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**AMERICAN INDIAN
AND ALASKA NATIVE
AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE**

Summary Report

February 7-8, 1979

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Co-sponsored by:

ACTION

Department of Interior / Bureau of Indian Affairs

Community Services Administration and

United States Department of Agriculture

May 1979

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American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

ACTION, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Community Services Administration (CSA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in cooperation with the National Congress of American Indians and the National Tribal Chairman's Association, are sponsoring this national American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference. The conference is designed to:

- Provide participants an opportunity to identify problems specific to Indian and Alaska Native agriculture.
- Develop priority needs and recommendations to government agencies to help meet these needs.
- Familiarize participants with programs from the sponsoring agencies and other government agencies cooperating in the development of the conference.

Follow-up from the conference will include a summary report focusing on the high-priority problems discussed at the conference and the recommendations made by the delegates. This information will be used to guide ACTION, CSA, BIA and USDA as the basis for new legislation and changes in regulations and procedures of present programs to benefit Indians and Alaska Natives.



REGIONAL SMALL FARMS CONFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

ACTION, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Community Services Administration, and U.S. Department of Agriculture sponsored the American Indian and Alaskan Native Agricultural Conference on February 7-8, 1979, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The co-hosts of the Conference were the National Congress of American Indians and the National Tribal Chairmen's Association.

The American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference was one of a series of conferences directed toward the problems and needs of the nation's small farmers. The Indian farmer's needs and priorities are often different from those of other farmers. Therefore, this Conference was designed to provide a forum in which to prioritize the needs and the problems of primary importance to Indian farmers. An additional purpose of the American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference was to result in suggested programs which would benefit Indian farmers and their families. The information and recommendations from this report will become a part of the information base used to consider administrative and legislative changes appropriate to the needs of Indian farmers.

Indian leaders representing thirteen Indian organizations and a conference steering committee selected one hundred from ten regions to attend this conference (total of 92 delegates attended the conference).

- REGION I - The New England States: Maine; New Hampshire; and Vermont.
- REGION II - The Northeastern States: New York; Connecticut; New Jersey; Pennsylvania; and Rhode Island.
- REGION III - The Great Lakes States: Northeastern Indiana, Ohio and Illinois; West Virginia; Kentucky; and Northern Tennessee.
- REGION IV - The Southern States: Southeastern Mississippi; Alabama; Georgia; South Carolina; Florida; and Southern Tennessee.
- REGION V - The Northern States: Wisconsin; Northern Illinois; and Eastern Iowa.

- REGION VI - The Southwestern States: Eastern New Mexico; Texas; Oklahoma; Louisiana; and Arkansas.
- REGION VII - The Southwestern States: Eastern Kansas; Missouri; and Northern Arkansas.
- REGION VIII - The North Central States: North Dakota; South Dakota; Minnesota; Montana; Wyoming; Colorado; Nebraska; Eastern Utah; and Western Kansas.
- REGION IX - The Western States: California; Nevada; Western Utah; Arizona; Hawaii; and Western New Mexico.
- REGION X - The Northwestern States: Oregon; Idaho; Washington; and Alaska.

In selecting the delegates, the committee sought conferees who met the following criteria:

- bona fide Indian farmers, full- or part-time, considered as such by neighbors and friends in the community;
- able to articulate the needs and problems of Indian farmers and their families in small group discussions; and
- willing to travel to the site of the conference.

In addition to the 92 delegates, approximately 125 observers and resource personnel were in attendance. Although observers and resource people were not permitted to participate in formal discussions and decisions on the development of the priority list of problems and needs, they were often called upon to substantively comment on proposals being discussed within the workshops. Approximately 20 non-delegates from governmental agencies and the private sector served as discussion group facilitators, recorders and resource persons. A listing of the conference participants is included in this report.

The Conference agenda was designed to maximize the discussion time and the participation of the delegates. On the first morning, the delegates were divided into six groups. The six groups included: Group I - Forestry; Group II - Ranching and Livestock; Group III - Tribal Farming; Group IV - Individual Farming; Group V - Aquaculture; and Group VI - Horticulture. The assignment of each of the six groups was to identify as many problems as they could within the realm of their designated topic. The afternoon sessions completed the list of problems and rated each problem on a 1-5 scale of importance. The ratings were submitted to the conference data summary team. The problems and the ratings of the delegates were averaged by computer by the summary team and presented to

all delegates the following morning as a pre-proceedings work group results. The problems beyond the 20th one in a topic area were not averaged, but were retained in the computer and are listed in the Final Problem Rating.

On the second morning of the conference, the delegates returned to their original discussion groups. The groups reviewed the results of the work sessions from the previous day. The groups, then, identified key recommendations and suggested solutions to the problems that they had prioritized the previous day. Each group selected a delegate to report the recommendations of their work group to the general assembly. A summary of the conclusions reached by the work group is included in this report.



Luncheon speakers, left to right: Andy Ebona, Executive Director, NCAI; Veronica Murdock, President, NCAI; Bill Alcaida, Farm Manager, Colorado River Reservation; LaDonna Harris, President, AIO; and Alex Mercure, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development



Opportunities For Indians In Agriculture

SAM BROWN, Director of ACTION

At ACTION we are committed to the belief that both our rural and urban communities will be revitalized when we adopt policies and procedures smaller in scale than those now associated with our government. This commitment to smallness embraces concepts such as developing technologies more useful to Indian agricultural needs, developing community-organized programs that rely more on people's energy and imagination than money, and scaling the government down to make it more responsive to the best interests of its citizens.

We view this conference primarily as a "listening post" to identify volunteer programs and initiatives that will provide American Indians and Alaska Natives a means to achieve self-sufficiency.

FORREST GERARD, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs,
Department of Interior

This meeting of Indian and Alaska Native farmers and ranchers offers a unique opportunity for the sponsoring Federal agencies to learn from you about the effectiveness of their agricultural-related programs.

We need the practical guidance that only you can give us to help us improve our programs.

We want to be truly responsive to your needs and your situations. We want our programs to be as simple, uncomplicated and directly helpful as possible.

Your comments and discussion will provide guidelines which the Bureau of Indian Affairs will use to review what it is now doing and to plan new efforts.

We are very pleased that the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, ACTION and the Community Services Administration are working together with the National Tribal Chairmen's Association and the National Congress of American Indians in sponsoring this conference. This kind of cooperation can enable all of us to function more efficiently.

GRACIELA OLIVAREZ, Director of Community Services Administration

Though Indian lands encompass 50 million acres over 200 reservations in 26 states, much of that land remains underdeveloped because most Indian people and tribal governments are poor and lack adequate access to capital and technical assistance. As the federal anti-poverty agency the Community Services Administration has a definite interest in listening to and learning from the conferees as they specify concerns and recommend actions. Armed with this information, CSA can better work with other federal agencies and Indian and Alaska Native people to fashion effective agricultural strategies reflective of Indian Self-Determination.

BOB BERGLAND, Secretary of Agriculture

For too long American Indians and Alaska Natives have been ignored and forgotten in the planning of agricultural programs for the nation. I am committed to improve USDA programs to better serve Indians and Alaska Natives.

We believe that American Indians and Alaska Natives engaged in agriculture are basic to a healthy Indian economy.

We believe that American Indians and Alaska Natives are entitled to participate equally in USDA programs with all farmers. If some problems are specific to Indian and Native Alaska agriculture, then we will address these problems in that context.

We will be listening to the Indian delegates attending this national conference and to their suggestions and recommendations. Then, we will initiate follow-up action where we can identify changes that need to be made to help American Indians and Alaska Natives.

RUPERT CUTLER, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for
Conservation, Research and Education

Our conservation, research and education programs are designed to aid all farmers. However, we are not reaching enough American Indians and Alaska Natives engaged in agriculture with conservation assistance and research information.

Do Indians working in agriculture need conservation and research programs different from the average U.S. farmer?

Do we need a different educational approach to reach and teach Indians?

We expect the conference of American Indian and Alaska Native delegates to help answer these and related questions, with an indication of priority needs. Then, we can propose and move ahead with administrative and legislative changes.

DALE HATHAWAY, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for
International Affairs and Commodity Programs

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service conducts the USDA farm program for cost sharing programs with all farmers that install needed soil, water, workland and wildlife conserving practices. We will be very interested to see what the Indian Conference can identify in the cost sharing programs that should be changed to better serve Indians and Alaska Natives.

ASCS is responsible for commodity support operations through loans to farmers, direct purchases of commodities from farmers and processors, and production payments for wool and mohair. All programs are carried out through state, county and community committees.

ALEX MERCURE, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development

The Department of Agriculture has rural development programs such as loan programs of the Farmers Home Administration which are designed to aid both Indians and non-Indians. We anticipate this conference will identify any inadequacies in programs that will help us make them more accessible for the American Indian and the Alaska Native.

Listening to the Indian men and women delegates at this conference is an opportunity for the Secretary of Agriculture and his staff to have input from the people actually working in agriculture at the tribal level. Indians have special problems related to ownership of land and how to use USDA's programs. We will make every effort to study recommendations for change and initiate needed programs.

HOWARD HJORT, Director of Economics, Policy Analysis and Budget

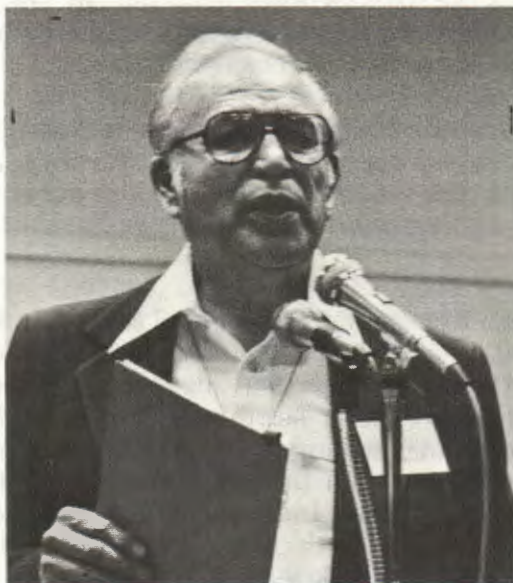
Information gathered from these regional conferences will help USDA's Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service improve Federal agricultural data systems to better serve the needs of Indians. In addition, more knowledge about the characteristics and needs of the Indian and his/her family will help Department officials improve programs to increase family income from both farm and nonfarm sources.

Besides research, the Economics, Statistics and Cooperatives Service provides technical assistance to help farmers market their products and purchase supplies cooperatively. We hope that what we learn from this Conference will enable us to make these programs more useful to the American Indian and the Alaska Native.

We are committed to making every effort to see that our work serves the interest of farmers.

WORK SESSION REPORTS

The purpose of this section is to summarize the recommendations, solutions, concerns and expectations of the farmer delegates, and to present highlights of the group representative reports.



Judson Brown, Forestry

Work Group I - Forestry

The Forestry Working Group consisted of a good representative sampling of Indian tribes that owned large blocks of timber. Delegates from the East and West Coasts and Alaska participated in the Forestry Working Group. Tribes such as the Navajo and Yakima which have held large timber holdings for many years conversed with tribes such as the Penobscot and the Alaskan Natives which are just getting in the business of managing forest land.

The principal area of concern was management of forest resources. In addition to efforts to preserve and protect tribal historical and cultural values regarding timber, tribes work to utilize forest resources cautiously and wisely on a planned basis so that the resource base is not damaged to the detriment of future generations.

Successful management of forest resources is integrally related to sufficient funds to manage the natural resource and the companion forest products industry. Currently, the funds are unavailable to develop management plans, secure proper technical advice and finance the operations once plans are adopted. Delegates submitted that Federal agencies were the appropriate entities to function as partners with the tribes in development of forestry management plans. However, Congress had not appropriated the necessary funds to undertake such a partnership. Discussions emphasized that the Bureau of Indian Affairs must improve its delivery system to Indian forest landowners. It is believed that the Bureau has been inadequately funded, in turn the Indian forest landowners have also been

inadequately funded. Numerous positions of critical importance to forestry owners remain unfilled and delegates have discovered that morale is low at the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Working Group agreed that much of the problem at the Bureau of Indian Affairs could be attributed to the lack of clear definition of the role of the tribes and of the Bureau in the area of forestry management.

Without the proper funds initially, the Indian tribes represented at the conference feared that they would never be in a strong enough financial position to begin developing private sources of funding such as banks and private investors. Tribes would never be in a position to recruit and train members to successfully manage forestry holdings. Remaining tribal members and governing councils would never be fully educated on the importance of this natural resource. Presently, Indian forest products do not have adequate markets for the sale of finished products. To worsen the problem, tribal farmers find that tribal stumpage is not on par with stumpage rates off the reservations. Delegates agreed that a step toward solving the problem would be selecting harvesting and marketing methods suitable to the tribal situation. This could mean selling logs in some places, supplying to tribal saw mills, or even merchandizing finished wood products. In the future, it will be necessary to find markets for forest products such as wood residues, chips and Christmas trees. Delegates stated that smaller tribes located in close proximity should consider establishing marketing cooperatives.

The continuing controversy between the States and the Indian tribes has had a serious effect upon tribal forestry resources. Many delegates maintain that the present system of delivering technical assistance or cost-sharing to tribes via State agencies must be redesigned in light of State-tribal tensions. Tribes are reluctant to accept State assistance for fear of submitting to State jurisdiction. The Federal Government must take another serious look at the special status of Indian tribes with regard to tribal forests. Moreover, USDA assistance which bypasses the State agencies and is delivered directly to the individual landowners creates problems of its own in that the assistance usefulness is limited to individuals and does not benefit the tribe as a whole.



