

INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL

www.itbcbuffalo.com



ITBC ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

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PROUDLY SERVING THE BUFFALO NATION

THE 63 TRIBES IN 19 STATES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor | Picuris Pueblo |
| Blackfeet Nation | Pit River Tribe |
| Cherokee Nation | Pueblo of Pojoaque |
| Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of OK | Ponca Tribe of NE |
| Cheyenne River | Prairie Band Potawatomi |
| Chippewa Cree | Prairie Island Dakota Comm |
| Cochiti Pueblo | Quapaw Tribe of OK |
| Confederated Salish & Kootenai | Rosebud Tribe |
| Confederated Umatilla | Round Valley |
| Crow Creek Sioux | Ruby Tribe |
| Crow Tribe | Sac & Fox Mississippi |
| Eastern Shoshone Tribe | Salt River Pima |
| Flandreau | San Juan Pueblo |
| Fort Belknap | Sandia Pueblo |
| Fort Peck | Santee Sioux |
| Ho-Chunk Nation | Seneca-Cayuga of OK |
| Iowa Tribe | Shakopee Mdewakanton |
| Jicarilla Apache Tribe | Shoshone Bannock |
| Kalispel Tribe | Sisseton Wahpeton |
| Leech Lake | Southern Ute |
| Lower Brule | Spirit Lake |
| Mesa Grande | Standing Rock |
| Modoc Tribe of OK | Stevens Village |
| Nambe Pueblo | Stillaguamish Tribe |
| Nez Perce | Taos Pueblo |
| Northern Arapaho | Tesuque Pueblo |
| Northern Cheyenne | Three Affiliated Tribes |
| Oglala Sioux Tribe | Turtle Mountain |
| Omaha Tribe of NE | Ute Indian Tribe |
| Oneida Nation | Winnebago Tribe |
| Osage Nation, "Wah-Zha-Zhi" | Yakama Nation |
| | Yankton Sioux Tribe |

NEW MEMBER TRIBE

EASTERN SHOSHONE TRIBE, “NEWE”



The Eastern Shoshone Reservation headquartered at Fort Washakie, Wyoming, is located in West Central Wyoming on the Wind River Reservation. It is believed that the Eastern Shoshone Tribe dwelled and hunted in the Wind River mountain range and its environs for around 12,000 years, as evidenced by the ancient cliff dwellings recently discovered there. In the early 1800s, the Eastern Shoshone band ranged along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains from southwestern Wyoming to southwestern Montana. By the 1860s, they camped most of the year in the Wind River Valley, which they called “Warm Valley.” They would move to the Fort Bridger area for the summer months.

In 1805, the Shoshones encountered and directed the Lewis and Clark expedition in finding a waterway to the Pacific Ocean. The well-known Shoshone woman, Sacajawea, seventeen years old and carrying her newborn

infant, accompanied Lewis and Clark guiding them through the northwest to the Pacific Ocean. Without the guarantee of safe passage from the Eastern Shoshone, the Lewis and Clark Expedition would not have succeeded.

Chief Washakie, who became Chief of the Eastern Shoshone in 1840, led his people for over sixty years. He represented his tribe at various treaty and cessation councils with the federal government. The Ft. Bridger Treaty of 1863 set boundaries for the Shoshone Reservation, later called Wind River Reservation, allotting them 44,672,000 acres which included parts of Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado, however, the second treaty of 1868 set boundaries much smaller reducing the size to 2,774,400 acres in West Central Wyoming. It was further diminished when gold was discovered, causing the first major wave of American encroachment into the Wind River-Sweet Water region.

Today, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe is governed by a Non-IRA, General Council, which is currently led by Darwin “Sonny” St. Clair, Chairman. The Tribe has around 4,000 enrolled members. The Eastern Shoshone Reservation encompasses 2.3 million acres of land, which includes resources of oil and gas. Other industries include casino businesses and tourism.

The Tribe does not currently have an existing buffalo population, but voted by Tribal Resolution to join ITBC membership on October 2, 2015, to begin planning for a future herd. The ITBC Board of Directors voted to accept the Eastern Shoshone Tribe as members at their June 2016 Board Meeting. Jason Baldes is the ITBC Representative and Chairman Sonny St. Clair will serve as the alternate.

Source: www.easternshoshone.org

NEW MEMBER TRIBE

OSAGE NATION, “WAH-ZHA-ZHI”



The Osage Nation originated from Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas, but were removed to Oklahoma in the late 1800s. Their current tribal government offices are now located in Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

Osage Nation’s mission: “To ensure the survival of the Wah-Zha-Zhi nation of people, we will share, preserve, and celebrate the values, teachings and tribal ways that our elders entrusted to the present and future generation. Our Strength will come from the commitment of our Wah-Zha-Zhi people and the knowledge that the Wah-Zha-Zhi nation is blessed by Wa-Kon-Da.”

Today, the Osage Nation is governed by a three part branch government, which includes Executive Branch, Legislative Branch and Judicial Branch.

The Tribe is currently led by Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear and Assistant Chief Raymond RedCorn, assisted by 12 Congress Members of the Legislative Branch. Elections are held every four years, with the next election in June of 2018. The Tribe has over 21,000 enrolled members. The Osage Nation Reservation encompasses approximately 1.5 million acres of land. Its resources include: Minerals Estate (overseen by the Minerals Council) and gaming revenue.

The Tribe does not currently have an existing buffalo population, but voted by Tribal Resolution to join ITBC membership on June 15, 2016, to begin planning for a future herd. The ITBC Board of Directors voted to accept the Osage Nation as members at their September 2016 Board Meeting. Jim

Perrier is the ITBC Representative and Francis Murphy will serve as the alternate. Both of them are members of the Osage Nation Bluestem Ranch LLC board. There are 5 members (all Osage) on the board, chaired by Faren Anderson. They were established in April 2016 to oversee and manage the recently purchased 43,000 acres of land, recently purchased by the Osage Nation. The land is located within their reservation and was previous homelands to their tribal ancestors. The Osage Nation is excited to be able to build back their land base with the recent purchase and looks forward to incorporating buffalo onto their lands now owned by the Nation.

Source: Faren Anderson; Osage Tribe

NEW MEMBER TRIBE

RUBY TRIBE, “KOYUKON ATHABASCAN”



The Native Village of Ruby, the official name of the Nowitna band of Koyukon Athabascan Indians, is located in the western interior of mainland Alaska and is situated on the Yukon River. The Koyukon Athabascan people were an ancient nomadic hunter gatherer culture of interior Alaska who had no permanent villages other than temporary winter camps where -60 degrees was common with movable fishing and hunting camps during the warm summer depending on where the seasonal resources were abundant. Moose, caribou and bear were the main large animals they hunted supplementing with smaller animals such as grouse and abundant fish, and berries and plants for food and medicine. It has been proven through traditional ancient stories and archaeology that wood buffalo existed 500 years ago, but were hunted to extinction. Wood buffalo now have been reintroduced into the area. With the

discovery of gold at the start of the 20th century, the first white people entered the area and built Ruby mining town. Nomadic life changed and resistance to the overwhelming numbers of miners was futile; besides there was a lot of land left to share for subsistence uses and money paying jobs for new rifles, boat motors, medicine and agricultural products that did not exist before. Adaptation was necessary for survival. By 1950, most miners left Ruby leaving it empty for a nomadic people who needed to go to school, maintain jobs, trade and join the modern world. Ruby is very isolated, not connected to any roads to the outside world and surrounded by vast wilderness. It is hundreds of miles from stores and conveniences most Americans take for granted. Hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering are still a strong and necessary part of Ruby Tribe's culture, diet, economy and wellbeing.

Today, the Ruby Tribe is a federally recognized tribe and is currently led by Patrick McCarty, Chairman. The Tribe has 559 enrolled members. Their resources include: lumber, fish, wildlife, fur, medical herbs, gold and rare minerals, abundant fresh water and geothermal springs.

The Ruby Tribe does not currently have an existing buffalo population, but voted by Tribal Resolution to join ITBC membership on October 15, 2014, to begin planning for a future herd. The ITBC Board of Directors voted to accept the Ruby Tribe as members at their June 2016 Board Meeting. Edward Sarten is the ITBC Representative and Chairman Pat McCarty will serve as the alternate.

Source: Edward Sarten

NEW MEMBER TRIBE

ALUTIIQ TRIBE OF OLD HARBOR, “NUNIAQ”



The Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor is one of several villages on Kodiak Island, located in the Gulf of Alaska on the Southwest Coast of Kodiak Island, 70 air miles Southwest of the City of Kodiak and 322 air miles Southwest of Anchorage, Alaska.

The indigenous Sugpiaq Alutiiq peoples were the primary inhabitants of the Kodiak Archipelago (a group of islands south of the mainland of Alaska). Archaeological evidence from Sitkalidak Island and areas surrounding Old Harbor identifies the presence of people for at least 7,000 years.

In 1784, invasion of Russian traders who exploited fur bearing sea mammals, marked the beginning of substantial changes for the Alutiiq people. With the Russian occupation, Orthodox Religion was introduced and the current day Three Saints Russian Community Church is a major part of life in Old Harbor. In 1964, the area

was destroyed by the Good Friday earthquake and tsunami, but was rebuilt into a thriving community. The Native Village of Old Harbor is known for practicing traditional Alutiiq culture and subsistence lifestyles. They rely on the natural resources of their sea and land. Their modern amenities include an airstrip, a fishing fleet, water, sewer, electricity, internet and satellite services. They are a growing community

The Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor is a federally recognized tribe established in 1968 and is currently being led by their Tribal President, Darik Larionoff. The Tribe consists of around 650 members. The primary economy for the community of Old Harbor is the commercial fishing industry. Artisans in the area work in carvings, basket making and clothing production and there is a rich heritage preserved in song and dance.

The Tribe does not currently have an existing buffalo population, but voted by Tribal Resolution to join ITBC membership on March 23, 2016, to begin planning for a future herd. The ITBC Board of Directors voted to accept the Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor as members at their June 2016 Board Meeting. Melissa Berns is the ITBC Representative and Alfred Cratty will serve as the alternate.

The Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor works closely with the two other governing bodies in the community: the Old Harbor Native Corporation and the City of Old Harbor. The Old Harbor Native Corporation is the majority land owner for the community and is working with Alutiiq Tribe on membership with ITBC for food security of their people and future generations.

Source: www.oldharbortribal.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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THE INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YEAR-END SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

In 2016, the ITBC Board of Directors continued involvement with on-going organizational initiatives to further the objectives of ITBC to restore, manage, protect and conserve buffalo for the ITBC membership. The Board also addressed new issues and efforts as they arose throughout the year. Following is a summary of the 2016 Board of Directors activities.

RESTORATION, MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF BUFFALO

The Board actively continued participation with National Parks to receive surplus buffalo for translocation to member Tribes through ITBC's surplus buffalo program;

The Board continued with efforts to protect Yellowstone buffalo from needless slaughter through active participation at the InterAgency Bison Management Plan workgroup meetings;

The Board also actively supported the National Park Service's draft Environmental Assessment on a buffalo quarantine program and the preferred alternative in the EA to utilize the Fort Peck Quarantine facility for Yellowstone buffalo. The Board attended a Montana

Department of Livestock meeting in support of Fort Peck's efforts to commence the quarantine program in their facility;

The Board continued to support treaty hunting rights to Yellowstone buffalo for those Tribes that choose to exercise that right as a viable management option for population reduction of Yellowstone buffalo;

The Board also continued efforts for ITBC to receive captured Yellowstone buffalo slated by NPS for harvest for processing and distribution to member Tribes. This effort provided buffalo meat equitably to Tribes for school lunches, distribution to tribal members or other Tribally determined uses;

The Board continued coordination with the North Dakota Buffalo Association and the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association pursuant to MOU's executed in 2015. Further, the Board approved execution of a MOU with the Grand Canyon National Park for ITBC to serve as a cooperating partner in an environmental assessment for buffalo in the Grand Canyon.

The Board participated in the signing ceremony for the National Bison Legacy Act in Washington, DC as a culmination of the active collaboration with the American Bison Society and Wildlife Conservation Service. The NBLA

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establishes buffalo as the National Mammal and raises buffalo restoration efforts to a national interest level.

ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDING

The Board started 2016 with active efforts to promote the draft Indian Buffalo Management Act by meeting with Congressional members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. The IBMA is an effort to create a permanent program in the BIA for buffalo restoration and management to insure authorized annual funding.

The Board also met with Department of Interior officials to explore creating the buffalo program administratively.

In March, the President testified before the House Appropriations Committee for federal funding with a request to increase the ITBC herd development grant funding and to fund other ITBC initiatives such as the health promotion and marketing efforts;

The Board again facilitated the Herd Development Program with awards to 27 Tribes.

The Board actively participated in the letter of intent and invitation to develop a full proposal to receive KeepEagle Settlement funds to enhance the

organizational budget. If ITBC is awarded funds, the Board intends to enhance herd development grants and organizational services to Tribes.

2017 ACTIVITIES

The Board continues to actively plan for the ITBC 25th anniversary that will be held in Las Vegas in November, 2017.

The Board will finalize the ITBC documentary film on ITBC's history, accomplishments and current activities and also focus on the successes of Member Tribes with buffalo restoration.



TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

Presented by: Ervin Carlson, President, Inter Tribal Buffalo Council — Fiscal Year 2017 — March 18, 2016

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

My name is Ervin Carlson and I am a member of the Blackfeet Nation in Montana and serve as the President of the Inter Tribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). Please accept my sincere appreciation for this opportunity to submit written testimony to the honorable members of the House Committee on Appropriations; Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. ITBC was granted a federal charter in 2009 pursuant to Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act and is comprised of sixty (60) federally recognized Indian Tribes in nineteen (19) states with headquarter offices

in Rapid City, South Dakota. The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and the Ruby Tribe of Alaska are the two newest members of ITBC.

American Indians have a long-standing connection with the buffalo. Historically, buffalo provided the Tribes with food, shelter, clothing and essential tools for survival. Indians have maintained a strong spiritual and cultural connection with the buffalo that has not diminished with the passage of time. ITBC Member Tribes strive to restore buffalo to Tribal lands for cultural, health and economic benefits for Tribal populations.

On behalf of the Member Tribes of

ITBC, I am requesting an increase of \$5,600,000 to our current \$1,400,000 FY2015 funding level for a total funding award for FY2016 of \$7,000,000 to allow the organization to: 1) increase funds for the Tribal herd development grant program, 2) to fund ITBC efforts to serve as a meaningful management partner to the National Park Service, and 3) to fund scientific research on the benefits of buffalo meat for Native populations for the prevention and treatment of diet related diseases. ITBC requests funding from the Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Fish and Wildlife Program and also from the National Park Service.

