1999

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TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCE ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK

March 1999

Product of the White House Domestic Policy Council, Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives, Subgroup on Environment and Natural Resources and the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society
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ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK

Development

This handbook was developed by the Domestic Policy Council Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives (Working Group). The first draft of this document was possible thanks to the significant contributions of the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society. Previous drafts of the handbook were reviewed by each federal contributor and also went through the interagency review process at the Office of Management and Budget. The result is a compilation of the federal sources of financial and/or technical assistance programs available for Tribal environmental management.

Purpose

The handbook is intended to provide a central location for federal sources of both technical and financial assistance available to Tribes for environmental management. Many Tribes have limited environmental staffs that are faced with the challenge of addressing a broad range of environmental issues. Unlike State environmental programs that have received annual federal funding for many years, Tribal environmental programs generally must compete annually for their funds. With 554 federally recognized Tribes, there simply is not enough money to go around. Therefore, Tribal environmental staffs spend a large part of their time applying for grants and searching for sources of federal assistance. This document is an effort to assist Tribal staff in their search and hopefully save them valuable time. The handbook can also assist federal, regional, State and Local government employees in becoming better informed about the sources of environmental assistance available in order to improve customer service to the Tribes.

The Working Group recognizes that this document does not contain every federal resource available to Tribes. This is an evolving document and will be updated periodically. Future versions of this document will be available on the Internet (see Comments section).

Organization

The information is arranged alphabetically by governmental departments and agencies. Each entry provides specific categories of information:
• **Available Assistance** (technical and/or financial);
• **Purpose of Assistance**;
• **Eligible Recipients** (federally recognized Tribes, State recognized Tribes, Tribal members, Tribal environmental managers, etc.);
• **Application Process** (required forms, deadlines, evaluation criteria, etc.); and
• **Contact** (phone, fax, address, e-mail, web sites).

The Appendix contains additional contact information for both government agencies and Tribal organizations. To make the document more user-friendly, the entries also are keyed according to the following environmental categories:

- Air
- Water
- Plants and Animals (includes forestry)
- Toxics/Hazardous Waste
- Solid Waste
- Pollution Prevention
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Environmental Education
- Cross-Cutting (i.e., addresses more than one category)
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The American Indian Environmental Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency produced this draft for public comment. We wish to thank all the contributing Departments and Agencies for their generous investment of time including the:

- Corporation for National Service
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Justice
- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Executive Office of the President
  - Council on Environmental Quality
  - Domestic Policy Council Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives
    - Subgroup on Environment and Natural Resources
- Federal Emergency Management Administration
- Office of Management and Budget
- Small Business Administration.

Special thanks to Tonya Fish (EPA’s American Indian Environmental Office) for her hard work and commitment to this project. Patrick Durham (Native American Fish and Wildlife Society) and Meghan Kelly (Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission) made significant contributions to previous drafts. Sue Marcus (U.S. Geological Survey) also deserves recognition for her assistance in the final stages of the Handbook development.

Thanks also are due to the generous offices that contributed to the printing and distribution of this document:

- Department of Energy, Office of Environmental Management and Office of Worker Transition
- Bureau of Indian Affairs, Environment and Cultural Resource Management Division
- Environmental Protection Agency, American Indian Environmental Office
- Indian Health Service, Office of Public Health, Division of Facilities and Environmental Engineering, Sanitation Facilities Construction Program.
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<td>ACE</td>
<td>Army Corps of Engineers</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANA</td>
<td>Administration for Native Americans</td>
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<td>ATSDR</td>
<td>Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry</td>
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<td>BIA</td>
<td>Bureau of Indian Affairs</td>
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<td>BLM</td>
<td>Bureau of Land Management</td>
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<td>BR</td>
<td>Bureau of Reclamation</td>
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<td>CAA</td>
<td>Clean Air Act</td>
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<td>CDC</td>
<td>Center for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
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<td>CERCLA</td>
<td>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act</td>
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<td>CNS</td>
<td>Corporation for National Service</td>
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<td>CSREES</td>
<td>Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service</td>
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<td>CWA</td>
<td>Clean Water Act</td>
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<td>Department of Defense</td>
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<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
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<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</td>
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<td>NPS</td>
<td>National Park Service</td>
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<td>OA</td>
<td>Office of the Administrator</td>
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<td>OAR</td>
<td>Office of Air and Radiation</td>
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<td>OECA</td>
<td>Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance</td>
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<td>RSPA</td>
<td>Research and Special Programs Administration</td>
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<td>SBA</td>
<td>Small Business Administration</td>
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<td>SDWA</td>
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<td>USCG</td>
<td>United States Coast Guard</td>
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<td>USDA</td>
<td>United States Department of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>USGS</td>
<td>United States Geological Survey</td>
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COMMENTS?

The Domestic Policy Council Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives would appreciate receiving your comments on the value of this Handbook to Tribes and others involved in the work of protecting the environment and natural resources in Indian Country. Also, your input would be appreciated on what improvements could be made. Future updates of this document will be available on EPA’s American Indian Environmental Office’s home page at http://www.epa.gov/indian.

Please send comments or edits to:

Tribal Environmental and Natural Resource Assistance Handbook
Attn: Tonya Fish
EPA American Indian Environmental Office (4104)
401 M. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

or e-mail fish.tonya@epa.gov.
Available Assistance: Financial.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process:
- **Oral Testimony:** In early March the House Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee usually hears oral testimony from Tribes requesting funds. Tribes are limited to 5 minutes of oral testimony but may submit their entire written testimony for the record and for funding consideration. As an example, if a Tribe has ten prioritized funding requests, the tribal chairman or spokesperson may summarize the most important tribal priorities rather than discussing all ten. However all ten will be considered for funding since they were submitted as written testimony. When preparing written or oral testimony for Congress, Tribes should try to incorporate all the positive benefits to the Tribe that will occur if funding is provided for the program. For example, what resources will be protected, the importance of the resources to the Tribe, how many people will be employed, etc. To get the exact dates when the Subcommittee will be taking tribal testimony, contact the Subcommittee staff office (202-225-3081) and request to be placed on their tribal witness list. Call by early January or their schedule may be filled.

- **Written Testimony:** Tribes may also submit written testimony in place of or in addition to oral testimony by writing to the Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee. The written Statement will be given the same importance as the Tribe’s oral testimony. All letters should be signed by the tribal chairman. If the Tribe sends a written request for funds from Congress, it should be addressed to:

  The Honorable Ralph Regula, Chairman
  House Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
  B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
  Washington, D.C. 20515-6023

- **Support from Senators and Congressmen:** Tribes should notify their Senators and Congressmen of their funding requests and ask for their support. If tribal representatives are in Washington, they
Washington, they should make an appointment with their Senators and representatives to explain their program needs and solicit support for the tribal requests. Often the Senators and Representatives will send a letter to the Subcommittee Chairman requesting funds for their Tribes or supporting the tribal requests.