John Fredericks, Ranching and Livestock

Working Group II - Ranching and Livestock

The Ranching and Livestock session was one of the largest. Delegates expressed specific areas in which federal agencies had not been responsive to Indian people in agriculture. Participants agreed that a prominent part of the problem is the "information gap". Most Indian people do not know what government programs are available to them and how those programs relate to farming and ranching. One solution to the problem would be training of the people in various areas of agricultural concern. A training program would best be served by placing training centers at a central location which would provide access to as many people as possible. One area in which training and information assistance is needed is in the mechanics of exporting such products as livestock and other farm products. There is a critical need to train individuals to perform as livestock ranch managers. Moreover, there is the need for trained professionals in veterinarian services and para-professional veterinarians. One of the greatest problems is the seasonal nature of jobs in agriculture. The Indian people need assistance in training and retaining the seasonal labor force.

John Fredricks, a delegate representing the National Indian Cattlemen's Association, reported that the working group determined one of the most immediate needs was the establishment of a Cabinet Level Post for Indians to make all Federal Agencies more responsive to the Trust responsibilities of the Federal Government to the Indian people. This will make all agencies more responsive to Indian needs. Also the establishment of USDA offices on Indian lands with direct access to the Secretary of Agriculture. He explained that 50% of Indian owned grazing land is now being operated by non-Indians and 90% of Indian-owned crop land is now farmed by non-Indians. Establishment of USDA offices on Indian lands would also provide more direct assistance to the Indian people.

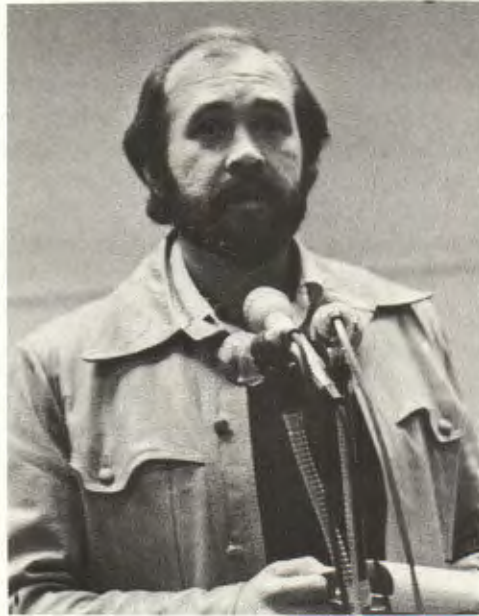
Delegates emphasized that financial institutions must be more receptive to Indian financial needs. Not only are agricultural land use planning grants needed for

individual Indian landowners and tribes, but they are also needed for cattle associations, tribal enterprises and Indian land leases. Particularly, there is need for long-term low interest financing for livestock producers and farmers. Long-term, low interest financing would also serve feedlots, slaughter houses, etc. The current rapid rise in interest rates for agricultural loans has been detrimental to the growth of Indian owned and controlled businesses.

Disease and health control in livestock was a major concern of Indian ranchers and farmers. Alaska Natives recounted serious Brucellosis problems with domesticated reindeer herds. Increased grant funds to study the particular disease problems as well as increased veterinarian services would be a major step in alleviating many problems which currently exist on Indian lands.



Federal panel, left to right: Jerry Mukai, CSA; Thomas Schmeckpeper, FS; Thomas Rockenbaugh, SCS; Fermin Charez, ASCS; Lynn Pickinpaugh, FmHA; Ken Black, NCTC; Mark Stevens, BIA; and Jess Sixkiller, ACTION, explained programs each agency has for Indians and answered questions from the audience.



Warren Means, Tribal Farming

Working Group III - Tribal Farming

The corporate or tribal lands discussion group was composed of delegates representing several Indian tribes from every part of the nation. They represented several types of corporate operations, ranging from the Navajo Nation to a group from Washington State with no tribal status. This tribe was trying to obtain land for community garden plots and hiring young adults under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA). Several themes emerged during the time allowed to express agricultural needs and concerns.

Delegates emphasized the need for technical assistance to operate farms and develop resources. Indian land operators need training and technical assistance from USDA and specifically Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). One delegate expressed, on several occasions, the need to have their own USDA co-located offices to serve the tribal needs regardless of county or State lines. Others expressed that they were required to travel long distances to obtain financial, technical and educational assistance. An observer suggested that USDA arrange to have suboffices located within the Indian community to provide assistance one day per week or the necessary time to adequately help the tribe. It was pointed out that any services would have to be coordinated with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through working agreements.

Participants agreed that USDA agency local board of directors including the conservation districts needed to have membership from the tribes by appointing tribal members to existing boards.

Funds are needed for managing the natural resources. Many of the dollars provided by BIA are used to administer the contracts on the small one and two-acre tracts. FmHA needs to provide more monies to the tribe. However, many tribes do not qualify for loans because of the corporate laws governing FmHA funds. This law in many cases is in conflict with tribally chartered organizations.

Either the law governing FmHA loans to corporations needs to be changed, or tribes will need new charters. It was recommended the lending level for the tribes and individuals through BIA and FmHA be raised with a reduced interest rate: provide a maximum of \$100,000 operating loans, \$200,000 for land purchases, and \$400,000 for debt consolidation.

Through the Self-Determination Act, a desire was expressed to establish a strong farming/ranching program that would benefit the individual landowners/heirs through the development of a share-cropping concept. Through this approach, it was felt that Indian lands would remain in Indian ownership rather than selling land to non-Indians. Heirship of lands to non-Indian spouses was concern expressed by many delegates. It was suggested the 1884 Allotment Act be used to purchase heirship lands. Through these efforts, the Indian economic base would be strengthened.

The delegates felt the conference was very advantageous. It provided the Indians the opportunity to express their needs to USDA, CSA, and ACTION and offered some solutions for improving their economic, social, cultural and environmental needs. However, to insure follow-up response to their concerns, the delegates approved a resolution to support their needs and requested a task force be selected to assist in the follow-up actions for Indian agriculture. A copy of the resolution is exhibited at the end of the report. The resolution passed by the delegates at large was amended to include not only FmHA but all USDA agencies, CSA, ACTION and BIA.



Delegates were nominated for the conference by 13 different organizations.



Alejandro Ray Lujan, Individual Farms

Working Group IV - Individual Farming

The Individual Farming group recommended that the land acquisition funding of FmHA should be extended to individual Indians, within tribes, purchases to continue or place in trust on former trust land to be placed in trust, extend to include fee land, provided further that individuals purchasing or selling reservation land should have approval of tribal government. This may require legal refinement and new legislation. It is essential that guidelines for borrowing money not be so restrictive especially for Indians and their trust lands. Participants suggested the possible use of interest subsidies on guaranteed loan programs and deferred graduated payments for Indians. In addition, the possibility of tax exempt interests on B & I loans should be explored. FmHA should target more funding for Indians and allow for input on behalf of the Indian people.

Individual Indian farmers need to be provided with more management and technical assistance. One suggestion was paraprofessionals be trained in farm management. This could be achieved by the establishment of Indian Agriculture scholarships for the study of agriculture-related vocational training. There is a need for the reestablishment of Indian agriculture vo-tech schools with emphasis directed toward "hands-on-training". High school and college courses should be developed which relate to agri-business.

Delegates emphasized that Indian farmers need increased assistance in studying the future allocations of water and the role of water in the development of Indian farm land. Continued research must be directed toward the development of energy efficient irrigation systems. Lastly, the conference participants stressed the necessity for open lines of communication between Indians in agricultural businesses and the federal agencies. Indian farm coordinators at the local level should be established by each tribe to provide information concerning all economic programs available to individuals and tribes. Tribal coordinators could be responsible for assuring that there is an increased exchange of information on successful programs between tribes using tribal coordinators.



Joe De La Cruz, Aquiculture

Working Group V - Aquiculture

Joe De La Cruz, delegate from the Quinault Tribe, reported to the closing session that there are only 12 tribes actively working in aquiculture (fish farming). The aquiculture session concluded that tribes have the responsibility to train and build their own technical staffs to further develop aquiculture.

Indian tribes in aquiculture must have increased access to capital. One suggestion was the development of marketing cooperatives to aid the development of the industry. Tribes should concentrate on a higher rate of production and the creation of new and better markets for their products. Presently, the public tends not to understand the importance of fish farming as it relates to Indian tribes, nor does the public appreciate its contribution to the national food supply. Indian tribes must concentrate upon improving public relations with consumers and aim for developing them as customers of fish production.

Aquiculture farming faces many obstacles. Water quality and its availability are constant problems to Indian tribes. These problems are, of course, tied in with the already existing problems of jurisdiction on trust lands and the continuing battle with non-Indians for the use of these natural resources. Furthermore, insufficient law enforcement with regard to water and other related natural resources prevail and must be resolved before aquiculture efforts can be furthered. Intergovernmental cooperation as well as intertribal cooperation are essential to the resolution of these problems. There is a need for more decisive research in these areas as an alternative to litigation in the courts.

Delegates in the Aquiculture session emphasized the need for more competition with the private sector. This working group, in particular, was advocating an inventory of the financial resources available to aquiculture and the use of this information for dissemination to the tribes. The concept was that this would provide the tribes with the mechanism for developing private sources of

funding such as banks and private investors. Some of the tribes represented had already developed trade with foreign countries such as Japan. The knowledge obtained by this tribe could be shared with other tribes through the use of intertribal communications.



Alex Mercure, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, was banquet speaker



Carl Whitman, left, North Dakota; Grace Olivarez, Director of CSA, center; and Lucille Echohawk, CSA, listen as delegates report for topic groups.



Daryl Wright, Horticulture

Working Group VI - Horticulture

The concerns and the needs of the delegates represented in the Horticulture session were diverse. Participants saw horticulture as a part of a comprehensive approach to improving the quality of life among Native Americans. Delegates find that poor diets in the Indian population have had a strikingly bad effect on the population as a whole. This could be alleviated by an increased nutritional program of gardening on Indian lands with locally grown produce. In addition, representatives determined that the rigidity of government programs such as general assistance, commodity distribution, CETA, etc., keep tribes from responding to the locally varying situations. The work group advocated flexible government assistance in horticulture. This could be achieved by permitting Indian tribes to combine and vary programs to meet the local needs. Instead of receiving general assistance, individuals might be paid to raise vegetables for their communities. Nutritional problems would be lessened, the sense of self-work increased, and ultimately if enough goods were raised for trade or sale, dependency on outside factors would be reduced.

The Work Group addressed the problem of the Indian labor force. The difficulty of finding dependable, skilled, motivated labor was cited repeatedly. Delegates felt strongly that part of the problem lay with federal programs - particularly CETA. They pointed out that insofar as CETA pays people to do nothing, it does a disservice to the individual and the community as well as raising serious obstacles for Indian horticultural operators, particularly those who depend on reservations for labor. One individual said that horticulture demands 12 hours a day, 6 days a week with no holidays during the harvest season. Federal programs that pay for a 40-hour week are not compatible with this routine.

Federal programs were a topic for much of the group discussion. Delegates noted that problems with federal programs are sometimes compounded by inept management at the local level. The delegates advocated more federal funding for research on the development of new crops, improved farming technologies, and

alternative fuel sources. A jojoba operator in the work group said federal support is helping to make possible development of this crop on a commercial scale. Another delegate noted on the positive side, that he was hoping to be able to hire two trained staff members under the Title VI CETA program.

A representative from Fort Apache, Arizona said his people had land and water and a potential market in the reservation supermarket. What they lacked was farming "know-how". He and the other delegates agreed that the hardest part of succeeding with innovations such as horticulture was selling the community on the idea. An Alaskan delegate noted that in introducing gardening to the villages in his area, it was necessary to provide training in nearly every aspect of the operation, from how to run rototillers to how deep to plant potatoes. He faced two basic training problems: (1) finding money to pay competent instructors, and (2) the lack of appropriate training materials. While some CES publications were useable, he said that others had to be rewritten, and frequently it was necessary to start from scratch.

Delegates from several regions stressed the need for money-saving technologies, especially ones involving solar energy and other fuel efficiencies, to reduce the financial risks of horticultural operations and bring horticulture within reach of more people. Three out of the top four problems cited by the work group concerned energy, and indicates the importance the delegates attached to this issue.

In discussions, the subject of cooperative efforts played a larger role than its problem rating -- midway down the list of 20 -- might indicate. Attention focused on different possible kinds of intertribal cooperation. The idea of bartering cooperatives, in which tribes rich in one commodity would trade their surpluses with other tribes for what they needed, drew favorable comment. There was also broad-based support for an information clearing house that might encompass some training aspects. The goal would be to collect case studies and related material about projects that had succeeded, or failed, and make the information available to tribes thinking about starting similar enterprises. As an extension of the activity, individuals could be sent for on-the-job training to successful businesses.



Delegates studied the top problems they agreed upon . . .



. . . and rated all of the problems in order of priority needing action.



American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference

PROBLEM RATINGS: Delegates in their working groups rated the importance of the problems they identified on a scale of 1 to 5. A "5" meant the problem was of utmost importance. A "1" indicated lowest importance. A zero rating, or no rating at all, meant the delegate had no opinion. The problem ratings shown below are averages of all delegates' ratings.