FUNDING HISTORY

ITBC has been funded through various methods including the President’s budget, Congressional earmarks or administrative action since 1992. ITBC’s approximate annual funding is listed below:

FY 1992 - 1993	\$ 400,000.00	Congressional Earmark
FY 1994 - 1999	\$ 650,000.00	President’s Budget
FY 2000 - 2001	\$1,100,000.00	President’s Budget; Congressional Earmark
FY 2002 - 2003	\$1,560,000.00	President’s Budget; Congressional Earmark
FY 2004 - 2005	\$2,200,000.00	President’s Budget; Congressional Earmark
FY 2006	\$4,100,000.00	President’s Budget; Congressional Earmark
FY 2007	\$1,000,000.00	Administrative Action BIA
FY 2008	\$1,000,000.00	Congressional Earmark
FY 2009 - 2010	\$1,400,000.00	Congressional Earmark; Administrative Action BIA
FY 2011	\$1,750,000.00	President’s Budget; Administrative Action BIA
FY 2012	\$1,400,000.00	President’s Budget
FY 2013	\$1,600,000.00	President’s Budget; Administrative Action BIA
FY 2014	\$1,400,000.00	President’s Budget; Administrative Action BIA
FY 2015	\$1,450,000.00	President’s Budget; Administrative Action BIA
FY 2016	\$1,400,000.00	President’s Budget

The above funding history illustrates Congressional and Administrative support for ITBC and Tribal buffalo herds. Annual funding of ITBC provides evidence that buffalo restoration and management is not a limited or one-time “project” but a “recurring program” most recently funded from the Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Fish and Wildlife line item.

FUNDING INCREASE JUSTIFICATION

• Increase in Herd Development Grant Funds

ITBC expends 100% of the appropriated funds on the development and management of Tribal buffalo herds. A significant portion of ITBC funding is distributed directly to ITBC Member Tribes via a Herd Development Grant program administered by ITBC. The herd development grant program commenced in 1992 with \$400,000 to assist the twelve member Tribes in the organization. In 2002, ITBC was awarded \$1,000,000 for Tribal herd development grants to support 25 Tribal herds. Since 2002, the herd development grant funding has been stagnant at \$1,000,000 despite the growth of the organization to the current sixty (60)

member Tribes and 54 buffalo herds. In total, ITBC collectively manages over 20,000 buffalo which is more than all the buffalo currently managed by NPS in the National Parks. A \$2,500,000 increase for Tribal herd development grants will provide critically needed funding to protect and manage existing Tribal herds. This increase will provide a total of \$3,500,000 for distribution to Tribes in an average amount of \$65,000 per Tribal herd depending on specific needs. These funds will create jobs in Indian Country, create sustainable Tribal buffalo herds and allow Tribes to utilize buffalo for economic development.

• Funding for National Park Service and United States Fish and Wildlife Service Partnership

Since its inception, ITBC has partnered

with the National Park Service (NPS) on buffalo management efforts including population management through roundups and distribution of buffalo to Tribes from the parks national refuges. ITBC has not been funded for these activities but has utilized minimal administrative funding to partner with the federal agencies. For example, ITBC has agreed to manage buffalo removed from Yellowstone Park for population control, transport the animals to processing facilities and distribute processed meat to Tribes despite very limited funding for these efforts. Additionally, ITBC is a member of the Interagency Bison Management Plan workgroup and has incurred significant costs to participate in all related activities to insure that Tribes are represented in buffalo management decisions. ITBC can continue these

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efforts and develop and manage a quarantine program that will allow the transfer of live buffalo from the Yellowstone Park to Tribes through an increase of \$500,000 in annual funding.

- **Health Related Research**

ITBC has a long-term objective to prevent and treat diet related diseases in Native populations through the reintroduction of buffalo into daily diets. However, these efforts to coordinate with health care providers have been limited by the lack of scientific evidence of the health benefits of natural grass fed buffalo diets. ITBC believes research to develop concrete evidence of these health benefits will facilitate ITBC partnerships with health programs to prevent and treat diet related diseases in Native populations.

Additionally, sound research results will allow ITBC to develop a health education curriculum for healthy living with a component specifically focused on Native youth. Further, this critical research will support ITBC's efforts to provide buffalo meat to school lunch programs as a healthy alternative to other meat products.

Funding in the amount of \$3,000,000 will allow ITBC to pursue professional research objectives.

CURRENT ITBC INITIATIVES

ITBC's primary objectives are to restore buffalo to Tribal lands, and to conserve and manage existing Tribal herds through the promotion of traditional buffalo handling practices and beliefs. ITBC strives to offer assistance and opportunities to Tribes to meet the needs and desires of individual Tribal programs. ITBC attempts to balance the varying interests of member Tribes from maintaining herds for spiritual

purposes to utilizing buffalo as viable economic development endeavors. ITBC accomplishes these objectives as follows:

1. Technical Assistance to Tribes:

ITBC assesses current and potential Tribal buffalo programs to determine technical service needs and infrastructure needs and provides technical assistance in the areas of wildlife management, ecological management, range management, buffalo health, cultural practices and economic development. Further ITBC assists with fencing, corrals, facility design, water development and equipment research. ITBC provides annual training sessions (national and regional) designed to enhance Tribal buffalo management.

2. Education and Outreach:

ITBC staff provides educational presentations to various audiences including school-age youth on buffalo restoration, conservation efforts, and the historical, cultural relationship between buffalo and American Indians.

3. Partnership and Collaboration:

ITBC is a member of various Federal and State working groups organized to address buffalo issues. ITBC collaborates with the National Park Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service on surplus federal buffalo and to address the Yellowstone brucellosis concerns. However, ITBC participates on a limited basis due to a lack of funding for these collaborative efforts.

4. ITBC Marketing Program:

ITBC strives to develop markets for buffalo meat and products for interested member Tribes at the local and national level. ITBC procures buffalo, as limited funds allow, from Tribes and sells the meat products under a joint Tribal and ITBC label. An increase in funding will

enhance these marketing efforts.

5. School Lunch Program:

ITBC has eight Member Tribes serving Tribal raised buffalo into their school lunch programs to address health concerns of school-age children. ITBC anticipates expanding this program to 20 Tribes in the next three years with increased funding.

CONCLUSION

ITBC has existed for over two decades to assist Tribes with restoration of buffalo to Tribal lands for cultural purposes. No other program exists to assist Tribes with buffalo restoration and protection.

ITBC and its member Tribes have created a new Indian Reservation industry that includes job creation and new revenue for the Tribal economies. ITBC ultimately hopes to restore Tribal herds large enough to support local Tribal health needs and generate sufficient revenue to achieve economically self sufficient herds.

ITBC and its member Tribes are appreciative of past and current support from the Congress and the Administration. However, I urge the Committee to increase ITBC funding to a total of \$7,000,000 which is a level commensurate with the growth of the Tribal Buffalo Programs. This increase will demonstrate Congressional respect for this national icon and allow ITBC to fulfill its responsibilities to restore, protect and manage buffalo.

I would like to thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony and I invite you to visit ITBC Tribal buffalo projects and experience first hand their successes.

Questions and/or comments regarding any of the issues presented within this testimony may be directed to Mr. Ervin Carlson, President, or to Mr. James Stone, Executive Director, at (605) 394-9730.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



JIM STONE
Executive Director

ITBC has had another year of growth adding several new tribes, new staff and getting involved in new and exciting issues. The Annual Report will cover the activities of the staff, Board of Directors and member Tribes. ITBC has moved our Membership Meeting into November to coincide with the Indian Nationals Final Rodeo and have planned to continue this into next year as a part of our 25th Anniversary event.

It is great to see the new Tribes that have joined getting their herds established to benefit their tribal membership. The staff continues to be out in the field with the tribes doing trainings, site visits, participating in round ups and reviewing new grant opportunities for ITBC. A lot of grants have been changing their focus as far as trainings and moving towards more on line trainings and not funding travel for participants so we need to look at ways to continue the regional trainings in the same fashion as the past.

ITBC GRANT PROGRAMS

In the past year ITBC implemented the following grants we secured to provide technical assistance and training to the Membership as well to maintain our involvement in all issue concerning buffalo on a national level. These programs were implemented by the ITBC staff.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

ITBC operated various BIA funded programs during the past year:

1. BIA Operating Grant Objectives
 - A. Provide direct services to the Tribes to assist with restoration, conservation and enhancement of Tribal buffalo herds;
 - B. To promote and foster working relations with all levels of government, governmental agencies and wildlife oriented organizations to protect and preserve the future of buffalo and their habitat, through education and awareness programs; and
 - C. To support Tribal economic efforts that utilizes the buffalo as an economic resource; and
 - D. To implement a health care initiative that will educate Native American families on the benefits of Indian produced buffalo meat in their daily diet
 - E. Conduct Herd Development Grant Program
2. BIA Yellowstone Grant Objectives
 - A. Buffalo management in Yellowstone National Park
 - B. Organizational engagement with the NPS concerning Yellowstone buffalo management

Continue on next page

3. BIA Climate Change Grant Objectives

A. To develop a cooperative vulnerability assessment of the Tribal Buffalo Programs of the Member Tribes of ITBC.

USDA SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS GRANT

ITBC received a grant to provide the Membership with training on the development of disease management practices specific to buffalo which tribes could incorporate into their buffalo management plans and programs. Grant Objectives were:

- A. Development of the training curriculum and materials
- B. Provide trainings
- C. Provide post training technical assistance as requested
- D. The development of a disease management guide
- E. Post training evaluation

USDA CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT

ITBC received a grant to assist tribes in the development of tribal programs to deal with climate change with a focus on drought management. This is the second year of a three year grant. The goals of the grant are:

- A. Build capacity for tribes to address how climate change and drought impact the land and buffalo.
- B. Evaluate and assess drought impacts and recovery.
- C. Explore past response actions to drought and initiate future drought response planning.
- D. Develop best management practices for each ITBC region and develop process for transfer to other ITBC regions.
- E. Implement regional trainings and assessment processes.

USDA FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT

ITBC received a grant to assist the tribes in South Dakota to develop Farm to School programs. The project when completed will:

- A. Make local food products available on the menu of the eligible school.
- B. Serve a high proportion of children who are eligible for free or reduced price lunches.
- C. Demonstrate collaboration between eligible schools, nongovernmental and community-based organizations, agricultural producer groups, and other community partners.
- D. Include adequate and participatory evaluation plans.
- E. Demonstrate the potential for long-term program sustainability.

ITBC PROJECTS

NATIONAL BISON DESIGNATION

It seems like an eternity ago ITBC had internal discussions about creating “Buffalo Day” which would be something like Earth Day, but focus on tribes and traditional foods during the early part of November. ITBC then discussed this thought with representatives of the Wildlife Conservation Society and there was interest in combining this with an effort to designate the buffalo as the National Mammal. The two groups added the National Bison Association to the mix and the Vote Bison Coalition was formed. After years of hard work, things finally broke our way with the House of Representatives finding a work around for the obstacles this effort faced and the buffalo was named the National Mammal. ITBC attended a reception held at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the Native American in Washington, D.C. on June 23, 2016.

THE BUFFALO HONORED AS NEW U.S. NATIONAL MAMMAL

The InterTribal Buffalo Council and its partners – the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and National Bison Association (NBA) – organized a Vote Bison Coalition (VBC) event co-hosted by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the Native American in Washington, D.C. to commemorate passage of the National Bison Legacy Act (NBLA) making the buffalo the new U.S. National Mammal. Buffalo meat from ITBC member tribes was served at this reception overlooking the Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

Taos Pueblo Councilman Gilbert Suazo opened the event with a blessing in the language of his tribe, followed by a buffalo song. Taos Pueblo Governor Benito Sandoval then gave a brief history of the tribes buffalo herd dating back into the 1800s. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell spoke of the great cultural value of the buffalo and the return of herds to their homelands across Indian country.

Many others spoke including NBLA cosponsors Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND) and Rep. William Lacy Clay (D-MO), and also U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary Leslie Jones, WCS President and CEO Cristián Samper and Executive Vice President for Public Affairs John Calvalli, NBA President Roy Liedtke, NMAI Director Kevin Gover, National Buffalo Foundation Vice President Dick Gehring, Turner Enterprises Chief Veterinarian Dr. Dave Hunter, and Association of Zoos and Aquariums Executive Director Kris Vehrs.

Cristián Samper, President and CEO of the Wildlife Conservation Society, said, “As the first conservation success story, bison evoke important values including resilience and unity. Today, conservation efforts are helping restore buffalo and their essential ecological function to their ancestral landscapes. Bison truly represent the best of America, which is why we celebrate them as our national mammal.”

ITBC President, Ervin Carlson, remarked: “The recognition of the buffalo as the National Mammal shows the cross cultural stature of this iconic animal and for tribes will allow us to expand our work on reintroducing buffalo into our day to day lives. The buffalo has had a special place in the lives of tribal people since time immemorial and played important roles in our culture, religion and lifestyle. Now buffalo have become a part of the fabric of tribal life once again, created the foundation for an economic movement based on healthy food choices and provided conservation groups opportunities to expand the habitat for the species.”

Continue on next page

Ervin Carlson and ITBC's Executive Director Jim Stone and other ITBC members presented Pendleton blankets to honor the leadership of Secretary Jewell, Deputy Under-Secretary Jones, and the two Members of Congress who helped ensure the NBLA became law.

Blackfeet Nation Chief Earl Old Person closed the event by performing a traditional Buffalo Song via a film depicting buffalo roaming freely on the grasslands.

Submitted by Julie Anton Randall, VBC National Coordinator

ITBC VIDEO UPDATE

ITBC started producing a new ITBC video to complement our existing video "The Return of the Native" and have completed the following aspects of the video production. The project has experienced some delays with a new delivery date of the November Membership Meeting.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ITBC spent a lot of energy in the last five years working with the Dept. of Interior to get the round up fee associated with the surplus buffalo from the parks eliminated. ITBC's reasoning were:

1. The Parks did not have a statutory authority to charge a fee except for few situations with Yellowstone National Park being one.
2. The management of the park buffalo includes wildlife population management and is, thus, a normal operating activity (with costs associated) of the parks not something outside of their normal scope of work as some parks have ascertained.
3. The assessment of the fees to tribes merely shuffled money from one arm of Interior to another.
4. The tribes and ITBC operate as partners in the management of Interior buffalo and should be allowed to participate in round up activities which would lower the cost burden being absorbed by the parks.

This appears to have created some push back to tribes continued access to buffalo, but we will keep advocating for the tribes to have a priority for all buffalo coming from federal herds. ITBC continues to work with the federal entities that have buffalo that should go to tribes and have made sure to continue the conversations with all existing federal herds currently distributing live surplus animals. ITBC is also active in working with the Grand Canyon National Park, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and Rocky Mountain National Arsenal about future availability of buffalo.



