

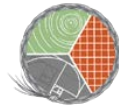


2024

IAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA ✦ DECEMBER 10-12, 2024

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WELCOME

INTERTRIBAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

As we close the chapter on 2024, we reflect on a year of growth and purpose. This year was a testament to the enduring commitment of Tribal Nations and individual producers who steward our natural resources and carry forward a rich legacy. Our work at the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) challenges us to see beyond what we need now to ensure sustainability in our food systems for the next generation. Each year, Native youth at the IAC Annual Conference inspire us to think boldly, act intentionally, and guarantee that our work today paves the way for their success tomorrow. The IAC Youth Program, now stronger than ever, is creating pathways for young leaders to reimagine the role of agriculture in their communities. These efforts go beyond engagement; they empower Native youth to be confident and embrace their cultural heritage to build a future in agriculture.

This past year, the IAC American Indian Foods (AIF) program promoted Made/Produced by American Indians trademarked businesses at international trade missions, national expos, in virtual workshops, and as a feature in this year's conference trade show. The AIF program connects Native producers with markets that amplify their reach and directly support Tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and economic development throughout Indian Country. These tangible opportunities enable producers to connect with broader markets, ensuring their stories, values, and traditions are recognized and celebrated domestically and globally.

As we prepare for 2025, the support of our community inspires us. With your partnership, IAC is advancing food sovereignty, promoting sustainable agriculture, and creating lasting change for Native peoples. As a joint steward of the Native Farm Bill Coalition, we have stood firm in advocating for policies that reflect the priorities of Indian Country. From shaping the yet-to-be-authorized Farm Bill to establishing the USDA Tribal Advisory Committee, IAC ensures that Tribes and Tribal producers inform decisions that shape our agricultural future.

Our mission remains as steadfast as ever—to pursue and promote the conservation, development, and use of our agricultural resources. This purpose has sustained IAC for nearly four decades and is a foundation for unprecedented growth. This year, we carefully crafted the IAC Annual Conference agenda to address the unique needs of Indian agriculture. Above all, we hope the conference instills a shared sense of purpose and unity, reminding everyone that their efforts contribute to the resilience and prosperity of Native food systems for generations to come.

Respectfully,



Kari Jo Lawrence
Chief Executive Officer
Intertribal Agriculture Council



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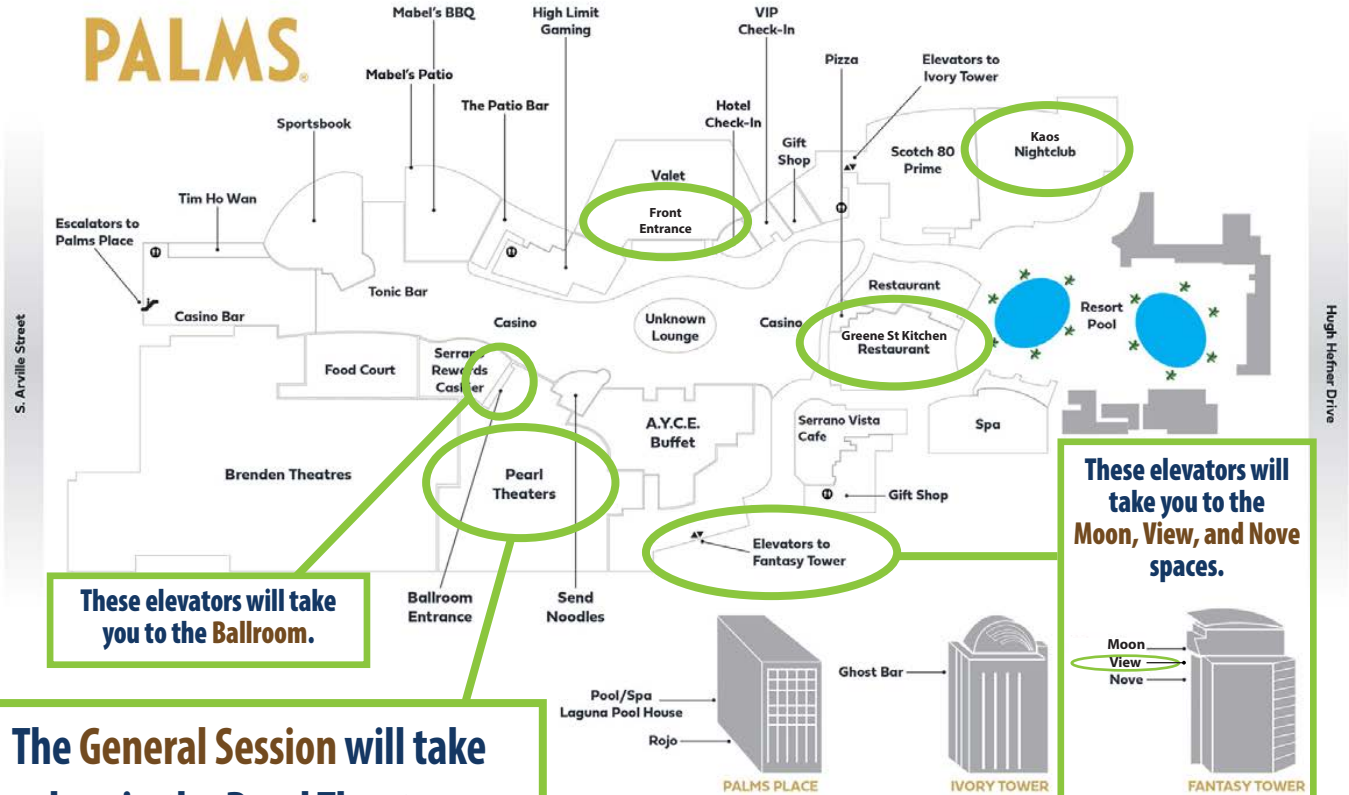
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Main Casino Floor

W. Flamingo Rd.



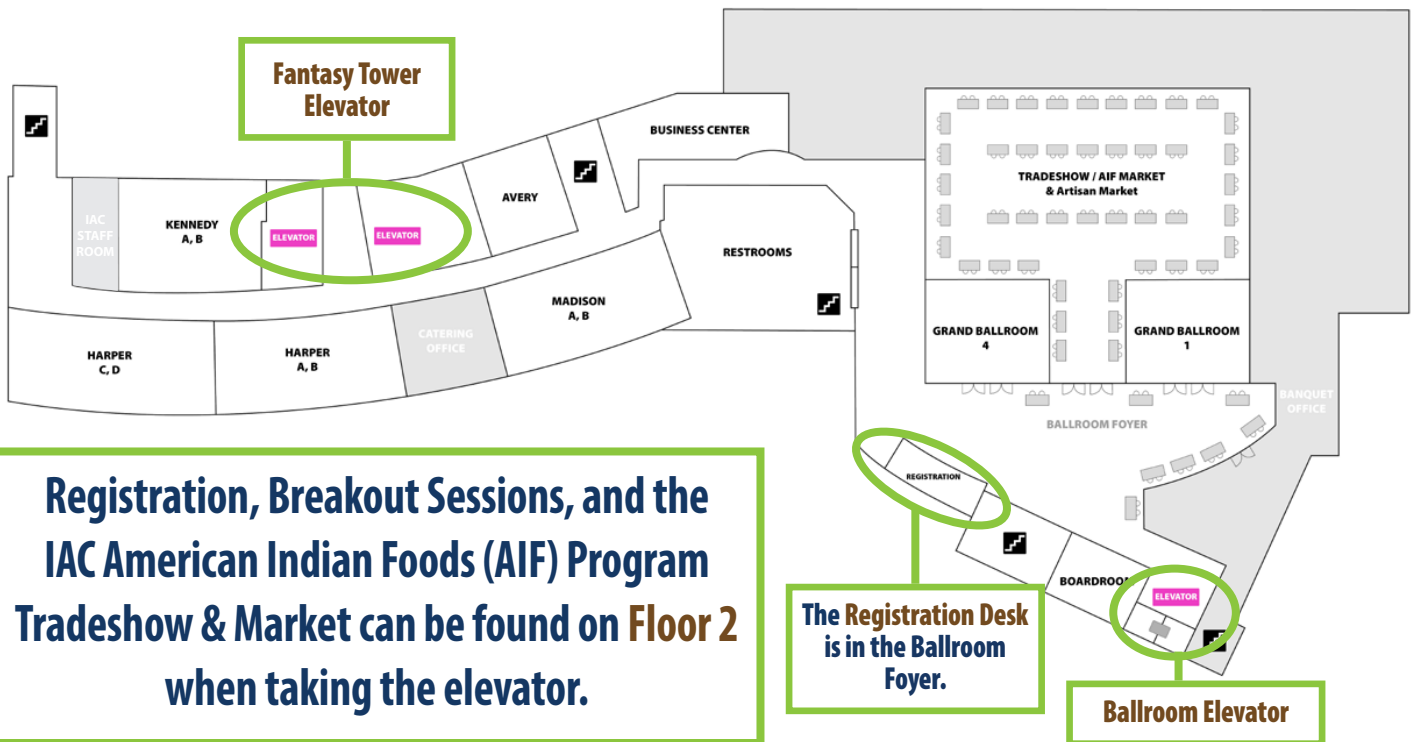
These elevators will take you to the **Ballroom**.

