The Bureau of Indian Affairs & Native Plant Conservation
A BRIEF HISTORY, OVERVIEW, & TRIBAL PROJECTS

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Today’s Overview

1. BIA History and Federal Indian Policy
2. Organizational Structure
3. Funding Opportunities
4. Tribal Resilience Program
5. Native Plant Conservation on Tribal Lands
   - Case Studies
BIA History and Federal Indian Policy

BIA Federal policy has changed from notions of subjugating and assimilating Native Americans and Alaska Natives, to supporting self-determination and maintaining its trust responsibility and government-to-government relationship with and for Tribal Nations.

1774
A committee is established for Indian Affairs

1778 - 1871
Congress made Tribal Treaties, the first treaty with the Delawares

1789
US creates War Department, Indian Affairs moved to new War Department

1849
Indian Affairs was transferred to the U.S. Department of the Interior

1871
Congress creates an act that disallows further treaty negotiations with tribes. Past treaties are still honored, but new agreements will be in the form of Executive Orders or Congressional Acts

1947
Formally renamed Bureau of Indian Affairs

1950's
Termination Era Begins, over 100 tribes are terminated & lands are sold. BIA establishes relocation program encouraging tribes to leave reservation & assimilate

1975
Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (PL 93-638) passed, which recognizes the rights of Tribes to self-government and sovereignty. ALSO, Trust Responsibilities became its own category in BIA's organizational structure

2011
First year that the Bureau of Indian Affairs funded Tribal Climate Adaptation Planning
Organizational Structure

Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs (AS-IA)

- Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

  - Field Operations
  - Justice Services
  - Trust Services
  - Indian Services
BIA Funding Opportunities

Funding Mechanisms: P.L. 93-638 Self-Determination Contracts and Federal grants

P.L. 638

- “638” mechanism is a Federal contract
- Self Governance tribes do not use this mechanism

Federal Grants

- A Federal grant is one of the vehicles for Financial Assistance
- All federally-recognized tribes (regardless of Self-Governance or Self-Determination can utilize this mechanism)
BIA Funding Opportunities (cont.)

Natural Resources

- **Invasive Species Program** funding covers all invasive species (plants/animals) outside of noxious weeds in agricultural settings ($2,500 - $250,000 per application)
  - Noxious Weeds Management component ~$2 - 4M
  - Noxious Weed proposals require a 50% cost share min.
  - Must be on-the-ground applications: implementation
Natural Resources (cont.):

• **Endangered Species Program** funding may be used to support economic development, restoration, or management of tribal trust resources
  - Prioritizes projects that require permitting to allow the development of oil/gas, timber harvest, or green energy on trust lands that involve species protected by the ESA
  - Projects involving tribally important species/habitats and focusing attention to those (up to $120,000 per application)
Natural Resources (cont.):

- **Tribal Youth Initiative** funding to is used for the support and development of tribal youth programs focused on science alignment with conservation and natural resource management.
  - Provide opportunities for youth to engage in, and encourage interest in pursuing educational opportunities and careers in natural resources management ($2,000 - $50,000 per application)
BIA Funding Opportunities (cont.)

Forestry & Wildland Fire Management:

- **Forest Development**, Timber, Woodlands, FMI&P, etc.
- Regional basis, competitive funding
  - Forest Development funding can support foodbelt species projects and native species restoration projects
  - Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) program can also fund replanting or restoration post-fire
Tribal Resilience Program (Federal grants):

• Support tribes preparing for extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and safety

• **Adaptation Planning** Category can fund planning for a wide variety of native plant conservation-related activities
  - Focuses on funding overarching Tribal Adaptation Plans, which usually have multiple tribal departments involved
TRP Focus Area

Funding opportunities support Tribal Nations, Tribal consortia, and authorized Tribal organizations to build resilience through competitive awards for tribally designed:

- capacity building and resilience training access
- supplemental monitoring
- vulnerability and risk assessments
- climate adaptation planning
- ocean and coastal management planning
- relocation, managed retreat, or protect-in-place planning
Trainings and Workshops

Training Partner: Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

• Tribal Climate Change 101 Trainings- 18 since 2016!

