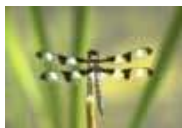


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## Native American Languages

This brochure is the second of two brochures on *Language Notes Indians In Southwestern Oregon*.<sup>1</sup>



*Dragonfly*

“That portion of the Takelma Indians who are relevant to the North Siskiyou Unit lived along the Rogue River in the vicinity of Grants Pass and in the Illinois Valley. They called themselves Dageleman; i.e., “those living alongside the river” (Sapir 1907a:1). The Takelma now are believed to have been a long-isolated group with linguistic affinities to the Penutain language group (Spencer and Jennings 1965: 108).<sup>4</sup>

They supposedly claimed the headwaters of the Illinois River as well as portions of the Applegate Valley (Sapir 1907a:2, Berreman 1937:27). The Takelma referred to the Illinois Valley as Dalsalsan (meaning unknown, Sapir 1907a:2). It is possible that the portion of the Unit which drains into the Illinois River was used seasonally by them on a fairly consistent basis.<sup>4</sup>

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1. Rose, Karen.. September 18, 2011. *Language Notes: Indians In Southwestern Oregon*. Prepared for Hugo Native American Team, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society, Hugo, OR.

2. Beckham, Stephen Dow, “Takelma and Athapascan Lifeways and History, Rogue River Corridor—Applegate River to Grave Creek: Investigations for Interpretive Programs”, page iii, 1993, submitted to BLM of Medford.

3. Atwood, Kay & Dennis J. Gray, “People and the River: A History of the Human Occupation of the Middle Course of the Rogue River of Southwestern Oregon”, Vol. I, pages 21-21, 1995 for BLM Medford office.



*Camas*

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## Southwest Oregon

The ethnic boundaries within the upper drainage of the Applegate River are less clear. The Takelma called it S;ink, or Beaver River (Sapir 1907a:1), and they have been mapped as claiming its headwaters (Schaeffer 1959). An isolated body of Athapascan speakers, the Dakubetede, are known to have occupied a portion of the Applegate Valley. This group may have been present in the headwater areas as well. Kroeber’s map (1922) shows the



Applegate River portion of the North Siskiyou Unit as belonging to the “Rogue River” Athapascans (i.e., Dakubetede). So too does an ethnographic map in the recently-published Atlas of Oregon (Loy, et. Al. 1976:7). The Dakubetede have been described as intruders into Takelma territory (Berreman 1937:29), arriving during the period of Athapascan migration to the Pacific coast. Their culture was “so permeated with Takelman elements as to be scarcely distinguishable: (Drucker 1936:284).”<sup>4</sup>

“At the time of white contact, the Applegate and Illinois peoples spoke dialects of the Athapascan language, linking them linguistically and culturally to a much larger group of tribes, including the Tolowa and Tututni, who occupied the southern Oregon and Northern California coastline. The Takelma, who bordered the Applegate on the north; the Shasta, who bordered them on the south, and the Karok, who bordered the Illinois to the south, all spoke completely different languages, (although all these groups were culturally similar in many ways).<sup>4</sup>

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## Takelmans, Dakubetede, & Taltushtunte Communities

Most researchers believe that Athapascan-speaking groups moved into the region a little over one thousand years ago, and first occupied territories that were not being intensively utilized by indigenous tribes. Thus, the newly arrived Applegate and Illinois peoples settled on tributaries of the Rogue, while the Takelma, who were the original inhabitants,



*Salmon*

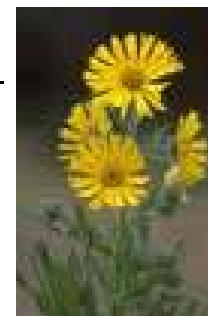
controlled the main stem of the river, which was probably richer in terms of fish, animal, and plant resources. (Harrington, Reel 27; Berreman, 1937, p. 29; Gray, 1985, p. 119)<sup>5</sup>

Three related tribes utilized the study area, including the Galice Creek, or Tal-tuc-tun-te-de; the Applegate, or Da-ku-be-te-de, and the upper Illinois, or Gu-sla-dada. Melville Jacobs observed that “the Gu-sla-dada were the people at the head of the Illinois River...These people talked a dialect intelligible to Galice-Applegate. Thus, the Illinois, Galice, and Applegate formed one dialect group.”<sup>5</sup> (Jacobs, Notebook 128).<sup>5</sup>

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4. LaLande, Jeffrey M., “Prehistory and History of the Rogue River National Forest: A Cultural Resource Overview”, June 1980, pages 12-13.

5. Pullen, Reg, “Overview of the Environment of Native Inhabitants of Southwestern Oregon, Late Prehistoric Era”, 1996 Report Prepared for USDA Forest Service, Medford Office, page IV-1.



*Tarweed*

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## Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

### Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Email: [hugo@jeffnet.org](mailto:hugo@jeffnet.org)

Web Page: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

Edited by Jean Boling, Karen Rose, & Mike Walker

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**Want more information?**  
Contact a member of the HNAT.

Brochure NA-8B in Hugo's Native American Brochure Series  
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## Language Notes: Indians In Southwestern Oregon II of II



Brochure NA-8B Of Hugo's  
Native American Brochure  
Series



*Rosetta Stone*

The Rosetta Stone is ancient Egyptian granodiorite stele inscribed with a decree issued at Memphis in 196 BC on behalf of King Ptolemy V. The decree appears in three scripts: the upper text is Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, the middle portion Demotic script, and the lowest Ancient Greek. Because it presents essentially the same text in all three scripts (with some minor differences between them), it provided the key to the modern understanding of Egyptian hieroglyphs.

*No Rosetta Stone For The Takelmans*

**September 28, 2011**

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society  
Josephine County Historical Society**