CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COOS, LOWER UMPQUA, AND SIUSLAW INDIANS

Wetlands Program Plan

January 2023

VERSION 2

DEPARTMENT OF Culture and NATURAL RESOURCES
CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
COOS, LOWER UMPQUA, AND SIUSLAW INDIANS
1245 FULTON AVENUE
COOS BAY, OREGON 97420

(541) 888-9577

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COOS, LOWER UMPQUA, AND SIUSLAW INDIANS

Overview

Wetlands are areas with seasonal standing water or saturated soils. Field surveys are used to clarify marginal locations but places that are seasonally saturated are often technically defined as “wetlands”. Across the Ancestral Territory of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) in western Oregon, there are many types of wetland such as fens and bogs of the coastal lakes and dunes, wetland prairies in abandoned meander bends, tidal marshes in the lowland estuaries, and others. A small portion of these wetlands still resembles a natural system but most have been drained or otherwise disturbed during the development of roads and other infrastructure. In the tribal languages, the word for meadow, prairie, valley and marsh is the same: *dimsit* in the two Coosan (Coos) languages and *hauhuu* or *hauxwa* in sha’yuushtɬ’a uɬ quuiich (Siuslaw). These words referred to an open space while forests were identified as *nuk’wiin* in the Coosan languages and *ɬqatuwiiyus* in sha’yuushtɬ’a uɬ quuiich.

Wetland plants are used often by the coastal tribes of Oregon in basketry, teas, food and as dyes. Gathering these plants is a seasonal activity: tule and cattail in late summer for fiber; red cedar bark for basketry in spring; trapper’s tea in the fall; camas in early summer and bear grass in July. (Phillips) Wetlands have always had significance to the Tribes. Natural and healthy wetlands provide certain *services* such as providing material for basketry or filtering pollutants from the water. These are referred to as *ecosystem services (i.e. services provided by an ecosystem).* A natural wetland will be very effective at filtering pollution from water, providing habitat for animals and sequestering carbon. The peoples of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Territories not only value wetlands for their services, but also respect and honor the role that wetlands have played in shaping Tribal culture.

> The lifeways of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw peoples parallel those of many other coastal peoples. Residing in the coastal regions and lower river estuaries, they moved upriver for a period of time each year to fish for salmon and lamprey eels and to harvest a wide range of plants for food, medicine and materials […] The principal village sites of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw people were concentrated on the estuaries and coast, but there were also small villages upriver from tidewater.” (Phillips pp. viii-5)

This is not to say that native coastal peoples were exclusive to estuaries and the immediate coastline. The CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory stretched inland over 50 miles. Seasonal hunting and fishing camps existed far upstream from the tidal estuaries but estuaries and the wetlands within them provided ample opportunities for gathering, hunting, and fishing of species only found in those environments (see table 1). Despite their cultural significance and ecosystem services, wetlands on Tribal lands continue to be degraded by upstream pollution and land use practices. As a result, first foods such as Wapato, an edible tuber, have local ranges that have shrunk considerably. Tenmile Lakes, a historic Wapato gathering site, now suffers from harmful algal blooms. (Phillips) This greatly impacts the health and availability of Tribal wetland resources as

well as the health of Tribal members, the surrounding community, and the environment. The Tribes have endeavored to develop this Wetland Program Plan ('Plan') that will articulate the goals and objectives necessary to protect these resources.

Table 1
Examples of some wetland plants used by Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw (Phillips)

Plant name (English)	Descriptions
Skunk cabbage	Used traditionally for food (roasted roots), medicine (for colds), leaves sometimes used in camas ovens. Today people sometimes use the leaves to help keep in moisture when cooking in ashes also.
Wapato	Roots as food. In our region it was formerly said to be common in Tenmile Lake. Was probably also found in Tahkenitch and has been reported in past in Siltcoos.
Pacific silverweed	Roots widely used in the northwest for food. Can grow in areas near wetlands, and the dunes.
Springbank clover	Often found near wet areas by estuaries or open coast. Roots used for food.
Cattail	Leaves for weaving, roots for food. Contemporary weavers sometime work w/ cattail leaves.
Tule	Weaving (both traditional and contemporary).
Bulrush (Scirpus microcarpus)	Roof thatching of temporary shelters
Horsetail	New spring growth, tops of plant used for food. Mature plants used to polish woodwork like bowls.
Camas	Camas likes to grow in areas that are damp for part of the year. Bulbs were a food staple.
Beargrass (Xerophyllum)	Typically these don't (*often*) grow in wetlands but (…) they can be found in this type of habitat. Beargrass leaves used in basketry.
Red cedar	Red cedar can grow at least a bit in bogs (like the Darlingtonia bog in Florence). Roots and inner bark used for basketry, wood for houses and canoes. Port Orford Cedar can also grow in/adjacent to boggy habitats, was used to make canoes.
Red alder	Red alder likes to grow in some marshy habitats. Bark used for a red dye for basketry.
Bog blueberry	Primarily concentrated in the dunes. Edible berries
Trapper's tea	Formerly genus Ledum now Rhododendron columbianum. Likes to grow in bogs, leaves used (and still used today) for tea.
Willow (salix spp.)	Twigs sometimes in basketry. Some contemporary weavers have also used willow bark in basketry. The bark is also medicinal, containing an aspirin-like compound.
American threesquare (Schoenoplectus pungens)	A plant of the estuaries rather than freshwater wetlands; widely used in weaving.

This Wetland Program Plan is modeled after the Core Elements of an Effective State and Tribal Wetlands Program, as are many other state and tribal wetland plans. Tables 2 through 6 in this document lay out the timeline of activities which CTCLUSI will follow to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance wetlands. The development of the original version of this Plan was made possible in 2016 through the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act. That stated that the information provided within it was subject to annual review and revision as necessary. This second version is following the January 2018 Western Oregon Tribal Fairness Act which conveyed 14,800 acres of federal lands, previously managed by the Bureau of Land Management, into trust for the benefit of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI). Included in those 14,800 acres are scores of wetlands that CTCLUSI will protectively manage and restore to increase the cultural and environmental services provided by them.

This Wetland Program Plan development effort has been made possible by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Wetland Program Plan Development funding (UEI: 161160445000). The members and staff at CTCLUSI, as well as our many partners, appreciate the opportunity to assert Tribal sovereignty and responsibly manage this landscape in a way that reflects historical Tribal culture and values.

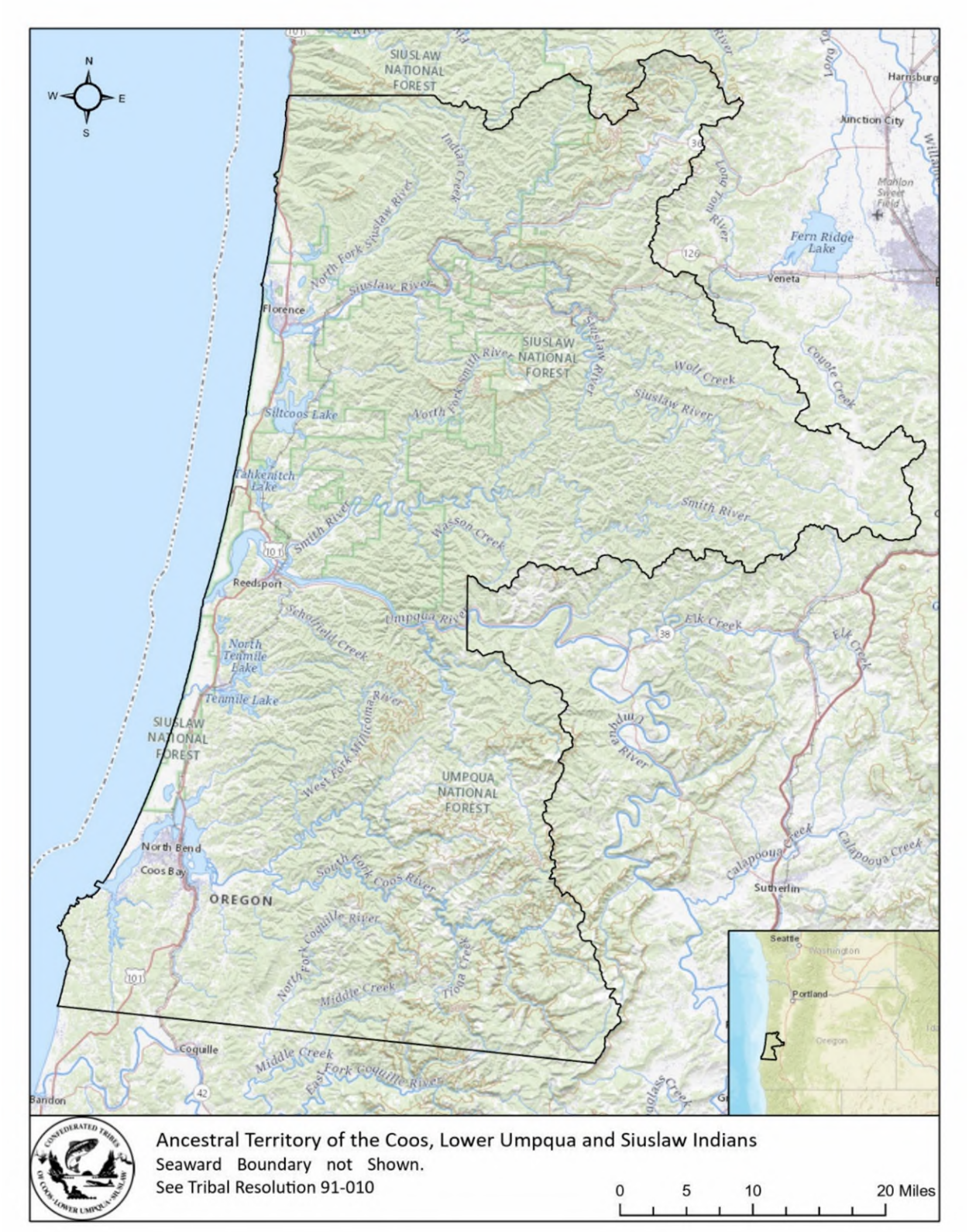
Figure 1 Gathering American three-square. Photograph by Courtney Krossman.