Contact: House Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, B-308 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-6023; (202) 225-3081; Fax (202) 225-9069. After national elections, the Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee and the staff may change. The addresses and phone numbers will stay the same but the Tribe should contact the Subcommittee to confirm the identity of the Subcommittee Chairman and the key staff person. See also http://legislators.com/rollcall/congdir.html for a current list of Subcommittee members and contact information.
Available Assistance: Financial.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: Tribes may submit written testimony by writing to:

Attention: Outside Witness Testimony
Interior Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate, SD-131
Washington, D.C. 20510

The deadline for written testimony is Friday, April 9, 1999 for fiscal year 2000 appropriations. For instructions on the format of the written testimony, see

Contact: Senate Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, 131 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; (202) 224-7233; Fax (202) 228-4532. After national elections, the Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee and the staff may change. The addresses and phone numbers will stay the same but the Tribe should contact the Subcommittee to confirm the identity of the Subcommittee Chairman and the key staff person. See also
DEPARTMENTS

AGRICULTURE

FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

Available Assistance: Emergency funds for cost-sharing with farmers.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide emergency funds to farmers and ranchers for rehabilitating farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

Eligible Recipients: Designation of county or region as eligible is made by the county FSA committee with concurrence of the State FSA committee, except for drought, which is determined at the Washington, D.C. level.

Application Process: Apply to FSA at the Local USDA Service Center.

Contact: FSA at the Local USDA Service Center.

Conservation Reserve Program

Available Assistance: Technical and financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To cost-effectively assist owners and operators in conserving and improving soil, water and wildlife resources by converting highly erodible and other environmentally sensitive acreage normally devoted to the production of agricultural commodities to a long-term resource-conserving cover. In return for establishing the long-term resource-
conserving cover, the participant receives a rental payment each year of a multi-year contract. Cost-share payments are also available to help establish the approved cover.

**Eligible Recipients:** To be eligible, land must be:
- cropland that is planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity 2 of the 5 most recent crop years which is also physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an agricultural commodity; or
- marginal pasture land that is either:
  - certain acreage enrolled in the Water Bank Program, or
  - suitable for use as a riparian buffer to be devoted to trees.

The land must also meet *one* of the following conditions:
- considered highly erodible land according to the conservation compliance provision, or, if a portion of a field, have weighted average Erosion Index of 8 or higher;
- designated as a cropped wetland;
- located in a national or State CRP conservation priority area;
- cropland associated with noncropped wetlands;
- cropland having evidence of scour erosion; or
- certain land enrolled in the Water Bank Program that is in the last year of the Water Bank Program agreement.

**Application Process:** Producers submit offers stating an annual rental payment they would accept to convert eligible land to an eligible long-term resource-conserving cover. This offer is submitted to the FSA at the Local USDA Service Center during an announced sign up period. USDA will notify persons whose offers are accepted after the close of the sign up period. The participant, in return for annual payments, agrees to implement a conservation plan approved by the Local conservation district.

**Contact:** FSA at the Local USDA Service Center.

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT**

**FOREST SERVICE**

**Forest Health Protection**

**Available Assistance:** Technical and financial.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To assist in detecting, evaluating, and controlling outbreaks of forest insects and diseases on Tribal lands.

**Eligible Recipients:** Indian Tribes.

**Application Process:** Contact the nearest Forest Service Health Protection Office for technical assistance. For financial assistance, contact the Local Bureau of Indian Affairs office.
Forest Stewardship Program


Purpose of Assistance: To assist in preparation of landowner forest stewardship plans to meet the landowner objectives, and to address actions needed to protect and enhance soil, water, range, aesthetics, recreation, timber, and fish and wildlife resources.

Eligible Recipients: Private nonindustrial forest landowners, including Indian Tribes.

Application Process: Contact the State forestry agency.

Contact: Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090; (202) 205-1389.

Stewardship Incentive Program

Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide cost-sharing to eligible private nonindustrial landowners for tree planting and improvement, establishing windbreaks, protecting soil and water, improving fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetics, and forest recreation.

Eligible Recipients: Anyone who: (1) is a private forest landowner; and (2) owns a tract of land with no more than 1,000 acres of eligible forest land (or 5,000 acres with a waiver from the State forester).

Application Process: Contact Local State Forestry Agency office or Local FSA office.

Contact: Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090; (202) 205-1389.

Urban and Community Forestry

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide financial and technical assistance to urban areas and communities through State forestry agencies and other partners to:

- establish, maintain, improve, expand, and protect urban and community forests and related greenspace;
• assist in sustaining healthy forest ecosystems and supporting viable cities, communities and, neighborhoods; and
• increase public awareness of and participation in improving the natural, social, and economic environments of the nation’s urban and community areas.

Eligible Recipients: Urban areas and communities.

Application Process: Contact the Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator at the State Forestry Office.

Contact: Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090; (202) 205-1389.

Forest Products Conservation and Recycling

Available Assistance: Technical assistance.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide technical assistance, research, and data for technology transfer and marketing that integrates the environmental protection with forest-based economic growth through value-added timber processing, new technologies and recycling.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes, communities and businesses.

Application Process: Contact State and Private Forestry in the Forest Service’s regional office.

Contact: Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090; (202) 205-1389.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE

Farmland Protection Program

Available Assistance: Federal funds are obligated through a Cooperative Agreement signed by the USDA and the selected partner. Federal funds must be dispersed within two years after signing the Agreement. Technical assistance is provided to landowners in planning, designing and, installing conservation practices. The Federal share for any easement acquisition shall not exceed 50% of the fair market value of the easement. Each cooperating agency is to fund its own administrative costs in acquiring the easements, such as survey or title search and the costs in managing and enforcing them. Acquisition of an easement or other interests in land is for a minimum duration of 30 years, preferably, in perpetuity. A conservation plan is required to insure responsible land stewardship. A contingent remainder right must be incorporated into the easement deed for the protection of the federal investment. A failure to abide by the terms in the Cooperative Agreement may result in the easement rights to be vested in the United States and/or for the cooperating entity to reimburse the United States for the federal share of the easement value.
**Purpose of Assistance:** To establish partnerships with State, Tribal, or Local government entities to acquire conservation easements or other interests in farmland to limit conversion to non-agricultural uses. The program provides funds to States, Tribes or Local governmental entities to leverage their farmland protection programs. The program is carried out through existing farmland protection programs in the State, Tribe or Local government entities.

**Eligible Recipients:** Any Local or State agency, county or groups of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, or Indian Tribe or tribal organization that has a farmland protection program that purchases conservation easements for the purposes of protecting topsoil by limiting conversion to non-agricultural uses of land and has pending offers with willing land owners may apply for funds. Potential partners must provide written evidence of their commitment to the long term conservation of agricultural lands through the use of legal devices, such as right-to-farm laws, agricultural districts, zoning or land use plans, the use of voluntary approaches to protect farmland from conversion; and to show at least 50% of the cost of the easement is available.

