

I am sharing the report that the Tribal Council receives from our lobbyist, Matt Hill, each month, along with any other urgent information that needs to be shared. The updates are very informative.

**Thursday, March 31, 2016
Washington D.C. Update**

For: The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
From: Matt Hill

- Merkley, Blumenauer tour Columbia River fishing sites
- CA Tribe blasts other Tribes for anti-casino efforts
- Upcoming hearings in the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- Ramah settlement figures for Oregon
- Clinton campaign releases Native American priorities
- Presidential Polling

**Merkley, Blumenauer tour
Columbia River fishing sites**

This week, Sen. Merkley and Rep. Blumenauer toured Lone Pine and Celilo Village to examine how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has not fulfilled promises to provide housing for Tribal members more than 80 years after flooding their traditional villages to create three Columbia River dams.

Merkley and Blumenauer pledged to push for a number of measures to improve the living conditions of the Tribes along the river. In the short term, those include more money for operations and maintenance at the 31 sites. Money set aside by the Corps to help pay for maintenance of the encampments will likely be depleted nearly 30 years ahead of schedule.

Blumenauer said he also plans to insert language in the 2016 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to start building the houses the Tribal fishing families were promised but never received. While many federal agencies are underfunded, he said, the money is there. He also suggested using a small fraction of the money made from the dams' hydro-electric power to fund Tribal housing.

**CA Tribe blasts other Tribes for
anti-casino efforts**

The North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians is wondering why rival Tribes are asking Congress, particularly Rep. LaMalfa (R-CA) to intervene in a casino dispute in California. As reported in last week's update, LaMalfa questioned Assistant Secretary Larry Roberts about the importance of states in making decisions about Indian gaming.

"Every Tribal leader across the nation should be deeply concerned about the principle being suggested by this effort, namely allowing the legislatures and citizens of all 50 states to weigh in on Tribal rights, application of laws differently among Tribes and that established federal gaming law ... should be jeopardized to protect a few Tribes from potential competition," Chairwoman Maryann McGovran told the paper.

LaMalfa's office confirmed that they are working on federal legislation.

**Upcoming hearings in the Senate
Committee on Indian Affairs**

April 6 legislative hearing on:

- S. 2304, a bill to provide for Tribal demonstration projects for the integration of early childhood development,

education, including Native language and culture, and related services, for evaluation of those demonstration projects, and for other purposes;

- S. 2468, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a five-year demonstration program to provide grants to eligible Indian Tribes for the construction of Tribal schools, and for other purposes;
- S. 2580, a bill to establish the Indian Education Agency to streamline the administration of Indian education, and for other purposes;
- S. 2711, a bill to expand opportunity for Native American children through additional options in education, and for other purposes.

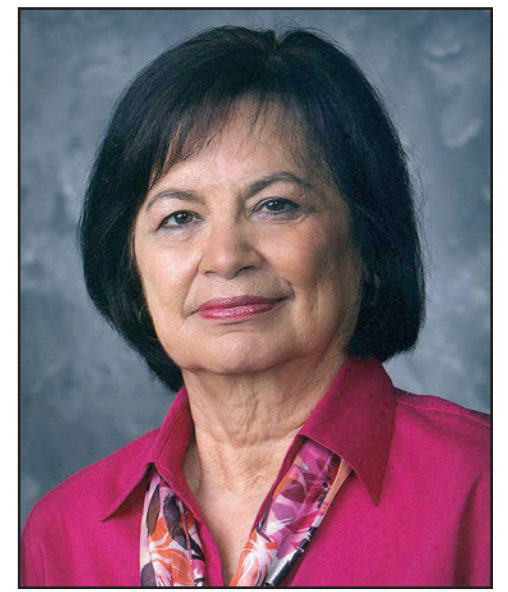
April 13 legislative hearing on:

- S. 2205, a bill to establish a grant program to assist Tribal governments in establishing Tribal healing to wellness courts, and for other purposes;
- S. 2421, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and to the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation located in Dillingham, Alaska, and for other purposes;
- S. 2564, a bill to modernize prior legislation relating to Dine College;
- S. 2643, a bill to improve the implementation of the settlement agreement reached between the Pueblo de Cochiti of New Mexico and the Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes;
- S. 2717, a bill to improve the safety and address the deferred maintenance needs of Indian dams to prevent flooding on Indian reservations, and for other purposes.

April 22 Field Oversight Hearing on
"Examining EPA's Unacceptable Response to Indian Tribes."

**Ramah settlement figures
for Oregon**

Indian Tribes and organizations in Oregon will be receiving their share of a nearly \$1 billion settlement the federal government recently reached with Tribes across the nation. The settlement in the Ramah case is restitution for decades of underpayment by the federal government for Tribal administration of contracts for such things as health care and social services.



Delores Pigsley

Here are the amounts contained in the settlement:

Burns-Paiute Tribe	\$935,715
Coos	\$1,500,560
Umatilla	\$5,912,128
Grand Ronde	\$5,277,170
Warm Springs	\$7,536,730
Coquille	\$3,571,406
Cow Creek	\$913,203
Klamath	\$5,468,785
Siletz	\$3,539,803

**Clinton campaign releases
Native American priorities**

On her campaign website, Hillary Clinton posted her "Vision for Building a Brighter Future for Native Americans." Priorities include:

- Ensure Meaningful Tribal Consultation and Empowerment
- Protect Tribal Assets and Resources and Resolve Long-standing Disputes
- Strengthen Public Safety and Justice in Indian Country
- Combat Drug and Alcohol Addiction
- Increase Opportunity for Youth
- Ensure High Quality Education for Native Youth
- Ensure Tribal Communities Have Improved Health Care
- Fighting for Native American Veterans

Presidential Polling

The latest national head-to-head poll was released last week by Monmouth University (NJ):

Trump vs. Clinton	Clinton +10
Cruz vs. Clinton	Clinton +5
Kasich vs. Clinton	Kasich +6

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**Deadline for the July issue
is June 10.**

**Submission of articles and
photos is encouraged.**

**Please see the Passages
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mitting items for Passages.**



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CTSI Jobs

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