Geographic Scope

The CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory reaches West twelve miles past the continental shelf out in the Pacific Ocean and carries inland to the Coastal Mountain Range of Oregon, from North at Tenmile Creek in Lincoln County, Oregon to the South near Whiskey Creek in Coos County. In 1855, in all good faith, the Tribes signed a treaty with the United States that would have ceded most of the 1.6-million-acre Ancestral Territory, which includes 80 miles of shoreline, in exchange for "some promises". Unfortunately, the treaty was never ratified by the United States and promises were not kept. In 1954, the United States enacted a law terminating federal recognition of the Tribes as well as many other Tribes throughout Oregon. After thirty years of struggle, the federal recognition of the Tribes was restored in 1984.

At the time of restoration, CTCLUSI held only its Tribal Hall on six acres and three other slivers of land totaling less than eight acres, a far cry from its original 1.6 million acres. Since restoration, the Tribes have continued the work of reconstructing a fragmented land base and revitalizing a culture. As of today, the CTCLUSI Reservation and trust land base is greater than 14,800 acres, and more than 400 acres are held in fee.

In 2021, CTCLUSI was approved by the EPA to administer its own Water Quality Standards and 401 Certification programs on waters and wetlands pertaining to the Tribes' Reservation and trust lands, as well as all associated riparian, wetlands, coastal beach front, and lakefront areas. As a result, CTCLUSI is beginning to administer these programs on waters pertaining to 14,800 acres in western Oregon. Although wetlands only make up a small percentage of the overall acreage, wetlands are composed of a majority of the culturally significant species that are essential to reviving and sustaining Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw culture. While the specific inventorying, assessment, and monitoring activities described herein apply primarily to Tribally-owned land, many of the goals and objectives will be implemented across the Tribal Ancestral Territory. CTCLUSI has been restoring and protecting wetlands on non-tribal lands for many years through collaboration with tribal, state, and federal agencies, non-profits, and private stakeholders.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SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST
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North Fork Smith River
Tahkenitch Lake
Smith River
Wasson Creek
Reedsport
Umpqua River
Schofield Creek
Elk Creek
North Tenmile Lake
Tenmile Lake
West Fork Millicoma River
UMPQUA NATIONAL FOREST
North Bend
Coos Bay
OREGON
South Fork Coos River
North Fork Coquille River
Middle Creek
Tioga Creek
Calapooya Creek
Sutherlin
Coquille
East Fork Coquille River
Bandon
Seattle
Washington
Portland
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Ancestral Territory of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
Seaward Boundary not Shown.
See Tribal Resolution 91-010
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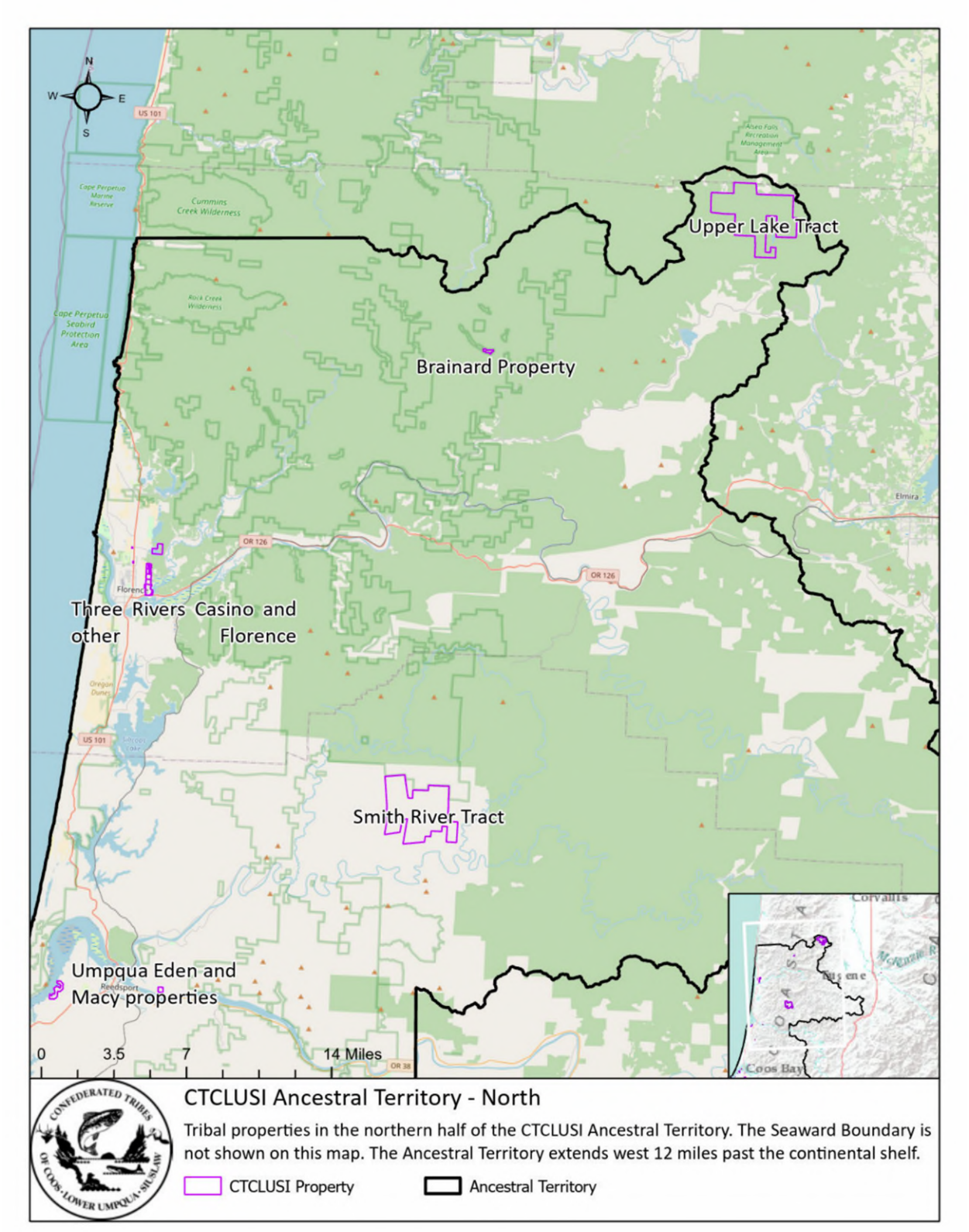
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Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve
Cummins Creek Wilderness
Rock Creek Wilderness
Cape Perpetua Seabird Protection Area
Upper Lake Tract
Brainard Property
Elmira
OR 126
Florence
Three Rivers Casino and other
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Oregon Dunes
Smith River Tract
Umpqua Eden and Macy properties
Reedsport
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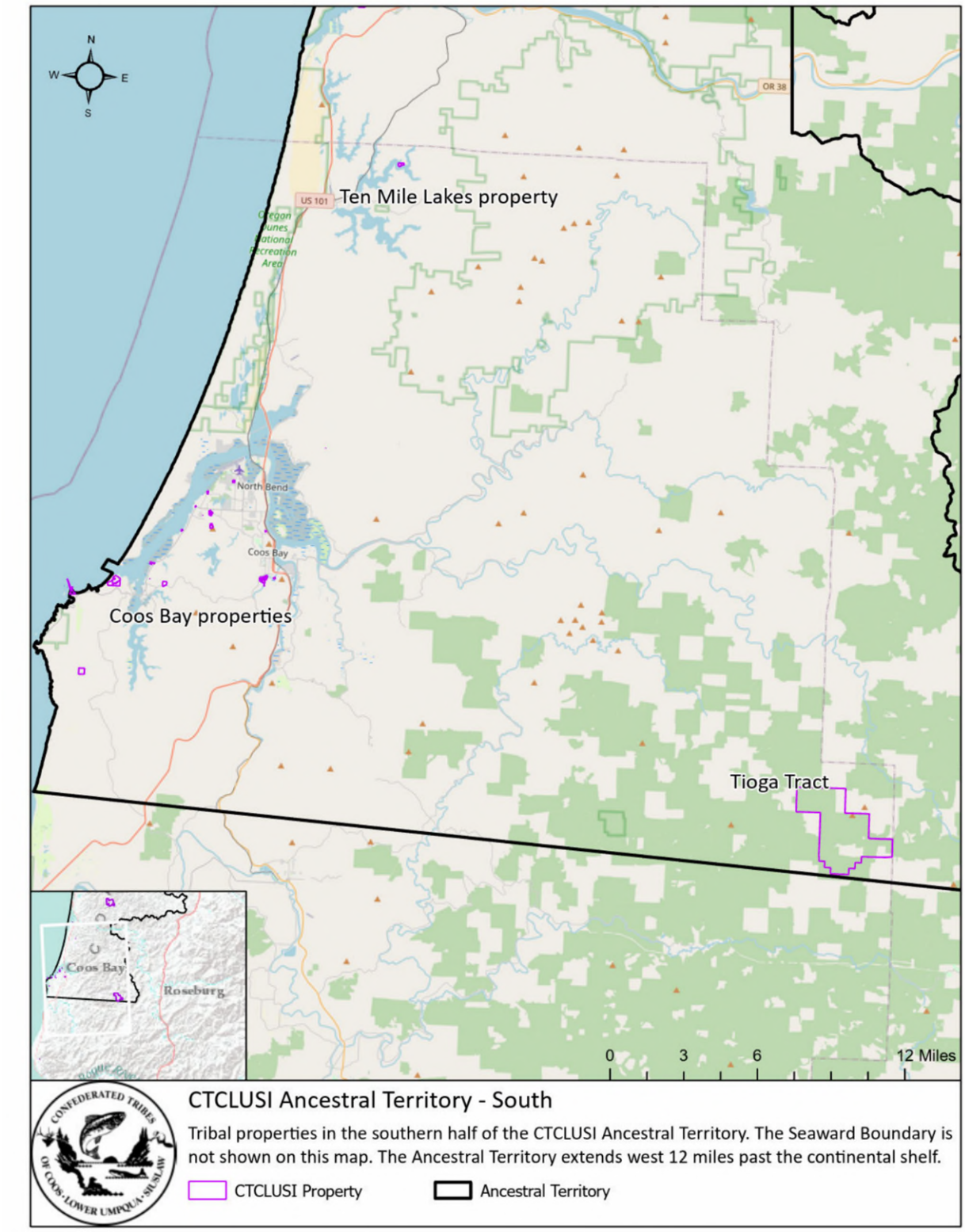
7
14 Miles
Corvallis
Coos Bay
CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory - North
Tribal properties in the northern half of the CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory. The Seaward Boundary is not shown on this map. The Ancestral Territory extends west 12 miles past the continental shelf.
CTCLUSI Property
Ancestral Territory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Ten Mile Lakes property
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Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area
North Bend
Coos Bay
Coos Bay properties
Tioga Tract
Coos Bay
Roseburg
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3
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12 Miles
CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory - South
Tribal properties in the southern half of the CTCLUSI Ancestral Territory. The Seaward Boundary is not shown on this map. The Ancestral Territory extends west 12 miles past the continental shelf.
CTCLUSI Property
Ancestral Territory

