



Siletz News
Confederated Tribes of
Siletz Indians
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Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians: Expanding lands and reclaiming ancestral connections

By Natural Resources staff

In a milestone year, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians has significantly expanded our land holdings, reclaiming ancestral lands and strengthening our presence across Oregon. This year’s most significant achievements include acquiring more than 2,000 acres in Lincoln and Jackson counties and the trust designation of one additional property, reaffirming the Tribe’s commitment to cultural revitalization and ecological stewardship.

Expanding land holdings

Jackson County acquisitions

Our landholdings now encompass more than 2,000 acres of high chaparral and riverfront along the Rogue River. The newly acquired Jackson County property includes portions of Lower Table Rock. Figure 1 is a photo of Lower Table Rock that helps illustrate the distances and breadth of the Tribe’s expanding land footprint.

Lower Table Rock carries a legacy of resilience and sustenance. Reclaiming this land reflects our growing ability to restore these vital lands to Tribal stewardship and extends our



Courtesy photo by southernoregondrone.net

Figure 1. We acquired more than 2,000 acres of forests, high chaparral and waterfront below Lower Table Rock. These properties are more than 200 miles from Siletz and were the lands of some of our Tribal members. This illustrates the distances and breadth of the Tribe’s expanding land footprint and its cultural significance.

holdings to more than 200 miles from the center of our lands.

Lincoln County acquisition

Closer to home, the Tribe has acquired an additional property to strengthen our presence in Lincoln

County. A lot on Cape Foulweather (Figure 2) is a landmark achievement for the Tribe. Regaining these 27 acres of ancestral homelands is a profound victory, marking the return of undeveloped oceanfront property first taken by the federal government.

With support from partners and a \$2.01 million NOAA grant, we reclaim our past and build a legacy of resilience for the future. This land reflects our cultural and ecological heritage, and its preservation will inspire restoration efforts.

Much of our current acquisition efforts also focus on restoring coastal properties, including coastal beaches, rivers, estuaries and wetlands.

Bringing Lands into Trust

This year, the Tribe successfully brought one property into trust, ensuring long-term benefits for tribal members:

- Arnold II – A nine-acre riverine, forested property east of Waldport providing road access to Tribal conservation easement properties.

Securing this property in trust aligns with long-term Tribal goals to build reservation lands along the Oregon coast. Five other properties moved closer to Trust status this year as a focused effort has been mounted.

See Tribal lands on page 9



Photo by Diane Rodriquez

Chief Financial Officer Dan McCue (right) is wrapped in a Tribal Pendleton blanket as he is named Employee of the Year at the Tribe’s All-Staff Meeting on Dec. 6 at Chinook Winds Casino Resort. Chief executive officer Kurtis Barker presented the award. McCue also entered the Ugly Sweater Contest held at the event, presenting a shark-themed sweater and accompanying hat.



Photo by Andy Taylor

Sloan Baca decorates a cookie at the annual Community Christmas Program held Dec. 11 at the Siletz Tribal Community Center. Children also visited with Santa Claus, and with others in attendance listened to Head Start children sing, enjoyed some snacks and took home some additional goodies.

Tribal offices will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year’s Day and Monday, Jan. 20, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
Tribal offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 17, for Presidents’ Day.