



National Tribal Conservation Districts and USDA Tribal Conference

November 26 – 30, 2018 | Hosted by Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA)



**Caring for Mother Earth, Plants and Animals
and Strengthening the Circle of Life Through Conservation**

Location and Registration Information

Registration before November 5th is \$350.00, and \$400.00 after the 6th. Three lunches are included with Registration.

Hard Rock Casino Phone: 1-800-760-6700
Hard Rock Resort and Casino 777 W. St.
Catoosa, OK 74015

Rooms are \$94.00 + TAX before November 5th 2018. Hotel Rates apply after November 5th.

Block Room Code: INCA2018

Casino Airport Shuttle Phone: 918-384-7673



Conference Schedule

Monday, November 26, 2018

- 1:00 – 5:00 Registration
- 3:00 – 5:00 Meet and greet. Location will be provided at Registration.
All Speakers are Invited.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

- 7:30 – 8:30 Registration and Meeting for NRCS Tribal Liaisons and other agency liaisons.
Room will be provided at registration.

General Session

Moderator: Ed Mouss, INCA Board of Directors.

- 8:30 – 8:45 Invocation: Cherokee Nation Honor Guard
- 8:45 – 9:15 Welcome to Cherokee Nation – Bill John Baker, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Confirmed.
- 9:15 – 9:45 Welcome to Oklahoma – Gary O’Neill, NRCS Oklahoma State Conservationist. Confirmed.
- 9:45 – 10:15 How Can We Help Your Tribal Conservation District – Terry Tatsey, Vice President, INCA Board of Directors Confirmed. INCA Board of Directors, Dick Gooby, INCA Executive Director.
- 10:15 – 11:15 Cooperation and Communication in Indian Country: Leonard Jordan, Acting NRCS Chief. Confirmed.
- 11:15 – 12:00 National Association of Conservation Districts Partnering with Tribal Conservation Districts – Michael Crowder, 2nd Vice- President and Chair of the Tribal Outreach and Partnership Resource Policy Group. *Confirmed.*
- 12:00 – 1:10 LUNCH.
Provided with registration.



Moderator: Jonathon Pyatskowitz, INCA Board of Directors.

- 1:10 – 2:00 Success in Oklahoma, Conserving Native Resources – Gary O’Neill, NRCS Oklahoma State Conservationist, Dr. Carol Crouch, NRCS Oklahoma Tribal Liaison, Nathan Hart, Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes and Chairman John Berrey and Chris Roper, Quapaw Tribe. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:00 – 2:40 Conservation Activities by the United South and Eastern Tribes, INC.- Jerry Pardilla, Director, Office of Environmental Resource Management. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:40 – 3:20 Success in Arizona – Conserving Native Resources – Roland Tso, President, Arizona Association of Tribal Conservation Districts. [Confirmed.](#)
- 3:20 – 3:35 Break
- 3:35 – 4:15 Success in Alaska, Conserving Native Resources – Bob Jones, NRCS Alaska State Conservationist, Kristi Harper, NRCS Alaska Tribal Liaison and Angela Peter, Alaskan Tribal Conservation Alliance. [Confirmed.](#)
- 4:15 – 5:00 Establishing and Benefits of Tribal Conservation Advisory Council – Alan Johnson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council. [Confirmed.](#)

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

General Session

- Moderator:** Terry Tatsey, Vice President, INCA Board of Directors and Blackfeet Tribal Business Council.
- 8:00 – 8:10 Invocation:
- 8:10 – 9:00 Tribal Participation in NRCS Conservation – Working to bring NRCS programs to Indian Country – Ronald A. Harris Director of Outreach and Advocacy Division and Barry Hamilton, NRCS National Tribal Relations Liaison Officer. [Confirmed.](#)
- 9:00 – 9:40 Conservation Tenure for Trust and Restricted Indian Agricultural Lands – Annette Jenkins, BIA Eastern Oklahoma Regional Real Estate Services Officer. [Confirmed.](#)
- 9:40 – 10:00 Break
- 10:00 – 10:30 USDA Office of Tribal Relations – Linda Cronin, Acting Director. [Confirmed.](#)