Statement of Need

Wetland extent has been diminishing across coastal Oregon landscapes for over two centuries. Much of this loss can be attributed to tide gates, diking, draining and filling of wetlands for agriculture or development. Introduced species have exacerbated the loss and degradation of wetlands and nearly extirpated many culturally significant species. The fibers, food and medicine harvested in wetlands connect Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw people to the land and traditions. As wetlands diminish across the landscape, opportunities to practice Tribal traditions and connection to the land are lost.

Goals and Objectives

Wetlands are integral to watershed health and serve many purposes in the lives of Tribal members. The development of this Plan is necessary to protect the health and extent of wetlands for the next seven generations on Tribally-owned lands and the Ancestral Territory.

The main goals of the Tribal Wetland Program are:

> *To protect and preserve existing healthy Tribal wetlands for their ecosystem services and cultural significance.*
>
> *To restore the function and extent of unhealthy Tribal wetlands for the ecosystem and cultural services they provide.*
>
> *To establish long-standing partnerships with state and local agencies, stakeholders, and private land owners, and encourage integrated decision making that supports Tribal wetland protection and restoration.*

Core Elements Framework

In order to accomplish the goals of the CTCLUSI Tribal Wetland Program, the Tribes obtained funding to develop this Plan which is modeled after the Core Elements of an Effective State and Tribal Wetlands Program. The EPA identifies four core elements that comprise and strengthen

effective wetlands programs. The core elements are basic program functions that form the foundation of wetland program plans and have been used by many states and tribes.

The Core Elements are:

1. Monitoring and Assessment

2. Regulatory Activities

3. Voluntary Restoration and Protection

4. Water Quality Standards for Wetlands

The EPA Core Elements Framework serves as a foundation for enhancing state and tribal program development. For each core element, the Core Elements Framework provides a menu of program-building activities and actions. The following section illustrates how CTCLUSI will incorporate various activities identified in the EPA Core Element Framework into the Tribal Wetland Program. Table 2 is a simplified version of the more detailed tables 3-6. These tables represent the core elements of the CTCLUSI Wetland Program and will guide CTCLUSI wetland programming through 2028.

Figure 2 Basket woven from beaked hazel branches.

Table 2 Timeline of Core Elements in the CTCLUSI Wetland Program

Core Elements and Objectives	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Monitoring and Assessment						
Develop a monitoring and assessment strategy consistent with Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program for Wetlands (EPA, 2006)	X	X				
Implement a sustainable monitoring program consistent with strategy		X	X	X	X	X
Incorporate monitoring data into agency decision-making			X	X	X	X
Voluntary Restoration and Protection						
Clearly define restoration and protection goals	X					
Restore extent of functional wetlands in Ancestral Territory	X	X	X	X	X	X
Track restoration and protection accomplishments	X	X	X	X	X	X
Water Quality Standards						
Include wetlands in CTCLUSI WQS	X					
Include designated uses, antidegradation policy and narrative criteria in WQS	X					
Include numeric criteria in WQS						X
Regulatory Program						
Define scope of program				X		
Administer regulatory activities efficiently and consistently	X					

CTCLUSI Wetland Monitoring and Assessment

The goal of wetland monitoring and assessment is to establish a baseline in wetland extent, condition and function, to detect change, to assess value, and to characterize trends in wetlands over time. Once programs progress from the early stages of developing a strategy to actual implementation, the monitoring and assessments can inform restoration and regulatory programs meant to protect them. This trajectory is followed in the CTCLUSI Monitoring and Assessment objectives listed below.

Objective 1: Develop and implement a comprehensive inventory and functional assessment strategy consistent with *Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program for Wetlands* (EPA, 2006).

CTCLUSI managers will establish inventory and assessment methods and tools to map locations and diagnose health of wetlands larger than one acre on Tribal lands, which is necessary to protect and restore wetlands effectively. CTCLUSI will adopt inventory and assessment methods to establish a baseline in wetland extent and function on Tribal lands. The Tribes will determine which tools and methods will be used to measure wetland health and the value of a given Tribal wetland. Tribal managers will research and practice established state and tribal inventory and assessment methods and protocols to develop a method that captures natural and cultural resource values which are most important and applicable to CTCLUSI (e.g., first foods, fibers, medicine, etc.). This will start at the landscape level, using existing tribal, state and federal knowledge and datasets, then transition into Rapid Assessments across Tribal reservation, fee and trust lands.

Objective 2: Design and implement a sustained wetland monitoring plan consistent with *Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program for Wetlands* (EPA, 2006).

Once wetlands are initially mapped and assessed (Objective 1), CTCLUSI managers will monitor wetland function, condition, and extent *over time* to establish baseline conditions and identify status and trends. The Tribes will research and adopt methods that measure and quantify metrics which are significant to both the EPA and the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (e.g., first foods, fiber, medicine, etc.). This Tribal Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program will be utilized by Tribal technical staff and legislative bodies in conjunction with the existing Tribal Integrated Water Quality Monitoring Program (QAPP 5.0, January 2021) with the goal of holistic management of natural resources on CTCLUSI-owned lands.

Objective 3: Incorporate monitoring data into agency decision-making

To achieve the main goals of the Tribal Wetland Plan, CTCLUSI will make informed decisions when managing wetland resources. In order to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance wetlands, the Tribes will utilize the inventory, assessments and monitoring data. The inventory and monitoring data will inform development of wetland protection and restoration efforts, provide valuable effectiveness data for these projects to determine mitigation and restoration achievements, and inform updates to wetland water quality standards in triennial reviews. The Tribal Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program will coordinate with the related Tribal Integrated Water Quality Monitoring Program which has been monitoring streams, rivers and estuaries in the Tribal Ancestral Territory since 2005.

