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July 1,
1999

MOKE SIGNALS



A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

JULY 1, 1999

Tribe signs agreement with the U.S. Forest Service

By Tracy Dugan

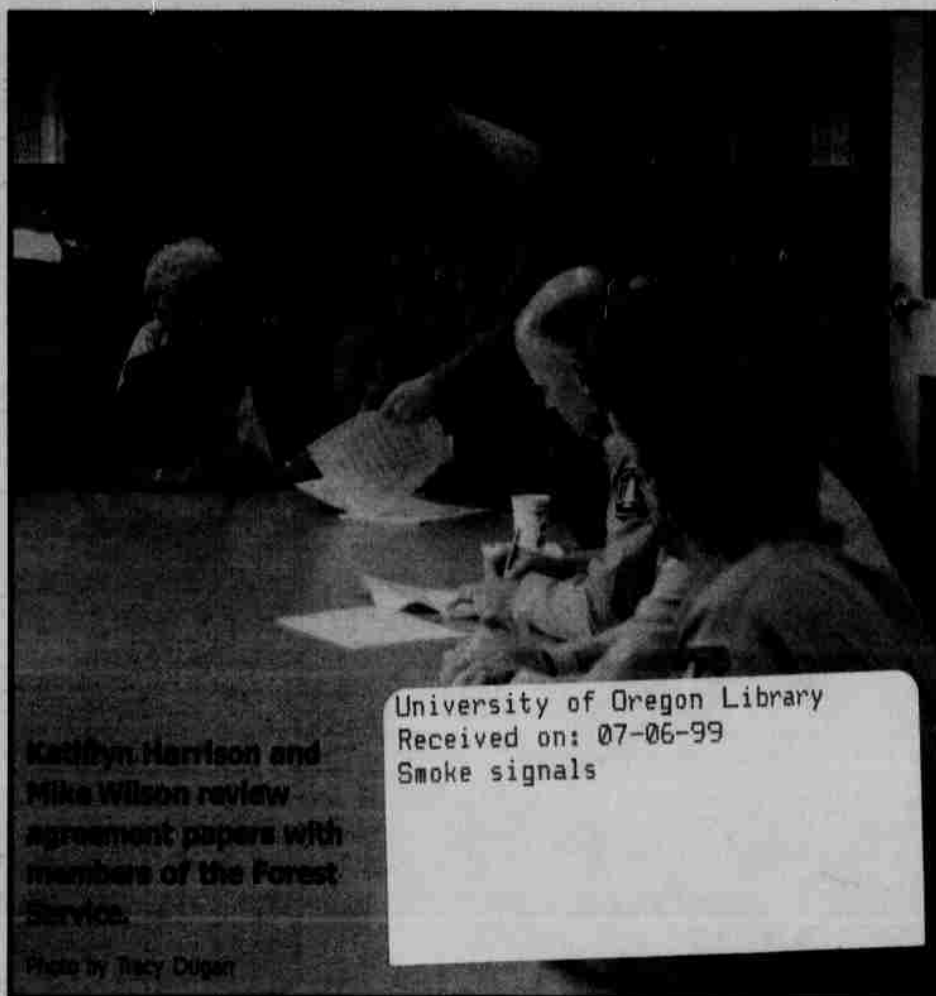
On June 9, 1999 the Tribe signed an agreement with the U.S. Forest Service as a first step toward coordinating management of 6,600 acres of National Forest lands with the reservation.

The agreement is a result of an idea that was raised at a forest service meeting almost two years ago, and proposed to Mike Wilson and Cliff Adams, Natural Resources staff.

The Natural Resources department, as most tribal members know, is responsible for managing the Tribe's reservation and all of its resources as well as pursuing land acquisition opportunities and monitoring the environmental conditions of the Tribe's land holdings.

Currently, the department is preparing a ten-year management plan for the reservation which will be approved by Tribal Council, and will act as a guide for the ways in which the Tribe's lands will be preserved

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Kathryn Harrison and Mike Wilson review agreement papers with members of the Forest Service.

Photo by Tracy Dugan

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Smoke signals

Collaborative Stewardship Agreement between the U.S. Forest Service and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the Collaborative Stewardship Agreement between the USDA Forest Service and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde?

The Stewardship Agreement is a three-phase agreement that authorizes the Tribe to: 1) conduct inventories; 2) develop a management plan and environmental analysis; and 3) implement approved activities for 6,600 acres of Forest Service land in the South Yamhill Basin. On June 9, 1999 the Grand Ronde Tribe and Siuslaw National Forest entered into a Participative Agreement which established an operating framework for phases 1 and 2 of the Stewardship Agreement.

Why was the Stewardship Agreement developed?

The 6,600 acres are part of an Adaptive Management Area in which federal agencies are encouraged to try new and innovative ways to manage national forest land. The purpose of the agreement is to develop new forest management approaches while promoting a healthy and sustainable forest ecosystem. All activities conducted through the agreement will occur in accordance with the Northwest Forest Plan.

What will the Stewardship Agreement accomplish?

Over the next two years the Tribe, acting as a contractor for the Forest Service, will conduct forest inventories including gathering information on existing forest habitat. The Tribe will also manage surveys for threatened and endangered species. This will add to and expand the Forest Service's existing information about these species. The Forest Service will also receive baseline water quality information about the streams in the management area. All of this information is important in understanding the effects to these resources of management actions that might be taken in the future. The information will also be used to create a management plan for these lands.

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Tribe's float wins again



The Grand Ronde Tribe celebrated the return of the Peregrine Falcon to Portland with its remarkable float entitled "Soaring Spirit," which won the Sweepstakes Award in the Grand Floral Parade on June 12. Members of the Royalty courts (Ali Holsclaw, Jr. Queen, Halona Butler, Miss Tiny Tot, and Stephanie Duran, Veterans' Queen) represented the Tribe. The successful recovery of the Peregrine Falcon from the brink of extinction symbolizes the Grand Ronde Tribe's own successful efforts to recover from termination and the loss of its reservation to take its place among Indian nations.

Photo by Oscar Johnson



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CANDIDATE STATEMENTS, PAGES 6-10 HUNTING TAGS, PAGES 14-15

GRAND RONDE CONSTITUTIONAL ELECTION DAY: JULY 27

The BIA will conduct a special election of the membership. THE ISSUE: whether or not to amend the enrollment requirements in the Tribal Constitution. For questions regarding this special election, please call Ron Kortlever or Mary Bartels at the BIA, Siletz Agency Office at (541) 444-2679.