WORKING GROUP I FORESTRY

<u>FIRST DAY'S PROBLEM RANK</u>	<u>PROBLEM DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>FINAL AVERAGE PROBLEM RATING</u>
3	PROBLEMS WITH BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - LACK OF FUNDS, UNFILLED POSITIONS, LOW MORALE, SINGLE USE APPROACH, NO RESEARCH ORGANIZATION, TRIBAL AND BIA ROLE UNDEFINED.	4.41
5	NEED BETTER EDUCATION OF TRIBAL MEMBERS IN RESOURCE AREA.	4.24
1	LACK OF FUNDING FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT (IN ALL AREAS).	4.23
8	SECURING SKILLED INDIAN PERSONNEL FOR MANAGEMENT OF ALL FOREST RESOURCES.	4.13
2	CUTTING PLANS TO MAINTAIN RECREATION AREA AND NOT DISTURB HUNTING AND FISHING MUST PRACTICE WISE MULTIPLE USE.	3.96
4	NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ACQUIRE PROPER HARVESTING EQUIPMENT IN ROUGH TERRAIN.	3.88
11	FEDERAL PROGRAMS DO NOT RECOGNIZE SPECIAL STATUS SOVEREIGNTY OF TRIBES.	3.69
12	NEED FOR FORESTRY COOPERATIVES TO HELP SMALL TRIBES.	3.56
10	CONFLICT OF INTEREST BETWEEN TRIBAL POLICY AND ALL OTHER POLICY. (I.E. FEDERAL, STATE, OTHER INFLUENCES).	3.46
15	TRIBAL STUMPAGE NOT ON PAR WITH STUMPAGE RATES OFF RESERVATION.	3.33
9	CHOOSING METHOD OF HARVESTING, I.E. SELL STUMPAGE, LEASE, SELL LOGS, SELL FINISHED PRODUCTS.	3.29

FORESTRY (Cont'd)

7	MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR A PROPOSED SAWMILL.	3.20
18	PROBLEM OF D-2 LEGISLATION ON ALASKA LANDS.	3.20
6	NEED FOR OTHER FOREST PRODUCTS - CHRISTMAS TREES ETC.	3.13
13	RESEEDING PROBLEMS-LACK OF SEED.	3.12
16	FIRE PROBLEMS (SUPPRESSION) IN ROUGH TERRAIN.	3.00
19	LACK OF ENFORCEMENT OF ROAD STANDARDS IN BIA MANAGED SALES.	3.00
20	COMPETITION WITH LIVESTOCK GRAZING AND TREE RESEEDING.	2.91
17	SLASH BURNING PROBLEM.	2.81
14	MOVING FOREST PRODUCTS FROM ISLANDS TO MAINLAND.	2.80
21	FMHA EMPLOYEES ARE RELUCTANT TO PROCESS LOAN APPLICATIONS FOR FOREST LAND PURCHASES WHICH HINDERS AN OTHERWISE EXCELLENT PROGRAM.	NONE
22	CONFLICT OF FOREST MANAGEMENT WITH STRIP MINING.	NONE

WORKING GROUP II
RANCHING AND LIVESTOCK.

4	NEED FOR LONG-TERM LOW INTEREST FINANCING FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AND FARMERS.	4.52
1	PROPOSE CABINET LEVEL POST FOR INDIANS TO MAKE ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE.	4.46
7	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS MUST BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO INDIAN FINANCIAL NEEDS. EXAMPLES: BIA, FHA, SBA, BANKS, PCA, AND FEDERAL LAND BANK.	4.37

RANCHING AND LIVESTOCK (cont'd)

2	NEED TO ESTABLISH USDA OFFICES FOR TRIBES ON INDIAN LANDS, WITH DIRECT LINES TO SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.	4.27
3	AGRICULTURAL LAND USE PLANNING GRANT FUNDS ARE NEEDED FOR:A) INDIVIDUAL INDIAN LANDOWNERS,B) TRIBES,C) CATTLE ASSOCIATIONS,D) TRIBAL ENTERPRISES, E) INDIAN LAND LEASEES.	4.20
6	NEED FOR AGRI-BUSINESS LOW-INTEREST/ LONG-TERM FINANCING FOR INDUSTRIES AS FEEDLOTS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, ETC. (WITH FORGIVENESS CLAUSE).	4.13
12	BIA IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO THE LEGITIMATE NEEDS OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE IN AGRICULTURE.	3.96
10	BETTER AND MORE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES DELIVERING SERVICES FOR INDIAN FARMERS, INCLUDING ADEQUATE FUNDING.	3.94
13	NEED OF FINANCING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING AVAILABLE INDIAN LANDS.	3.90
8	ENCOURAGE TRIBES TO INCLUDE WATER USE IN THEIR LONG-RANGE PLANNING STRATEGIES, AND TO ISSUE WATER PERMITS.	3.84
5	NEED INFORMATION ON EXPORTING OF LIVESTOCK OR BEEF, AND OTHER FARM PRODUCTS AND INCLUDING OTHER MARKET INFORMATION	3.73
15	THE NEED FOR QUALIFIED LIVESTOCK RANCH MANAGEMENT.	3.72
11	AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK FEED PROGRAMS ON A TIMELY-BASIS.	3.61
19	A NEED FOR MORE SOLID CONTRACTS FOR LEASES WITH LONGER TERMS, AND A SLIDING SCALE BASED ON PRODUCT PRO-	3.50
18	THE NEED FOR VETERINARIAN SERVICES AND PARA-PROFESSIONAL VETS AND TRAINING.	3.44

9	WHY IS THERE A RAPID RISE IN INTEREST RATES FOR AGRICULTURAL LOANS?	3.41
14	THE NEED FOR DISEASE AND HEALTH CONTROL IN LIVESTOCK.	3.33
16	TO RE-ENACT THE ACP COST SHARE FENCE PROGRAM OF ASCS, SPECIFICALLY, DIVISION AND BOUNDARY FENCES.	3.26
20	THE NEED FOR GRANT FUNDS TO STUDY AND ENACT A HEIFER SPAYING PROGRAM TO OFFSET BUILD-UP IN CATTLE NUMBERS.	2.98
17	THE NEED OF RETAINING AND TRAINING SEASONAL LIVESTOCK LABOR FORCE.	2.96
21	ESTABLISH A TRAINING STRATEGY FOR TRAINING OUR INDIAN PEOPLE IN THE VARIOUS AREAS OF CONCERNS IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN A CENTRAL LOCATION.	NONE
22	EXTENSION SERVICE SHOULD INTENSIFY THEIR ON FARM FIELD DEMONSTRATIONS AND TRAINING.	NONE
23	NEED FOR WILDLIFE AND PREDATOR CONTROL.	NONE

WORKING GROUP III
TRIBAL FARMING

1	ADMINISTRATIVE RED TAPE AT ALL LEVELS DELAYS FUNDS IN REACHING TRIBES. BIA APPROVAL TOO SLOW.	4.75
5	FMHA AND SBA EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM DON'T SERVE TRIBES. REGULATIONS OR LAWS NEED TO BE CHANGED.	4.40
4	NEED FUNDS FOR (A) DEVELOPMENT, (B) OPERATIONS, (C) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS AND (D) EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.	4.29

3	NEED MANAGEMENT AND SPECIAL SKILLS TRAINING (AGRI-BUSINESS).	4.27
10	FMHA REQUIRES INDIAN FARMER TO GO THROUGH HOSTILE, NON-INDIAN COMMITTEE: A) NON-ACCESS TO COMMITTEE B) NEED SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD C) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS TOO RESTRICTIVE.	4.27
2	WHY DOES OMB MAKE IT NECESSARY TO "GO THROUGH STATE" TO BE DECLARED AS A DISASTER AREA.	4.23
6	HARD TO GET LOANS AND BONDING BECAUSE BANKS, ETC., ARE UNWILLING TO LEND ON TRUST LANDS BECAUSE OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.	4.21
9	FMHA LOAN REQUIREMENTS ARE TOO COMPLICATED. THEY PROVIDE "TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE."	4.13
7	FEDERAL AGENCIES REGULATE LAND USE OFTEN RESULTING IN NO CONSIDERATION FOR THE TRIBE OR INDIVIDUAL INDIANS. INADEQUATE BIA STAFF TO MANAGE INDIAN LANDS.	4.04
11	MORATORIUM ON LOAN FUNDS THROUGH INDIAN FINANCING ACT. BECAUSE OF INCONSISTANT POLICIES ON DELINQUENT LOANS, PROGRAM NOT PROPERLY FUNDED.	3.75
13	HEIRSHIP POLICY CREATES PROBLEM IN FINANCING, LEASING, PROBATE RULES (INCLUDING NON-INDIAN HEIRS) AND AND REGULATIONS.	3.72
12	CHECKER BOARD DECLARATION OF LAND CREATES INEFFICIENCY FOR OPERATIONS AND CONSOLIDATION.	3.71
14	COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICES NOT REACHING INDIAN FARMERS IN SOUTH DAKOTA, WASHINGTON, AND MONTANA.	3.43

15	NEED TO CONSOLIDATE OWNERSHIP PROVIDING FOR LARGER OWNERS TO REDUCE PAPER WORK IN ALLOTMENTS, JURISDICTION, IRRIGATION RIGHT-OF-WAY BY REDUCING FRAGMENTATION SO TRIBE CAN RECEIVE BENEFIT.	3.41
8	NEED BETTER PEST (INCLUDING GRASSHOPPER) AND RODENT CONTROL.	3.37
16	PRODUCTS RAISED BY NON-INDIAN ARE COMPETING WITH INDIAN RAISED PRODUCTS BY IMPROPER IDENTIFICATION AND ADVERTISING, E.G.: IMITATION WILD RICE.	3.07

WORKING GROUP IV
INDIVIDUAL FARMING

1	NEED BETTER COMMUNICATIONS FLOW OF USDA PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AND PLUS MORE LOCAL INDIAN REPRESENTATION.	4.30
9	USDA & LENDING INSTITUTIONS NEED TO BE MORE SENSITIVE TO INDIANS.	4.21
3	NEED MORE MANAGEMENT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL INDIANS PROVIDED FARMERS AND THEIR TRIBES FOR EXAMPLE LIKE EXTENSION'S PARAPROFESSIONALS OR BY CONTRACT SERVICES.	4.06
5	GUIDELINES FOR BORROWING MONEY TO RESTRICTIVE AND ESPECIALLY FOR INDIVIDUALS AND WITH TRUST LAND.	4.00
7	WE RECOMMEND THE LAND ACQUISITION FUNDING OF FMHA SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUAL INDIANS, WITHIN TRIBES, PURCHASES TO CONTINUE OR PLACE IN TRUST ON FORMER TRUST LAND TO BE PLACED IN TRUST, EXTEND TO INCLUDE FEE LAND, PROVIDED FURTHER THAT INDIVIDUALS PURCHASING OR SELLING RESERVATION LAND SHOULD HAVE APPROVAL OF THE TRIBAL GOVERNMENT. THIS MAY REQUIRE NEW LEGISLATION.	4.00

10	RECOMMEND ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE STUDY OF AG-RELATED VOCATIONAL TRAINING WITH HANDS ON APPLICATION.	4.00
2	NEED MORE EDUCATIONAL EMPHASIS WITH OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE AND RELATED INDUSTRIES AS IT APPLIES TO COURSES, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEVEL ON SITE.	3.92
14	RECOMMEND INTEREST SUBSIDY ON GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAMS AND DEFERRED GRADUATED PAYMENTS FOR INDIANS. EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF TAX EXEMPT INTEREST ON B&I LOANS.	3.82
13	RECOMMEND FMHA TARGET FUNDS BE A HIGHER PERCENTAGE FOR INDIANS AND MORE LOCAL INPUT.	3.81
4	NEED TO INCREASE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS BETWEEN TRIBES USING TRIBAL COORDINATORS.	3.80
8	NEED ALLOCATION OF WATER FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF FARM LAND WITH MORE RESEARCH ON DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS. WE RECOMMEND A NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL AND TRIBAL FARMING.	3.78
11	ASCS SHOULD HAVE MORE CONTACT WITH INDIVIDUAL TRIBES AND GEAR INFORMATION TO INDIAN FARM (?24QUES.	3.71
6	EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF USING LOCAL INDIAN PARA-PROFESSIONALS AND FUNDING FOR INDIAN EXTENSION PROGRAMS.	3.64
12	ESTABLISH INDIAN FARM COORDINATORS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AS DETERMINED BY EACH TRIBE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION CONCERNING ALL ECONOMIC PROGRAMS INDIVIDUAL OR TRIBAL AVAILABLE.	3.62
17	RE-ESTABLISH INDIAN AGRICULTURE VO-TECH SCHOOLS WITH EMPHASIS GEARED TO HANDS-ON-TRAINING.	3.48

15	EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING SPECIAL FUNDING TO EXTEND EXTENSION PROGRAMS TO THE TOTAL INDIAN AUDIENCE. THE LOCAL AREA, INCLUDING SHORT COURSES.	3.27
16	LACK OF DEPENDABLE PRICE FORCASTING AND LACK OF REASONABLE MARKET ACCESS BOTH REGIONAL AND EXPORT. EXTENSION SHOULD EXPAND MARKETING INFORMATION TO INDIAN FARM PRODUCERS.	3.23
18	RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN HOME AND FARM MANAGEMENT TO INCLUDE SHORT COURSES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.	3.00

WORKING GROUP V
ACQUACULTURE

1	ACCESS TO CAPITAL.	4.48
6	INDIAN REPRESENTATION ON POLICY BODIES	4.24
2	IMPROVED LAND MANAGEMENT.	4.12
5	INTERTRIBAL COOPERATION.	3.98
4	INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION.	3.96
13	IMPROVEMENT IN WATER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY.	3.94
9	MORE AND CONTINUING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.	3.92
7	INSUFFICIENT LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES.	3.88
12	ASSESS NEEDS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION.	3.83
15	CONTINUITY OF LABOR AND JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIANS.	3.79