Current Status of Monitoring and Assessment

The CTCLUSI Department of Natural Resources has implemented an aquatic water quality monitoring program since 2005. Measured parameters include continuous dissolved oxygen, pH, total phosphorus, total nitrogen, water temperature, turbidity, macroinvertebrates, bacteria, as well as habitat information on Tribal lands. The CTCLUSI approach to storing, analyzing, and setting policies using this data is to combine the aquatics and wetland data to inform analysis

and decisions-makers. In 2022, a landscape-scale (Level 1) wetland inventory was created with technical assistance from Oregon Department of State Lands. The geographic scope of this CTCLUSI inventory is Tribally-owned lands, and it integrates the following datasets. (See appendix A – CTCLUSI Level 1 Wetlands Inventory)

- National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
- Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO)
- State Soil Geographic Database (STATSGO)
- Local Wetlands Inventories (LWI)

This Level 1 inventory was conducted using Geographical Information Systems and is meant to ascertain basic wetland locations to assist field technicians in identifying and navigating to Tribal wetlands when carrying out Level 2 inventories planned in 2023-2026.

Figure 3 Triangle sedge and bear grass basket.

Table 3 Detailed Monitoring and Assessment Activities of this Wetland Plan

Detailed Monitoring and Assessment Strategy							
Objective	Action	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Develop a monitoring and assessment strategy consistent with Elements of a State Water Monitoring and Assessment Program for Wetlands (EPA, 2006)	Identify program decisions and long-term environmental outcome(s) that will benefit from a wetlands monitoring and assessment program	X					
	Define wetlands monitoring objectives and strategies	X					
	1-research GIS methods for inventorying and classifying wetlands	X					
	Conduct wetlands inventory		X	X	X	X	X
	1- research classifications (e.g. HGM, Cowardin) and site rationale 2- Develop monitoring design/rationale for site selection and classification system	X	X				
	Conduct wetlands assessments			X	X	X	X
	Select a core set of indicators	X	X	X			
Implement a sustainable monitoring program consistent with strategy	Ensure the scientific validity of monitoring and laboratory activities	X	X				
	Monitor wetland resources as specified in strategy		X	X	X	X	X
	Establish reference condition						X
	Design a data management system that supports program objectives	X	X	X			
	Analyze monitoring data to evaluate wetlands extent and condition/function or to inform decision-making			X	X	X	X
Incorporate monitoring data into agency decision-making	Evaluate monitoring program to determine how well it is meeting a state/tribe's monitoring program objectives			X		X	

	Improve the site-specific management of wetland resources.				X	X	X
	Develop geographically-defined wetland protection, restoration, and management plans					X	X

CTCLUSI Wetland Restoration and Protection

The goal of wetland restoration and protection is to maintain or increase the ecosystem services and cultural resources that healthy wetland systems provide. In a natural state, wetlands will improve water quality, reduce flooding and erosion and provide habitat for wildlife. In addition, wetlands in the Ancestral Territory of CTCLUSI provided Siuslaw, Coos, and Lower Umpqua Indians with fiber, medicine, tools and food. CTCLUSI supports, co-manages, and leads wetland restoration and protection efforts on Tribal lands and non-tribal lands within the Ancestral Territory. The Tribes are active in collaborations that focus on restoration of tidal, lake fringe, riverine and other wetland types. The restoration goals and objectives set forth in this plan will define restoration goals, protect wetlands from degradation, restore wetland acres on CTCLUSI lands, and track progress over time.

Objective 1: Clearly and consistently define restoration and protection goals throughout Tribal Ancestral Territory.

Using established definitions for restoration and protection, CTCLUSI will articulate the goals of the Wetland Program. These goals shall be consistent across relevant agencies and consider watershed planning. Wetland restoration is the manipulation of a former or degraded wetland's physical, chemical, or biological characteristics to return its natural functions. Restoration practices include:

- Re-establishment, the rebuilding a former wetland; and

- Rehabilitation, repairing the functions of a degraded wetland (US EPA, 2007a)

Wetlands protection is defined as removing a threat or preventing the decline of wetland conditions (US EPA, 2007a).

Objective 2: Protect wetlands from degradation or destruction.

CTCLUSI will establish partnerships and institutionalize long-term protection of wetlands through acquisition. CTCLUSI priorities will be shared with partners. These include protection and

enhancement of native vegetative species diversity and structural complexity within Tribal wetlands and riparian corridors with an emphasis on increasing culturally significant species.

Objective 3: Restore wetland acres, condition, and function.

CTCLUSI is active in regional restoration and conservation efforts and may lead or co-manage multiple wetland protection or restoration projects in the Ancestral Territory at any given time. The Development of this Wetland Program Plan will assist the Tribes in expanding its role as an agency that actively restores wetland function and condition within the Ancestral Territory. CTCLUSI will develop restoration management plans and track improvements in condition and functionality.

Current Status of Restoration and Protection

Restoration of riverine, tidal, and lake-fringe wetlands has been the main focus of the Tribes' restoration efforts to date as well as protection and enhancement of culturally significant species. In 2021 and 2022, increased staff capacity and funding allowed for the investigation of additional Tribal wetland restoration and protection opportunities. The Tribes work with local agencies within our Ancestral Territory, such as the South Slough National Estuarine Reserve, the Siuslaw Coho Partnership, the Coos Coho Partnership and the Oregon Central Coast Estuary Collaborative (OCCEC) to restore and enhance wetland ecological processes and functions and preserve and protect culturally significant species, and rare, threatened and endangered species.

Table 4 Specific Restoration Activities of this WPP

Detailed Restoration and Protection Strategy							
Objective	Action	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Clearly Define Goals	Coordinate with CTCLUSI staff and membership to identify culturally significant features, species, assemblages, ecosystems, etc. to restore and protect	X	X	X			
	Consider watershed planning, wildlife habitat, and other objectives when selecting sites to restore and protect	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Provide clear guidance on appropriate restoration and management techniques and success measures	X	X	X	X	X	X
Protect	Establish partnerships to leverage additional protection (share protection priorities with partners)	X	X	X	X	X	X

	Establish and Institutionalize long term protection, using mechanisms such as incentives, purchase of land title or easements to protect wetlands				X	X	X
Restore	Increase wetland acreage through restoration (reestablishment)			X	X	X	X
	Improve natural wetland conditions and functions		X	X	X	X	X
	Establish partnerships to leverage more restoration	X	X	X	X	X	X
Monitor	Track restoration/protection projects	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Monitor restoration/protection sites to ensure that they are implemented and managed correctly and linked to relevant watershed planning efforts		X	X	X	X	X
	Modify restoration/protection techniques as needed	X	X	X	X	X	X

CTCLUSI Wetland Water Quality Standards

CTCLUSI will develop wetland water quality standards that protect the ecosystem services and cultural resources wetlands provide. These wetland water quality standards will include designated uses, criteria, and anti-degradation policy that will be adopted into Tribal Code along with the other CTCLUSI Water Quality Standards.

Objective 1: Develop and implement Tribal wetland water quality monitoring and utilize data and findings to establish wetland water quality standards and guide decision-making on restoration and regulatory protection efforts.

Objective 2: Develop and adopt EPA approved Tribal water quality standards including standards for wetlands.

Current Status of Wetland Water Quality Standards

In 2021, the EPA approved the request by CTCLUSI to assume responsibilities of the Clean Water Act's water quality standards and 401 certification programs on reservation and trust lands. The approval enabled the Tribes to set water quality goals and standards for water bodies within CTCLUSI reservation and trust lands.

In 2021 and 2022, CTCLUSI developed Water Quality Standards which were approved by Tribal Council in July 2022. The Public Hearing for these Water Quality Standards was held in September 2022. The Tribes are currently working to update the Water Quality Standards based on public comments and will then submit the standards to EPA for approval.

The CTCLUSI Water Quality Standards include narrative standards for wetlands. These identify designated uses, criteria, and anti-degradation policy for wetlands in CTCLUSI reservation and trust lands.

Figure 4 Tule basket, abalone shell and drum. Photograph by Morgan Gaines.

Table 5 Specific Water Quality Standards Activities of this WPP

Detailed Water Quality Standards for Wetlands							
Objective	Action	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Ensure that wetlands are treated as waters	Adopt an appropriate definition of wetlands	X					
	Ensure the appropriate wetlands definition is included in WQS		X				
Develop wetland-specific water quality standards	Gather and analyze monitoring data used as basis for WQ standards			X	X	X	X
	Establish/update wetland-specific designated uses in triennial review				X	X	
	Establish and adopt narrative criteria and update in triennial review(s)	X	X		X	X	
	Establish and adopt numeric criteria					X	X
	Better define state/tribal antidegradation policies for wetlands					X	X

CTCLUSI Wetland Regulatory Activities

CTCLUSI will create a regulatory framework that ensures “no net loss” of Tribal wetland acreage, protects and preserves ecological processes and functions, and restores and enhances Tribal resources and ecological services. In 2021, the Tribes were approved to administer Water Quality Standards and 401 Certification programs by the EPA.

