Logsden

People and Place

Location

Logsden is approximately 10 miles inland from the north coast of Oregon in Lincoln County and 132 miles south of Portland, the closest major metropolitan area. The Siletz River skirts the northern and eastern boundaries of the community. Logsden covers an area of 15.19 square miles. Its geographic coordinates are lat 44°44′36″N and long 123°47′35″W.

Demographic Profile

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the population of Logsden was 251. The gender composition was 47.1% female and 52.9% male. The median age was 41.5, older than the national median of 35.3. Of the population 18 years of age and older, 66.7% had a high school education or higher, 4% had a bachelor’s degree or higher, and no one had a graduate or professional degree; the national averages were 79.7%, 22.3%, and 7.8% respectively.

The majority of Logsden’s racial structure was white (84.5%), followed by American Indian and Alaska Native (9.6%), people who identified with two or more races (5.6%), and people who identified with another race (0.4%). Ethnicity data indicate 0.4% identified as Hispanic, and 2.5% were foreign-born. The five most common ancestries, in descending order, were German, Russian, Irish, European, English, and French.

In 2000 80.5% of the population lived in family households.

History

Long before Euro-Americans came to Lincoln County, several branches of the Salish Indians (e.g., Tillamook, Nehalem, and Siletz) inhabited the Logsden area, hunting and fishing throughout the region. In the 1850s miners arrived in search of gold in the Yaquina River Valley. Increased hostilities between Indians and whites motivated the federal government to remove the Indians and place them on reservations in Siletz and Grand Ronde in 1851. The Siletz Reservation originally included the area between Cape Lookout and the mouth of the Umpqua River, land that had previously been the home of several tribes. More than 50 tribes were moved to the reservation, later becoming the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.1

In 1865 the reservation was bisected by a railway. The southern portion was eventually closed and then

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1. For more information on the history of the Siletz Reservation, see the website of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, available at [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians website](http://www.siletztribes.org).
The Dawes Act of 1887 reopened to white settlement. The Dawes Act of 1887 reallocated Indian lands, forcing Native people to take individual allotments and placing the rest of the land into public domain. In 1956 during the era of termination, the federal government ended its trust relationship with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and sold the remaining reservation lands. The Siletz Restoration Act of 1977 and the Siletz Reservation Plan restored and reasserted Siletz Indian identity.

The main portion of the reservation lies 8 miles west of Logsden on the edge of the town of Siletz. Today the Confederated Tribes of Siletz controls more than 3,600 acres, much of it timberland. During the latter part of this era, the Siletz people “gathered a variety of plants, hooked and trapped lamprey, caught salmon, collected freshwater mussels, and hunted deer [for subsistence purposes]. However, recent declines in lamprey and salmon populations have reduced access to these two important traditional food sources.” The amount of land under tribal control has steadily declined since the 1850s. Today the tribe’s treaty rights provide fishing privileges on central Oregon’s marine and freshwater bodies.

Lincoln County was established in February 1893. Key industries during the county’s early years were logging, agriculture, dairy farming, and fishing. In 1910 and 1911 the county became more accessible to outsiders when ports were created at Toledo, Newport, and Alsea, and a rail line was constructed between central Oregon’s coastal communities and Portland. Access to the area increased in the 1920s and 1930s as highways and bridges were constructed throughout the county. While the early industries have risen and fallen in profitability over the years, they remain cornerstones of Lincoln County’s contemporary economy. In the last two decades, the tourism and leisure industries have grown and now play a significant role in the economies of many communities in Lincoln County.

Around the turn of the twentieth century, the Logsden area was called Upper Farm. Early white settlers in the area engaged heavily in logging. Other popular industries included milling, farming, rock crushing, reforestation, gathering native flora, and cascara bark peeling. A school opened in Logsden in 1909 on a tract of land donated to the Lincoln County School District. A few years later a new school was built in the same area. The Logsden School building stayed in operation until 1938. In 1914 George Wilson opened a general store in Logsden. Within a short period of time, a post office opened in the store.

The government requested the Upper Farm area be given a specific name for the operation of the post office. The community was first named Orton after Charlie Orton, a longtime local resident. Over the next two decades, the store and post office served as central points in Logsden, although their locations changed several times as a result of fire and new ownership. Orton was renamed Logsden in the mid-1920s, due to confusion with the mail designated for Oretown and Orton. John Logsden was one of many Native Americans who once lived in the area and were moved to the Siletz Reservation in 1857. The town was named Logsden in his memory and in honor of Native Americans who lived in the area before Euro-American settlers arrived.