3	MECHANISM TO FORM COOPERATIVES.	3.69
8	BETTER PUBLIC RELATIONS.	3.63
16	INVENTORY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO AQUACULTURE.	3.59
11	IDENTIFY INDIAN AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS	3.56
18	DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF CHEAPER ENERGY.	3.54
14	NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO AQUACULTURE.	3.43
17	CONSUMERS AND FISH MARKET DEVELOPMENT	3.38
10	GOVERNMENT-INDUCED DIVISIVENESS AND POLICY OF COLONIALISM.	3.13
19	COMPETITION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR	3.07
20	NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE.	3.00
21	MORE INTER-TRIBAL COMMUNICATION.	NONE

WORKING GROUP VI
HORTICULTURE

5	FEDERAL FUNDING SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE LIFE OF PROJECTS--NOT ON A YEAR TO YEAR BASIS.	4.19
6	FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS TOO OFTEN EMPHASIZE JUST PAYING WAGES--NOT TEACHING SKILLS. CETA IS A SPECIAL PROBLEM IN THIS RESPECT.	4.10
8	COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TAKING PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND.	4.06
2	NEED TO INVESTIGATE, DEVELOP AND PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY.	4.04

9	NEED IMPROVED WAYS OF FINANCING GREENHOUSES AND HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON NATIVE LANDS.	4.04
4	DUE TO RISING FUEL COSTS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO ENCOURAGE DECENTRALIZED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL MARKETING SYSTEMS.	3.96
1	NEED FOR COMMITTED, SKILLED, MOTIVATED LABOR.	3.91
7	NEED BETTER COORDINATION BETWEEN FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ON NATIVE LANDS.	3.86
10	NEED TO INVESTIGATE POTENTIALS OF INTERTRIBAL AGREEMENTS: MARKETING/BARTERING SYSTEMS, TRAINING, INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSES.	3.83
11	VOLUME AND QUALITY OF WATER ARE NOT ALWAYS ADEQUATE.	3.77
14	MARKETING IS A PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY SINCE VEGETABLES OFTEN CAN'T BE HELD UNTIL MARKET IMPROVES.	3.73
17	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IS NEEDED ON NEW CROPS AND IMPROVED FARMING TECHNOLOGIES.	3.72
3	HIGH COST OF FUEL USED IN GREENHOUSES.	3.68
15	FARMING METHODS AND TECHNIQUES ARE DESTROYING FARMLAND.	3.61
13	FOREIGN COMPETITION SEVERE, DUE TO LOW LABOR COSTS IN MEXICO.	3.53
18	POOR ADMINISTRATION AT LOCAL LEVEL OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS SOMETIMES CAUSES PROBLEMS.	3.49
16	SENATE NEEDS TO PASS DECONCINI BILL ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF JOJOBA ON NATIVE LANDS.	3.48

12	COST OF TRANSPORTATION.	3.40
19	NEED ADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES FOR SUPPLIES.	3.02
20	INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS IN GREEN-HOUSES--AND NEED FOR TRAINED PEOPLE TO TREAT THEM.	2.98



REGIONAL SMALL FARMS CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP EFFORTS

The vast majority of the delegates selected for this conference were working farmers and did not serve on tribal councils or other tribal committees. Even though there were many different tribes represented at this meeting from all over the United States with tremendous diversities in background, tribal tradition method of farming, and culture, there were many similarities in problems and needs. The attitude of the delegates was positive and many constructive suggestions came out of this meeting. More observers attended this conference than any one of the five previous small farm conferences. A substantial number of these observers were from Indian tribes and paid their own way to the conference. Delegates felt that the USDA, CSA and ACTION were sincere in discussing the Indian agricultural problems.

Skepticism about the value of the conference was eliminated when two resolutions were submitted to the General Assembly. Those resolutions are printed in their entirety below:

RESOLUTION I

- WHEREAS: Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives own and control vast quantities of land and other natural resources; and
- WHEREAS: said land represents considerable wealth to these Tribes and Alaska Natives, wealth that for the most part has remained undeveloped or under-developed; and
- WHEREAS: the Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives are desirous of developing the productivity of said land through sound agricultural programs and practices, and to the benefit of those Tribes and individual Indians; and
- WHEREAS: such agricultural development could provide a basis from which sound economic development and potential self-sufficiency could emerge; and
- WHEREAS: Indian Tribes, individual Indians and Tribally chartered Indian agricultural enterprises have encountered serious problems in obtaining financing for purposes of agricultural development from private lending institutions; and
- WHEREAS: the USDA/FmHA has expressed its deep concern and has made a commitment for agricultural development in Indian Country as an avenue to realization of self determination; and
- WHEREAS: Federal Agencies, such as the FmHA, have programs established through which both technical and financial assistance are provided for the "American Farmer-Rancher"; and
- WHEREAS: the Indian Farmer-Rancher has encountered serious obstacles in gaining access to the aforementioned federal assistance programs because of the present local committee structures, the status of trust land, the tribes' status in regard to sovereign immunity, the lack of technical assistance available to loan applicants and the general attitude that Indian people do not have the ability to successfully manage business enterprises, as well as numerous technicalities encountered in obtaining financing; and
- WHEREAS: Indian Tribes, individual Indians, and Tribally chartered Indian agricultural enterprises are desirous of developing suitable access to the aforementioned federal assistance programs; now
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the body assembled, at this American Indian and Alaska Native Agricultural Conference that a task force be duly established and sufficiently financed through the USDA/FmHA to carry out the business functions of such a body, in their efforts to establish a viable working relationship with the USDA/FmHA, to the benefit of Indian People; and

- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the aforementioned task force be comprised of one person from each of the six "Conference Groups" as established by this Conference Committee plus one individual selected from the Office of Under Secretary, Alex Mercure; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force be directed to meet in the immediate future with the USDA/FmHA to address the agricultural developmental needs and to seek some workable resolve to the problems as set forth in this resolution; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force have the authority to address any and all problems that may arise as an oversight of this conference; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force be directed to collect and disseminate all information particularly the interagency policies and the assistance available through the various agencies; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the task force direct its attention to the following immediate concerns:
1. The availability of financing resources as they relate to federal programs and their availability.
 2. The development of USDA/FmHA policy, rules and regulations directed to the specific needs of the Tribes.
 3. The development and availability of technical assistance to such extent so as to adequately assure the success of Indian agricultural projects.
 4. The development of all Indian Reservation committees to deal exclusively with Indian concerns within the exterior boundaries of the reservations.
 5. The establishment of USDA/FmHA offices and appropriate staff to carry out all functions of the aforementioned agency with emphasis on the position of Reservation FmHa Agent.
 6. The development of a sound working relationship between USDA/FmHA and the BIA as this relates to Indian natural resources and the proper development and utilization of these natural resources.
 7. The establishment of a data collection bank with the capacity for dissemination of the information collected. This data bank should be developed to meet all agricultural concerns including marketing.
 8. The follow-up and possible resolution of all items as identified and defined in the "Results of Work Group Sessions" compiled during the course of this Conference; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force be directed to work with those national Indian organizations, such as the National Tribal Chairmen's Association, the National Congress of American Indians, the National American Indian Cattlemen Association and Americans for Indian Opportunity, so that these organizations will support and hopefully offer their assistance in dealing in such matters as legislation; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force will make such regular reports as are appropriate showing their progress, and that such reports shall be made available to all Indian Tribes within 45 days of any and all meetings; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this task force be established this 8th day of February 1979, and take immediate action in regard to such issues as are presented in this resolution, and that this task force have its initial report disseminated to all Indian Tribes within 45 days from the date hereof.

This Resolution was passed this 8th day of February 1979, by the Committee on Tribal Farming. The delegates at large amended the resolution to include not only FmHA but all USDA Agencies, CSA, ACTION, and BIA.

RESOLUTION II

WHEREAS: the conference is the direct input input of Indian livestock producers, farmers and other agriculture related producers; and

WHEREAS: the problems discussed are the same on all Indian reservations; and

WHEREAS: the Department of Interior, U.S.D.S., C.S.A., ACTION, is sincere in their efforts to cooperate on resolving these problems.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE DELEGATES OF THIS AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE DESIRES TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO FOLLOW-UP ON THIS CONFERENCE TO INSURE THAT THE NEEDS, PROBLEMS, AND FINDINGS OF THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE FULLY ENACTED UPON.

As a result of these resolutions, a follow-up task force was created to assure that the goals of the American Indian/Alaska Native Agricultural Conference are accomplished. USDA, CSA and ACTION agreed to assist in the efforts of the task force.

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COOPERATORS

The following tribes, organizations and groups have assisted with development of the American Indian/Alaska Native Agriculture Conference. They will assist in any follow-up activities.

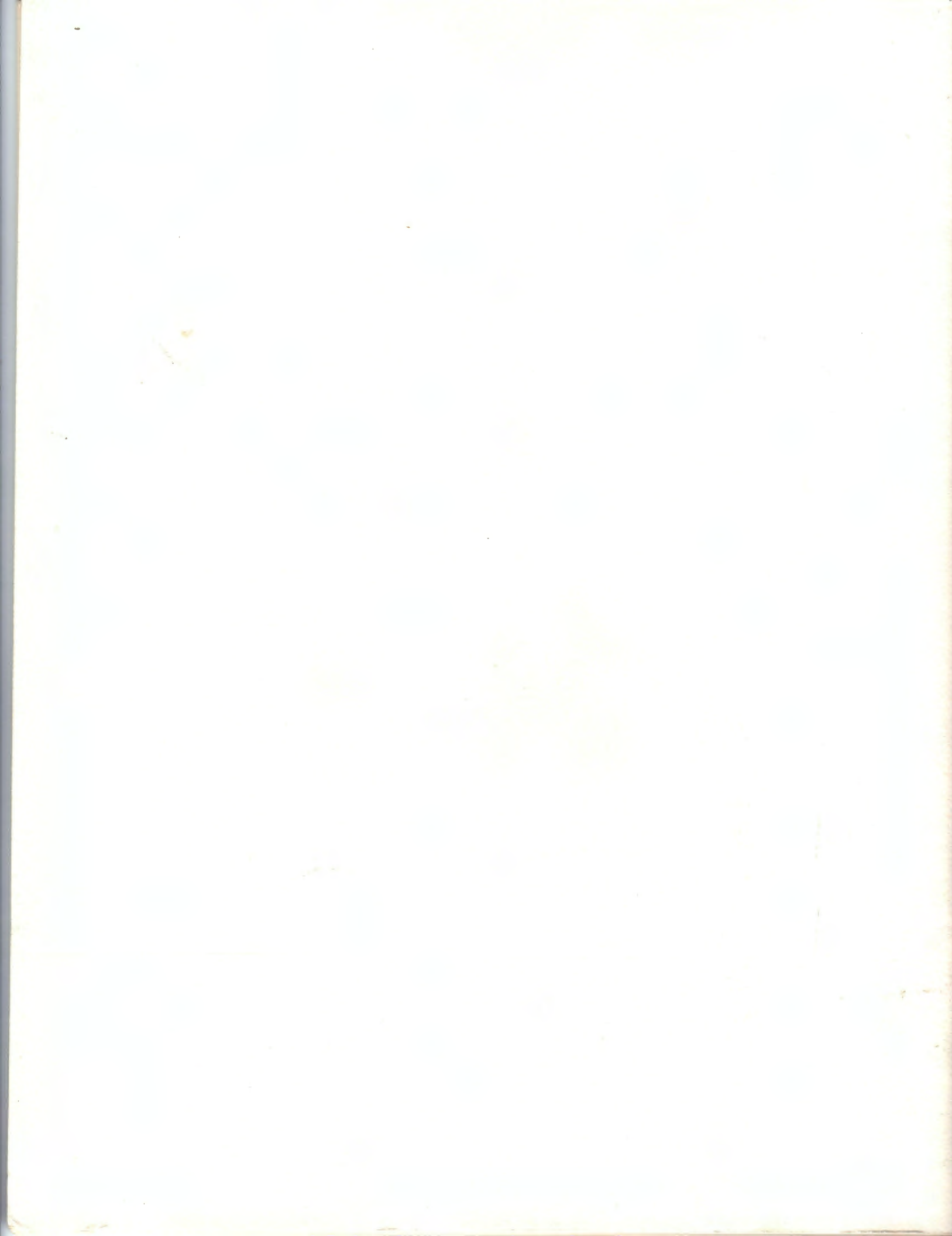
Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
Alaska Federation of Natives
Americans for Indian Opportunity
California Intertribal council
Great Lakes Intertribal Council
National American Indian Cattleman's Association
National Congress of American Indians
National Tribal Chairmen's Association
Navajo Nation
Northeastern Tribes
Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity
United Indian Planners Association
United Southeastern Tribes

OTHER COOPERATING AGENCIES

Administration for Native Americans
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Division of Indian and Native American Programs
Department of Labor
Economic Development Administration
Department of Commerce
Office of Indian & Alaska Native Housing and
Community Development Programs
Department of Housing and Urban Development

This report was prepared by:

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**USDA PROGRAMS
OF INTEREST TO
AMERICAN INDIANS**



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • INDIAN DESK • OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY



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INTRODUCTION

As American Indians increasingly determine the course of their own development, they are looking to all Federal agencies for services. Recognizing this movement, the Department of Agriculture has established an Indian Desk (1) to coordinate the Department's assistance to Indians, and (2) to bring available programs to the attention of Indian people. This booklet should contribute to the accomplishment of this second objective.

The Indian Land Acquisition Loan Program in the Farmers Home Administration and the Indian Agricultural Extension Contract Program in Extension Service are programs which are designed for the specific use of Indian people. Beyond these programs, USDA benefits are available to all citizens without regard to race, color, or national origin.

