



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Salmon Sculpture Stolen

(Nespelem, WA) — A sculpture of a salmon situated along the Waterfront Park trail near Barn Beach in Leavenworth, WA has been stolen. It was discovered to be stolen on February 16, 2023, shortly after it was installed on October 31st, 2022.

The Wenatchee River Institute commissioned this piece of art from Swede W. Albert, a Wenatchi tribal descendent, to capture the essence of the salmon and the First Salmon Ceremony, which are both important parts of Wenatchi culture. The sculpture was crafted from recycled and salvaged metal.

The Colville Tribes asks anyone with information about the theft to contact their local law enforcement or the Colville Tribal Police. If recovery of the sculpture is not possible, the Wenatchee River Institute plans to replace it.

Colville Business Council Chairman Jarred-Michael Erickson said, “Public art enriches the lives of all people, and theft or vandalism of public art is always sorrowful. That is particularly true with this salmon sculpture, which symbolizes the importance of the salmon in tribal culture. We hope to recover the sculpture with the assistance of the public.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,284 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^wx^w (grass in the water) or Entiat; snǰáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mət^wx^wu (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənǰ^wilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq^wáwsəx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.

