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TRIBAL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS FOREST ACCESS ISSUES

Due to declines in both federal budgets and timber harvests, the Forest Service has begun implementing several strong conservation and fiscal administration policies over the last few years which may ultimately have significant impact on tribal member forest access. Examples of these policies include campground fees, access fees and road closures. The impact on tribal members of such disincentives and restrictions on forest access has not become a major issue so far in our tribal traditional use areas, and the local Forest Service offices have traditionally been strong tribal partners. Unfortunately, however, the Tribal Board anticipates that these issues will increasingly impact tribal members in the very near future.

For example, recently the Forest Service proposed closing a road system near the Rogue-Umpqua divide, which serves as primary tribal access to prime hunting, huckleberries, and sacred grounds. The Forest Service's reason for the closure was to create a large roadless area for conservation and environmental purposes.

While the Tribe generally supports efforts to protect and preserve our homelands,

the Tribal Board has objected to the closure of this particular road system because it would jeopardize tribal access to critical tribal cultural and natural resources (including several significant medicine sites). We will report again on the final outcome of this particular road issue.

The Tribal Board will continue to monitor Forest Service (and other, e.g. BLM) access policies which impact tribal family, economic and cultural life. You can help by keeping your ears open and eyes peeled for news and public stories and reports about forest access issues in our area. You can also help by simply going into our mountains and forests to enjoy your unique tie to our homeland.

The strong continued presence of tribal families in our forests enjoying our Indian lifeways and celebrating our earth is the surest and easiest way to guarantee our forest access. Drop a card to the Tribe sometime and point out how invaluable it is for your family to be able to picnic, hike, hunt, fish, camp, gather or just be in our forests. The topic will be discussed at length during the Quarterly Council meeting February 13, 2000.

To view the US Forest Service Roadless Area proposal read pages two and three.

"We must protect the forests for our children, grandchildren and children yet to be born. We must protect the forests for those who can't speak for themselves such as the birds, animals, fish and trees."

Qwatsinas (Hereditary Chief Edward Moody), Nuxalk Nation



USDA FOREST SERVICE ROADLESS

Proposal

Inventoried roadless areas are areas of national forest system land currently inventoried for planning purposes as roadless areas. This inventory is based on individual forest plans, forest plan revisions in progress where the Agency has established an inventory, or other assessments that are completed and adopted by the Agency. RARE II inventories will be used if a forest does not have a more recent roadless inventory, which was established, based on RARE II information.

Unroaded areas are other areas without classified or authorized roads. Their size must be sufficient enough and in a manageable enough configuration to reflect the inherent values associated with roadless areas.

Some of the values related to roadless areas include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Sources of drinking water
- ◆ Reference areas for research
- ◆ Areas of high or unique biological diversity
- ◆ Areas of high biodiversity that provide a bulwark against invasive, noxious or exotic pest or weed species
- ◆ Areas where other roadless lands are scarce
- ◆ Areas that provide important historic or potential sources of dispersed recreation
- ◆ Areas of cultural or historic importance
- ◆ Areas that provide unique or important seasonal habitat for wildlife, fish and plant species

What exactly is proposed?

The roadless protection proposal has two parts.

First, we propose to restrict certain activities, such as road construction and reconstruction in the unroaded portions of inventoried roadless areas.

Second, we propose to establish procedures and criteria to be used by each forest to determine what activities are consistent with the important values associated with roadless areas of all sizes—inventoried or not—that maintain or enhance social or ecological attributes. Local forest plan amendment and NEPA processes, both of which require active public participation, could be used to implement the procedures and criteria developed in this part of the proposal. The final rule would delineate the framework for this forest-by-forest implementation process.

Public scoping and other public involvement will help to shape the ultimate structure and format of the agency's final rule.

Part 1 of this rule could affect about 54 million acres of inventoried roadless areas. Roughly 45% of these areas are already in management designations that do not allow for road construction. The amount of acres affected by part 2 of the rule will be determined in the future through local forest planning.

