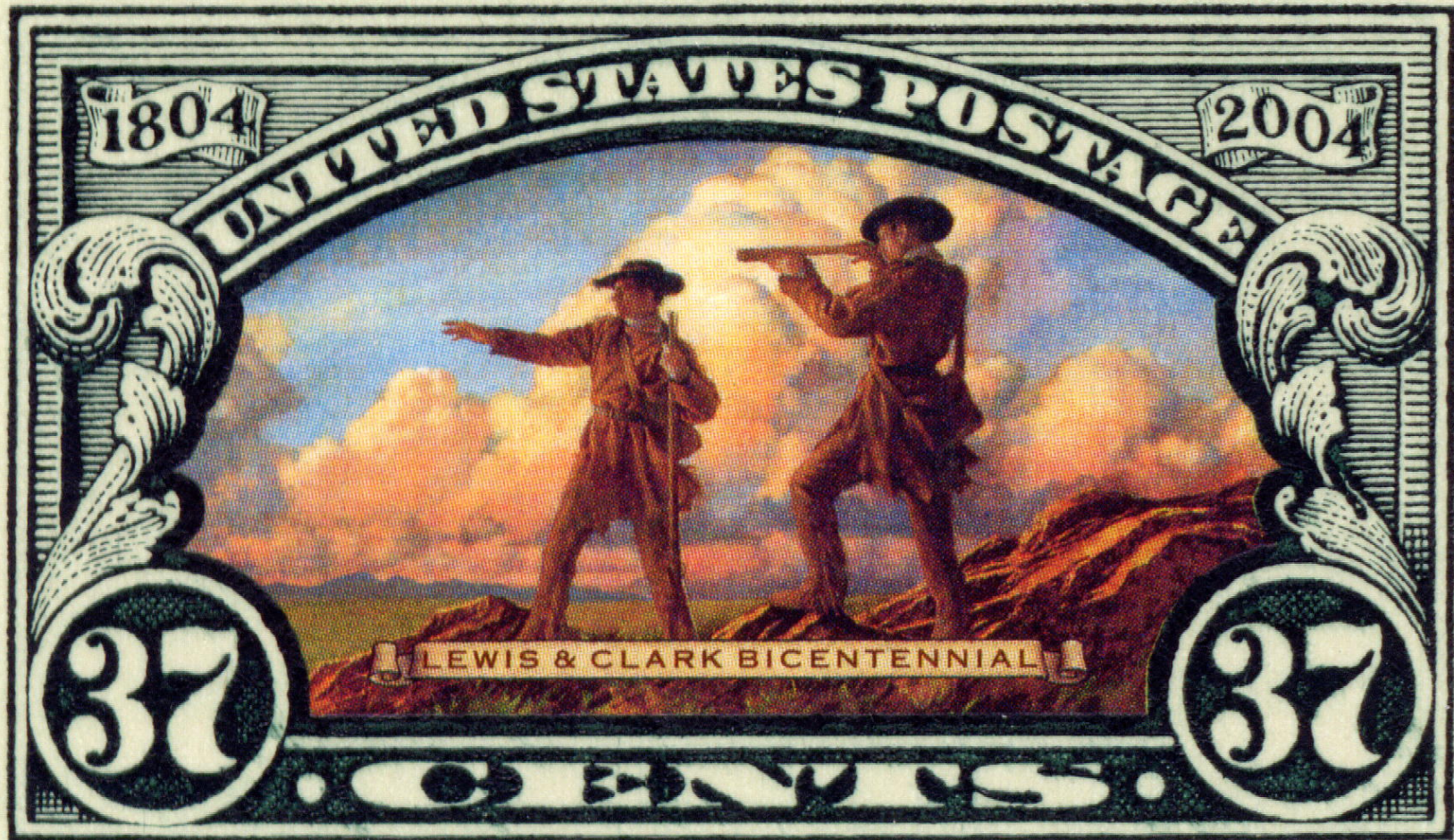




Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee

October 11, 2006



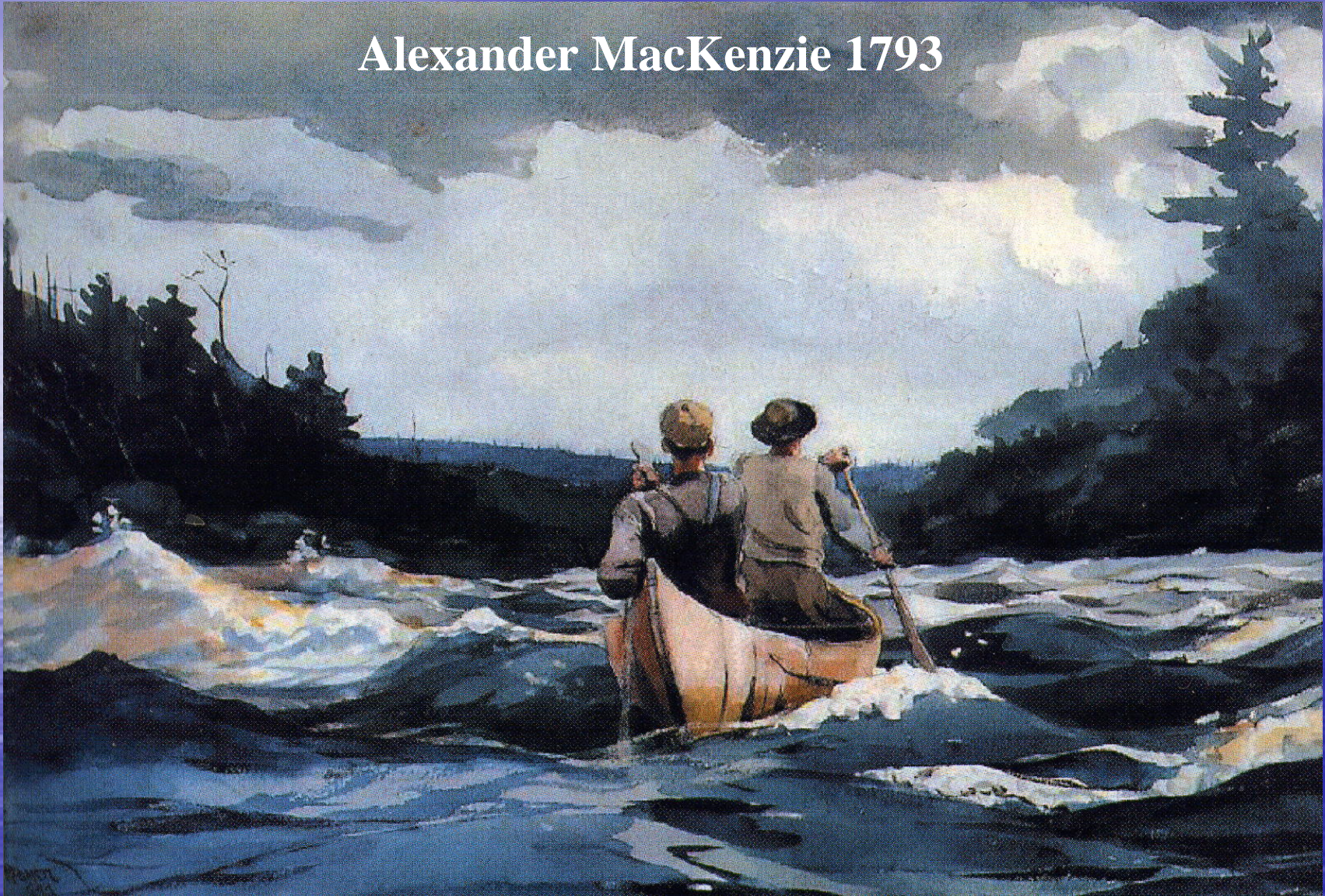


2004

Clueless & Lark Bicentennial Stamp issued May 14, 2004



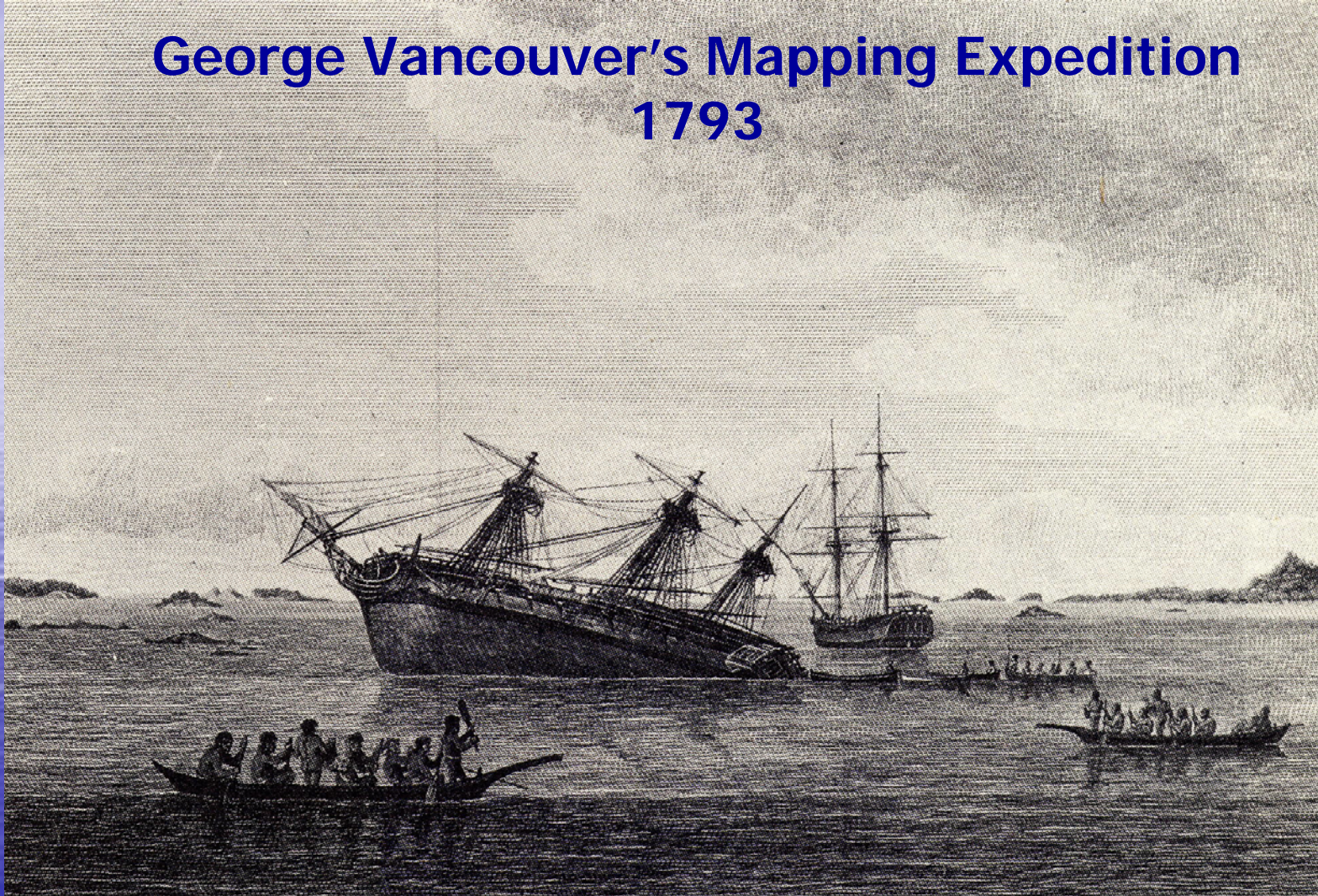
## Alexander MacKenzie 1793



On this side of the border we forgot the  
bicentennial of MacKenzie's crossing...



## George Vancouver's Mapping Expedition 1793



George discovers tide.





