

Developing a First Foods Policy for CTUIR

*First Foods Policy Program
Department of Natural Resources
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation*

First Food Characteristics

- I. Traditional
- II. First in the ceremonial serving order
- III. In the creation stories
- IV. Reciprocal responsibility and care
- IV. Not an exclusive list
- V. What else is distinct about FFs?
 - A) Nutritious foods
 - B) Unprocessed
 - C) NOT contaminate or polluted
 - D) NOT “fast” or “slow” food
- VI. Gender component

What are First Foods?

Serving Order

1

Water

2

Salmon

Chinook

Coho

Sockeye

Steelhead

Lamprey

Mussels

Trout

Whitefish

Suckers

3

Deer

Mule Deer

RM Elk

WTD

Bighorn

Mtn Goat

Moose

Bison

4

Cous

Celery

Camas

Bitterroot

5

Huckleberry

Chokecherry

Men's Foods

Women's Foods

DNR Mission Statement

To protect, restore, and enhance the First Foods - water, salmon, deer, cous, and huckleberry - for the perpetual cultural, economic, and sovereign benefit of the CTUIR.

We will accomplish this utilizing traditional ecological and cultural knowledge and science to inform:

- 1) population and habitat management goals and actions; and
- 2) natural resource policies and regulatory mechanisms.

FFPP Mission Statement

To provide planning and policy analysis and development to protect and restore the First Foods and the exercise of associated rights reserved in the Treaty of 1855.

We also strive to:

- 1) act *proactively*...to protect, restore and enhance...to plan, develop, maintain, and analyze to meet the DNR and FFPP missions
- 2) define FFs broadly, non-exhaustively
- 3) adopt concepts of health, welfare and well-being - not just survival
- 4) overtly identify the need for *access* to FFs (physical and legal)
- 5) highlight the *reciprocal relationship* of FFs and Tribal Peoples , described in the creation stories

Policy Defined

A “course of action or principle adopted or proposed by a government, party, business or individual” (Concise Oxford Dictionary, 1995).

It is also: Guidance; a Statement of Principles; a Reference Point for Decision-Makers.

It adds an element of, but does not guarantee, *predictability*.

Policies are usually non-binding and are reviewable.

Policies inform law-making, rule-making and regulatory processes.

Audiences and Partners

I. Internal CTUIR Audience:

- a) Tribal members**
- a) CTUIR employees**

II: External Audience and Partners:

- a) agencies (state and federal)**
- b) local governments (city, county)**
- c) environmental organizations, nonprofits**