ITBC STRATEGIC PLAN

The ITBC Strategic Plan was presented to the ITBC Membership at the 2014 Membership Meeting and has been the used by ITBC to dictate the activities we have undertaken in FY 2016, the second year of the Plan. The following are the Strategic Plan Directives and Year Two Activities.

A. Create Organizational Sustainability

1. Define roles of Regional Directors
2. Create 25th Anniversary Committee
3. Reinstate Cultural Committee
4. Maximize collection of Indirect Costs
5. Increase non-restricted funds
6. Create strategic alliances
7. Hire and utilize ITBC lobbyist

B. Implement Restoration and Awareness Strategies

1. Develop ITBC Member policy

C. Develop an ITBC Health Care Initiative

D. Improve ITBC Marketing Activities

1. Create strategy for how to best differentiate buffalo sales

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

ITBC continues to work on the issues of buffalo management in Yellowstone National Park and the State of Montana. We are a member of the IBMP and sit on various technical committees there and on committees and groups set up to work on the MT State Bison Management Plan process. ITBC is working with the federal parks we get animals from to do disease risk assessments, which would make it easier to get buffalo into Montana. These would include work with APHIS. The Montana State Legislature was not in session this past year so we spent time building our relationships with NGOs and legislators in preparation for the 2016 session.

INTERAGENCY BISON MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Interagency Bison Management Plan is a cooperative, multi-agency effort that guides the management of Bison and brucellosis in and around Yellowstone National Park. The plan was developed by the National Park Service, USDA-Forest Service, USDA-Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Montana Department of Livestock and Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks. After more than 10 years of negotiations, the plan was adopted in 2000.

Specifically, the IBMP seeks to:

- Maintain a wild, free-ranging bison population;
- Reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission from bison to cattle;

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- Manage bison that leave Yellowstone National Park and enter the State of Montana;
- Maintain Montana's brucellosis-free status for domestic livestock.

A complex document that utilizes the principals of adaptive management, the IBMP complies with the diverse mandates of the five partnering agencies (and in addition since November 2009 three Tribal entities: the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, the Inter Tribal Buffalo Council, and the Nez Perce Tribe) and is based on the best available scientific information.

ITBC was active in all aspects of the IBMP in the past year and will continue to fight for the expansion of habitat for the buffalo and tribal treaty hunting rights. Yellowstone National Park and the State of Montana have started an EIS process to develop a new management program for YNP buffalo which is in progress and ITBC is a cooperating agency for the process.

HARVEST PROGRAM

One of the main issues of contention with the IBMP is that it requires the Partners to strive to maintain a population of YNP buffalo of around 3,000 animals. This number is hard to achieve because the buffalo do not leave the Park in some years. YNP sets a goals of animals they want to remove from the populations annually with the expectation that the hunts will take the majority of the animals. They then would ship animals to processing in order to achieve their annual goals. ITBC reviewed the existing method of harvest being implemented by the State of MT and APHIS and determined that there was a number of things that could be improved and that the primary usage of these animals should be by Tribes. ITBC agreed to take control of the harvest activities and entered into an agreement with YNP. The Confederated Salish and Kootenai, Nez Perce, Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapahoe and the Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation also entered into a similar agreement. The plan was to take control of the process and as we learned the ins and outs of the system make recommendations to YNP in future years to change the way the harvest was conducted. ITBC would like no young animals be sent to harvest and that efforts be made to allow for hunting opportunities to develop sooner so late term females are not being harvested. For this season, YNP has recommended a removal of 900 animals. We are supporting the hunt removing the majority of these animals and that YNP remove recommended numbers for young animals. Ideally, younger animals would be able to go into a quarantine program in the future.

QUARANTINE PROGRAM

Bison from the program have been placed with the Ft. Peck and Ft. Belknap Tribes and, in addition, FT. Peck has received the buffalo that were being held by Ted Turner from the first cohort of animals.

ITBC's position is that the actual process the animals undergo is more akin to surveillance than quarantine, so we will use that term in future work we do. Because of the success of the program and the potential to get more live buffalo from YNP to the Tribes, ITBC has been working with federal, state, NGO and Tribes to develop surveillance facilities on Tribal Lands. Ft. Peck has constructed a facility that could be used once YNP finishes their EIS process on the program.

APHIS has determined that different ag/sex classes of animals have different time requirements for being in surveillance and once that initial time has been completed there is no further restrictions placed on the animals. We have looked at a facility that handled the age/sex classes separately, as well as, running mixed age/sex classes through to continue social structure. At this time YNP is conducting an EIS process to determine the suitability of the use of surveillance with YNP brucellosis negative animals.

At this point, Ft. Peck has built a quarantine facility and is awaiting a decision from Yellowstone National Park on their Quarantine Program Environmental Assessment.



Administrative Assistant I

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ITBC 25TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT SUMMARY

In 2012, we held the ITBC 20th Anniversary event in Rapid City, SD that was very well received and attended. We had a pow wow as a part of the event and recognized individuals that were a part of the founding of ITBC and those that had served on the Board of Directors for 15+ years. The event had speakers and presentations occurring during the day on various topics as well as training sessions. Entertainment was provided during the evening banquet and everyone had a great time seeing old friends and reminiscing about the early years of ITBC.

We are now preparing for the 25th Anniversary and the ITBC Board of Directors has had a series of conference calls to discuss the event and to complete initial planning. The anniversary event will be at the South Point Casino in Las Vegas, NV on November 2017 in conjunction with the ITBC Annual Membership Meeting and the Indian National Finals Rodeo. Ideas that were mentioned were:

Co-hosting pow wow with INFR or sponsoring specials and/or categories;

- Traditional feed
- Providing space for vendors/exhibitors
- Recognition of individuals and/or groups
- Incorporating other organizations into event
- Donation of buffalo by tribes for feed
- One-day event for the Anniversary, ITBC 2017 Membership Meeting on 2nd day
- Speakers, at least 15-20 with one main speaker
- Conducting an auction
- Fund raising for the event
- Breakout sessions with various tracks

ITBC staff will conduct a planning session during the ITBC Membership Meeting to get input from the membership on the event. If you have any thoughts or ideas feel free to contact the ITBC staff or the Board of Directors.



Submitted by Meliss Abeyta, ITBC Administrative Assistant I

PROJECT DIRECTOR/MARKETING COORDINATORS REPORT



Dianne Amiotte-Seidel
Project Director/
Marketing Coordinator

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT

As the Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel completed the Farm to School (F2S) grant that ended on June 30, 2016. The Tribal Schools that Dianne conducted two on site visits with were: Crazy Horse School, St. Francis Indian School, Loneman Day School, and Red Cloud Indian School. Dianne made one on-site visit to the following schools: Sitting Bull School, Rock Creek School, Enemy Swim Day School, Tiospa Zina Tribal School, Marty Indian School, Lower Brule School, Todd County School, Flandreau Indian School, Circle of Nations Boarding School, and Santee Sioux School. The Farm to School was a big success. Dianne completed two F2S trainings. The first training was held at Rapid City, SD, and the other training was held at Deadwood, SD.

FARM TO SCHOOL TRAINING

The final Farm to School Training was on April 21 & 22, 2016, at the Deadwood Lodge, Deadwood SD. There were great speakers that presented on grant writing, gardening, and how to get the community involved with the community gardens.



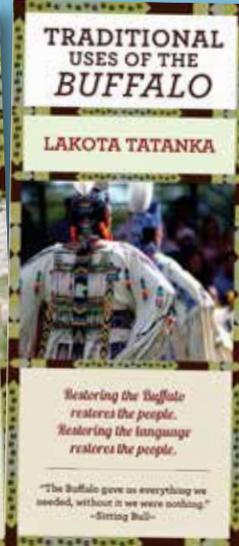
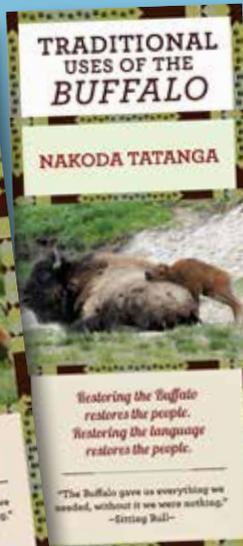
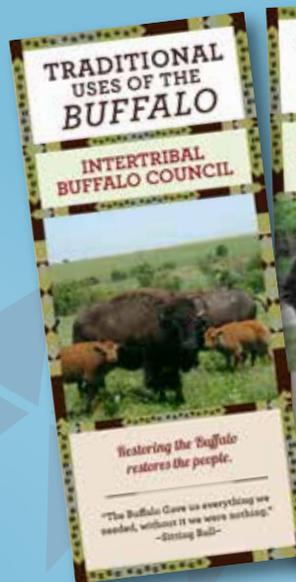
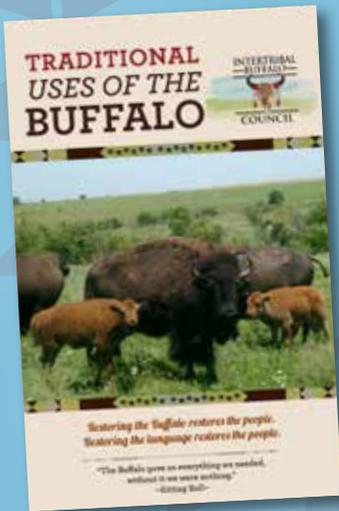
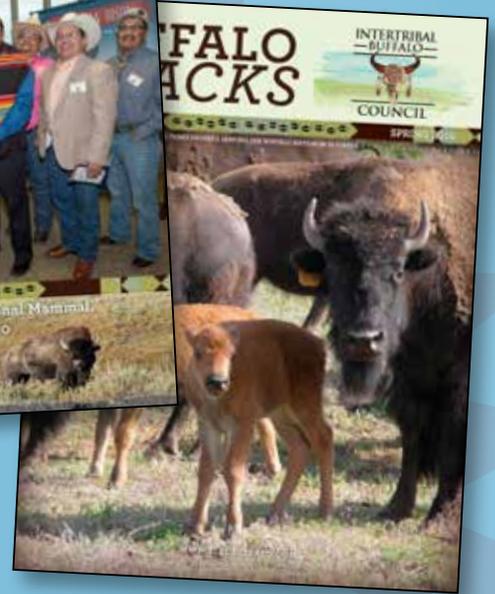
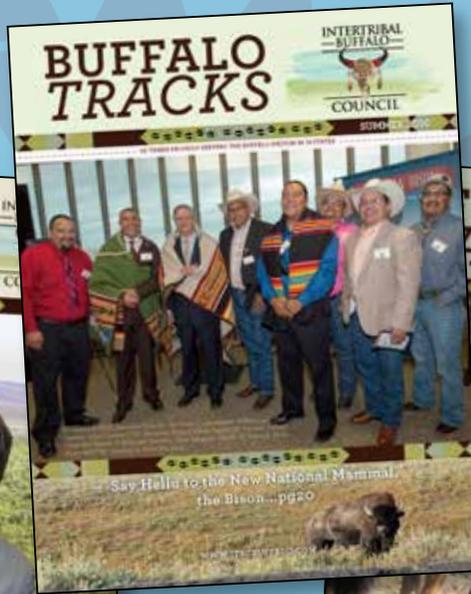
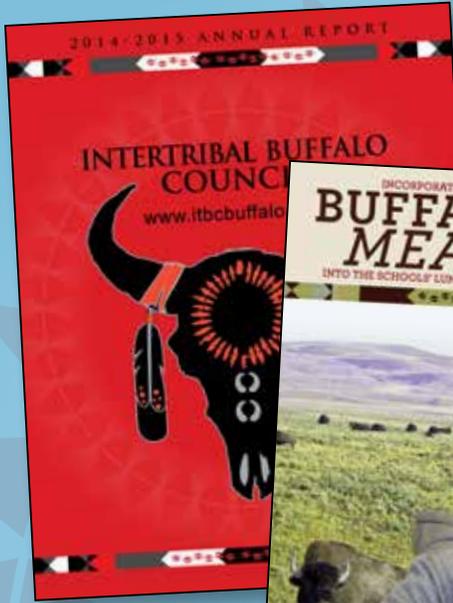
CUTS WOOD SCHOOL (BLACKFEET IMMERSION SCHOOL)

On March 14, 2016, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, ITBC Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, traveled to the Cuts Wood School (Blackfeet Immersion School) Browning, MT. Ervin Carlson, ITBC President and Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, gave a buffalo box presentation and observed the students eating buffalo meat. ITBC donated buffalo meat to the school for the students to eat buffalo meat once a week for the rest of the school year. The students said they really like the taste of buffalo meat. The cook at the school did an excellent job cooking the buffalo meat.

INCORPORATING BUFFALO MEAT INTO THE SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

The most recent schools and Tribes that Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, have been working with incorporating buffalo meat into their school lunch program were Santee Sioux Tribe of NE, and the Blackfeet Tribe in Browning, MT. Dianne attended a School Board meeting at the Santee School District and presented to them and the public. The School Board voted to incorporate buffalo meat into their school lunch program with a few exceptions, such as, the school requirements are that the labels have to have the nutrition facts on each label. Dianne worked with Hobart labels to get labels made for the Santee Sioux Tribe, so when they process their own buffalo for the school, they will have their own labels.

MEDIA & MARKETING 2016



MEDIA & MARKETING 2016



**INTERTRIBAL
—BUFFALO—
COUNCIL**

ITBC MISSION
"Restoring buffalo to
preserve our historical,
cultural, and traditional
and spiritual relationship
for future generations."

Intertribal Buffalo Council
2497 West Chicago Street
Rapid City, South Dakota 57702
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**INTERTRIBAL
—BUFFALO—
COUNCIL**

History
The American buffalo, also known as bison, has always held great meaning for American Indian people. To Indian people, the buffalo represented their spirit and reminded them of how their lives were once lived free and in harmony with nature. In the 1800's the white man recognized the reliance Indian tribes had on the buffalo. Thus began the systematic destruction of the buffalo to try to subjugate the western tribal nation. The slaughter of over 30 million buffalo left only a few hundred buffalo remaining.

To reestablish healthy buffalo populations on tribal lands is to reestablish hope for Indian people. Members of the Intertribal Bison Cooperative (ITBC), now called Intertribal Buffalo Council, understood that reintroduction of the buffalo to tribal lands will help lead the spirit of both the Indian people and the buffalo. The Intertribal Buffalo Council (former Intertribal Bison Cooperative) was formed in 1990 to coordinate and assist tribes in returning the buffalo to Indian country. In February 1991, a meeting in the Black Hills of South Dakota, was hosted by the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society. It was obvious to everyone that the ITBC organization to assist tribes with their buffalo programs was not only desired, but also necessary. With the hard work and dedication of the Society, Congress appropriated funding for the initial buffalo programs in June of 1991. This action offered renewed hope that the special relationship between the Indian people and the buffalo might not only be saved, but would in time flourish.