Inquiries should be directed to the:

Indian Desk - *Stuart Jamieson*
~~Office of Equal Opportunity~~
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250
Telephone: (202) 447-~~5469~~ *9005*

The following is an enumeration of the Department's program agencies with a short statement of the purpose of each. Details of benefits are contained in the description of each program.

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service is responsible for a wide variety of action programs of the Department in its relations with the farmer and the agricultural economy. Its programs are in the general field of production adjustment, conservation assistance, price, farm income, and market stabilization. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees at the State and county levels carry out ASCS programs requiring direct dealings at the farm level.

Extension Service (ES)

The Cooperative Extension Service is the field educational arm of the Department of Agriculture. In nearly all counties in the United States, State Cooperative Extension workers conduct educational programs to help families learn about and apply new research findings and technological developments to the everyday problems of living and making a living. The major areas included in the educational efforts are efficient production and marketing of agricultural products; improved family living, including nutrition; 4-H youth development; and rural development.

Farmer Cooperative Service (FCS)

Farmer Cooperative Service conducts economic research to help farmers market their products, purchase supplies, and obtain related business services. Assistance from FCS in the form of research, counseling, and technical advice is also available to groups of farmers and other rural residents interested in forming cooperatives.

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)

The Farmers Home Administration provides vital financial assistance to individuals, groups, communities, and corporations, as well as to Indian tribal groups and corporations. The agency's loan authorities provide a supplemental source of credit augmenting the efforts of private lenders rather than competing with them. Loans are made to those who cannot obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources. Loans on owned or leased land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of Interior regulations.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation provides farmers with all-risk insurance that repays crop production costs lost because of bad weather, insects, disease, and other unavoidable natural causes. This aids the rural economy during those years when drought or other natural disasters cut crop yields and leave farmers with a short crop - or possibly even no crop at all - for sale purposes.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

The Food and Nutrition Service administers the Food Stamp Program, the Food Distribution Program, the Child Nutrition Programs, and the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The Food Stamp and Food Distribution Programs help provide food for poor families. The Child Nutrition Programs help to feed children in public schools, child-care centers, and summer programs. The WIC program provides nutritious food supplements to eligible pregnant and nursing women as well as to children who are determined to be at "nutritional risk."

Forest Service (FS)

The Forest Service is responsible for managing and protecting the nation's 154 National Forests, conducting forestry research, and providing assistance to State and private forest landowners across the country. Assistance is available for improving the management for production of privately owned forest land. Permits granting special privileges for use of National Forest lands may also be obtained. The Forest Service also sponsors the Job Corps and Youth Conservation Corps, both of which are work and training programs for young peo-

ple, and the Senior Community Service Employment Program, a training program for low-income people who are at least 55 years of age.

Rural Development Service (RDS)

An important resource unit within USDA is the Rural Development Service. RDS coordinates a nationwide rural development program using the services of Federal agencies in cooperation with State and local rural development programs. RDS seeks to work out arrangements and procedures that will result in the better delivery of Federal program resources to rural communities and areas. Indian tribes and communities can obtain rural development advisory assistance, program and planning review assistance, and similar services from RDS. In addition, RDS administers the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS), a computer operation which scans a Federal program bank and provides a printout of those programs which fit into the particular category of assistance sought by the applicant. While RDS does not operate programs of loans or other financial assistance, it can provide information and technical assistance to aid Indians in gaining access to program sources.

Rural Electrification Administration (REA)

The Rural Electrification Administration makes loans to qualified borrowers, with preference to cooperatives and public bodies including Indian tribes, in order to finance construction of electric facilities which provide initial and continued adequate service to persons in rural areas. REA also makes loans to commercial and nonprofit enterprises, as well as to public bodies, including Indian tribes, for the improvement and extension of rural telephone service.

Soil Conservation Service (SCS)

The Soil Conservation Service gives technical help in soil and water conservation to land owners and operators, organizations, and city, county and State governments, through nearly 3,000 local soil and water conservation districts. Technical and financial aid is provided for watershed protection and flood prevention, and for resource conservation and development. Natural resource information is available to land use officials for planning and maintaining housing, schools, water supply, highways, and recreation facilities.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS RETRIEVAL SYSTEM (FAPRS)

Rural Development Service

Assistance Available

The Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS) is a quick and inexpensive computer operation which can scan a bank of over 600 Federal programs and provide a printout of those which fit in the particular category of assistance sought by the applicant. The applicant needs no knowledge of computers to use the FAPRS service. The computer is programmed to ask for the basic information it needs to process an inquiry. The resultant printout is keyed to the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. This facilitates the additional research required to identify the programs best fitted to a specific need, and provides the essential information needed to initiate the application procedure.

How to Apply

To use FAPRS in person, contact your State Extension Director for the location of the nearest FAPRS terminal. To use FAPRS through letters and the telephone, contact the USDA Indian Desk (address below).

For More Information

Supervisor, Indian Desk, Office of Equal Opportunity,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5453.

OR

FAPRS, Rural Development Service, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202)
447-9296.

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE



Hopi Shálako Mana, the Corn Maid.



AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND MARKETING PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to farmers, producers, and marketing firms in the application of the latest agricultural research emanating from State and Federal research centers.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

BEEKEEPER INDEMNITY PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Payments are available to beekeepers whose bees are damaged as a result of pesticides. All pesticides involved must be registered and approved for use by the Federal Government. To be eligible for payment the beekeeper must have duly registered the bees in question and must prove the loss of bees and the lack of fault on his or her part.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-3677.

CROP INSURANCE PROGRAM

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Assistance Available

All-risk insurance is available to individual farmers and tribal farming enterprises in over 1,400 agricultural counties in 39 states. Crops which are insured include the following:

Apples, barley, beans, citrus, corn, cotton, flax, grain sorghum, grapes, oats, peaches, peanuts, peas, raisins, rice, soybeans, sugarbeets, sugarcane, sunflowers, tobacco and wheat.

The corporation also insures the investment in some crops under a combined crop protection plan in several counties in North Dakota. The insurance is voluntary, and the farmer pays a premium for his or her protection. Producers are not indemnified for losses resulting from negligence or failure to observe good farming practices.

Federal Crop insurance policies are widely used by lending institutions as crop loans collateral. Collateral Assignments, by making indemnity checks payable jointly to lender and borrower, guarantee loan repayments when crops are damaged or lost to drought, bad weather, insects or plant disease. A Collateral Assignment can also help a farmer expand farming operations and modernize farm equipment.

How to Apply

Any owner or operator of farmland, who has an insurable interest in a crop in a county where insurance is offered on that crop, is eligible unless the land is not classified for insurance purposes. Interested producers should contact the FCIC office serving their State, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-6795.

EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK FEED PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of feed grains, when available, may be provided at reduced prices, or, in some financial situations, may be donated to livestock and dairy owners.

Livestock and dairy farmers who are without adequate financial means to provide sufficient feed for livestock or dairy herds, after allowances have been determined for necessary living expenses, are eligible to apply. Need is usually brought about by drought, flood, hurricane, blizzard, or other natural disasters.

How to Apply

The program itself may only be authorized (1) upon recommendation of the State and county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees after appropriate review of local conditions, and (2) upon receipt of a certification of need from the Governor of the State in which the emergency has occurred. Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

FARM EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be requested to offset agricultural damages sustained by eligible borrowers which were not compensated by insurance or otherwise. Funds may be used to restore or replace farm dwellings, service buildings, farm machinery and equipment which were lost or damaged. These loans may also be requested to offset losses of growing crops and livestock enterprises.

Emergency loans will be made after the occurrence of a natural disaster such as a flood, drought, hurricane, tornado, blizzard, electrical storm, or heavy snow fall which has resulted in the area being declared eligible for farm emergency loan assistance by the President or Secretary of Agriculture.

Loans are scheduled for repayment within 20 years for real estate restoration except farm dwellings, which can be repaid over 33 years. Loans made for repair or replacement of farm machinery, equipment, and breeding livestock may be repaid over periods not exceeding 7 years or the useful life of such items. Loans for crops or livestock production losses may be scheduled over a maximum period of 5 years or a shorter time consistent with the borrower's ability to pay.

These loans will be adequately secured to protect the U.S. Government during the repayment period. Security may include a mortgage on the borrower's farm, or farm machinery and equipment, or crops and livestock, depending upon the nature of the loan. Loans on land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of Interior regulations.

How to Apply

Applicants must be an established individual farm

operator, partnership, or corporation. If a partnership or corporation, then the applicant must be primarily engaged in farming or ranching and the operation must be managed by a partner or stockholder. Individuals, principal partners, and principal stockholders must be citizens and operate in the area where farm emergency loans have been authorized. Applicants must possess the ability, experience, and character needed to carry out the obligations required in connection with the loan and possess the legal capacity to contract for the loan. Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM OPERATING AND YOUTH LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to buy farm equipment, livestock, poultry, furbearing and other animals, fish and bees (2) to purchase animals, birds, fish, tools, equipment, facilities, furnishings, inventories, and supplies needed for a business or recreational enterprise to be operated in connection with the farming operation (3) to provide money for expenses such as feed and fertilizer, pesticides, supplies, and payment of cash rent (4) to acquire memberships in farm or nonfarm purchasing, marketing, or service type cooperative associations (5) to provide for family subsistence needs, and refinance debts (6) to purchase milk base, grazing permits or licenses, and franchises.

The maximum FmHA operating loan is \$50,000. Loans may be repaid over periods up to 7 years or the useful life of the security, whichever is less.

How to Apply

Indians who are of legal age and who have a farm background and either training or farm experience to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed operations are eligible. Applicants must personally manage and operate not larger than the equivalent of a family farm.

Rural Indian youths who are not of legal age do not need to meet the farm background and training or experience tests in order to receive youth loans. However, recipients of youth loans must be part of an organized group and the youth loan must be approved by the group supervisor.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM OWNERSHIP LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy or enlarge farms, including land for recreation or other nonfarm enterprises. Such farms cannot be or become larger than a family farm. Loans also may be used (1) to construct or repair essential but modest farm dwelling and service buildings, including facilities and structures for nonfarm enterprises (2) to develop domestic water and sewage systems (3) to provide land and water development (4) to establish approved forestry practices (5) to refinance debts.

Terms may not exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000; the total real estate debt allowed against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the farm, whichever is less. In real estate loans to Indians which will be secured by land in trust or restricted status, the mortgage must be reviewed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

How to Apply

Citizens of legal age who have sufficient farm experience or training to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed farming operation and who must rely on farm income to have a reasonable standard of living may apply. Applicants must possess the character, industry, and ability to carry out the farming or nonfarm enterprise, and personally manage and operate the farm. Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

FARM STORAGE AND DRYING EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Loans are available for the purchase of storage structures and drying equipment.

To qualify for loans, an owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper must meet the need eligibility requirements for storing or conditioning one or more of the following commodities: barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, rye, wheat, soybeans, sunflower seed, rice, dry edible beans, flaxseed, or peanuts. Contact the ASCS county office concerning terms and conditions.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

State and county Extension Service personnel utilize grants made to land-grant institutions to provide educational and technical assistance to 4-H youth in the areas of leadership development and career guidance. Activities include work projects, demonstration projects, camping, and achievement programs. Project areas include ecology and natural resources, health, the arts, animals and poultry, and plants and crops.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

GRAZING ASSOCIATION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to purchase land leases, permits, rights, and other evidence of control of land to be shifted to the development of a local grazing association's grazing facilities. Development may include housing for managers and caretakers, farms and corrals, fencing and other pasture improvements, and fees for water rights.

Terms may neither exceed 40 years, nor the length of the lease, nor the statutory limitation of the local grazing association's borrowing authority. The maximum loan cannot exceed the present market value of the land.

Recipients of grazing association loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

All loans will be secured in a manner which will adequately protect the Government during the repayment period. A mortgage will be taken on all interests held by the local grazing association in land, easements, rights-of-way, water rights, and similar property rights used, or planned for use, by the local grazing association.

How to Apply

Nonprofit associations composed primarily of farmers and ranchers with family-sized operations are eligible to apply for a grazing association loan. Further criteria for eligibility stipulate that the farmer and rancher association members (1) do not have adequate individually owned or controlled grazing lands (2) need additional land to produce income to have an adequate standard of living (3) are unable to provide such lands on their own. Indians on reservations may organize grazing associations and qualify for assistance.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

INDIAN ACUTE DISTRESS DONATION PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Commodity Credit Corporation-owned feed grains, when available, may be donated to Indian tribes for livestock feeding following a decision by the Secretary of Agriculture. This decision is based on the chronic acute distress of the needy members of an Indian tribe due to severe drought, flood, or other catastrophe.

How to Apply

The tribe applies to their Bureau of Indian Affairs agency office. The agency forwards the application and recommendations through the area office to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Commissioner. He refers it to the Secretary of Agriculture who may consult with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service before making a final decision to release the feed grains.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION CONTRACT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Land-grant universities contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to provide advice to Indian families and youth on farming, ranching, family and home economics, consumer education, and youth development.

How to Apply

The program is available in the following States: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Tribal leaders; members of the State Extension Service; Extension Service, USDA; and BIA representatives hold annual evaluation and contract renegotiation meetings to develop projects. Projects must be submitted to the BIA area office 30 days prior to the annual renewal date (July 1).

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6288.

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to install drainage facilities in areas too wet for agricultural production (2) to install, rehabilitate, or enlarge irrigation, soil conservation, and water control facilities (3) to purchase specialized equipment. Trust or restricted land may be included in project plans.

These loans may be made for a period of 40 years if secured by real estate or 7 years if secured by equipment.