III. Others Who May Share the Vision and/or Mission

- a) other tribes**
- b) tribal consortiums or commissions**

Policy Sections

I. Define CTUIR

II. Provide the historical context

A) Treaty

B) Reservation location, geography

C) Ceded territories

D) Usual & Accustomed

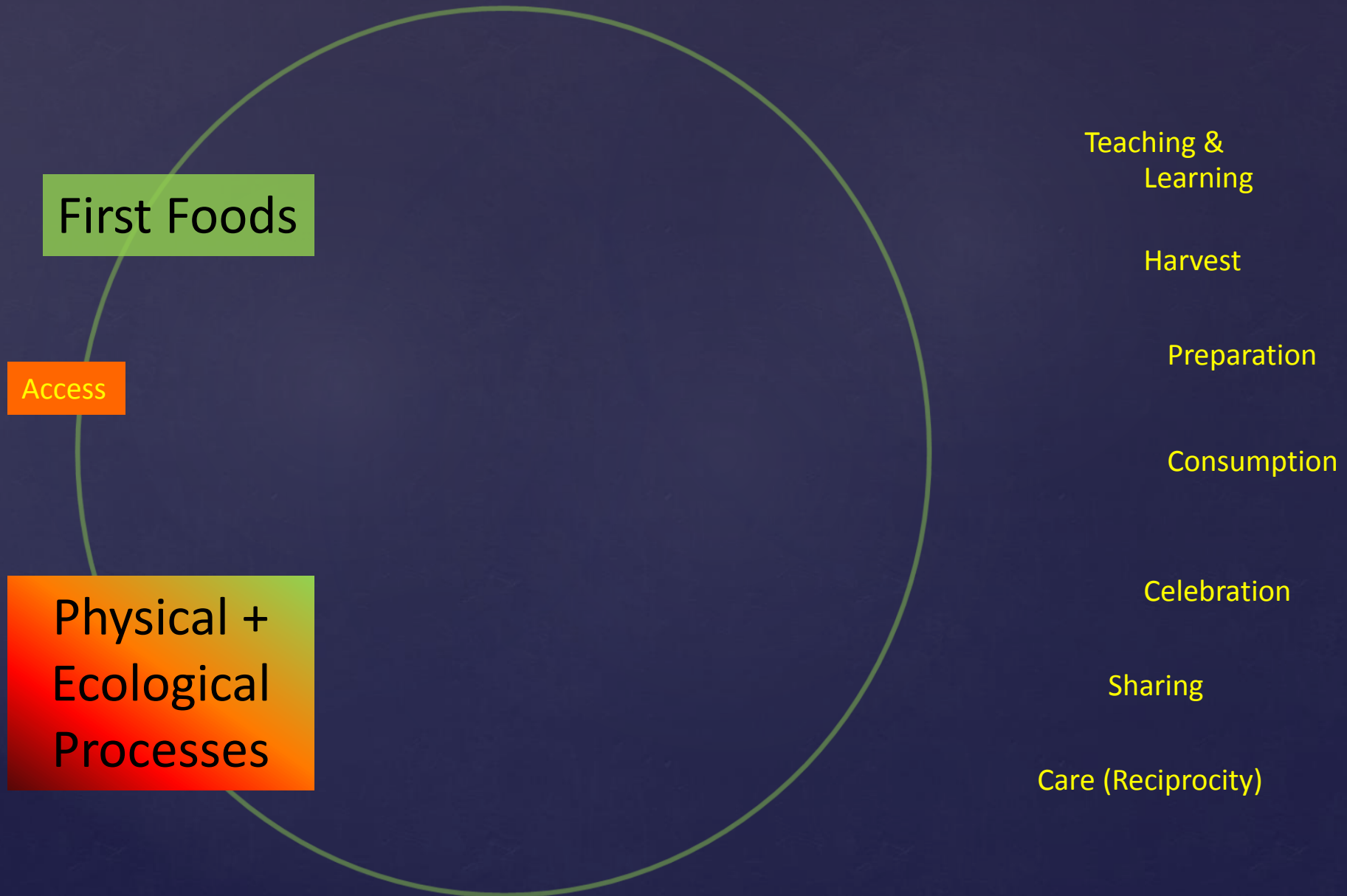
III. Explain relationship between FFs and Cultural Resources (CRs)

A) All tribe's natural resources, particularly FFs, are among their CRs

B) Although not all CRs are natural, many CRs are responsive to FFs

IV. FFs have essential roles in tribal life

Food Associated Culture



Proposed Policy Process

1. Consider prior policies adopted by CTUIR
3. Identify needs and gaps
4. Request feedback
5. Listening sessions
6. Focus groups
7. Work sessions
8. Community outreach
9. Iterative process

Current Policies with Natural Resource Focus

Prior Policies adopted by CTUIR:

1. Water Spreading Policy (1994)
2. Salmon Policy (1995)
3. Wolf Policy (2002)
4. Hanford Policy (2007)
5. Umatilla Chemical Depot Policy (2009)
6. Energy Policy (2009)
7. Feral Horse Policy (2011)

Stewardship Partnerships

I. CTUIR and MOUs with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

A) Abandoned mines (e.g., Balm Creek)

II. MOUs with U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

A) Access to traditional huckleberry gathering

B) Protection of huckleberry (quantity and quality)

III. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)