

SPRING 2009

# Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network

## TSWAN Headlines



### A Little Innovation Goes A Long Way

The site of Northwest Maritime Industrial's barge and crane dipping into Foster Reservoir last month initially made residents suspicious. After all, the Corps had previously removed waterway debris using a crane from atop the dam roadway.



As it turns out, this innovative approach to hydropower inspections and waterway maintenance is raising eyebrows within the Army Corps of Engineers as well. **Northwest Maritime, an enterprise of the Siletz Tribal Business Corporation**, marries a traditional barge/crane/tug with two cutting edge sonar technologies, a unique sonar deployment method, and an expert sonar technician. The result is a complete solution of imag-

ing, inspection, waterway construction and maintenance services that has set a new standard for industry safety and efficiency.

Hydropower inspection risks are fairly consistent — an unknown waterway bottom topography, high turbidity, and high velocity flow areas. Each has the potential to render expensive damage to underwater ROV equipment, dangerous conditions for commercial divers, and the potential to limit access entirely. Northwest Maritime's highly adaptable, sectional barge can be transformed into a variety of shapes to maneuver within a wide range of facility areas. This feature allows the crew into tight, confined spaces, unhindered by common risks. And, their unique sonar deployment method means capturing detailed images without having to follow along an unpredictable waterway floor.

Like Foster Reservoir, many Pacific Northwest waterways have multiple uses in addition to producing electricity – recreation, flood control, logging transport, and fish habitat, all necessitating environmentally safe annual removal of log debris around the hydropower facility.

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#### TSWAN Webpage

We have been doing some updating on the TSWAN webpage and hope that you will get a chance to visit it and check out some of the new links. On pages where there are "tips" we are unable to change the entire page, but new pieces will be posted with the smaller links that say things like "for more information." Please let me know if you find any errors so we can have them changed. We put active links to the tribal web pages that exist. If I missed any, please let me know. ~EW~

#### Join In!

We encourage members of TSWAN to submit any announcements or articles they would like published in this newsletter. We WELCOME your participation and hope you will share your successes and events with us.

Please email to:

ksnowden@tswan.org

Or

ewelk@tswan.org

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Rather than dip blindly for waterway debris, Northwest Maritime uses 3-D sonar mapping to create a detailed, prioritized debris removal plan. The technician then uses real-time sonar for pick-and-place removal of the most potentially damaging debris.

The results of the operation speak for themselves. In the case of Foster Dam, Northwest Maritime increased debris removal from 4 truckloads, to more than 75 truckloads, an increase dramatic enough to delay further underwater inspections for four to five years.

“We’ve used our sonar to help forest product companies scan their log ponds and retrieve valuable sunken timber with our crane,” says Dennis Lancaster, Manager. “We’ve also helped public ports and private owners with dredging and piling installation/removal. And we’ve saved state and federal governments, and ultimately the taxpayers, dollars by clearing debris from multi-million dollar dams and keeping important waterways open for business.”



Northwest Maritime Industrial has just completed a highly successful job clearing debris from Oregon’s Foster Dam for the Army Corps of Engineers, and they’re beginning preliminary work for a large dredging and Beach Nourishment project on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. Northwest Maritime has also partnered with engineers on complex dredging projects, including the recent project in Hawaii. The completely self-contained, portable operation has supported government, private and public utility companies, private mills, boat docks, marinas and yacht clubs throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Anyone interested in information about the company can learn more on their website, including a video overview, at: [www.nwmaritimeindustrial.com](http://www.nwmaritimeindustrial.com)

## American Indian Entrepreneurship Program at Gonzaga University

Gonzaga University and the Johnson Scholarship Foundation have been offering an educational program for American Indian educators since 2001 with an emphasis on American Indian Entrepreneurship [AIE]. Participants are usually business educators from tribal colleges who will return to their communities and foster tribal economic growth and development. Sometimes, qualified college students are also allowed into the program, but they must have a 3.0 accumulative undergraduate grade-point average, must pass the Graduate Management Admission Test, submit a resume’ and two letters of recommendation.

This is a three year program which requires students spend six weeks on campus each summer, and then take long distance-learning courses throughout the fall and spring semesters, returning to meet with professors at least one weekend each semester. Graduates receive a Master of Business Administration degree.