How to Apply

An association of Indian farmers or rural residents with the legal authority to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facility or service may apply by contacting the county FmHa office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

MILK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Fair market value is paid for milk unable to be marketed because of contamination by pesticide residue. No payment may be made to any dairy farmer or manufacturer whose milk or dairy product was removed from the market as a result of his or her willful failure to follow procedures for using the pesticide as prescribed by the Federal Government. Milk must have been removed from the market by a public agency or milk handler in order for an applicant to be eligible to apply for milk indemnity payments.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Price supports by ASCS enable farmers to market products in an orderly manner. Eligible commodities include wheat, corn, oats, grain sorghum, rice, rye, barley, soybeans, honey, upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, peanuts, milk, wool, mohair, tung nuts, crude pine gum, and tobacco.

Payments also are available to producers having wheat, feed grains or upland cotton allotments who are prevented from planting or who suffer a loss because of low crop yields as a result of a natural disaster.

An owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm with a history of producing eligible commodities and who meets program requirements may apply for support.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

RANGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Grazing privileges on National Forest land are provided to rural families (mainly small livestock operators) to supplement their yearlong supply of forage for cattle. Renewable annual permits are granted for which fees are charged. Technical assistance on proper grazing use of privately owned forest land is also available through cooperation between State agencies and the Forest Service.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Range Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rosslyn, Virginia 22209. Telephone: (703) 235-8139.

RECREATION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used (1) to develop land and water resources for outdoor recreation, including construction or improvement of modest yet essential buildings and facilities (2) to purchase and install equipment and fixtures essential to the enterprise (3) to refinance secured and unsecured debts.

Loans may be scheduled for repayment over a period not to exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000. The total real estate debt allowable against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the security, whichever is less.

Recipients of recreation loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

The applicant must possess the industry and training or experience to carry out the proposed operation. The applicant must be an individual engaged in farming at the time he or she applies for a loan and must manage and operate the recreation enterprise. The applicant must be unable to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere. A tenant must have a satisfactory written lease.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL AND WATER LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to pay for materials, supplies, equipment, and services related to land and water development, use, and conservation. Eligible loan purposes include such items as terraces, dikes, reservoirs, ponds, tanks and cisterns; wells, pipelines, pumping and irrigation equipment; ditches and canals for irrigation and drainage; waterways, erosion control, and the purchase of water stock or membership in an incorporated users association.

Terms are not to exceed 40 years. The maximum FmHA farm real estate loan is \$100,000. The total real estate debt allowable against the security is \$225,000 or the market value of the security, whichever is less.

How to Apply

Farm operators or owners, partnerships or domestic corporations engaged in farming are eligible. Applicants must be citizens of legal age, possess the industry and ability to carry out the proposed operations, and plan to improve a farm which is recognized as a farm rather than a rural residence. For a tenant, a satisfactory written lease must be available.

All interested should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL SURVEY PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Published soil surveys of counties or other comparably sized areas are available for use by interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, Extension Service, State agricultural experiment station, the nearest Agricultural Service Center, Senators, or the local Congressman.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

SPECIAL LAND USE PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Special Use Permits are issued to use National Forest lands for specific purposes under specific conditions. A Special Use Permit is required for any permanent occupancy of National Forest land such as for pastures, fences, water developments, resorts, and commercial buildings.

How to Apply

Any individual, corporation, association, municipality, or agency of local or State government is eligible for consideration for Special Use Permits. Application for permits may be made orally, by letter, by bid in response to a prospectus, by form 2700-3, or by some other specifically prescribed form. Oral applications which lead to a permit should be confirmed in writing; form 2700-3 is preferred for application. Contact the local Forest Service office or the Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Recreation, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-2196.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Help is provided through SCS field offices and local conservation districts to farm owners and operators in the planning and application of conservation practices to conserve, improve and develop soil, water, and related resources.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COOPERATIVES PROGRAM

Farmer Cooperative Service

Assistance Available

Farmers can use the cooperative form of business (1) to jointly purchase production supplies (2) to process and market products (3) to perform related services. Technical assistance, research, education, and counseling services are available to rural and farmer cooperatives, and to groups of farmers and other rural residents interested in forming a cooperative.

How to Apply

Requests for technical assistance by a cooperative should be a resolution from a cooperative board of directors. Requests for assistance in forming a co-op should be made by interested producers or rural residents.

Write to the Administrator, Farmer Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8870.

For More Information

Senior Cooperative Development Officer, Farmer Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8685.

UPLAND COTTON PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

The upland cotton program is designed to enable farmers to produce for the market-place. The program provides for loans and established (or target) prices. A bonus payment equal to 30 percent of the regular payment rate is available to eligible producers on farms qualifying under special small farm provisions.

Payments also are provided to cover natural disaster situations.

An owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm with a history of producing cotton and which meets program requirements is eligible to apply for payments.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director; Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Division;
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service;
U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7954.

WOOL AND MOHAIR PAYMENTS PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Payments are made to support the returns to producers from wool and mohair.

To be eligible to apply for wool or mohair payments, a person must have owned sheep, lambs, or angora goats for at least 30 days during the marketing year, and must have sold wool or mohair during the marketing year.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Program Operations Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-3677.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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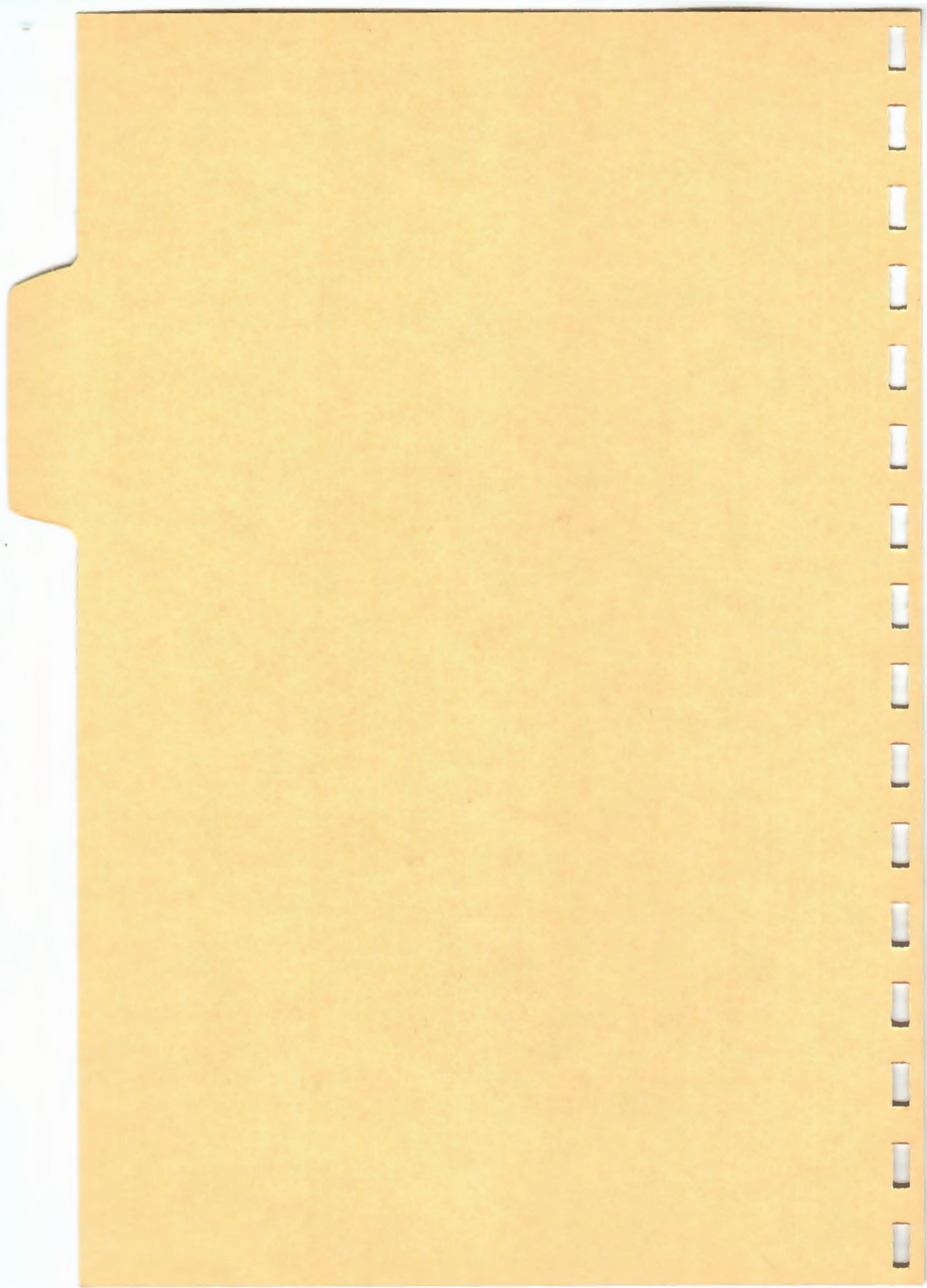


COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITIES



Design from a Nez Percé woven bag.



BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction, conversion, enlargement, repair, modernization, and pollution abatement or control of rural businesses and industries.

These loans are made by a private lender and guaranteed by FmHA; interest rates are negotiated by the borrower and the lender. The repayment period varies depending upon the purpose of the loan but cannot exceed 30 years in any case.

How to Apply

Those eligible for the Business and Industrial Loan Program include an individual, cooperative, corporation, partnership, Indian tribe on a State or Federal reservation or other recognized tribal group, a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of a State.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to community leaders and local officials for the enhancement of economic, social and cultural development of the community including public services and facilities, employment and income, housing, health, and planning and organizational structures. Examples of assistance include educational and informational work for the development of community centers, medical services centers, vocational education, water and waste disposal systems, business and industrial enterprises, and local government efficiency. The emphasis is on community consideration and group decision-making.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community water and waste disposal systems, solid waste disposal facilities, and other essential community facilities, including payment of fees and related expenses.

Loan repayment may be scheduled over periods up to 40 years or the statutory limitations of the borrower. Recipients of community facilities loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

Public bodies, nonprofit corporations, special purpose districts, and Indian tribes and tribal corporations who are not able to obtain needed credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

HOMEMAKERS AND YOUTH PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to homemakers and youth in the areas of food and nutrition, home management, family economics, child development, and parent education.

How to Apply

Programs of State and county Extension Services are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

INDIAN LAND ACQUISITION LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy land or interest in lands within an Indian reservation or an Alaskan Indian community. Funds may also be used to pay expenses incidental to the land purchase including the cost of appraisal, title and legal services, surveys, and loan closing.

All loans will be secured in a manner that will adequately protect the U. S. Government during the repayment period. A first mortgage on the land and/or assignments of tribal income are required as security.

Repayment period may not exceed 40 years or the statutory limit on a tribe's borrowing authority.

How to Apply

Indian tribes and Alaskan Indian communities are eligible if they (1) are recognized by the Secretary of the Interior (2) are without adequate uncommitted funds to acquire needed land within the reservation (3) cannot obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates and terms from other sources.

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Funds may be used to finance industrial sites that will result in development of private business enterprises. Costs that may be paid from grant funds include the acquisition and development of land and the construction of buildings, plants, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, utility and service extensions, refinancing and fees.

Grant funds may be used jointly with FmHA loan funds and funds furnished by the applicant.

How to Apply

Eligibility is limited to public bodies such as Indian tribes, incorporated towns and villages, boroughs, townships, counties, States, authorities, and districts.

Forms are available from and may be filed with any FmHA office.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Electrification Administration

Assistance Available

Long-term loans are available to Indian tribes, rural electric cooperatives, public utility districts, power companies, municipalities, and other qualified power suppliers for the purpose of providing central station electric service on a continuing basis in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States which is not included within the boundaries of a community with a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants.

Most REA loans bear interest at a standard rate. A special lower rate is available for electric borrowers who reside in particularly isolated areas or who have experienced extenuating circumstances or extreme hardship.

How to apply

A resolution by the board of directors of the borrowing organization should be submitted to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

RURAL TELEPHONE LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Electrification Administration

Assistance Available

Long-term loans are available to qualified organizations for financing the extension and improvement of telephone service in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States which is not included within the boundaries of a community with a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants.

How to Apply

The following qualifying organizations should apply to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250: (1) telephone companies or cooperatives (2) nonprofit, limited dividend, mutual associations (3) public bodies (4) Indian tribes.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

RURAL TELEPHONE BANK LOAN PROGRAM

Rural Telephone Bank

Assistance Available

Supplemental long-term loans are available for rural telephone systems eligible for financing from REA. Bank ownership is shared by the Federal Government with the bank's borrowers. Loans bear interest at the bank's cost of money rate.

How to Apply

Corporations, public bodies, and Indian tribes are eligible to borrow from the Rural Telephone Bank if: (1) they have received a telephone loan or loan commitment from the Rural Electrification Administration, or (2) they have been certified by the Administrator as qualified to receive such a loan. Apply to the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

For More Information

Director, Information Services Division, Rural Electrification Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5606.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Opportunities for work experience and training are provided to elderly disadvantaged persons primarily in rural areas. Men and women must be at least 55 years of age and meet the low-income eligibility guidelines established by the Manpower Administration, Department of Labor.

How to Apply

Contact the local Employment Service office, Forest Service office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Manpower and Youth Conservation Programs, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7783.

WATER AND SEWER GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Grants may be provided to construct, enlarge, extend or improve water, sewer and solid waste disposal systems. For water and waste disposal systems, grants are available for up to 50 per cent of project development costs. These grants will be made on projects that serve the most financially needy communities in order to reduce family user rates to a reasonable level.

How to Apply

Applicants should contact the county FmHA office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

CONSERVATION



Tlingit representation of the front and both sides of an animal. This design is from a goat-hair garment woven on a cedar-bark base; such garments were worn by wealthy individuals and the designs usually indicated their genealogical background.