He reported a larger group was on their way  
*“to shoot their arrows and hurl their spears  
at us.”* Alexander MacKenzie July 21, 1793

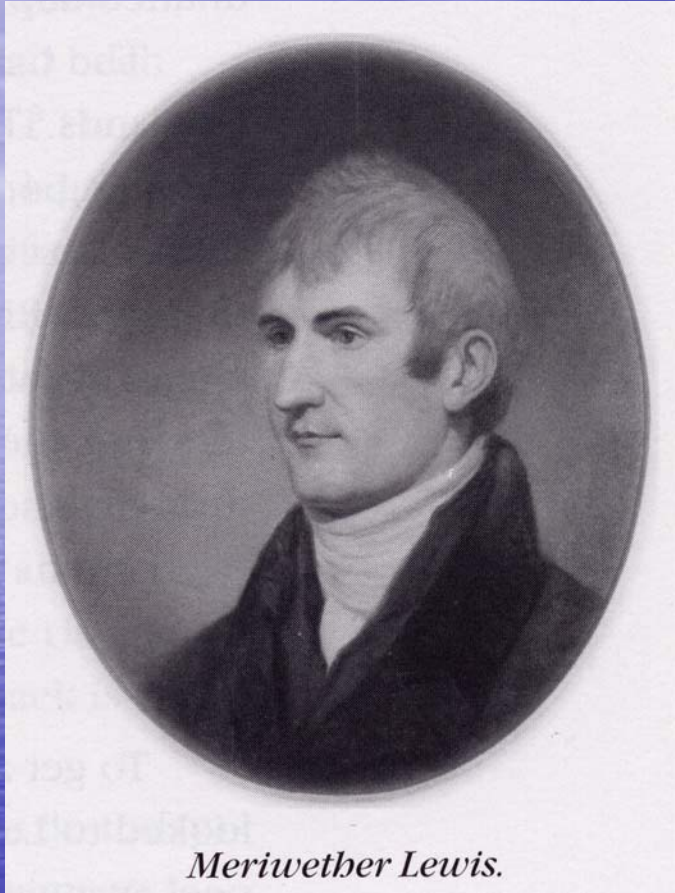


Thomas Jefferson acquired one of Alexander MacKenzie's sea otter pelts in 1797.

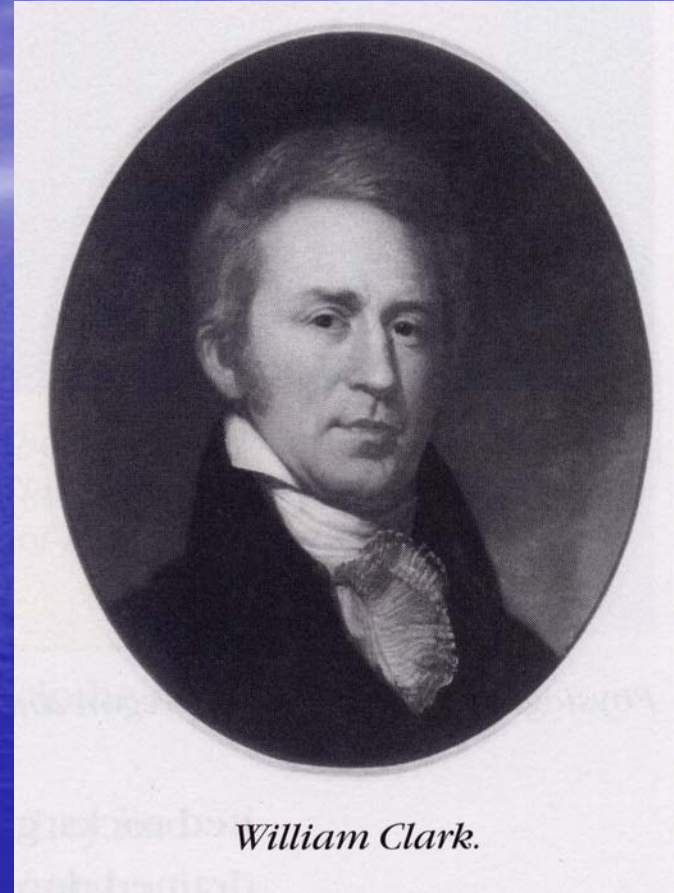


“Experience and reflection will develop to [the Indians] the wisdom of exchanging what they can spare & we want, for what we can spare and they want.” Secret Message to Congress, January 18, 1803





*Meriwether Lewis.*



*William Clark.*

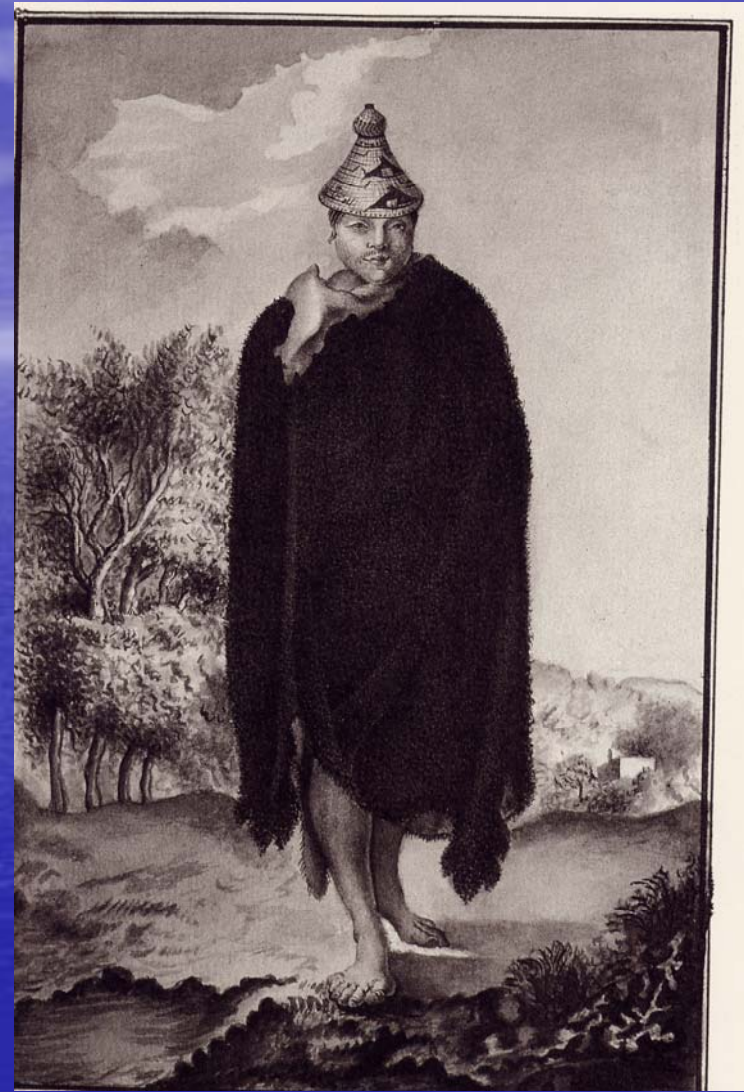
*“Should you reach the Pacific ocean inform yourself of the circumstances which may decide whether the furs of those parts may not be collected as advantageously ... as at Nootka Sound...”* Thomas Jefferson’s instructions to Lewis, June of 1803



November 20, 1805 Sacajawea's blue beaded belt was traded for a two otter robe.





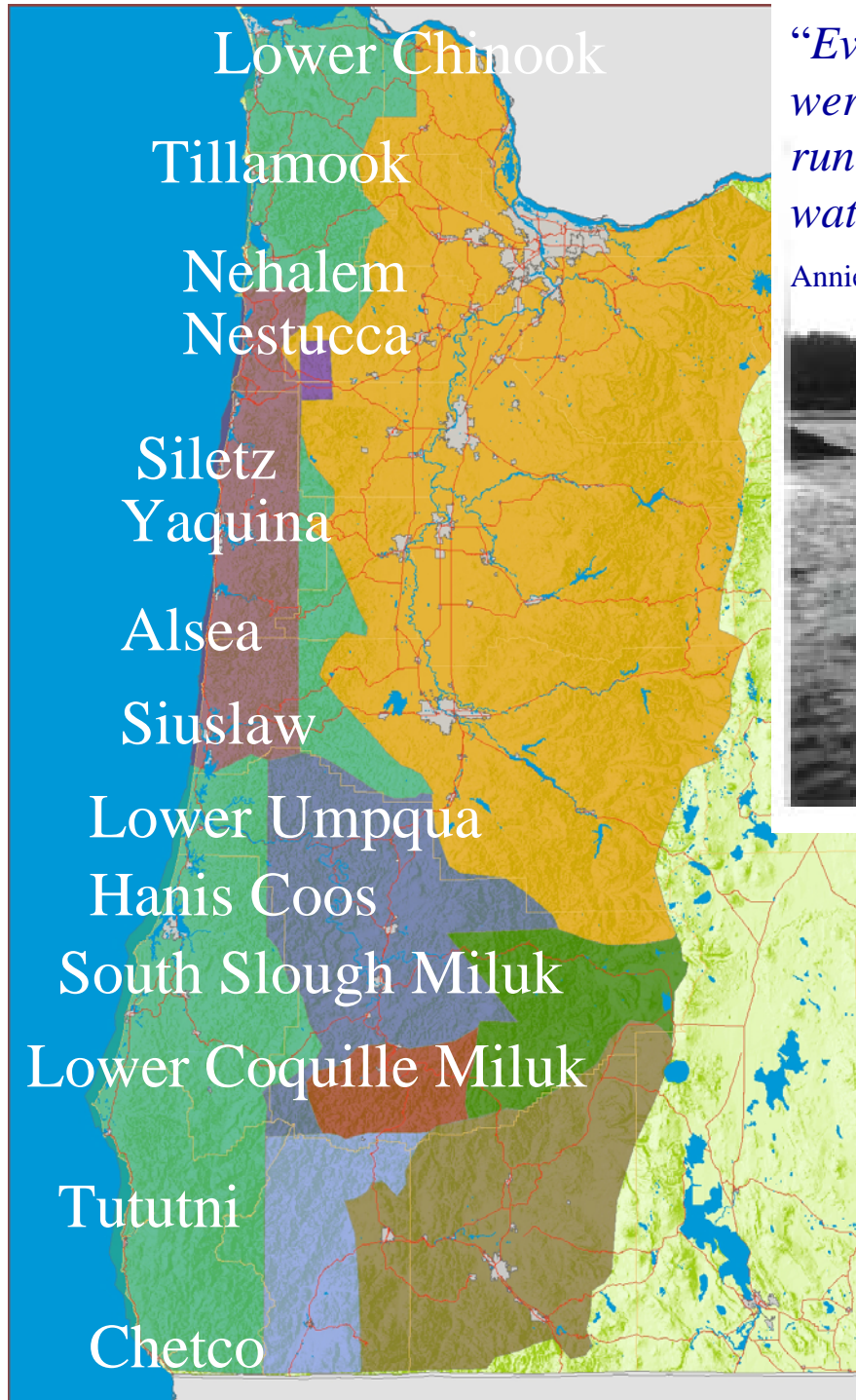


The sea otter robes and skins never made it to Jefferson...



*“Everybody could have all they wanted; if more were wanted, there was more of the same school or run of fish out in the river or bay; the swarming waters were limitless in their bounty...”*

Annie Minor Peterson to Melville Jacobs 1934





1844 James Polk was elected President (54/40)

June of 1846 the British government gave our land to the United States

August of 1848, inspired by the Whitman massacre, Congress remembered to create a government for the new Oregon Territory .