The **General Session** will take place in the **Pearl Theaters**, located on the main casino floor.

These elevators will take you to the **Moon, View, and Nove** spaces.

Youth Sessions will be in **View**.

Floor 2 from Fantasy Tower or Ballroom Elevators



Registration, Breakout Sessions, and the IAC American Indian Foods (AIF) Program Tradeshow & Market can be found on **Floor 2** when taking the elevator.

The **Registration Desk** is in the **Ballroom Foyer**.

Ballroom Elevator



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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**MARCH 1 -
MAY 1, 2025**



WHO CAN WE FUND?

- 501c3 Organizations
- Tribal Governments
- Education Institutions
- Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI's)

 **Media Contact:**
media@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org

 **Grantmaking Contact:**
grants@nativeamericanagriculturefund.org

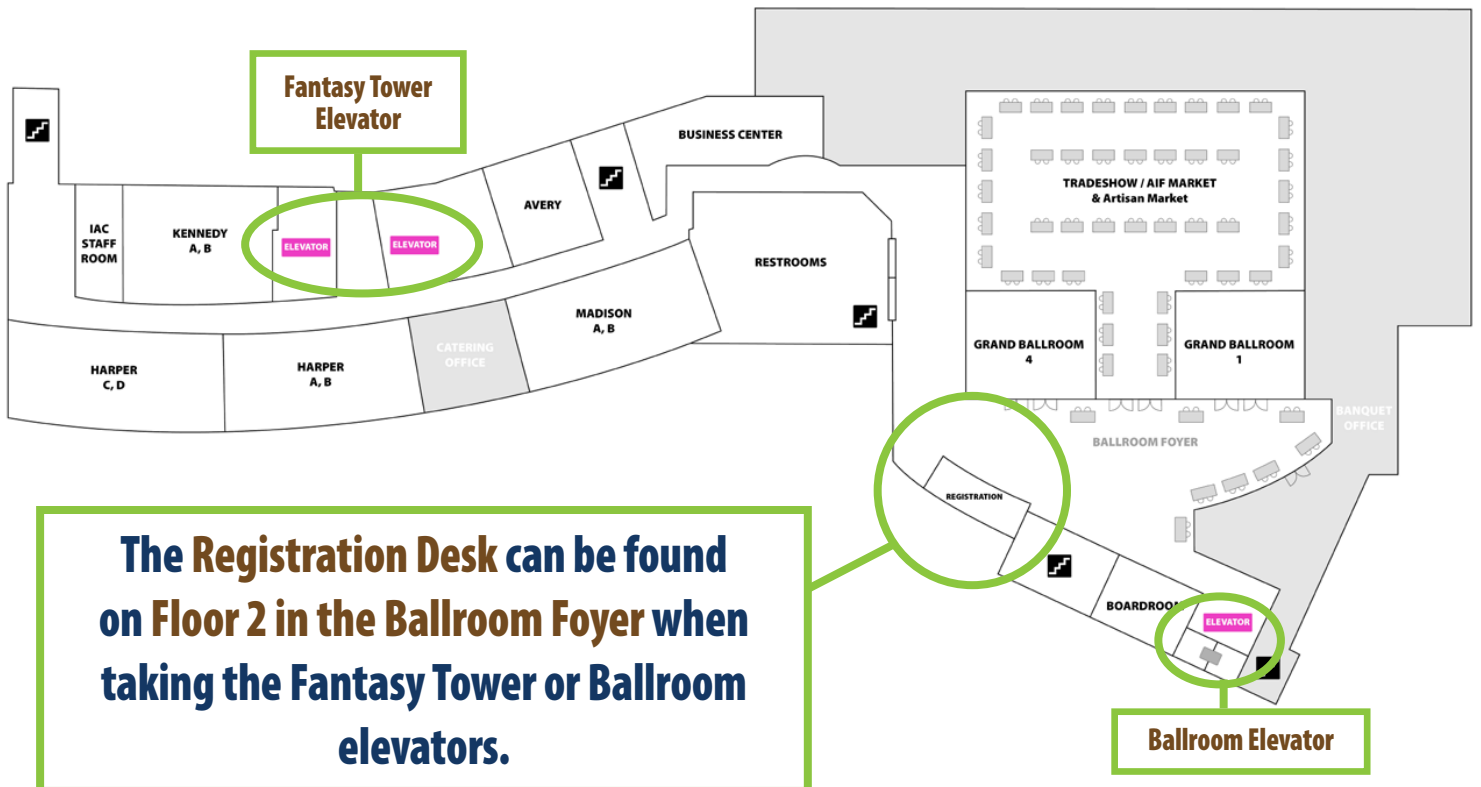
 NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BALLROOM FOYER

MONDAY, 12/9 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

TUESDAY, 12/10 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, 12/11 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM



GENERAL SESSION

TUESDAY, 12/10

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

PEARL • • • EMCEE: RUBEN LITTLE HEAD THEATER

- 9:00 a.m.** **Opening Ceremony & Youth Flag Procession:**
Rope Three Irons, *Hand Drum*
- 9:05 a.m.** **National Anthem:** Calico Ducheneaux
- 9:08 a.m.** **Blessing:** Greg Anderson (Moapa Band of Paiutes)
- 9:15 a.m.** **Welcome:** Harlan Beaulieu, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Board President
- 9:30 a.m.** **IAC Board Member Introductions**
- 9:35 a.m.** **Keynote:** Kari Jo Lawrence, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Executive Officer
- 9:50 a.m.** **Panel: Credit Where It's Due - The Story of Indian Ag Credit**

Moderator: Kelsey Scott, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Strategy Officer

Panelist: Zach Ducheneaux, USDA Farm Service Agency, Administrator

Panelist: Porter Holder, Choctaw Tribal Producer & Former Vice Chair for Council on Native American Farming and Ranching

Panelist: Sarah Vogel, Attorney, Advocate & Author of *The Farmer's Lawyer*

Join us for an insightful discussion on the future of agricultural credit, grounded in a clear understanding of our past and the need for forward-thinking change. The panel will highlight solutions aimed at fostering resilience and equitable opportunities, emphasizing policies designed to break historical cycles and drive meaningful progress.