Objective 1: Encourage innovative land use and low impact development practices that minimize disturbance of native soils, vegetation and waters while allowing for economic growth.

Objective 2: Administer 401 Certification program protecting wetlands upon approval of Tribal Water Quality Standards by EPA.

Objective 3: Provide technical assistance and support to state and local agencies, stakeholders, and private land owners regarding Tribal wetland regulations, mapping, delineation, permit review, etc.

Current Status of Wetland Regulatory Activities

The Tribes' Department of Natural Resources participates in the 401-certification process as it relates to the Ancestral Territory. If 401 certification is granted, the neighboring jurisdiction process must occur before the license or permit may go forward. Neighboring jurisdiction applies to 401 certifications made upstream of CTCLUSI ownership which may impact Tribal waters.

Table 6 Specific Regulatory Activities of this WPP

Detailed Regulatory Program							
Objectives	Action	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Define scope of program	Provide clear and comprehensive jurisdictional coverage of aquatic resources (define area to be regulated)			X			X
	Clearly identify scope of activities to be regulated coordinated with other CWA entities)			X			X
	Provide clear guidance to public on how to identify jurisdictional waters and activities						X
Administer regulatory activities efficiently and consistently	Develop publicly accessible criteria	X	X				
	Actively review proposed impacts to Tribal waters	X	X	X			X

Conclusion

This Wetland Program Plan is a voluntary action taken that articulates the accomplishments the Tribal government intends to achieve over time. The Plan explains the objectives and specific activities that will help achieve these goals. CTCLUSI will implement the activities described in the tables of this document between 2023 and 2028. Wetlands of western Oregon have provided the Lower Umpqua, Coos and Siuslaw Indians with fiber, food, and medicine for thousands of years.

The CTCLUSI Wetland Plan will be implemented for six years before being revisited and expanded. The first implementation period outlined here is 2023 – 2028. In 2028, CTCLUSI Department of Culture and Natural Resources staff will update this plan and set new goals and activities for the next 3-6 years. EPA Regional offices review Wetland Program Plans and publishes them online with the name of the state or tribe that developed the Plan, and the period of time that is covered.

As the CTCLUSI continues to expand its land base, protections for wetlands will be prioritized over economic factors. Clean water, healthy watersheds, and supported traditional practices are reliant on fully functioning wetlands. This plan encourages state and local agencies, stakeholders, private landowners, the surrounding community, and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians to work collaboratively to mitigate issues that not only affect Tribal resources and traditional practices, but issues that also affect the surrounding community.

Figure 5. Clockwise from top left: Harvesting Labrador tea using Tule basket; Juncus bundles; stick baskets used for catching fish.

Citations

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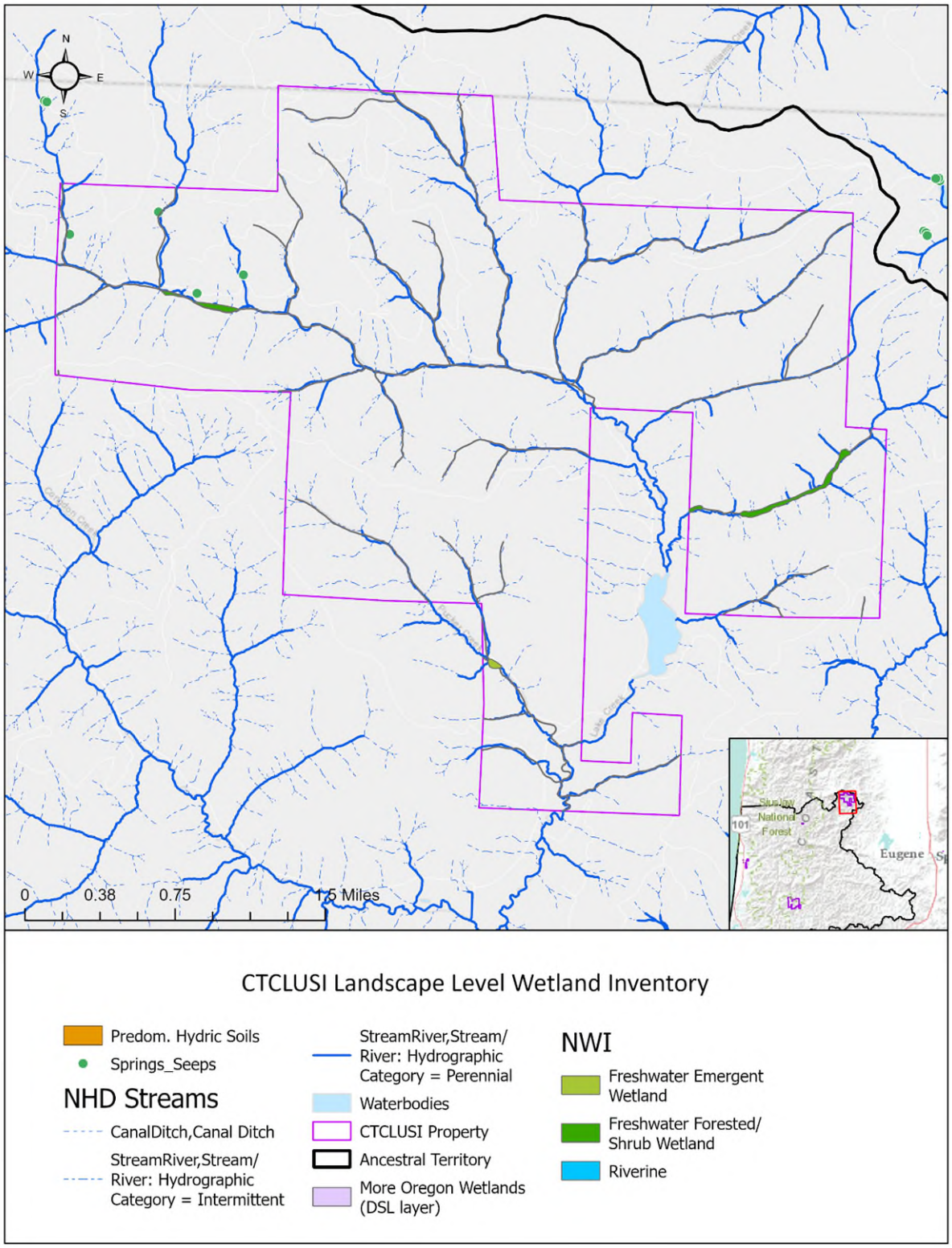
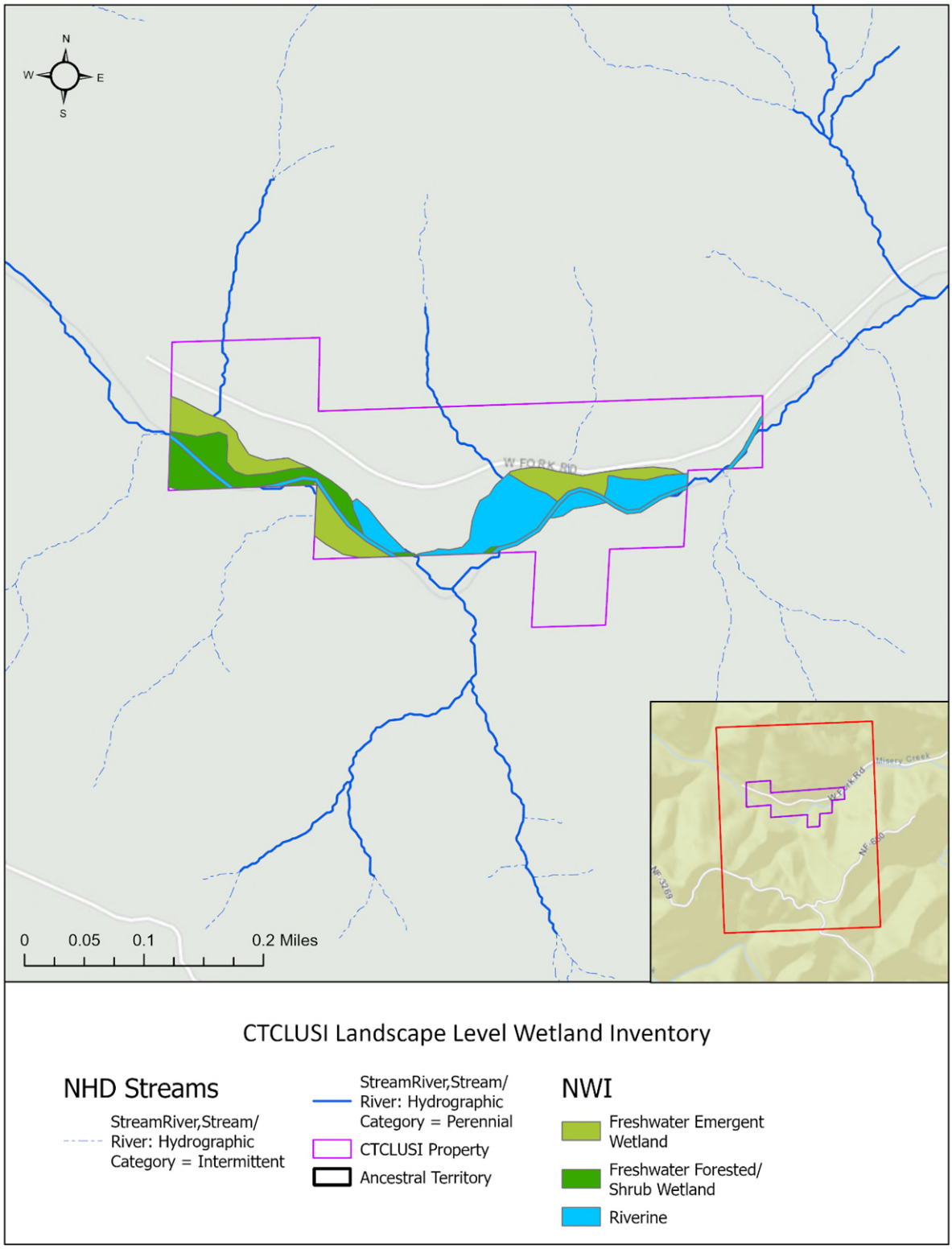
"Protecting Waters and Wetlands in Indian Country: A Guide for Developing Tribal Wetland Management Programs". Environmental Protection Agency, Dec. 2022.

