

# **Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians Presentation to the Oregon Board of Agriculture June 15, 2023**



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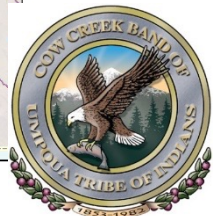
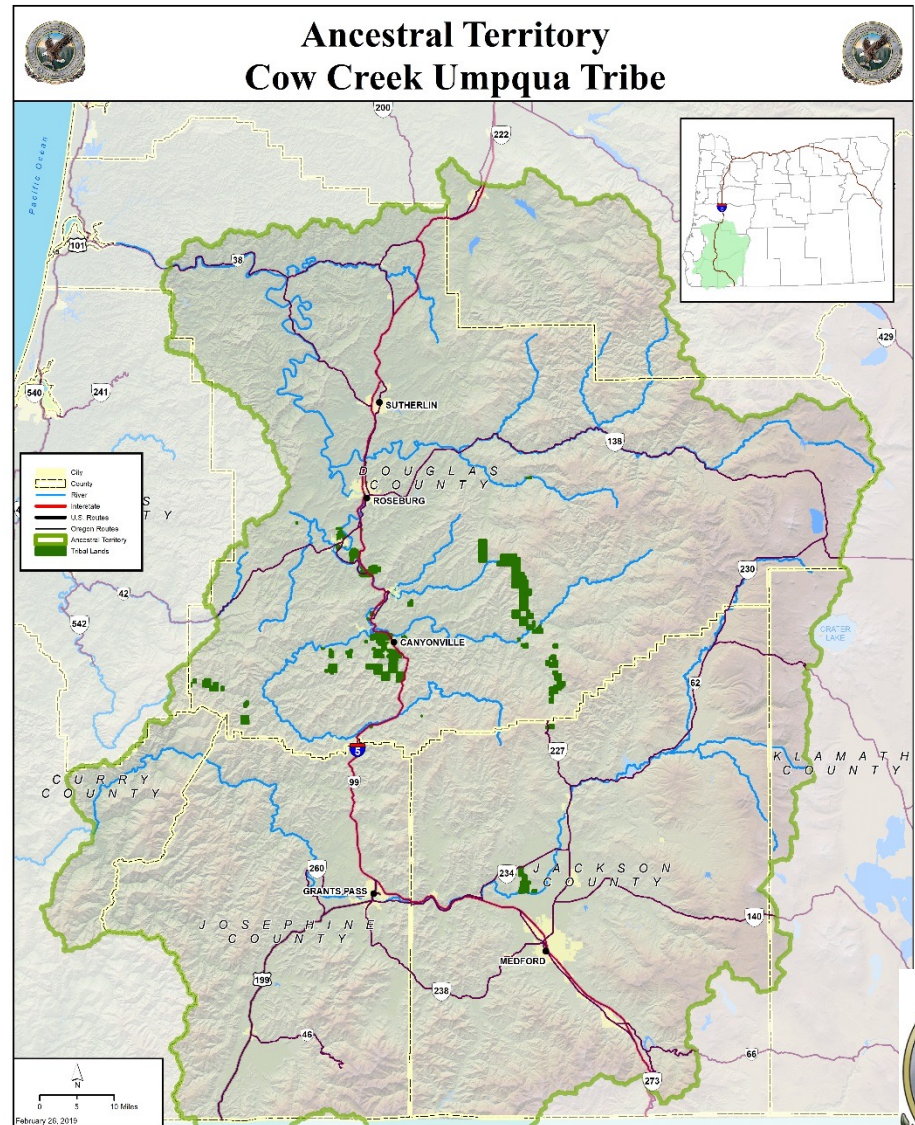
# Overview

1. Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians History and background
2. Natural Resources Department
3. Land management



# Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians History

- The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians is one of nine federally recognized Sovereign Indian Tribal Governments in the State of Oregon.
- The Ancestral Territory/Interest Area is approximately 6.2 million acres
- Tribal Managed Acres
  - Trust 23,021.8 ac.
  - Fee: 14,193.8 ac.
  - Total: 37,215.6 ac.