10:35 a.m. **Panel: Advancing Outreach Strategies in Indian Country**

Moderator: Keir Johnson-Reyes, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Panelist: Marcia Bunger, USDA Risk Management Agency, Administrator

Panelist: Terry Cosby, USDA Natural Resources Conservation District, Chief

Panelist: Zach Ducheneaux, USDA Farm Service Agency, Administrator

USDA partners discuss strategies to build impactful partnerships and enhance outreach in Indian Country. The session emphasizes community-centered approaches that honor Tribal sovereignty while addressing key topics such as conservation, risk management, and agricultural development. Highlighting collaborative initiatives, the session focuses on community-centered efforts to improve resource access to resources and promote sustainable success for Tribal Nations.

GENERAL SESSION

TUESDAY, 12/10

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

PEARL
THEATER

• • • • 11:20 a.m.

Intertribal Agriculture Council Youth Program & 2024 Essay Contest Finalist Presentation

Speaker: Elaini Vargas, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Youth Program Director

Meet the inspiring finalists and honorable mentions of this year's Youth Program Essay Contest, who were invited to share their thoughts on the USDA Tribal Advisory Committee's role in shaping the future of Indian Country. Each finalist will present their unique vision and recommendations for strengthening agriculture and Tribal representation at the highest levels. Join us in celebrating these young leaders, whose voices bring forward new ideas and hopes for the future of Tribal communities and agriculture.

Essay Contest Finalists

Leilani Charley, of the Ramah Navajo people, from Pinehill, New Mexico
Taryn McCaa, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, from Elmore, Oklahoma
Jade McPeak, Muscogee Creek Nation, from Checotah, Oklahoma

Honorable Mention

Leo Enlow, Muscogee Creek Nation, from Sapulpa, Oklahoma
Alicia Goodie, Navajo, from Shiprock, Arizona

11:45 a.m. Presentation: IAC Annual Conference Chef Highlight with Chef Elena Terry

Speaker: Latashia Redhouse, Intertribal Agriculture Council, American Indian Foods Program Director

Speaker: Chef Elena Terry, Wild Bearies, Executive Chef & Founder

The IAC Annual Conference luncheon celebrates Tribal agricultural producers and Native American cuisine. Meet this year's featured chef, Elena Terry, Executive Chef and Founder of Wild Bearies, who brings a wealth of experience from her years in traditional foods, the restaurant industry, and Native community building.

GREENE ST KITCHEN,
MOON, NOVE, KAOS

12:00 - 1:30 P.M. AMERICAN INDIAN FOODS LUNCHEON

This year's American Indian Foods luncheon, a ticketed event, will feature a menu designed and prepared by Elena Terry (Ho-Chunk Nation), Executive Chef and Founder of [Wild Bearies](#). Dedicated to feeding ancestral foods to Indigenous communities, Elena works with ingredients from seed to table, while promoting traditional food systems and farming techniques. Today's menu sourced from 37 food and ag companies from all across the United States.

30 MIN BREAK (1:30 - 2:00 PM)

HARPER C,D • • 1:00 - 6:00 PM TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Tribal Advisory Committee is authorized to provide advice and guidance to USDA on matters relating to Tribal and Indian Affairs. This Committee maintains representatives from across Indian Country and the Native Hawaiian Community. Members of the public are encouraged to provide public comment on 12/10 from 1:15 - 2:45 PM PT.

GENERAL SESSION

TUESDAY, 12/10 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

PEARL THEATER

EMCEE: RUBEN LITTLE HEAD

2:00 p.m. **Opening Remarks**

Speaker: Kari Jo Lawrence, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Executive Officer

2:05 p.m. **Panel: Cultivating Connections: Streamlining Access to and Approvals of Agricultural Programming at BIA and USDA**

Moderator: Abi Fain, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Legal & Policy Officer

Panelist: Johnna Blackhair, Deputy Bureau Director for Trust Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Panelist: Trenton Kisse, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Board Member

Panelist: Jennifer Perez, USDA Farm Service Agency, National Tribal Liaison

Panelist: Marvin Pinnecoose, Southern Ute Tribe, Tribal Council Member

Hear from panelists who are engaged in bridging gaps between the federal agencies that have the biggest impact on Tribal agriculture—the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. Panelists will discuss the unique challenges Tribal producers encounter when it comes to utilizing USDA programming on trust lands, and the overlapping—and sometimes conflicting—functions of USDA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Tribal agriculture.

2:45 p.m. **Intertribal Agriculture Council - A Year in Review & A Look at What's Ahead**

Speaker: Wayne Ducheneaux, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Advancement Officer

Join Wayne Ducheneaux, Chief Advancement Officer of the Intertribal Agriculture Council, for a dynamic presentation highlighting the milestones, challenges, and achievements of the past year in advancing Indian agriculture. This session will showcase pivotal projects, impactful collaborations, and advocacy efforts that have shaped Tribal agricultural development, while also unveiling strategic plans and initiatives designed to enhance economic stability and sustainability for Native producers and communities. Gain valuable insights into IAC's journey and vision for empowering Native agriculture in the year ahead.

30 MIN BREAK (3:00 - 3:30 PM)

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

TUESDAY, 12/10

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

GRAND • • • • FSA DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Zach Ducheneaux, USDA Farm Service Agency, Administrator

Speaker: Gail Gullickson, USDA Farm Service Agency, State Outreach Coordinator, South Dakota

This session will focus on the essential role of FSA Disaster Programs in building resilience and recovery pathways for Native producers facing climate challenges and natural disasters. Participants will gain insights into the latest program updates, eligibility requirements, and strategies for effectively accessing these resources. Join us to discuss how these programs can be leveraged to safeguard operations and sustain agricultural livelihoods in the year ahead.

GRAND • • • • PRODUCER RIGHTS - NAVIGATING USDA'S FARM SERVICE AGENCY AND DOI'S BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

BALLROOM 4

Moderator: Abi Fain, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Legal & Policy Officer

Speaker: Stephen Carpenter, Farmers Legal Action Group

Speaker: Lindsay Kuehn Farmers Legal Action Group

Speaker: Michelle Fox, Shareholder, Cedar Tree Native Law

This panel discussion brings together insights from attorneys and advocates familiar with the USDA and the BIA to address critical legal and regulatory barriers impacting Native agriculture. Join us as we explore collaborative solutions and strategies that will empower Tribal producers to navigate challenges more effectively. Together, we'll set the stage for actionable progress and stronger advocacy in the new year.

AVERY • • • • ENGAGING FARMERS, PRODUCERS, AND RANCHERS ON THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1928 MERIAM REPORT

AVERY

Speaker: Aude Chesnais, Village Earth, Executive Director

Speaker: Kyle Whyte, Professor at the University of Michigan's School for Environment and Sustainability

Share key issues farmers, producers, and ranchers want to be addressed in the Centennial Anniversary of the 1928 Meriam Report. This session invites agricultural voices to help shape this updated report, led by the Indian Land Tenure Foundation. The centennial update seeks to capture transformations and struggles in Indian Country over the past century. Your insights will help ensure the report reflects today's realities.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

TUESDAY, 12/10

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

MADISON A,B • • THE FARM BILL AND INDIAN COUNTRY'S PRIORITIES

Speaker: Native Farm Bill Coalition Executive Committee Members

The Native Farm Bill Coalition—composed of Tribes and Tribal organizations across Indian Country—is dedicated to advancing Native priorities in the Farm Bill, a critical piece of legislation that reauthorizes and establishes new USDA programs and offices, ranging from farm and ranch disaster, conservation and lending programs to nutrition programming, rural development programs, and more. Join us to learn more about Tribal priorities included in the most recent Farm Bill text, ongoing advocacy efforts, and next steps for passing the Farm Bill, with time for Q&A!