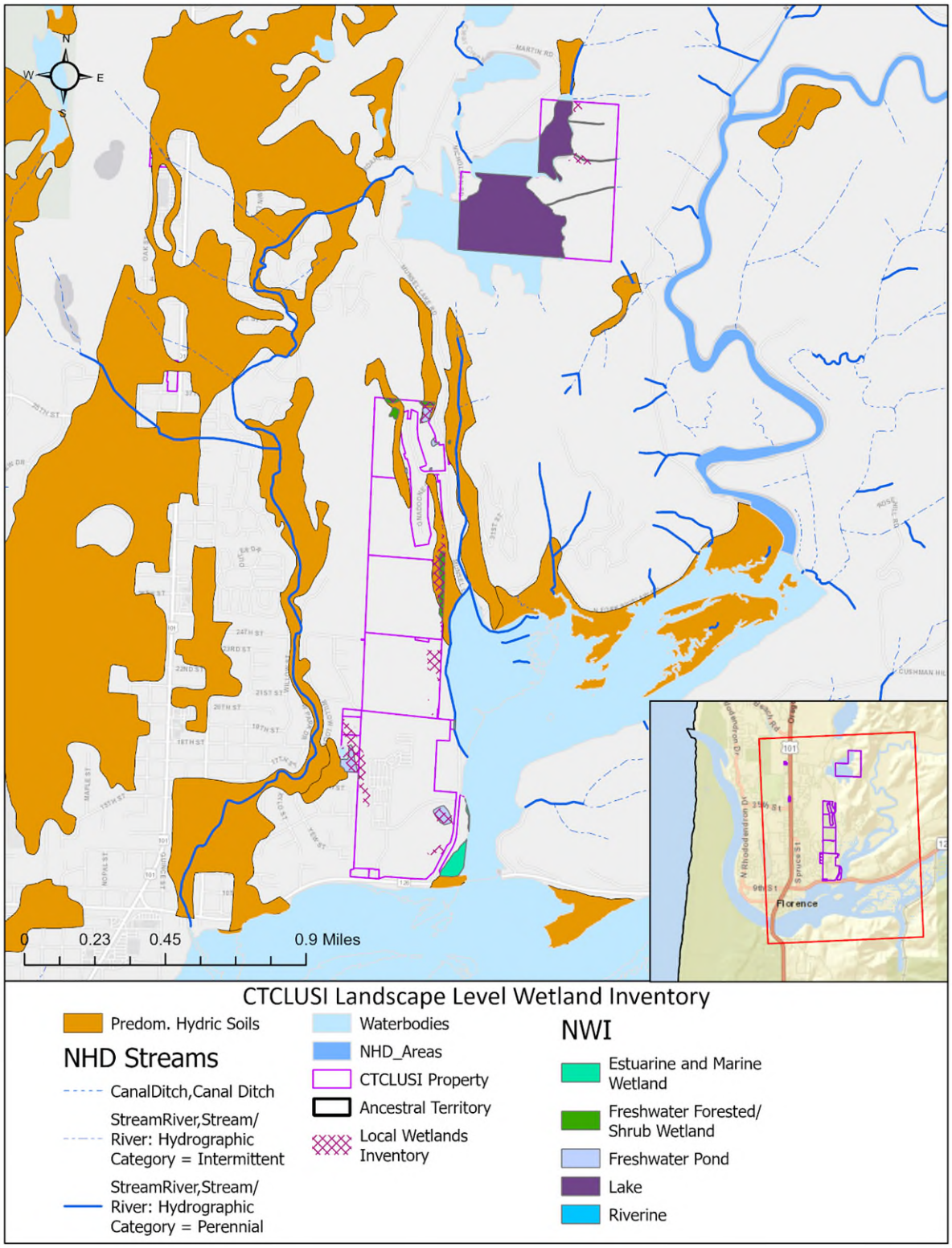
Figure 6 Mark Petrie, CTCLUSI Cultural Assistant and Hanis Coos tribal member.

