

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

3388B Merlin Road #195
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DATE: September 28, 2012 Email/Letter

TO: Robert Kentta, Cultural Resources Director With the Confederated Tribes of Siletz
Eirik Thorsgard, Cultural Protection Coordinator With the Confederated Tribes of
the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
David Harrelson, Cultural Protection Specialist With the Confederated Tribes of
the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
Briecce Edwards, Tribal Archaeologist With the Confederated Tribes of the Grand
Ronde Community of Oregon (c/o Eirik Thorsgard)
Jessie Plueard, Archaeologist With the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians

FROM: Mike Walker, Section 106 Consulting Party Representative, Hugo Neighborhood
Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS)
Mike Walker, Member, Hugo Native American Team, & Co-Project Leader, Hugo
Emigrant Trails Committee, HNA&HS
Karen Rose, Member, Hugo Native American Team, & Co-Project Leader, Hugo
Emigrant Trails Committee, HNA&HS

SUBJECT: Request for Concurrence
Finding of No Historic Properties Affected
I-5 Glendale - Hugo Paving / Sexton Climbing Lane
Josephine and Douglas Counties, Oregon
ODOT Key No. 16763, ODOT EA PE001659
Federal-Aid No. S001(349)PE

For your information, in a future correspondence the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS) will be providing information to the responsible agencies concerning historic properties of potential significance to Indian Tribes as a National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consulting Party. We will be providing this information per Section 106, consulting parties to provide their views regarding the findings and determinations of ODOT for the *I-5: Glendale – Hugo Paving/Sexton Climbing Lane Project* within 30 days of findings and determinations made available to consulting parties (§800.5(c)); for background information on this process see our September 20, 2012 email/letter (Document No. 15) to Chris Bucher, Operations Engineer, Oregon Division - Federal Highway Division (FHWA)).

Glendale to Hugo Paving & Sexton Climbing Lane Project Document No. 15 - Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's (HNA&HS) Applegate Trail Inventory "Educational Resources" Web Page for the Applicable History of the ODOT's I-5 Glendale to Hugo Paving & Sexton Climbing Lane Project published on web site at http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/miscellaneous_research_papers_and_documents.htm.

The HNA&HS's original Native American interest started out because of Thomas Doty, Story Teller (http://www.dotycoyote.com/biography/programs_projects.html), Doty & Coyote: Stories from the Native West. A few years ago he wrote a story about his decades-long search for the Lowland Takelma Indian Medicine Woman Dan Mologol (i.e., Rock Old Woman; *Waiting for Rock Old Woman* at <http://www.dotycoyote.com/library/rock.html>). Her home was a sacred Takelma site along the old Lowland Takelma Indian Trail near what is now Interstate 5 at Sexton Mountain Pass in Southern Oregon. Doty more recently noted that "Although most of the ancient Dan Mologol site was destroyed years ago by road building, including the Pacific Highway, Highway 99, and Interstate 5, the spirit of the area remains sacred. There are instances when government agencies have protected "invisible" indigenous sites. The Songlines, or Dreaming Tracks, in Australia come to mind. Should the traditional home of Rock Old Woman be one of those instances? Her story continues to evolve...."

Significant historical properties evidence as of August 2012 finds the old 1855 Lowland Takelma Indian Trail over the present Sexton Mountain Pass as being under the old Applegate Trail/Applegate Road. While conducting research on the 1933 *John Peabody Harrington's Takelma Indian Field Notes*, the Hugo Native American Team (HNAT) discovered additional information from Frances Johnson, a Lowland Takelma Indian informant to ethnographer and linguist John Peabody Harrington (*John Peabody Harrington's Takelma Indian Field Notes: Outline and Lowland Takelma Indian Trail & Rock Old Woman At Sexton Mountain Pass* papers). In 1933 Harrington brought her to the Rogue River region on a short automobile trip to assist in place name identification. During that trip Frances reported that the 1,060' segment of the Applegate Trail/Road at Sexton Mountain Pass was originally the location of the old Indian Trail/old emigrant road, and that Rock Old Woman had been located at Sexton Mountain Pass.