ITBC Today
ITBC has a membership of 63 tribes in 19 states with a collective herd of over 15,000 buffalo. Membership of ITBC remains open and there is continued interest by non-member tribes in the organization. ITBC is committed to reestablishing buffalo herds on Indian lands in a manner that promotes cultural enhancement, spiritual revitalization, ecological restoration, and economic development.

ITBC has been recognized as a federally chartered Indian Organization under Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act. This was approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2010. ITBC consists of a Membership that includes all of the Tribes that have joined the organization and is governed by a Board of Directors, which is comprised of five elected officers and four regional representatives.

The role of ITBC, as established by its membership, is to act as a facilitator in coordinating education and training programs, developing marketing strategies, coordinating the transfer of surplus buffalo from national parks and tribal lands, and providing technical assistance in its membership in developing sound management plans that will help each tribal herd become a successful and self-sufficient operation.

**INTERTRIBAL
—BUFFALO—
COUNCIL**

**63 TRIBES PROUDLY SERVING
THE BUFFALO NATION IN 19 STATES**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alamy Tribe of Old Harbor Blackfoot Nation Cherokee Nation Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of OK Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Cheyenne River Tribe Cochiti Pueblo Confederated Salish & Kootenai Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Crow Tribe Eastern Shoshone Tribe Flamingo-Santee Sioux Tribe Five Affiliated Indian Community Fort Peck Ho-Chunk Nation Isaia Tribe of OK Juvenile Apache Nation Kaibab Tribe Leech Lake Band Ojibwa Lower Brack Sioux Tribe Mesa Grande Mohave Tribe of OK Nimrod Cherokee Pueblo Nix-Peña Tribe Northern Arapaho Northern Cheyenne Tribe Ojibwa Sioux Tribe Omska Tribe of NE Omska Nation of WI Ongat Nation Pawnee Pueblo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pie-De-Terre Tribe Pueblo of Cheyenne Penonza Tribe of OK Peoria Band (Pawnee) Peoria Island Dakota Comm Quapaw Tribe of OK Round Bayou Tribe Round Valley Indian Tribe Waboy Tribe Sai & Fox Tribe of Iowa Salt River Sioux San Juan Pueblo Sandia Pueblo Seneca Sioux Tribe of NE Seneca Cynaps of OK Shakopee Mdewaketon Sioux Community Shoshone-Bannock Sioux Nation of Oklahoma Sioux Nation of Oklahoma Sioux Nation of Oklahoma Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Stevens Village Stillegemont Tribe Tano Pueblo Tongue Pueblo Three Affiliated Tribes Timber Mountain Band of Cheyenne The Indian Tribe Winnago Tribe of NE Yakama Nation Yankton Sioux Tribe
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PROGRESSIVE MAGAZINE, NEW ECONOMIES FOR NATIVE NATIONS

Merging sustainability with preserving traditional ways has spawned a new economic model in recent years, one built on tribal control.

Since the 1990s, many Plains tribes have had successful intertribal cooperatives in the areas of buffalo restoration and Indian agriculture. The InterTribal Buffalo Council, with fifty-eight member tribes in nineteen states, in 1992 launched a plan to bring the sacred bison back to reservation land for cultural, subsistence, and spiritual purposes. That effort became one of the country's most successful natural resource restoration projects.

"This is all about the tribes," says Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, the council's project director and marketing coordinator.

"We are bringing all the tribes together as one, because they have the same belief in one thing, and that's the buffalo."

The council manages a collective herd of more than 15,000 buffalo. Its goal is to engage in education and training programs on herd management and marketing. It works with the National Park Service to relocate surplus bison to tribal land, and provides buffalo meat to reservation people.

"When they took the buffalo away from tribes and gave them food commodities instead, Indian people developed a lot of health problems like diabetes and obesity," Amiotte-Seidel says. "Now, in addition to restoring the buffalo, we are helping to restore Native health by putting buffalo meat in elderly and diabetes programs, and in our school lunchrooms."

"New Economies for Native Nations" - <http://www.progressive.org/news/2016/07/188814/new-economies-native-nations>

By Mark Anthony Rolo

DYNAMATH SCHOLASTIC - NOVEMBER 2016 ISSUE BISON'S BIG RETURN

After centuries of struggle, bison numbers are on the rise in the American West

What animal is our national mammal, holds a special place in American history, and has come back from the brink of extinction? It's the bison! Throughout western North America, bison numbers have climbed from about 1,000 in 1900 to 400,000 today.

This turnaround didn't happen overnight. It took many people and many years of work to save North America's largest land mammal from extinction. Before 1800, more than 40 million bison roamed the continent. By 1900, government-sponsored hunting programs and settlers moving westward had nearly wiped out the species. Fewer than 1,000 bison were left.

Since then, conservationists, Native American tribes, and federal programs have helped to bring bison back. In May 2016, President Barack Obama signed a bill naming the bison America's first national mammal. Joining the bald eagle, bison now stand as a symbol of our country and of successful conservation efforts.



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WILD COUNTING

Bison are the largest mammals in North America. Males can stand 6 feet tall at the shoulder and weigh up to a ton. But for biologist Rick Wallen, bison usually appear as tiny brown dots. That’s because he counts them from an airplane! Wallen works at Yellowstone National Park, the center of wild bison’s comeback. The park spans 2.2 million acres in three states. It’s home to 4,900 bison—the nation’s largest wild population.

To manage this population, Wallen counts the bison every spring. He and a few co-workers fly through the park in two small planes. Moving at speeds up to 90 miles per hour, they count as many animals as they can in one day. “After you’ve done it for a while you get better at counting by fives or tens,” Wallen says.

The planes fly between 500 and 1,000 feet above the herd. It’s often a rough flight. “It’s like an amusement park ride,” says Wallen. “If you don’t have the stomach for it, you won’t like it.” The gut-churning work has paid off. Using Wallen’s data, park officials can keep better track of the animals. This helps them know how many bison the park can safely support.

APPRECIATING BISON

Bison have had another important ally in their comeback: Native Americans. For more than 10,000 years, bison have served as the cultural and spiritual lifeblood of many Native American tribes.

“Our ancestors used every part of the buffalo for food, shelter, and clothing,” says Dianne Amiotte-Seidel. She’s a member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. (Buffalo is another term for bison.)

Amiotte-Seidel works at the Intertribal Buffalo Council, an organization of 62 tribes dedicated to bringing bison back. In 1991, the council began breeding bison and raising them on protected land. They started with just a few hundred. Native Americans now have 15,000 buffalo across the country.

The council also supports efforts for teaching students the importance bison have played in Native American history. Some schools, like the Red Cloud Indian School in Pine Ridge, invite Lakota students to witness a ceremonial buffalo kill.

Throughout the Lakota’s history, these sacred events provided food and clothing for the community. “Without the buffalo, there would be no Lakota,” says Roger White Eyes, a teacher at Red Cloud.

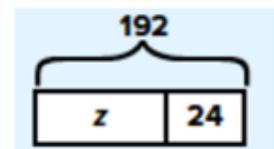
And without the Lakota and other tribes, there might have been no buffalo comeback.

SOLVING FOR UNKNOWN

Use your knowledge of operations and equations with a variable to answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. In 1901, there were only 24 bison in Yellowstone National Park. Through a restoration program, the U.S. Army brought bison from Montana and Texas to the park. By 1911, there were 192 bison. You want to find the difference between the bison population in 1901 and 1911.

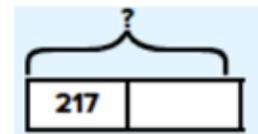
- A. What values do you know?
- B. What is the unknown value you are trying to find?
- C. The tape diagram below represents an equation to calculate the unknown value, represented by the letter z . Write a number sentence describing this diagram.
- D. Solve for z . What does z represent?



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2. There are two major bison herds at Yellowstone, the central herd and the northern herd. In 1970, when park staff began counting the herds, the northern herd had 217 bison and the central herd had 261.

- A. You want to find the total population of the two herds in 1970. What operation should you use?
- B. What is the unknown value?
- C. Fill in the tape diagram below to calculate the total bison population. Use the variable r to represent the unknown value.
- D. Write a number sentence that represents your tape diagram.
- E. Solve for r . What does r represent?



Use the chart on the right to answer questions 3 through 5.

YELLOWSTONE BISON POPULATION OVER TIME

3.

	1975	1985	1995	2005	2015
Northern	185	742	866	1484	3626
Central	782	1609	3062	3531	1284

- A. You want to calculate how much the central herd grew between 1975 and 1995. Draw a tape diagram to show the difference in the central herd's size between 1975 and 1995.
 - B. Write an addition equation using the variable q to show how the central herd grew between 1975 and 1995.
 - C. Solve for q . What number does q represent?
4. Scientists can use estimates to get a general understanding of how data changes over time.
- A. Let's say scientists wanted to estimate how many times bigger the northern herd grew from 1995 to 2015. First, round the herd counts for 1995 and 2015 to the nearest hundred.
 - B. Write a multiplication equation using the variable t to estimate how many times bigger the herd grew in that time frame.
 - C. Solve for t .
5. The size of each herd at Yellowstone can change depending on many factors. What do you notice about the northern and central herd populations in 2005 compared with 2015?
- A. Say you want to use k to represent the decrease in total bison population in Yellowstone between 2005 and 2015. Write an equation using parentheses to set up this problem.
 - B. Solve for k .
6. In 1929, the bison population at Yellowstone was 1,124. For the next four years, park officials did not count bison. This was the beginning of the Great Depression, a time when jobs and money were scarce.
- A. In 1935, officials began counting bison again. Say the variable d represents the change in Yellowstone's bison population between 1929 and 1935. If there were 847 bison in 1935, what is the value of d ?
 - B. How do you think the circumstances of the Great Depression might have affected care of the bison at Yellowstone at that time?

By Alexa Kurzius, Associate Editor, Dyna Math Scholastic, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012

OUTREACH:

2016 NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION

January 20-23, 2016, the 2016 National Bison Association (NBA) conference was held in Denver, CO. The InterTribal Buffalo Council's (ITBC) Vice Chairman of ITBC, Mike Faith from Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and the ITBC Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel attended as special guests. Mike gave a presentation about ITBC's mission and what ITBC is currently doing today. He also stressed the importance of the memorandum agreement working with the National Buffalo Association, North Dakota Buffalo Association, and Dakota Territory. He said, "The strength and unity that all the organizations have working together is beneficial for all."

RES CONFERENCE

On March 21, 2016, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel and Lisa Fleury traveled to Las Vegas to set up a booth at the RES Conference to represent ITBC. There were hundreds of Native business owners that attended. A lot of the attendees were very interested in the scope of work ITBC is doing and wanted more information.

PRO RODEO BULLRIDING

May 13-15, 2016, ITBC shared a booth with the Indian National Finals (INFR) during the Pro Bull Riding (PBR).

USDA FARM TO SCHOOL CONFERENCE

June 3, 2016, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, presented at a USDA Farm to School Conference: Strengthening Partnerships in Native Communities at Madison, WI. There were over 1,500 attendees from all over the United States.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, USDA FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

On April 26, 2016, Dianne Amiotte-Seidel traveled to Pierre, SD, for a Farm to Everywhere Meeting that was held by the United States Department of Agriculture, USDA Food & Nutrition Services. The different organizations that attended were: ITBC, Corporation for National & Community Service AmeriCorp/Vista, Dakota Rural Action/Farm to School Network, National Civilian and Community Corporation (NCCC), Natural Resources Conservation Services, Rural Development, SDSU Extension, SD Tribal Extension, SD Department of Agriculture, SD Department of Education-Child and Adult Nutrition Services, SD State Office of Tribal Liaison, and USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

LIVING EARTH FESTIVAL

July 21-23, 2016, The InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) was invited to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian Living Earth Festival. ITBC were special guests again this year. Dianne and Wamni had a booth set up representing ITBC. This year the festival focused on traditional agricultural practices and the importance of Native foods in Native peoples' diets. The three day event had artist demonstrators such as basket weaving, pottery making, bead workers, and Native cooking demonstrations. The festival also had entertainment with music and dancing from the Inka Road by Tinkus Lljatymanta, Tradiciones Bovlivianas and Grupo Etnia. This three day event was livestreamed.



STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE

August 8, 2016, the InterTribal Buffalo Council donated buffalo meat to Standing Rock to help feed all the protestors that are fighting to keep the pipeline from going through the Missouri water and sacred lands. The pipeline protest at the time had over 3,000 people. There were around 2,500 people at the main camp site and 500 people at the Sacred Stone Site about one mile from the main site. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe claimed aboriginal territory on the land where the pipeline was digging. Mike Faith, ITBC Vice President/Council Member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe talked about the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's buffalo program. Syd Baily Jr. is the new Buffalo Herd Manager and is doing a good job monitoring the buffalo herd. According to Mike with the help ITBC and the grant that the buffalo program received, they are in the process of purchasing materials, gate panels, and a squeeze chute.

1ST ANNUAL RED LAKE FOOD SUMMIT

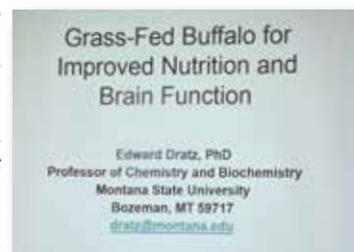
On September 16-17, 2016, the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) was invited to the 1st Annual Red Lake Food Summit held at the Red Lake Community College, Red Lake, MN. Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, ITBC Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, and Wamni Kills in Water, Administrative Assistant, set up a booth during the two day event. There were over 250 attendees present and many great speakers. Dianne presented on incorporating buffalo meat into school lunch programs. There were a lot of questions asked after the presentation. Other guest speakers were Dan Cornelius from the Intertribal Agricultural Council, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Sean Sherman (Sioux Chef), an Oglala Sioux who has been cooking for the last twenty-seven years. His main focus is on indigenous foods in the modern culinary context. Along with Sioux Chef there were other chefs that cooked for the food summit. The different dishes served were deer soup, perch, sunfish, salads, and deserts made from rice and blueberries. ITBC donated buffalo meat to feed the elders during this event, and also sold a lot of ITBC product. The buffalo jerky and pemmican was a big hit during the food summit!



NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD CONFERENCE

On September 19-22, 2016, The InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) was selected as a workshop presenter for the National Indian Health Board's 33rd Annual Consumer Conference and 2016 National Tribal Health Conference. The Conference took place at the Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ. The National Indian Health Board accepted ITBC's workshop proposal "Incorporating Buffalo Meat into School Menus" for their national conference on September 20, 2016. The presentation focused on how the InterTribal Buffalo Council spent the past five years implementing a program

aimed at reducing childhood obesity in tribal schools through the implementation of an ITBC designed program. The project was funded by the Administration of Native Americans (ANA) SEDs and USDA Farm to School grant programs. The goal of the



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project was to reintroduce tribal raised buffalo into the diets of tribal youth through the school lunch programs. The project assisted the tribes in the development and implementation of a tribal specific program designed to reintroduce cultural and traditional foods with a focus on economic development and policy. ITBC presented on the policy and practice and issues encountered implementing the project at the tribal, state and federal level. ITBC also talked about navigating governmental policies by educating participants on the variety of confusing and conflicting tribal, state and federal policies that surround the process of getting tribal raised buffalo meat into the school lunch programs. This included the policies for processing and labeling requirements for inclusion on federally funded food programs.

SD INDIAN EDUCATION SUMMIT

The InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) were special guest again this year for the 2016 South Dakota Indian Education Summit that was held at the Ramkota in Pierre, South Dakota. Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, ITBC Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, set up a booth during this event. Dianne passed out ITBC's educational materials such as: the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota brochures, poster, and the school lunch magazine. ITBC donated buffalo roast for this event, there were over 750 attendees from all over the state of South Dakota. There were several keynote speaker from schools, colleges, and different organizations.



YELLOWSTONE MEAT

Dianne Amiotte-Seidel, Project Director/Marketing Coordinator, worked with Rick Wallen regarding the Yellowstone buffalo. The park captured 60 head of buffalo for slaughter. Dianne organized to have the buffalo transported to Pioneer Meats to have the buffalo processed for the Tribes. Once the meat was processed, Dianne contacted DTS Transportation to have the buffalo meat transported to Baker Transfer and Storage in Billings, MT, for the Tribes to pick up their buffalo meat, and to have some of the buffalo meat transported to I-90 Cold Storage, Rapid City, SD. On June 28, 2016, DTS Transportation transported the remaining buffalo meat to I-90 Cold Storage. There was a total of 16,001 pounds of buffalo meat from the 60 head processed.

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YELLOWSTONE BUFFALO MEAT

2016 I-90 COLD STORAGE

TRIBE	DATE	SHIPPED PICK UP	GROUND	STEW MEAT	ROAST	TOTAL
Cherokee Nation	6/9/2016	Picked up	147	104	103	354
Cheyenne & Arapaho	8/19/2016	Picked up	150	100	100	350
Crow Creek	6/16/2016	Picked up	295	51		346
Flandreau Sioux Tribe	7/19/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes	6/14/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Ho-Chunk Nation						
Iowa Tribe of OK	7/13/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Kalispel Tribe	7/26/2016	2 Shipped	150	100	100	350
Kalispel Tribe	6/7/2016	1 Shipped	165	100	100	365
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	5/24/2016	Shipped	142	106	100	348
Lower Brule	6/13/2016	Picked up	150	100	115	365
Modoc Tribe of OK.	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED
Nambe Pueblo O-ween-ge						
Nez Perce Tribe	8/16/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Northern Arapaho Tribe	6/14/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Oglala Sioux Tribe	6/8/2016	Picked up	150	100	100	350
Omaha Tribe of Nebr.						
Oneida	7/19/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Picuris Pueblo						
Pit River	8/23/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	6/7/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Prairie Island	8/23/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Pueblo of Pojoaque	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED
Pueblo of Sandia						
Quapaw Tribe	7/12/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Rosebud Sioux Tribe	6/17/2016	Picked up	351	0	0	351
Sac & Fox Tribe	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED	REFUSED
Santee Sioux Nation	5/26/2016	Picked up	165	100	128	393
Seneca-Cayuga of OK.						
Shakopee Mdewakanton	8/16/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate	6/7/2016	Shipped	155	100	100	350
Southern Ute Tribe	7/26/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Shoshone Bannock Tribe	8/2/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Spirit Lake Sioux Nation	9/12/2016	Shipped			350	350
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	7/8/2016	Picked up	350	200	200	750
Taos Pueblo	5/24/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Three Affiliated Tribes	8/26/2016	Pickup		350	350	700
Turtle Mountain	8/25/2016	Picked up		350	350	700
Winnebago Tribe	8/2/2016	Shipped	150	100	100	350
Yankton Sioux Tribe	6/30/2016	Picked up	300	250	206	756
Total			4920	3611	3902	12428

2016 BAKER TRANSFER & STORAGE

TRIBE	DATE	SHIPPED PICK UP	GROUND	STEW MEAT	ROAST	TOTAL
Blackfeet	4/12/2016	Picked up			200	200
Blackfeet	5/27/2016	Picked up	150	100	100	350
Confederated Salish & Kootenai						
Crow Tribe	6/2/2016	Picked up	150	101	105	356
Fort Belknap Tribe	5/20/2016	Picked up	148	101	102	351
Northern Cheyenne Tribe	6/2/2016	Picked up	150	100	100	350
Yakama Nation	6/8/2016	Picked up	150	100	100	350
Total			748	502	507	1757
Starting Inventory	—	—	6247	4875	4879	16001
I-90 Cold Storage Tribes picked up	—	—	4,920	3,611	3,902	12,428
Baker Transfer & Storage Tribes picked up	—	—	748	502	507	1,757
Donations for events	—	—	498	535	350	1383
Total Meat out	—	—	6,166	4,648	4,759	15,568
Total Buffalo Meat Left (damaged)	—	—	81	227	320	433
Damaged meat			275	280	287	842



YELLOWSTONE BUFFALO MEAT

ITBC BUFFALO MEAT DONATION

DATE	PROGRAM	EVENT	GROUND	STEW MEAT	ROAST	TOTAL
1/8/2016	SD Department of Tribal Relations	State-Tribal Relations Day	50			50
1/11/2016	Oglala Lakota College	20th Annual Ft. Robinson Outbreak Spiritual Run	35			35
2/19/2016	School of Mines	Cultural Expo.			10	10
2/26/2016	University of Morris Minnesota	Spring Powwow			127	127
2/26/2016	University of South Dakota	43rd Wacipi	150			150
3/1/2016	Funeral	James Wilson	40			40
3/2/2016	Crazy Horse Cultural Committee	Wiping of Tears Ceremony	75			75
3/9/2016	Sacred Roots Language Society	Indigenous Language Revitalization	80			80
3/21/2016	Lakota Waldorf School	Easter Dinner for Students & Parents			33	33
4/1/2016	Blackfeet Tribe	Buffalo Repatriation Celebration	65		140	205
4/4/2016	Center of American Indian Studies	Fund Raising	100			100
4/6/2016	RC Area Schools - Indian Education	Feathering Ceremony for Graduates			25	25
4/12/2016	Pierre School District-Ind. Ed. Prog.	Annual Honoring Powwow			48	48
4/12/2016	Blackfeet Tribe	Blackfeet Tribe			200	200
5/11/2016	St. Joseph's Indian School	Farm to School Taste Test	100			100
5/20/2016	Lakota Brochures	Lakota Brochures		5	5	10
5/26/2016	Rapid City Indian Health Hospital	Honoring 75 year old Veteran			10	10
5/31/2016	Funeral	Paul Rouse		20		20
6/3/2016	The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	Emerald Downs	100			100
6/3/2016	Yankton Sioux Tribe	Ceremony		15		15
6/9/2016	Gathering of Eagles	Gathering of Eagles	50			50
6/14/2016	The Miracle Center	Miracle Center Church Special Service Picnic	10			10
6/15/2016	Pine Ridge Ind. Reservation	Sundance	50		10	60
6/22/2016	Oglala Sioux Tribe Office of 5th Member	1868 Canupa Gathering at Bear Butte	60			60
7/15/2016	Peace Creek Sundance	Sundance		15		15
7/22/2016	Doctor Trip Travel Expenses	Doctor Trip Travel Expenses	33			33
7/20/2016	Memorial Feed	Memorial Feed		20		20
7/20/2016	Indigenous Riders	7th Annual Iron Pony Run	15	110		125
8/15/2016	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe	Dakota Access Pipeline	30	85	85	200
8/22/2016	RC Community Health	Annual Elder Picnic	50	50		
8/23/2016	Lakota Council of Tribes Inc.	Honoring Our Elders Wacipi		150		150
Total			1093	420	693	2206

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST
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 kristine@itbcbuffalo.com

The Technical Services Department has been busy in 2016 meeting ITBC member Tribe's needs. We have responded to over fifty (50) technical services requests, conducted sixteen (16) site visits, developed and conducted four (4) region specific trainings on climate change and drought mitigation and developed and conducted four (4) region specific trainings on bison health. In addition to working on those items, we have been working with Grand Canyon National Park as a cooperating agency on their Bison Management Environmental Assessment, the Interagency Bison Management Plan with Yellowstone National Park and working with new government entities on MOU's for excess buffalo for Tribes.

PE'SLA SITE VISIT

On Thursday, June 16, 2016, Kristine Reed and Patrick Toomey of ITBC and Wayne Frederick, Region 1 Director of ITBC, left Rapid City, SD to visit the tribally owned Pe'sla range unit in the Black Hills by Hill City, SD. The property, located approximately sixteen (16) miles south of Hill City, SD, is owned by five (5) different Tribes: Crow Creek, Rosebud, Standing Rock, Shakopee, and Yankton Sioux Tribe. It is not yet in Trust Status. Upon accessing the range

unit, we were met by ranch manager, Joe Buck Colombe, who showed us the property, facilities, bison, and explained current and on-going management activities.

Figure 1: From left to right: Kristine Reed, Wildlife Biologist for ITBC; Joe Buck Colombe, Pe'sla Buffalo/Land Operator; and Wayne Frederick, ITBC Region 1 Director for ITBC.



It is comprised of three major sections. The first is approximately 1010 acres located on the west side of the road. This is also the location of the ranch manager's house and main barn and storage areas. The second unit is located north and west of the ranch house and is 435 acres. This area will be utilized by Tribes for cultural purposes. The final area is east of the road and has an old homestead and several riparian areas. It is also 1010 acres.

Infrastructure improvements being conducted onsite are fencing and fire mitigation. The fences on the property are the original homestead fencing and are not ideal for buffalo containment. The buffalo have been removed from the range unit to allow for an NRCS/EQIP project to take out and replace perimeter and cross fences with buffalo appropriate fencing. This work is scheduled to begin in the next few weeks. There is a high fire danger on this range unit due to the proximity to unhealthy forests. Beetle kill and overgrowth has made the Black Hills a high risk area for large fires. However, BIA is currently thinning trees into slash piles for safe removal. With no/ limited grazing this year, grass fuels were reduced by mowing. The small 800-lb bales were left out for elk feed.

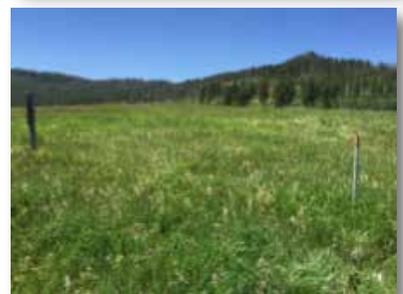


Figure 2: Left: Older, original homestead fence is planned to be replaced with buffalo appropriate fencing. Right: Fence on right will be replaced with bison containment fencing. Area behind this fence will be utilized for other purposes, due to the potential for escape of the area for buffalo. Notice the difference between forest thicknesses from right to left due to BIA thinning.

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The Pe'sla unit is moving ahead with several key management projects. With the current needs such as fencing and fire mitigation either underway or scheduled, the project should yield successful results with its continued sound management. The water system is highly developed, but a few improvements could produce even better water management in terms of efficiency, sustainability, and overall financial costs. The range itself looks very good; the current management practices have definitely allowed for robust recovery. Overall, the Pe'sla project is an outstanding endeavor, and with the continued management it will provide a cultural asset to the associated five (5) Tribes in the future.

RIO MORA WILDLIFE REFUGE

On July 10, 2016, Kristine Reed and Patrick Toomey of ITBC, along with Gabriel Montoya, Sr. of the Pueblo of Pojoaque and Rio Mora Ranch Manager, Luiz Gonzales of the Denver Zoo, conducted a site visit to at the Rio Mora Preserve/Wind River Ranch (Figure 1) located outside of Las Vegas, NM. The refuge was once home to the Wind River Ranch and was donated to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Pojoaque purchased the animals and they are currently collaborating with the Denver Zoo on management.



Figure 1: (Left) Rio Moea Wildlife Refuge. (Right) Luis Gonzales (left) and Gabriel Montoya, Sr.

When we arrived at the refuge, the buffalo were grazing in a newly developed wetland area (Figure 2). The watering location was an old dammed reservoir. Luis explained that during the monsoon season several years ago the dam failed. Instead of fixing the dam, it was decided to turn the location into a wetland area by slowing the water using rock check dams along the ephemeral bed leading to the site and routing the water around the remaining dam into two small pools. This would create a small wetland area, with the area being engineered to hold no more than several inches of water before re-entering the stream flow.



Figure 2: Rio Mora buffalo grazing near water source that was recently developed into a wetland area.

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The land base is approximately 4800 acres, of which the buffalo are currently using 2500 acres. Of the acreage being used, most is shortgrass prairie and mixed shrub community in good health with only occasional thistle and snake weed in heavily used areas, such as watering holes. The remaining acreage is juniper woodland. Luis and Gabriel both expressed how the buffalo are engineering some land for themselves by actively removing yucca and juniper shrubs, which in turn makes room for grasses. Also present along the river is an active beaver dam that is also improving habitat naturally (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Natural beaver dam that has naturally changed the course of the river and slowed the flow to allow better water infiltration.

After viewing the refuge, Luis discussed some of the upcoming projects taking place on the refuge including GPS collaring to see how the land is utilized, continued river bottom improvements, continued conservation of archeological sites on the ranch. He also emphasized that despite the plethora of research being conducted on buffalo conservation in tall and mixed grass prairies, Rio Mora is the only one dedicated to researching buffalo impacts on shortgrass prairies. This research and ongoing program should help not only the Pueblo of Pojoaque, but also all Region 4 and other Tribes and producers within the shortgrass prairie.

REGION 4 AND NEW MEXICO SITE VISITS

During the week of July 11th-15th, ITBC Technical Services Department, Kristine Reed and Patrick Toomey, conducted site visits of ITBC member Pueblos and held two capacity building trainings on Drought and Disease. The first of a series of four (4) trainings to be held throughout the year, ITBC conducted trainings on July 12th and 13th. The first training were held at the Pueblo of Pojoaque Tribal Headquarters, and centered on climate change and drought mitigation. ITBC staff was joined by Dr. T.M. “Bull” Bennett of Kiksapa Consulting, LLC and Nina Oakley of the Desert Research Institute, to discuss climate change in Indian Country and tools used to monitor current and future conditions. We also discussed drought specific disaster relief programs and the use of hydroponic fodder to help with supplemental feeding of bison. The second day of training was focused on buffalo disease and disease management, and was conducted at the Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino. Here we discussed the different implications of disease outbreaks within Pueblo herds and appropriate management for prevention.



