1pm

Tribal Members: 1pm-3pm

Tribal Employees: 3pm-4pm

The time schedule will be adhered to – if you fall into one of the above-mentioned categories, that is your scheduled time.

A priority system for the release of the furniture and equipment has been developed. First priority will be for tribal elders/veterans; second priority is for tribal members currently enrolled in college; third priority is for tribal members currently attending high school; fourth priority is for general tribal membership; and fifth priority is for tribal members currently employed by the Tribes. College and high school students need to bring proof of school attendance and everyone will need to bring their tribal enrollment card.

Each individual will need to check in with the Receptionist. No one will be allowed to pick up any furniture and/or equipment for someone else or set aside for anyone else. One item per person. You need to be present at the designated times, to select furniture. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Questions call the Maintenance Program,
at 783-2219 ext. 143 and ask for Todd.**

Come Join us at the 5th Annual

KLAMATH

TRIBES



CLEAR YOUR CALENDARS!

August 10th, 11th, & 12th.

9:30am—3:30pm

This year's Klamath Tribes Youth Summit will be **virtual** again! While social distancing, the summit will still have the following:

⇒General Welcoming Sessions

⇒Workshops

⇒Incentive raffle items, T-Shirts, & more!

Open to ALL tribal youth ages 12-24

Register here at: <https://tinyurl.com/KlamathYouthSummit>

For more information contact: pres-
ton.lewis@klamathtribes.com

(541) 783-2219 x111

Help Is Here

Monthly payments for families with kids

Raising kids can be expensive, and the Child Tax Credit is here to help. President Biden's American Rescue Plan increased the amount of the 2021 Child Tax Credit to support families with children.

The full benefit of the Child Tax Credit is now \$300 per month per child under age 6 and \$250 for each child age 6 to 17.

Did you file taxes in the last 2 years? Then you don't have to do anything to get the money you're already owed!

If you filed your 2020 taxes this year or filed your 2019 taxes last year, or used the IRS "Non-Filer Portal" to get a stimulus check last year, you don't need to do anything. The IRS will automatically send you a monthly payment by direct deposit or check starting on July 15, 2021.

The Child Tax Credit is \$3,000 to \$3,600 per child with advanced monthly payments.

In order to get money to families quickly, the IRS will pay half of the credit as monthly payments now and the other half when you file your taxes next year. In total, you'll receive a total of \$3,600 for each child under 6 and \$3,000 for each child between 6 and 17.

Didn't file taxes in the last 2 years? There's 1 easy step to start getting your Child Tax Credit payments.

Just fill out a simple form to begin receiving your monthly Child Tax Credit payments. You can access it by going to childtaxcredit.gov

All you'll need to apply are:

- A reliable mailing address
- E-mail address
- Your children's Social Security Numbers
- Your Social Security Number (or ITIN)
- Your bank account information (if you want to receive your payment by direct deposit)

Eligibility: Most families, even those with little to no income, can receive the full amount. If you are a single parent making less than \$112,500 or a married couple making less than \$150,000—and have children under age 18 who will live with you for more than half of 2021—you are likely eligible for the full benefit. These benefits do not affect your eligibility for other federal benefits like SNAP.

Learn more and check out resources to help you fill out your form at **ChildTaxCredit.gov**

Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services Youth & Family
Guidance Center

niiLaks Sunrise Gathering

Monday August 2, 2021 to welcome
the Sunrise & connect with our
Creator at one of our historically
spiritual sites.

Sunrise at 6:01 am

This Cultural Reawakening gathering is
open to all
Tribal Community Members.

Call (541) 884-1841 to RSVP or for more
information.

Light refreshments will be provided. COVID-
19 safety protocols will be strictly enforced.
Limited transportation from Klamath Falls
& Chiloquin available.

