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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** Oh

[00:00:00] **Speaker 2** Yeah, my name is Marcus Carrasco, M-A-R-C-U-S-C A-R R-A S-E-O. I'm a lab aide and just here to cut up fish. Yeah, yeah, my title is a lab aide, because I'm aiding him in his studies.

[00:00:28] **Speaker 1** But you also do a lot of other things.

[00:00:29] **Speaker 2** Yeah, whatever

[00:00:31] **Speaker 1** Do you want to work with the tribe, with that river, or is it just living?

[00:00:34] **Speaker 2** It's with GlyphWick, anything that I've done like that has been with GLYPHWICK. Once you're in here, they tend to want to use the employees that they got. So it's like if something comes up like shocking, stuff like that, they'll ask internally who's available for how long. And that's where I got connected with butching them on that. So... Because we had a little bit of a lull where we weren't getting fish. So I did the fish that we did for the lakes that we got, and then I got to go shocking for a couple weeks. That was a cool experience and everything. Like I said, learned a lot doing that.

[00:01:26] **Speaker 1** What do you do? Yeah. You're also a big role number of that.

[00:01:30] **Speaker 2** Yeah, I'm an enrolled member. I've lived here my whole life. So like I was trying to say before, doing stuff like this really means a lot to me. It just makes me feel like I'm making a difference. I guess everybody kind of wants to feel like they're doing something positive, you know? But yeah, doing this type of work really makes me like I am doing something positive. And then.

[00:02:00] **Speaker 1** What's the difference between you when you were younger and you guys would harvest and then share with the community versus the feeling now when you're on this end?

[00:02:08] **Speaker 2** Well, I still do that. If I'm hunting or fishing and I'm getting a lot, I was always taught you share with your family. And it's just, I guess being on this side of it, I'm more aware of the consumption end of it. Because again, it was just like, load up on fish. Have all the fish you need, you know, have enough fish that you know it's going to last you a year. But now it's like, I'm learning about how much is safe, like a safe amount to consume, how much not a safe. Again, I used to think... Eating fish twice a month was like normal or even more like maybe like four four times a month was normal but it's really not like you shouldn't be doing that like um you're and it's just not good for your body it's not good for you your family and everything and i didn't know until like talking with josh and everything more and reading reading about mercury and like methyl mercury and stuff but dog that doesn't just affect you it affects your descendants like like your kids and like their their kids are going to be affected by the mercury intake from from you so it's yeah so it uh it's it's a little different but I again I feel like it's important to know it's important to be part of so

[00:03:49] **Speaker 1** It's got to be a better feeling, not only helping provide, but you're giving knowledge with.

[00:03:53] **Speaker 2** Oh yeah, exactly. Like I was telling my wife and my kids, I was like, I used to think we can just sit here and max on the fish because it's like, we got it, you know? But I always tried to give them the smaller fish, you now? But now it's, like, dang, we've got a bunch of fish and we can't eat it like we used to. For this month, we already had fish, so now we've gotta wait. But again, it's not, I might have a lot of fish, but it's just not for me. Something might come up, or somebody might pass away. There you go, there's some fish for that. Or somebody has a ghost feast, or maybe it's something like that. Maybe it's somebody's birthday, and they really wanted a fish fry. So here you go man, have at her. So yeah, I just, I was taught to share. I was talked to like, Don't be greedy.

[00:04:51] **Speaker 1** So where does walleye break and what's the importance of it being walleye that here?

[00:04:58] **Speaker 2** I don't know, it's just very important, it has been a very important resource, not just my family but everybody's family in the Indian community forever, it is just like Sturgeon, Sturgen is very important too. Everybody wants to eat walleye, because sturgeon is like a bottom feeder, not looked at as like primo, you know, so, but walleye it's, everybody wants to eat wall eye, it's top notch, A1, this guy he never had a walleye before, are you kidding me? I was like, dude, it will blow any other fish, I don't care how you prepare it, it smokes any other of the fish out of the water. Like it could be salt water, fresh water, like don't, it's just the best fish, okay, and it's just, it ranks high because it's so good. I don't know how to, it is just a very important commodity and it is because of that being, it just hard to describe, it like deer, like deer is just something that has been part of our culture forever, like you just can't take it away. Yeah, I don't know. It's just, it's hard to describe, but it's just if I was to put it, it just because taste alone, you know, like just taste wise, like you, you can put it up against any fish out there and it's going to blow them off the off the market, like off the map, like, just you can you can fry it, you could bake it, you could saute it. You can you could poach it. Like you could do like anything you want with it. And you can make that taste incredible like you can you can even burn the crap out of it and i'm telling you like uh we went fishing one time don she she's one she's the uh treaty specialist here she made fish tacos and burnt the crap off of the meat and it was still bomb like i'm telling you it's just it's a great fish it's yeah like i was telling you before people won't worry about smelting stuff in the springtime. It's like, man, we're all about our walleye. Like, yeah. Growing up, kids were always like, oh, smelten season's right around the corner. It was like, smell it. Man, we've got, man we're worrying about walleye over here, man. I'll save some for you. But yeah, it's just something that, it has just been part of our people, creator gave it to us to help sustain us, so it's just, it's... Very important again just like deer or anything else like it was placed here for us to sustain us so we can make it and to carry on the next generation you know so again i i want to be able to guarantee my kids i can catch them something you know like so it's yeah it's all about sustainability i guess is like why it's so important like you We want to be able to provide the next generation with this, you know? Like, I never thought about it, but it's... My ancestors really fought for my ability to come out here and go setting it and harvest fish, so yeah, it's just important. I don't know what else to say man. It's just very, it's just part of who we are. Just, it is like anything else. You got all like the trees and stuff too. It is just part of who you are. Like you got maple trees. It part of tapping trees, you know. Like we were making our syrup and our sugar and stuff. It just part who we as a people. So that is why it is important. It was just a resource that creator put here for us to this thing else. And we've been taking advantage, like, good advantage of it for thousands of years and I I would like to see it continue as long as possible. So doing stuff like this, doing work like this really does make me feel like I am providing that, you know. So, yeah. Sorry if I was just lambing on there for a little bit, but it was just, yeah, it was It's just like, I...