HARPER A,B • • NRCS - STRENGTHENING OUR COMMITMENT TO TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES

Speaker: Roylene Comes at Night, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington State Conservationist

Speaker: Chris Taliga, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ecologist - National Plant Data Team

Speaker: Lynn Knight, USDA Climate Hubs, National Lead

This session will outline the NRCS Tribal Relations Strategy to honor its federal trust relationship with federally recognized tribes across the United States. It will also discuss the efforts of the USDA PLANTS Database to honor and preserve traditional ecological knowledge. Finally, it will introduce the USDA Climate Hub's work on climate change-related assistance to Tribes.

KENNEDY A,B • • MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT

Speaker: Tikaan Galbreath, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Technical Assistance Network Director

Speaker: Will Seeley, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, Tribal Enterprise Manager

This session will examine the critical role of meat and poultry processing in enhancing food sovereignty and economic resilience for Native producers in the coming year. Learn about the latest resources, partnerships, and innovative strategies that are supporting Tribal-led processing initiatives, empowering communities to capture greater value from their livestock and provide locally produced foods. * *Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria*

NOVE • • • • EMPOWERING VOICES: PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP FOR NATIVE ADVOCATES

Speaker: Ray Champ, Professional Announcer

Step into your power as a voice for Indian agriculture at this tailored public speaking workshop led by expert Ray Champ. This session is specifically designed for Native individuals who wish to effectively articulate the needs and priorities of their communities in public forums such as conferences, fly-ins, and agency meetings. Join us to amplify your impact and gain the confidence to speak up about the unique challenges and opportunities in Indian agriculture.

EVENING EVENTS

TUESDAY, 12/10

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

MOON • • • • • TRIBAL DELEGATE MIXER FOR IAC MEMBER TRIBES

If you're an IAC Tribal Member Delegate, join us for an opportunity to connect, exchange ideas, and prepare for the upcoming regional caucus meetings. Whether you're sharing experiences, discussing key issues, or simply enjoying great conversations, this mixer is the perfect chance to strengthen ties and foster collaboration in your region.

.....

INDIGENOUS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM (IFSELP)

IFSELP will host a unique **three-week on-site summer program** for Indigenous students interested in food sovereignty and culturally responsive public health services for Indigenous communities. The program will offer educational opportunities in these areas:

- Indigenous food sovereignty programs
- Indigenous food systems
- Traditional knowledge preservation
- Educational pathways and career plans
- Tours of tribal colleges and universities
- Exposure to future career opportunities

PROGRAM DATES: Summer 2025

LOCATION: NDSU Campus - Fargo, ND



[More Information](#)

While participating, students will receive:

- All travel costs covered to attend
- Room and board provided at NDSU
- A stipend for participation and attendance

Link and QR Code to Apply:

<https://forms.gle/95KPmKpzjU3LjuDbA>

 tahni.parisien@ndsu.edu

 <https://www.facebook.com/AIPHRC>





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CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

GRAND • • • • UNPACKING THE TRIBAL VOLUNTARY BISON INSPECTION FEE COVERAGE PROGRAM BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Harleigh Moore, Flower Hill Institute

The Tribal Voluntary Bison Inspection Fee Coverage Program is part of our ongoing effort to support economic growth and sustainability in tribal communities, while promoting traditional practices and food sovereignty. The objective of this program is to implement a reimbursement process for voluntary bison inspection fees, in accordance with Sec. 765 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-42). This program will cover voluntary meat inspection fees associated with the slaughtering or processing of bison and buffalo, providing vital financial assistance to eligible businesses. Who is Eligible? Native American-owned establishments and Businesses operating on tribal lands engaged in the slaughtering or processing of bison/buffalo. ** Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

GRAND • • • • USDA FARMERS.GOV TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS BALLROOM 4

Speaker: Jennifer Perez, FSA National Tribal Liaison

Speaker: Pedro Torres, NRCS National Tribal Liaison

Speaker: Sean Patrick, RMA National Tribal Liaison

Speaker: Tedd Buelow, RD Tribal Relations Team Lead

This session will highlight Tribal Nation partnerships opportunities available with USDA Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Risk Management Agency and Rural Development. Presenters will provide an overview of USDA service to tribal communities, FSA loan programs for fractionated tribal land consolidation, conservation partnerships, tribal participation in USDA committees and advisory councils, and how to navigate USDA resources and support. One-on-one assistance with agency subject matter experts will be available.

MADISON A,B • • • NAVIGATED INSURANCE OPTIONS TO SAFEGUARD NATIVE FARMS AND RANCHERS

Speaker: Jamie Cortes, Marsh McLennan Agency, Business Insurance Sales Executive

Speaker: Jeremy Not Afraid USDA Risk Management Agency, Senior Risk Management Specialist

Speaker: Gilbert Louis USDA Risk Management Agency, Tribal Ambassador

This session will cover the fundamentals of crop insurance, focusing on how it can be a valuable tool for Native producers to manage risk and ensure stability in the face of unpredictable weather and market conditions. Attendees will learn about policy options, eligibility, and steps for navigating the crop insurance process. Join us to strengthen your operation's resilience and safeguard your crops as we look ahead to a successful 2025 growing season.

KAOS • • • • 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Tribal Advisory Committee is authorized to provide advice and guidance to USDA on matters relating to Tribal and Indian Affairs. This Committee maintains representatives from across Indian Country and the Native Hawaiian Community.

REGIONAL CAUCUS SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11 ••• 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM

EVERY •••• EASTERN REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Eastern Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members only, consisting of Tribes in AL, AR, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, ME, MA, MS, MO, NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, and WV.

HARPER A,B •• DINÉ REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Diné Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from the Diné Nation only.

HARPER C,D •• ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Rocky Mountain Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from MT and WY only.

KENNEDY A,B •• SOUTHWEST REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Southwest Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members CO and NM only.

MOON ••••• NORTHWEST REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Northwest Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the Intertribal Agriculture Council's (IAC) annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from OR, WA, and ID only.

NOVE ••••• WESTERN REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Western Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from AZ and UT only.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

GRAND • • • • TAX PLANNING AND RECORD KEEPING FOR FARMERS AND RANCHERS BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Ruby Ward, Utah Extension, Extension Specialist

Speaker: Adam Kantrovich, Clemson University, Clemson Tax School Director

Speaker: Sarah Campbell, USDA Farm Service Agency, National Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coordinator

This session will cover essential tax and record-keeping practices that support financial health and sustainability for Native agricultural operations in the coming year. Participants will learn about updated requirements, tools for efficient record management, and tips for maximizing tax benefits specific to agriculture. Join us to strengthen your operation's financial foundation and ensure preparedness for new opportunities and challenges in 2025.

GRAND • • • • UNDERSTANDING THE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE MISSION AND RESOURCES BALLROOM 4

Moderator: Tikaan Galbreath, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Technical Assistance Network Program Director

Speaker: Paul Kiecker, USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, Administrator

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service Administrator, Paul Kiecker, will provide an overview presentation on key considerations related to FSIS' Strategic Goals of preventing foodborne illness and protecting public health; modernizing inspection systems, policies, and the use of scientific approaches; and achieving operational excellence. This presentation will provide information on the various types of inspection services while highlighting scenarios that Tribal processing facilities may need to consider. The presentation will be followed by office hours to provide a forum for questions and assistance. * *Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

MADISON A,B • • LEVERAGING NUTRITION PROGRAMS TO GROW TRIBAL FOOD & AG

Moderator: Lara Hays, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Business Development Specialist - West, American Indian Foods Program

Speaker: Kelli Case, J.D. - Sr. Staff Attorney, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative

Speaker: John VanPool, Associate Director of Policy, Research, and Tribal Governance, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative

Speaker: Denee Bex, Owner/Founder, Tumbleweed Nutrition

Join us as we explore how the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative Staff and Diné/Navajo Dietitian, Denee Bex, are utilizing nutrition programs to foster growth in native food and agriculture systems. This session will combine policy, nutrition and hands-on knowledge to discuss how to access and optimize these programs. This session will highlight how to create opportunities to supply fresh, local and traditional foods to communities and schools. These efforts are driving economic growth, promoting food sovereignty and creating sustained health outcomes throughout Indian Country.