CONSERVATION



AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Farmers, ranchers, and woodland owners are assisted through cost-sharing in carrying out approved soil and water conservation and pollution abatement practices on eligible land.

Any owner, landlord, tenant, sharecropper, or associated group on a farm or ranch who produces agricultural commodities is eligible to apply for cost-sharing assistance.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

COOPERATIVE FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Technical assistance is available for establishing and improving timber production, timber management and timber protection of State and private forest lands.

How to Apply

Individuals or groups needing technical assistance should apply through the State forestry agency, or through the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Forestry, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-8921.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION MEASURES PROGRAM

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing assistance is available to enable farmers to perform emergency conservation measures to control soil erosion or to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters.

An owner, landlord, tenant, sharecropper, or associated group on a farm or ranch in a declared disaster area is eligible to apply.

How to Apply

Contact the local ASCS office, usually located in the county seat, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Environmental Quality and Land Use Division,
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (202) 447-5295.

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Technical assistance is available for detecting, evaluating, preventing, and suppressing outbreaks of forest insects and diseases on Federal, State, and private forest lands. Cost-sharing assistance is also available for approved prevention and suppression projects on all forest lands when such action is in the public interest.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest nearest the areas needing assistance, or your State forestry agency to arrange for technical assistance. Applicants will be directed to the closest appropriate agency providing technical assistance.

For More Information

Staff of Forest Insect and Disease Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (703) 235-1560.

FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing is provided to private forest land-owners, including Indian tribes, for tree-planting and timber stand improvement. To qualify, a landowner must (1) be a private forest landowner (2) own a tract of land no larger than 500 acres (3) own land that is suitable for forestation and timber stand improvement (4) own land capable of producing industrial wood crops which meet minimum productivity standards (5) as current owner, have had no commercial timber harvest on the land within the previous 5 years.

How to Apply

Contact the county ASCS office, local State forestry agency office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Forestry, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-8921.

Environmental Quality and Land Use Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-6221.

FREE USE TIMBER PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Free use of timber from the National Forests may be granted to residents of the area in which such forest is located. Use of such timber is for nonprofit ventures only. Timber may be used for firewood, fencing, building, and other domestic purposes. Residents outside the area where a National Forest is located are entitled to firewood after obtaining a "free use permit" from the nearest District Ranger's office.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Timber Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-7493.

GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Technical help and cost-sharing assistance are available under long-term contracts to individual farmers and ranchers in selected counties in the ten Great Plains States. These States are as follows: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. Services are given in planning and installing conservation practices to control wind and water erosion. These practices are agreed upon under contract by the farmer or rancher and the Department of Agriculture.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

**JOB CORPS
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Both educational training and vocational training are provided to young men and women between the ages of 16 and 21 who need such training to gain meaningful employment.

How to Apply

Contact the local Employment Office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Job Corps, Education and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210. Telephone: (202) 376-6175.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Both technical assistance and financial assistance are available to help local people in initiating and carrying out long-range programs of resource conservation and development. RC&D assistance may be used (1) on reservation lands for public water-based recreation and fish and wildlife developments (2) on private lands owned or operated by American Indians for flood prevention, sedimentation and erosion control, farm irrigation, water quality management, and control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

RURAL COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

Cost-sharing (50-percent matching funds) is provided to rural areas and to communities under 10,000 population for organizing, training and equipping rural fire fighting forces. Unprotected or poorly protected communities receive priority.

How to Apply

Contact your State Forester or the local State Forestry office.

For More Information

Staff of Cooperative Fire Protection, Forest Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
20250. Telephone: (703) 235-8039.

RURAL CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND WATERSHED LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to pay the local share of flood control dams, reservoirs, irrigation canals, easements, rights-of-way, and other items that will benefit and contribute to economic improvement or increased productivity of the area. Trust or restricted land may be included in project plans.

Interest rates are determined periodically and may be obtained from local FmHA offices. Resource conservation and development loans may be made up to \$250,000 and watershed loans up to \$5 million.

How to Apply

Agencies authorized under State laws, nonprofit corporations, and qualified Indian tribal groups may apply by contacting the county FmHA office, or nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Conservation plans and technical and consultative assistance are available to individual American Indians operating land not under the administration of the Department of the Interior.

Through conservation districts, SCS gives technical help to landowners who want to change from one land use to another. SCS also helps farmers and ranchers work out a conservation plan for their land and assists in the application of conservation measures that require special skills or knowledge. Conservation measures such as terraces, grassed waterways, ponds, windbreaks, and stripcropping help hold down the soil, conserve water, protect crops and livestock, and promote agricultural economy.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S.
Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

TIMBER SALES PROGRAM

Forest Service

Assistance Available

National forest timber is available for sale to interested parties. The local District Ranger may handle such transactions.

How to Apply

Contact the Forest Supervisor of the National Forest, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Staff of Timber Management, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6893.

WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION PROGRAM

Soil Conservation Service

Assistance Available

Technical and financial assistance is available for planning and carrying out works of improvement to protect, develop, and utilize the land and water resources in small watersheds. Assistance is available to any State agency, county or group of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, or any other nonprofit agency with authority under State law to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed works of improvement.

How to Apply

Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Soil Conservation Service, U.S.
Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
Telephone: (202) 447-4543.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

Forest Service

Assistance Available

A program of summer employment is provided for young men and women to further the development of the natural resources of the United States. Applicants (1) must be ages 15 through 18 (2) must be permanent residents of the United States, its territories or possessions (3) must have no history of serious criminal or other anti-social behavior (4) must be physically qualified to participate fully in the various work and training projects of the program (5) must have, or be able to obtain, a work permit required under the laws of the State in which they will be working (6) must have a Social Security number.

How to Apply

Contact the school counselor or request an application form from: Youth Conservation Corps, Post Office Box 2975, Washington, D.C. 20013.

For More Information

Staff of Manpower and Youth Conservation Programs, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone (202) 447-7783.

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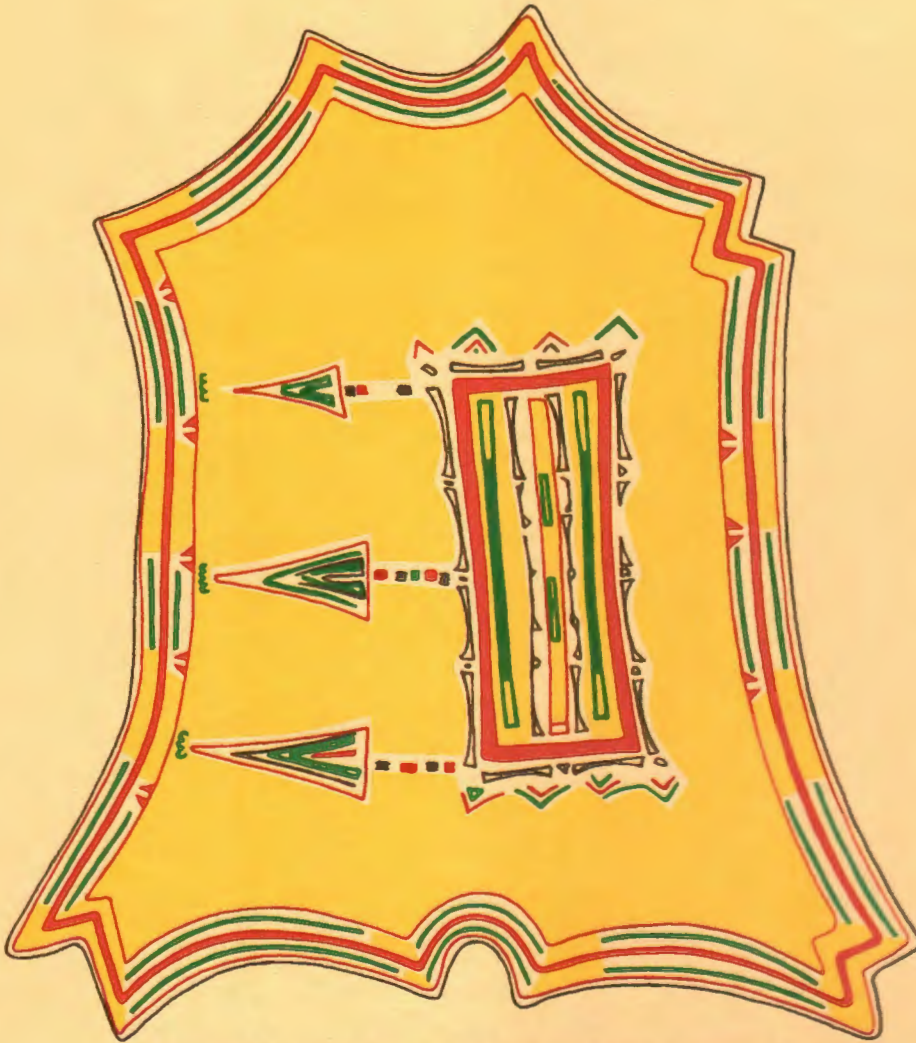
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FOOD



"Box design" painted on buffalo hide by Arapaho women. The design represents the viscera and body proportions of a buffalo.

FOOD



CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Nonfood Assistance Program
- Special Milk Program
- Child-Care Food Program

Money and/or food are available to schools, child-care centers, camps, and other facilities to provide nutritious meals or milk for children. Free and reduced-price meals and free milk are available for children from low-income families.

How to Apply

Schools, child-care centers, camps, and other facilities for children should contact the State Department of Education, School Lunch Division, in the State Capitol. In some States, USDA directly administers the programs in private nonprofit schools and child-care institutions.

Children or their parents can apply for free and reduced-price meals by requesting application forms from the school principal.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of

Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

FAMILY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

- Food Stamp Program
- Food Distribution Program

Eligible low-income households can buy food stamps, the value of which is more than the purchase price. The stamps can be used instead of money to purchase food in participating grocery stores or to purchase meal services for the elderly.

If an Indian reservation, currently receiving commodities under the Food Distribution Program, chooses to implement the Food Stamp Program, then both the Food Distribution Program and the Food Stamp Program can be operated simultaneously while the reservation is converting to the Food Stamp Program. During this transition period, a household may not participate in both programs at the same time.

How to Apply

Reservations may request participation in the Food Stamp Program from the State Department of Welfare.

Once the Food Stamp Program is in operation, the head of a low-income household makes application to the local Department of Welfare, and provides information concerning income and expenses.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

FOOD AND NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance in food and nutrition to families. The assistance includes meal planning, food buying, preparation, preservation, and safe storage of foods for human consumption.

In addition, a special program—the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)—is offered in certain geographic areas to assist homemakers on a one-to-one basis. EFNEP aides help low-income families improve their diets through learning the importance of nutrition, food buying, preparation, preservation, and safe storage of foods for human consumption. In the 4-H EFNEP youth program, volunteers assist in areas contributing to the improvement of family diet and nutrition through educational programs for youth, and contributing to the personal development of disadvantaged urban youth.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM
FOR WOMEN,
INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**

Food and Nutrition Service

Assistance Available

Specified nutritious food supplements are available to eligible pregnant and nursing women, as well as to eligible infants and children up to 5 years of age who are determined to be at "nutritional risk" because of inadequate nutrition and inadequate income.

How to Apply

Funds are made available (1) to participating State health departments of comparable State agencies (2) to Indian tribes (3) to the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. These agencies then distribute funds to the eligible participating local agencies.

For More Information

For programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, contact the following: Regional Administrator, New England Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Park, No. 34 Third Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Telephone: (617) 223-0275.

For programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 729 Alexander Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08549. Telephone: (609) 452-1212.

For programs in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. Telephone: (404) 526-5131.

For programs in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Midwest Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 353-6664.

For programs in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming, contact the following: Regional Administrator, West Central Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1100 Commerce Street, Suite 5-D-22, Dallas, Texas 75242. Telephone: (214) 749-2877.

For programs in Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, contact the following: Regional Administrator, Western Region, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 550 Kearney Street, Room 400, San Francisco, California 94108. Telephone: (415) 556-4950.

The program is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of the industry and to identify key trends and challenges. The program will cover a wide range of topics, including market analysis, regulatory updates, and emerging technologies. The program is intended for industry professionals and is available in both English and Spanish.

The program is a valuable resource for anyone looking to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the industry. It provides a clear and concise overview of the current state of the industry and identifies key trends and challenges. The program is available in both English and Spanish.

