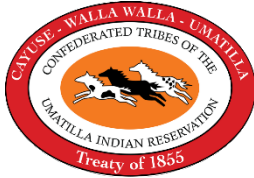


## CTUIR DNR First Foods Policy Program

In partnership with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



### Carbon & Culture Symposium

Mon Sept 29<sup>th</sup> 1 PM to Wed Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 2 PM

Ascension School in Cove  
(1104 Church Street, Cove Oregon)



This symposium invites Tribal knowledge keepers, cultural practitioners, land managers, research groups and academics to discuss opportunities and options to increase recognition and funding of vegetation and soil carbon sequestration performed by our living ecosystems, and create a regional consensus around carbon management strategies.

Day 1 – Mon Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>	
1 PM: Welcome and Invocation (30 minutes)	11AM: Participant intake and booth set up <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sign in</li><li>- Packets and paperwork</li><li>- Site orientation and accommodations</li><li>- Booth space and set up assistance</li><li>- Student poster competition space prep</li></ul>
1:30 – 2:30 PM Lunch #1 plus networking & continued discussion (1 hour)	
2:30 - 4 PM: Workshop #1 (1.5 hours) Walking Tour of Ascension School and Tish Croom Trail, History of working with Caretakers of the Land	
4 – 5:30 PM: Lecture Block – Consent & Community (1.5 hours) Coe Kerr Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consent in Carbon Mitigation Projects; <i>Denise Ferdandes, Whitman College</i></li><li>• Carbon &amp; Culture: International Law, American* Tribes; <i>Carl Merkle, CTUIR First Foods Policy Program</i></li></ul>	
5:30 -6:30 PM: Dinner #1 plus networking & continued discussion (1 hour)	5:30PM: Student Poster Competition Set up <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Volunteers needed to help with set up</li><li>- Opportunity for attendees to engage with posters and pick up voting slips</li></ul>
6:30 – 7 PM: Facilitated Discussion #1 (30 minutes)	
7 – 7:30 Testimony Opportunity #1 (30 minutes)	
7:30 – 9 PM: Evening Activity - Movie Night (1.5 hours)	
Concludes Day 1	

Day 2 – Tues Sept 30	
7:00 – 8:30 AM: Breakfast #1 plus networking & continued discussion (1.5 hours)	
8:30 – 9:30 AM: Keynote (1 hour) Coe Kerr Building  First Foods as Climate Resilience Speakers: Wenix Red Elk, CTUIR DNR Cultural Resources Protection, Colleen Sanders and Ermia Butler, CTUIR First Foods Policy Programs	
9:30 – 11:30 AM: Track 1 (2 hours) Workshop: Dogbane Cordage Making Coe Kerr Building  Hosted by Caretakers of the Land	9:30 – 11:30 AM: Track 2 (2 hours) Working Lands Science Kimsey Commons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A First Foods Approach to Landscape Stewardship, Management, and Restoration; <i>Bryan Endress, Oregon State University</i></li> <li>• Understanding Carbon in Our Working Lands of Eastern Oregon; <i>Rory O'Connor, USDA ARS Burns Station</i></li> <li>• Carbon Markets Finance Rangeland Health Assessment; <i>Mike Hale, the Nature Conservancy and Magpie Ranch</i></li> <li>• Soil Carbon in the Dryland Agricultural systems of the Columbia Basin: Lessons Learned at the Pendleton Research Station; <i>Francisco Calderon, Paulina Ramirez, and Stephen Machado, Oregon State University</i></li> </ul>
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Lunch #2 (1 hour) plus networking & continued discussion	
12:30-2 PM: Hot Topics Session (1.5 hours) Kimsey Commons* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Geologic Carbon Sequestration in Oregon: An Update on State Investigations, September 2025; <i>Jason McCloughry, Richard Walker, and Alex Lopez with Oregon Dept of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)</i></li> <li>- Understanding Carbon Pricing Frameworks; <i>Thomas Joseph, Indigenous Environmental Network</i></li> </ul>	

<p>2-4 PM: Track 1 (2 hours) Lands and Systems Kimsey Commons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mountains to Oceans – How First Food Salmon Weave Mountains, Oceans, Carbon and Culture Together; <i>Kevin Scribner &amp; Kat Brigham, Global Ocean Health</i></li> <li>Carbon Stability in Oregon’s Dry Forests; <i>Kaci Radcliffe, The Nature Conservancy</i></li> <li>Refugia of the Blue Mountains; <i>David Mildrexler, Wallowology</i></li> <li>Cultivating A Resilient Food System: DEQ’s Initiatives in Food Waste Prevention, Rescue, and Recovery; <i>Lily Herd, ODEQ with the NDTIA!P team</i></li> </ul>	<p>2-4 PM: Track 2 (2 hours) Workshop: Dogbane Cordage Making Coe Kerr Building</p> <p>Hosted by Caretakers of the Land</p>
4 - 5 PM: Facilitated Discussion #2 (1 hour)	
5 - 6 PM: Testimony Opportunity #2 (1 hour)	
6 - 7 PM: Dinner #2 (1 hour) plus networking & continued discussion	
<p><b>7-9PM: Celebration of Indigenous Joy (2 hours)</b> Coe Kerr Building</p> <p>Engage with Student Poster Competition entries and vote for People’s Choice!</p>	
<b>Concludes Day 2</b>	

Day 3 – Wed Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	
7 – 8:30 AM: Breakfast #2 plus networking & continued discussion (1.5 hours)	Pack up and break down <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist attendees with luggage and other needs</li><li>• Break down booths and other displays</li><li>• Pack up posters</li><li>• **Kimsey Commons bunkers will need to be packed up and out by 11 AM</li></ul>
8:30 – 9:30 AM: Lecture Block – What’s Next in Carbon Policy (1 hour) Coe Kerr Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Climate Programs; <i>Morgan Schafer and Whitney Dorer, ODEQ</i></li><li>• PNW Carbon Policy Roundtable with <i>Alexa Schmidt, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)</i></li></ul>	
9:30 – 11 AM: Facilitated Discussion #3 (1.5 hours)	
11 AM – 12 PM: Testimony Opportunity #3 (1 hour)	
12:30 – 1:30 PM: Closing Speaker (1 hour) Student Poster Competition Winners announced, thank you to Crow’s Shadow Institute for the Arts for judging!	1:30 – 2:30 PM: Lunch #3 (for the road) plus networking & continued discussion
Concludes Symposium	

Find more information at CTUIR website: <https://ctuir.org/departments/natural-resources/climate-adaptation/carbon-culture-symposium-fall-2025/>

Please reach out to First Foods Policy Program with any questions or to let us know you’d like to be there, [FirstFoods@CTUIR.org](mailto:FirstFoods@CTUIR.org) or (541) 429 – 7247. See you there!