..... 30 MIN BREAK (10:30 - 11:00 AM)

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

GRAND • • • • DFAP TAX IMPLICATIONS AND BUSINESS STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING THESE FUNDS BALLROOM 1

Moderator: Padgley Gonzales, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Regenerative Economies Program Director

Speaker: Darrell Tennie, The Tennie Group, Chief Executive Officer

Speaker: Kym Evans-Brown, The Tax Woman: SBI Business Consulting

This session will address the tax implications of payments received through the FSA Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP) and how they affect Native producers in the new year. Participants will learn about reporting requirements, potential tax liabilities, and strategies for effectively managing these funds to support their agricultural operations. Join us to ensure you're prepared to navigate the financial landscape and make informed decisions regarding DFAP payments. * Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.

GRAND • • • • USDA-BIA WORKING TOGETHER FOR TRIBES AND TRIBAL PRODUCERS - MOU UPDATES AND NEXT STEPS BALLROOM 4

Speaker: Jim Wabindato, USDA Office of Tribal Relations, Special Advisor, Tribal Agricultural Lands

Speaker: Thomas Mendez, Branch of Agriculture and Rangeland Development, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Join us for an insightful panel discussion featuring representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and USDA as they share their vision and initiatives for the new year and throughout the 5-year extension of this collaborative MOU. This session will focus on how the two agencies are cooperating to enhance support for Tribal agricultural initiatives, empower communities to address pressing challenges, and make USDA programs more accessible to tribal ranchers and farmers. Attendees will gain valuable insight into the strategic partnerships being developed that can drive sustainable growth in Indian Country in 2025 and beyond.

AVERY • • • • WOMEN IN AG

Moderator: Sha'Teal Pearman, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Manager

Speaker: Leanna Hale, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Specialist

Speaker: Angie Comeaux, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

Speaker: Fanny Brewer, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

Speaker: Calico Ducheneaux, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Intern

The Women in Ag Panel will celebrate and uplift the contributions of Native women leaders driving innovation and resilience in agricultural communities. This session will provide insights into their unique experiences, challenges, and successes, highlighting resources and networks that support women's leadership in the field. Join us to explore how empowering Native women in agriculture strengthens entire communities and inspires the next generation for a vibrant future.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

MADISON A,B • • CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Speaker: John Keller, Portfolio Manager - Climate Smart Commodities, Intertribal Agriculture Council

Join us to see how these Climate Smart Commodities Partnerships are expanding market access, enhancing adaptability, and driving growth in Indian Country, positioning Native producers for success. This focused initiative provides technical assistance and financial support to implement climate-smart practices that promote resilience, soil health, and economic strength.

HARPER A,B • • EMPOWERING NATIVE PRODUCERS: EXPANDING ACCESS TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MARKETS THROUGH PROSPERITY PATHWAY

Speaker: Pete White, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Land Access Project Director

Explore the Prosperity Pathway Program, an initiative crafted to expand economic opportunities for Native producers and strengthen self-sufficiency in Tribal communities. This session will highlight practical strategies for enhancing access to land, capital, and market channels—empowering Tribal communities to build resilient, thriving agricultural enterprises.

HARPER C,D • • INCORPORATING TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE INTO CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARDS

Moderator: Keir Johnson-Reyes, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Stakeholder Engagement Officer

Speaker: Brenda Simpson, USDA Natural Resources Conservation District, National Grazing Land Team Leader

Speaker: Amanda Branham, USDA Natural Resources Conservation District, Director of the Soil Health Division and Leader of the NRCS Tribal and Indigenous Practices Team

Speaker: Cassius Spears Jr, USDA Natural Resources Conservation District, Rhode Island State Resource Conservationist and Citizen of the Narragansett Indian Tribe

The session will explore the NRCS process for developing Interim Conservation Practice Standards as well as efforts by NRCS to incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into new and existing Practice Standards. Examples will include efforts to further support our Staff in working with Tribal Bison Producers and traditional Tribal Farming systems.

KENNEDY A,B • • FOOD ACCESS AND SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

Speaker: Megan Mucioki, Emory University

Over the past two years Mucioki and colleagues have worked to understand issues related to native food access, availability, and consumption in urban Alaska. This session shares their initial findings on the unique aspects of building community and the process of food sovereignty for Alaska Native People in urban spaces. This session also explores this topic broadly and seeks audience discussion.

..... 90 MIN LUNCH BREAK (12:00 - 1:30PM)



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connects producers interested in **organic** certification with experienced **organic** producer mentors, technical assistance resources, and **organic**-focused regional events. Mentors guide transitioning producers through the process of **organic** certification and share their expertise in **organic** farming.

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Contact toppmentorship@ccof.org with questions or for more information.



Learn more about the Transition to **Organic** Partnership Program at www.organictransition.org or scan here!



CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

GRAND • • • • REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE: MEASURING IMPACTS ON NATIVE FARMS & RANCHES BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Vincent Gautier EDF
Speaker: Mai Lan Hoang EDF
Speaker: Padgley Gonzales
Speaker: Beau LaSalle, Tribal Producer
Speaker: April Martin, Tribal Producer

The session will feature a presentation on the collaborative project between the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) and the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), followed by a panel discussion with participating producers. Attendees will gain insights into the project's goals, initial findings, and planned next steps. The session will also offer firsthand perspectives from Native producers about their experiences, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing regenerative practices, along with the impacts these practices have had on their operations.

GRAND • • • • BIA BRANCH OF AGRICULTURE OVERVIEW BALLROOM 4

Speaker: Kenneth Gishi, Rangeland Management Specialist, BIA
Speaker: **Speaker:** Thomas Mendez, Branch of Agriculture and Rangeland Development, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Speaker: Ira New Breast, Division Chief, Division of Natural Resources, BIA Office of Trust Services, Central Office

The BIA and USDA Interagency Work Group (IWG) for Tribal Agricultural Lands Training and Communications Subcommittee has been working diligently with Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) agencies to develop a three-part cross-training (BIA-FSA-NRCS modules) for federal employees and tribal nations with BIA functions. The Presentation will focus on providing an overview of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Branch of Agriculture and Range Services on Trust Lands.

MADISON A,B • • NAFS - BUILDING CAPITAL CAPACITY TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION, RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, AND RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Speaker: Tomie Peterson, Native Agriculture Financial Services, Chief Lending Officer
Speaker: Ridge Howell, Native Agriculture Financial Services, Legal Counsel
Speaker: Ty Ducheneaux, Native Agriculture Financial Services, Lending Analyst

This session will provide an essential update on Native Agriculture Financial Services (NAFS), featuring insights from Tomie Peterson, Ridge Howell, and Ty Ducheneaux. Learn about NAFS's capital connection structure, OFI system, lending programs, and tailored services that NAFS is developing to support the growth and resilience of Native agriculture in the coming year. Join us to discover how NAFS is paving the way for more accessible, impactful financial solutions across Indian Country.

.....
15 MIN BREAK (2:30 - 2:45PM)

REGIONAL CAUCUS SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11 ••• 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM

AVERY •••• EASTERN OKLAHOMA REGION CAUCUS - ENDS EARLY AT 3:45 PM

All Tribal members from the Eastern Oklahoma Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from Eastern OK only.

