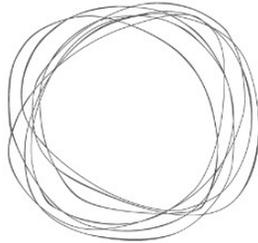


Connecting people to place through art and education.



confluence



Introducing Tributaries: A Confluence History Blog

Stories are like tributaries. They shape the landscape as they confluence with other waters flowing toward the ocean. The history of the Columbia River system is filled with countless tales that help us shape our understanding of our region and connect in a more meaningful way to where we've been and where we're going. This month, Confluence began posting [weekly blog posts](#) in which historian Mary Rose documents a few of these stories, ones that connect one end of the river to another and events from long ago that affect our lives today.

In her [first two posts](#), Mary Rose writes about the origins of the Northwest apple industry. Its story begins at what is now the entrance to the Confluence Land Bridge in Vancouver, where the oldest apple tree in Washington still produces fruit. Find out also how [Cape Disappointment](#) got its name. Hint: It's no longer disappointing to anyone! Check back later for the early impressions of the Columbia River from the explorers whose names still fill our maps.



"Unwalking" the Lewis and Clark Trail

Right at the spot where Lewis and Clark reached the Pacific Ocean, a group of artists began a remarkable, month-long journey this week. [Signal Fire](#), an arts nonprofit, organized this wilderness residency for young artists from all over the country to retrace the steps of the explorers and contemplate a more inclusive history of this landscape. We're so pleased their trip began in Chinook homelands at [Cape Disappointment](#), Confluence's first project site. The artists will visit four more Confluence sites as they travel all the way to Montana to reconsider the legacy of those who lived 200 years ago and what it means today.



Stories From the River

Native wapato blooms again in the reclaimed and restored wetland near the [Confluence Bird Blind](#) at the Sandy River Delta in Troutdale, Oregon. Grand Ronde tradition keeper Greg Archuleta talked about the cultural and environmental significance of this once-plentiful root as

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University through the [Plateau People's Portal](#). These records are helping to preserve native cultures, values and traditions. This is just another way Confluence connects people to place through art and education.

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