Appendix A – Draft CTCLUSI Level 1 Wetlands Inventory

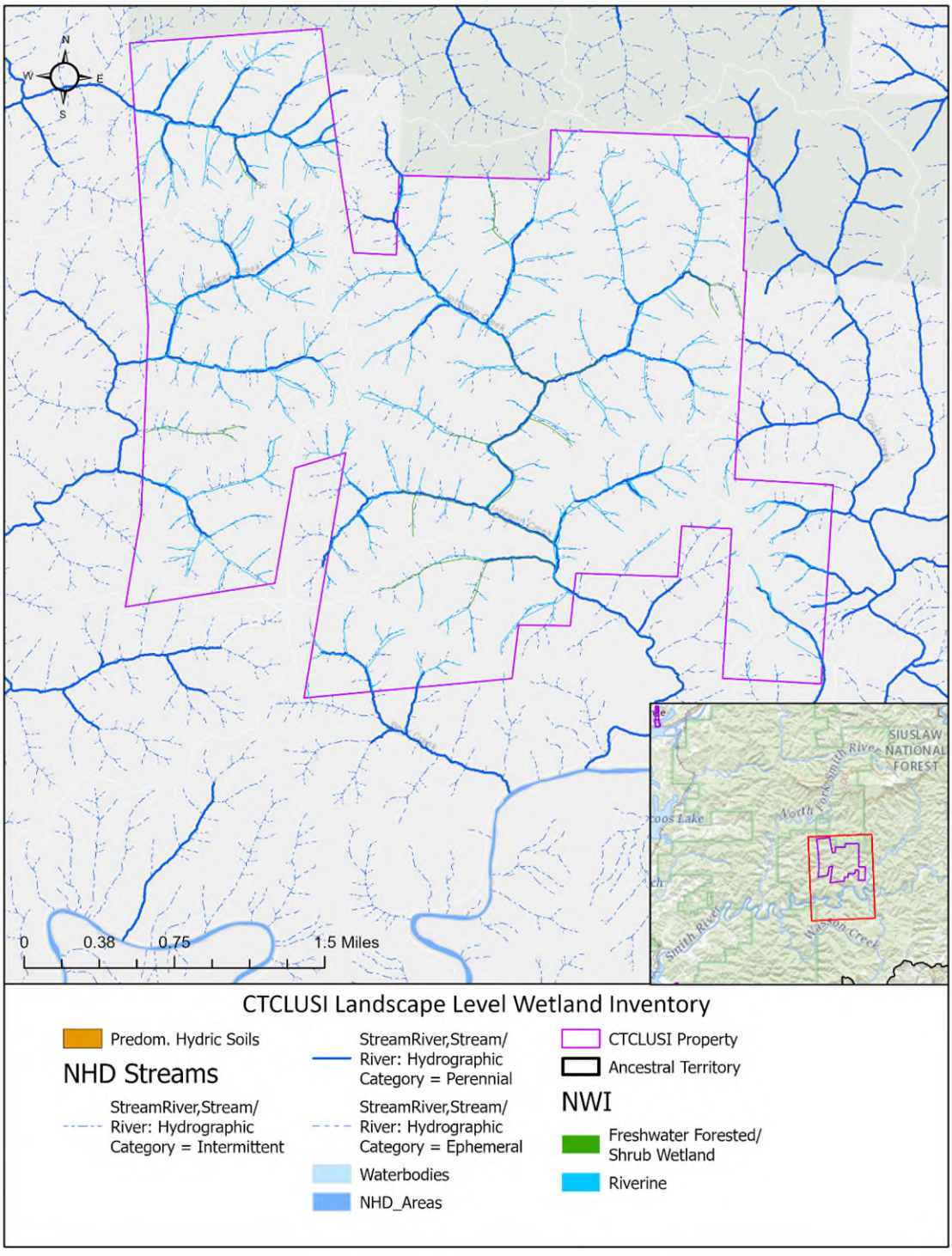


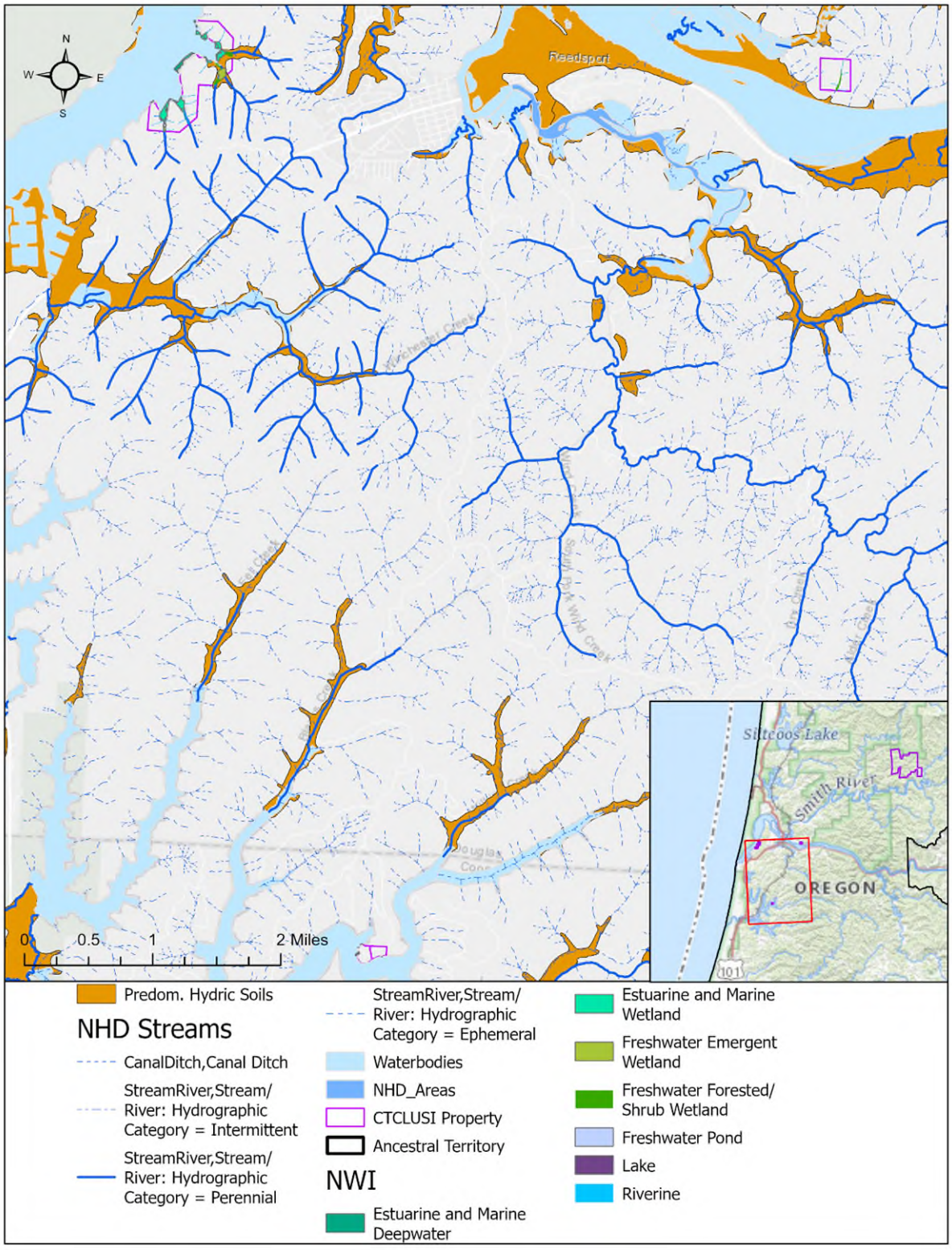
Appendix A – Draft CTCLUSI Level 1 Wetlands Inventory



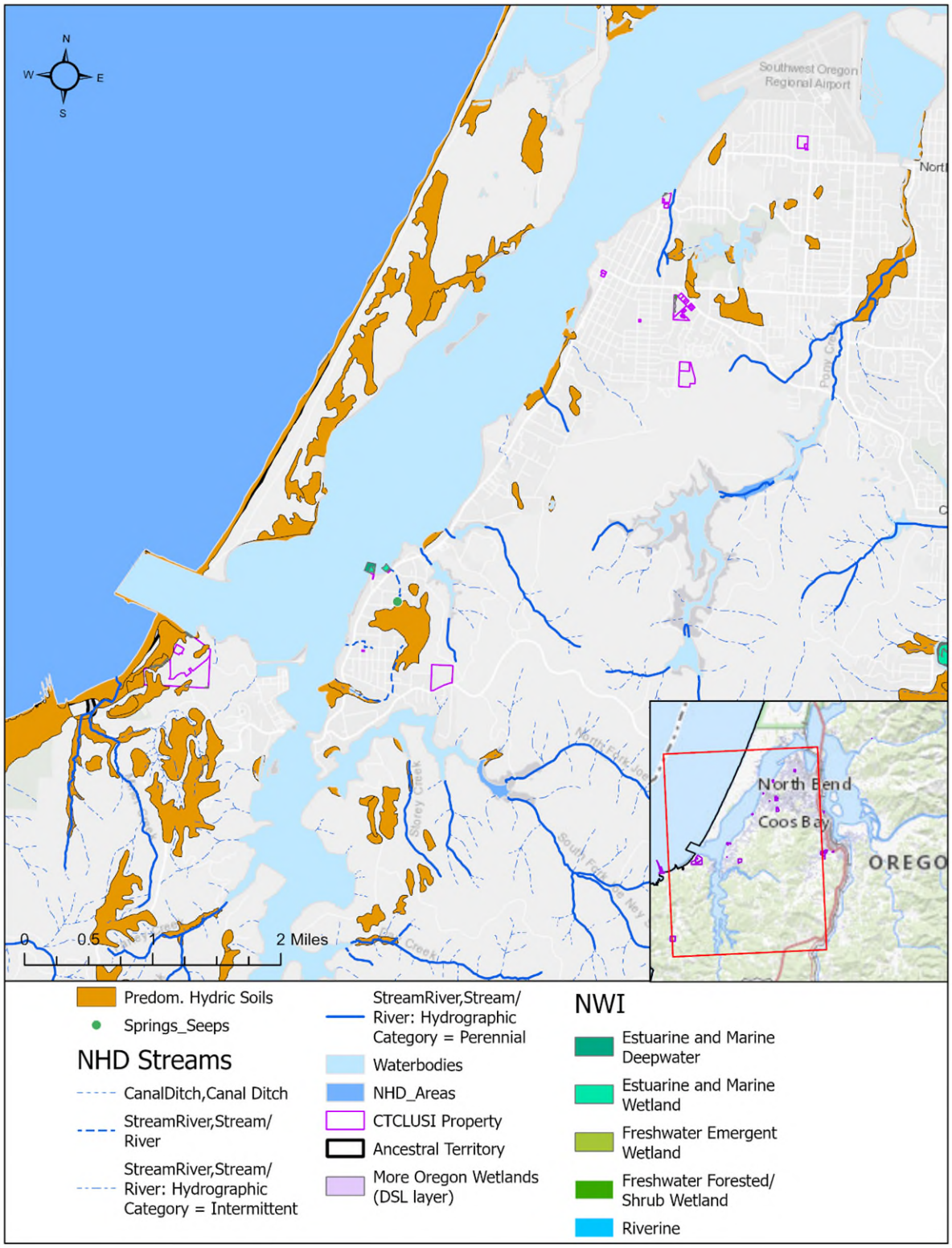

N
W
E
S
0
0.23
0.45
0.9 Miles
Florence
CTCLUSI Landscape Level Wetland Inventory
Predom. Hydric Soils
NHD Streams
CanalDitch,Canal Ditch
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Intermittent
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Perennial
Waterbodies
NHD_Areas
CTCLUSI Property
Ancestral Territory
Local Wetlands Inventory
NWI
Estuarine and Marine Wetland
Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland
Freshwater Pond
Lake
Riverine