Hugo Native American Team. August 2012. *John Peabody Harrington's Takelma Indian Field Notes: Outline*. For Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society & Josephine County Historical Society. Hugo, Oregon. Glendale to Hugo Paving & Sexton Climbing Lane Project Document No. 16 (http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Harrington_Papers_Outline_082312.pdf)

Hugo Native American Team. August 2012. *Lowland Takelma Indian Trail & Rock Old Woman At Sexton Mountain Pass*. For Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society & Josephine County Historical Society. Hugo, Oregon. Glendale to Hugo Paving & Sexton Climbing Lane Project Document No. 17 (Attachment 1; http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Harrington_Papers_Sexton_Pass_Indian_Trail_Aug_2012.pdf)

Frances Johnson was a Lowland Takelma Indian informant. Her Takelma name was Gwisgwashan. Mrs. Johnson's native village was located somewhere north of the Rogue River in the Jumpoff Joe Creek drainage; the HNA&HS thinks in the Hugo region. Sapir gives the name of Dak'ts!asin in the neighborhood of Jumpoff Joe Creek, and near a local Medicine Rock (dan-mologol) as Frances' native village. The Medicine Rock was at the Sexton Mountain Pass. In Harrington's 1933 notes Johnson says she was born at Rib Creek (i.e. Grave Creek), a place just the other side of Medicine Rock, or maybe at the falls of the Rogue River. She stated that she was a young girl at the time of the Rogue River Indian wars.

Frances Johnson identified Medicine Rock at present Sexton Mountain Pass and the old Indian Trail/old emigrant road downhill from U.S. 99/old Pacific Highway during the 1933 place name identification automobile trip while at the pass. Harrington recorded her statements in three sketch maps (Maps 3 - 5 of paper entitled *Lowland Takelma Indian Trail & Rock Old Woman At Sexton Mountain Pass*; Attachment 1). Map 4 is unique in that it was the only sketch map that located the old Indian Trail and old emigrant road as being the same pathway.

“Summit of grass; Maple Tree Rock; Red barn; med. rock.”

“Thompson’s fence; old Ind. Trail & old road; Pac - Hw.”

Some might find the memories of a young Frances Johnson (ca., 10 years old?) suspect. However, she was born at Grave Creek (Sunny Valley?) or Rainie Falls on the Rogue River. Her village was in the Jumpoff Joe Creek drainage and she would have personally traveled over the Sexton Mountain Pass along the Indian Trail by Medicine Rock. During Frances’ time in the 1850s the pass was called the Grave Creek Hills Pass and later the Smith Hill Summit. She had many personal memories of the Rogue River, her winter village Dak’ts!asin, Rainie Falls, the Medicine Rock and Indian Trail, and Grave Creek. If she was 10 years old in 1856 when she and some of her tribe walked to the Siletz reservation, she was ca., 77 years old in 1933 when she was interviewed by Harrington. Of critical importance was that Francis Johnson was acknowledged as a valuable and credible informant on the Takelma Indians, especially the Lowland Takelma Indians, by two professional ethnographers - linguists: in 1933 by John Peabody Harrington and earlier in 1906 by Edward Sapir.

We understand that Ms. Bochart-Leusch with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) contacted you to notify you of the intent and scope of this project and that no tribal representatives expressed concern with the project scope. We are not challenging that statement. We are concerned that there is nothing in the public record associated the ODOT and FHWA project to suggest that Indian Tribes were aware of the historic properties we are concerned about (i.e., the Lowland Takelma Indians’ Indian Trail and Rock Old Woman at or near today’s Sexton Mountain Pass).

If you are interested in more information, we would be happy to discuss our concerns and inventories with you.

Sincerely,

Mike & Karen :)

/s/ Mike Walker

Mike Walker, Section 106 Consulting Party Representative
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/s/ Mike Walker

Mike Walker, Member, Hugo Native American Team &
Co-Project Leader, Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee
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/s/ Karen Rose

Karen Rose, Member, Hugo Native American Team &
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Attachments

Attachment 1. *Lowland Takelma Indian Trail & Rock Old Woman At Sexton Mountain Pass* Paper

Email copies:

Applegate Trail Smith Hill Group, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society
Jessica Bochart-Leusch, Archaeologist, Oregon Department of Transportation
Chris Bucher, Operations Engineer, Oregon Division - Federal Highway Division
James Collins, Region 3 Environmental Manager, Oregon Department of Transportation
Hugo Native American Team, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society
Milford Wayne Donaldson, Chairman, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Thomas Doty, Story Teller, Doty & Coyote: Stories from the Native West
Glenn Harrison, Representative, Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council
Henry Pittock, Mapping and Marking Chair, NW Chapter, Oregon-California Trails Association