**Application Process:** When funds are available, a Notice of Request for Proposals will be published in the Federal Register to announce the application window. Any eligible party may submit a proposal to an appropriate NRCS State Office to request funds. The application information will be available from the NRCS State Offices and the home pages of the Federal Register (http://www.access.gpo.gov) USDA NRCS (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov) and the Farmland Information Library (http://farmlandinfo.org).

**Contact:** NRCS State office.

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**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

**Available Assistance:** Technical, educational, and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their land in an environmentally beneficial and cost effective manner. Five to ten year contracts are made with eligible producers. Participants may receive cost share assistance not to exceed 75 percent of the total cost.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To help farmers and ranchers install enduring natural resource conservation and pollution abatement practices. The purposes of the program are achieved through implementation of a conservation plan which identifies structural, vegetative, and land management practices which will be applied to the eligible land. The program is carried out primarily in priority areas that may be watersheds, regions, multi-State areas, and for significant Statewide natural resource concerns that are outside of geographic priority areas.

**Eligible Recipients:** Individual/family farmers and ranchers who face serious threats to their natural resources or who need assistance complying with federal and State environmental laws. A participant may be an owner, landlord, operator, or tenant of eligible agricultural lands. Eligible agricultural land
may include tribal, allotted, or Indian trust land. Limited resource producers, small scale producers, producers of minority groups, federally recognized tribal governments, Alaska Natives, and Pacific Islanders are encouraged to apply.

**Application Process:** Apply with FSA or NRCS at the Local USDA service center or the Local conservation district on Form CCC-1200. Applications may be filed at any time during the year. However, applications will be scored and ranked after application periods. Applications that will provide the most environmental benefit per program dollar expended are selected for plan development and approval. The participant develops and submits a conservation plan for the farm or ranching unit of concern. The participant’s conservation plan serves as the basis for the EQIP contract. A contract with a participant may apply one or more land management, structural or vegetative practices.

**Contact:** NRCS or FSA at the Local USDA service center, Tribal Conservation District, or the Local conservation district.

### Special Water Quality Projects

**Available Assistance:** Technical assistance for farmers and ranchers who voluntarily apply conservation practices that will reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollution and meet water quality goals. Financial assistance is available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

**Purpose of Assistance:** To demonstrate effectiveness of newly developed conservation practices in treating non-point source pollution and to promote the use of the practices in other areas. The projects use the newest and best information to implement cost-effective production systems that meet identified water quality goals.

**Eligible Recipients:** Farmers and ranchers.

**Application Process:** Tribes should contact the State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The State Conservationist will determine if tribal lands are within the demonstration project areas.

**Contact:** State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

### Forestry Incentives Program

**Available Assistance:** Financial.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To provide cost-sharing to private nonindustrial forest landowners for tree planting and timber stand improvement.

**Eligible Recipients:** People that:
- are private nonindustrial forest landowners;
• own a tract with no more than 5,000 acres of eligible forest land;
• own land that is suitable for forestation and timber stand improvement; and
• own land capable of producing industrial wood crops which meets minimum productivity standards.

Application Process: Apply at the Local State forestry or USDA Service Center.

Contact: Director, Conservation Operations Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-1845.

Tribal Conservation Districts

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To improve the relationship between USDA and Indian Tribes. Tribes have the opportunity to form Tribal Conservation Districts (TCD) under Tribal law. NRCS will provide Tribes with information on conservation district options and process for their consideration. The ultimate decision regarding which option an American Indian Tribe or Alaska Native Corporation chooses rests with the Indian Tribe and the Secretary of Agriculture. If a TCD is formed, NRCS will work with the newly formed district and the Tribe to establish a cooperative working agreement between the Indian Tribe, the TCD, and the NRCS State Conservationist(s). The cooperative working agreement provides an opportunity to establish levels of service from NRCS, the Tribal government’s role, and to resolve other issues between the Tribe and NRCS. A TCD provides guidance to NRCS for prioritizing program assistance. Under the Locally led initiative, a TCD may call the USDA Local advisory committee meeting, which establishes Local conservation priorities for USDA programs.

Eligible Recipients: Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Corporations.

Application Process: Local NRCS office or the NRCS State Conservationist.

Contact: American Indian Liaison, Resource Conservation and Community Assistance Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-8576.

Soil Survey Program

Available Assistance: Published soil surveys of counties or other comparably sized areas. Many of the soil surveys include Indian land both on and off the reservations. Soil surveys are in progress on other reservations.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide the basic and detailed information needed for agricultural and natural resource development programs.

Eligible Recipients: Interested Indian Tribes, agencies, organizations, and individuals.
Application Process: Contact Tribal or County NRCS office, Local Extension Service, the State Agricultural Experiment Station, Local USDA Agricultural Service Center, Conservation District Office, or Local Member of Congress.

Contact: Director of Soils, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-1820.

Technical Assistance Program

Available Assistance: NRCS field offices, Local conservation districts, and Tribal Conservation Districts provide technical assistance to the Nation’s private landowners. NRCS has expertise in agronomy, range and grassland management, forestry, engineering, soils, water quality and quantity management, wildlife habitat management, recreation, aquaculture, rural development, resource inventories, and watershed and flood protection. Technical assistance is coordinated at the national level by the NRCS Conservation Operations Division.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist farm and ranch owners in planning and implementing conservation practices to manage, conserve, improve and develop soil, water and related resources.

Eligible Recipients: Individuals, district cooperators, Indian Tribes, Tribal Councils, or other community leadership.

Application Process: Contact the Local NRCS Office, Tribal Conservation District Office, Conservation District Office, or the Local Agriculture Service Center.

Contact: Director of Conservation Operations Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-1845.

Resource Conservation and Development Program

Available Assistance: Technical assistance.

Purpose of Assistance: To help Local people initiate and implement long-range programs of Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D). Indian Tribes have the option of forming RC&Ds based on reservation boundaries and Tribal law. RC&D assistance may be used on reservation lands for public water-based recreation and fish and wildlife developments or on private lands owned or operated by American Indians for flood prevention, sedimentation and erosion control, farm irrigation, water quality management, and control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution. The RC&D Project Steering Committee and Local leadership plan and carry out associated project measures funded by other non-USDA entities, both Federal and private. Associated measures deal with any project the RC&D and Local people need and approve.

Eligible Recipients: Indian Tribes.
Application Process: Contact the Local NRCS Office, Tribal Conservation District Office, Conservation District Office, RC&D Coordinator's Office, or the Local Agriculture Service Center.

Contact: Director of Resource Conservation and Development Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-2241.

**Watershed Projects**

Available Assistance: Federal technical and financial assistance.

Purpose of Assistance: To help cities, towns and rural areas stimulate economic growth through watershed projects to control flooding, erosion and siltation. Projects may include reservoir construction, flood control dams, and diversion channels for irrigation.

Eligible Recipients: State agencies, Indian Tribes, and nonprofit Local organizations can sponsor a watershed project.