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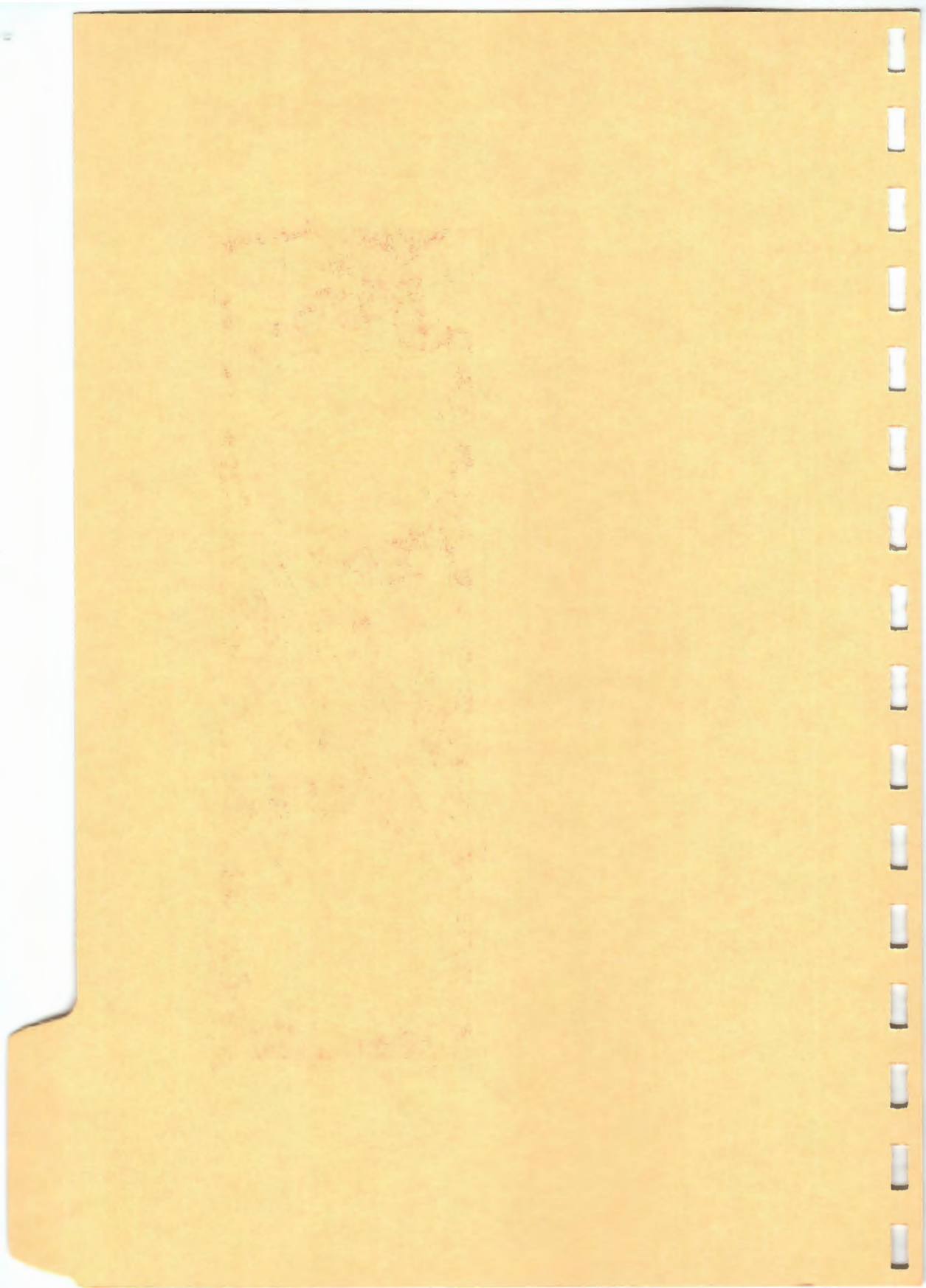
The program is a comprehensive overview of the current state of the industry and identifies key trends and challenges. It is a valuable resource for anyone looking to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the industry. The program is available in both English and Spanish.

HOUSING



Scroll design of beaded belt typical of Southeastern tribes. This is the only Indian beadwork pattern not affected by European design.

HOUSING



HOUSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Extension Service

Assistance Available

Through grants made to land-grant institutions, State and county Extension Service personnel provide educational and technical assistance to families and communities in making and implementing decisions relative to increasing the quantity of housing and improving quality of structures, furnishings, and equipment.

How to Apply

State and county Extension Service programs are available to the general public. For information, contact the county Extension Service office, the State Extension Director at the State land-grant institution, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information

Director of Information, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.
Telephone: (202) 447-6283.

RENTAL AND COOPERATIVE HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to build, improve, repair, or buy rental or cooperatively owned housing that is economically designed and constructed for independent living. Loan funds may also be used to purchase land and to develop sites including related facilities such as water, sewer, streets, recreation centers, laundry rooms, and landscaping.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Borrowers who agree to rent to low-income tenants may receive credits to reduce the effective rate to as low as one percent. The maximum payment period is 40 years, except that loans providing housing for senior citizens may be repaid over a 50-year period.

On reservations, the applicant must own or become owner of the building site even though the land may be in a restricted status. Recipients of rental housing loans must sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

How to Apply

The following are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) Indian profit and non-profit corporations, consumer cooperatives, and other non-profit organizations with broadly based memberships (2) individuals, individual farmowners, or organizations operating on a profit basis, including those that agree to operate on a limited profit basis (3) cooperatives owned, occupied, and managed by eligible low-to-moderate-income families.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy, build, repair or relocate homes and buy minimum adequate sites. Funds may also be used to provide adequate and safe water supply, sewage disposal facilities, and storm shelters, and to pay expenses of obtaining plans and loan closing costs. Loans may also be made to install plumbing, repair roofs, and remove health and safety hazards.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Interest credit may be granted on loans to low-income families to reduce the effective rate to as low as 1 percent. Co-signers may be used, and the repayment period may extend up to 33 years. On housing repair loans made under the incentive program, the interest rate varies with the adjusted income. Incentive repair loans may be repaid over a period up to 25 years. For minor repairs to remove health and safety hazards, loans up to \$3,500 may be advanced at 1 percent interest and repaid within 10 years.

Loans for regular housing purposes may be made only when the lease is for at least 50 years. In certain instances where small repair loans are involved, the lease may be for a shorter period but in any case, the length of the lease must be 1 1/2 times the repayment period of the loan.

How to Apply

The following are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office or nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) low and moderate-income Indian families who are without adequate housing and related facilities and who will become the owner-occupant of a home located on a site owned by the applicant or on which there is a long-term lease after the loan is closed (2) a farm owner without safe, decent, or sanitary housing for his or her own use or for the use of any tenant,

sharecropper, farm laborer, or farm manager. Housing must be located in rural areas, open country, towns, villages, and places without more than 10,000 population that are rural in character and not part of or associated with an urban area.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

RURAL HOUSING SITE DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Loan funds may be used to buy and develop building sites, including the construction of essential access roads, streets, and utilities and payment of fees and administrative expenses. The land is to be sold as adequate housing sites on a non-profit basis to families with low to moderate incomes, to cooperative housing groups, and to non-profit rural housing applicants.

Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Recipients of site development loans are required to sign Form FmHA 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing. The loan must be repaid in two years.

How to Apply

Private non-profit organizations or public non-profit organizations—including a municipal corporation or other corporate agencies of a State or local government—are eligible to apply by contacting the county FmHA office. On reservations, the applicant must own or become owner of the building site even though the land may be in a restricted status.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

SELF-HELP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Farmers Home Administration

Assistance Available

Funds may be used to employ technical and supervisory personnel and to pay administrative expenses. Persons hired will be used to supervise and train low-income families while they are building their own homes. In addition, they will carry out administrative functions. The families will organize into groups and exchange labor on the construction of the homes.

Each agreement for funds will not exceed two years. Funds cannot be used to provide labor for construction or to buy land or material. Recipients are required to sign Form 400-4, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing.

Each applicant will sign a technical assistance agreement. It will show the authorized use of funds, the requirements that must be met by the applicant, and other provisions necessary to meet the objectives of the program.

How to Apply

The following may apply by contacting the county FmHA office or the nearest Agricultural Service Center: (1) a State or political subdivision (2) a public non-profit corporation (3) a private non-profit corporation (4) groups organized by Indians.

For More Information

Director, Information Staff, Farmers Home Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-4323.

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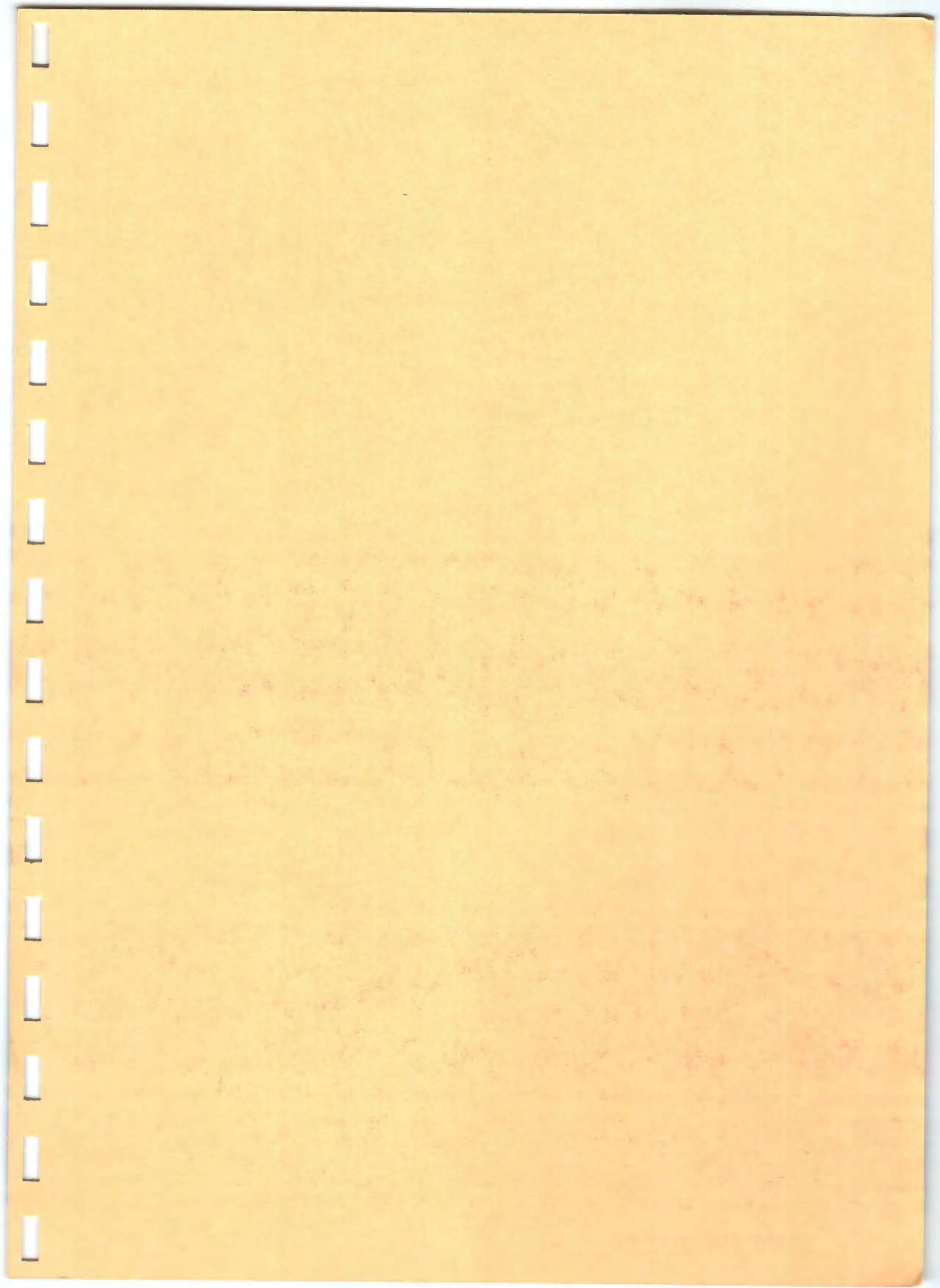
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1902-1903

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Woven design from a Chippewa bag.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farmers
Home
Administration

Washington
D.C.
20250

■

SUBJECT: USDA Assistance to American Indians and Alaska Natives

TO: Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Attached is the information you had requested during a meeting with you on 11/19/81.

If I can be of further help, please let me know.

STUART JAMIESON
Coordinator
Indian Affairs

Enclosures

USDA LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FY 81	ESTIMATE FOR FY 82
Agricultural Cooperative Service (ACS)	Provide technical assistance to improve cooperative business	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
	TOTAL	\$ 2,500	
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)	Indian Acute Distress Donation Program. Oats, Barley and Corn	\$ 3,976,189	
	TOTAL	\$ 3,976,189	
Cooperative Extension Service (CES)	Contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to provide specific educational and technical assistance. *	\$ 100,000	CES work will virtually be eliminated with the budget cuts planned by BIA.
	TOTAL	\$ 100,000	
Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)	Operating Loans Emergency Loans Farm Ownership Loans Recreation Loans Soil and Water Loans Rural Housing Loans	\$ 7,684,000 22,579,000 3,842,000 -0- 321,000 7,562,000	Outreach effort to improve assistance level.
	TOTAL	\$41,888,000	
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)		Unavailable	
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)	Food Distribution Program Administrative Expense DONATED FOODS Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and children DONATED FUNDS	\$ 8,075,809 20,071,021 3,080,603 7,455,079	\$ 8,163,500 38,070,000
	TOTAL	\$38,682,512	
	* BIA contributes \$150,000 in excess of amount allocated in budget.		

USDA LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

AGENCY	PROGRAMS	FY 81	ESTIMATE FOR FY 82
Forest Service (FS)	Forest and Plant Management Surveys Supervision Youth Conservation Corps Job Corps Young Adult Conservation Corps Senior Community Service Employment Program Urban Forestry Utilization of Wood Other Forestry Assistance Land Management Planning Organizational Management Assistance Watershed Planning Long Range Planning Rural Planning Fire Protection Grants	\$ 273,700 230,540 100,000 900,000 100,000 400,000 8,000 80,000 360,000 195,000 25,000 58,000 14,800 43,000	\$ 7,470 74,695 336,128 182,070 23,342 54,154 13,819
	TOTAL	\$ 2,788,040	
Rural Electrification Administration (REA)	Electric Loans Telephone Loans	\$ 15,062,000 (FY 80-81) 18,685,750 (FY 80-81)	
	TOTAL	\$ 33,747,750	
Soil Conservation Service (SCS)	Conservation Operations Resource Conservation and Development Watershed Program Soil Survey	\$ 3,200,000 228,014 16,388,300 575,300	\$ 3,200,000 850 6,400,000 632,000
	TOTAL	\$ 20,391,614	
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$141,676,605</u>	