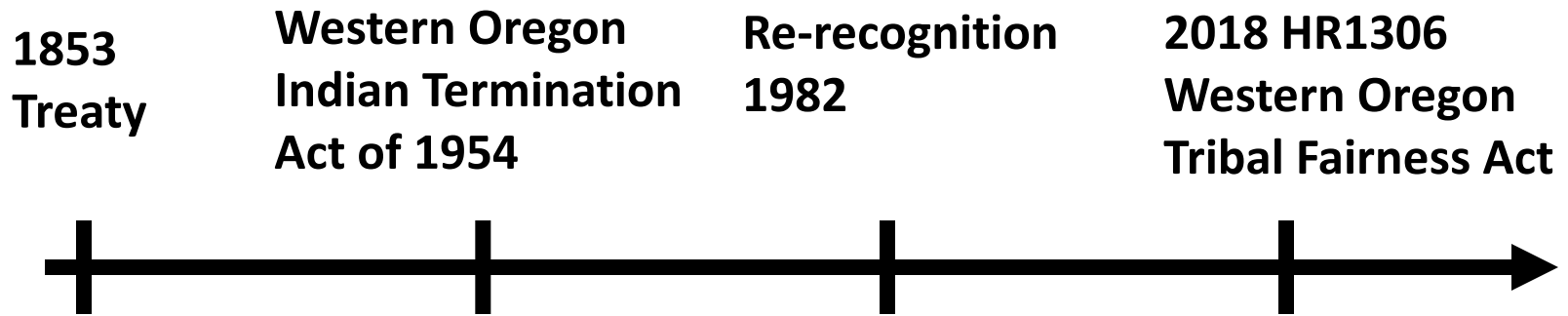
# Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians History

The Cow Creek Umpqua (Naháŋk<sup>h</sup>uotana) people are native to Southwestern Oregon and have inhabited these lands since time immemorial.

The Naháŋk<sup>h</sup>uotana have a deep connection to the land, water, and resources. Traditionally there were abundant resources, and the Tribe practiced a Seasonal Subsistence Round.



# CCBUTI Timeline of Events



ABOVE: Mary Thomason Furlong, (left) with grandchildren Damen Crispin and John Denny on her lap. Granddaughter Rena Denny is standing in the center next to Mary's daughter, Ellen Furlong Crispin, who is holding her daughter Sue Crispin Shaffer. Mary's other daughters (standing) were Mamie and Susie Furlong.

LEFT: Susan Nanta Thomson born in 1839 in a rock shelter near Drew, Oregon. Susan was known as a healer. She died near Drew, Oregon in 1912.

- Past
- Present
- Future



# Tribal Government

The Cow Creek Umpqua Tribe is a Sovereign Nation with its own Constitution.

It is governed by an elected 11-member Tribal Board of Directors.

The Tribe currently has 1,946 enrolled citizens.

Paramount for the Tribe today is our connection to the lands and resources that have sustained our traditional lifeways. We are stewards and protectors of the land.

Natural resources are considered cultural resources and practicing our traditional lifeways of hunting, fishing and gathering are a part of our cultural practices.

We continue to hold ceremonies for our cultural resources.



# CCBUTI Mission

The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians upholds Tribal Government, protects and preserves Tribal sovereignty, history, culture and the general welfare of the Tribal membership, and serves to provide for the long-term economic needs of the Tribe and its members through the economic development of Tribal lands.

“Protect and enhance Tribal lands, natural resources on these lands, and the Tribe’s aboriginal and cultural heritage, ensuring that all natural and cultural resources are managed in a sustainable, well balanced manner that reflects the ecological, cultural, and economic priorities of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians”(Natural Resources Department Mission Statement 2015).



# ODA Mission and Vision

## **Mission**

Ensure healthy natural resources, environment, and economy for Oregonians now and in the future through inspection and certification, regulation, and promotion of agriculture and food.

## **Vision**

The Oregon Department of Agriculture remains able to serve the changing needs of Oregon's diverse agricultural and food sectors to maintain and enhance a healthy natural resource base and strong economy in rural and urban communities across the state.



