

# **Intertribal Timber Council**

**FY 2005**

**Annual Report**



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## **OVERVIEW of the INTERTRIBAL TIMBER COUNCIL**

Native people are becoming increasingly involved in the management of their timber resources. The Intertribal Timber Council was established in 1976 to provide a forum for communicating between tribes and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on matters relevant to the pursuit and development of timber resources for the benefit of Indian people.

### **PURPOSE**

The primary purposes of the Intertribal Timber Council are:

1. Promoting sound economic management of natural resources so as to sustain Indian forests and dependent economies in accordance with tribal goals and objectives.
2. Providing information concerning legislative and federal policies affecting management of Indian forest resources.
3. Facilitating communication among members on matters relevant to the management of Indian forest resources. The Intertribal Timber Council distributes a quarterly newsletter (nationally) to tribes, BIA, and other interested people.
4. Advising and working with BIA and other interested entities to develop the full potential benefits attainable to Indian people from the management of their forest resources in a manner that achieves a harmony between the needs of people, plants, soil, water, and wildlife.
5. Assisting the establishment and development of Indian business enterprises that will utilize forest resources.
6. Encouraging the training and development of Native American professionals engaged in management of Indian natural resources. As an example, the Intertribal Timber Council accomplished, through recommendations to the BIA, the Forester Intern Program for tribal members, which is in its ninth year.

The Intertribal Timber Council has for the past twenty-five years coordinated and conducted an Annual National Indian Timber Symposium. The symposium is designed to facilitate communication from the perspective of tribes, the BIA, private industry, legislative bodies, and academia on issues and concerns of current forestry management practices.

Symposium participants produce findings and recommendations, which are submitted to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior and other federal agencies for follow-up. This procedure gives the Intertribal Timber Council and the BIA a foundation to analyze the progress occurring to resolve the issues being confronted. Published final proceedings of the symposium serve as comprehensive documentation and are mailed to each participant and Bureau official.

The Bureau, after receiving and reviewing the findings and recommendations, schedules follow-up meetings with the Intertribal Timber Council Executive Board to discuss the responses of the administration.

### **INTERTRIBAL TIMBER COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

General Membership in the Intertribal Timber Council is open to any Indian tribe or Native Alaskan Corporation with a demonstrable interest in the management of Indian forest resources. Presently there are sixty-one General member Tribes, located from Maine to Alaska to New Mexico. Associate Membership is open to any person or organization supporting the purposes of the Intertribal Timber Council. The Executive Board shall approve or disapprove the application. Presently there are sixteen associate members.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Intertribal Timber Council operates under the direction of the Executive Board, consisting of eleven tribes. The Board of Directors is elected by member tribes= representatives at the annual general meeting held during the annual symposium. The Executive Board then elects from its membership a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each board member serves a two-year term.

## President's Message

Nolan C. Colegrove, Sr.

Greetings!

The Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) has been, as usual quite busy tracking issues, disseminating information to the membership, and active in resource issues nationally.

During 2005 the ITC Executive Board has been working on many issues facing Indian country. I am very appreciative of the job that has been done over this past year by our ITC staff, and also want to express my personal gratitude to the Tribes who have committed time and resources to the efforts of the ITC this year as well. Without your contributions, we would not be able to be as successful as we have become.



The ITC also stayed focused this year on one particular issue, although this one is quite complicated, and I lumped it all into one basically. We've stayed really focused with issues with the National Forest with the Forest Service. Today I can safely say that we are making progress towards improving the relationship with the Forest Service. No, we are not where we want to be yet but we have a vision of where we want to go and we are definitely making progress on getting there. Sometimes a journey to where we want to be is difficult and sometimes it is downright frustrating, but when Indian Country really stands up and calls for its rights, that really makes things come to fruition.

The 2005 ITC Symposium was hosted by the Tule River Tribe in Vasalia, California was very successful. There were 337 attendees, 19 exhibitor booths and ITC was able to raise over \$6,500 for scholarships. We were able to discuss and address many issues facing Indian Country, while at the same time provide great educational opportunities for the membership. It was good to see old friends, while at the same time meet first-time symposium participants and to make new friends.

Once again, the additional time slot for another business meeting at the Symposium was well received. Attendees responded positively about continuing this format at next year's meeting. The discussions were documented and published in the symposium proceedings. Some of the discussion centered around pension plans for tribes, fire crew issues in Alaska, and the building realty appraisal requests.