HARPER A,B •• SOUTHERN PLAINS REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Southern Plains Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members in KS, OK (not including Eastern OK), and TX only.

HARPER C,D •• PACIFIC REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Pacific Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from CA and NV only.

KENNEDY A,B •• GREAT LAKES REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Great Lakes Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from MN, WI, MI, and IA only.

MOON ••••• GREAT PLAINS REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Great Plains Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the IAC annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from ND, SD, and NE only.

NOVE ••••• ALASKA REGION CAUCUS

All Tribal members from the Alaska Region are invited to join the caucus to discuss and review issues to advance to the Intertribal Agriculture Council's (IAC) annual membership meeting where Tribal delegates vote to include the issues into IAC's work priorities for the upcoming year. This meeting is reserved for Tribal members from AK only.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM

**GRAND • • • • ENHANCING PROGRAM ACCESS AND DELIVERY FOR FARM LOANS
BALLROOM 1**

Speaker: Zach Ducheneaux, USDA Farm Service Agency, Administrator

Join FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux for a learning session on the recently updated FSA Farm Loan Rule, which is crafted to make farm loans more accessible and manageable for Indian producers. This session will cover key changes, including reduced application flexible repayment terms to support savings, and reduced security requirements, all designed to make financing more inclusive and supportive of long-term financial stability. Learn how these updates, driven by feedback from farmers, are set to enhance FSA's service delivery, empowering Native communities to build resilient agricultural enterprises.

**GRAND • • • • EMPOWERING NATIVE FOOD PRODUCERS: THE ROLE OF THE INTERTRIBAL FOOD
BALLROOM 4**

Speaker: Johanna Herron, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Intertribal Food Business Center Director

Join us to discover how the Intertribal Food Business Center (IFBC) is poised to be a driving force for sustainable growth and empowerment among Native food producers in the coming year. This session will delve into the IFBC's key offerings, including expanded access to business development resources and specialized support to navigate evolving food markets. Learn how the Center is equipping small and mid-size businesses with practical tools to succeed, strengthening the food economy and empowering Native producers and entrepreneurs to thrive. Together, we'll chart a path to a more resilient, prosperous food system across Indian Country.

MADISON A,B • • • ESSENTIAL POLLINATORS: TRIBAL FOODWAYS REGENERATION

Moderator: Nic Rajen, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Specialist

Speaker: Melanie Kirby, Zia Queen Bees, Entomologist (presenting virtually)

Speaker: Emily Luscombe, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Director

Speaker: Trey Blackhawk, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Specialist

This session will delve into the critical role of bees and other pollinators in regenerating Tribal foodways and enhancing biodiversity within Native agricultural systems. Participants will learn about sustainable pollinator protection practices, the importance of pollinators in food production, integrated pest management and how revitalizing traditional foodways can support environmental health and community resilience. Join us to explore innovative strategies for integrating bee conservation into Tribal agricultural practices.

.....

15 MIN BREAK (3:45 - 4:00PM)

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

GRAND • • • • **ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND COLLABORATIONS AMONG TRIBES - THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA**

BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Laurel Saito, The Nature Conservancy, Strategy Director Water

Speaker: Ben Sullivan, University of Nevada - Reno, Associate Professor, Applied Soil Ecology

This session will focus on groundwater-dependent ecosystems (GDEs) reliant on groundwater for all or part of their water needs and the importance of GDEs for plants, wildlife, soils, and human uses, including drinking water, agriculture, water quality improvements, and recreation. Participants will learn about stressors and threats to GDEs and strategies needed to provide direction and prioritization for reducing the risk of these stressors and threats to ensure that GDEs are managed and sustained for future generations. We will introduce the role that GDEs play in supporting productive soils and vegetation, and discuss feedbacks among water, soil and plants that sustain productivity, including how management can influence these interactions. Collaborations among Tribes and The Nature Conservancy, and University of Nevada scientist on agricultural issues will also be shared.

GRAND • • • • **BIA REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

BALLROOM 4

Speaker: Carla Clark, Division Chief, Division of Real Estate Services, BIA Office of Trust Services, Central Office

Speaker: Simone Jones, Deputy Division Chief, Division of Real Estate Services, BIA Office of Trust Services, Central Office

This session will provide an in-depth overview of Trust ownership and real estate transactions related to permitting and leasing Tribal and allotted lands. Participants will gain a clear understanding of the processes involved, including required documentation and approval timelines. Participants will gain practical knowledge on navigating agricultural land transactions that influence the management and preservation of agricultural lands and practical guidance for producers, lessors, and lessees on how to effectively navigate the complexities of leasing arrangements. By the end of the session, attendees will have a deeper understanding of the intersection between real estate practices and sustainable land stewardship as well as leave with valuable tips and insights on key steps in the approval process.

AVERY • • • • **EMPOWERING VOICES: PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP FOR NATIVE ADVOCATES**

Speaker: Ray Champ, Professional Announcer

Step into your power as a voice for Indian agriculture at this tailored public speaking workshop led by expert Ray Champ. This session is specifically designed for Native individuals who wish to effectively articulate the needs and priorities of their communities in public forums such as conferences, fly-ins, and agency meetings. Ray will guide participants through techniques to overcome public speaking anxiety, engage audiences, and deliver compelling messages that resonate. Gain the confidence to speak up about the unique challenges and opportunities in Indian agriculture, and learn how to influence policy and perceptions through your words. Join us to amplify your impact and ensure your voice is heard where it matters most.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

MADISON A,B • • FEDERAL AGENCIES SUPPORTING AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT: SUBCOMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE

Speaker: Jeff Silverstein, USDA Office of National Programs Animal Production and Protection, Deputy Administrator

We will provide a brief overview of aquaculture, commercial and conservation applications. The Subcommittee on Aquaculture (SCA, within the National Science and Technology Council, NSTC) was established in the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 open to all Federal agencies with programs in aquaculture, and is co-chaired by NSTC, Dept. of Interior, Dept. of Agriculture and Dept. of Commerce. We will share the recently updated the National Aquaculture Development Plan covering Research Priorities, Regulatory Efficiencies and Economic Development opportunities. The speaker, from USDA, will also outline specific aquaculture activities within USDA.

