

Editor's Item

Correction

We let one slip by us. In the Cover Story article "Notes From the Chairman" Mark reported that Dee Pigsley, Art Bensell, and Mary Alice Muncey attended our General Council Meeting. The date was incorrect instead of February 2, 1985 it should have read February 2, 1986. The last sentence of the article read "They said that their hunting and fishing rights became secondary land base." It should have read "... their hunting and fishing rights became secondary to their (Siletz Tribe) land base."

The council recognizes that hunting and fishing rights to Indians is extremely important, however, the Grand Ronde Council like Siletz believe the land base to be the key to the restoration effort. The council is negotiating with the state department of Fish and Wildlife to acquire hunting and fishing rights.

Smoke Signals will issue the historical section of the Grand Ronde Reservation Plan in two parts.

Reservation Plan Historical Perspective*

Prehistory

Ancestors of present day members of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community lived in the Willamette Valley, the surrounding mountains and the northern portion of the Oregon coast. The prehistory of this area starts shortly after the end of the last glacial period. As the glaciers retreated, hunting people occupied the lands of eastern Oregon and Washington. By 8,000 years ago, they had entered the Willamette Valley and the surrounding uplands.

In the period from 8,000 to 3,000 years ago, the climate of the region became warmer and drier. The valley became less heavily covered with conifers; open prairies and oak glades developed. Over time people who lived by hunting and gathering occupied the valley more intensively and made use of an increasing variety of available plants and animals. They did some fishing, but because of the partial barrier of the Willamette falls, fishing was a relatively unimportant part of subsistence activities for many groups. The expanded resource base in part related to environmental changes, but it was also related to technological

*This section "Historical Perspective" is the result of an exhaustive research effort of the Sand Point Archives and other archives in Washington D.C. The research was conducted by Dr. Barbara Lane of Lane and Lane Associates, and Dr. Lane is solely responsible for the contents of this section.