

MMIP

“The U.S. Attorney’s Office will collaborate with all nine tribal governments in Oregon—as well as tribal, state and federal law enforcement—to develop MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans for each tribe.”

The initiative will also bring further development of data surrounding all MMIP cases connected to Oregon. “This initial MMIP report is only a snapshot of the MMIP data, and only the beginning of analyzing and developing the complete picture of MMIP cases connected to Oregon,” the report says.

At this point, according to the report, “The U.S. Attorney’s Office currently concludes there are 11 missing Indigenous persons, comprising six females and five males, and eight murdered Indigenous persons, comprising five females and three males.”

The report compares this information with data from the Oregon State Police, the National Institute of Justice organization NamUs, and the National Crime Information Center.



In December with tribal and law enforcement leaders, Gov. Kate Brown signed a bill requiring Oregon State Police to conduct closer investigations of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office MMIP 2021 Action Plan for Oregon also outlines these priorities:

Tribal consultation: The U.S. Attorney’s Office District of Oregon will schedule virtual tribal consultation meetings with each of the nine tribes and law enforcement.

Gathering of MMIP data: Starting this month, MMIP coordinator Ms. Wilkie Gillette plans to request data from all law enforcement offices that respond to Oregon tribes or tribal offices that would have

MMIP data.

Develop MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans: The U.S. Attorney’s Office will work with each tribe to establish these in all tribal communities.

Creation of a District of Oregon MMIP working group: The group will include representatives from the tribes and law enforcement.

Increase collaboration and communicate: The U.S. Attorney’s Office will collaborate and communicate with all Oregon law enforcement to better track and provide

assistance to all missing and murdered Indigenous cases.

Address issues identified in the OSP report: The U.S. Attorney’s Office is committed to assisting the OSP in implementing the recommendations, and overcoming the barriers identified in the OSP report, working toward a stronger partnership.

You can find the U.S. Attorney’s 2021 MMIP report online at: [USAO_MMIP_Report_FINAL_FINAL_2-18-2021.pdf](#)

NCAI hosts winter session

The National Congress of American Indians this week is hosting its executive council winter session. The event usually takes place in Washington, D.C., as a way for tribal leaders to work directly with top federal officials and key members of Congress. Due to covid, this year the meeting is virtual.

Earlier this week NCAI president Fawn Sharp delivered the State of Indian Nations Address. NCAI leaders also met virtually with U.S. Senate majority leader Sen. Chuck Schumer. Further meetings were with Congressmen and Congresswomen; Sen. Mark Kelly of Arizona; and Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawaii, chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Indian Affairs; Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska; and House Speaker Rep. Nancy Pelosi, among others.

The full schedule continues through this Friday, concluding with the NCAI Tribal Leader Strategy Session, focusing on covid relief and recovery.

During hard times, Wave Food helping Native communities

The Wave Foundation is a regional coalition of stakeholders who collaborate to accelerate environmental programs that address climate change, youth engagement, and environmental justice.

The Wave’s Food Program serves Warm Springs families, and Native communities at the Columbia River and beyond. The Wave has now distributed more than 1,600 food boxes to families on the Warm Springs Reservation.

The Wave Food Program began in 2020, before the Covid-19 pandemic, with the idea that every business and every person can make a meaningful effort to promote sustainability in agriculture and the food industry, and to ensure safe and fair working conditions, and careful stewardship of ecosystems.

The impacts that Covid-19 has had on our partners, our food systems and our communities have only emboldened the resolve that the ideals we began with, in a regional community food system, are the path forward. The following is a new message from the Wave Foundation:

Like many organizations that focus on public policy, the Covid-19 pandemic upended our best intentions for 2020. At the start of last year—just before covid arrived—we planned to continue working on upholding and strengthening the science and conservation-based mandates in federal fisheries policy.

As the pandemic’s economic fallout became apparent, we shifted our attention to supporting fishing communities, working waterfronts and the seafood supply chain.

The unprecedented economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on one of the essential American economic drivers—small businesses.

Many Network members, including commercial fishing operators, guides, outfitters, processors, restaurants and chefs, are small businesses charting new courses to continue in business and provide our nation with sustainable, high quality, domestic seafood, as well as life-affirming recreational opportunities

The Food Program

One of the projects we take great pride in saying we helped is the Wave Foundation’s Food Program. This program provides healthy and sustainable food to communities in need is of the projects. The

Wave’s Food Program was brought to our attention by Linda Behnken and Kevin Scribner, our national policy council’s co-chairs.