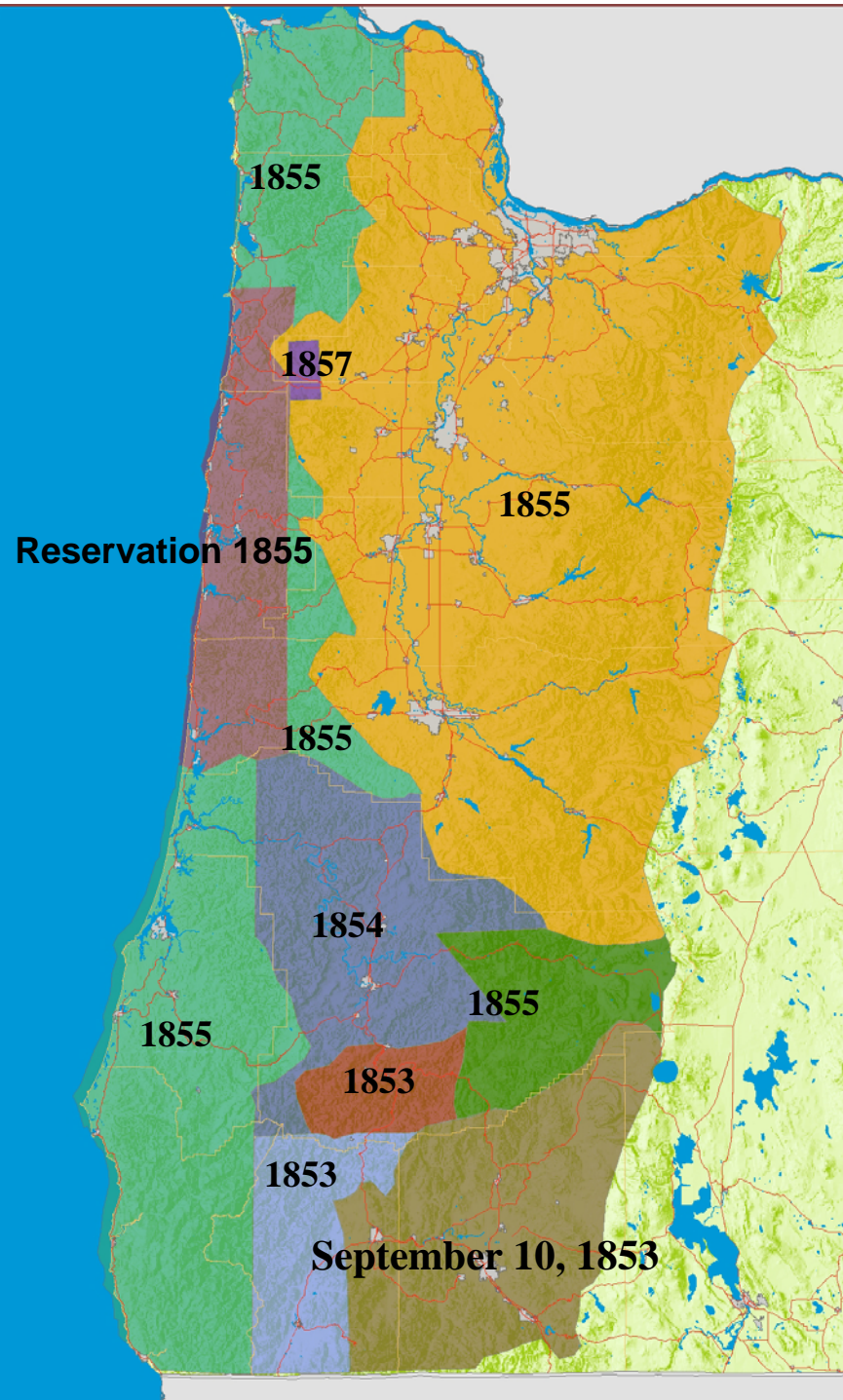
In 1850 Congress passed the Oregon Land Donation Act which opened Western Oregon to settlement.

After the act was passed, Congress remembered the land was occupied.

So Congress authorized Commissioners to negotiate treaties

In 1853 Joel Palmer was appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Oregon. His first treaty signed on September 10, 1853 was the Rogue River Treaty. It was ratified by Congress on April 12, 1854.

# Western Oregon Treaty Areas



- Chasta, Scoton, and Grave Creek Treaty
- Cow Creek Treaty
- Grande Ronde Reservation
- Kalapuya Treaty
- Molala Treaty
- Original Coast
- Rogue River Treaty
- Umpqua and Calapooia Treaty
- Unratified Coast Treaty

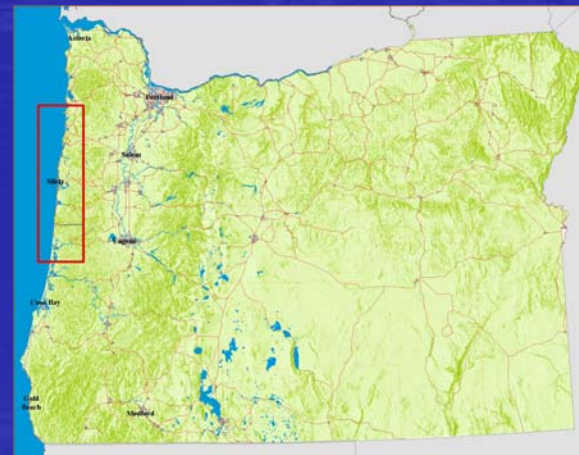
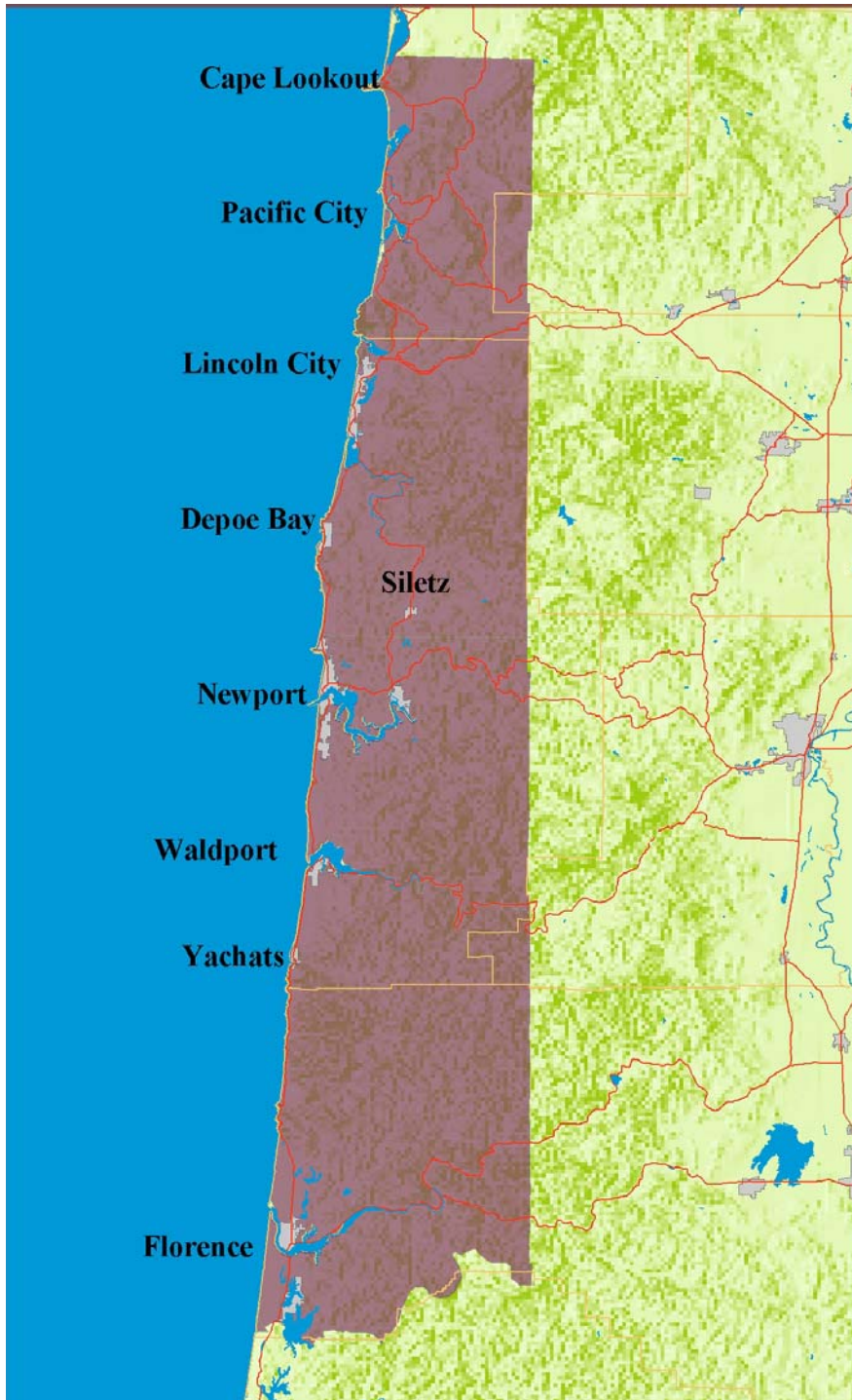


# 1855 Oregon Coast Reservation

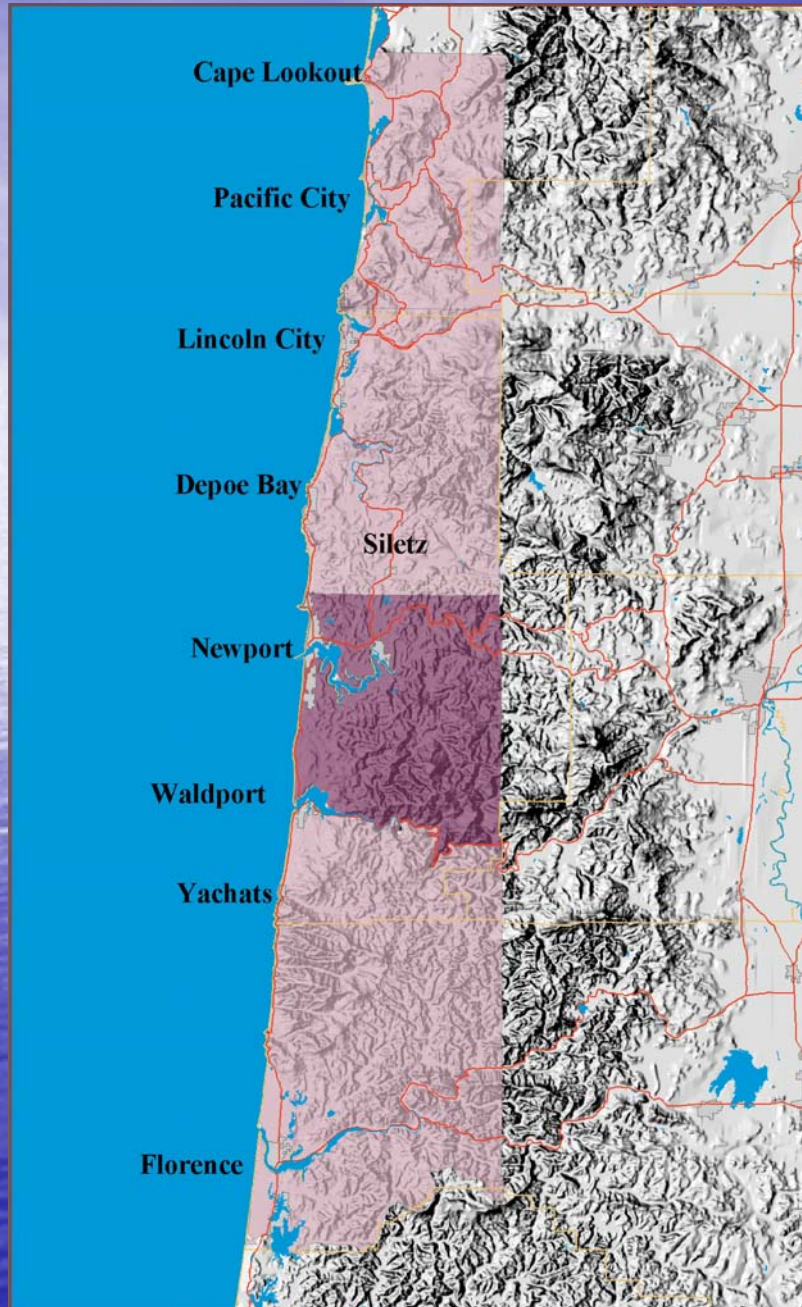
Established by the Executive Order of President Franklin Pierce on November 9, 1855

For the Coast, Willamette and Umpqua Tribes. Three days later it became policy to include the Rogue Valley Tribes.

