

Appendix O

Federally Recognized Indian Tribes with Interests in the Planning Area



This appendix provides the background on federally recognized American Indian Tribes in the planning area.

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Federally Recognized American Indian Tribes in, or with Interests in, the Planning Area

There are nine federally recognized American Indian Tribes in, or with interests in, the planning area:

- Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon
- Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
- Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation, Oregon
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
- Coquille Tribe of Oregon
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians of Oregon
- Klamath Tribes, Oregon
- Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma
- Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California

American Indian tribes represent unique legal entities in the United States and are distinct political communities with extensive powers of self-government. Tribal sovereignty predates the U.S. Government. Treaties, Federal statutes, and executive agreements over the past 200 years have established a special trust relationship between tribes and the Federal Government. The Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs has been designated by the Secretary of the Interior as the primary agency to protect tribal interests and administer trust responsibilities.

During the 1950s, in a move to assimilate American Indians into mainstream America, the U.S. Government ended Federal trusteeship of roughly three percent of the country's American Indian population through a process called termination. Of the 109 tribes and bands terminated, 62 were native to Oregon. Even though the tone of the termination legislation was emancipation, the net effect of the policy on terminated tribes was cultural, political, and economic devastation.

In recent years, however, terminated tribes have made vigorous efforts to re-establish or restore the trust relationship. In 1977, the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation, Oregon won restoration; followed by the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians of Oregon in 1982; the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon in 1983; the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon in 1984; the Klamath Tribes, Oregon in 1986; and the Coquille Tribe of Oregon in 1989.

Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon

These tribes are descendants of the aboriginal inhabitants of the central and south-central coast of Oregon. Their homeland includes the estuaries of Coos Bay, and the Umpqua and Siuslaw Rivers. The Tribes have been operating under a confederated government since signing of the Treaty of August 1855. They currently possess a 6.1-acre reservation and a tribal hall erected in 1940, but past claims have not yet been settled. The Tribes hope to work out a reservation agreement with the Federal Government. The Tribes had a relationship with the U.S. Government from 1853 until their termination by Congress in the year of 1956. The majority of their members were removed in 1856 from their aboriginal homelands and held on a wind-swept spit at the mouth of the Umpqua River at a place called Fort Umpqua. Their territory encompassed part of Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane and Lincoln counties. Federal recognition was restored to the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians in October of 1984.



Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

These tribes include more than 20 Tribes and bands from western Oregon and northern California that were relocated to the Grand Ronde Reservations in the 1850s. These included the Rogue River, Umpqua, Chasta, Kalapuya, Molalla, Salmon River, Tillamook, and Nestucca Indians. The Grand Ronde Reservation was established by treaty arrangements in 1854 and 1855, and an Executive Order of June 30, 1857. The Reservation contained over 60,000 acres and was located on the eastern side of the coastal range on the headwaters of the South Yamhill River. In 1887, under the General Allotment Act, 270 allotments totaling slightly more than 33,000 acres of the Grand Ronde Reservation were made available to individual Indians. The result of this action was the loss of major portions of the reservation to non-Indian ownership.

Then, in 1901, U.S. Inspector James McLaughlin declared a 25,791-acre tract of the reservation “surplus” and the land was sold. In 1954, Congress passed the Termination Act, which severed the trust relationship between the Federal Government and the Tribe. On November 22, 1983, with signing of Public Law 98-165 (the Grand Ronde Restoration Act), the Tribe was restored to Federal recognition. In addition, on September 9, 1988, the Tribe regained 9,811 acres of the original reservation when President Ronald Reagan signed the Grand Ronde Reservation Act into law. The reservation lies just north of the community of Grand Ronde.

The mission of the Grand Ronde Natural Resources Division is to manage, develop, and protect the natural resources of the Grand Ronde Tribes, such as timber, non-merchantable young stands of trees, fish, wildlife, recreation, minerals, air, streams, roads, and minor forest products. Their Natural Resources Division strives to manage the Tribes’ resources in a unique, creative, and efficient manner, taking care to meet mandates while balancing the importance of non-revenue-producing elements of the reservation.

Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Reservation, Oregon

These tribes are a federally recognized confederation of 27 bands originating from northern California, western Oregon and southern Washington. Termination was imposed on the Siletz by the U. S. Government in 1955. In November of 1977, the Tribe was restored to Federal recognition. The Tribe occupies and manages a 3,666-acre reservation in Lincoln County, Oregon. The Tribe manages resources on their reservation, including wildlife, timber, water, fish, and air quality.

