

First Fish Herons Proposal

Art installation based in the cultural practices of the indigenous Clackamas people to foster informed and inclusive placed based community creation through ongoing programming led by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Description:

Three basalt plinths (24in-36in above grade) set in a prominent location on the banks of the Willamette River with views downstream of the river. Preferably on the edge of a plaza or other potential gathering area to facilitate installation and removal community events. The plinths will be used for the seasonal display of three unique annually occurring pieces of art depicting Blue Heron which will be installed and removed within a three-month period. The timeframe will roughly correspond to the Spring Chinook Salmon run. Local artists will be invited by the Grand Ronde Tribe to learn about First Fish cultural traditions and to decorate, embellish, or create a new a Heron for placement on the plinth. Three artists will be selected annually to work with the Tribe in creation of Herons for that year. Heron's will remain the property of the artist and return to the artist after they come down.

Purpose:

The Clackamas are the indigenous peoples of Milwaukie, Oregon. The Clackamas signed the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation where their descendants live on today. Clackamas traditions around the arrival of the spring run of Chinook Salmon include placing five depictions of herons on the banks of the river to keep watch for the arrival of the first fish. Creating an intentional place for a public version of this activity would bring aspects of this long-standing cultural practice of place into the community identity of the area. The annual installation and removal would allow for community events or engagements that would serve to increase awareness about the river, salmon, and the indigenous people of place. Inviting a diverse and broad field of local artists to participate in the creation, decoration, or embellishment of herons for installation will connect them to the stories, teachings, practices, art and lifeways of the indigenous people of this place in a tribally sanctioned and appropriate way.

Duration: Plinths and mount locations permanent. Herons installed seasonally for up to three months.

Visual: initial concept Art by Stephanie Littlebird Fogel. Concept art depicts a heron install in downtown Portland. Future concept art is final location dependent

Proposal made by:

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) is a Tribe composed of over 30 tribes and bands from across Western Oregon who signed seven treaties and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. All of the indigenous peoples of the area called Portland today including the Clackamas, Cascades, Multnomah, and Tualatin Kalapuya, signed the Willamette

Valley Treaty of 1855 and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. CTGR is the successor in interest to the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855.

CTGR has a Cultural Resources Department whose mission is to support a healthy community by facilitating dialogue, maintaining continuity, and providing protection of tribal lifeways for the benefit of future generations. CTGR Cultural Resources includes staff who operate Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center in Grand Ronde, Oregon, historic preservation staff who work throughout the Tribes' homelands, and cultural lifeways staff that keep cultural traditions and practices living for the Grand Ronde people. A team from the Cultural Resources Department was convened by Department Manager David Harrelson to scope potential submittals in response to this call for ideas. We welcome the opportunity for conversation and further dialogue that is aimed at increasing visibility and presence of indigenous people, practices and customs of this place. These are all foundational to what needs to be better understood and recognized by guests and people seeking to make this place their home.

Background and Press:

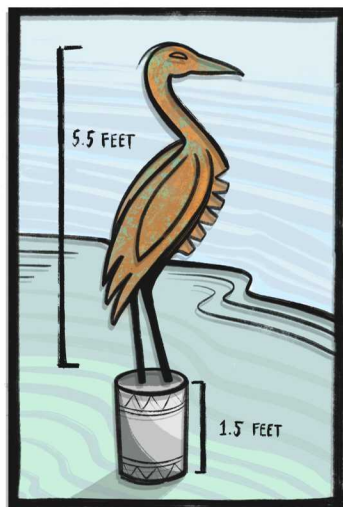
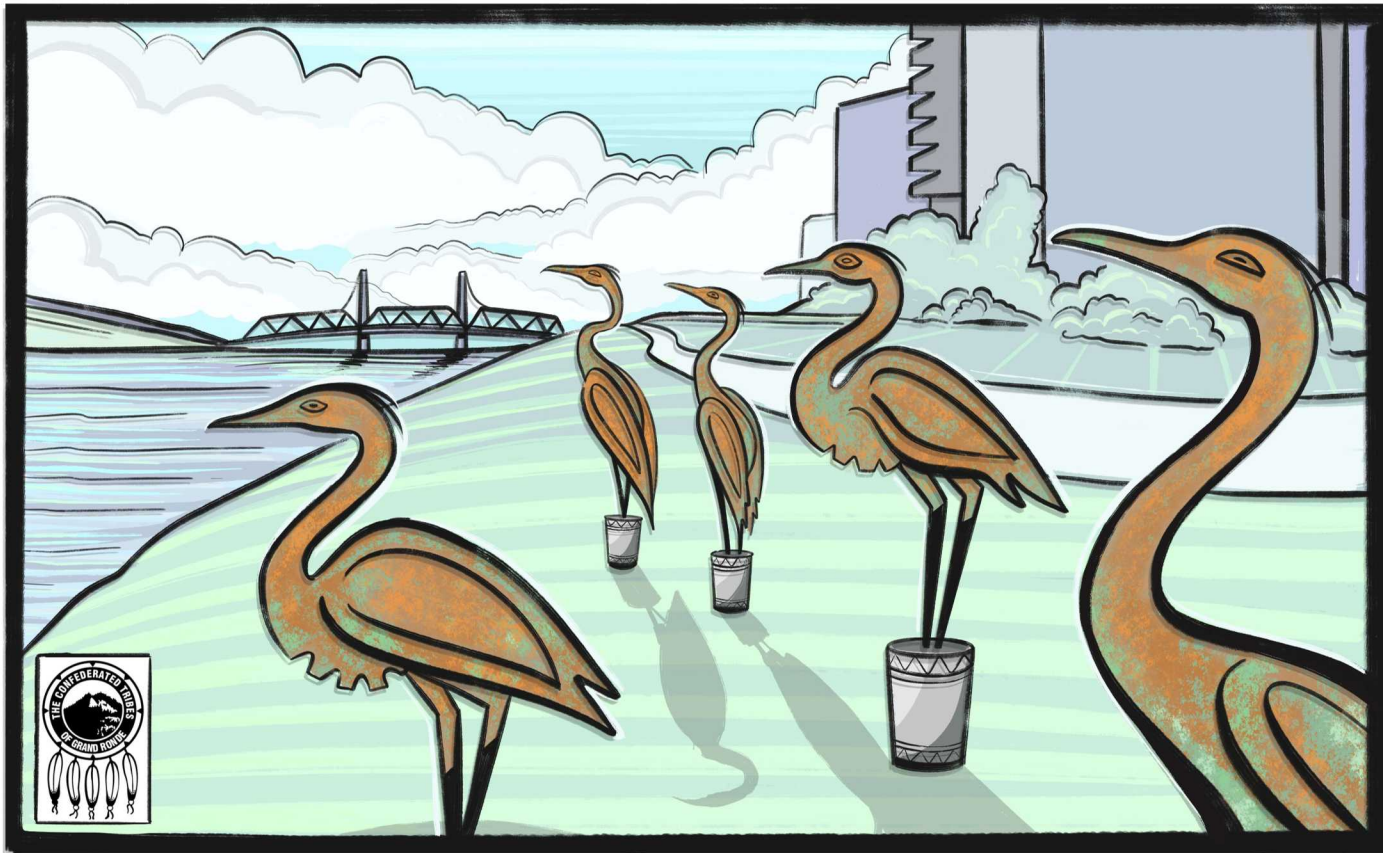
["Prototypes" Contains Both Physical Monuments and Proposals for Monuments \(wweek.com\)](#)
[A New Portland Exhibition Wrestles with the Meaning of Monuments | Portland Monthly \(pdxmonthly.com\)](#)

Think Out Loud Episode about the Portland Monument and Memorials Project:

<https://www.opb.org/article/2021/11/03/portland-public-art-monuments/>

Vision Action network of Washington County did a 1hr Podcast (Episode 7) with Steph Littlebird Fogel and David Harrelson for Native American Heritage Month. Topics include art, tribal teachings, and indigenous community. Here is the link to the speaker, episode 7.

<https://www.spreaker.com/show/finding-community>



FIRST FISH HERONS

Art installation based in the cultural practices of the Indigenous Clackamas people to foster informed and inclusive placed based community creation through ongoing programming led by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Description:

Five concrete plinths set in a prominent location on the banks of the Willamette River with views downstream of the river. Preferably on the edge of a plaza or other potential gathering area to facilitate installation and removal community events. The plinths will be used for the seasonal display of five unique annually occurring pieces of art depicting Blue Heron which will be installed and removed within a three month period. The timeframe will roughly correspond to the Spring Chinook Salmon run. Local artists will be invited by the Grand Ronde Tribe to learn about First Fish cultural traditions and to decorate, embellish, or create a new a Heron for placement on the plinth. Five artists will be selected annually to work with the Tribe in creation of Herons for that year. Heron's will remain the property of the artist and return to the artist after they come down.

