

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER UMPQUA & SIUSLAW INDIANS

1245 Fulton Ave. Coos Bay, OR 97420 Phone (541) 888-9577 or 1-888-280-0726 Fax (541) 888-2853

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TRIBE REMAINS COMMITTED TO PROTECTION OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTIES IN COOS BAY

Coos Bay, Oregon -- On Monday, the National Park Service's Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places ("Keeper") informed the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") that the application submitted by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians ("Tribe") for inclusion of *Q'alya Ta Kukwis Shichdii Me* (Coos Bay) as a traditional cultural property ("TCP") on the National Register of Historic Places was being returned due to procedural issues with the process.

Tribal Council Chairman Doc Slyter stated, "The Tribe is understandably disappointed by the action of the Keeper sending back the application for the TCP. However, the action of the Keeper was not a rejection, but merely pointed out issues with the application process that can be addressed." In the days ahead, the Tribe will be carefully looking at what the Keeper identified to determine our next steps. We remain heartened that the SHPO has already agreed with the Tribe as to the historic significance and eligibility of the TCP for inclusion on the Register which will ensure that impacts to the very important historic, archaeological, and cultural resources are considered. The Tribe remains committed to protecting our cultural resources.

Q'alya Ta Kukwis Shichdii Me translates to Jordan Cove and the Bay of the Coos People. The TCP boundary includes the expansive bay and its sloughs, inlets, and adjacent uplands. The proposed district includes portions of private and public land in the cities of Coos Bay, North Bend, and adjacent areas in Coos County. The Tribe has lived on this landscape since time immemorial and a primary objective is to perpetuate the Tribe's unique identity and continued connection to this place through the preservation of cultural artifacts and sites of cultural, sacred, religious, and historic significance.

For further information, contact Margaret Corvi, Culture and Natural Resource Director at <u>mcorvi@ctclusi.org</u> or (541) 435-7151.