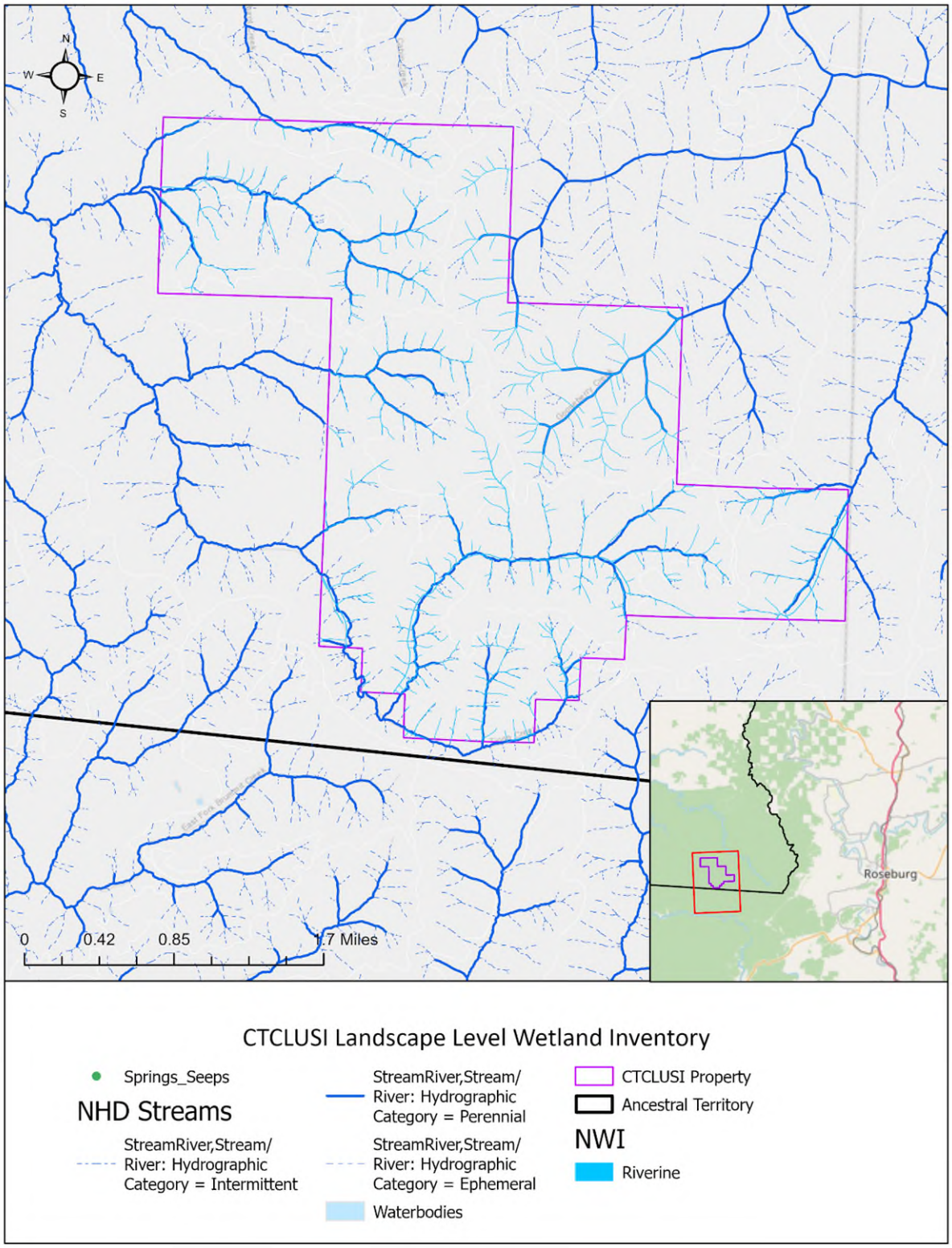
Appendix A – Draft CTCLUSI Level 1 Wetlands Inventory

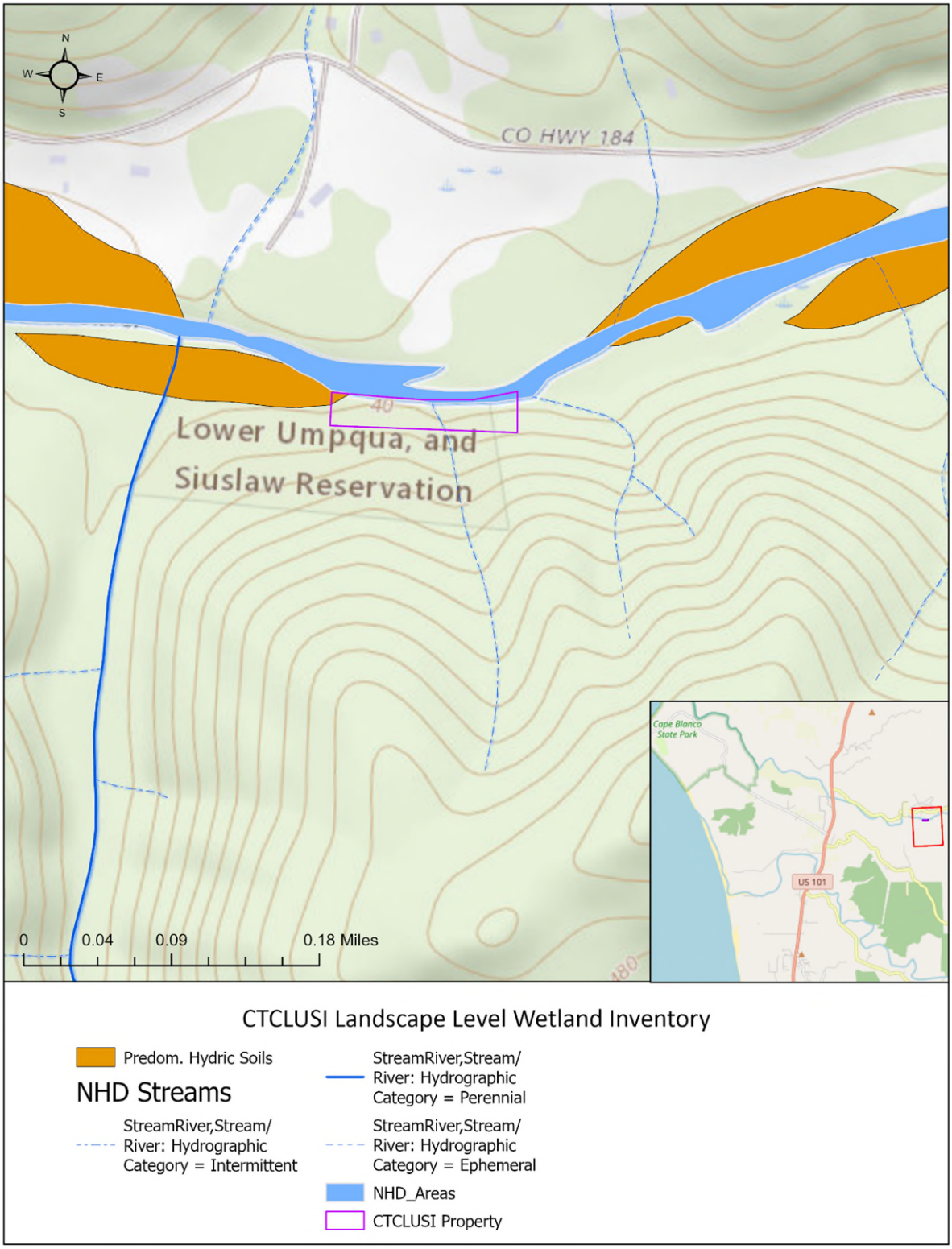



N
W
E
S
Reedsport
Siltcoos Lake
Smith River
OREGON
101
0
0.5
1
2 Miles
Predom. Hydric Soils
NHD Streams
CanalDitch,Canal Ditch
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Intermittent
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Perennial
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Ephemeral
Waterbodies
NHD_Areas
CTCLUSI Property
Ancestral Territory
NWI
Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
Estuarine and Marine Wetland
Freshwater Emergent Wetland
Freshwater Forested/ Shrub Wetland
Freshwater Pond
Lake
Riverine

Appendix A – Draft CTCLUSI Level 1 Wetlands Inventory




N
W
E
S
0
0.42
0.85
1.7 Miles
Roseburg
CTCLUSI Landscape Level Wetland Inventory
Springs_Seeps
NHD Streams
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Intermittent
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Perennial
StreamRiver,Stream/ River: Hydrographic Category = Ephemeral
Waterbodies
CTCLUSI Property
Ancestral Territory
NWI
Riverine


N
W
E
S
CO HWY 184
40
Lower Umpqua, and
Siuslaw Reservation
0
0.04
0.09
0.18 Miles
Cape Blanco
State Park
US 101
CTCLUSI Landscape Level Wetland Inventory
Predom. Hydric Soils
NHD Streams
StreamRiver,Stream/
River: Hydrographic
Category = Intermittent
StreamRiver,Stream/
River: Hydrographic
Category = Perennial
StreamRiver,Stream/
River: Hydrographic
Category = Ephemeral
NHD_Areas
CTCLUSI Property