This is an Alcohol, Drug,
& Commercial Tobacco-Free Gathering



RESTORATION RESILIENT RECOVER RECONNECT



**SASQUATCH
Color Run and Walk**

9am - 10:30am
Health ROW & Registration
KTHFS Wellness Center
330 Chiloquin Blvd

10:45am
PHOTO LINEUP
**SASQUATCH Color
RUN**
Chiloquin Park
202 Pioneer St
11am Runners Start

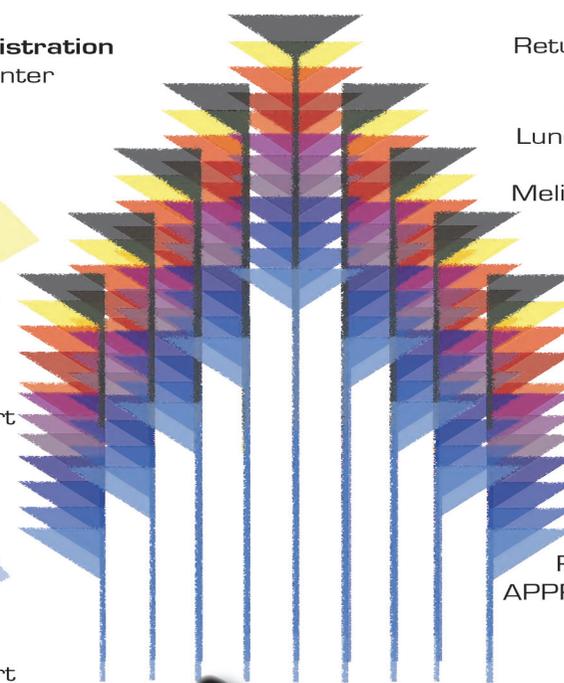
10:45am
PHOTO LINEUP
**SASQUATCH Color
WALK**
Chiloquin Park
202 Pioneer St
11am Walkers Start

Out of the abundance of caution & due to
COVID RISKS, Klamath Tribal Health will screen
all participants & volunteers at each entry for
Health Row, Color Run, and Color Walk.

12:05 pm
Return to 202 Pioneer St
Lunch Prayer
Chairman Don Gentry
Lunch Served - Elders 1st
Catering by
Melissa's Country Kitchen

12:45pm
202 Pioneer St
Runner Recognition
Women's First
Men's First
Girl's First Place
Boy's First Place

12:55pm
CHANCE TO
RECEIVE SEASONALLY
APPROPRIATE **INCENTIVE**
1:30pm Clean - up



**ALL REQUIRED to wear a mask and practice social
distancing while participating in this
event. Sep'keec'a for your help keeping our
community SAFE!!!**

KLAMATH TRIBAL HEALTH & FAMILY SERVICES INVITES YOU TO THE 35th ANNUAL RESTORATION SASQUATCH COLOR RUN & COLOR WALK AUGUST 27, 2021

community event for all-subject to change as needed
absolutely no vape, commercial tobacco, drugs or alcohol
exercise garments guaranteed for first 500 participants only

KLAMATH TRIBAL HEALTH
YOUTH & FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER
PREVENTION PROGRAM

Teen Family Night

FREE TACO BAR DINNER
BINGO & PRIZES
PREVENTION EDUCATION
PRESENTATION

MONDAY AUGUST 2, 2021
5:30PM-7:30PM
SHASTA GRANGE HALL
5831 SHASTA WAY
KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97603

T'A'TAKSN'I STINTATK

Children are Sacred

FOR MORE INFO CALL PREVENTION @ (541) 884-1841

EVENT BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE T'AT'AKSN'I STINTATK
YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION PROJECT FUNDED BY THE
SUBSTANCE ABUSE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION



35th Annual Restoration Celebration Planning Update

August 27, 28, 29, 2021
Chiloquin, Oregon

Events are currently in the
planning stages and Covid
Safety discussions are on-going.

Other events currently planned:

- *Parade - Saturday 10am
- *Powwow - Saturday, for a two
session traditional powwow.
Sunday still in discussion.

Other events (once approved)
Information will be shared via
Facebook, email and Website.