Senate Bill 142 (1860) introduced by Senator Joseph Lane stated that the Siletz Reservation "had been selected for the permanent residence" of the Rogue River Tribes as specified in the September 10, 1853 Rogue River Treaty







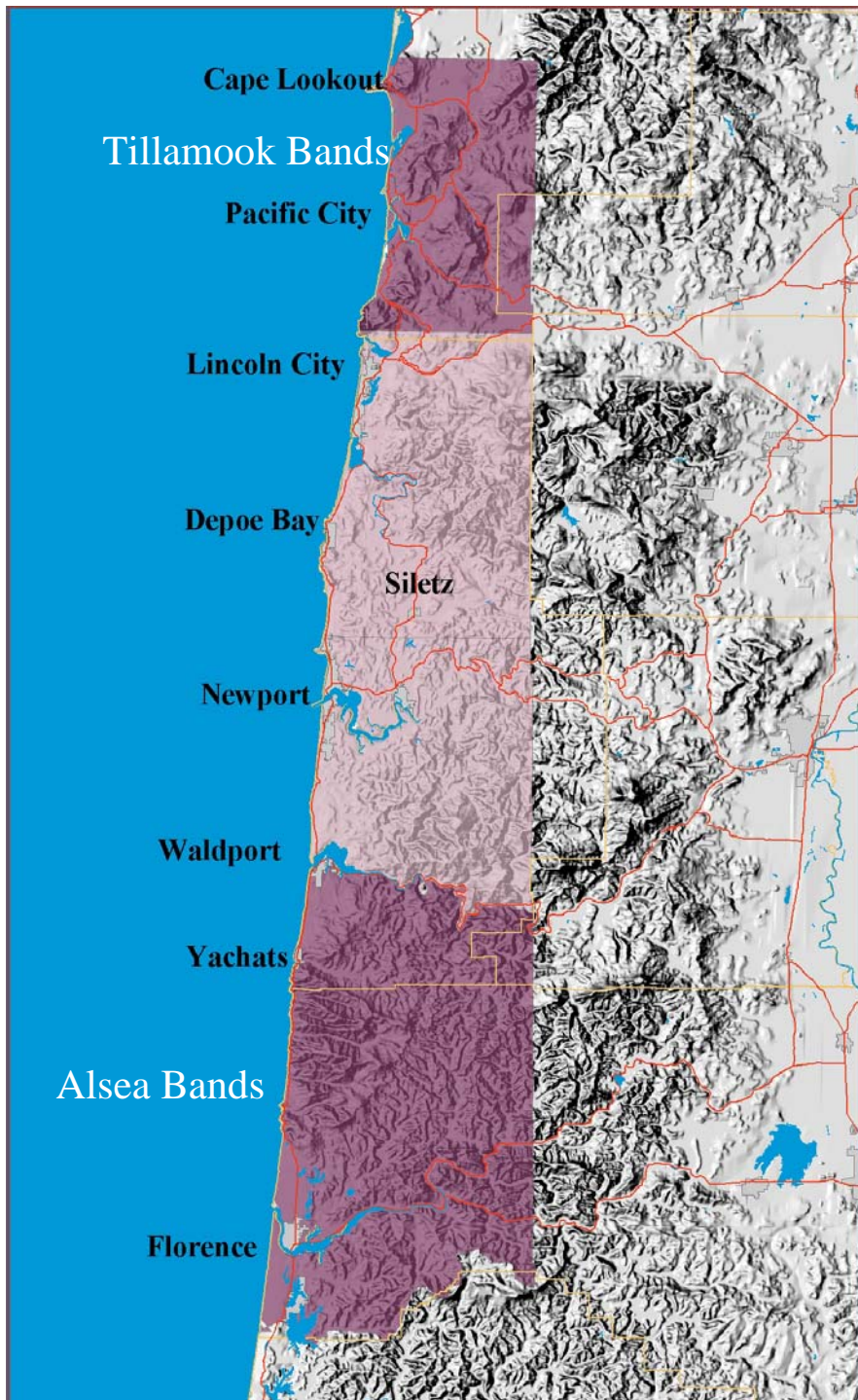
## 1865 Executive Order

200,000 acres opened to settlement by an Executive Order signed by President Andrew Johnson December 21, 1865, upon request by the whites to open the Yaquina estuary for the exploitation of the native oysters.

*“ ...the tract was thrown open to settlement,...the whites rushed in upon the tract, seized upon the Indian farms, occupied their houses, in several instances ejecting the Indians who had built the houses by force and immediately commenced settlement of the country.”*

Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon 1866





## 1875 Congressional Act

700,000 acres opened to settlement at the request of the Oregon Legislature.

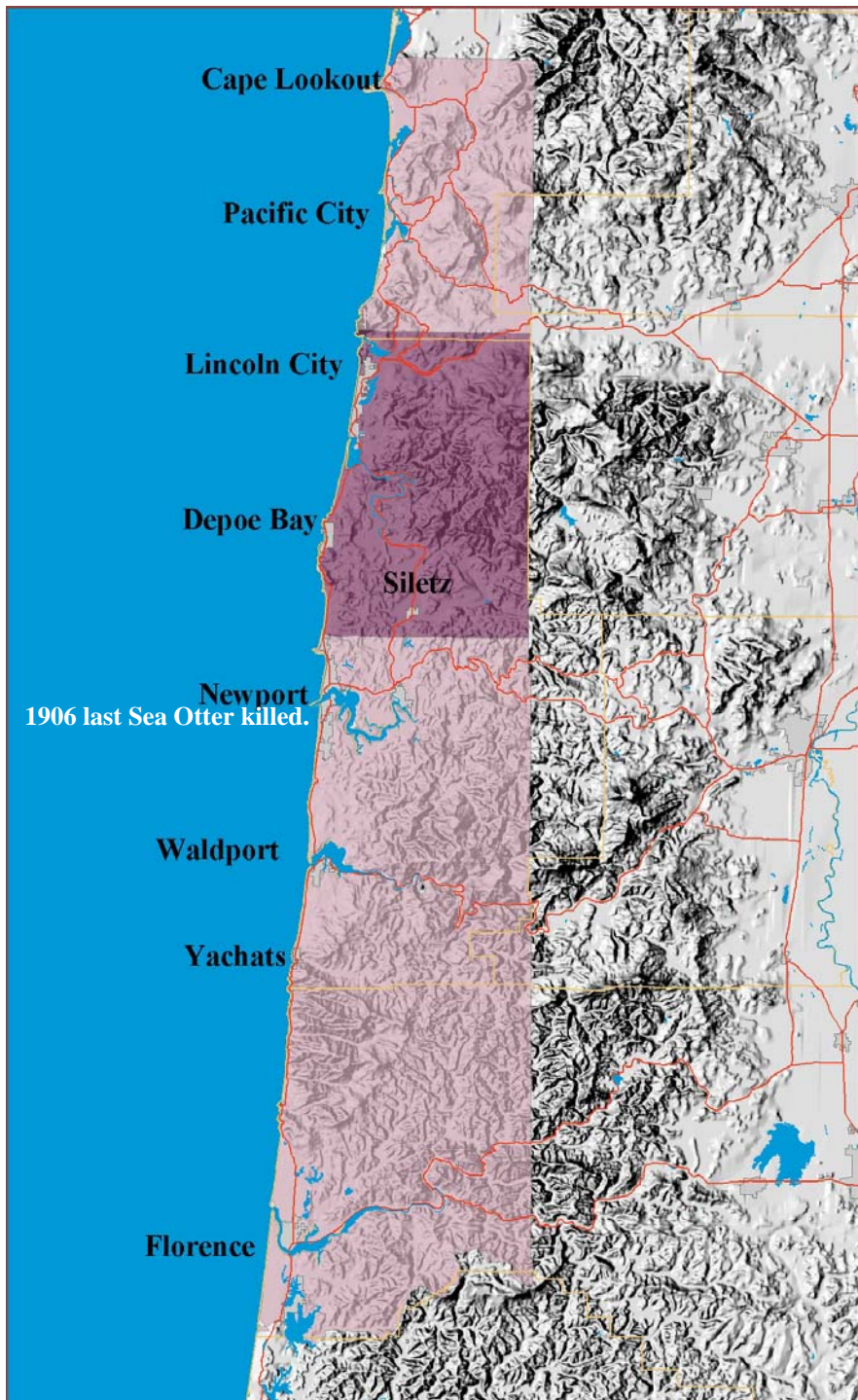
*"...these Indians shall not be removed from their present reservation without their consent previously had."*

**Act of Congress, March 3, 1875**

The Tillamook and Alsea bands were forcibly removed with no prior consent during the heavy winter rains and  
*"left without shelter of any kind and destitute of food and clothing for themselves and their children suffering from heavy rain and wind storms."*

Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon 1875





## "Allotment" 1892

4/5 ths of the existing Reservation was removed.

In 1892, without the required consent of the Tribes, the remaining Oregon Coast Reservation was "allotted".

551 members received title to 80 acres each in order to open the remaining 192,000 acres to settlement.





In 1910 Nick Hatch,  
an Aleut native, lost  
his parents and the  
Bureau of Indian  
Affairs shipped him to  
Chemawa Indian  
school in Salem  
Oregon...



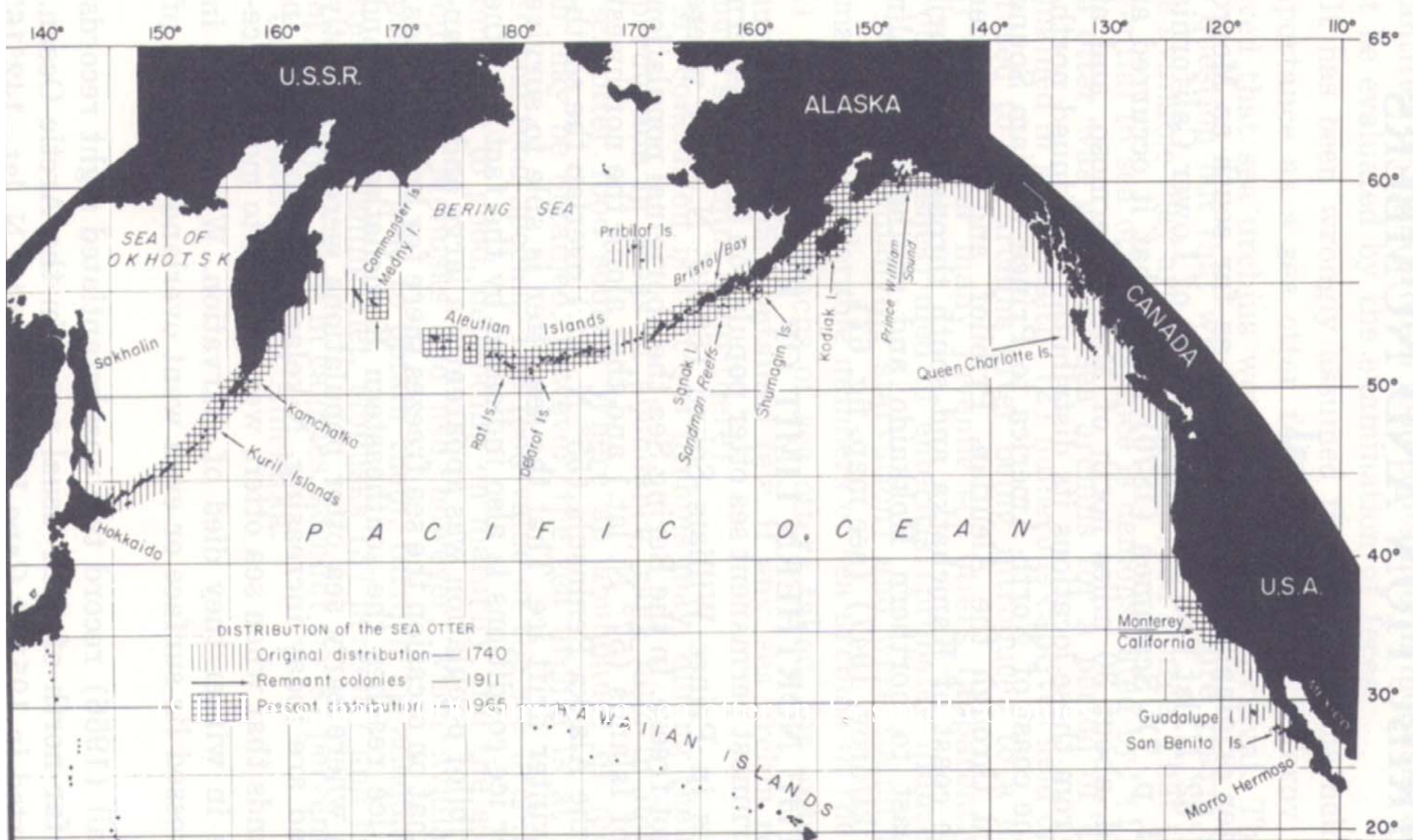


(photo courtesy of Harriet Godfrey)  
Ike Martin and daughter Hattie

In 1914 Hattie  
Martin lost her  
mother and father  
and the Bureau of  
Indian Affairs  
shipped her to  
Chemawa Indian  
School...