- 10:30 – 11:15 Native American Agriculture Fund (KeepsEagle), Janie Hipp, Executive Director. [Confirmed.](#)
- 11:15 – 11:45 TSCAN and weather stations in Indian Country- Dr. Mike Wilson, NRCS Senior Scientist, Climate Change. [Confirmed.](#)
- 11:45 – 1:00 LUNCH.
Provided with registration.

Break-out Sessions

Session 1. Indian Country Irrigation:

Moderator: Bob “Sonny” Belcourt, INCA Conservation Specialist.

- 1:00 – 1:45 NRCS assisting with Indian irrigations projects – Noller Herbert, DC NRCS Engineer. [Confirmed.](#)
- 1:45 – 2:30 BIA-WIIN Act: authorizing funding for irrigation project infrastructure – Travis Teegarden, P. E. USDI – BIA Irrigation. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:30 – 2:50 Break
- 2:50 – 3:35 Tribal irrigation systems improvement opportunities – Kelly Titsensor, PE, Native American Advisor, USDI – Bureau of Reclamation. [Confirmed.](#)
- 3:35 – 4:20 What is NAPI: Delane Atcitty- INCA Deputy Executive Director and NAPI Board of Directors. [Confirmed.](#)

Session 2. Potpourri:

Moderator: Sadie Lister, INCA Conservation Specialist.

- 1:00 – 1:45 Conservation Activities Updates – Travis Britton. BIA Acting Agriculture Branch Chief. [Confirmed.](#)
- 1:45 – 2:30 Seasonal High Tunnels – Aubra “Butch” Lee, Travis Badger, Kristi Harper and Tim Oakes, NRCS Tribal Liaisons. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:30 – 2:50 Break
- 2:50 – 3:35 Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) Mapping – DOI-USGS, Claire DeVaughan, National Map Liaison for Texas and Oklahoma and USDA-NRCS Collin McCormick, National Elevation Leader. [Confirmed.](#)



- 3:35 – 4:15 Success on the Tohono O`odham Nations – Amos Stevens, Tohono O`odham Nations Tribal Conservation District. [Confirmed.](#)
- 4:15 – 5:00 Blackfeet TCD Activities – Loren Bird Rattler – Tribal ARMP Coordinator, Blackfeet Tribal Natural Resource Conservation. [Confirmed.](#)

Session 3. Forming a Tribal Conservation District:

Moderator: Roland Tso, INCA Board of Directors and Arizona Association of Tribal Conservation Districts.

- 1:00 – 2:30 Forming a Tribal Conservation District Round-table Discussion – Dick Gooby, INCA Executive Director, Barry Hamilton, NRCS National Tribal Relations Liaison Officer, Gary O'Neill, NRCS Oklahoma State Conservationist and Kristi Harper, Alaska NRCS Tribal Liaison. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:30 – 2:50 Break
- 3:20 – 4:10 Assisting Tribal Conservation Districts – Round Table Discussion by Agency Tribal Liaisons. All agency tribal liaisons are invited to participate.
- 4:10 – 4:50 General Discussion with Audience Participation.

