

APPENDIX H.

(NOTE: Information and map contained in this appendix was copied/excerpted directly from Section E4.1.2, Ethnography, pages E4-2 through E4-4 of the Initial Consultation Document for the Relicensing of the Rocky Reach Hydroelectric Project, PUD No. 1 of Chelan County, 1999).

The native groups that held territory in the Project area are clustered into four tribes: the Chelan, Entiat, Wenatchi, and Columbia. These groups were socially and geographically distinct units, but are referred to in Schalk and Mierendorf (1983) as “Middle Columbia Salish” when sufficient information is not available to make accurate distinctions between the groups. Many of the Middle Columbia Salish camps and villages were seasonal or temporary. Seasonal camps and villages were used when fishing, hunting, and gathering were most productive in those areas.

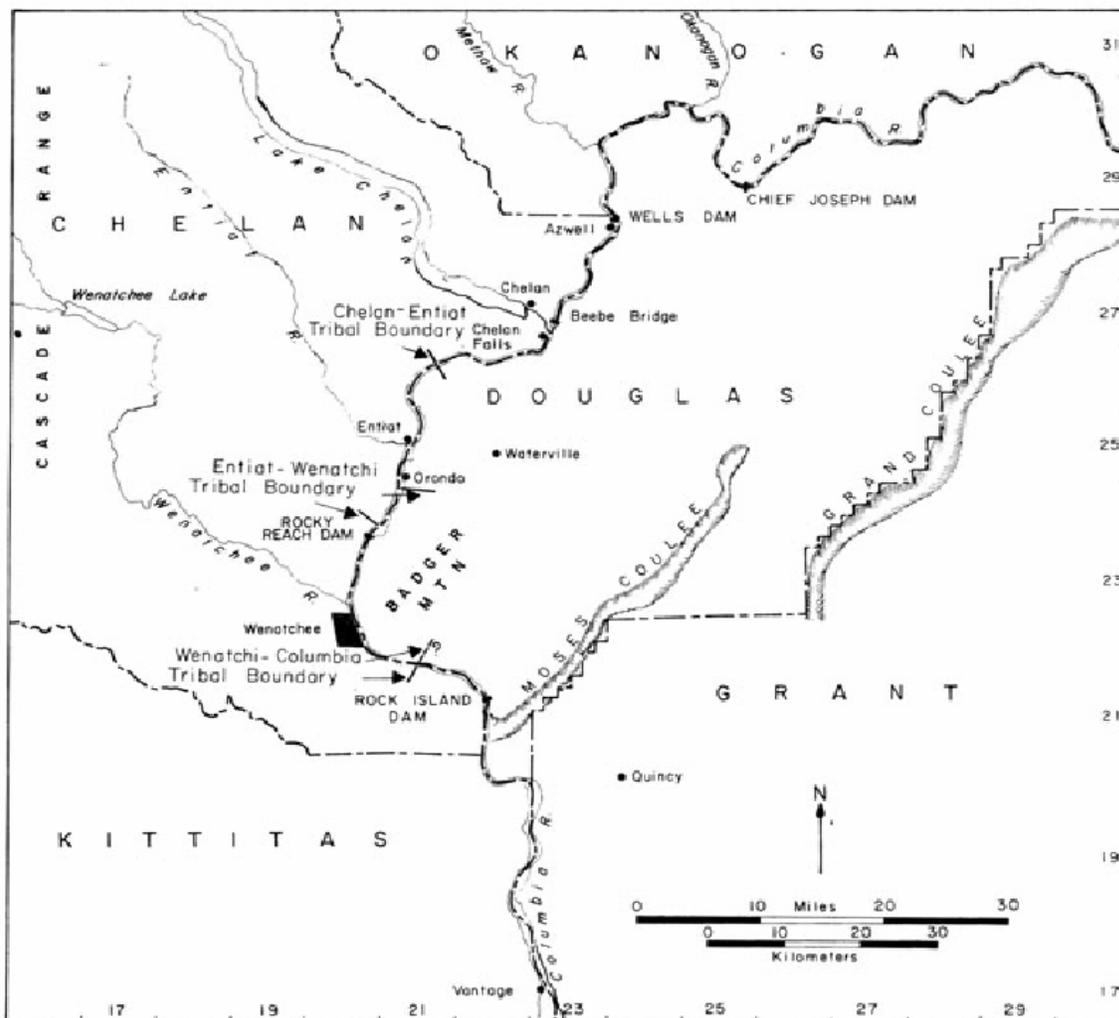


Figure E4-1: Approximate Tribal Boundaries of Chelan, Entiat, Wenatchi, and Columbia in the Rocky Reach Sector of the Columbia Valley as of about 1855 or Slightly Earlier (Schalk and Mierendorf 1983)

