

Tribal landscaping contractors wanted

CSLLC is seeking proposals from licensed landscape contractors to solicit proposals for landscaping services at its Chemawa Station property in Keizer, Ore. Contractors that are owned by or employ Tribal members and wish to be included on this list are requested to call Lewis Younger at 503-879-2099. Please indicate your business name, address, telephone, fax, name(s) of Tribal members employed and roll number if available. Bids are due on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009. ■

Transportation to Grand Ronde

The Portland satellite office has a transportation day to Grand Ronde once a month for medical or dental appointments or enrollment cards. A minimum of three people must sign up. Call Lisa at 503-235-4230. You must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member. The vehicle will leave the Portland office at 8 a.m. Please call in advance for the scheduled monthly date. ■

Saddle Club seeks members

The Grand Ronde Saddle Club is inviting current and prospective members to attend its next meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, at the Rodeo Building on the Tribal campus.

Questions? Call Tribal Elder Jackie Many Hides at 503-879-7724. ■

Dance company auditions

Northstar Dance Company is holding open auditions for Native-style dancers, including hoop for both men and women, at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1, at the THPRD Garden Home Recreation Center, Studio 2, 7475 S.W. Oleson Road, Portland.

Participants must be 16 or older. Dancers younger than 18 will need to have a parent present to register. Participants should bring their regalia to the audition.

Northstar is looking for dancers who are able to change up Native styles, have a background in contemporary styles of dance, have a positive attitude and attendance reliability, stage presence and are able to travel.

For more information, call 503-887-0671 or visit www.myspace.com/northstardancers on the Internet. ■

'It is a way of life for us'

HUNTING continued
from front page

Grand Ronde and Siletz Tribes met to discuss the issue.

Those differences were not resolved, and the Siletz filed a complaint with the Oregon Court of Appeals challenging the state's adoption of the ceremonial hunting rule to address what Siletz Tribal attorney Craig Dorsay called "an historical anomaly" regarding reservation boundaries.

Specifically, the Siletz claim that the establishment in 1855 of the Coast Reservation was actually the Siletz Reservation. The Grand Ronde Tribe disagrees and has filed a "friend of the court" brief with the Court of Appeals.

"The first federally approved reservation was the Coast Reservation created in 1855 to include all of the Tribes of western Oregon. There is a co-claim to the same land," said Tribal member and Tribal Cultural Resources Manager David Lewis.

Move the clock forward to 1954 when both Tribes were terminated by federal decree.

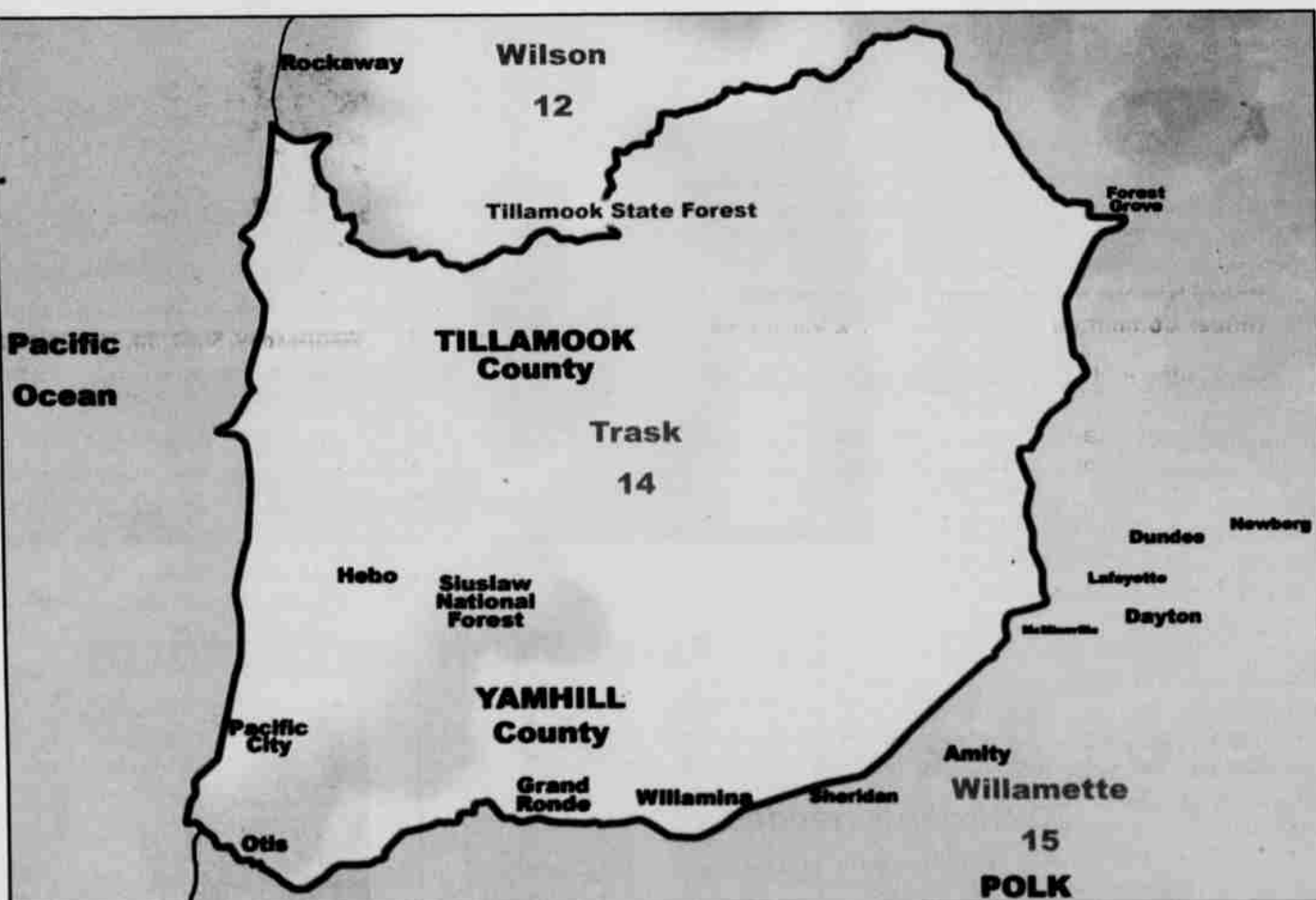
Then, in 1977, the Siletz were restored and in 1983 the Grand Ronde were restored.

