



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Walla Walla District

News Release

News Release 08-66

Contact: Public Affairs Office

Date: July 21, 2008

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Dworshak offers educational program about flint knapping

AHS AHKA, Idaho – Visitors can learn how to make arrowheads during an educational program set for Saturday July 26 at 7 p.m. near the Dent Campground playground on Dworshak Reservoir, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials at Dworshak Dam announced today.

Flint knapping is the process of making stone tools, like arrowheads, projectile points and hand axes, said Mike Tylzynski, an expert in the art of flint knapping who will host the program.

“From the time I picked up my first arrowhead at around age 8, I have been fascinated by and studied Native American tools and weapons,” said Tylzynski, a Native American of Cherokee decent who recently moved to Orofino, Idaho. “My fascination has not been with tools and weapons of just the last 300-400 years, but also with weapons and tools from the last 30,000 years, since man's earliest arrival in North America. The craftsmanship and ingenuity used by the first Native peoples still fascinates us all to this day.”

Flint knapping is a reduction process because flakes of stone are broken off of the original piece of stone. Knappers, both ancient and modern, generally begin knapping a piece of stone with direct percussion, by striking the stone which is to be made into a projectile point, with a tool, like a hammerstone or antler billet to remove large flakes, Tylzynski explained.

Tylzynski will be demonstrating the process of flint knapping during the program.

For more information, please call U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Park Ranger Donna Bryant at (208) 476-1274.

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