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October 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Cathy P. Kellon

SUBJECT: Remarks from the Government Affairs Director of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, Raymond Tsumpti

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Raymond Tsumpti, Sr., Government Affairs Director, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs

Background: The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs (CTWS) is comprised of three tribes - Wasco, Paiute, and Warm Springs – who, in turn, are made up of several bands. In 1855, the Warm Springs and Wasco tribes signed a treaty with the United States government, ceding 10 million acres in exchange for 464,000 acres (today the reservation is 640,000 acres) and the rights to fish, hunt, and gather foods throughout their traditional lands which includes the mainstem Columbia and Hood River, John Day, and Deschutes basins (see Figure 1). The Reservation provides critical habitat for wild spring Chinook, Mid-Columbia summer steelhead, bull trout, Pacific lamprey, and other native fish species. Mitigation for the impact of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) to the region's fish and wildlife is essential to maintaining Tribal culture and harvest opportunities.

The CTWS government is led by an 11-member tribal council comprised of three chiefs who serve life terms, and eight people who are elected from reservation districts for 3-year terms. The Tribes have several businesses through their economic development arm, including Warm Springs Power which manages their interest in the Pelton Round Butte hydroelectric project on the Deschutes. The CTWS and Portland General Electric (PGE) co-manage the project, and the Tribes own the reregulating dam in full.



Figure 1 Source: [CRITFC](#)

More Info: Born and raised in Warm Springs, Mr. Tsumpti descends from the Tygh Band of the Icischkin or Warm Springs People and the Clackamas band of the Kiksht or Wasco People. Mr. Tsumpti's Indian name is Wa Wi Yus.

Mr. Tsumpti recently stepped into the position of Government Affairs Director after serving on the CTWS' Tribal Council for 24 years as a representative of the Simnasho District.

Raised by his grandparents Fred and Mary Sumpter, Mr. Tsumpti grew up fishing and doing ranch work. Mr. Tsumpti dropped out of high school after tenth grade, but went on to obtain his GED and serve in the United States Navy during Vietnam on the USS CATAMOUNT LSD-17. From 1968 to 1989 he worked with the Warm Springs Tribal Police, working his way from Range Rider to the Chief of Police.