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

These tribes include bands of the Wasco, Warm Springs and Paiute. The Wasco bands on the Columbia River were the eastern-most group of Chinookan-speaking Indians living along the Columbia River. The Warm Springs bands lived along the Columbia’s tributaries, and the Paiutes lived in southeastern Oregon. In 1855, Joel Palmer, superintendent for the Oregon Territory, negotiated a series of Indian treaties including the one establishing the Warm Springs Reservation. Under the Treaty of 1855, the Warm Springs and Wasco Tribes relinquished approximately 10 million acres of land, but reserved the Warm Springs Reservation for their exclusive use. The Tribes also kept their rights to harvest fish, game and other foods off the reservation in their usual and accustomed places. The Tribes’ Natural Resource Management Services exist to plan and execute a balanced direction for the protection, use, and enhancement of all tribal natural resources. Resources shall be managed as sustainable assets available for cultural, subsistence, economic and social purposes or opportunities in perpetuity consistent with the Confederated Tribes sovereign and treaty status.



Coquille Tribe of Oregon

This tribe's members are descended from people who inhabited the watersheds of the Coquille River system, a small portion of Coos Bay at the South Slough, and areas north and south of the Coquille River mouth where it enters the ocean at present day Bandon. The Coquille ancestral territory encompassed more than 700,000 acres, ceded to the U.S. Government. Coquille headmen signed treaties in 1851 and 1855. Because neither treaty was ever ratified by Congress, those Coquille people and their descendants were denied a permanent homeland. The Coquille Indian Tribe was terminated by the U.S. Government in 1954. On June 28, 1989, the Coquilles regained their status as a federally recognized Indian tribe. The modern Coquille Tribe negotiated several land purchases, which constitute a 6,400-acre tribal land base. By an Act of Congress in 1996, the Coquille Tribe now has reservation acreage totaling 6,512 acres.

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians of Oregon

Their traditional use area lies primarily in Douglas County, from the Umpqua River headwaters to the Pacific Ocean. The Tribe's ceded lands lie in the Cow Creek drainage of the South Umpqua River. In 1853, seeking a peaceful solution to tensions that had intensified after gold was discovered in their territory, the Cow Creek Umpqua Indians entered into a treaty with the Federal Government that resulted in their ceding their homeland in exchange for \$12,000. The treaty left the Cow Creek Umpquas without land, a place to live, or protection. The Cow Creeks had been drawn into the Rogue Indian wars in the early 1850s. As a result of the fighting and their new treaty in 1856, survivors were rounded up and forcefully marched 150 miles north to the Grand Ronde Reservation.

In 1954, the Government declared that there were no Indians left in western Oregon, the existing Cow Creeks notwithstanding, and the Tribe was terminated. In 1982, the Tribe was restored and entered into formal relations with the U. S. Government through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Public Law 100-139 (1987), the Cow Creek Umpqua "Distribution Judgment Funds Act," adopted the tribal endowment plan. The Bureau of Indian Affairs allowed the Tribe to use the settlement funds as collateral for the purchase of what was known as the "Evergreen" land. In addition, the Tribe was allowed to draw the interest on their endowment for the purpose of economic development, education, housing, and elderly assistance.

Klamath Tribes, Oregon

This tribe includes the Klamaths, the Modocs, and the Yahooskin band of Snake Indians. The Tribes' traditional territory is in the Klamath Basin of Oregon. The Klamath Tribes ceded more than 23 million acres of land in 1864 and entered the Klamath Reservation. In 1954, the Klamath Tribes were terminated from Federal recognition as a tribe by Act of Congress. In 1974, the Federal Court ruled that the Klamath Tribes had retained their Treaty Rights to hunt, fish and gather, and to be consulted in land management decisions when those decisions affected their Treaty Rights. These Treaty Rights apply to the Klamath Tribes' former reservation boundaries. The BLM Klamath Falls Resource Area carries out trust responsibilities on 185 acres of wetland located east of Wood River that was formerly reservation land, managing the natural resources located within this area to enhance Tribal Trust assets and water rights.

In 1986, the Klamath Tribes were successful in regaining restoration of Federal recognition.



Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma

This tribe originally lived on Little Klamath Lake, Modoc Lake, Tule Lake, Clear Lake, Goose Lake, and in the Lost River Valley. In 1864, the Modoc ceded lands and moved to the Klamath Reservation. Due to starvation conditions and tensions with the Klamath Indians, some Modocs returned to their original territory in northern California in 1870. In 1872, attempts to force their return to Oregon began the Modoc War, and the Modocs retreated to lava beds for months. Finally overrun, 153 survivors were sent to Quapaw Agency in Oklahoma. Other survivors were sent to the Klamath Reservation. In 1909, some Modocs were permitted to return to Klamath Agency. In 1954, the Oklahoma and Oregon Modoc Tribes were terminated. In 1978, the Oklahoma Modoc Tribes were reinstated.

Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California

Located in Siskiyou County, California, they include the members of the Shasta Tribe that traditionally lived in southern Oregon and northern California. A treaty signed by Shasta Tribal chiefs on November 4, 1851 was never ratified by Congress, and the Tribe did not get their own reservation. Some members of the Shasta Tribe joined the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.