We've been working together with a lot of private agencies and others, but as I mentioned earlier, closely with the Forest Service, and a lot of that is a tribute to us and the Intertribal Timber Council focusing in on that. We will be working with the Forest Service on nearly finishing the Evergreen project and in addition, we have been working with a taskforce with their newly developed Office of Tribal Relations, and that working together is appearing to pay off some dividends.

We also co-sponsored a timber sale workshop with the Western Forestry Conservation Association (WFCA) in Worley, Idaho where more than 110 people participated. Several years ago the ITC and WFCA teamed up to coordinate workshops to advance the scientific and practical knowledge of natural resource professionals and technicians within Indian country and to generate revenue from the workshops that will be equally shared between the organizations. This workshop generated more than \$5,500 for the ITC scholarship program.

In closing, on behalf of the ITC Executive Board, I'd like to thank the Tribes for supporting the ITC and consider this opportunity to serve as ITC President a great honor. Although, I can never fill the shoes of the great leaders who have served the ITC in the past, I can remember their vision, their messages, and try to provide the leadership that continues to make management on our lands better in the future for all generations.

Your participation will continue to make ITC successful.

## Education

The education committee continued raising funds for the scholarships, attended meetings for the Haskell Indian Nation University Natural Resource Advisory Board, and sponsored a booth at the November 2005 American Indian Science and Engineering Society Conference in Albuquerque, NM.

### ITC Scholarships

The Intertribal Timber Council awarded nine Truman D. Picard college scholarships totaling \$15,000 for the 2003-2004 school year. Thus continues the Intertribal Timber Council's commitment to support Native American students who pursue professional degrees in the field of natural resources.

More than \$150,000 in scholarships have been awarded since 1988. The 12 college students were awarded \$1,800 each while the two high school students were awarded \$1,500 each. Six members of the ITC Education Committee reviewed the scholarships. The scholarship applicants were rated based upon their application letter, academic merit and financial need. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Name	Tribal Affiliation
Christine Thompson	San Carlos Apache
Wendy Wells	Crow Creek Sioux
Jessica Bennett	Alaskan Native
Kyle Stover	Chippewa Tribe
Clarice P. Pina	Navajo Nation
Katrina M. Werchowski	Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Megan P. Reinbold	Potawatomi Nation
Kerry L. Stewart	Crow Nation
Michael A. Frank	Pueblo Zuni
Marie Moon	Hoopa
Antoine Francis Incashola	Salish Kootenai
Marcie Carter	Nez Perce
Melissa Aspelund	Alaskan Native
Micaline Tomeo	Mescalero Apache
Christine Thompson	San Carlos Apache

### Awards

Three nominations submitted to the Awards Committee for the 2005 Earle R. Wilcox Memorial National and Individual Achievement Awards were selected.

The regional award recipients included Gary Hilton, Fire Prevention Forester, BIA Midwest Regional Office and Rich Lohman, Assistant Forest Manager (retired), Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation.

The nominees selected were honored at the Awards Banquet at the Twenty-Ninth Annual National Indian Timber Symposium on June 9, 2005 in Visalia, California.

The Earle R. Wilcox memorial awards are presented, at each Annual National Indian Timber Symposium, to honor individuals who have made significant contributions in the field of Indian Forestry or Natural Resources. Nominations can be submitted by anyone involved with Indian Forestry at Tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs level. We encourage people to assess your Indian Forestry staff or Tribal staff for an individual who is making significant achievements on behalf of Indian people and their forests at the local, regional or national level. We encourage to start the nominations procedures for each year's awards ceremonies in late fall and early winter.

## **Symposium**

The theme for the Intertribal Timber Council's 2005 Annual Timber Symposium was "Tribal Forest Protection: Threats and Solutions." 337 participants attended the symposium hosted by the Tulee River Tribe in Visalia, California which was held June 6 – 9, 2005. Approximately 70 participants enrolled in the pre-Symposium Workshop on June 6th. The 19 exhibitor booths helped provide revenue for the scholarships, which was greatly appreciated. Also approximately \$6,500 was raised through the sale of Education Committee raffle tickets. On Wednesday, participants experience first hand the host tribe's approach to resolving problems and issues by viewing operations and sharing perspectives with other resource management professionals. The symposium had three workshops that included; stewardship contracting, tribal stumpage issues and tribal enterprises, and innovative techniques for fuels management. Participants took part in discussion and developed findings and recommendations during the workshops that focus on current issues affecting the ITC member tribes and their partnerships.

Proceedings were developed in a CD and hard copy format and mailed to the participants after the symposium.