The Tribes were compelled to sign similar consent decrees that specifically limited their treaty hunting and fishing rights or fail to have their reservations restored at all. Both signed the decrees.

As a result, the Siletz claim that their reservation takes precedence over the Grand Ronde reservation because in 1977, when the Siletz were restored, Grand Ronde were not federally recognized.

"In fact," Lewis said, "nothing in Grand Ronde's ceremonial hunting pact disallows the Siletz people from hunting the same area within their regular hunting seasons."

In recapping the issue before the vote, Fish and Wildlife Commission Chair Marla Rae said, "This administrative rule is not the forum to resolve the underlying issues of the Siletz complaints. We have no authority to revisit the consent



Map created by George Valdez

decrees. I continue to believe that the ceremonial permits are appropriate. We have offered the same opportunity to the Siletz Tribe."

Grand Ronde Tribal Attorney Rob Greene said, "We have a partnership with the state and we're working on a government-to-government basis to resolve a complex issue."

"The consent decrees deal with treaty rights. Other hunting rights can be handled by state regulation. We're not addressing treaty rights in the ceremonial hunting rule."

More than a dozen Grand Ronde Tribal members attended the proceedings, including five Tribal Council members.

"In 2008," said Tribal Vice Chair Reyn Leno, "we took six elk and five deer and served 3,060 people. In 2009, we took four elk and five deer and served 3,000 more people. It's really about the honor of going to powwow, and saying, 'These were taken by our ceremonial hunters

to be shared with you, the powwow crowd.' This is not about sport. It is a way of life for us, and has been for thousands of years."

"When we heard the first was taken, it was like reclaiming a part of our history," Tribal Council member Chris Mercier said. "This has been a win-win. We haven't taken anything away from anybody else."

Tribal Council member Val Sheker said, "This is an example of how the injustices against our people can be righted."

Tribal Council Secretary Kathleen Tom also came in support.

Tribal member Bryan Langley, who serves on the Ceremonial Hunting Board and is one of the Tribal ceremonial hunters, told the commission: "The process has worked well. We've had great success. It's been an honor to harvest traditional foods and provide the meat in ceremonies."

"It's been a great learning experi-

ence for my son."

Tribal member Shonn Leno, chairman of the Ceremonial Hunting Board, said that the process has been "a great honor to give back to the Tribe that has given so much to me and my family. When I got the first phone call at five in the morning in Oregon that one of our hunters had this animal down, I thought, 'We've done it. We've completed what we set out to do.'"

"We're becoming role models to our children. We hope what we've started will become standard practice at the Tribe."

One change in the readopted rule removed the word "rifle" so that ceremonial hunting would not be limited to rifles, but also include bow and arrow, as appropriate to each hunting season.

"Justice is served," said Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy. "Tribal history is validated." ■