

Interior Department, ITC strengthen wildland fire management collaboration

WASHINGTON – The Department of the Interior announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Intertribal Timber Council on Sept. 15. As climate change propels larger, costlier and more complex wildfires, this agreement emphasizes the importance of collaborating on wildland fire management across departmental and Tribal lands.

Approximately 6.5 million acres of land managed by the Interior Department are in close proximity to Tribal land, separated by 50 miles or less. The proximity and interconnectedness of these lands necessitates close communication and collaboration on wildland fire management.

“By making smart investments in critical infrastructure, wildland fire response and key partnerships, the Department of the Interior is helping lead the Biden-Harris administration’s response to the increasingly complex fire environment, including on Tribal lands,” said Secretary Deb Haaland. “By strengthening our ties and improving collaboration with stakeholders like the Intertribal Timber Council, we will improve our efforts to more effectively reduce wildfire risk, rehabilitate burned landscapes, promote a better understanding of wildfire and support our firefighters.”

The memorandum of understanding between Interior’s Office of Wildland Fire and ITC commits to undertake mutually beneficial actions and work collaboratively to reduce wildland fire risk and miti-

gate post-wildfire impacts. In particular, both organizations agree to:

- Identify shared values
- Utilize information technology to improve decision making among partners
- Highlight common conservation priorities to combat the effects of climate change
- Coordinate on workforce development efforts
- Facilitate the exchange of perspectives and information to increase awareness, understanding, and engagement between the two organizations

“There is no single entity across wildland fire management that will be able to successfully manage the landscape before, during and after a wildfire without help,” said Cody Desautel, ITC president. “The Intertribal Timber Council looks forward to the continued effort to pursue and promote stewardship of our lands for the benefit of our communities.”

The Biden-Harris administration is working with Congress on much-needed, longer-term support, benefits and work-life balance improvements for federal firefighters, as well as wildland fire preparedness.

President Biden’s Build Back Better agenda would help better prepare communities and ecosystems against the threat of

wildland fire, including investments made by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The act contains \$600 million for federal wildland firefighter salaries, expenses and the development of a distinct “wildland firefighter” classification series, as well as historic investments to restore and leverage nature-based infrastructure to protect communities and the environment.

The department recently outlined updated wildland fire management goals, including supporting science and research into the effects of climate change on wildland fire, modernizing the firefighter workforce while creating good jobs and

protecting the safety and long-term well-being of wildland firefighters and incident responders.

The Interior Department is committed to honoring and fulfilling its trust responsibilities to Tribal nations. This agreement represents yet another step toward the Biden-Harris administration’s priority of strengthening nation-to-nation relationships and promoting climate resiliency across landscapes and communities.

Learn more about the memorandum of understanding on the Office of Wildland Fire partnership webpage at doi.gov/wildlandfire/partnerships.

2022 Tribal Council Application

Application for names to be placed on the 2022 ballot for candidates in the Siletz Tribal Council election

Name: _____ Roll# _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

I understand I must be an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and 18 years of age or older on Election Day. This application must be filed with the Election Board by **4 p.m. on Dec. 3, 2021**. I also understand that if for any reason I decide to withdraw my application for Siletz Tribal Council, I must withdraw in writing by **4 p.m. on Dec. 8, 2021**. Otherwise, my name will appear in the voter’s pamphlet and on the ballot.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail your application to CTSI Election Board, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

Election Deadlines

4 p.m.	Dec. 3, 2021	Deadline to file for candidacy
4 p.m.	Dec. 3, 2021	Deadline to submit a photo and/or candidate’s statement for inclusion in the Tribal Voter’s Pamphlet
4 p.m.	Dec. 8, 2021	Deadline to withdraw in writing from the Tribal election
4 p.m.	Dec. 8, 2021	Certified Candidates List posted
Days of:	Dec. 13-14, 2021	Voter’s Pamphlet mailed out
Days of:	Dec. 16-17, 2021	Absentee ballots mailed out
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Jan. 8, 2022	Candidates Fair – Location TBD
4 p.m.	Jan. 28, 2022	Deadline to request a mail-in ballot
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Feb. 5, 2022	In-person Voting – Tribal Elections, Tribal Community Center, Siletz
4 p.m.	Feb. 5, 2022	Deadline for returning absentee ballots

Voter’s Pamphlet and Statement

If you would like your candidate’s statement and photo to appear in the Voter’s Pamphlet, please submit your statement and a recent 3x5 photograph of yourself along with your application. Deadline for statements and photos is **4 p.m. on Dec. 3, 2021**.

Candidate statements must be no longer than 750 words and must not be derogatory or contain personal attacks on any one individual. Statements and photos will appear in the Voter’s Pamphlet. Photos will be included on the ballot. Mail your statement and photo to CTSI Election Board, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

The candidate is responsible for ensuring receipt of application and statement by the deadline. Letters will be sent to all candidates after review and certification by the Election Board. The Election Board will also send each certified candidate a packet that includes the Siletz Tribal Constitution, Election Ordinance and approved rules.

Candidates can call 800-922-1399, ext. 1256, or 541-444-8256; or e-mail elections@ctsi.nsn.us to confirm receipt of application and candidate’s statement.

5 Health & Safety Tips for Students & Households

1. Make a plan to vaccinate all eligible household members
2. Mask up in public, including carpools
3. Limit gatherings with other households for now
4. Move social activities outdoors
5. Make a plan in case your child needs to miss school

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact the Health Information Center at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhsosha.state.or.us.

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Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other Tribal issues.

All letters must include the author’s signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

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