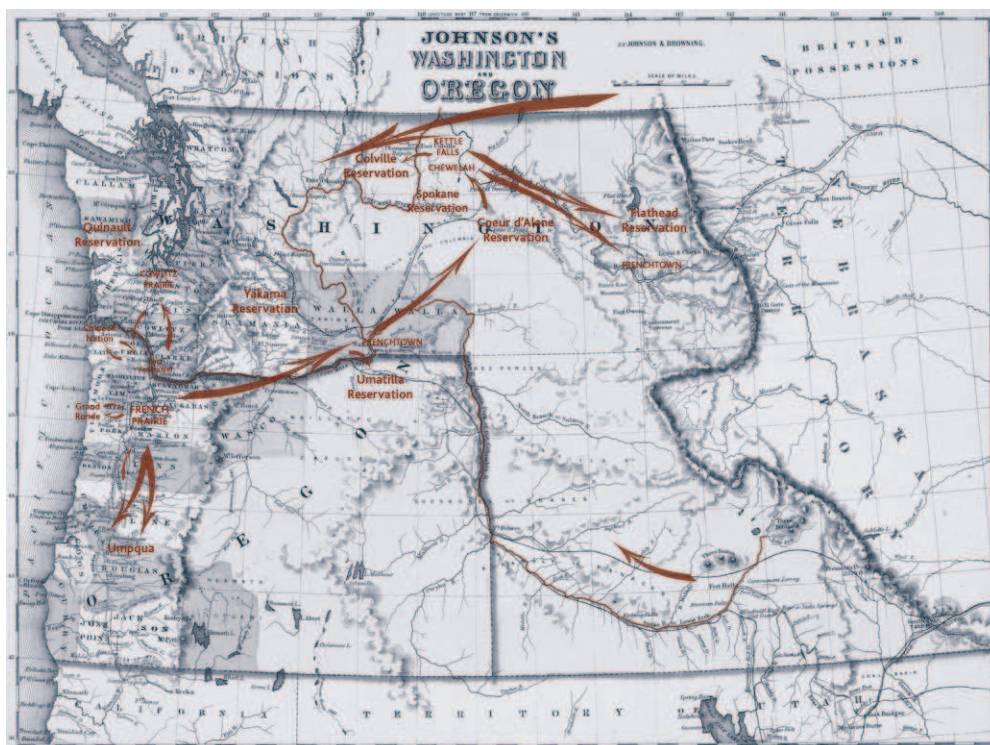




COURTESY LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Métis migrations within the Pacific Northwest

How did French-speaking people influence our region?

FORT CLATSOP — Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Fort Clatsop, is pleased to announce the next In Their Footsteps free speaker series event. “From the Great Lakes to the Lower Columbia: French Canadians and Metissage on Our Evolving Frontier” by Robert Foxcurran will be held 1 p.m. Sunday, March 18.

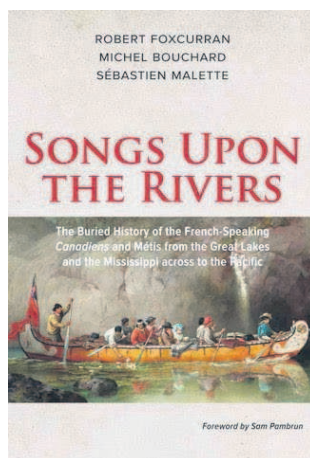
Pacific Northwest history was heavily influenced by French-speaking people. The Lewis and Clark Expedition included George Drouillard, Toussaint Charbonneau, Francois Labiche, Jean Baptiste Lapage and Pierre Cruzatte in the permanent party that wintered at Fort Clatsop. More French Canadian engagés were employed on this voyage’s earlier Missouri River segment. Later, many French speakers came to

the Pacific Northwest with the fur trade and Catholic missions.

Today an abundance of French geographic names can be seen on Oregon and Washington maps. Foxcurran’s presentation will talk about some of this saga that is often overlooked as “nations are created through the burial of inconvenient history.”

Foxcurran co-authored a 2016 book, “Songs Upon the Rivers: The Buried History of the French-Speaking Canadians and Métis from the Great Lakes and the Mississippi across to the Pacific.”

Foxcurran is a retired Boeing historian whose research interests include the lesser-known demographics associated with the North American fur trade. His book will be avail-



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able for purchase at this event, which will include a book-signing afterwards.

In Their Footsteps is a monthly Sunday forum sponsored by the Lewis & Clark National Park Association and the park. These programs are held in the Netul River Room of Fort Clatsop’s visitor center.

For more information, call the park at 503-861-2471, or check out nps.gov/lewi, or Lewis and Clark National Historical Park on Facebook.



COURTESY S. KIM NELSON

Nelson with a marbled murrelet

Bird up: Biologist discusses mysterious marbled murrelet

SEASIDE — S. Kim Nelson, a research wildlife biologist at Oregon State University, will be the next Listening to the Land speaker 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, at the Seaside Public Library (1131 Broadway St.). Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Nelson will discuss Oregon’s mysterious marbled murrelet, a dove-sized seabird that lives primarily at sea and returns to nest in mature conifer forests. Land conservation as well as ocean-based protections, like Oregon’s five marine reserve sites, house the potential to benefit these birds greatly.

Nelson moved to Oregon in the mid-1970s to be closer to the ocean, forest and mountains. She works in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University, focusing on the ecology and habitat associations of seabirds, using mod-



COURTESY DAN CUSHING AND S. KIM NELSON

Marbled murrelet on water

eling and habitat data to better understand and help resolve wildlife conservation and management issues.

Listening to the Land is a monthly winter speaker series offered January through May and presented by the Necanicum Watershed Council in partnership with the Seaside library. This month’s presentation is co-hosted by the Friends of Cape

Falcon Marine Reserve, a local volunteer organization working to promote the understanding and appreciation of Oregon’s northern-most reserve site. Presentations are held the third Wednesday of every month at the library. Events are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit necanicumwatershed.org/events/listening-to-the-land/.