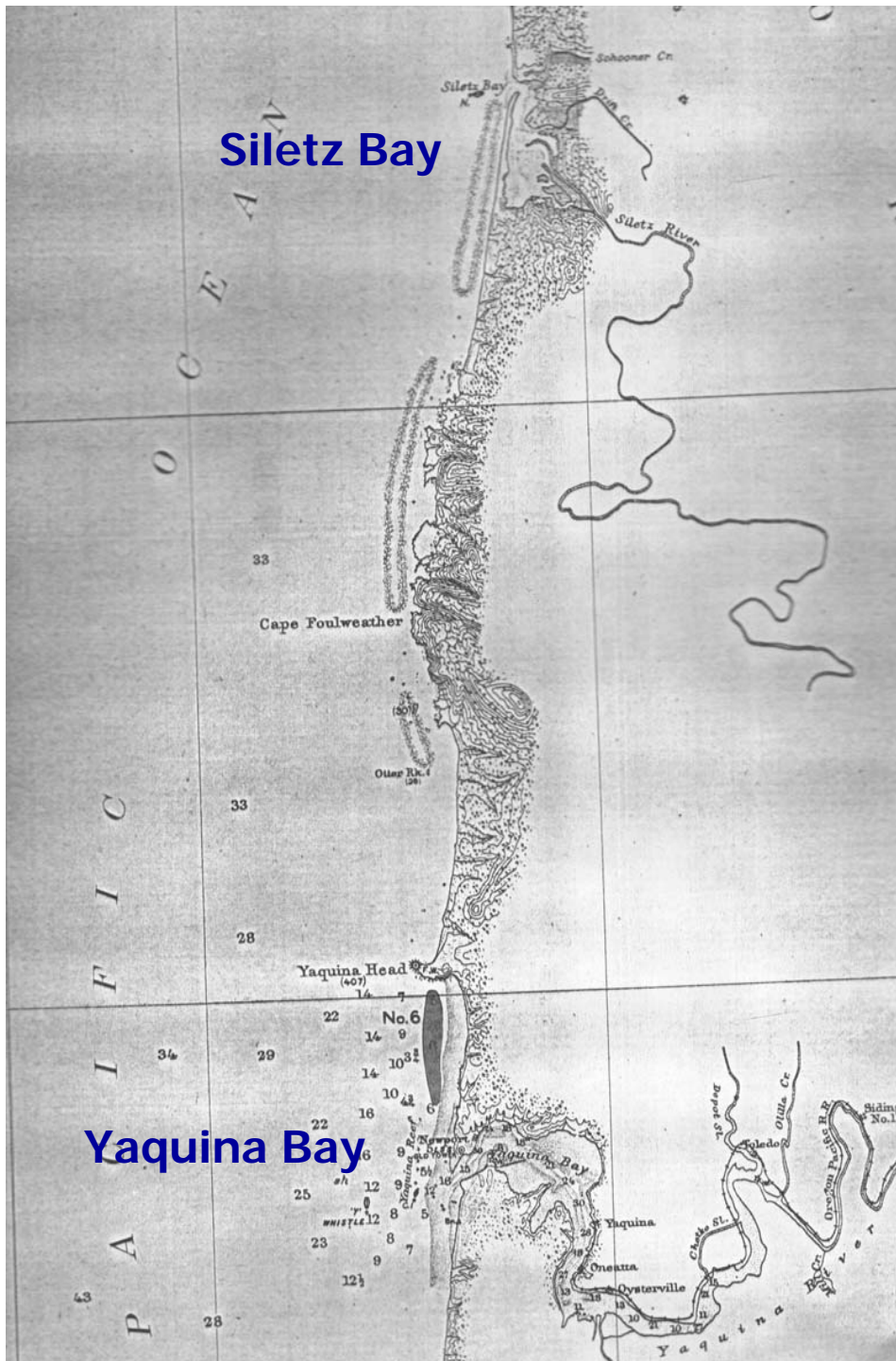
1911 Census 500-1000





In 1911 a census estimated that there were 500 to 1000 surviving sea otter in 13 small colonies. The 1911 Fur Seal Treaty included sea otter as an afterthought.





Siletz Bay

Yaquina Bay

In 1912 the US Department of Agriculture mapped the kelp beds from Mexico to Alaska for potential exploitation to provide potash.

By this time, due to removal, there were very few active fish weirs...



1920's Posed Photo of Siletz Tribal Member  
"LOOKING FOR SEA-OTTER"



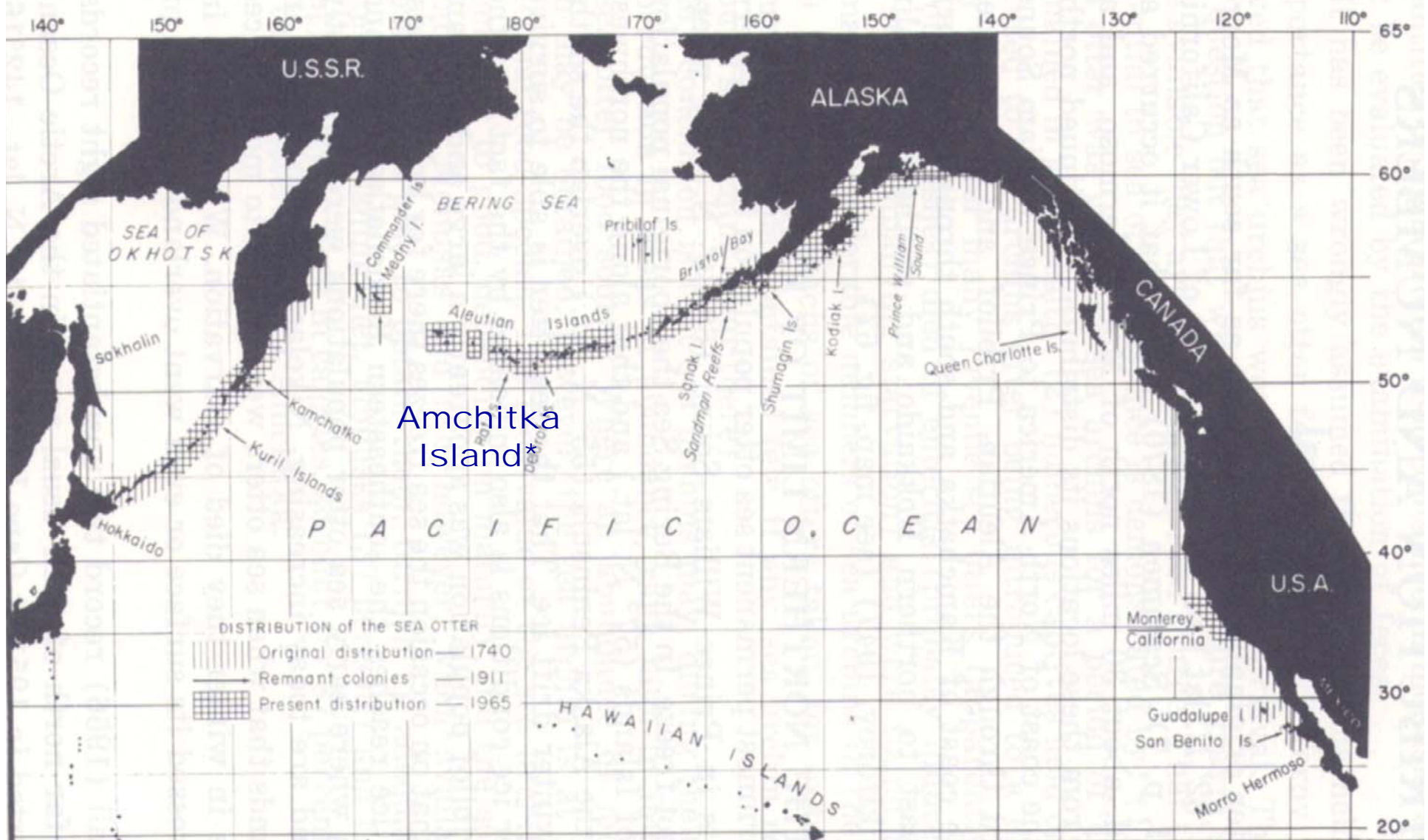
By this time the majority of our tribal members had lost their allotted land because they could not pay taxes.

By this time, the estuaries were changing and State prohibited our access to our fish and fish weirs.

On August 13, 1954 the federal government determined that the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians no longer existed.

We were "**terminated.**"





\*Site of Atomic Testing in the Early 1970's.  
 The island was occupied by the protected sea otter...