Purpose:

The Clackamas are one of the Indigenous peoples of today's City of Portland. The Clackamas signed the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation where their descendants live on today. Clackamas traditions around the arrival of the spring run of Chinook Salmon include placing five depictions of herons on the banks of the river to keep watch for the arrival of the first fish. Creating an intentional place for a public version of this activity would bring aspects of this long standing cultural practice of place into the community identity of Portland. The annual installation and removal would allow for community events or engagements that would serve to increase awareness about the river, salmon, and the Indigenous people of place. Inviting a diverse and broad field of local artists to participate in the creation, decoration, or embellishment of herons for installation will connect them to the stories, teachings, practices, art, and lifeways of the Indigenous people of this place in a Tribe-sanctioned and appropriate way.

Duration: Plinths and mount locations permanent. Herons installed seasonally for up to three months (final location dependent)

Visual: Concept Art by Steph Littlebird Fogel

Proposal made by:

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) is a Tribe composed of over 30 tribes and bands from across Western Oregon who signed seven treaties and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. All of the Indigenous peoples of the area called Portland today including the Clackamas, Cascades, Multnomah, and Tualatin Kalapuya, signed the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 and were removed to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. CTGR is the successor in interest to the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855.

The CTGR Cultural Resources Department's mission is to support a healthy community by facilitating dialogue, maintaining continuity, and providing protection of Tribal lifeways for the benefit of future generations. CTGR Cultural Resources includes staff who operate Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center in Grand Ronde, Oregon, historic preservation staff who work throughout the Tribes' homelands, and cultural lifeways staff that keep cultural traditions and practices living for the Grand Ronde people. A team from the Cultural Resources Department was convened by Department Manager David Harrelson to scope potential submittals in response to this call for ideas. We welcome the opportunity for further dialogue that is aimed at increasing visibility and presence of Indigenous people, practices and customs of this place. These are all foundational to what needs to be better understood and recognized by guests and people seeking to make this place their home.

Treaties

The Confederated Tribes of
Grand Ronde Community

Treaty with the Rogue River, 1853

September 10, 1853 | 10 Stat. 1018 |
Ratified April 12, 1854 | Proclaimed February 5, 1855

Treaty with the Rogue River, 1854

November 15, 1854 | 10 Stat. 1119 |
Ratified March 3, 1855 | Proclaimed April 7, 1855

Rogue River Tribe

Treaty with the Umpqua - Cow Creek Band, 1853

September 19, 1853 | 10 Stat. 1027 |
Ratified April 12, 1854 | Proclaimed February 5, 1855

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua

Treaty with the Chasta, 1854

November 18, 1854 | 10 Stat. 1122 |
Ratified March 3, 1855 | Proclaimed April 10, 1855

Quilsieton, Nahelta Bands of Chasta, Cownantico,
Sacheriton, Naalye Bands of Scotons, Grave Creek
Band of Umpquas

Treaty with the Umpqua and Kalapuya, 1854

November 29, 1854 | 10 Stat. 1125 |
Ratified March 3, 1855 | Proclaimed March 30, 1855

Confederated Bands of Umpqua,
Calapooias residing in Umpqua Valley

Treaty with the Molalla, 1855

December 21, 1855 | 12 Stat. 981 |
Ratified March 8, 1859 | Proclaimed April 27, 1859

Molallas

Treaty with the Confederated Tribes of the Willamette Valley, 1855

January 22, 1855 | 10 Stat. 1143 |
Ratified March 3, 1855 | Proclaimed April 10, 1855

Tualatin Calapooias, Yam Hill, Chelukimauke,
Chepenapho, Chamapho, Chelamela, Bands of the
Calapooias, Molalla Band of Molallas, Calapooia
Bands of Calapooias, Winnefelly Mohawk, Tekopa
Chafan, Bands of Calapooias, Wahlalla Band of
Tumwaters, Clackamas, Clowwewalla Tumwater
Band, Santiam Bands of Calapooias

Homelands

The Confederated Tribes
of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon



Contact

Tribal Headquarters
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Phone
(800) 422-0232
(503) 879-5211

E-mail
info@grandronde.org

Web
www.grandronde.org

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Treaty Areas

- LEGEND**
- Treaty Areas
 - Unceded Territory
 - Treaty Signature Location

1855, Treaty with the Confederated Tribes of the Willamette Valley



1853, Treaty with the Umpqua-Cow Creek Band



1854, Treaty with the Umpqua + Kalapuya



1854, Treaty with the Chasta



1855, Treaty with the Molalla



1853 + 1854, Treaty with the Rogue River