For more information, log on to:

<http://roadless.fs.fed.us>

To comment: email to:

roadless/wo_caet-slc@fs.fed.us

or write to:

USDA Forest Service,

Attn: Roadless

PO Box 221090

Salt Lake City, UT 84122

Appendix C Roadless Areas

8	WILKINS T MOUNTAIN
9	MARY ELIZ
10	CANTON CHICK
11	BLACKBURN ALICE
12	WILLIAMSON
13	WILKINSON
14	COLMAN ALICE
15	MEDFORD CHICK AFFORDANCE
16	THOMAS T CHICK AFFORDANCE
17	COLLINGSWOOD CHICK
18	ATL. BIRCH
19	WILKINS CHICK AFFORDANCE
20	COLMAN ALICE AFFORDANCE
21	LAST
22	WILKINS CHICK AFFORDANCE
23	3-4-5 WOOD
24	LONGFORD MOUNTAIN AFFORDANCE
25	WILKINS CHICK AFFORDANCE
26	WILKINS CHICK AFFORDANCE
27	COLMAN
28	WILKINS

 **Congressionally Withdrawn**



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Disruptive forces create the conditions of a market.





COW CREEK TRIBE TO HONOR WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Plans are underway by the Tribal Board of Directors and others to sponsor a fund-raiser that will honor veterans of World War II. The fund-raiser will help with the construction of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC. The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled to take place on Veteran's Day, 2000.

The memorial will be built on the Capitol Mall, and will recognize the contribution made by the men and women who served in the military service as well as those who assisted the war effort on the home front.

The State of Oregon, in December 1999, authorized \$147,633 to be donated for the construction of the memorial. The dollar amount represents \$1 for each man and woman from the State of Oregon who entered military service during World War II.

Tentative plans for the tribal fund-raiser and honoring ceremony are scheduled for Saturday, July 1, 2000. More specific information about the event will be announced at a later date.

The Tribal Board of Directors is requesting that Cow Creek veterans notify the Government Office that they are, in fact, veterans. At the present time, because of the WWII Memorial being in the planning stage, we will concentrate on those veterans of WWII. However, we need to compile a permanent roster of all veterans for the future.

Please call Carol McKinney at the Tribal Government Office or drop a note with the following information:

Name

Branch of Service

Dates of Service

Wartime Service (which war)

Peacetime service

Military career? If so, retired or presently active?

Special awards, if any?

NATIVE AMERICAN STORY- TELLING AT ITS FINEST.

Mary Louise Defender Wilson, gifted Dakotah/Hidatsa Traditionalist and Storyteller from Shields, North Dakota (population: 9) is traveling to Portland, Oregon for special folk art performances on February 18-19. She is the 1999 recipient of the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellowship for her folklore and oral tradition. With exceptional skill and beauty, she will present storytelling and prophetic wisdom at its finest at:

- ◆ Interstate Firehouse Culture Center Origin's Lecture Series on Friday, 18 February (7:30 PM at IFCC's Theater at 5340 N. Interstate Avenue in Portland), and
- ◆ An Afternoon with Wisdom of the Elders on Saturday, 19 February (gathering is from 4:00-9:00 PM at PSU's Smith Ballroom, 1825 SW Broadway in downtown Portland). She will include a special performance with a group of multi-cultural at-risk youth.

Mary Louise's mother, grandmother and great grandmother were all midwives and storytellers. This lends a depth of understanding and meaning to her stories, making them rich encapsulations of traditional knowledge that carry her audiences back in time from generation to generation. She has devoted her life to learning and sharing the stories that form her people's priceless oral university.

Her performances are part of the Indigenous Folk Art and Wisdom Series sponsored by Wisdom of the Elders, which is presenting ethnic culture's finest artistic expression to Oregon. This dynamic collaboration is being funded by an Arts Build Communities grant from the Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more details, call Rose High Bear, Wisdom of the Elders at (503) 775-4014 or Brad Kendrick, Interstate Firehouse Culture Center at (503) 823-2070.

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stuart.watson@esd112.k12.wa.us**



NAVAJO WOMAN JOINS FIRST LADY FOR STATE OF UNION

HONORED FOR AMERICORPS SERVICE AND TEACHING COMMITMENT

WASHINGTON DC: Christina Jones, a 23-year-old Navajo woman who served in AmeriCorps, will join the First Lady for the January 27, 2000 State of the Union address.

Jones, a Navajo of the Kin Yaa'aanii clan, joined AmeriCorps three years ago to serve her community of Round Rock, Arizona. Christina tutored fourth-graders and built and repaired homes in this community of 1,000, where half the homes have no indoor plumbing and unemployment is 65%.