Application Process: Local proposals are reviewed by the State, which may make financial and other assistance available. Contact the country or Tribal NRCS office, or Local USDA Agricultural Service Center.

Contact: Director of Watershed and Wetlands Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-3527.

**Plant Material Centers**

Available Assistance: Seed and plants.

Purpose of Assistance: To select and grow plants that grow naturally and then provide them to those people who wish to reestablish native plants. The Plant Material Centers provide "seed" plants that are religiously and culturally significant to Indian people, such as sweet grass in the northern plains.

Eligible Recipients: Anyone interested in reestablishing native plants.

Application Process: Contact Local NRCS office or the NRCS State Conservationist.

Contact: American Indian Liaison, Resource Conservation and Community Assistance Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-8576.
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

Available Assistance: Technical assistance and cost-share.

Purpose of Assistance: To improve habitat conditions for wildlife on the recipient’s land. Participants may enter into cost-share agreements for a 5 to 10-year period. Since there is a time lag between the installation of a practice and the actual wildlife benefits, participants will receive cost-share assistance as practices are established but must maintain the practice for its life span even though it may extend beyond the agreement period.

Eligible Recipients: Anyone interested in improving habitat conditions for wildlife on their land.

Application Process: See contacts below.

Contact: Local NRCS office, Tribal Conservation District, or Local Conservation District.

Conservation of Private Grazing Land

Available Assistance: Conservation technical assistance funds.

Purpose of Assistance: To ensure that technical, educational and related assistance is provided to those who own private grazing lands. Assistance is available to:
- develop better grazing land management techniques;
- protect soil;
- increase energy efficiency;
- conserve water;
- provide wildlife habitat;
- sustain forage and grazing plants;
- use plants to sequester greenhouse grasses and increase organic matter; and
- use grazing land as a source of biomass energy and raw materials for industrial products.

Eligible Recipients: Private grazing land owners.

Application Process: Contact Local USDA Service Center, Tribal Conservation District, or Local Conservation District

Contact: Local USDA Service Center, Tribal Conservation District, or Local Conservation District

Wetlands Reserve Program

Available Assistance: Financial and technical. Landowners can receive financial incentives to restore wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land.
Purpose of Assistance: To restore and protect wetlands on private property. Landowners who choose to participate in WRP may sell a conservation easement or enter into a cost-share restoration agreement with the USDA to restore and protect wetlands. The landowner voluntarily limits future use of the land, yet retains private ownership. The landowner and NRCS develop a plan for the restoration and maintenance of the wetland. The program offers landowners three options; permanent easements, 30 year easements and restoration cost-share agreements of a minimum 10 year duration.

Eligible Recipients: Landowners with wetlands on their property.

Application Process: Contact the Local NRCS office, Tribal Conservation District, or Local Conservation District.

Contact: Local NRCS office, Tribal Conservation District, or Local Conservation District.

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Available Assistance: Technical and cost-sharing assistance.

Purpose of Assistance: To reduce threats to life and property in the wake of natural disasters. Assistance includes removing or establishing vegetative cover, gully control, installing streambank protection devices, removing debris and sediment, and stabilizing levees, channels, and gullies. In subsequent storms, EWP projects protect homes, businesses, highways, and public facilities from further damage. Flood plain easements under EWP may be purchased by the Federal Government to help prevent future losses due to natural disasters.

Eligible Recipients: The opportunity to participate in this program depends on whether the Tribe’s constitution permits the Tribe to commit to a long-term easement.

Application Process: Contact the Local NRCS office or the NRCS State Conservationist.

Contact: American Indian Liaison, Resource Conservation and Community Assistance Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-8576.

The Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 (Swampbuster)

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To preserve the environmental functions and values of wetlands, including flood control, sediment control, ground water recharge, water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation and aesthetics. Upon request, NRCS will determine if a producer’s or Indian Tribe’s land has areas
subject to Swampbuster. The agency maintains a list of plants and combinations of soils and plants found in wetlands and uses these technical tools, along with the hydrology of the area, to conduct determinations. NRCS also will certify previous wetland determinations and assist landowners in choosing the best way to mitigate wetland losses.

**Eligible Recipients:** Anyone with wetlands on their land.

**Application Process:** For more information, see http://www.usda.gov/news/pubs/indians/charter2.htm.

**Contact:** American Indian Liaison, Resource Conservation and Community Assistance Division, NRCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250; (202) 720-8576.

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**Watershed Protection-Long-Term Contracts (PL-566)**

**Available Assistance:** Technical assistance and cost-share program.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To provide technical assistance and cost-share for projects designed to control flooding, erosion or siltation. The program also provides for the construction of multiple purpose projects. Contracts are binding and require control of the land for the length of the contract. Leased land often requires additional action by tribal councils or others to assure adequate control. After the Local government has completed its planning phase, the land treatment part is implemented in 3 to 10-year "contracts" with individuals. Each contract can have a cost share up to $100,000, can treat only a certain problem area on the unit and has a maximum cost share rate of 65%.

**Eligible Recipients:** Counties or Tribes.

**Application Process:** Funds for new contracts are allocated to the State office in October.

**Contact:** Local USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Office.

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**Watershed and Flood Prevention (PL-566)**

**Available Assistance:** Technical and financial assistance.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To provide protection of watershed areas up to 250,000 acres from erosion and to reduce flooding. Projects are usually large and complex and require a considerable amount of time and effort to assess the problem and develop solutions. Costs associated with land issues such as rights and easements must be borne by the Local or tribal governments. On flood control and stream stabilization, the cost of construction is usually paid 100% by the Federal government.

**Eligible Recipients:** County or city governments, Conservation Districts or Indian Tribes.
Application Process: Contact the Local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Office.

Contact: Local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Office.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS OFFICE

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH EDUCATION AND EXTENSION SERVICE (CSREES)

Extension Indian Reservation Program

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide Extension Indian Reservation Programs on Indian reservations and in Tribal jurisdictions. The program focuses on agriculture and agriculture-related youth programs and emphasizes training and employment of Local people in positions such as program aides, master gardeners, and volunteers. Local advisory committees are involved in determining programs and priorities. Projects address livestock production, alternative crops, vegetable gardening, improved diet and nutrition, and a broad spectrum of 4-H and youth activities. Although EIRP is administered by CSREES, the Indian Extension Agents are employees of, and administratively responsible to, the Cooperative Extension Service of the State where the reservation is located. The Navajo Reservation agents are administered by the University of Arizona in cooperation with Utah State University and New Mexico State University. Agents often live on the reservations, sharing daily experiences with their neighbors. Agents meet annually to discuss their successes and share program ideas and to investigate additional sources of program support.

Eligible Recipients: The 1862 land-grant institutions in States where Indian reservations or Tribal jurisdictions are located.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Fred Swader, EIRP Coordinator (202) 205-5853 or fswader@reeusda.gov.

Extension Programs

Available Assistance: Competitive grants.