For further information, please contact Stacey Chatman, AIE program manager and Assistant Director of Admissions at 509-313-4622 or 800-986-9585 ext. 4622; or email [chatman@gonzaga.edu](mailto:chatman@gonzaga.edu). *E Welk*

## Planning with an Integrated Approach

If you’re still sitting with the dreaded “I MUST get a solid waste management plan in place” weight on your shoulders, then take notice. TSWAN has a template designed for tribes to create an Integrated Waste Management Plan specific to their needs, wants, culture and geographic situations. The template has been use for a few years now and many tribes have successfully completed management plans with this valuable tool. TSWAN is taking the next step in on-the-ground assistance however, and will soon be offering a hands-on workshop. Attendees will be able to input their own information using the software and a computer, and leave the classroom training with a plan underway. Exact dates and locations will soon be announced so start gathering your waste data and information in preparation! Contact Kami Snowden for further details and to be placed on the notification list for this valuable training.

# TSWAN Undergoes Meeting Schedule Changes

TSWAN has been undergoing some growth with several new Alaskan tribes joining recently. The economic downturn has impacted the travel logistics of some of these tribes getting to and from meetings. Flights in and out of many Alaskan native villages are no longer available as often as they were previously and this has made it impossible for TSWAN members trying to return home on Friday. Participants have been finding themselves unable to get flights on to their tribal villages without laying over until the following Monday.

To cope with this situation, the TSWAN membership has agreed to change the pattern of their meetings to accommodate these Alaskan delegates. Meetings will now be held on Wednesdays, with the tribal caucus held the following Thursday mornings. This new schedule will allow participants to travel back to Alaska on Thursdays and still be able to make their village connections that same week.

The next TSWAN meeting to be hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde in Oregon will be the first on this new schedule. The general meeting will be held Wednesday, June 17th with the tribal caucus the following morning, Thursday, June 18th at Spirit Mountain Resort. "A bus tour of the tribal casino complex, government center, elder center and housing facility and future transfer station site has been arranged for those attending on Wednesday," reports Lewis Younger, delegate from the Grand Ronde.

Member delegates are encouraged to make their reservations through TSWAN by submitting their travel authorizations to Kami Snowden without including the room expense. TSWAN will then made the room reservations for delegates. Non-delegates must make and pay for their own room reservations.

Please call Kami Snowden or Elaine Welk for further information: 509-235-6007 or 509-701-0772.



## TSWAN Executive Board

Interested in learning more about TSWAN and what it can do for your tribe? Want to hear it from a tribal member who is directly involved in our organization? Please feel free to contact any of our Executive Board listed below and pictured at right. We assist our Member Tribes, working to solve their solid waste management issues in Indian Country. Our nationally recognized Integrated Waste Management System Template is available to our membership, as are the services of our Circuit Rider, in helping your tribe implement your own customized WMP. Membership is FREE.



Danny Joe Stensgar, President  
Colville Confederated Tribes  
P. O. Box 150  
Nespelem, WA 99155  
509-634-2810

Steve Pendleton, Vice President  
Makah Tribe  
P. O. Box 115  
Neah Bay, WA 98357  
360-645-3289

Bonnie Burke, Secretary  
Umatilla Confederated Tribes  
P. O. Box 638  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
541-276-4040

Ron Wassillie, Treasurer  
Newhalen Tribal Council  
P. O. Box 207  
Newhalen, AK 99606  
907-571-1720

# Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network

**TSWAN**



P. O. Box 505  
 Cheney, WA 99004  
 Phone: 509-235-6007  
 FAX: 509-235-2105  
 E-Mail: ksnowden@tswan.org



## TSWAN Member Tribes

- AVCP
- Cheesh-Na
- Chehalis
- Chignik
- Coeur d'Alene
- Colville
- Eklutna
- Grand Ronde
- Kalispel
- Kootenai
- Larsen Bay
- Levelock
- Makah
- Muckleshoot
- Newhalen
- Nez Perce
- Nunakauyarmiut
- Port Lions
- Old Harbor
- Quinault
- Ouzinkie
- Shoshone-Bannock
- Siletz
- Snoqualmie
- Spokane
- Sun 'aq
- Tulalip
- Umatilla
- Venetie
- Warm Springs
- Yakama

*"We, the members of the Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network, have gathered together to combine our voices in the pursuit of natural resource, cultural, and environmental protection through advocacy of responsible solid waste management for all Native Americans".*

*Excerpt TSWAN by-laws*

For information on how to become a member Tribe of TSWAN, contact Kami Snowden, TSWAN Executive Director, (509) 235-6007 or write to P. O. Box 505, Cheney, WA 99004. A membership packet will be sent to you. You can also find membership information on our website.

## Mark Your Calendars

**TSWAN MEETING**  
**June 17th—18th**  
**Spirit Mountain Resort**  
**27100 S.W. Salmon River Hwy**  
**Grand Ronde, Oregon**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				