

Tribe receives grant to study effects of climate change on local fish habitat

WASHINGTON – Lawrence S. Roberts, who is leading the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, recently announced awards of \$8.7 million to 63 federally recognized Tribes and Tribally chartered organizations under the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Climate Resilience Program.

The awards will support Tribally based efforts to address climate change and its effects on Tribal lands and resources. The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians has received a \$250,000 grant to understand and document the effects of predicted climate change scenarios on finfish habitat and to develop the capacity to address those predicted changes to allow for cultural preservation.

The Siletz Tribe will use its funding to describe how climate change could affect the success of our salmon, steelhead, trout, eels, mussels and crayfish for several decades to come. More specifically, the Tribe will examine how key streams and reaches of the mainstem Siletz could change during certain climate change scenarios, such as warmer dry summer

periods followed by winter seasons with larger than average storms.

A large part of our focus will be toward defining those areas or portions of our streams and rivers that we predict will be more resilient to climate change than others. For example, we could use a “storm event” type model to look at a stretch of the mainstem Siletz where we know salmon have spawned for decades and examine the likelihood of that area continuing to hold good spawning gravels after five decades of larger winter storm events.

The majority of the modeling work will be carried out by our project partners who are USGS scientists from Portland and Oregon State University. The majority of the field work will be accomplished by a Siletz Tribal biologist and biological programs technician.

“Through the BIA’s Tribal Climate Resilience Program, we’re aiding Tribes in their struggles to address the ways climate change is affecting them now and in the future,” Roberts said. “In addition to the funds and resources the program

provides, its positive effects are magnified across many Tribal communities because award recipients are encouraged to share their insights, experiences and knowledge about confronting and building resilience to the effects of climate change.”

Along with their recipients, these 85 awards also will directly support about 200 additional Tribes through cooperative planning and shared information and tools. At least another 100 Tribes are expected to be reached through Tribally designed and delivered training awards.

BIA established the Tribal Climate Resilience Program in Fiscal Year 2013 to fund Tribal climate change adaptation planning, ocean and coastal management planning, youth internships and climate change activities.

The program supports Tribal and trust resource managers by providing funds for adaptation planning, vulnerability assessment, training and access to data and tools. Awards are available annually, subject to funding availability.

These funds enable Tribal resource managers to mitigate climate risk for

valued and vulnerable Tribal resources during a project’s design phase and build infrastructure resilience to climate change within natural and human systems.

Between FY 2013 and FY 2015, the BIA awarded more than \$16 million in Tribal Climate Resilience Program (then known as the Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation program) funding to 108 Tribes and intertribal organizations through 145 awards out of a total Tribal request of more than \$48 million.

The FY 2016 solicitation generated 221 Tribal proposals requesting more than \$26.5 million. The BIA was able to provide about one-third of the FY 2016 requested funding, reaching approximately half of the applicants.

“The year-over-year increases in the number of proposals the BIA receives indicates a growing unmet need as more Tribes emerge as leaders in adaptation planning and as the recognition and local impact of climate risks inspire still more Tribes to engage in adaptation planning to protect their people, lands and resources,” Roberts said.

CTSI Jobs

Tribal employment information is available at ctsi.nsn.us.

Note: “Open Until Filled” vacancies may close at any time. The Tribe’s Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

CTSI constantly is looking for temporary employees to cover vacancy, vacations, maternity leave and extended sick leave. If you are looking for temporary work that can last from 2-12 weeks, please submit an application for the temp pool.

The **Siletz Community Health Clinic** property is 100 percent tobacco-free. The policy prohibits all tobacco use by everyone – no smoking in your car, in the parking lot or on clinic property. We appreciate your understanding and willingness to help keep our clinic tobacco-free and clean.

Pendleton® weaves new American Indian College Fund saddle blanket

PORTLAND, Ore. – Pendleton Woolen Mills, an acclaimed-lifestyle brand headquartered in Portland, has announced the release of an exclusive blanket to benefit the American Indian College Fund, the nation’s largest philanthropic effort supporting American Indian higher education for more than 25 years.

Naskan Saddle Blanket, a new release for 2016, represents the collaboration between Pendleton® and the college fund to honor and reawaken a vital part of Native history.

The blanket design tells the story of Johano-ai, the Navajo sun god, who begins his day in the east and rides one of his five horses across the sky to his post in the west while dragging his shining golden orb – the sun. As his horse gallops across the sky, gorgeous hides and ornately woven blankets, known as naskan, lie beneath its hooves.

Naskan Saddle Blanket derives its mountain pattern and name from sacred Navajo blankets. Naskan joins a collection of 10 blankets designed specifically for the American Indian College Fund, designed by Native artists. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of college fund blankets provides scholarships for Native students to attend Tribal colleges and universities.

“The American Indian College Fund is delighted with the Naskan saddle blanket, the newest design in our collaboration with Pendleton Woolen Mills. Just as this blanket represents a path taken by a sacred being across the sky, our students also take a journey toward realizing their dreams

by walking a sacred path toward success,” said Cheryl Crazy Bull (Sicangu Lakota), American Indian College Fund president and CEO. “We honor and celebrate both our students’ journey and our longtime successful partnership with Pendleton Woolen Mills as they work alongside us to make our students’ visions for success a reality.”

Today, slightly more than 13 percent of American Indians age 25 and older have a college degree, less than half the U.S. national average. What’s more, 40 percent of the American Indian population is under age 18.

The college fund is helping more college-age American Indians start and complete their college degree through scholarship support. It also provides program support for students once they are in school to help them succeed both academically and in their careers.

“Pendleton is proud to be a part of the American Indian College Fund’s mission and its purpose to transform Indian higher education,” said Mort Bishop, Pendleton president. “By creating an awareness of the unique, community-based accredited Tribal colleges and universities and offering students access to knowledge, skills and cultural values, the college fund enhances their communities and the country as a whole.”

About the American Indian College Fund

Founded in 1989, the college fund has been the nation’s largest charity sup-



Courtesy photo

Pendleton’s new Naskan Saddle Blanket

porting Native higher education for more than 25 years. It has provided more than 100,000 scholarships since its inception and an average of 6,000 scholarships per year to American Indian students and a variety of programs to support their academic efforts ensuring they have the tools to graduate and succeed in their careers.

The college fund consistently receives top ratings from independent charity evaluators. For more information, visit collegefund.org.

About Pendleton Woolen Mills

Setting the standard for classic American style, Pendleton is a lifestyle brand recognized as a symbol of American heritage, authenticity and craftsmanship.

With six generations of family ownership since 1863, the company recently celebrated 153 years of weaving fabrics in the Pacific Northwest.

Known for fabric innovation, Pendleton owns and operates two of America’s remaining woolen mills, constantly updating them with state-of-the-art looms and eco-friendly technology. Inspired by its heritage, the company designs and produces apparel for men and women, blankets, home décor and gifts.

Pendleton is available through select retailers in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan, Korea and Australia; Pendleton stores; company catalogs; and direct-to-consumer channels, including the Pendleton website, pendleton-usa.com.