Purpose of Assistance: To address a wide range of agricultural issues and to enhance community natural resources and environment, nutrition, diet, health, economic development, and family and youth development. Natural resources and environmental management projects may address the following:

- soil, water, air and plant management;
- fish and wildlife management;
- aquaculture;
• conservation;
• forestry;
• sustainable use and management of rangelands, wetlands and wildlands;
• land-use planning; and
• use of information systems.

Eligible Recipients: See contact below for eligibility information on the various programs.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Joan F. Gill (202) 720-6487 or jgill@reeusda.gov.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

Water and Waste Disposal Direct and Guaranteed Loans/Grants

Available Assistance: Direct Loans, Guaranteed Loans, Grants. Grants may be made up to 75% of eligible project costs. Typical loan: $550,000. Typical grant: $500,000.

Purpose of Assistance: To reduce water and waste disposal costs to a reasonable level for users of the system. Loans may be made to develop water and wastewater systems, including solid waste disposal and storm drainage, in rural areas and to cities and towns with a population of 10,000 or less. The maximum term for all loans is 40 years; however, no repayment period will exceed State statute limits or the useful life of the facility. Interest rates may be obtained from Rural Development field offices.

Eligible Recipients: Public entities such as municipalities, counties, special purpose districts and Indian Tribes. In addition, funds may be made available to corporations operated on a not-for-profit basis. Priority is given to public entities or areas with less than 5,500 people to restore a deteriorating water supply, or to improve, enlarge or modify a water facility or an inadequate waste facility. Also, preference is given to requests which involve the merging of small facilities and those serving low-income communities. Applicants must be unable to obtain funds from their own resources or from commercial sources at reasonable rates and terms.

Application Process: Information about the water and waste disposal programs and advice on how to assemble information to file an application may be obtained from Rural Development field offices. A preliminary engineering report is required to document need, costs and alternatives. Applicant financial information is required to determine credit worthiness.

Contact: Local USDA Rural Development office.
Solid Waste Management Grants

Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: Grants are awarded to public and private nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to associations located in rural areas and to cities and town with a population of 10,000 or less to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and improve planning and operations of solid waste facilities. Assistance may be provided to enhance operator skills in operations and maintenance, identify threats to water resources, and reduce the solid waste stream.

Eligible Recipients: Public and nonprofit organizations, including Indian Tribes.

Application Process: Applicants must prove capability to provide technical assistance and training. Priority is given to those projects to be completed within 12 months. Preapplications may be filed between October 1 and December 31 of each year.

Contact: Local USDA Rural Development office.

Technical Assistance and Training Grants

Available Assistance: Grants to provide technical assistance and training.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide technical assistance and training to associations located in rural areas and to cities and towns with populations of 10,000 or less. Assistance may be provided to identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems, to improve the operation and maintenance of existing water and waste disposal facilities, and to assist associations in preparing applications for water and waste disposal facilities.

Eligible Recipients: Private nonprofit organizations. Recipient organizations provide technical assistance and training to rural entities including Indian Tribes.

Application Process: Preapplications may be filed between October 1 and December 31 of each year.

Contact: Local USDA Rural Development office.
Public Works and Development Facilities Program

Available Assistance: Public Works grants. The Local matching share may be waived for Tribes.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist in the construction of public works and development facilities (such as water and sewer facilities primarily serving industry) needed to initiate and encourage long-term economic growth in designated redevelopment areas, including Indian reservations, where economic growth is lagging behind the rest of the Nation.

Eligible Recipients: Indian Tribes, States and political subdivisions, and private or public nonprofit organizations or associations or a designated economic development district.

Application Process: Contact the Economic Development Administration Regional/Local office to obtain the necessary forms.

Contact: Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230; or Economic Development Administration Regional Offices.

Planning Assistance

Available Assistance: Financial. Grants are used for planning, staff salaries, and other administrative expenses.

Purpose of Assistance: To develop Tribal, State, multi-county, district and Local capacity to plan for the effective, environmentally appropriate, utilization of Local, State and Federal resources in creating full-time permanent jobs for unemployed and underemployed residents.

Eligible Recipients: Indian Tribes, States, political subdivisions, or organizations. Grants normally are made with a Federal match of 50-80%. Tribes are eligible for 100% Federal match.

Application Process: Contact the Economic Development Administration Regional/Local office to obtain the necessary forms.
Contact: Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230; or Economic Development Administration Regional Offices.

**Technical Assistance Program**


Purpose of Assistance: To alleviate excessive unemployment and underemployment in distressed areas, including Indian reservations, through the provision of a wide range of technical assistance such as feasibility studies, marketing analyses, trade and export development and training activities for sustainable development. Assistance may include funding the costs of such activities up to 75% (100% for Indian Tribes).

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, public or private State, area, district, or Local organizations, as well as individuals, partnerships, firms, corporations, or other suitable institutions.

Application Process: Contact the Economic Development Administration Regional/Local office to obtain the necessary forms.

Contact: Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230; or Economic Development Administration Regional Offices.

**Economic Adjustment Program**

Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist Tribes, States and Local governments in designing and implementing strategies to facilitate adjustment to economic changes that are causing, or threatening to cause, severe economic dislocation or structural damage to the economic base as a result of industrial or corporate restructuring, new Federal laws or requirements, reductions in defense expenditures, depletion of natural resources or natural disasters. Tribes are eligible for 100% funding.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States and political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations as determined by the EDA in areas suffering severe economic impacts such as high unemployment, low per capita income, or failure to keep pace with national five-year economic growth trends.

Application Process: Contact the Economic Development Administration Regional/Local office to obtain the necessary forms.
Available Assistance: Financial assistance. Fifty percent matching federal funds are available under the provisions of the Anadromous Fish Grant Program. Matching funds may be provided by the States, non-federal entities, or Tribes and/or through the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs grants under the Indian Self-Determination Act. When two or more States enter into a project, 66% federal funding is available and if the project supports an inter-State fisheries management plan, up to 90% federal funding is available. A 1996 change in the law restricts the total amount of funds obligated in any fiscal year in any one State to $650,000.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide cost-sharing grants to States and other non-Federal entities for the conservation, development and enhancement of the anadromous fishery resources of the Nation, including the fish in the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain.

Eligible Recipients: Indian Tribes, State fishery agencies, colleges, universities, private companies, and other non-Federal interested in 31 States bordering the oceans or Great Lakes.

Application Process: All projects must be coordinated and cleared through the respective State fishery management agency.


Available Assistance: Financial assistance. Federal share of project costs may amount to 75%, or 90%, when States have adopted fishery regulations that are consistent with an InterState or Federal fishery management plan for the species to which the study applies. Projects to restore resources.
damaged by natural resource disasters, or enforcement agreements of up to $25,000 with State management agencies, may be financed by 100% Federal funds.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To (1) promote and encourage State activities in support of the management of interjurisdictional resources, and (2) to promote the management of interjurisdictional fishery resources throughout their range.

**Eligible Recipients:** Indian Tribes, State fishery agencies, colleges, universities, private companies, and other non-Federal interests in 31 States bordering the oceans or the Great Lakes.

