

1212 N. 32nd Ave.  
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Mr. Robert J. Schoettler, director,  
State Department of Fisheries,  
4015 20th Ave. West,  
Seattle, 99, Wash.

April 2, 1955

Dear Director Schoettler:

I received a message from Puck Hyah Toot,  
the leader of the Wanapum remnant band today, informing me that since  
the roots are not ripening in time for Easter, the first foods feast  
of thanksgiving will be held Sunday, April 17.

They have been working preparing their mat lodge for the ceremony.

He also tells me that they plan to go out after fish for the ceremony  
on Thursday and Friday after Eastern Sunday. This is also in keeping  
with tradition, since the fish must be freshly caught and by the  
fishermen named by the leader to do it.

I know you will find this ceremony of unusual interest, inasmuch as  
it is the last of its kind anywhere in the Northwest and is the pure  
form of the religion which has taken on other forms and given way  
to other adaptations at Celilo, Wapato, White Swan, Rock Creek, Mission,  
etc., etc.

The message received requested that no one take pictures during the  
ceremony or until after dinner. This is because of their belief that  
their dead relatives are there present with them on this occasion,  
and while it would not be offensive to them, it would be offensive to  
the dead.

I plan to attend of course and will assist you or your representative  
in any way I can. If you or someone from your office can attend,  
please let me know so I can inform Puck Hyah Toot.

Sincerely

Click Relander