



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Contact: Neeka Somday
509-634-2213

Colville Tribes Receives Broadband License

NESPELEM, WA – The Colville Tribes announces that it is one of the first recipients of a spectrum license issued through the Federal Communications Commission and its Rural Tribal Window program. This license provides the Tribes exclusive use of wireless spectrum in the 2.5 GHz band to connect communities on the Colville Reservation to wireless services.

The Colville Tribes plans to implement this license by deploying wireless broadband in two phases. Phase one will include services to communities near Keller (including the housing developments Alice Flats, Meadow Creek, Mountain Ridge and San Poil Homes), Nespelem (the town, lower and upper HUD housing and White Buffalo housing), Inchelium (the town and Butter Cup Lane), and Omak (east side Omak, Malott Housing, Lone Pine, Rocky River, Moccasin Flat, and Eagles Nest housing developments). Phase one locations may have services by April 2021. Phase two will expand to more remote communities in Omak (Disautel and Kartar Valley), Inchelium (Twin Lakes, Kewa, and Seylor Valley), Keller (northern and southern San Poil valley along State Highway 21), and Nespelem (Rebecca Lake, Belvedere, and McGinnis Lake).

The Chairman of the Colville Tribes, Rodney Cawston, said, “The expansion of wireless services will reach about 80% of the Reservation. It will benefit all residents, especially students and our elders. During this time of the pandemic, better wireless service is vital to serve education, health and public safety concerns.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,485 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated

Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlámxəx^w (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; sǰ^wyʔilp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šntiyátk^wəx^w (grass in the water) or Entiat; snʔáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mətx^wu (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nspelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənp^wílx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq^wáwsəx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.