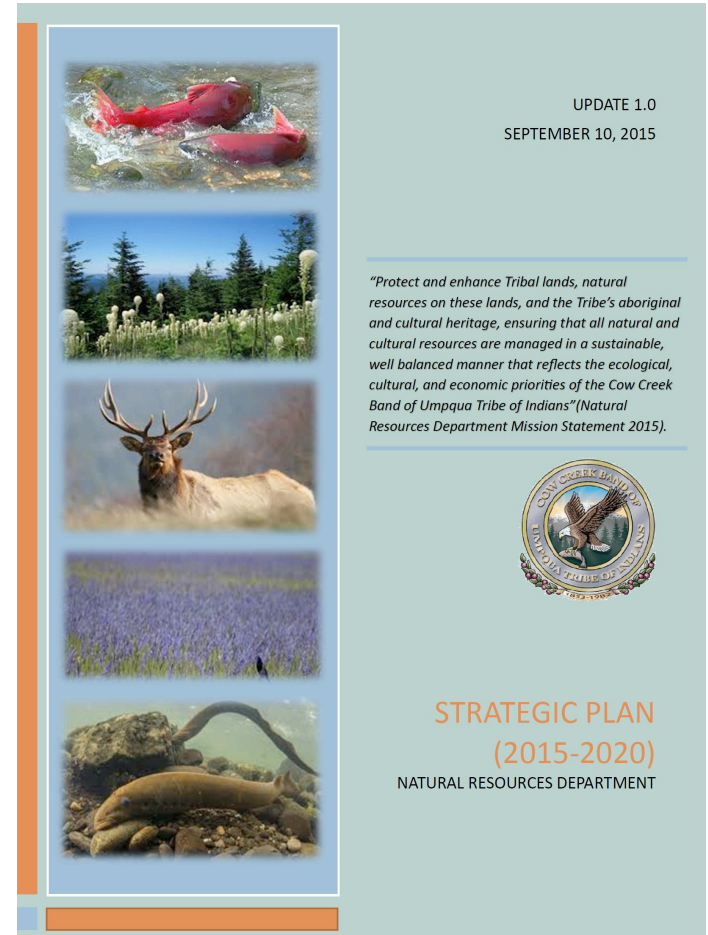
# About the NR Department

- NR Department Formed in 2011
- One of three Departments in Lands and Resources along with Forestry and Real-estate Services
- Program Areas
  - Environmental Services
  - GIS
  - Heritage
  - Wildlife
  - Fisheries
  - Tribal Garden



# Natural Resources Management

- The Tribe uses an **integrated** approach to resource management that focuses on shared goals and objectives that reflect the mission and vision of the Tribe.
- Under an integrated approach all natural resources are considered cultural resources.
- The Tribe develops its own management plans and has authority over Tribal lands.
- We have our own internal processes and procedures.
- As a result of our Government to Government relationship with federal and state agencies we use consultation as a way to communicate about natural resources, science and culture.



# Land Management

The Natural Resources Department manages all lands in partnership with other departments and Tribal businesses.



# K-Bar Ranches

- Agricultural and business K-Bar Ranches Corp. includes 5,500 acres.
- North Ranch, South Ranch
  - Cultural significance of the South Ranch



# Healthy Resources

- Water quality monitoring on Tribal lands



# Invasive Species Management

- Paterson's curse and wooly distaff thistle—priority noxious weeds
  - We work with Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District and the Elk Creek Watershed Council to eradicate Paterson's Curse and Wooly Distaff on land in Douglas County.
    - BIA Invasive species funds, Title II and private landowner contribution.
  - Himalayan blackberry
    - BIA Invasive species and Tribal funding annually.



# Restoration



- Restoration
  - K-Bar South Ranch project
    - 290 feet of active bank erosion, total project length of 500ft
    - Identified in the Tribe's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as a near-term project
    - Funding through FEMA and NOAA-PCSRF



# Co-Management

- The Tribe is actively working with State (ODF and ODFW) and Federal Land Management Agencies (USFS Umpqua and Rogue National Forest and BLM Roseburg and Medford Districts) on agreements to promote co-management/stewardship over a large portion of its ancestral area.
- Goal(s)
  - Reduce the risk of climate change impacts resulting from catastrophic wildfire and drought
  - Promote healthy and resilient forests
  - Restore and Enhance watershed conditions
  - Restore and Enhance habitats for culturally significant plants, wildlife and fish





# 7 Generations Into the Future



# Thank you for your time!

If you have any questions, please contact us

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