**Application Process:** All projects must be coordinated with and cleared through the respective State fishery management agency.

**Contact:** Paul Perra, Office of Intergovernmental and Recreational Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service; (301) 427-2014. See also [http://www.nmfs.gov/irf/irf.html](http://www.nmfs.gov/irf/irf.html).
Legacy Resource Management Program (LRMP)

Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To protect, enhance, and restore the natural and cultural resources under LRMP stewardship. Legacy projects are intended for military lands only but are available to any person working in conjunction with installation natural and cultural resource conservation managers.

Eligible Recipients: Installation Natural and Cultural resources managers and those working in conjunction with them.

Application Process: All proposals must be coordinated through the individual services and passed through the proper chain of command. Pre-proposals can be submitted through the Legacy Tracker website at http://memphis.lmi.org/int/dienemann/legwelcome.nsf. Instructions, points of contact and deadlines are listed in the FY 2000 Guidance section.

Contact: Peter Boice (703) 604-0524, Leslie Orzetti (703) 604-1792, or Alison Dalsimer (703) 604-1774.

Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program (NALEMP)


Purpose of Assistance: To provide for mitigation of environmental impacts on Indian lands that are no longer under the control of the DOD or its components and are the result of former DOD military activities. Eligible properties are lands held in trust or protected against alienation by the Federal government for Federally recognized Tribes and their members. Also included in eligible properties are lands conveyed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). It should be noted that the NALEMP program will not address environmental impacts that were the result of United State Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) civil works projects such as the building of dams, flood control, or aiding navigation on inland waterways. Assistance can range from cleanup to technical assistance with the goal of addressing environmental impacts from past DOD activities. The mitigation action may be performed by DOD contractors in consultation
with the landowners, by contract with Tribes, or by Cooperative Agreements with the affected Tribe. Once notified of a potential impact, the ODUSD(ES) and USACE will review historical land ownership and DOD documents to determine if the impact is the result of DOD actions and eligible for funding under NALEMP.

**Eligible Recipients:** Federally recognized Tribes with environmental impacts on their lands that are the result of past DOD military activities.

**Application Process:** Notify the Local USACE district Formerly Used Defensive Sites (FUDS) Point of Contact of the impact. A list of contacts can be obtained from the USACE Headquarters office or the ODUSD(ES) at the phone numbers listed below. After the USACE is notified of the potential impact, the USACE of ODUSD(ES) will institute an investigation of the impact. If the impact is eligible for NALEMP program, the project will be prioritized for funding based on a screening process under development with the impacted Tribes.

**Contact:** USACE Headquarters, Chief Formerly Used Defense Sites (202) 761-5145, or Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program Manager (703) 604-1747.

**OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION**

**Indian Incentive Program for Prime Contractors**

**Available Assistance:** Financial and technical.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To provide incentive to prime contractors to use Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises as subcontractors on contracts with the Department of Defense. In this program, the prime contractor receives a 5% bonus for the work subcontracted out to Indian organizations and Indian owned businesses. While the Tribe may not receive direct financial assistance from the Department of Defense, Tribes have been successful at using this program to increase their participation in DOD environmental projects that affect Indian lands.

**Eligible Recipients:** Prime Contractors for the Department of Defense that use Indian organizations or Indian-owned economic enterprises as subcontractors.

**Application Process:** The Tribe or Indian-owned business will need to team with a prime contractor to participate in the program. Tribes may contact the DOD component responsible for the project of interest to get a list of prime contractors.
Mentor-Protégée Program (MPP)


Purpose of Assistance: To encourage major DOD prime contractors (mentors) to develop the technical and business capabilities of small and disadvantaged businesses (SDBs) and other eligible protégée, including tribally-owned and Native American owned enterprises. Through credit toward subcontracting goals or some direct reimbursement of costs, the MPP provides incentives for these mentors to establish and implement a developmental assistance plan, which enables the protégée to compete more successfully for DOD prime contracts and subcontract awards. While the Tribe may not receive direct financial assistance from the Department of Defense, Tribes have been successful at using this program to increase their participation in DOD environmental projects that affect Indian lands.

Eligible Recipients: Prime Contractors for the Department of Defense that team with small disadvantaged businesses.

Application Process: The tribally-owned or Native American-owned business will need to team with a prime contractor to participate in the program. Tribes may contact the DOD component responsible for the project of interest to get a list of prime contractors.

Contact: Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (800) 553-1858. For additional information, see http://www.acq.osd.mil/sadbu/mentor_protege.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (MILITARY PROGRAMS)

Formerly Used Defensive Sites (FUDS) Cleanup

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide cleanup of environmental impacts on lands that are no longer under the jurisdiction and control of the DOD or its components and are the result of former DOD military activities. These properties are known as formerly used defensive sites (FUDS) and may be located on or near tribal lands. It should be noted that the FUDS program will not address environmental impacts that were the result of USACE civil works projects such as the building of
damns, flood control, or aiding navigation on inland waterways. The assistance available is in the form of cleanup actions by USACE personnel or contractors in consultation with the landowners. Once notified of a potential impact, the USACE will review historical land ownership and DOD documents to determine if the impact is the result of DOD actions and eligible under the guidelines set down by Congress. Eligible FUDS Projects are prioritized for funding under a system that addresses the highest risks to human health and the environment first.

**Eligible Recipients:** Land owners with environmental impacts that are the result of past DOD military activities.

**Application Process:** Notify your Local USACE district FUDS POC of the impact. A list of impacts can be obtained from the USACE Headquarters office at the phone number listed below. After the USACE is notified of the potential impact, it will institute an investigation of the impact. If the impact is eligible for the FUDS program, the project will be prioritized for funding based on human health and environmental risk.

**Contact:** USACE Headquarters, Chief Formally Used Defense Sites (202) 761-5145.

**ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CIVIL WORKS)**

**Partnership Program**

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To work with sponsors throughout the country to investigate water resources problems and opportunities and, if warranted, develop projects that would otherwise be beyond the capability of State, Local or Tribal financial and technical resources. Projects can address topics such as navigation, flood control and environmental restoration. The project costs are shared between the Corps and sponsors in accordance with the cost sharing requirements outlined in Federal laws, primarily the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

**Eligible Recipients:** Indian Tribes, a State or any other political subpart of a State or group of States, a port authority, or an interState agency. The sponsor must have the legal and financial authority and capability to provide the cash and real eState requirements needed for a project.

Contact: The District Engineer, Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, or Chief of Planning in the Local Corps District.

**Continuing Authorities Program**

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist Tribes, States and Local governments with feasibility studies in the areas of flood control and flood damage reduction, navigation, mitigation of shoreline damage, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and emergency streambanks and shoreline protection. The first $100,000 is a Federal expense. The remainder is cost-shared 50-50 with the non-Federal sponsor.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States and Local governments.

Application Process: Written requests for assistance must be approved by the division office. Following implementation and funding approval, the non-Federal interest and the Federal government sign the Project Cooperation Agreement.

