

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

PRESS RELEASE



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UTPD to Host Cops and Bobbers Event on June 12

MISSION – The Umatilla Tribal Police Department (UTPD) will host an all-ages fishing event called Cops and Bobbers on June 12 at the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation’s (CTUIR) Nixyáawii Governance Center (NGC).

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., participants can catch rainbow trout supplied by Island Springs Hatcheries of Portland on the NGC’s front lawn from two large swimming pool-style fish tanks in a safe and controlled environment, UTPD Sgt. Derrick Bingham said.

“Our goal is for each participant to have the opportunity to catch and take home a fish,” he said. “Fishing gear will be available at the event to use. Once a participant catches a fish, they will have the option to either keep their fish or release it back into the tank.”

For those who want to keep their fish, UTPD officers and CTUIR Fish & Wildlife Commission members will help clean fish at an on-site cleaning station to make the experience easier and more convenient.

The event is centered around fishing to help create positive experiences with UTPD officers while encouraging cultural teachings with younger generations, Bingham said.

“For many tribal communities, fishing is not just recreation it is tied to treaty rights, family traditions, First Foods and cultural identity,” he said. “This event is designed to encourage community connection, mentorship and engagement with the youth, parents, elders and community members.”

While the primary focus is on youth, the event is intended for the entire family and community.

“There are no specific age limits for attendance. We want this to be an opportunity for families to come together, build positive relationships, enjoy time outdoors and learn from one another,” Bingham said.

He added that the UTPD plans to make Cops and Bobbers an annual community event.

“The idea came from wanting to create a positive opportunity for law enforcement to strengthen community relationships,” Bingham said. “Fishing was chosen because it reflects important cultural and community values, including spending time together, learning from one another and connecting with the outdoors.”

For more information, call 541-215-2008.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation is comprised of the Cayuse, Walla Walla and Umatilla Tribes, and formed under the Treaty of 1855 at the Walla Walla Valley, 12 Stat. 945. In 1949, the Tribes adopted a constitutional form of government to protect, preserve and enhance the reserved treaty rights guaranteed under federal law.

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Caption1: Umatilla Tribal Police Department (UTPD) Officer Boon Setser helps net a fish for Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) member Daniel Dick during an open house event hosted April 24, 2025, by the CTUIR Department of Natural Resources. The UTPD will host a similar fishing event called Cops and Bobbers on June 12 at the Nixyáawii Governance Center. CTUIR

Caption2: The Umatilla Tribal Police Department (UTPD) will host its Cops and Bobbers fishing event from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 12 at the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation’s Nixyáawii Governance Center.