Session 4. TCD and Tribal Conservation Successes:

Moderator: Danielle Plainfeather: INCA Conservation Technician

- 1:00 – 1:35 Grassroots Conservation – Colleen Tessay, Grasshopper Grazing District, White Mountain Apache. [Confirmed.](#)
- 1:35 – 2:30 Sioux and Assiniboine Tribal Agricultural Resource Management Plan and Implementation – Sioux and Assiniboine Indian Nation, Poplar Montana, Paul Finnicum, NRCS Tribal Conservationist and Myrna Walking Eagle, Director, Tribal Department of Natural Resources. [Confirmed.](#)
- 2:30 – 2:50 Break
- 2:50 – 3:30 Klamath Trinity Resource Conservation District Tribal Non-Profit – Meagen Baldy, District Coordinator. [Confirmed.](#)
- 3:30 – 4:15 Narragansett Crandall Minacommuck Farm – Cassuis Spears Sr., Narragansett Food Sovereignty Initiative (NFSI). [Confirmed.](#)
- 4:15 – 5:00 Hualapai Soil and Water Conservation District – Philip Bravo, President and Annette Bravo, Natural Resources Assistant Director. [Confirmed.](#)



Thursday, November 29, 2018

Moderator: Gail Whiteman, INCA Conservation Specialist

- 8:00 – 8:10 Invocation
- 8:10 – 9:10 NRCS Technical Service Provider Program for Tribes and Alaska Villages – Jimmy Bramblett, Deputy Chief, NRCS Programs (Conservation Planning and Program Delivery). *Confirmed.*
- 9:10 – 9:50 The Importance to Indian Country of the USDA Agriculture Census – Hubert Hamer, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistical Service. *Confirmed.*
- 9:00 – 10:05 Break
- 10:05 – 11:05 Round Table Discussion of USDA Programs for Indian Country - Representatives from USDA – Richard Fordyce, Farm Service Administrator, Risk Management Agency and Rural Development. Speaker(s) to be determined. *Confirmed.*
- 11:05 – 12:00 Expansion of APHIS Tribal Partnerships: Terry Clark, DVM, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Deputy Director Office of National Tribal Liaison. *Confirmed.*
- 12:00 – 1:10 LUNCH.
Provided with registration.
- 1:10 – 1:50 APHIS PPQ Farm Bill Section 10007 – Feridoon Mehdizadegan, National Operations Manager, APHIS Plant Pest Quarantine (PPQ) Division. *Confirmed.*
- 1:50 – 2:25 NRCS Alternative Funding Arrangements – Jimmy Bramblett, Deputy Chief, NRCS Programs (Conservation Planning and Program Delivery). *Confirmed.*
- 2:25 – 3:10 Pima-Maricopa Tribal Assistance for Irrigation Systems: David H. DeJong, Gila River Indian Community, Director of Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project Coordinator. *Confirmed.*
- 3:10 – 3:30 Break
- 3:30 – 4:15 Southeast American Indian Workgroup (SEAIWG) – Amanda Buchanan, Katherine Green, Tim Oakes, Aubra “Butch” Lee and Travis Badger – NRCS Liaisons. *Confirmed.*



4:15– 5:00 Conservation Plans – Collaboration and Partnership – Travis Britton, BIA Acting Agriculture Branch Chief and Ronald A. Harris, NRCS Director of Outreach and Advocacy Division. [Confirmed.](#)

Friday, November 30, 2018

Moderator: Allan Hanley, INCA Conservation Specialist

8:00 – 8:10 Invocation

8:30 – 9:15 638-Contracting and Self-governance – Sherri Smith, BIA Eastern Oklahoma Regional 638-Contract Specialist and Vicki Hanvey, DOI-ASIA Self-governance Specialist. [Confirmed.](#)

9:15 – 10:00 NRCS Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Councils – Kevin Wickey, NRCS Central Regional Conservationist. [Confirmed.](#)

10:00 – 11:00 Strengthening the Circle of Life Through Conservation – Dick Gooby INCA Executive Director and Delane Atcitty, INCA Deputy Executive Director. [Confirmed.](#)

11:00 – 11:30 Conference Wrap-up and General Discussion



Our Sponsors

Indian Nations Conservation Alliance appreciates the financial assistance and sponsorships from the following federal agencies.



Thank you for responding to NASS surveys and censuses! The better the data the better informed the decisions. **Look for results of the 2017 Census of Agriculture in February 2019.**



Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Farm Service Agency