

UO Class Drafts Conceptual Plans for Hatchery Education Center

by Ryan French and Mike Kennedy

Master's students majoring in architecture and landscape architecture at the University of Oregon (UO) undertook a class project to develop conceptual master plans for an education center, basket making pavilion, and interpretive hiking trails at the Lhuuke Illahee Fish Hatchery property on Little Rock Creek.

Michael Cockram and Sara Geddes, class instructors, chose the hatchery site because it offered a unique opportunity for students to incorporate historic and cultural Native American traditions into the design of a modern educational facility.

In January 2004, the students came to Siletz and met with Robert Kentta and Bud Lane, who showed them some traditional basketry and explained the cultural significance of the hatchery property. They then toured the hatchery

site, where Stan van de Wetering explained current management objectives for fish rearing, spawning, and providing fishing opportunities for tribal members.

The objective of creating an interpretive center and hiking trails was to educate visitors about important tribal customs, values, and cultural perspectives. It also would give tribal members a place to practice basket making and perform ceremonies, dances, and other traditional activities. Information could be provided about native fish, wildlife, and plant species as well as relating historical practices of fish hatchery management with current, more natural methods of fish and habitat enhancement.

Each student developed an individual master plan for the project and

was given roughly two months to design a final proposal. The architecture students focused primarily on building an education center, indoor/outdoor classrooms, exhibit space/display cases, a basketry pavilion, a smokehouse, restrooms, viewing platforms, and a fish trap interpretive overlook.

The landscape architecture students addressed projects that included creating hiking trails, footbridges, parking areas, fishing platforms, picnic shelters, campgrounds, stream/pond restoration, and spawning channels, and planting native trees and shrubs such as hazelnuts, huckleberries, and ferns.

The final class presentation was given on March 10 at the UO campus. Pete Downey and Ryan French of the

Siletz Tribe attended, and final projects currently are on display in the Natural Resources map room at the Siletz office. The projects also were presented to Tribal Council on March 30 at the Natural Resources workshop in Siletz.

Natural Resources, Culture, and Planning department staff have begun developing a comprehensive plan for the entire hatchery property, including the more than 200-acre designated cultural area across Little Rock Creek from the hatchery.

While the UO student project wasn't intended to become a reality at this time, the student's ideas may prove useful in designing future plans for the property. Tribal staff will seek funding to implement the project after Tribal Council approves the comprehensive plan.

CTSI Jobs

Position: Planner/GIS
Department: Planning
Location: Siletz, Oregon
Salary: \$16.09 per hour
Open: 4/20/04
Close: 5/21/04

Position: Natural Resources Crew Member – temporary hire
Department: Natural Resources
Location: Siletz, Oregon
Salary: \$11.83 per hour
Open: 4/21/04
Close: Until Filled

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

Position: Temporary Employment
Location: Salem, Portland, Eugene, and Siletz, Oregon
Salary: Varies
Tribal Level: Varies
Open: 4/1/04
Close: Accepting applicants continually

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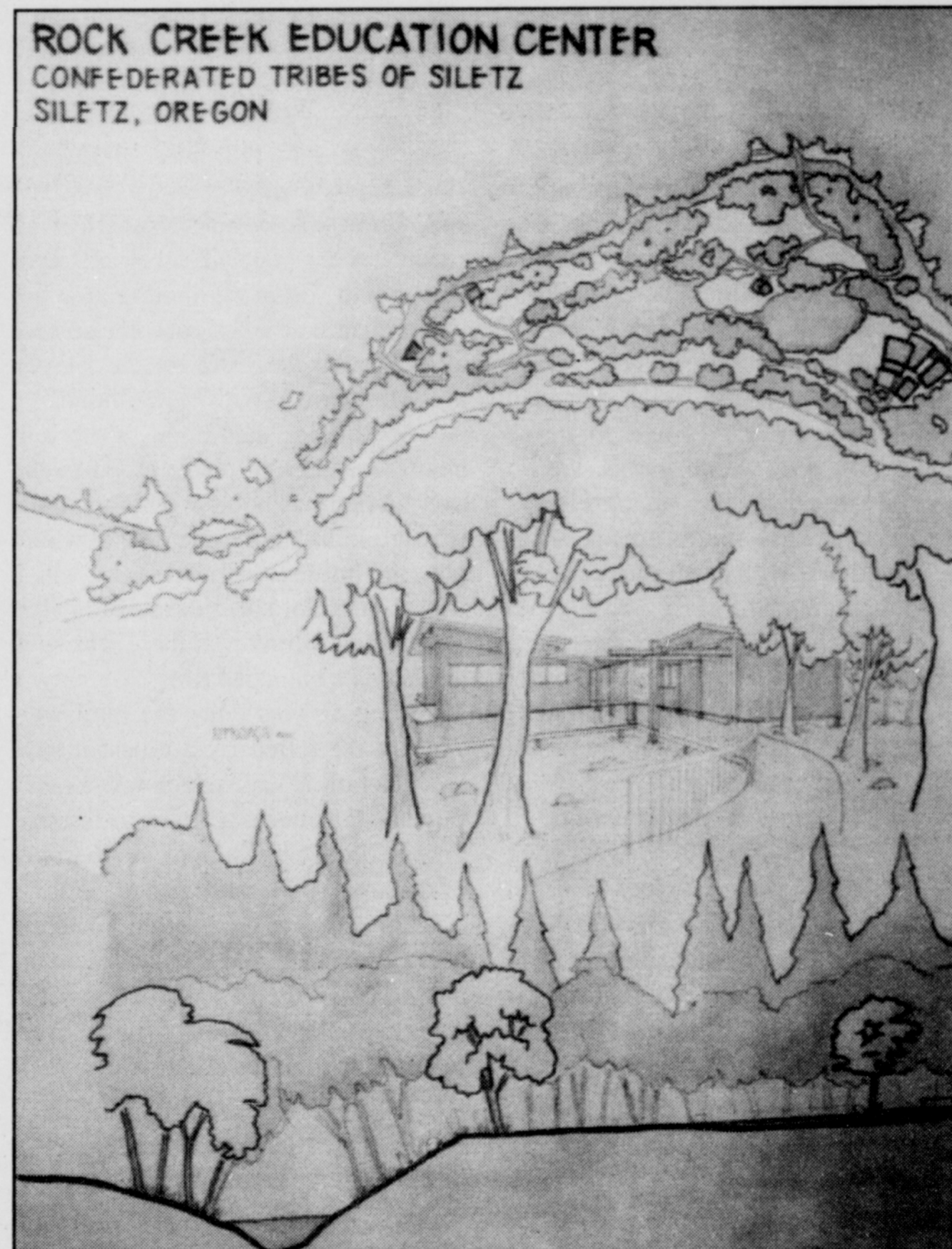
may contain unsafe levels of chemicals because of pollution found in other areas, including the ocean.

It may seem as though cultural practices (greater fish consumption) pose a greater risk to tribal health, but as one Warm Springs tribal member in attendance stated, "Practicing the traditional or 'old ways' of smoking eels and salmon can reduce the tribes exposure to fish toxins."

In the long-term, tribes can use their knowledge and political influence to

encourage the U.S. government to more quickly and more thoroughly clean up the polluted waterways. Tribes also must continue to remind the EPA that it has a trust responsibility to protect the environment and tribal health as it relates to the environment.

For more information, contact Tom Downey, Frank Simmons, or Ryan French in the Natural Resources Department in Siletz, 1-800-922-1399 or 541-444-2532.



One of several plans developed by UO students