Figure 1: Left to right: Gabriel Montoya, Sr., Nina Oakley, Kristine Reed, and Dr. T.M. “Bull” Bennett

Figure 2: SDGG Bison Diseases training.

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During the rest of the week in New Mexico, Kristine and Patrick conducted site visits of all active Pueblos in New Mexico. Monday, we explored Taos' shortgrass restoration project along the Rio Grande and Picuris' herd tucked away in the Carson National Forest. Wednesday after the SDGG training, we visited Nambe. Thursday, we visited Pojoaque's herd and Sandia's herd along the Sandia Crest. These site visits helped ITBC staff understand each individual Pueblo's management and support needs to better assist each Tribe.



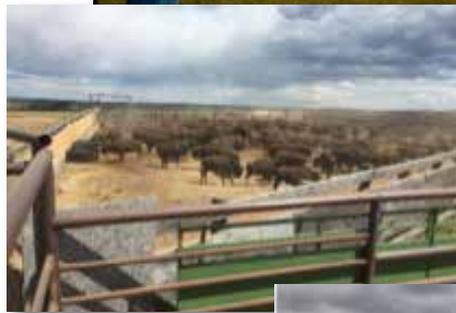
FT. PECK ASSINIBOINE & SIOUX TRIBES SITE VISIT

On July 27, 2016, Kristine Reed of ITBC conducted a site visit to Ft. Peck's Buffalo Quarantine Facility with Ira New Breast, Chief, Natural Resources Division, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Robert Magnan, Ft. Peck Game & Fish, Floyd Azure, Tribal Chairman, Ft. Peck Tribal Council, Dennis Jorgensen, WWF, Dr. Martin Zaluski, MT State Veterinarian, Mike Honeycutt, MT Department of Livestock.



UTE TRIBE ROUNDUP

On August 16, 2016, Patrick Toomey of ITBC arrived at the Hill Creek Unit in Eastern Utah to assist the Ute Tribe with a roundup of their free ranging herd of buffalo. Upon arrival he assisted and observed the capturing of the animals via helicopter. Currently, Ute is working to replace wooden structures with metal pipe. This will ultimately ensure the longevity of the structure. They currently have a hydraulic squeeze chute that is not being used due to the lack of electrical power at the location. A manual chute was used during processing. A total of 228 animals were caught, with 100 sorted out for processing and to start the Ute Tribe, LLC herd.



REGION 3 TRAININGS IN SEATTLE

ITBC staff, Kristine Reed and Patrick Toomey, traveled to Seattle, Washington during the week of July 9th to conduct CIG Drought Mitigation and SDGG Buffalo Diseases trainings. On the first day of the training, Kristine and Patrick were joined by Dr. T.M. “Bull” Bennett, President and CEO of Kiksapa Consulting, LLC, who discussed the Tribal aspect of climate change, and Dr. Dan McEvoy, Atmospheric Scientist of the Desert Research Institute in Reno, NV, joined to discuss and demonstrate online tools used to predict and assess drought. In the afternoon, Kristine and Patrick lead the discussion of potential FSA Disaster Relief and ITBC’s role in assisting Tribes during drought. The following day, Kristine led the discussion on buffalo diseases. Overall, it was a great training with great discussion led by representatives from Yakama, Crow, and Blackfeet Tribes.



REGION 2 TRAINING AND OKLAHOMA SITE VISITS

From August 21-25, 2016, ITBC staff conducted site visits and held a two day training in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Kristine Reed and Patrick Toomey of ITBC along with Dr. T.M. “Bull” Bennet of Kiksapa Consulting and April Taylor of the South Central Climate Science Center conducted a CIG training focusing on drought and drought mitigation on the 23rd. The following day, Kristine and Patrick conducted a training on buffalo diseases and management. The trainings were attended by seven (7) Tribes from Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Before and after the trainings, Patrick was able to visit six Oklahoma Tribes, including newly added Osage Nation. On the 22nd, Patrick was able to visit Cherokee Nation’s new handling facilities, Quapaw’s tri-state program, and Seneca-Cayuga’s in-construction roundup area. On the 25th, he traveled across the state visiting Modoc’s two herds, Osage Nation’s newly acquired Turner Ranch property, and Iowa’s herd under the rainbow. Overall, it was a great opportunity to see the Southern Plains’ herds and efforts in buffalo recovery in Indian Country.

AGENCY COOPERATION REPORTS



A final draft of the Grand Canyon National Park Bison Management Environmental Assessment is underway and should be provided to cooperating agencies soon.

The last IBMP meeting was held on August 3, 2016. Presentations included buffalo harvest planning for the winter of 2016/17; presented by PJ White of NPS. This presentation was part of the IBMP Partners’ discussion on preparation of their 2016/2017 Winter IBMP Operations Plan. The presentation included a review of buffalo removed during 2015/16 winter operations, and NPS recommendations for removals for the 2016/17 operations season. “The Spread of Brucellosis in Elk and Livestock” was presented by Dr. Angela Brennan, a post-doc at the University of Wyoming. “The Northern Range: How Much More Can It Take?” was presented by retired NRCS State Biologist Pete Husby. Pete’s talk is part of continuing discussion on habitat and status of the Northern Range both in and outside of Yellowstone.



The next scheduled IBMP meeting for Yellowstone National Park, is scheduled for December 1, 2016 in Pray, MT, 8 am - 5 pm at the Chico Hot Springs Hotel the draft agenda will be posted two (2) weeks in advance of the meeting.

IUCN

On September 25, 2016, Kristine Reed traveled to Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada, to attend several meetings. The first was the IUCN Bison Meeting on September 26, 2016. The IUCN-World Conservation Union is the world's largest conservation network. It is the only environmental organization with UN Observer status. The IUCN brings together eighty-two (82) States, 111 government agencies, more than 800 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership supporting nature conservation.

The Species Survival Commission (SSC) is one of six (6) commissions under the IUCN. It is a science-based network of some 7,000 volunteer experts from around the world, working towards achieving the vision of "A world that values and conserves present levels of biodiversity." Within the Species Survival Commission (SSC), over 110 specialist groups are established to observe species, monitor biodiversity, analyze issues, develop solutions, and implement conservation.

The Bison Specialist Group (BSG) consists of two (2) units, one for European Bison and another for North American bison. The purpose of the North American Bison Specialist Group (NABSG) is to contribute to the development of comprehensive and viable strategies and management actions to improve conservation and achieve ecological restoration of plains bison and wood bison where feasible throughout the original range of each subspecies. The North American BSG is composed of eighty (80) bison researchers and managers from across the continent.

The 2016 NABSG meeting was scheduled for a one (1) day preceding the American Bison Society 2016 conference and focused on reviewing the Red List Assessment report to determine the appropriate IUCN status for American Bison. The meeting defined activities of the NABSG for the next five (5) years and further discussed the practice of buffalo restoration across its natural range. The BSG will discuss monitoring the status of bison in North America and applying the best science strategies to conserve and ecologically restore American bison.

On Tuesday September 27, 2016, began the American Bison Society Meeting, themes for the day included Status of the American Bison, The Social Dimensions of Bison Restoration, Cultural dimensions of bison restoration, Public Narratives for bison restoration. Kristine Reed conducted a presentation on the Future Role of Tribal Bison Conservation Efforts.



ITBC BY-LAWS

INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL BY-LAWS 'AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MEMBERSHIP RATIFICATION NEEDED AT NOVEMBER 2016 MEETING/CONFERENCE'

INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL A Federally Chartered Corporation

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the Corporation is the InterTribal Buffalo Council hereinafter "Corporation."

ARTICLE II PRINCIPAL OFFICE, REGISTERED OFFICE AND AGENT

Section 1. Principal Office. The initial principal office of the Corporation is located at 2497 West Chicago Street, Rapid City, South Dakota 57702 or as subsequently designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Registered Office. The Board of Directors shall designate and maintain a Registered Office in a jurisdiction the Corporation transacts business. The Registered Office may be identical or different than the Principal Office. The Board of Directors may change the Registered Office from time to time.

Section 3. Registered Agent. The registered agent shall be the Corporation's Executive Director unless otherwise designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III DEFINITIONS & GENDER USE

Section 1. Definitions. Consistent with the Corporate Charter and as used in these bylaws, the following words or phrases shall have the following meaning:

- (a) "Member" means a federally recognized Indian Tribe as defined by the United States Department of the Interior that has complied with the Corporation's requirements for membership.
- (b) "Membership" means all of the Tribes that are members, as defined above, of the Corporation.
- (c) "Corporation" means the InterTribal Buffalo Council or ITBC, a federally chartered Corporation.
- (d) "Board of Directors" means the governing body of the Corporation elected from the membership by the membership.

- 1 (e) "Director" means an individual that serves as a member Tribe's designated representative
2 elected to the Board of Directors of the Corporation.
3
- 4 (f) "Designated Representative" means the person designated by a member Tribe to
5 represent the Tribe in the Corporation who shall be an enrolled member of that tribe.
6
- 7 (g) "Charter Tribe" means a federally recognized Indian Tribe that jointly owns the
8 Corporation with other Charter Tribes and is a member of the Corporation.
9
- 10 (h) "Voting Member" means a member of the Corporation that has complied with dues and
11 meeting attendance requirements as established by the Board of Directors herein.
12
- 13 (i) "Inactive Member" means a federally recognized Tribe that has complied with the
14 requirements for membership pursuant to Article 12 of the Corporation's Charter but has
15 failed to comply with the dues or meeting attendance requirements.
16
- 17 (j) "Associate Member" means any person, organization or entity (other than a federally
18 recognized Indian Tribe) that has joined the Corporation pursuant to Article 12.2.1 of the
19 Corporation's Charter but has no authority to vote on Corporation matters.
20
- 21 (k) "Regional Director" means an individual that serves as a member Tribe's designated
22 representative who is elected by the members in a Corporation's region to represent that
23 region on the Board of Directors.
24
- 25 (l) "Executive Director" means an employee of the Corporation employed at the
26 Corporation's principal office with duties and responsibilities as defined by the Board of
27 Directors herein.
28

29 **Section 2. Use of Gender.** The use of masculine nouns and pronouns is for the sake of clarity
30 and uniformity and encompasses both genders and is not indicative of any discriminatory intent.
31

32 ARTICLE IV 33 MEMBERSHIP

34 **Section 1. General Classes of Membership.** There shall be two (2) general classes of members,
35 Member Tribes and Associate Members.
36

37 **Section 2. Member Tribes.** Member Tribes are restricted to federally recognized Indian Tribes
38 as defined by the United States Department of the Interior.
39

40 **Section 3. Associate Members.** Associate Members may include non-federally recognized
41 Tribes, as well as other interested entities, organizations, or individuals. Associate members may
42 not vote on the business of the Corporation.
43

44 **Section 4. Application procedure for Member Tribes.** Tribes must submit a Tribal Council
45 Resolution or comparable authoritative document to the Board of Directors, from their respective
46

governing body, requesting to become a Member Tribe in the Corporation. The Tribal Council Resolution or comparable authoritative document must designate an enrolled Tribal member as the Tribe’s initial representative and an enrolled Tribal member as an alternate representative to the Corporation.

- (a) The Board of Directors shall review each request and if the above requirements are satisfied, grant interim approval to the Tribe.
- (b) At the next membership meeting, the membership shall vote to accept or reject the Board of Directors’ interim approval or disapproval of the Tribe. A majority of the members present must vote to approve the request. A Member Tribe shall become a voting member of the Corporation upon approval by majority vote of the membership, payment of the mandatory membership dues to the Treasurer and formal induction and attendance at a membership meeting.
- (c) A Member Tribe may change its designated representative and/or alternate by submitting a Tribal Council Resolution or other comparable authoritative document to the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Application procedure for Associate Members. Any person, organization, entity or non-federally recognized Indian Tribe may submit a written request for membership in the Corporation as an Associate Member. The Board of Directors may either approve or deny a request for an Associate Membership. Further, the Board of Directors may approve or disapprove the delivery of services to Associate Members based on the best interest of the Corporation. The Board of Directors shall set membership dues for Associate Members.

Section 6. Voting Members and Inactive Members. Voting members shall have one (1) vote in matters decided by the Corporation. Voting members are members of the Corporation that have paid required dues.

- (a) In order to remain a voting member, a Tribe must pay dues by October 1 of each year, Voting members who fail to pay dues by October 1st of each year shall be considered inactive.
- (b) Inactive members shall become voting members upon payment of dues.
- (c) Inactive members lose their privilege to vote and are ineligible to apply and receive services from the Corporation, including but not limited to, funding, surplus bison, and reimbursement for travel costs to attend meetings.

Section 7. Voluntary Withdrawal of Membership. Membership in the Corporation may be withdrawn upon the completion of the following procedure:

Voting and Inactive Members: by submitting to the President of the Board of Directors, a Tribal Council resolution or a document of equivalent authority issued by the governing body of the Tribe, which indicates its intent to withdraw from membership. The

1 withdrawal of membership in the Corporation shall be effective on the date the resolution
2 is adopted by the governing body of the Tribe submitting the resolution.

3
4 Associate Members: By submitting to the President of the Board of Directors a written
5 request that indicates its intent to withdraw from membership. The withdrawal of
6 membership in the Corporation shall be effective on the date the letter is written or as is
7 designated within the letter.
8

9 **Section 8. Removal of Member.** Any member of the Corporation (Voting, Inactive or
10 Associate) may be removed from membership in the Corporation upon a vote of two-thirds of
11 the total membership at a meeting called for such purpose.
12

13 **Section 9. Dues.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to fix, assess and collect dues for
14 the membership in the Corporation.
15

16 **Section 10. Contracts with Members.** Member Tribes cannot vote in any Corporation action
17 that will provide a financial benefit to the Member Tribe that is not available to all members of
18 the corporation.
19

20 **Section 11. General Powers.** The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by
21 the Board of Directors of the Corporation. The Corporation shall continue operating as a
22 cooperative with all benefits derived from and distributed on an equitable basis to each member
23 Tribe.
24

25 ARTICLE V 26 MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

27
28 **Section 1. Regular Meetings.** Regular meetings of the Membership of the Corporation shall be
29 held at least annually.
30

31 **Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Membership may be called for any
32 purpose and at any time by the President, or by the President at the written request of the
33 Executive Director of the Corporation, or by the President upon receipt of a written request
34 signed by one-third of the Members. Requests for special meetings shall state the purpose
35 therefore.
36

37 **Section 3. Notice of Regular and Special Meetings.** Notice of each meeting of the
38 Membership, whether regular or special, shall be given at least fifteen (15) working days
39 previous thereto by written notice provided by electronic or U.S. mail with an official return
40 receipt, to each Member at the address of such Member as it appears on the records of the
41 Corporation.
42

43 (a) Attendance at a meeting, return receipt of certified mail or verification of delivery of
44 electronic mail shall constitute satisfaction of this notice requirement.
45

1 **Section 4. Quorum.** One-third of the Voting Members shall constitute a quorum for the
2 transaction of business at any meeting of the Membership, but if a quorum is not established at a
3 meeting, the Members present may meet and discuss Corporation matters until a quorum is
4 established and present. An established quorum remains until challenged.