## **Operations**

The Operations Committee meets in conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the Executive Board of Directors and first and foremost spoke of our great satisfaction with the turnout and active participation at the Special Meeting of the ITC membership held on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 of the symposium in Visalia, California.

ITC's Fire Technical Specialist, Jim Erickson monitored fire issues nationally as they impact tribes, reservations and trust resources. Jim attended meetings such as the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, National Wildfire Coordination Group and established the ITC fire subcommittee, which provides advice, recommendations and reports to Operations. Jim has also initiated several fire web pages for the ITC website. The main fire issue for tribes this year concerned stewardship contract authorities and assisted with disseminating information on the Tribal Forest Protection Act.

ITC initiated comments on how to administer the Tribal Forest Protection Act (TFPA) with the U.S Forest Service and the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management. The agencies started to draft guidelines for administering the programs listed in the TFPA

The ITC was involved with two major projects in 2004, IFMAT-II implementation and the Northwest Forest Plan.

The ITC solicited, collected and reviewed the final drafts for the Evergreen Magazine issue on tribal forestry and also conduct a workshop. In March 2005, the ITC and the Western Forestry and Conservation Association cosponsored a reforestation workshop in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

### **Northwest Forest Plan (NFP)**

The ITC provided coordination for a tribal leader forum to discuss the 10 year evaluation of the NFP as it relates to tribes. The forum was conducted on April 6, 2005 in Portland, Oregon. ITC continues to participate, since 1994, in the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee which provides advice to the federal executives that implement the Northwest Forest Plan.

**Intertribal Timber Council**

**Statement of Activities**

**Year Ended September 30, 2005**

	Grant and Contract Fund	Membership Fund	Scholarship Fund	Total All Funds
<b>Revenue, gains and other support:</b>				
Federal program	\$ 452,424	\$	\$	\$ 452,424
Registration fees		65,261	7,231	72,492
Members' dues		15,000		15,000
Interest		-	15,241	15,241
Donations		16,024	8,610	24,634
Miscellaneous		6,197	5,805	12,002
<b>Net Revenue, gains and other support:</b>	<b>452,424</b>	<b>102,482</b>	<b>36,887</b>	<b>591,793</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Consulting and professional fees	152,661	10,409		163,070
Northwest Forest Plan	16,250	-		16,250
Meeting facilities	2,531	35,834		38,365
Office expense	44,731	8,036	-	52,767
Payroll and payroll taxes	103,797			103,797
Reproduction costs	35,142	2,126		37,268
Travel and symposium expenses	83,206	389		83,595
Scholarships	-	1,800	22,200	24,000
Miscellaneous	5,392	13,344	8,931	27,667
Raffle prizes			-	-
Depreciation	8,325	167		8,492
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>452,035</b>	<b>72,105</b>	<b>31,131</b>	<b>555,271</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in unrestricted Net assets from operations</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>30,377</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>36,522</b>
Investment settlement		58,284		58,284
Unrealized loss on investments		1,000	4,755	5,755
Loss on disposal of equipment		-		-
<b>Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>89,661</b>	<b>10,511</b>	<b>100,561</b>
Unrestricted net assets Beginning of year	26,790	444,766	40,384	511,940
Fund transfers	-	-	-	
<b>Unrestricted net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 27,179</b>	<b>\$ 534,427</b>	<b>\$ 50,895</b>	<b>\$ 612,501</b>

## Intertribal Timber Council Board of Directors

<u>Position/Name</u>	<u>Tribal or Alaska Corporation Representative</u>	<u>Terms of Office</u>
President Nolan C. Colegrove, Sr.	Hoopa Valley Tribe	2004-06
Vice-President Frank Johnny Endfield, Jr.	White Mountain Apache	2004-06
Secretary Reggie Atkins	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	2004-06
Treasurer Alfred Ketzler, Sr.	Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.	2004-05
<u>Members</u>		
Jim Durglo	Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes	2003-05
C. Larry Blythe	Eastern Band of Cherokee	2003-05
Norman W. Deschampe	Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	2003-05
Meredith Parker	Makah Tribe	2003-05
Aaron Miles, Sr.	Nez Perce	2004-06
Guy Capoeman	Quinault	2004-06
Max Corpuz, Jr.	Yakama Nation	2003-05

### Chief Administrative Personnel

Joann Reynolds

Program Manager

### Board of Director Meetings for FY 2005

February 15-17, 2005

Palm Springs, California

June 6 – 9, 2005

Visalia, California (symposium)

September 13 – 15, 2005

Fairbanks, Alaska (symposium site visit)

December 7 – 8, 2005

Portland, Oregon