Through AmeriCorps, she discovered a love for teaching and a passion to help her community. She enrolled in the Teacher Education Program at nearby Dine' College, using her AmeriCorps education award to help pay for college. She plans to teach on the reservation when she graduates next year. As a fluent Navajo speaker, Christina will not only help young Navajos succeed in school but maintain the native language and culture. While attending school full-time, Christina still tutors, leads a Girl Scout troop and visits elders living in isolation. Christina's older sister Justina also served in AmeriCorps and is in the same teacher preparation program at Dine' College. The President has requested \$10 million for programs to train 1,000 new Native American teachers. Currently less than 1 percent of the nation's 2.5 million teachers are Native American.

AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, is a growing presence in Indian country. More than 400 AmeriCorps members serve with a number of different tribes including the Blackfeet Nation in Montana, the Arapahoe in Wyoming, the Hoopa Valley in California, the Nez Perce in Idaho, the Mille Lacs and Red Lake in Minnesota and others. They teach and tutor, build homes, take care of elders, plant trees and improve the environment.

The President will request a \$73 million increase for AmeriCorps in his 2001 budget. This would expand AmeriCorps to 62,000 members next year, and reach the President's goal of 100,000 a year by 2004. This year more than 40,000 AmeriCorps members are serving nationwide helping teach children to read, making neighborhoods safer, building homes and providing disaster relief. After a year of service, AmeriCorps members receive an education award of \$4,725 to help pay for college.

"What is life?

It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset."

Crowfoot, Blackfoot warrior and orator



IHS SCHOLARSHIP UNDERGOES CHANGES

It is time to apply for the Indian Health Service (IHS) PL-94-437 scholarship for American Indian and Alaskan Natives. Indian Health Service has made several changes to the scholarship this year. For example, students who plan to pursue an education in Medical Records Coding will now be considered for scholarship. New applicants who plan to study accounting, pre-accounting, business administration or computer science, however, will no longer be accepted. If you are a current scholarship recipient in one of these categories, your funding will continue.

To help with the application process and the recent changes, Gary Small, Project Director for the Northwest Area Indian Health Board's Health Professional Education Project, will offer free workshops for the Northwest Tribes. If you would like to attend a workshop, please contact Gary toll-free at 1-888-778-7764 as soon as possible.

COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP

The Douglas County Farm Bureau is offering six \$500.00 scholarships for the 2000 – 2001 school year to students interested in studying forestry or agriculture.

Applicants must be Douglas County high school graduates, graduating this year or currently enrolled in college. The deadline is April 1, 2000. Call Troy or Holly at (541) 825-3760

GATE MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced on September 16, 1999 that they established the Gates Millennium Scholars Initiative (GMSI) to provide scholarships for outstanding low-income American Indian / Alaskan Native, African American, Asian American, and Hispanic American students who wish to obtain an undergraduate or graduate education. The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) will administer the scholarship program, with support and participation of the American Indian College Fund (AICF) and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

The GMSI will provide financial assistance to 1,000 new students per year. Awards will supplement a scholar's existing financial aid package, and the award can be used at any accredited education institution. Furthermore, the awards will be renewed annually as long as the scholar maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale. Scholars will be notified of their awards in May 2000, for use during the 2000 – 2001 academic year.

How To Apply:

In order to qualify for the scholarship, students must secure a nomination from a high school or college faculty or staff member, or from their Tribal Education Director. If you are interested in applying for the scholarship, you should request a meeting with a faculty, staff, or Tribal Education Director to discuss your interest in the scholarship program. A complete application will include the nomination form, application, personal statement, family financial aid profile, letter of recommendation, proof of tribal enrollment or certification of Indian blood, and a high school or college transcript. All materials must be submitted to the UNCF by February 15, 2000. Applications are available at your high school or college financial aid office. For more information on the application process, contact the UNCF at (703) 205-2080

Further Information:

For further information on the GMSI, please visit the following web sites:

GMSI Web Address: www.gmsp.com

UNCF Web Address: www.uncf.org



BE A TEACHER. BE A HERO.