KAOS • • • • SPECIAL EVENT: NATIONAL FINALS RODEO WATCH PARTY
5:45PM-9:00PM

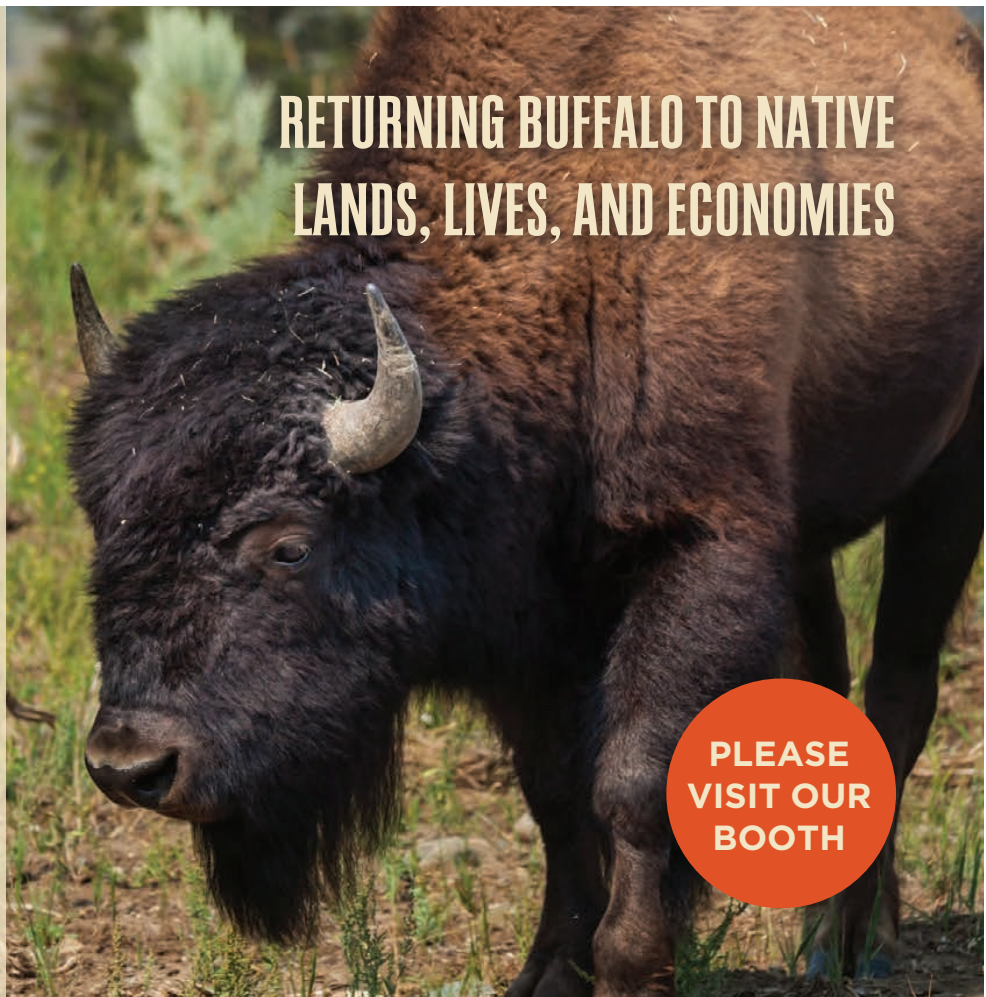
Emcee: Ruben Little Head

Join us for a special evening co-hosted by the Intertribal Agriculture Council and the Indian Gaming Association. Enjoy delicious refreshments and a meet-and-greet with special rodeo guests Derrick Begay, Aaron Tsinigine, Erich Rogers and Cody Jesus. **Don't miss this exciting opportunity to connect and unwind. See you there!**



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CONFERENCE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, 12/12

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

GRAND • • • • POULTRY 101 - A DEEP DIVE INTO RAISING CHICKENS FOR SUCCESS BALLROOM 1

Speaker: Amelia Tutmalria Evans-Brown, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

This session offers a thorough introduction to poultry management, designed to support both aspiring and seasoned farmers in establishing and maintaining thriving, sustainable poultry operations. Participants will gain practical insights into selecting regionally suitable breeds, optimizing nutrition, disease prevention, and housing best practices to ensure flock health and productivity. Additionally, we'll explore income opportunities within poultry farming and discuss how integrating poultry into your agricultural practices can strengthen food security and offer valuable resources for Tribal communities in the coming year and beyond. **Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

GRAND • • • • IMPLEMENTING HAZARD ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN (HASAP) & BALLROOM 4 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR SUCCESS (SOPS)

Speaker: Lara Hays, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Business Development Specialist - West, American Indian Foods Program

Speaker: Robert Maddock, American Meat Science Association, Technical Assistance Officer - MPP

Take a deep dive with industry experts examining crucial components of operating a successful processing facility. This hour-long session will share key considerations related to implementing a food safety plan, navigating your initial food safety assessment, labeling claims, creating and editing standard operating procedures, knowing when food safety changes need to be made, and addressing a noncompliance report. **Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

AVERY • • • • ESTABLISHING A TRIBAL 4H PROGRAM, BIG VALLEY RANCHERIA

Speaker: Kristin Amparo, Big Valley Band of Pomo 4-H, Boys & Girls Club CEO

This session will explore the establishment of a Tribal 4-H program, focusing on its potential to engage youth in agriculture, leadership, and community development. Participants will learn about the benefits of 4-H in fostering life skills, enhancing agricultural knowledge, and promoting cultural heritage among Native youth. Join us to discuss strategies for launching and sustaining a vibrant Tribal 4-H program that empowers the next generation.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, 12/12

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

MADISON A,B • • DIVERSIFYING YOUR OPERATION TO ADD VALUE

Speaker: Jayme Murray, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Buffalo Authority Corp., CEO

Speaker: Tomika L. Bell, Choctaw Fresh Produce, General Manager

Speaker: Latashia Redhouse, Intertribal Agriculture Council, American Indian Foods Program Director

This session will delve into the opportunities and benefits of developing value-added products within Native agricultural enterprises. Panelists will share insights on innovative strategies for processing and marketing products that enhance profitability and sustainability while preserving cultural heritage. ** Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

HARPER A,B • • TRIBAL FOOD SAFETY

Speaker: Will Seely, Indigenous Food & Agriculture Initiative, Tribal Enterprise Manager

Speaker: Steven Shedd, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, Director of Tribal Enterprise

This session will provide an overview of food safety within Tribal communities and its impact on public health and economic development in the new year. Participants will learn about best practices, regulatory updates, and resources available to enhance food safety protocols in Tribal food systems. ** Satisfies IFBC business builder eligibility criteria.*

HARPER C,D • • AGROFORESTRY AS STEWARDSHIP: BENEFITS AND POSSIBILITIES IN WOODY PERENNIAL AGRICULTURE

Moderator: Joey Tallier, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

Speaker: Caleb Langworthy, Technical Service Provider, Savanna Institute

This session will focus on the principles of agroforestry, highlighting the potential to enhance sustainability and productivity in Native agricultural practices as well as how to manage an agroforestry system. Participants will learn about integrating trees and shrubs into farming systems to improve soil health, increase biodiversity, and provide additional income streams.

KENNEDY A,B • • CONSERVATION THROUGH FIRE

Moderator: Dalton Flahaven, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Specialist

Speaker: Sheldon Fletcher, Lower Brule, Fire Manager

This session will explore the role of fire as a conservation tool in promoting healthy ecosystems and sustainable land management practices in Native communities. Participants will learn about traditional and contemporary fire management techniques that enhance biodiversity, reduce wildfire risks, and support cultural practices.

..... 30 MIN BREAK (9:00 - 9:30 AM)

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, 12/12

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

GRAND • • • • ORGANIC TRANSITION

BALLROOM 1

Moderator: Emily Luscombe, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Director

Moderator: Nicholas Rajen, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Natural Resources Program Specialist

Speaker: Amanda Vance, Temalpakh Farm - Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, Tribal Chairperson

Speaker: Samantha Hilborn-Niluai, Rodale Institute, Manager Transition to Organic Partnership Program

Speaker: Amy Treasure, Elderberry Wisdom Farms, Tribal Liaison for Elderberry Wisdom Farms and NW TOPP for Organic Transitioning

This session will explore the process and benefits of transitioning to organic farming, emphasizing its potential to enhance sustainability and market access for Native producers in the new year. Participants will learn about the requirements, resources, and support available for successful organic certification and practices. Join us to discover how organic transition can improve soil health, increase profitability, and foster a more resilient agricultural future for Tribal communities.

GRAND • • • • TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE PANEL

BALLROOM 4

Moderator: Tikaan Galbreath, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Technical Assistance Network Program Director

Speaker: Mary Jane Litchard, Kawerak, Elder

Speaker: Danielle Scott, The Nimiipuu Youth Salmon Protectors, FRTEP UI Extension Educator – Nimiipuu Reservation

Speaker: Janice Lucero, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

Speaker: Eva Burke, Tlaa Denedel Community Group, Executive Director

This session highlights the critical role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in advancing sustainable agricultural practices within Native communities. Panelists will discuss how blending TEK with modern agricultural methods can enhance food security, promote biodiversity, and strengthen resilience against environmental challenges. Join us to explore practical, innovative approaches for preserving and applying TEK, ensuring its continued impact on shaping a sustainable and resilient agricultural future.