5
6 **Section 5. Manner of Acting.** The act of the majority of a quorum of the Voting Members at a
7 duly organized meeting shall be the act of the Membership, unless the Corporate Charter
8 specifies otherwise for a specific act.

9
10 **Section 6. InterTribal Buffalo Council Regions.** For purposes of the election of Regional
11 Directors, the Corporation’s Members shall be divided into four (4) geographical regions
12 established by the Membership at the first annual meeting after issuance and ratification of the
13 Charter. The membership may act to revise the region boundaries as necessary.

14
15 **Section 7. Proxy Voting.** Voting by proxy is not authorized.

16
17 **Section 8. Vote of Members without Meeting.** The membership may vote on any item without
18 a formal meeting by executing a written ballot that explains the issue for vote. The entire
19 membership must be provided with the written ballot explaining the issue for vote and the item
20 will be adopted upon a majority vote of the membership.

21
22 **ARTICLE VI**
23 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

24
25 **Section 1. Authority.** The business affairs of the Corporation shall be managed exclusively by
26 or under the direction of its Board of Directors, and all powers of the Corporation shall be
27 exercised by or under the authority of the Board of Directors.

28
29 **Section 2. Number and Tenure of Directors.** The Corporation shall have nine (9) Directors
30 who shall be elected by the members from the representatives of the membership and who shall
31 serve two (2) year terms. A Director shall hold office until the Annual Meeting of the
32 Corporation in the year of expiration of his or her term, and further until his or her successor is
33 elected or appointed or until his or her resignation, removal from office or death.

34
35 **Section 3. Initial Board of Directors.** The Corporation shall establish its initial Board of
36 Directors pursuant to Article 14, Section 14.3 of the Corporate Charter.

37
38 **Section 4. Successor Boards.** At each annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation
39 following issuance and ratification of the Charter, Directors shall be elected to succeed the
40 Directors whose terms are scheduled to expire at that annual meeting. Additionally, the
41 membership shall divide itself into designated regions and each region shall designate a director
42 for a total of four (4) Regional directors. If a member Tribe changes its designated
43 representative who was serving as a Regional Director, or if a Regional Director resigns, is
44 removed or dies during his/her term, the Board shall declare the position vacant. The members
45 within that region shall elect a new Regional Director within 30 days. The election shall be
46 conducted by the Secretary of the Corporation and may occur via a telephonic or electronic

1 meeting upon proper notice. Each Region, in addition to designating a Regional Director, shall
 2 designate an alternate Director, to attend board meetings when the designated regional director is
 3 unable to attend. The alternate shall have the same authority as the elected Regional Director.
 4 Upon a determination by the Board that a Regional Director position is vacant, the alternate shall
 5 serve until the election of a new Regional Director.

6
 7 **Section 5. Terms.** Directors shall serve two-year terms with no limits on consecutive or
 8 successive terms.

9
 10 **Section 6. Duties of Directors.** The Board of Directors shall manage the general affairs and
 11 business of the Corporation except for actions regarding:

- 12
- 13 (a) Amending, altering or repealing the Corporate Charter;
- 14
- 15 (b) Electing, appointing or removing any Officer or Member of the Corporation;
- 16
- 17 (c) Amending the Bylaws of the Corporation;
- 18
- 19 (d) Adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with another corporation;
- 20
- 21 (e) Authorizing the sale, lease, exchange or mortgage of over seventy-five (75%) of the
 22 property and assets of the Corporation, except for perishable bison food products; or
 23
- 24 (f) Authorizing the voluntary dissolution of the Corporation.
- 25

26 **Section 7. Director’s Conduct.**

- 27
- 28 (a) A Director shall perform his or her duties in good faith, in a manner the Director believes
 29 to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Corporation, and with such care as an
 30 ordinarily prudent person would use under similar circumstances in like position. In
 31 performing such duties a Director shall be entitled to rely on factual information,
 32 opinions, reports or statements, including financial statements and other financial data in
 33 each case prepared or presented by:
 - 34
 - 35 • One or more officers or employees of the Corporation;
 - 36 • Legal counsel, public accountants or other professionals retained by the Corporation; or
 - 37 • A Committee of the Board upon which the Director does not serve.
 - 38
- 39 (b) A Conflict of Interest may exist when a Director has a material personal interest in a
 40 proposed transaction involving the organization. When a Director has a personal interest
 41 in a matter being considered by the organization, the director shall disclose the conflict
 42 before the Board discusses the matter. The director shall not vote or use his/her personal
 43 influence on the matter and will not be present when the matter is discussed by the
 44 board. The minutes of the meeting will reflect that a disclosure was made, and the
 45 abstention from voting. A material personal interest shall be defined as:
 46

- Receipt of a contract/compensation from the organization that is outside the usual compensation and benefits awarded to all Board members,
- A family member of a Board member receiving employment, a contract or compensation from the organization.

(c) The vote of a majority of the disinterested directors participating in the meeting and constituting a quorum, will be required for approval of the transaction. The minutes shall reflect the disclosure of the conflict of interest, that the interested director abstained from voting and was not present during the Board’s consideration of the transaction.

(d) These procedures shall apply to transactions approved after the date of adoption of this policy, will not apply to reimbursement of expenses actually incurred by any director or an honorarium received in the course of performing his or her duties; and may be waived in any particular case by vote of a majority of the full Board of Directors for good cause shown.

Section 8. Director’s Meetings and Notice. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly or more as business requires. The President may call for a meeting at any time for any purpose or upon the written request of the Executive Director.

- (a) The Secretary, or his/her designee, shall provide five-day written notice to all Board members prior to each meeting. The notice must state the time, place and purpose of the meeting.
- (b) The Secretary, or his/her designee, may provide written notice by United States mail, electronic mail, or facsimile. For United States mail, the notice will be deemed delivered upon deposit in the U.S. mail. Such a deposit must occur not less than seven days prior to the meeting. For notice to the Board by electronic mail, the notice will be deemed delivered upon proof of email delivery to the appropriate email address. For notice to the Board by facsimile, the notice is deemed delivered upon confirmation of the facsimile transmission to the Board member’s respective fax number.

Section 9. Telephonic Meetings of the Board. The Board may conduct telephonic meetings or any Board member may participate in a Board meeting via telephone.

- (a) Notice must be provided as provided by Section 8 of this Article.
- (b) The Secretary of the Corporation shall take minutes of the meeting.
- (c) A telephonic meeting is deemed valid upon proof of proper notice to all Board members and a quorum of the Board participates in the telephonic meeting.

Section 10. Waiver of Notice. Any Director may waive a notice requirement either prior to or after the meeting. A Director waives his/her notice of the meeting by attendance at the meeting unless he/she attends the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business at the meeting because the meeting was not lawfully called or convened.

1
2 **Section 11. Quorum.** A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum of the Board. Upon
3 establishment, a quorum remains until challenged.
4

5 **Section 12. Board Action.** Each Board member has one vote. No proxy voting is authorized or
6 allowed pursuant to the Corporate Charter. The Board shall act only if a quorum is present at a
7 duly convened meeting and by majority vote. Individual directors have no power to act for or on
8 behalf of the Corporation unless authorized by the Board.
9

10 **Section 13. Actions Taken without Meetings.** Any action required or permitted to be taken at
11 a Board meeting may be taken without a meeting by written consent for the action taken signed
12 by all the Directors. The written consent for the action taken has the same effect as a unanimous
13 vote taken at a duly called Board meeting.
14

15 **Section 14:** The following procedures shall be followed at Board meetings:
16

- 17 (a) The Chair shall call the meeting to order promptly at the scheduled hour.
18
19 (b) The Chair shall entertain motions from the Board. If a Board member makes a motion,
20 the Chair shall call for a second to the motion. If there is no second to the motion, the
21 motion fails and the item of business dies. Upon a second to a motion, the Chair may
22 ask for discussion. If no discussion is offered, the Chair shall call for the vote. All
23 motions and subsequent Board action must be reflected in the Board minutes.
24
25 (c) The Chair may participate in debates and shall vote.
26
27 (d) The Board shall not take action on any item not appearing on the agenda unless
28 extraordinary circumstances require the Board's consideration of the item and the item
29 cannot reasonably wait until the next regular meeting. Prior to consideration, the Board
30 must first unanimously approve adding the item to the agenda. If the Board does not
31 approve adding the item to the agenda, the item must be brought to the next regular
32 meeting or at a duly called and noticed special meeting.
33
34 (e) Items on the agenda that require extended deliberation may be held over for a regularly
35 scheduled meeting or be considered at a special meeting.
36
37 (f) All Board meetings shall be adjourned by motion and affirmative action of the Board.
38
39 (g) The Secretary shall ensure that a permanent record is made of all meetings held by the
40 Board or sub-committees thereof. Official minutes of Board meetings shall be
41 transmitted to the Board by the Secretary and after approval, signed by the Chair of the
42 Board. Copies of the minutes are circulated by the Secretary to the Board and may be
43 furnished to interested parties upon request.
44

1 (h) The Board may adopt additional rules and regulations, including a prescribed agenda, to
 2 conduct meetings as deemed proper so long as the rules and regulations do not conflict
 3 with either the Corporation’s Charter or Bylaws.
 4

5 **Section 15. Liability of Directors.** A Director is not personally liable to the Corporation or the
 6 Members of the Corporation for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director
 7 unless:
 8

9 (a) The Director breaches or fails to perform the duties of the Director’s office as provided
 10 for in the Corporate Charter; and
 11

12 (b) The breach or failure to perform constitutes willful misconduct or recklessness.
 13

14 **Section 16. Compensation.** If funds are available, each Director may be paid a reasonable
 15 stipend for attending Board meetings, meetings on behalf of the Corporation or meetings of
 16 Board Committees in an amount approved by the Board, in addition to reimbursement for travel
 17 and lodging expenses incurred as a result of attendance at a meeting. A Director is not eligible
 18 for the stipend if his/her Tribal employer compensates him/her for the same meeting.
 19

20 **Section 17. Removal of a Board Member/Vacancy of a Board Position.** A member of the
 21 Board may be removed for violation of duties set forth in Article VI Section 7 upon two thirds
 22 vote of the Board. Further, upon a Board member missing two consecutive quarterly meetings,
 23 that Board member’s position shall be automatically declared vacant. If the vacant position is a
 24 Regional Director position, the position shall be filled pursuant to Article VI, Section 4 of these
 25 Bylaws. If the vacant position is an Officer, the Board shall appoint a representative of a voting
 26 Member Tribe to complete the term of the vacant Board position.
 27

28 **ARTICLE VII**
 29 **COMMITTEES**
 30

31 **Section 1. Authority to establish Committees.** The Board members of the Corporation may
 32 establish Committees to address various matters of corporation business. Upon the
 33 establishment of a committee, the Board may appoint representatives of voting Member Tribes to
 34 serve on the Committee. Committees shall exist to advise the Board. All Committee actions
 35 shall serve as recommendations to the Board for final action.
 36

37 **Section 2. Committee Members, Terms and Vacancies.** Committee members shall serve two-
 38 year terms and may be reappointed for an unlimited number of terms. Any member of a
 39 Committee whose Tribe becomes an Inactive Member is automatically removed from the
 40 Committee. The Board of Directors may also remove any member from a Committee if such
 41 removal shall serve in the best interests of the Corporation. Committee members shall elect one
 42 member of each committee as their Committee Chairman. The Board of Directors may appoint
 43 new Committee Members to fill any vacancies in any of the Committees. A majority of the
 44 Committee shall constitute a quorum and actions of a majority of the quorum shall constitute an
 45 act of the Committee. Each Committee may adopt governing rules for meetings and actions not
 46 inconsistent with the Corporate Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Membership. Each

1 Committee Chairman shall submit a written report detailing the Committee’s activities at each
2 meeting of the Membership.

3
4 **ARTICLE VIII**
5 **OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION**

6
7 **Section 1. Election of Corporate Officers.** Elections for Officers will take place at the annual
8 meeting of the Membership. The following Officers will each be elected for two (2) year periods
9 as follows:

10
11 President: Election at the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting;
12 Vice-President: Election at the 2010 Annual Membership Meeting;
13 Secretary: Election at the 2010 Annual Membership Meeting;
14 Treasurer: Election at the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting; and
15 Member at Large/Sergeant at Arms: Election at the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting.

16
17 All Corporate Officers shall be elected by representatives of Voting Members. If a Member
18 Tribe becomes Inactive or the Tribe changes its designated representative during its
19 representative’s Officer term, the vacant Officer position will be filled by the Voting Member
20 who received the second highest votes for that position in the last election upon acceptance. If
21 the second highest vote-getter is also Inactive or no longer a designated representative of his/her
22 Tribe, or declines, the Board of Directors shall appoint the representative from another Voting
23 Member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

24
25 **Section 2. President.** Representatives of Member Tribes shall elect from among the
26 Representatives a President who shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation. The President
27 shall serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors and President of the Corporation. The
28 President shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect
29 and shall perform all duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Members. The President is
30 authorized to delegate, by a Board approved policy, any of his/her powers and responsibilities
31 relating to the conduct of day-to-day business of the Corporation to the Executive Director of the
32 Corporation.

33
34 **Section 3. Vice-President.** Representatives of Member Tribes shall elect from among the
35 Representatives a Vice-President who, in the absence of the President, shall perform all the
36 duties of the President and, when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all
37 restrictions upon the President. The Vice-President shall also serve as the Vice-Chairman of the
38 Board of Directors.