The Portland Teachers Program (PTP) has scholarships geared for people of color who are committed to becoming a K-12th grade teachers. Scholarships cover two years of lower division coursework at Portland Community College, two years of upper division coursework at Portland State University's Graduate Teacher Education Program. The program is looking for Oregon residents of African American, Native American, Hispanic/Latino or Asian American heritage committed to a teaching career, and who have:

- ◆ The potential to maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average during the freshman and sophomore years.
- ◆ The ability to attend college full-time.
- ◆ The academic preparation to enter Writing 121 and Math 65 at Portland Community College.
- ◆ Experience working with youth, either paid or volunteer, and strong ties to their community.

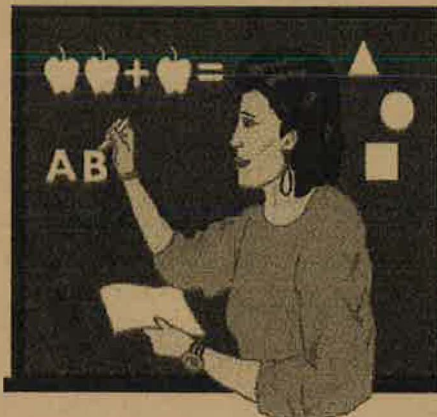
PTP is a partnership among Portland Public Schools, Portland Community College and Portland State University, designed to increase the number of teachers of color for Portland schools. It provides a variety of special support services throughout the educational process. Graduates of PTP are given priority-hiring consideration by Portland Public Schools, and if hired, agree to teach for a minimum of two years.

For more information and/or an application, contact:

Deborah Cochrane , Director
Portland Teachers Program
(503) 978-5444 or 978-5020

Linda Gettmann, Coordinator
Academic Advising, PCC – Cascade
(503) 978-5436

*For those interested in starting school in the fall of 2000,
NOW is time to start the application process.



"Teachers have the power to wake up young minds, to be heroes, to make a difference. Reach for that power. TEACH."

James Edward Olmos



TRIBAL PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Cow Creek Tribal Prevention Program is a federally funded program for eligible tribal members in the seven county service area. The counties are Deschutes, Douglas, Coos, Jackson, Josephine, Lane and Klamath. All services must be pre-approved by calling Linda Rondeau or Roma Jackson at 1-800-935-2649. Emergencies must be called in within 72 hours.

Federal guidelines state that the Tribal Prevention Program is the payer of last resort, therefore, all other alternate resources, such as private insurance, Medicare or Medicaid must be used prior to the Tribal Prevention Program paying for services.

Over the last few months there have been very expensive dental services required for tribal members. Nearly half of these expenses could have been prevented with appropriate dental exams and cleanings. In an effort to avoid extensive dental work, exercise preventive dental care by maintaining appointments every six months for teeth cleaning and examination. This effort will save Tribal Prevention Program dollars.

I.C.W.A INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT

This is a reminder to all tribal members, if you or a family member are involved in a state custody case that involves tribal children, or children that are eligible for enrollment within the Cow Creek Tribe. Please notify the state agency involved that the child is an Indian Child Welfare case, so that they may contact the child's tribe. The state agency is mandated by the I.C.W.A. to notify the child's tribe. This will allow the tribe to have a voice in the child custody proceedings.

OMAP COVERAGE

In response to some recent inquiries regarding the Oregon Medical Plan eligibility and coverage as it relates to the Tribal Prevention Program, the following information is provided:

Federal guidelines mandate that the Tribal Prevention Program is the payer of last resort, therefore, any tribal member *eligible* for the Oregon Medical Plan must maintain a current OMAP medical card. If coverage under OMAP lapses for lack of member responsibility, the Tribal Prevention Program will not cover any medical appointments or prescriptions.

If you have additional questions about the Oregon Medical Plan, or eligibility for the Contract Health Program, please call Linda Rondeau at 1-800-935-2649 or (541) 672-8533.

OVER-THE-COUNTER PROGRAM

The Over-the-Counter Health Program enables all tribal members, regardless of where they live, up to \$100.00 of non-prescription pharmaceutical supplies, such as Advil, Tylenol, cold and flu medicines, cough syrup, thermometers, vitamins etc. If you want to quit smoking, the Tribal Prevention Program can pay up to three months worth of non-smoking supplies.