AVERY • • • • EMPOWERING VOICES: PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP FOR NATIVE ADVOCATES

Speaker: Ray Champ, Professional Announcer

Step into your power as a voice for Indian agriculture at this tailored public speaking workshop led by expert Ray Champ. This session is specifically designed for Native individuals who wish to effectively articulate the needs and priorities of their communities in public forums such as conferences, fly-ins, and agency meetings. Ray will guide participants through techniques to overcome public speaking anxiety, engage audiences, and deliver compelling messages that resonate. Gain the confidence to speak up about the unique challenges and opportunities in Indian agriculture, and learn how to influence policy and perceptions through your words. Join us to amplify your impact and ensure your voice is heard where it matters most.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, 12/12

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

MADISON A,B • • HONORING OUR LANDS AND KNOWLEDGE: NATIVE APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY, HARVESTING, AND HEALING; A PATHWAY TO SOVEREIGNTY AND WELL-BEING

Moderator: Natalie Solares, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Interregional Manager - West

Speaker: Vivian Mork, Traditional Foods Specialist & Educator

Alaska Native traditional foods and medicine educator, Vivian Mork, will share the enduring significance of Native Food and Medicine Systems in addressing today's environmental and health challenges. Drawing from her Tlingit heritage, Vivian will discuss sustainable harvesting methods, seasonal cycles, and land stewardship, showing how these ancient practices nurture both community and environment. She will highlight how Native knowledge, rooted in respect and reciprocity, offers a model for environmental stewardship, food security, and healing from multi-generational trauma.

HARPER A,B • • GREAT LAKES INTERTRIBAL FOOD COALITION- TRIBAL ELDER FOOD BOX

Moderator: Joey Tallier, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Technical Assistance Specialist

Speaker: Jennifer Falck, Menominee Tribal Department of Agriculture and Food Systems, and Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition (GLIFC), Wisconsin Partnership Program Coordinator

Explore the development and success of the Wisconsin Tribal Elder Food Box program. Learn how Tribes and Tribal producers from around the Great Lakes region have joined together through the Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition to provide food to Tribal elders across the eleven different Tribal communities in Wisconsin. The goal of the Tribal Elder Food Box Program is to increase access to nutritious, culturally meaningful foods for Tribal members over 55 years old. Partners purchase foods from local producers to pack and deliver Elder desired food boxes to Tribal Distribution Sites. Learn how you can create similar programs for your local communities.

HARPER C,D • • BEYOND THE KITCHEN - A CONVERSATION ABOUT FOOD EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND COMMUNITY

Moderator: Latashia Redhouse, Intertribal Agriculture Council, American Indian Foods Program Director

Speaker: Chef Elena Terry

Speaker: Chef Tawnya Brant

Join Chef Elena Terry (Ho-Chunk) & Chef Tawnya Brant (Mohawk) as they share their journey to revitalize native culinary traditions and promote local food sovereignty. This session will highlight the importance of using culturally significant ingredients and sustainable practices in the kitchen to foster community health and connection to heritage. Discover how their work inspires a new generation of Native chefs and advocates for a thriving food system.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, 12/12

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

KENNEDY A,B • • EXAMPLES OF INDIAN COUNTRY FOOD SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

Moderator: Amelia Tutmalria Evans-Brown, Intertribal Agriculture Council, TA Specialist

Speaker: Melanie Smokey, Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum, Education Curator

Speaker: Cassius Spears, Farmer

Speaker: Dawn Spears, Farmer

This session showcases inspiring examples of food systems development in Indian Country, highlighting successful initiatives that promote food sovereignty and community resilience. Participants will learn about innovative practices, collaborations, and strategies that empower Native producers to enhance local food access and strengthen agricultural networks. Join us to explore how these models can inform and inspire similar efforts, driving positive change in Tribal communities.

30 MIN BREAK (10:30 - 11:00 AM)

GENERAL SESSION

THURSDAY, 12/12

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

PEARL • • • • EMCEE: RUBEN LITTLE HEAD THEATER

11:00 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

Speaker: Harlan Beaulieu, IAC Board President

11:05 a.m. **Panel: Cultivating Economic Stability Through Tribal Agricultural Initiatives**

Moderator: Wayne Ducheneaux, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Advancement Officer

Speaker: Mary Greene Trottier, National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR), President

Speaker: Troy Heinert, Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, OTS Bison Branch Chief

Speaker: Trina Locke, Office of Trust Services, Director of Environmental & Natural Resources

Speaker: Frank Mazzetti, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Tribal Councilman

Speaker: Betsy Rakola, USDA Office of Tribal Relations, Acting Director

Speaker: Caseymac Wallahee, Yakama Nation, Tribal Councilman

Join us for a compelling panel discussion that delves into how comprehensive agricultural development initiatives are key to fostering economic stability in Indian Country. This session will explore beyond food systems to include a broader range of agricultural enterprises that contribute to economic resilience and growth. Panelists will share strategies for enhancing local agricultural economies, tackling food security while diversifying income sources, and forging sustainable pathways for economic independence through Native-led initiatives. Ideal for those committed to transforming agricultural practices into pillars of economic strength, this session will inspire collaboration and strategic action for 2025 and beyond. Engage with us to empower your community through innovative economic solutions rooted in agriculture.

11:55 a.m. **Closing Remarks**

Speaker: Kari Jo Lawrence, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Chief Executive Officer

MOON • • • • • ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 12:00 PM - 5:00PM

* Lunch provided

WORKSHOP SESSION

THURSDAY, 12/12 ••• 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

GRAND ••• BALLROOM 1 ••• USDA FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE (FNS) SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)/ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER (EBT) SIGN-UP OPPORTUNITIES

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will be offering in-person Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) sign-up opportunities for Tribal producers, farmers, and farmers markets. This will allow them to be authorized to accept SNAP benefits at their farms and farmers markets. FNS will provide application assistance to Tribal farmers and producers, bypassing the online application process and the typical 45-day application period. Tribal producers, farmers, and farmers markets that apply and submit the required documents can be authorized on the spot at the IAC Conference. Additionally, Tribal producers, farmers, and farmers markets will have the opportunity to sign up with MarketLink, which offers one year of free wireless equipment to accept SNAP.

2024 AMERICAN INDIAN FOODS TRADE SHOW

GRAND ••• BALLROOM 1 ••• Visit the trade show, where authenticity meets tradition. This event highlights the vital role of the Made/Produced by American Indians trademark, managed by the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC). Discover new products and gain insight into the mission of IAC's American Indian Foods (AIF) program that works with American Indian and Alaska Native producers to showcase their products and share Tribal cultures domestically and internationally. In addition to exploring the AIF trade show, be sure to visit our partner exhibitor booths, where you'll find valuable resources and connections to support the growth of your agribusiness.

TUES 12/10 from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

WED 12/11 from 8:00 am 5:00 pm

THURS 12/12 from 8:00 am-1:00 pm

FEATURED PRODUCERS: Yakama Nation Farms • Mesa Grande • Bidii Baby Foods LLC • Just Peachy Biscochitos • One Farm Poultry • Native Candy • Navajo Mike's • Rincon Reservation Road Brewery • Salmon King Fisheries • Choctaw Fresh Produce

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The Rege[N]ation Pledge & Seal, part of the Intertribal Agriculture Council's American Indian Foods program, promotes the strengthening of Native American and Alaskan Native agricultural traditions.



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DECEMBER 10-12, 2024*

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