• Biennial Virtual National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference

Photos: Feb 2017 training, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
Tribal Resilience Liaison Network

- TRP funds seven of eight total Tribal Resilience Liaisons
- Funded through partnerships with Non-profit Tribal organizations
- Liaisons are housed at DOI’s Climate Adaptation Science Centers (CASCs) to link tribal needs to regional data hubs
- Cover all of Indian Country for technical expertise
All 12 BIA Regions have a TRP Point of Contact:

- Serve as Bureau Project Officer on grants
- Plan with modest regional TRP funds for resources, gatherings, or climate-related projects
TRP Funding Opportunity

- Since 2011, funded 703 awards with over $60.7 million
- Annual awards budget ~$8-15 million (Congress appropriated)
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) posted on Grants.gov
- 2021 Solicitation TBD (~December or January)
- FAQ webinar will follow release of NOFO: recorded and posted to TRP website – Presentations site page
  (https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/tribal-resilience-program/presentations)
TRP Funding Categories

- Category 1 - Trainings and Workshops: $150k max
- Category 2 – Adaptation Planning: $150k max
- Category 3 – Travel Support for Adaptation Planning: $15K max
- Category 4 – Ocean & Coastal Management Planning: $150k max (mandatory crosscut of $2M per Congress)
- Category 5 – Travel Support for Ocean & Coastal Management Planning: $15k max
- Category 6 – Capacity Building for scoping activities: $65k max
- Category 7 – Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place Planning: $150k max
TRP Awards Across Indian Country

2019
Number of Awards: 119
Amount Awarded: $8.7M

2020
Number of Awards: 159
Amount Awarded: $14.4M
TRP Funded- Native Plant Projects

FY 2020 Category 1 Award (Trainings and Workshops):
The Learning Center at Euchee Butterfly Farm
“Building Tribal Resilience through Adaptation Planning to Preserve Cultural and Natural Resources”

• Conduct Adaptation training for tribes in Oklahoma on how to preserve cultural & natural resources during extreme events
• Workshops provided by the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators: building capacity for native plant restoration efforts by providing tribes with training, technical support, and a native plant seed bank organized by ecoregion
TRP Funded- Native Plant Projects

FY 2020 Category 2 Award (Adaptation Planning):
Bishop Paiute Tribe
“The Role of TEK & Cultural Foods Amidst Climate Instability:
Adaptation Plan for Stewardship of Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands”

• Conduct resilience and adaptation planning to identify and inventory pinyon-juniper woodland sites for tribal stewardship that will enhance long-term health and productivity of selected sites
FY 2020 Category 2 Award (Adaptation Planning): Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
“Black Ash Sapflux Study: Climate Change Planning for Protecting Manoomin in a Riverine Community”

• Study to determine the effects of baapaagimaak (black ash) loss due to climate change and emerald ash borer on wild rice waters in conjunction with gathering community Indigenous Knowledge to help inform management strategies
Connecting Funding to Needs

Climate change is not an isolated issue—so don’t only look for “climate change grants”

How does or could climate affect the things you value? What tribal programs are or could be affected?

Other current funding sources might be options, since changes in climate can directly affect many tribal resources. For example:

- Emergency management
- Drought resilience
- Habitat Connectivity
- Invasive species
- Water quality
- Forestry and Wildfire
- Air Quality and Pollution
- Fish and Wildlife
- Species Migration
- Subsistence Practices

NCA4, 2018
TRP Geospatial Applications

Tribal Resilience Award and Reference Interactive Web Map

- Counts of past awards and funding totals for each tribe
- Links to Award Summaries to see tribal award for each year
- Can turn layers on or off to see different BIA Regions, Tribal Liaison Regions, or TRP awards
TRP Geospatial Applications

National Climate Assessment (NCA) Interactive Web Map

• Displays locations of Indigenous Peoples’ Resilience Actions
• Search by NCA Regions
• Search by Activity Type: Planning / Assessment, Monitoring / Research, Governance / Capacity Building, Adaptation / Implementation, Youth / Cultural Continuity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tribe or Group Name</th>
<th>Action Title</th>
<th>Action URL Address</th>
<th>Action Type</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Sector</th>
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<tr>
<td>Passamaquoddy Tribe - Pleasant Point</td>
<td>ITEP TCC Profile: PTPP Climate Change Impacts and Strategies</td>
<td><a href="http://www7.nau.edu/tep/tep/main/tcc/Tribe/CaseStudy">http://www7.nau.edu/tep/tep/main/tcc/Tribe/CaseStudy</a></td>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>Planning / Assessment</td>
<td>Fisheries and subsistence species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Thank you!

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Or check out our website for more information:
https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/tribal-resilience-program