39
40 **Section 4. Secretary.** Representatives of Member Tribes shall elect from among the
41 Representatives a Secretary of the Corporation who shall also serve as the Secretary of the Board
42 of Directors and who shall:

- 43
44 (a) Provide Notice of all meetings, set the agenda for all meetings of the Board of Directors
45 and Membership, attend all such meetings and keep a record of their proceedings; and
46

- 1 (b) Serve as the custodian of the seal of the Corporation, if the Corporation utilizes a seal and
2 shall have the power to affix the same to all documents, the execution of which on behalf
3 of the Corporation is authorized by these Bylaws or by the action of the Board of
4 Directors.
5
- 6 (c) Perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to
7 time may be assigned to the Secretary by the Board of Directors through Board directive
8 or an approved policy.
9
- 10 (d) The Secretary is authorized to delegate any of his/her powers and responsibilities relating
11 to the conduct of day-to-day business of the Corporation to the Executive Director of the
12 Corporation through a Board approved policy.
13

14 **Section 5. Treasurer.** Representatives of Member Tribes shall elect from among the
15 Representatives a Treasurer of the Corporation who shall also serve as the Treasurer of the Board
16 of Directors.
17

- 18 (a) The Treasurer shall oversee the daily activities of a Comptroller hired by the Corporation
19 who shall be bonded and who shall be responsible for all funds and securities of the
20 Corporation, including but not limited to:
21
- 22 (i) The receipt and issuing of receipts for monies due and payable to the
23 Corporation;
 - 24
 - 25 (ii) Deposit all monies received in the name of the Corporation in
26 banks, trust companies, or other depositories as from time
27 to time may be designated by the Board of Directors;
28
 - 29 (iii) Disbursement of the monies of the Corporation pursuant to the directions
30 of the Board of Directors;
31
 - 32 (iv) Enter or cause to be entered regularly in books, a complete and
33 correct account of all monies received and disbursed for the
34 account of the Corporation. All financial records shall be kept at
35 the principal office of the Corporation and shall be available for
36 inspection at reasonable times to the authorized Representatives of
37 Member Tribes of the Corporation upon reasonable request;
38
 - 39 (v) Render a statement of account to the Board of Directors at such times as
40 may be requested;
41
 - 42 (vi) Submit a full financial report to the Board of Directors and Member Tribes
43 of the Corporation at the annual meeting;
44

- 1 (vii) Exhibit the books of account of the Corporation and all securities,
2 vouchers, papers and documents of the Corporation in custody to any
3 authorized Member Tribe of the Corporation;
- 4
- 5 (viii) Arrange for an annual audit of the Corporation's financial accounts;
- 6
- 7 (ix) Insure that all Member Tribes comply with financial policies adopted by
8 the Board of Directors; and
- 9
- 10 (x) In general, have such other powers and perform such other duties, not
11 inconsistent with these Bylaws, as are incidental to the Treasurer.
- 12
- 13 (b) The Treasurer may delegate any of his/her powers and responsibilities, as outlined above,
14 relating to the conduct of day-to-day business of the Corporation to the Executive
15 Director or Comptroller of the Corporation through a Board approved Policy except for
16 item (vi) Submission of a full financial report to the Board and membership at the annual
17 meeting.
- 18

19 **Section 6. Compensation for Elected Officers.** Elected Officers of the Corporation may be
20 paid a stipend pursuant to Article VI, Section 14. Additionally, Elected Officers will be paid a
21 stipend for attending meetings and negotiations on the Corporation's behalf in addition to
22 reimbursement for travel and lodging expenses incurred as a result of attendance at a meeting in
23 an amount approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX ELECTION PROCEDURES

24

25

26

27

28 **Section 1. Applicability.** This article shall govern the election of the Board of Directors of the
29 Corporation including the Officers and regional Directors by the Corporation Membership.

30

31 **Section 2. Procedures.** For the purpose of conducting elections for the Board of Directors
32 including Officers and Regional Directors of the Corporation, the Secretary of the Corporation
33 shall:

- 34
- 35 (a) Send notice of such election to all Members of the Corporation not more than 60 and not
36 less than 30 days prior to such elections. Such notice shall indicate the offices open for
37 election and the terms of such offices.
- 38
- 39 (b) Entertain nominations from the floor of designated representatives of Voting Members
40 during the annual meeting for Officers. Upon closure of nominations, the election of
41 Officers shall occur by secret ballot.
- 42
- 43 (c) Conduct elections of Regional Directors at the annual meeting after the election of
44 Officers. All Members from a particular region will nominate designated representatives
45 of Members from the Region to serve as a Regional Director. Upon closure of

Comment [ERLO1]: This change is to set a sequence for the elections of electing Officers first and Regional Directors second. This prevents a person who has just been elected to a Regional Director position to run for an Officer position. If the new RD is successful, the RD position would be immediately vacant and would have to have a special election within 30 days of the vacancy.

1 nominations, only those Members from the Region shall be entitled to vote by secret
2 ballot.

3
4 **ARTICLE X**
5 **NO WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY**

6
7 **Section 1. Privileges and Immunities.** The Corporation is an instrumentality of the Charter
8 Tribes and is entitled to all the privileges and immunities of the Charter Tribes, individually and
9 jointly, except as provided in this Article IX.

10
11 **Section 2. Waiver of Sovereign Immunity.** The Corporation is hereby authorized to waive, as
12 provided in this Article, any defense of sovereign immunity from suit that the Corporation, its
13 Directors, Officers, Employees or Agents may otherwise enjoy under applicable federal, state or
14 Tribal law, arising from any particular agreement, matter, or transaction as may be entered into
15 to further the purposes of the Corporation; and to consent to alternative dispute resolution
16 mechanisms such as arbitration, mediation or to a suit in Tribal or other court of competent
17 jurisdiction.

18
19 **Section 3. Form of Waiver.** Any waiver of the Corporation’s sovereign immunity under this
20 Article must be in a duly adopted resolution of the Board of Directors that shall not require the
21 approval of the Charter Tribes or the Secretary of Interior. The resolution shall identify the party
22 or parties for whose benefit the waiver is granted, the transaction(s) for which the waiver is
23 granted, the property of the Corporation that may be attached to satisfy any judgment, and shall
24 identify the Court in which the Corporation may be sued. Any waiver shall be limited to claims
25 arising from the acts or omissions of the Corporation, its Directors, Officers, Employees or
26 Agents, and shall be construed only to affect the property and income of the Corporation.

27
28 **Section 4. No Waiver of Tribes’ Sovereign Immunity.** Nothing in the Corporate Charter or
29 Bylaws and no waiver of the Corporation’s sovereign immunity pursuant to this Article, shall be
30 construed as a waiver of the sovereign immunity of Charter or Member Tribes, and no such
31 waiver by the Corporation shall create any liability on the part of any of the Charter or Member
32 Tribes or any other instrumentality of any of the Charter or Member Tribes for the debts and
33 obligations of the Corporation, or shall be construed as a consent to the encumbrance or
34 attachment of any property of any of the Charter or Member Tribes or any other instrumentality
35 of any of the Charter or Member Tribes based on any action, adjudication or other determination
36 of liability or any nature incurred by the Corporation.

37
38 **ARTICLE XI**
39 **INDEMNIFICATION**

40
41 **Section 1. Indemnification of Directors, Officers, Employees and Agents.** The Corporation
42 may indemnify, in the discretion of the Board of Directors, any current or former Director,
43 Officer, Employee or Agent against reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the defense
44 of any action, suit, or proceeding in which he/she was made a party due to being or having been
45 a director, officer, employee or agent of the Corporation if the Board determines that:
46

- 1 (a) The Director, Officer, Employee or Agent acted in good faith;
- 2
- 3 (b) The person reasonably believed his/her actions was in the best interest of the corporation
- 4 and not opposed to the best interest of the Corporation;
- 5
- 6 (c) In the case of a criminal proceeding, the person had no reasonable cause to believe
- 7 his/her conduct was unlawful;
- 8
- 9 (d) The person seeking indemnification did not act or take action beyond the scope of his/her
- 10 authority or office; and,
- 11
- 12 (e) Any legal fees paid or any settlements made are reasonable in the best interest of the
- 13 Corporation.
- 14

ARTICLE XII DISSOLUTION

17
18 **Section 1.** After issuance of this Charter by the Secretary of the Interior and ratification by the

19 governing body of each Charter Tribe, the Corporation may be dissolved only as provided in this

20 Article.

21
22 **Section 2.** The Corporation may only be dissolved by an affirmative act of the Corporation as

23 follows:

- 24
- 25 (a) The Board of Directors shall adopt a resolution recommending that the Corporation be
- 26 dissolved and directing that the question of dissolution be submitted to a vote of the
- 27 Members, which may be held at either an annual or special meeting.
- 28
- 29 (b) Written notice shall be given to the Members in the same manner Membership Meetings
- 30 are noticed, consistent with the Charter and Bylaws. The notice must state that the
- 31 purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the dissolution of the
- 32 Corporation.
- 33
- 34 (c) At the Membership meeting, a vote may be taken on a resolution to dissolve the
- 35 Corporation.
- 36
- 37 (d) A copy of any resolution stating the Members' intent to dissolve, verified by one of the
- 38 Corporation's Officers, shall be delivered to the governing body of each Charter Tribe.
- 39 The governing body of each Charter Tribe shall, by duly enacted and verified resolution,
- 40 inform the Secretary of the Interior whether that Charter Tribe consents to dissolution of
- 41 the Corporation.
- 42
- 43 (e) If one or more of the Charter Tribes does not consent to the dissolution of the
- 44 Corporation, the Corporation shall continue to carry on business pursuant to the Charter.
- 45

- 1 (f) If all of the Charter Tribes consent to dissolution of the Corporation, the Corporation
2 shall cease to carry on its business, except insofar as necessary for the winding up
3 thereof, but its corporate existence shall continue until the Charter is revoked by act of
4 Congress. The Corporation shall cause notice of dissolutions to be mailed to each known
5 creditor of the Corporation; collect its assets; pay, satisfy, and discharge its liabilities and
6 obligations; and do all other acts required to liquidate its business and affairs.
7
- 8 (g) After paying or adequately providing for the payment of all its obligations, the
9 Corporation shall distribute the remainder of its assets, either in cash or in kind, to
10 entities organized and operated exclusively for Tribal government, charitable or
11 educational purposes that shall at the time qualify as entities not subject to the federal
12 income tax because of their status as Indian Tribal governments or political subdivision
13 of Indian Tribal governments or that qualify as tax exempt organizations under Section
14 510 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code.
15
- 16 (h) All Charter Tribes that had previously consented to dissolution of the Corporation may, at
17 any time prior to revocation of the Charter by act of Congress, submit resolutions to
18 revoke the voluntary dissolution proceedings. Written notice of the revocation shall be
19 filed with the Secretary of the Interior, which shall cause the revocation to be rendered
20 ineffective and the Corporation may again carry on business.
21
- 22 (i) If voluntary dissolution proceedings have not been revoked, and when all debts, liabilities
23 and obligations of the Corporation have been paid and discharged, or adequate provision
24 has been made therefore, and all of the remaining property and assets of the Corporation
25 have been lawfully distributed, the Charter Tribes and the Secretary of the Interior shall
26 take all actions necessary to obtain an Act of Congress revoking the Corporate Charter
27 and dissolving the Corporation.
28

**ARTICLE XIII
BOOKS AND RECORDS**

29
30
31
32 The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also
33 keep minutes of the Board meetings and shall keep at its registered or principal office a record
34 giving the names and addresses of the Members whose representatives are entitled to vote. All
35 books and records of the Corporation may be inspected by an authorized representative, agent or
36 attorney of any Member of the Corporation for any proper purpose at any reasonable time with
37 reasonable notice.
38

**ARTICLE XIV
AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

39
40
41
42 Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by a vote of a
43 majority of the voting members present at any regular meeting or at any special meeting, if
44 written notice of intention to alter, amend or repeal or to adopt new Bylaws at such meeting is
45 given to the Members at least fifteen (15) working days prior to the meeting.
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ARTICLE XV
CONTRACTS, CHECKS, SECURITIES,
DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

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Section 1. Contracts. The President or Vice-President may enter into contracts or execute and deliver instruments in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation, if specifically authorized by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may also authorize any other officer or officers, agent or agents of the Corporation to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Corporation. The authority granted by the Board of Directors may be either general or confined to specific instances.

Section 2. Checks, Drafts, etc. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the Corporation and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the Fiscal Officer and countersigned by the Executive Director of the Corporation.

Section 3. Securities. All stocks and other securities held in the name of the Corporation shall be managed pursuant to decisions of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Deposits. All funds of the Corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors select.

Section 5. Gifts. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purpose or for any special purpose of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XVI
FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the first day of October and end on the last day of September in each year. The Board of Directors, as the business of the Corporation may dictate, may change the fiscal year of the Corporation.

ARTICLE XVII
SEAL

The Board of Directors may adopt and require the use of a corporate seal of the Corporation. The seal must be circular in form and utilized to formalize official corporation documents.

ARTICLE XVIII
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AND DUES

1 **Section 1. Membership Certificates.** The Board of Directors may prescribe Membership
2 Certificates for Voting Members of the Corporation. The Certificates shall be in such form not
3 inconsistent with the Corporate Charter or these Bylaws. The Certificates shall be entered and
4 maintained in the books of the Corporation.

5
6 The Membership Certificates shall exhibit the Member Tribe's name and such matters required
7 by the Board of Directors. Each Member Certificate must be signed by the President and the
8 Secretary of the Corporation and imprinted with the seal of the Corporation. Membership
9 Certificates shall not be transferable.

10
11 **Section 2. Lost or Destroyed Certificate.** If a Certificate of Membership in the Corporation is
12 lost or destroyed, the Corporation shall issue a new certificate.

13
14 **Section 3. Dues.** The Board of Directors shall have the power to fix, assess and collect dues for
15 membership in the Corporation.

16 ADOPTION OF BY-LAWS

17
18
19 I hereby certify that the amendments to the corporate by-laws were approved by the InterTribal
20 Buffalo Council annual membership on the 11th day of December, 2013 held in Las Vegas,
21 Nevada.

22
23
24 _____
25 LeRoy Adams-Secretary - ITBC

ITBC FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 *(PRELIMINARY REPORT)*



Fiscal Director
ARNELL ABOLD
605.394.9730
f 605.394.7742
arnell@itbcbuffalo.com

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 826,565
Cash, Committed	\$ 726
Accounts Receivable, Net	\$ 2,536
Related Party Receivables	\$ 7,944
Grants Receivable	\$ 617,530
Merchandise Held for Sale:	\$ -00
Meat	\$ 5,001
Other	\$ 4,314
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 5,418
Capital Assets, Net Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 37,877
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$1,507,911

LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 46,916
Grant Payable	\$ 24,000
Accrued Expenses	\$ 30,277
Membership Dues Liability	\$ 21,000
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Capital Lease	
Due Within One Year	\$ 1,824
Due In More Than a Year	\$ 6,230

TOTAL LIABILITIES: **\$ 130,247**

Net Position:

Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 29,823
Restricted	\$1,328,415
Unrestricted	\$ 19,426

TOTAL NET POSITION: **\$1,377,664**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION: **\$1,507,911**

*****Audit report available upon request.**

**InterTribal Buffalo Council
Statement of Net Position
For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

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INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL

InterTribal Buffalo Council Statement of Net Position For the Year Ended September 30, 2015

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INTERTRIBAL
—BUFFALO—



—
COUNCIL

2497 WEST CHICAGO STREET

RAPID CITY, SD 57702

605-394-9730

FAX: 605-394-7742