To enroll in this program, you must contact Linda Rondeau at 1-800-935-2649, with the name of the pharmacy you normally use. Once the account information has been established with your pharmacy, you can call Linda at least 24 hours in advance, for pre-approval of your pharmaceutical needs. Your list needs to be at least 5 items or more. Plan ahead and stock up on needed items.



HOUSING ASSISTANCE

- **BIA Housing Improvement Program (HIP)**

The Housing Improvement Program (HIP) is now accepting applications for housing assistance. The HIP program is a Bureau of Indian Affairs federally funded program contracted and administered by the Tribe. This program can assist eligible tribal members living in the seven county service area with housing needs such as: repairs, rehabilitation (roof, weatherization, windows, doors, structural repairs, etc.) or replacement housing. Priority is given to families with the greatest needs in relation to income, family size, etc.

- **Cow Creek Tribal Housing**

The Tribal Housing Program can assist tribal members with down-payment assistance or home repair assistance. This program is not restricted to the seven county area, however, applicants must be ineligible for the BIA Housing Improvement Program.

- For more information regarding the BIA Housing Improvement Program or the Cow Creek Housing Assistance Program, please contact Carol Ferguson, Housing Director at the Tribal Government Offices, 1-800-929-8229



TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION

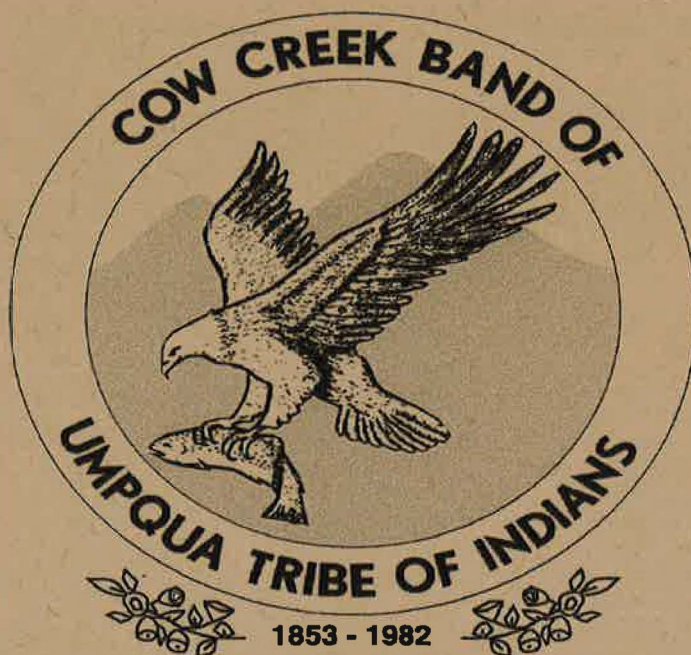
Tribal identification cards are available to any member upon request. If you would like one, contact Carol Ferguson at the Cow Creek Government Offices. You will be sent an application. Sign the ID card, enclose an appropriately sized photo and mail it back to the Tribal Government Offices. **PLEASE DO NOT FILL IN ANYTHING ON THE CARD EXCEPT YOUR SIGNATURE.**

UPDATED ADDRESS

Tribal members are encouraged to maintain a current address at the Tribal Government Offices. Tribal members who have minor children not living in their household should update the child's current address for information on trusts and youth activities. If you know of any tribal members who have not been receiving correspondence from the Tribal Government Offices, please recommend that they call the toll free number (1-800-929-8229) or write to: **Cow Creek Government Offices, 2371 NE Stephens, Suite 100 Roseburg, OR. 97470**

JOB LINE

Tribal members interested in employment opportunities at Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort, the Cow Creek Gaming Commission, the Cow Creek Government Offices, Valley View Motel, Riverside Lodge, Seven Feathers Truck & Travel, Umpqua Indian Foods, or Canyon Cubbyhole's, please call the Tribal Jobs Line at 1-800-676-0854 for a prerecorded listing of all job openings. The Tribal Job's Line is updated on a weekly basis and provides instructions as to where and how to apply.



**Cow Creek Tribal Government Office
Attn: Tonya Bishop
2371 NE Stephens, Suite 100
Roseburg, OR 97470
1-800-929-8229 or (541) 672-9405
E-mail: tlenihan@cow.portland.ihb.gov**