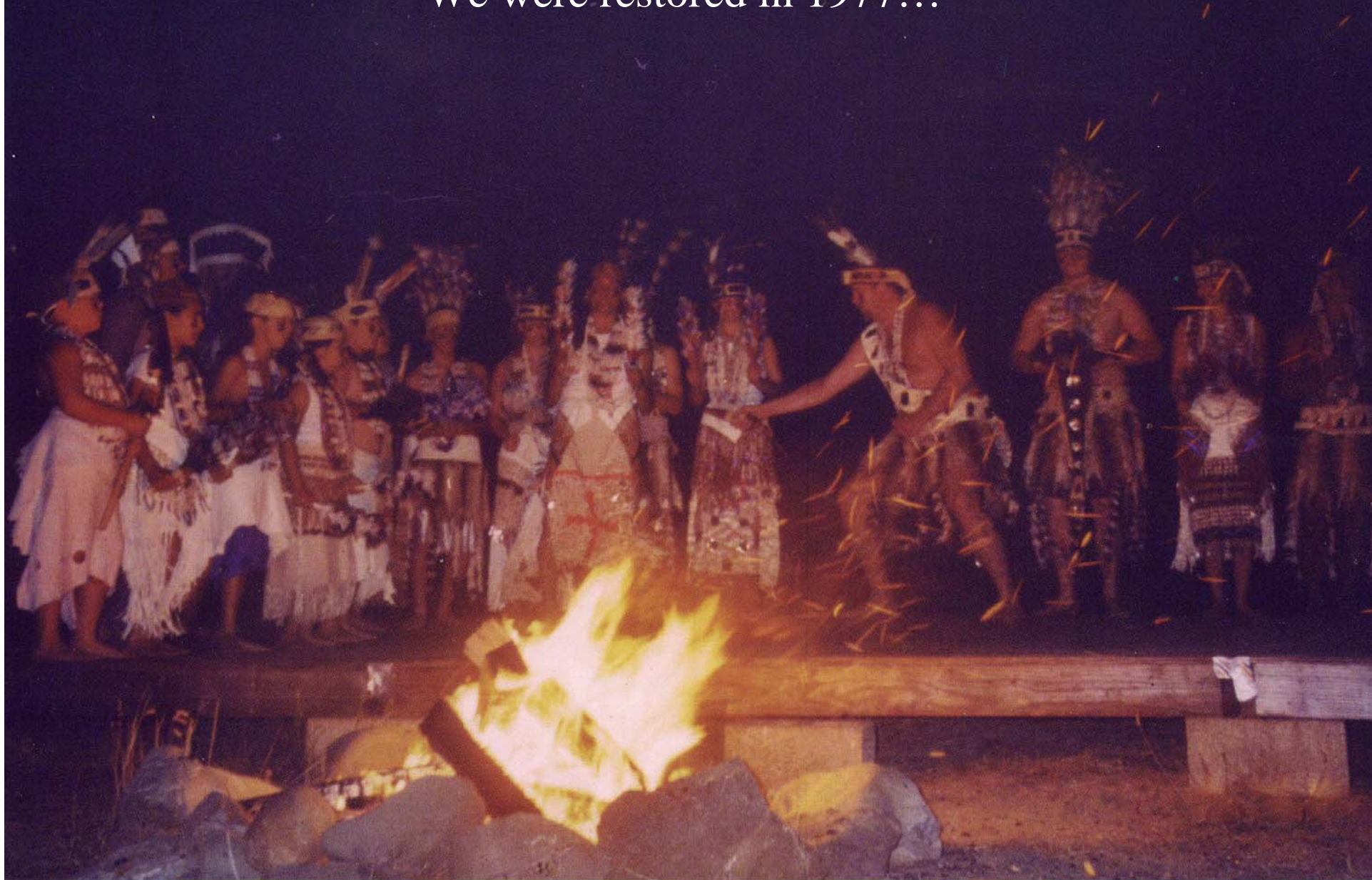




**1970 – Gathering the natives and removing the survivors.**

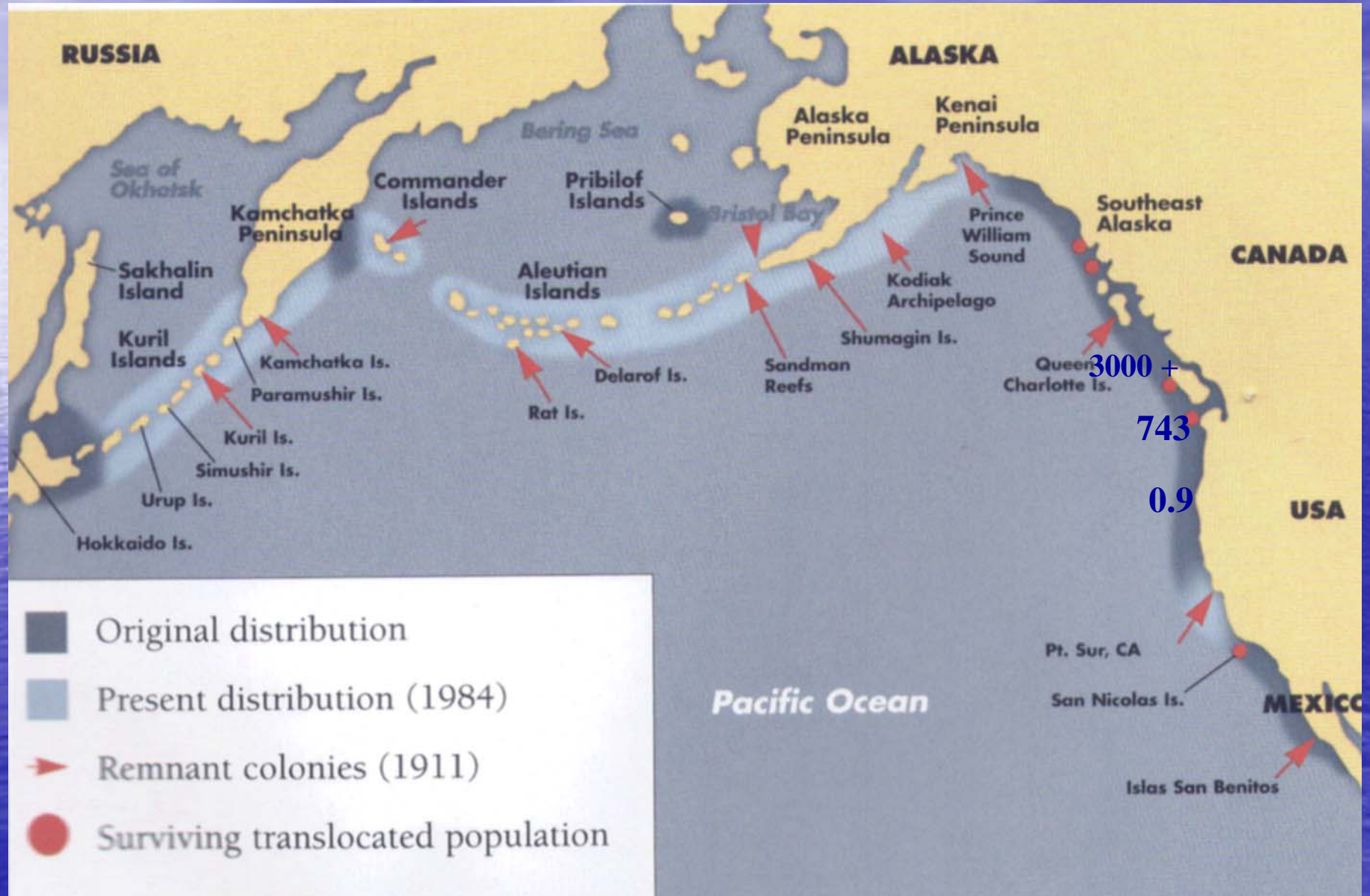


We were restored in 1977...





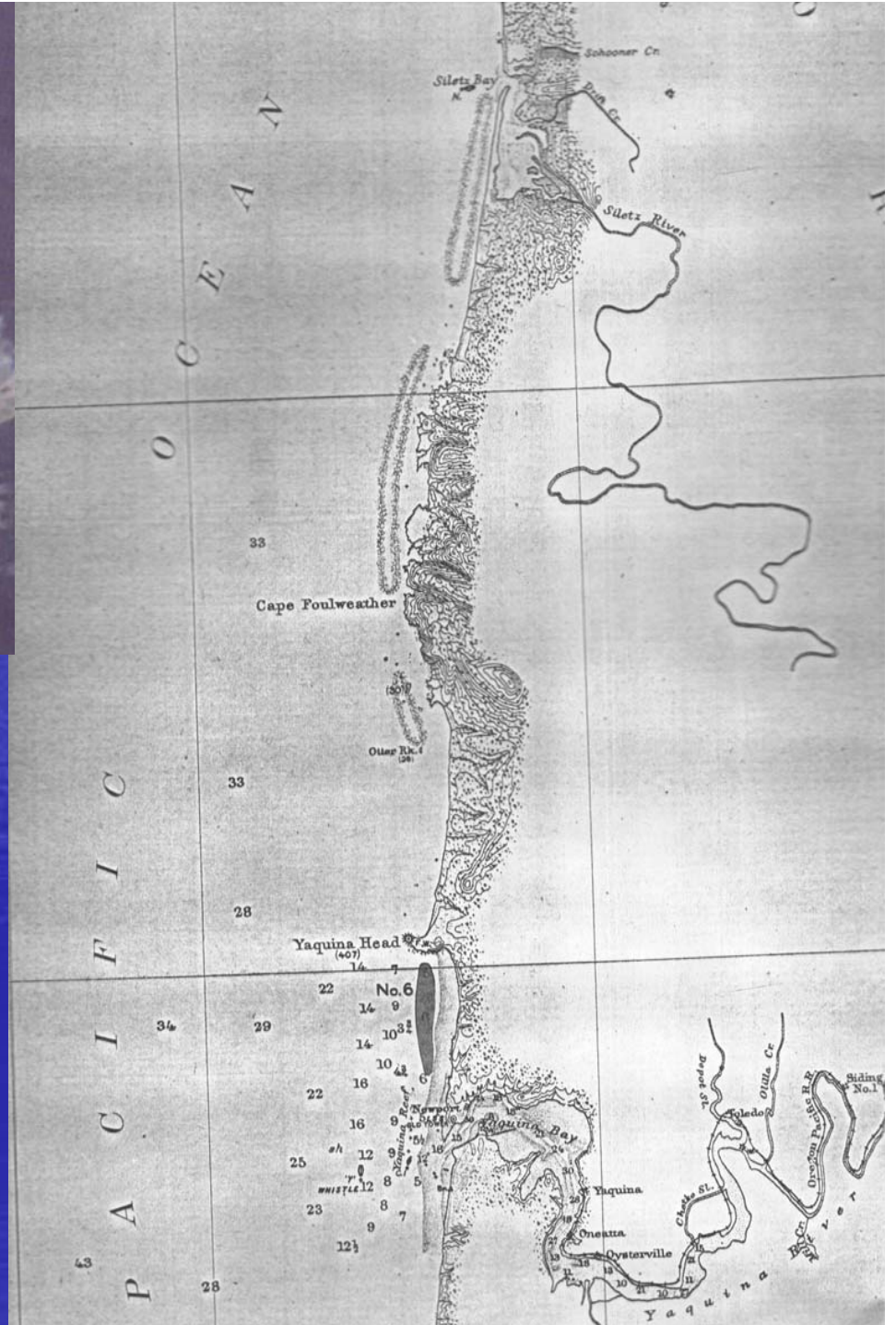
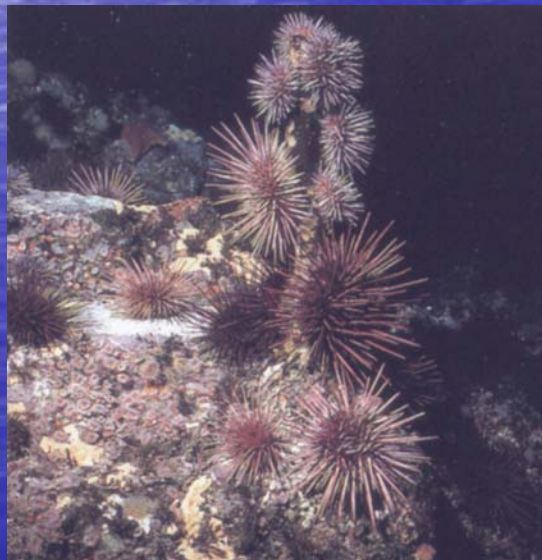
Two sea otter populations were also restored. The Oregon population was not...







Our kelp forests have been replaced with urchin barrens.

