



Oregon Travel Experience
1500 Liberty St. SE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97302
503-378-4508 1-800-574-9397
503-378-6282 FAX
otravelexperience.com



2017 Government-to-Government Annual Report December 14, 2017

This report identifies activities of the Travel Information Council (dba Oregon Travel Experience or OTE) in accordance with ORS 182.162-182.168, the Relationship of State Agencies with Indian Tribes.

1. Policy adopted by agency

The policy statement for OTE's Government-to-Government Relations was established on January 1, 2013 with enactment of Senate Bill 1591 giving OTE managerial authority over certain safety rest areas located on Oregon Highways. (The agency's policy statement is appended to this report). The policy recognizes the responsibilities of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for the protection of cultural resources and establishes the responsibilities of agency staff to uphold those protections and develop relations with the federally recognized tribes located in Oregon.

2. Agency contacts

Tribal Relations Contact:
Annie von Domitz
503-373-0864
anniev@oregonte.com

Agency Director:
Nancy DeSouza
503-373-1042
nancyd@oregonte.com

Agency Operations Director:
Tim Pickett
503-378-3480
timp@oregonte.com

3. Agency Programs that Affect Tribes

3.1 Safety Rest Areas

OTE manages 29 safety rest area locations on Oregon highways. As there is possibility that cultural resources could be uncovered during a ground-disturbing activity, the agency consults with LCIS and SHPO, and contracts with a professional archaeologist to ensure protection of cultural resources before any planned construction activity.

OTE manages safety rest areas in the following locations:

- French Prairie rest areas, I-5 south of Wilsonville
- Santiam River rest areas, I-5 south of Salem
- Oak Grove rest areas, I-5 west of Junction City
- Gettings Creek rest areas, I-5 north of Cottage Grove
- Cabin Creek rest areas, I-5 north of Sutherlin
- Manzanita rest areas, I-5 north of Grants Pass
- Suncrest rest area, I-5 North of Ashland
- Memaloose rest areas, I-84 west of the Dalles
- Boardman rest areas, I-84 west of Boardman
- Stanfield rest areas, I-84 west of Stanfield
- Deadman’s Pass rest areas, I-84 east of Cabbage Hill
- Charles Reynolds rest areas, I-84 east of La Grande
- Baker Valley rest areas, I-84 west of Baker city
- Weatherby res area, I-84 east of Baker City
- Ontario rest area, I-84 in Ontario
- Tillamook River rest area, US 101 south of Tillamook
- Government Camp rest area, US 26 on Mount Hood

OTE bases its rest area management on the needs of visiting motorists and collaborates with communities, industry partners and regional business to provide the best traveling experience possible. Rest area information centers provide visitors with travel displays and brochures about area hotels, restaurants, golf courses, museums and other attractions. The rest area “Free Coffee” program is a service sponsored by local non-profit organizations in the interest of public safety.

3.2 Highway Business Signs

OTE serves travelers and business interests through its business logo and guide signs program. Known for their iconic blue sign backgrounds, logo signs guide motorist to local services offering gas, food, lodging, camping and area attractions. On conventional highways, the agency also provides blue signs to tourist-oriented businesses and brown signs to museums and historic sites.

3.3 Historical Marker Program

OTE administers the Oregon Historical Marker program that restores, updates and maintains the state’s oldest wooden markers while creating a new generation of markers to tell Oregon’s stories and reflect the changing perspective of the state’s history.

4. Area of Work and Communication with Tribes

4.1 National Parks Service Applegate Trail Interpretation at I-5 Manzanita Rest Area

In March, six markers were placed by the National Park Service (NPS) interpreting the Applegate Trail through a grant awarded to the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society. As managers of the rest area, we wanted to make sure the interpretation was up to the current standards of the Oregon Historical Marker Committee, which requires tribal input for new or refurbished markers dealing with Oregon Historic Trails. We connected the NPS interpretive specialist with LCIS. The resulting interpretation was developed with extensive input facilitated by Robert Kentta with Confederated Tribes of Siletz, David Harrelson with Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Jessie Plueard with Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians.

4.2 The Dalles to Canyon City Wagon Road Oregon Historical Marker

This marker, located in the city of Antelope is in need of repair due to age and weather. The Oregon Historical Marker Committee had identified this marker as a priority for text revision and reached out to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs for comment. The committee received input, coordinated through the Warm Springs Cultural and Heritage Department. The committee is now working on a draft that integrates the text submitted by the department. The marker is scheduled to be updated and replaced in Spring 2018.

4.3.1 Deadman Pass Rest Area

An existing well was re-opened in preparation for replacing water for the rest area drawn from the Immigrant Springs State Park. The project required opening a trench to the water tank located on the property. Cultural representatives of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) monitored work on the trench opening. Use of the well is pending confirmation of permitting and compliance with Oregon Health Authority water standards.

4.3.2 Charles Reynolds Rest Area

The sewer line connecting both sides of the rest area under Interstate 84 was replaced using the pipe burst method to replace the line through its existing conduit under the freeway. CTUIR cultural representatives have been briefed about the work done. We are currently in discussions with CTUIR about improving coordination and communication about similar projects in the future.

5. Training and Employee Awareness

5.1 Annie von Domitz represented the agency at the Tribal State Government to Government Summit at Chinook Winds Casino on November 1-2, 2017.

5.2 All OTE rest area staff received in-house training through an overview of agency policies and procedures concerning archaeological and cultural resources issues and operational procedures governing emergencies or inadvertent discoveries. Each rest area supervisor also received additional training regarding protocols and procedures specific to their rest area.