The Wave’s Food Program undertook efforts to feed the food insecure, get people back to work, and create more food resilient communities. It gave assistance and sourcing preference to Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities and producers.

Of particular note is their work with the tribal communities in the Pacific Northwest.

They made a concerted effort to not only bring high-quality, nutritious food to people in need. They also committed to and then delivered on a promise to source and deliver tribal traditional foods in the food boxes. This respect for tribal values and needs was greatly appreciated by tribal elders.

This year dawned with 2020s challenges still here, and The Wave is ramping up its efforts to reach food sovereignty for communities in need. They are exploring the infrastructure opportunities that can support BIPOC communities.

The Wave’s impact last year was impressive. Take a look at these numbers from their impact summary.

Seafood

- 110,000 pounds of seafood donated to The Wave Foundation.
- 60,825 pounds of seafood purchased by The Wave Foundation.
- 23,875 pounds of tribally caught Columbia River salmon purchased for tribal nation communities.
- 50,000 pounds of Alaskans Own sustainable Alaskan salmon donated to Alaska’s active-duty military members and their families on bases and through deliveries to remote locations via Armed Services YMCA of Alaska, where military members have

Food boxes and meals

- Approximately 40,000 tribal community members impacted.
- 205,000-plus pounds of food items (non-seafood) purchased for food boxes and distribution.
- 251,000-plus pounds of food recovered.
- 143,000-plus meal equivalents served.
- 29,000-plus hot meals served.
- 1,800-plus pounds of Alaskans Own Lingcod distributed to Colville and Spokane Tribes.
- 2,750-plus USDA Farmers to

“As a Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs tribal elder, I am pleased for this Wave Foundation team helping our tribal members getting away from processed foods and eating out at fast food companies.

It will take a long time for our tribal members to begin eating just traditional foods once again. I have happy tears in my heart and mind for getting to witness an outside entity help make this a reality.

I thank all involved with this vital traditional foods venture for a healthy lifestyle.

- Delson Suppah Sr., KWSO, CTWS tribal elder

Families food boxes distributed by The Wave Foundation.

- 1,085-plus food boxes distributed to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
- 2,000-plus food boxes distributed to the Nez Perce Tribe.

Procurement, distribution and other support

- Prior to initiating the tribal nation community focused program, The Wave Foundation partnered with 36-plus community organizations in the Northwest to support over 650,000 people facing food insecurity with food donations representing over 4,000,000 meal equivalents.
- 45-plus individuals compensated for labor associated with The Wave Foundation’s Food Program (seafood labor not included).
- 700-plus fishers and fish workers compensated for labor associated with The Wave Foundation’s Food Program.
- 56-plus agricultural businesses supported with purchases by The Wave Foundation’s Food Program.
- 6,048-plus bottles of water provided to tribal nation communities.
- 6,375-plus hot meals distributed to those impacted by the Detroit, Oregon Southern Oregon wildfires.
- 20,000-plus miles driven for food distribution efforts; miles are pending carbon offsets.
- 730 animal pens from Jewett Cameron provided to Southern Oregon and Warm Springs.

- 40 generator and equipment packages provided to Columbia River Fishing Access Site communities.
- 300 adult sized masks and 200 child sized masks donated from Looptworks and distributed by The Wave Foundation to tribal nation communities.
- 2,100-plus food boxes distributed to Columbia River Tribal Nation Fishing Access Site Commu-

- nities
- 1,600-plus food boxes distributed to the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs.
- 1,200-plus food boxes distributed to Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe and the Burns Paiute Tribe.
- 2,100-plus food boxes distributed to Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.
- 150 culturally relevant Latino food boxes distributed to Hood River School District communities.

Caldera Arts hiring a Central Oregon Middle School Mentor



Are you a skilled youth-worker with a passion for how art and environmental projects can drive personal growth and social change? Caldera Arts is hiring for a Central Oregon Middle School Mentor—\$23.33 per hour plus benefits—to build lasting relationships and provide direct support to middle school students. This position is currently remote in Central Oregon and will be working throughout Jefferson and Deschutes counties upon return to in-person programming. Curious about this opportunity? Full announcement and directions to apply can be found at [www.calderaarts.org/careers](#). We're accepting applications through March 8 at 5 p.m.

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