The Chelan

The Chelan occupied the Lake Chelan and Chelan River country in early historic times, evidently considering this area to be the heart of their territory. The Chelan also claimed the western flank of the Columbia Valley north of the Chelan confluence. The boundaries of their territory along Rocky Reach are unclear, but likely extended as far north as the upper reaches of Rocky Reach Reservoir, and south between the Navarre Coulee mouth and Byrd Canyon (Figure E4-1). The focus of the Chelan activity was primarily on the west side of the Columbia River. Their occupancy along the shorelines of the Columbia was comprised of approximately seven villages or camps. The Chelan differed from the other groups in that they were primarily associated with the lake. Both in summer and winter, three times as many of their occupation sites were on Lake Chelan as were on the Columbia banks. During the summer, less than a fourth of the population resided in Columbia River camps, where salmon could be taken. The remainder was up in the lake country gathering and hunting. The Chelan were less dependent on salmon than the Wenatchi and Entiat.

The Entiat

The Entiat territory along the Columbia River extended from approximately one mile south of Navarre Coulee, to the south somewhere between Tenas George Canyon and Swakane Creek (Figure E4-1). There is little evidence showing Entiat occupation on the east shore of the Columbia River. Occupancy was primarily along the west bank and was comprised of approximately five villages and camps. The Entiat were the only Middle Columbia Salish entity that remained wholly on the Columbia River in summer and winter. Salmon was evidently very important in their subsistence pattern. There is little evidence relating specifically to Entiat gathering and hunting, but presumably it did not differ substantially from the Wenatchi.

The Wenatchi

The Wenatchi occupied the Wenatchee Valley, at least its middle and lower regions, and the adjacent sections of the Columbia River. Their territory along the western shoreline of the Columbia stretched from the southern border of the Entiat territory south to approximately the vicinity of the contemporary Malaga (Figure E4-1). There is little evidence showing Wenatchi occupation on the east shore of the Columbia River, but some reports indicate there may have been a temporary camp opposite the Wenatchee confluence, and another about three miles south of Corbaley Canyon. Unlike the Entiat and Chelan tribes, the Wenatchi were comprised of three bands in the Columbia Valley. There were approximately seven villages and camps on the west side of the Columbia. A village at the Wenatchee confluence was said to have a population of as many as 400. The Wenatchi were distinctly river-oriented in that they utilized the Wenatchee River as well as the Columbia. Their summer camps were about equally divided between the Columbia Valley and the banks of the Wenatchee River and larger numbers of salmon were caught in the Wenatchee than in the Columbia River. In addition to fish, diets were supplemented by roots, berries, and game secured in the small prairies and hills that bordered the two rivers. Winter villages were very nearly all on the Columbia River, though one-third of the population wintered on the Wenatchee River.

The Columbia

The Columbia held either much or all of the territory along the east bank of the Columbia River from some point east of the mouth of the Okanogan downriver at least to the Crab Creek confluence and the Saddle Mountains (Figure E4-1). Early historical records suggest the southernmost boundary may have reached as far south as Priest Rapids. Among the Columbia peoples, a number of bands were apparently recognized, all living along the Columbia River. Their villages along the Columbia River were places that made good fishing sites. Many of their other villages were gathering and hunting sites in the arid plains and coulee country east of the Columbia River. There were two known Columbia villages just south of the Rocky Reach Project, but none are documented within the Project area. Except for a very small segment of the group that spent the summer salmon-fishing in the Columbia River, the entire Columbia population moved out into the basin in the early spring. There they dispersed widely to gather roots, and supplemented their diet with non-salmonid fish and small game. As with the Chelan, the Columbia must have been less dependent on salmon than the Wenatchi and Entiat. The Columbia wintered at their cold-season villages along the Columbia River.