Contact: Local Corps District. For more information, see [http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwpr/cap.htm](http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwpr/cap.htm).

**Project Modifications for Improvement of the Environment**

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist in funding modifications to water resources projects constructed by the Corps for the improvement of the environment. Projects that address degradation of the quality of the environment caused by a Corps project may also be undertaken. Non-Federal sponsors are responsible for 25% of the project cost and usually 100% of the operation, maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation. Up to 80% of the non-Federal share may be provided as work-in-kind. The Federal per project limit is $5 million and the annual appropriation limit is $25 million.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States and Local governments.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local Corps District.
Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist with projects to protect, restore, and create aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands, in connection with dredging an authorized Federal navigation project. Non-Federal sponsors are responsible for 25% of the project cost and 100% of the cost of operation, maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States and Local governments.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local Corps District.

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist with aquatic restoration ecosystem restoration projects that will improve the quality of the environment, are in the public interest, and are cost-effective. Individual projects are limited to $5 million in Federal cost. Non-Federal interests must contribute 35% of the cost of construction and 100% of the cost of operation, maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States and Local governments.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local Corps District.

Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS)

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To foster public understanding of the options for dealing with flood hazards and to promote prudent use and management of the Nation’s flood plains. FPMS will develop or interpret site-specific data on obstructions to flood flows, flood formation and timing; flood depths or stages; flood-water velocities; and the extent, duration, and frequency of flooding.
Eligible Recipients: Upon request, services are provided to Indian Tribes, State, regional, Local governments and other non-Federal public agencies without charge.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local Corps District. For more information, see http://usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwp/fpms.htm.

Planning Assistance to States

Available Assistance: Financial and technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To assist Tribes, States, Local governments and other non-Federal entities in the preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related land resources. The program is funded annually by Congress. Federal allotments for each State or Tribe from the notion-wide appropriation are limited to $500,000 annually, but typically are much less. Individual studies, of which there may be more than one per State or Tribe per year, generally cost $25,000 to $75,000. These studies are cost shared on a 50% Federal-50% non-Federal basis.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes, States, and Local governments.

Application Process: Every year, each State and Indian Tribe can provide the Corps its request for studies under the program, and the Corps then accommodates as many studies as possible within the funding allotment.

Contact: Local Corps District. See http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwp/pas.htm for more information.
Environmental Management Programs

Available Assistance: Financial. For FY 1999 the total new funding to the 10 Tribes with cooperative agreements was $4,566,000.

Purpose of Assistance: The Office of Environmental Management (EM) has established cooperative agreements (agreements-in-principle and memoranda of understanding) with 10 Tribes surrounding Department of Energy (DOE) sites. Funding pursuant to these agreements has allowed many of the Tribes to:

- Hire Tribal staff and scientific experts to inform Tribal leaders on cleanup efforts;
- Examine cleanup plans at the sites;
- Preserve and protect Tribal cultural resources (e.g., artifacts, fish and wildlife, native plants, and sacred sites) at DOE sites and on Tribal lands;
- Perform activities such as water, soil, and air monitoring;
- Establish emergency response programs for Tribes to be "first responders" for potential incidents on reservations and neighboring jurisdictions;
- Conduct cultural resource surveys, wildlife monitoring projects, archeological assessments, and native plant revegetation in conjunction with DOE cleanup projects; and
- Promote educational initiatives that enhance cross cultural understanding and student ability in fields of mathematics and science.

Hanford Site
Yakama Indian, Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The cooperative agreements for the Tribes that surround the Department’s Hanford site are focusing their involvement in Groundwater projects, environmental education, tank waste remediation systems, Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council, emergency preparedness and response, and management of cultural resources.
Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories
Pueblo of Cochiti, Pueblo of Isleta, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Santa Clara, and Pueblo of San Ildefonso. The Office of Environmental Management and the Office of Defense Programs jointly fund these efforts. These agreements fund core environmental management programs on Tribal reservations. They are designed to build Tribal technical and scientific capability in environmental restoration and waste management and to assist the Tribes in participating in EM decision making at Albuquerque Operations Office, the Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories.

Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. The cooperative agreement with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation is designed to enhance Tribal technical and scientific capability in the areas of environmental restoration, emergency preparedness and response and management of cultural resources. The agreement also is designed to assist the Tribal government in participating in decision-making processes at the Idaho National Environmental and Engineering Laboratory.

West Valley Demonstration Site
Seneca Indian Nation. The cooperative agreement with the Seneca Nation funds a core environmental management program on the Seneca reservation in New York State. The agreement is designed to build Tribal technical and scientific capability in environmental restoration and waste management and to assist the Tribal government in participating in environmental management decision making processes at the West Valley Demonstration Site.

Eligible Recipients: Funding is provided to those Indian Tribes whose lands surround Department sites and facilities, and who are potentially impacted by DOE activities.

Contact: Office of Environmental Management EM-22 (202) 586-5944; Fax: (202) 586-0293.

Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) Intern Program

Available Assistance: $170,000.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide cooperative agreements with funds for summer, and in certain cases, one year professional development internships for American Indian students.

Eligible Recipients: Indian students in their junior an senior years of college. However, CERT will consider Indian students at all levels if they demonstrate maturity, motivation, and academic achievement.

Application Process: Call CERT for an application package. The deadline for submission is March 15, 1999.

Contact: Albert Wing at (303) 282-7576.
Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To strengthen Tribal governments through building capacity within the Tribes in order to identify, plan, develop, and implement environmental programs in a manner that is consistent with Tribal culture. Financial assistance is available for developmental projects to assist Tribes in advancing their capacity and capability to plan for and:

• Develop or enhance the Tribal environmental regulatory infrastructure required to support a Tribal environmental program, and to regulate and enforce environmental activities on Indian lands pursuant to Federal and Indian law;
• Develop regulations, ordinances and laws to protect the environment;
• Develop the technical and program capacity to carry out a comprehensive Tribal environmental program and perform essential environmental program functions;
• Promote environmental training and education of Tribal employees;
• Develop technical and program capability to meet Tribal and Federal regulatory requirements;
• Develop technical and program capability to monitor compliance and enforcement of Tribal environmental regulations, ordinances, and laws; and
• Ensure the Tribal court system enforcement requirements are developed in concert with and support the Tribe’s comprehensive environmental program.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes, incorporated non-federally and State recognized Indian Tribes, Alaska Native villages as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and/or nonprofit village consortia, nonprofit Alaska Native Regional Corporations/Associations with village specific projects, Tribal governing bodies (Indian Reorganization Act or traditional councils) as recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other Tribal or village organizations or consortia of Indian Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY (ATSDR)

Public Health Assessments/Consultations

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide public health assessments and consultations for Superfund hazardous waste sites and, when requested, for non-Superfund sites if Tribes and communities petition for ATSDR’s involvement. These documents are prepared in collaboration with the affected Tribes/communities to address public health concerns related to exposures from hazardous waste or unplanned releases of chemicals. ATSDR has assisted Tribes at over 25 sites with public health concerns such as exposure to radiation from uranium mines or nuclear test sites, arsenic from mine tailings, PCBs releases from transformers and other industrial waste, and pesticides from sheep-dipping vats.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Leslie Campbell, Native American Coordinator, ATSDR, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation (DHAC), MS E32, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA, 30333, (404) 639-6337 or (888) 42ATSDR.

