Place: Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw

The people of the Confederated Tribes of Coos (***miluk*** and ***hanis***), Lower Umpqua (***quuiich*)** and Siuslaw (***sha'yuushtl'a***) have called southwestern Oregon home since time immemorial. Their lives have been, and continue to be, tied to the lands, the rivers and the Pacific Ocean. The geography and the climate of this area provided an abundance of resources for them. This included cedar trees for houses and canoes and clothing. Large and small land animals, fish and shellfish was plentiful for food. Vegetables and fruit grew seasonally. Rain, rivers and streams were the source of plenty of fresh water to drink.

The lands of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians were historically identified by geographic boundaries. Our Ancestral Homelands extend from the forested slopes of Oregon's coastal mountain range in the East to the sand dunes and rocky shorelines of the Pacific Ocean in the west. This is a vast region of almost two million acres. It includes the Siuslaw watershed, the western Umpqua watershed, and the Coos watersheds, as well as numerous coastal lakes.

Various Rivers set the North to South land boundaries. The Pacific Ocean and the Coast Mountain Range identified the East to West boundaries.

The Siuslaw Tribes' (***sha'yuushtl'a***) north to south lands are between the Alsea River and the Siuslaw River. The Pacific Ocean to the base of the Coast Mountain Range is their east to west boundary. Their lands start at the mouth of Ten Mile Creek on the Pacific Ocean, going east, generally following the Alsea River to the Coast Range. Ten Mile Creek is about seven miles south of current day Yachats, Oregon. The Ten Mile Creek bridge near Yachats crosses Ten Mile Creek, which is the northern start point of the Siuslaw territory. The southern water boundary of the Siuslaw territory is the Siuslaw River.

The north-south lands of the Lower Umpqua Tribe ***(quuiich*)** are between the Siuslaw River and the Umpqua River. Their east-west boundaries are from the Pacific Ocean, east along the Umpqua River until it makes a big bend to the north (near the present-day town of Scottsburg).

The ***miluk*** and ***hanis*** Coos lands lay north to south between the Umpqua River to a small creek just south of the Coos River. East to west, their lands are between the Pacific Ocean and the base of the Coast Range. As subgroups, divided by language, the ***hanis*** were on the northern end of the Coos land and the ***miluk*** on the southern end of the Coos land. Historically, the southern-most boundary of the ***miluk*** speaking tribe was the Coquille River. However, that boundary was modified in a 1946 Court of Claims ruling that distinguished the lands of the Coos ***miluk*** speakers and the Coquille ***miluk*** speakers. Cut Creek was identified as the legal boundary between the Coos ***miluk*** and the Coquille ***miluk***, starting at the Pacific Ocean and going east to the Coast Range. This legal boundary is south of the Coos River and north of the Coquille River. Cut Creek is about 22 miles south of the town of Coos Bay, Oregon.

Many members of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians continue to live in their original homeland areas today. The Tribes administer services in the Coos Bay, Florence and Eugene areas. The land looks much different now, but the Tribe continues to be a steward for the land and the resources.

