

Editor's note: The Chairman's Report will resume in a future issue of Siletz News.

USFWS announces landmark revision to eagle retention policy

In a decision that underscores the agency's commitment to honoring the wishes of federally recognized Tribes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has revised its policy regarding the retention of eagle remains on lands within Indian Country.

Federally recognized Tribes now can retain bald and golden eagle remains found on these lands under certain conditions and with the proper permits.

In 2017, the service hosted numerous in-person and telephone consultations with federally recognized Tribes in the United States. During these consultation sessions, Tribal members requested the ability to retain bald and golden eagle remains found on their lands.

The service has revised its policy to accommodate this request.

The updated policy has three goals: authorize the retention of eagles found by a Tribe's members in Indian Country, enhance eagle conservation on these lands and avoid unnecessary human health or safety challenges that some deceased eagles pose.

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is honored to have the ability to support Tribes' spiritual, religious and cultural pursuits by authorizing the retention of eagle remains found by federally recognized Tribal members on their lands," said Principal Deputy Director Margaret

Everson. "By working together, we hope to conserve bald and golden eagle populations for future generations."

"The Trump administration is proud to acknowledge the significance of the eagle in many Tribal cultures," said Joe Grogan, director, White House Domestic Policy Council. "This new policy honors that significance as well as the commitment Tribal governments have displayed leveraging their sovereignty, in concert with the United States, to safeguard the bald eagle and other eagle species of religious importance in Tribal communities. It also cuts back needless bureaucratic red tape. The White House thanks the Department of the Interior for leading the way to this sensible new policy."

"Because of its intrinsic beauty, skill and courage, the eagle is a valued symbol of America and has long been venerated in many Tribal cultures throughout Indian Country," said John Tahsuda, Interior principal deputy assistant secretary – Indian Affairs. "Indian Affairs staff have worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Tribal nations on a common-sense approach to the handling of bald and golden eagle remains found on Tribal lands. This updated eagle remains retention policy respects Tribal cultural and religious practices while protecting eagle populations now and in the future."

Under the updated policy, a federally recognized Tribe must receive a permit prior to possessing eagle remains found within Indian Country. When a Tribal member or an employee of a federally recognized Tribe discovers eagle remains, he or she must report it immediately to Tribal or service law enforcement officials.

Eagle remains found and reported may be eligible for return to the federally recognized Tribe for religious purposes after the service completes any activities it deems necessary for law enforcement or for scientific management reasons.

If the service or a Tribal law enforcement officer designated by the service determines that the eagle was not taken intentionally and human health risks aren't suspected or known, it may be transferred directly to the respective federally recognized Tribe as long as the proper permits are in place.

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Lacey Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Certain activities like harassing, killing or selling these species are strictly prohibited. Eagles that are unlawfully taken, diseased, poisoned or part of an ongoing investigation will not be eligible for distribution.

More information regarding the service's eagle retention policy update can be found at fws.gov/nativeamerican/eagle-retention-policy.html.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

For more information, visit fws.gov or connect with us through Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube.

Tenas Illahee Childcare Center Board of Directors Vacancies

Résumés are being accepted for the Tenas Illahee Childcare Center Board of Directors. Currently, there are two vacant board positions.

If interested, please submit your résumé to Siletz Tribal Council, c/o Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

Vacancies are open until filled.

Elders Council Meeting

Oct. 12 • 1-4 p.m. • Chinook Winds Golf Resort

For more information, contact the Elders Program at 800-922-1399, ext. 1261, or 541-444-8261.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Oct. 7 – 6-8 p.m.
Nov. 4 – 6-8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Oct. 14 – 6-8 p.m.
Nov. 12 – 6-8 p.m.

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Oct. 8 – 6-8 p.m.
Nov. 5 – 6-8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Oct. 15 – 6-8 p.m.
Nov. 13 – 6-8 p.m.

Classes begin with basic instruction and progress over the year. They also are a refresher course for more-advanced students. Come and join other members of your community and Tribe in learning to speak one of our ancient languages.

We also have equipment in the Cultural Department available for use in grinding and drilling shell or pine nuts or other applications. If you need to use the equipment, call the number below to set up an appointment.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Cultural Department at 541-444-8320 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

Siletz News is free to enrolled Siletz Tribal members. For all others, a \$12 annual subscription fee applies. Please make checks payable to CTSI and mail to Siletz News.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Change of address: Tribal members – contact the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258; 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; or enrollment@ctsi.nsn.us. All others – call the newspaper office.

Send information to:

Siletz News

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Deadline for the November issue is Oct. 10.

Submission of articles and photos is encouraged.

Please see the Passages Policy on page 24 when submitting items for Passages.



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