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU)

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To address current needs identified by the TCUs. Proposed activities are focused in the areas of environmental health, health education, and training of health care providers, including: provision of intern programs; training in environmental health and GIS; provision of ATSDR materials to TCUs; establishment of Web-links for TCUs; in-service to tribal environmental health employees; site-specific translations of materials into American Indian and Alaska Native languages; and technical assistance for graphics. This program was initiated in FY 98.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See below.

Contact: Christine Benally, ATSDR, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, MS E32, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30333, (404) 639-0610 or (800) 42ATSDR.
ATSDR-IHS Training Program

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide environmental health training to Tribal representatives. Training has included having IHS staff attend the ATSDR Public Health Assessment course, IHS involvement in ATSDR site assessments, and a joint course for IHS and Tribal staff on Hazardous Materials and Public Health.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Christine Benally, ATSDR, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, MS E32, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30333, (404) 639-0610 or (888) 42ATSDR

Program to Build Capacity among Native American Tribes Impacted by Releases from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation


Purpose of Assistance: To provide funds for Native American tribal governments to undertake capacity building activities that will assist them in addressing human health issues arising from exposure to releases of hazardous substances from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in the southeastern area of the State of Washington. Program funds are intended to build tribal capacity to participate in ATSDR site-specific activities around and near the Hanford Facility, including public health assessments, health consultations, community involvement, preventive health education and follow-up health studies.

Eligible Recipients: Tribes located within the Washington, Oregon, Idaho Tri-State area.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Leslie Campbell, ATSDR, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, MS E32, 1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30333, (404) 639-6337 or (800) 42ATSDR.
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC)

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (NCEH)

Childhood Lead Poisoning Program

Available Assistance: Technical assistance on the development of prevention programs also is provided upon request.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide the impetus for the development, implementation, expansion, and evaluation of State and Local childhood lead poisoning prevention programs, including tribal programs.

Eligible Recipients: All Indian Tribes.

Application Process: Applications must be developed in accordance with form PHS 5161-1 and should follow the structure presented in the program announcement and guidance document provided by CDC. Both documents are expected to be made available by CDC in early February 1999. Applicants must submit an original and two copies of their application package on or before March 31, 1999. Evaluation criteria will be contained in both the program announcement and guidance document.

Contact Information: Claudette Grant-Joseph, Chief, Program Services Section, Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, MS-F42, Atlanta, GA, 30341-3724, 770-488-7330. E-mail address: cag4@cdc.gov.

Emergency Response

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide technical assistance for both public health and environmental health issues related to emergencies and disasters. Assistance is available for issues such as public health and medical needs assessment; injury/illness surveillance, prevention, and control; worker safety and health; vector control; releases of biological, chemical, or radiological agent; and, public health information.

Eligible Recipients: Anyone.

Application Process: See contact below.
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING

**Sanitation Facilities Construction Program (SFC)**

**Available Assistance:** Technical and financial. The SFC Program funding distribution to IHS Areas is based on need and in accordance with established program formulas and priority systems.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To provide assistance for the cooperative development and continued operation of safe water, wastewater, and solid waste systems, and related support facilities for American Indian and Alaska Native homes and communities. Services provided by the program include:
1. Maintaining sanitation deficiency inventories.
2. Providing environmental engineering services.
3. Project development.
4. Funding water, wastewater, and solid waste projects.
5. Providing professional design and construction services.
6. Providing O&M training and technical consultation.
7. Advocating for Indian people on environmental issues.
8. Providing emergency response services.

**Eligible Recipients:** Federally recognized American Indians and Alaska Natives.

**Application Process:** Tribes and Tribal Designated Housing Entities should coordinate with their IHS Area offices when applying for SFC Program Assistance. Individual homeowners should apply through their respective Tribes.

**Contact:** Local IHS Area office (see Appendix B).

**Environmental Health Program**

**Available Assistance:** Environmental health services.

**Purpose of Assistance:** To coordinate the development and implementation of community-based environmental health services and programs in areas such as hazard evaluation, air pollution, epidemiology, emergency operations, hazardous materials, operation and maintenance, occupational
health, radiation, waste disposal, water supply, infection control, industrial hygiene, radiation protection, food safety, injury prevention and fluoridation.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local IHS Area office (see Appendix B).

ientes: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local IHS Area office (see Appendix B).

Environmental Management Program

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide technical support to Tribal and IHS environmental health and engineering staff through consultation, and special projects, including conducting environmental health program management reviews at the Area, District, and Service Unit levels. The program provides program direction for sanitation facilities operation and maintenance activities and for community water fluoridation. It develops and conducts training programs on technical and management subjects to improve the skills of Tribal and IHS environmental health and engineering staff.

Eligible Recipients: Federally recognized Tribes.

Application Process: See contact below.

Contact: Local IHS Area office (see Appendix B).

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES (NIEHS)

Environmental Justice: Partnerships for Communication

Available Assistance: Financial.

Purpose of Assistance: To stimulate investigation of the influence of economic and social factors on the health of people exposed to environmental toxicants. For example, the University of Oklahoma trains Tribal members to be lay health advisers who can teach and show the Native American population how to minimize health problems from severe lead contamination resulting from mining. See http://www.niehs.nih.gov for more information.
Eligible Recipients: Applications may be submitted by domestic for-profit and non-profit organizations, public and private, including predominantly minority institutions, individually or as joint efforts of minority institutions and majority institutions. Usually, only one award under this RFA will be funded at an institution or organization. Although a single institution or organization must be the applicant, a multi-institutional arrangement (consortium) is possible. Such consortia, entailing active participation by more than one organization, are encouraged if there is clear evidence of close interaction and responsible partnership among the participants.


Contact: Allen Dearry, Ph.D.; Division of Extramural Research and Training; Mail Drop 3-04, NIEHS; Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; (919) 541-4943 or dearry@niehs.nih.gov.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SCIENCE

Office of Minority Health Resource Center

Available Assistance: Technical.

Purpose of Assistance: To provide customized database searches, publications, mailing lists, referrals, and more to American Indian and Alaska Native, African American, Asian American and Pacific Islander, and Hispanic populations regarding human and environmental health issues. The center collects and distributes information on a wide variety of health topics, including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and infant mortality.

Eligible Recipients: Anyone.

Application Process: The center’s services are free, and can be obtained by calling toll-free 1-800-444-6472 or send an e-mail request to info@omhrc.gov.

Contact: See http://www.omhrc.gov for more information.