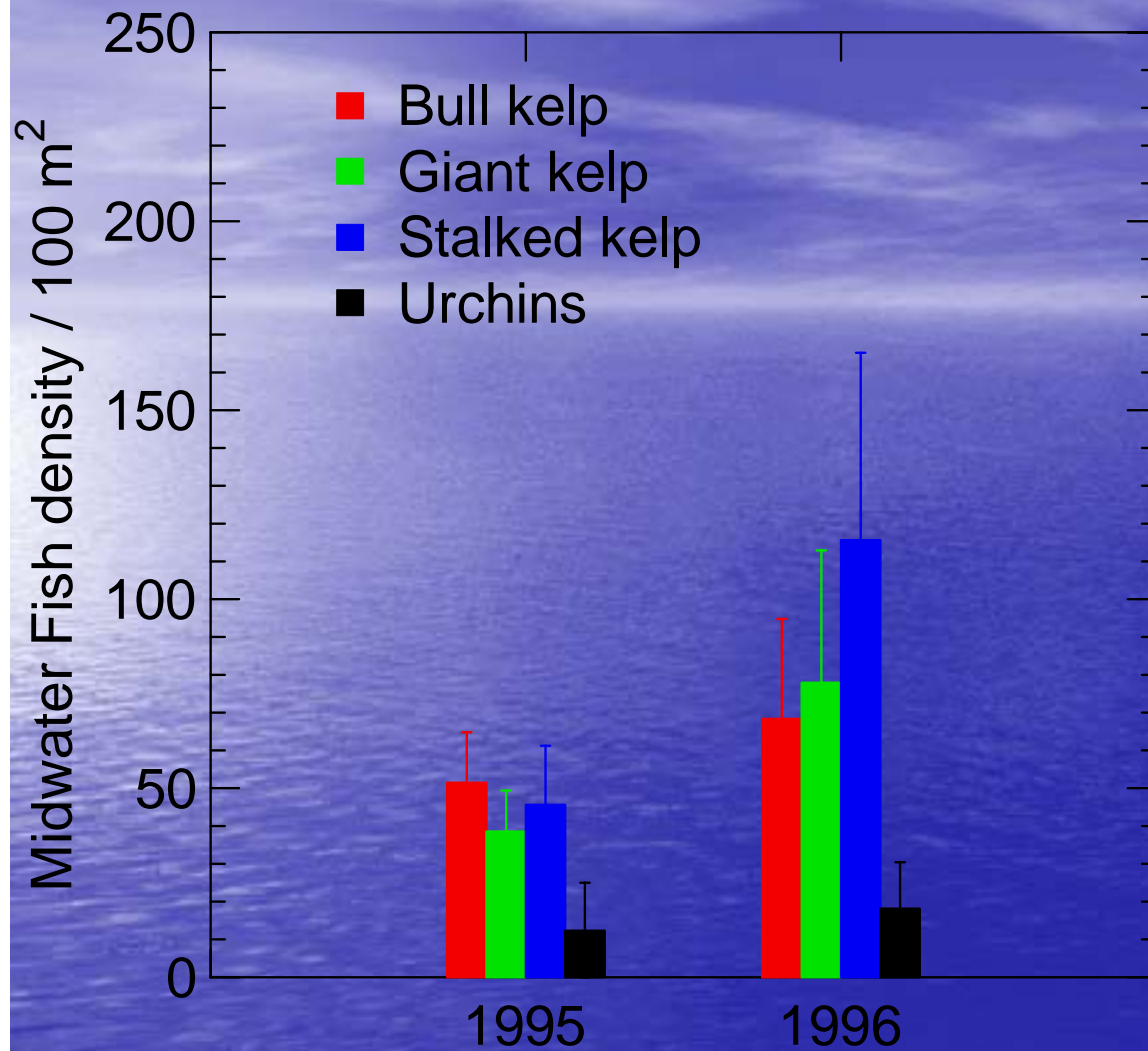






*" Young salmon hide in kelp."* Makah Nation

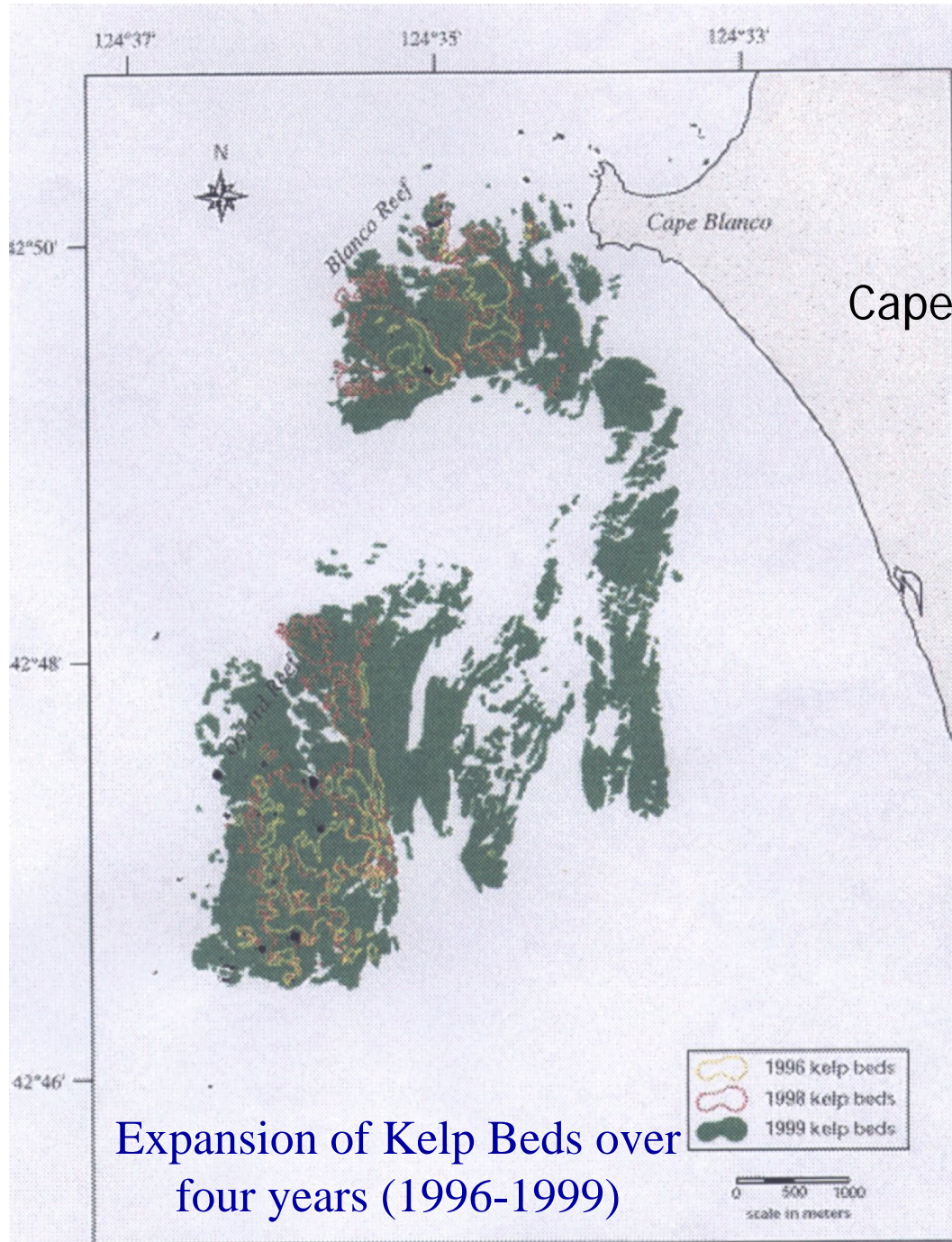




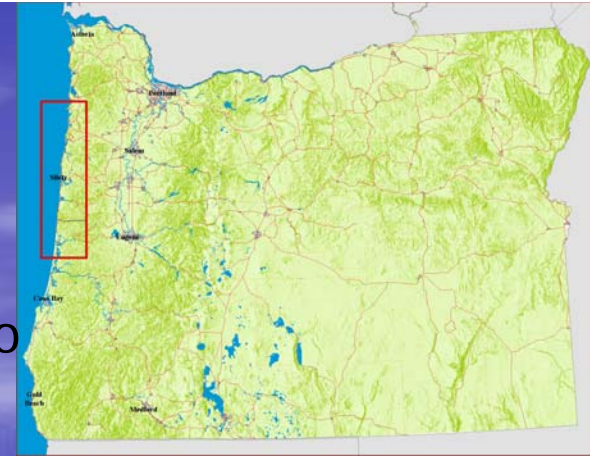
Up to a five-fold increase in fish density has been observed when urchin barrens are replaced with Macro-algae...

Slide provided by Dr. Jane Watson





Cape Blanco



When the urchin population was controlled, the kelp beds made a fantastic comeback...

Figure 3.2.1. Kelp beds on Orford and Blanco Reefs in 1996, 1998, and 1999.



Elakha is the key to restoring our sustainable estuary fisheries....

*“I finally learned that the men made prodigious hauls when one run or another of fish came in...and that everybody went and got all he or she needed, in the ‘go-help-yourself’ free for all that was actually the largest single source for the ... larder”*  
Melville Jacobs 1934



(photo courtesy of Harriet Godfrey)  
Ike Martin and daughter Hattie





In 2001 we initiated our efforts to restore Elakha...



Resolution No. 2001-016  
Date Approved: January 26, 2001  
Subject: Elakha Restoration

**SILETZ TRIBAL COUNCIL**

**Resolution**

**WHEREAS,** the Siletz Tribal Council is empowered to exercise the legislative and executive authority of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 of the Siletz Constitution approved June 13, 1979 by the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS,** the Elakha (Sea Otter) was once an important part of the ocean environment and of the lives of the Siletz people; and

**WHEREAS,** the history of the Elakha population in Oregon has many parallels with the history of the Siletz people; and

**WHEREAS,** the Elakha were exterminated when the last known Elakha in Oregon was killed in Newport in 1906; and

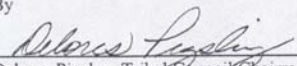
**WHEREAS,** the Siletz Tribe was restored in 1977; and

**WHEREAS,** there is the potential for Elakha to also be restored; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Siletz Tribal Council hereby supports efforts for the development of a plan for the re-introduction of the Elakha and the eventual restoration of the Elakha to the waters of the Oregon coast; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Siletz Tribal Council hereby chooses to become a member of the newly formed Elakha Alliance and hereby appoints the Natural Resources Committee Tribal Council Representative, the Cultural Resources Director, and the Natural Resources Manager to represent the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in the Elakha Alliance.

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Tribal Council  
By

  
Delores Pigsley, Tribal Council Chairman

**CERTIFICATION**

This Resolution was adopted at a Regular Tribal Council Meeting held on January 16, 2001 which a quorum of the Tribal Council was present, and the Resolution was adopted by a vote of 6 FOR, 0 AGAINST, and 0 ABSTAINING, the Chairman or Vice Chairman being authorized to sign the Resolution.

By

  
JoAnn Miller, Tribal Council Secretary





## TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

### Tribe Supports Elakha – Sea Otter

The Siletz Tribal Council approved a resolution in January to become a member of the newly formed Elakha Alliance, and appointed Tribal Council member JoAnn Miller, the Cultural Resources director, and the Natural Resources manager to represent the tribe in this alliance.

The Council also decided to support efforts to develop a plan to re-introduce the Elakha and the eventual restoration of the Elakha to the Oregon Coast.

The following article traces the history of the sea otter and is written by tribal member David Hatch.

#### Elakha

by David R. Hatch

This is a story without a beginning or an ending.

For the sake of a beginning, we'll start with a queen, actually a Russian Empress named Catherine. At the time she was known as "Her Imperial Majesty Empress Catherine." In 1725 she sent Vitus Bering on a five-year journey to find out if in fact her kingdom extended to the Americas that were being invaded from the east by the Europeans. Although Vitus sailed right through a narrow strait separating two continents, the weather was so lousy he never saw the continent just to the east.

Upon Vitus' return, the new empress, Her Imperial Majesty Empress Anna, sent Vitus Bering on another five-year journey to look farther for more answers to the same question. On this trip, Vitus and his crew in their ship, the St. Peter, overextended themselves. Many of the crew, along with the captain, were not able to survive the winter in the sea we call the Bering Sea and were shipwrecked on an island just off the coast of Russia that we call Bering Island.

Those who lived through the winter survived because of the natural curiosity of a beautiful and abundant animal, which was relatively easy to kill. This animal gave them both their food and their clothing. In those parts, the animal was called Kalan; here in these parts the animal was called Elakha, but most of us know this animal as the sea otter. The survivors returned with more than 800 pelts. Empress Anna was overwhelmed and immediately commissioned a full-length cloak.

This trip was almost as successful for the Elakha and my family on the Aleutian Islands as it was for Vitus Bering. The fur of the Elakha provided the motivation for the Russian invasion of the Americas. In their quest for fur, the Russians brought along their unfamiliar diseases and soon learned to enslave the decimated families by taking the young girls – wives, daughters, and sisters – hostage in order to force the men to hunt for fur, even during the winter storms. After a few years in one spot, the otter and people populations were pretty much removed and it was time to move on to the next island.

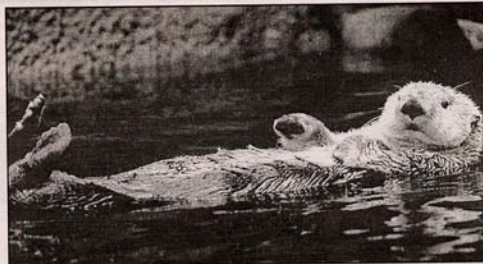
While the Russians were exploiting their way south, word spread of the valuable fur trade. This inspired an extension of the Spanish invasion northward in 1774. Within a year, the Spanish were going about their business murdering the Alaskan Natives and the sea otter.

Not to be left out, the English, led by James Cook, showed up in 1778. They started renaming the geographic features so recently named by the Russians and/or the Spanish and trading a night with a daughter for a pewter plate. Just prior to his return trip to Hawaii, where he managed to get himself murdered by the natives, Cook noted the potential of the sea otter trade:

"The fur of these animals, as mentioned in the Russian accounts, is certainly softer and finer than that of any others we know of; and therefore the discovery of this part of the continent of North America, where so valuable an article of commerce may be met with, cannot be a matter of indifference."

Just seven years later in 1785, Capt. Hanna returned to the area in his ship, the Sea Otter, to initiate the commercial fur trade for the English. The French followed the next year and the year after that, Robert Gray left Boston to represent the Americas. All of these trips were inspired by the exploitation of Elakha.

This rush to exploit provided the initial contact between the invaders and the people of the Oregon Coast. Prior to this contact, Elakha was an important part of the people's lives. The second most common marine mammal bone in our middens were the bones of Elakha.



Sea Otter - Elakha

While Lewis and Clark were strolling across the continent with their particular Corps of Discovery, the Russians were landing ships loaded with 15,000 fresh sea otter pelts. Over and over, the pattern of depopulation was repeated as Russian invaders hopped from island to island. By 1810, the Spaniards were killing the Aleut hunters enslaved by the Russians as poachers in San Francisco Bay. Fort Ross, just 65 miles north of San Francisco, was established in 1812 and stands today as a tourist attraction and monument to the extent of the Russian invasion.

By the time the wagon trains arrived in Oregon, it is estimated that more than 1 million sea otters had been slain along the Pacific Coast. The sea otter populations were in such poor shape that the Alaskan Territory was no longer of interest to the Russians and was sold to the United States in 1867. In Oregon, the story of Elakha looked like it was coming to an end. The sea otter was about to assume the distinction of being Oregon's first population wiped out by the various invaders.

In 1877, an Englishman named Wallis Nash traveled with his English friends from the new town of Corvallis to a little settlement called Newport. Here he reports:

"I remember well after supper that evening, we three Englishmen went into 'Bush' Hammond's store to chat and smoke. A smoking wall lamp lighted the place. As the doorbell jingled, a couple of Indians came in out of the dark, one carrying slung over his shoulder some long, dark beast which he jerked on the counter before the store-keeper. Moseley pricked up his ears and came to take notice. From nose tip to tail, the animal was about four or four and a half feet long, plainly of the otter type – the fur dark brown and glossy, but the feet were webbed. 'I have never met this before,' Moseley said to me. 'It is the sea otter of the Pacific.' The Indian began to dicker with 'Bush' for the hide. The bidding started at two hundred dollars, and Moseley's face fell for, by slow degrees it went to four hundred, and changed hands at that. The price was too high for him, and he had to content himself with the skeleton, which we arranged to have cleaned by the ants at a neighboring ant-heap in the wood. In due time, that skeleton followed him to Oxford, and took its unique place in the Museum of Natural History. Even then these sea otters were rare – now they are all but extinct."

Wallis Nash returned to Corvallis and helped to start what's now called Oregon State University (OSU).

