Connecting people to the history, living cultures, and ecology of the Columbia River system through Indigenous voices.

Driving Directions: Digital Map links available at confluenceproject.org/river-sites
Confidence is yours. Confluence project sites span 438 miles of river in Oregon and Washington. Find your “confidence moment,” where an art has a unique power to connect you to the interaction of the history, living cultures and ecology of this land.

Today, Confluence is a community-supported nonprofit with the mission to connect people to the history, living cultures and ecology of the Columbia River system through Indigenous voices. We work through art, landscapes, educational programs, community gatherings, and our online digital library in collaboration with Tribes, communities and the celebrated artist Maya Lin.

As you plan your visit, always feel free to contact us for advice and guidance at 503-654-0123 or info@confluenceproject.org.

Plan Your Visit

Confluence River Sites were chosen for their historic and cultural significance to the Indigenous peoples of the Columbia River system.

“In the 200 years since Lewis and Clark... What happened to the Tribes? What happened to the country?” in seven generations, this is where we are today... The next seven generations going to be...”
– Joseph Whitehouse, October 18, 1805

Confidence River Delta

Long before Lewis and Clark first passed this spot on October 16, 1805, this was a significant and well-established gathering place for Native peoples. Maya Lin designed seven basalt story circles that explore the Native culture, language, flora and fauna, geology, and natural history of the site. As you pass from one story circle to the next, consider how the confounding history of this mouth of the Snake and Columbia rivers but also the cultures, communities, and environmental forces have shaped and continue to affect the land around you. Dedicated August 2010

We bought about 2 hundred or upwards camped on the point between the two men. A very pleasant place...”
– Robin Dobson, Retired US Forest Service Engineer

Sacajawea State Park

For generations, Native American cultures lived and traded at this site along the Columbia River. Lewis and Clark camped here. Later, the Hudson’s Bay Company’s Ft. Vancouver became the first European trading post in the Pacific Northwest.

The Confluence Bird Blind is a 40-foot wide eco-covered pedestrian path that arcs over State Route 14. It features indigenous plants and a Welcome Gate designed by Native American artist Lillian Pitt. Two cedar canoe paddles are adorned with a cast-glass sculpture of a Chinook woman’s face, evoke the site’s role as a historic Tribal crossroads as well as a point of contact between European and Native peoples. Dedicated August 2008

“It is beautiful to think about seven generations of people in the past and seven generations yet to come. That’s what we live for today and we want to pass on to our children.”
– Anthony Johnson (Nie-Peke)

Chief Timothy Park

Here, near the confluence of the Snake and Apcooa Creek, Nez Perce people lived and fished long before Lewis and Clark arrived in 1805. Today, the Lingen Coho honors Indigenous traditions in a landscape that today remains similar to what the explorers described in their journals. Dedicated May 2015

In the Community

Confluence in the Community is a series of public gatherings designed for Valerie Volberg and our co-founder Kari Converse to demonstrate the importance of arts and cultural practices in our collective understanding of the Columbia River system. Volberg’s goal is to bring people to the land as they help conserve our art landscapes for future generations.

Online Digital Library

Confluence’s Digital Library, containing a rich collection of digital resources, contains thousands of images, learnings and resources about the Indigenous peoples and cultures found in the Columbia River region. Visit our Digital Library to search for stories and resources about the many aspects of life in the Columbia River region.

In the Schools

Confluence in the Classroom and Confluence Outdoors collaborates with educators and Indigenous communities to develop educational resources and culture lessons from Columbia River Tribes to learn about history, culture, and the environment. Professional development workshops help educators bring an inclusive understanding of local land and people to their teaching.