The Siletz River has been used for fishing for years, offering trout, eel, and during spawning season, salmon and steelhead. Today the center of Logsden is the Logsden Country Store, which houses the post office and is open to the community seven days a week. Some residents still make a living through logging and agriculture; others work in the service sector in nearby Toledo and Newport.

### Infrastructure

#### Current Economy

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 60.4% of Logsden’s potential labor force 16 years of age and older were employed, 8% were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 11.7% (calculated by dividing the unemployed population by the labor force). In addition, 31.6% were not in the labor force. The top employment sectors were government (21.2%), the arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food industries (19.5%), educational, health, and social services (18.6%), and retail trade (15.9%). The 2000 U.S. Census reported no individuals were employed in natural resources jobs including agriculture, fishing, forestry, and hunting, but this may not be accurate because many fishermen are self-employed and underrepresented in the data.
Lincoln County’s principal industries in 1998 were agriculture, lumber, recreation and tourism, and food processing.

The 2000 U.S. Census reported the per capita income in 1999 was $18,925 and the median household income was $47,727, compared to the national median household income of $41,994. In 1999 7.5% lived below the poverty level. Logsden had 114 housing units in 2000, of which 89.5% were occupied and 10.5% were vacant. Of the occupied units, 81.4% were by owner and 18.6% were by renter. Of the vacancies, 50% were due to seasonal, recreational, or occasional use.

Governance

Logsden is an unincorporated area under the jurisdiction of Lincoln County. Lincoln County is governed by a board of three commissioners. Oregon has no general sales tax but levies a 1% overnight lodging tax that funds the Oregon Tourism Commission. See the Governance subsection (page 43) in the Overview section for a more detailed discussion of taxes affecting fishermen and processors in Oregon.

The nearest office of the National Marine Fisheries Service is 21 miles away in Newport. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is headquartered in Salem, but operates a marine resources program in Newport, which is also home to a U.S. Coast Guard Station. The district office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is in Portland, which also hosts meetings of the Pacific Fishery Management and North Pacific Fishery Management councils.

Facilities

Logsden is located along route Oregon State Route 411, approximately 8 miles east of Siletz. The community is accessible primarily by ground, but nearby airports are in Newport (21 miles) and Corvallis (48 miles). The nearest international airport is in Portland. Logsden students attend public schools in nearby Siletz, Eddyville, Newport, and Toledo. Logsden has a kindergarten through twelfth grade parochial school. Consumer Power provides electrical service. Logsden’s water supply comes from local groundwater sources. The closest regional hospital is 48 miles away in Corvallis, while other smaller hospitals are in Newport and Lincoln City (46 miles). The Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office administers law enforcement. Available data indicates Logsden has no overnight accommodations; however, Toledo and Newport have a variety of overnight facilities (hotels, rentals, recreational vehicle facilities, etc.).

Involvement in West Coast Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

No commercial landings were made in Logsden in the 2000; however, community members did participate in West Coast commercial fisheries that year. Residents owned five vessels that participated in the region’s fisheries. All took part in the federally managed groundfish fishery. The number of vessels owned by Logsden residents participating in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 0/2/0, groundfish 0/0/NA, highly migratory species NA/0/NA, salmon 0/6/2, shellfish NA/0/NA, and shrimp NA/0/0.12

A Logsden resident held one federal groundfish fishery permit in 2000. The number of individual community members holding state permits in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: crab 0/2/0, highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/5/3, and shellfish 0/0/NA.13

At least five permits were registered to Logsden residents in 2000, of which four were registered state permits. Recorded data indicates the number of state permits held by community members in each fishery by state (WA/OR/CA) was: highly migratory species NA/0/0, salmon 0/0/4, and shrimp 0/0/NA.14

Sportfishing

At present Logsden has one sportfishing license vendor. In 2000 active agents sold 126 licenses for a value of $2,182.

Subsistence

Local community members, tribal and nontribal, may be engaged in subsistence fishing in Logsden and the surrounding area. Specific information on subsistence fishing in Logsden is not discussed in detail in this community profile due to the lack of available data.

Involvement in North Pacific Fisheries

Commercial Fishing

Available data indicates Logsden residents were minimally involved in the North Pacific’s commercial fisheries during 2000. One community member held a crew member license for the region’s fisheries.

Sportfishing

Logsden residents purchased three Alaska sportfishing licenses in 2000.
Notes


9. G. Castle and V. Kentta. 1976. History of the Siletz area, No. VIII. The document was obtained from Jodi Weeber, Oregon Coast History Center, Newport, OR.


12. NA refers to data that were not available, for example, due to few or no recorded permit numbers, or the partially permitted nature of a fishery in 2000.

13. See note 12.