Frank Priest and Joe Biggs killed the last native sea otter reported in Oregon in Newport in 1906. They sold it for \$900. In 1910, fewer than 30 sea otter skins were taken in the entire Pacific Northwest.

In 1910, the Bureau of Indian Affairs sent a 16-year-old Aleut orphan from Alaska to the Chemawa Indian School. This orphan is my grandfather, Nick Hatch.

In 1910, a local census listed nine surviving Siuslaw people along the Siuslaw River near today's town of Florence. Fifty years earlier, 2,300 Siuslaw people were estimated to be living along the river. By 1914, two of the nine were dead and an 11-year-old orphan was shipped to the Chemawa Indian School. This orphan is my grandmother, Hattie Martin.

In 1911, another census estimated that there were between 500 and 1,000 surviving sea otter in 13 small colonies between Mexico and the Aleutian Islands. The 1911 Fur Seal Treaty signed by Russia, Japan, Britain, and the United States

(See Sea Otter on page 10)

# Public education is critical to our effort...

CHASTA  
LIMPQUIA  
MOLALLA  
KALAPUYA  
ROGUE RIVER



# SMOKE SIGNALS

JUNE 15, 2001

503-679-5211  
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A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

www.grandronde.org

## OREGON'S ELAKHA

Sea Otter has a Rich History on the Coast

Editor's  
Note: When  
Smoke Signals  
was recently  
approached by David  
Hatch about running his  
article about the Sea Otter in the  
paper we agreed enthusiastically, but we  
turned the tables on Hatch and had one of our  
freelancers write about him as well. We hope you  
enjoy Hatch's piece about the Sea Otter and our piece about him. Pictured  
above is an otter pelt and bones that Hatch collected during his research.



The Sea Otter has played a leading  
role in Northwest History.  
The last known Sea Otter  
killed in Oregon was  
in 1906.

By Peter Tinda

The Sea Otter dances and plays in his dreams — as if taking him back to a world that no longer exists. He wonders if his ancestors are guiding his thoughts and his pursuit of knowledge.

David Hatch is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz and currently lives in Portland. "When my grandmother went to enroll with Coos Tribe they said, 'you don't look like a Coos,' so she went and enrolled as a Siletz," said Hatch. As a child, Hatch grew up traveling around.

"The first school I went to more than two years was Oregon State University," Hatch said. "After graduating from OSU with a degree in engineering, Hatch got a job as a traffic signal designer with the City of Portland, where he has been for 15 years.

"All you do is turn the light bulbs on and off," Hatch said jokingly. About a year ago, Hatch was on a committee to decide the name of OSU's new research boat, made specifically for gathering information about the tidal zone. **DAVID HATCH, continued on page 6**

### THE SEA OTTER — Leading Role in Northwest History

A keystone species of Northwest Coast ecological systems, the Northern Sea Otter is now almost gone. Over the past 300 years, the Sea Otter has served as the economic inspiration for European invasion of the Northwest coast, as well as the exploitation and murder of the Native people. Today, Sea Otter ambassadors living in the Oregon Zoo and the Oregon Coast Aquarium are the only examples of this once plentiful species in the state. Writer David Hatch traces Elakha's threads through history and argues for the development of a restoration plan for returning the Sea Otter to Oregon's coast.

## Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery; Finding Our People



In Search Of — Tribal member Gene LaBonte is now working with Cemetery Caretaker and Tribal Elder Russ Leno at the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery. LaBonte is working with Leno through the Tribe's Cultural Resources program to map the cemetery and find lost loved ones. LaBonte said he is proud to get an opportunity to learn from and work under Leno. **Story on page 4**

## Tribal Information Day

State Capital is the site for important event. Leaders — Grand Ronde Tribal Chair Kathryn Harrison listens as former Oregon Governor Vic Ajaysh thanks the crowd gathered at the State Capital in Salem in May. The Tribal Information Day was part of American Indian Week. The event also marked the 25th Anniversary of the creation of the Commission on Indian Services.

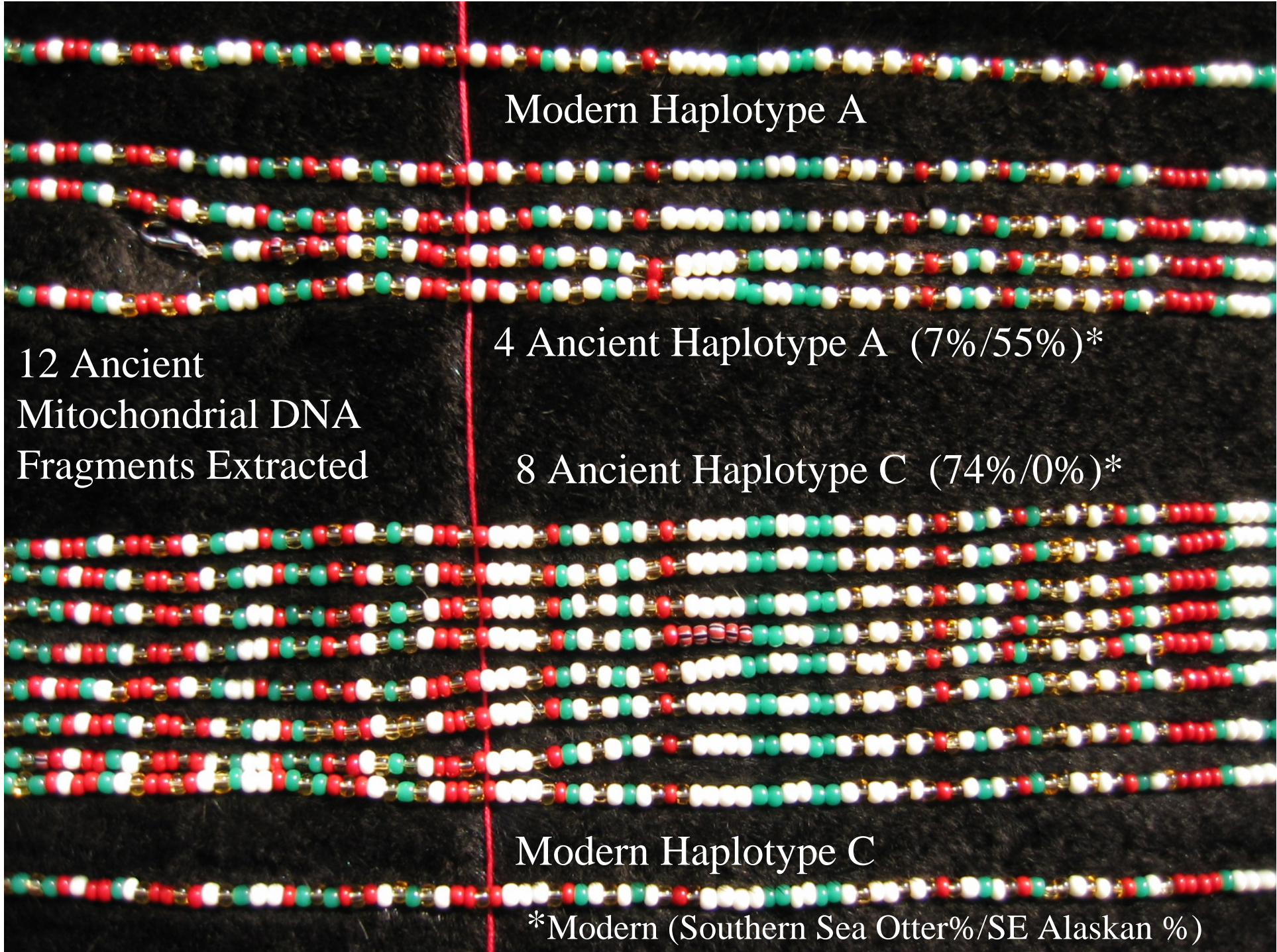






Ancient Elakha jawbones from our middens have been used to verify the sub-species which occupied Oregon.





Modern Haplotype A

12 Ancient  
Mitochondrial DNA  
Fragments Extracted

4 Ancient Haplotype A (7%/55%)\*

8 Ancient Haplotype C (74%/0%)\*

Modern Haplotype C

\*Modern (Southern Sea Otter%/SE Alaskan %)



# 2002 Curriculum Field Test

**Sorting Beach Wrack-**  
the modern food web is  
dominated by herbivores...

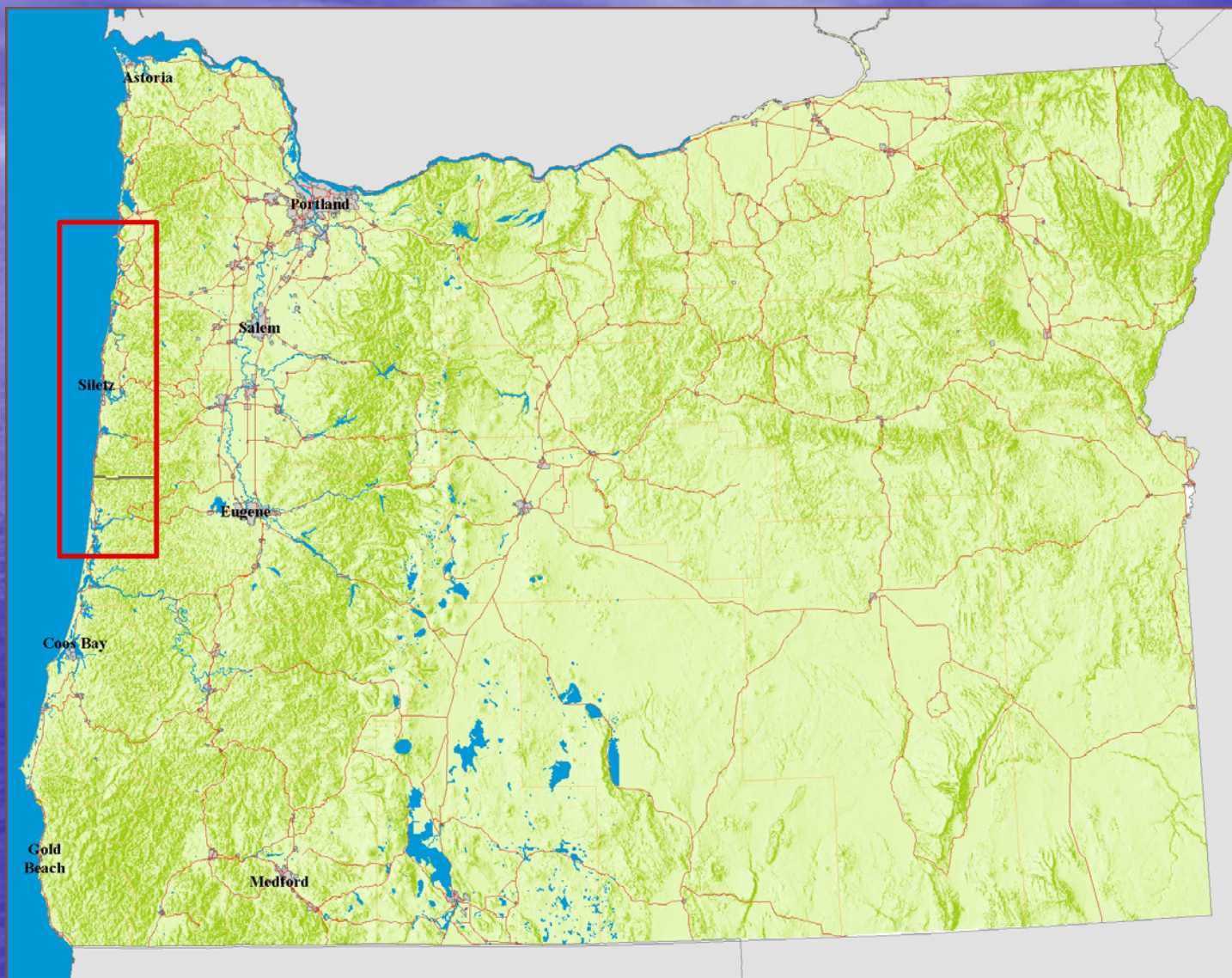


**Sorting Midden Samples -**  
the pre-contact populations  
were different than the  
modern populations...

Oregon Field Guide on OPB



# White Cedar National Marine Sanctuary for the purpose of restoring near shore macro-algae



South Jetty of the Umpqua

Rogue Reef



100 years after Lewis and Clark left, the last known sea otter in Oregon was killed.

Perhaps 100 years after that animal was killed, we can welcome Elakha home.



Perhaps my grandson or great grandson will be able to harvest the same fish my great grandfather harvested in the same sustainable manner...