

# **Intertribal Timber Council**

**FY 2004**

**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.

### Participation Makes ITC Successful!

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 2004 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 President signed the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 on July 22, 2004, making it Public Law 108-278. The legislation, H.R. 3846 sponsored by Rep. Richard Pombo (R, Calif.) and others, authorizes the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to give tribes special consideration in awarding tribally-proposed Stewardship contracts or agreements to treat Forest Service or BLM lands that pose fire or other threats to adjacent Indian trust land.

The 2004 ITC Symposium hosted by the Quinault Indian Nation was very successful. There were over 400 attendees, and ITC rose over \$6,300 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 a second 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.

We will be implementing recommendations made in the IFMAT-II report by developing an Evergreen Magazine issue devoted to tribal forestry and their perspectives on sustainable forest management through traditional knowledge. I wanted to reflect upon that and then go into a little bit of a challenge for us. We have a lot of other members in the Intertribal Timber Council that find this also near and dear to their hearts. We now have an opportunity presented before us. We have talked in the past few years about how we wish we could incorporate traditional knowledge into the management of not just our lands, but lands that are adjacent to ours, or homelands that are no longer ours, so that we can protect the resources that are close to us. The difficulty is that a lot of our traditional knowledge is oral traditions. That's hard to compare to science, because science always wants to prove something, wants to be written down, and has to be researched. And there is that gap there that we are having a problem bridging. There exists an opportunity now, though, before us. One of the ways that has become available is getting back to this working together. We've been working together with a lot of private agencies and others, but 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 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.

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 2001 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 seven current college students were awarded \$1,800 each while the two high school students were awarded \$1,200 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	Major	Tribal Affiliation	College
Pablo Padilla	Environmental Law	Zuni Tribe	University of New Mexico
Dale Sebastian	Forest Resources	Spokane Tribe	University of Idaho
Tim Brown	Hydrology	Yakama Nation	University of Washington
Bobbie Jo Favel	Environmental Law	Chippewa Cree	University of Montana
Jack Omelak	Environmental Sci.	Alaskan Native	Haskell University
Jessica Stiffarm	Environmental Sci.	Gros Ventre	Salish Kootenai College
Augustine Hill	Resource Conserv.	Crow Nation	University Montana
Twyla Muniz	Environmental Sci.	Jicarilla Apache	College of Santa Fe
Marla Couture	Environmental Sci.	Confed. Salish Kootenai Tribes	Salish Kootenai College
Michael Frank	Natural Resources	Zuni	SW Indian Polytechnic Institute
Joel Boyd	Natural Resources	Colville	High School
Lee Crawford	Range Management	Blackfeet	High School

## Awards

All the nominations submitted to the Awards Committee for the 2004 Earle R. Wilcox Memorial National and Individual Achievement Awards were selected.

The regional award recipients included Northwest Region Individual Achievement Awards to Pat Phillips, BIA, NIFC, Broomfield, Colorado, Rich McCrea, BIA, NIFC, Boise, Idaho and Myra Clark, Confederated Tribes of Colville, Nespelm, Washington; Southwest Region Individual Achievement Award to John Barborinas, BIA, NIFC, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Steve Larrabee, BIA, NIFC, Albuquerque, New Mexico and Robert Lacapa, BIA, Fort Apache Agency, Whiteriver, Arizona; Eastern region Individual Achievement Award to Dr. Michael Bridgen, SUNY, Wanakena, New York.

The national award recipient, outstanding forester of the year was awarded to Jim Stires, Chief, Branch of Fire Management, BIA Boise, Idaho.

The nominees selected were honored at the Awards Banquet at the Twenty-Eighth Annual National Indian Timber Symposium on April 29, 2004 in Ocean Shores, Washington.

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 years` awards ceremonies in late fall and early winter.

## **Symposium**

The theme for the Intertribal Timber Council's 2004 Annual Timber Symposium was "The Changing Face of Forestry – A Look at the Political, Social and Economic Challenges." 423 participants attended the symposium hosted by the Quinault Indian Nation in Ocean Shores, Washington, which was held April 26 - 29, 2004. Approximately 40 participants enrolled in the pre-Symposium Workshop on April 25th. The 18 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; Non-timbered forest products; Funding Opportunities for Tribes and; Reservation Roads: Multiple Uses, Maintenance Problems and Funding. 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, April 28, 2004 of the symposium in Ocean Shores, Washington.

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 the Fire Program Analysis, which has started a pilot process to determine fire budgets and resource distribution by FY 2007.

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.

### **IFMAT-II**

The Second Assessment of Indian Forest Management and Forest Land in the United States is a requirement that directs Congress to conduct an assessment of Indian Forest Management and Forest Lands every 10 years. The Bureau of Indian Affairs contracted with the Intertribal Timber Council to complete this assessment, which was then subcontracted to the company Interforest. Interforest made the arrangements to conduct site visits on Indian forest land and complete the report.

The Second Assessment of Indian Forest Management and Forest Land in the United States has been completed and was mailed out to tribes, universities and federal agencies. The ITC conducted a survey to assess the priorities for recommendations made in the report. The ITC will produce another Evergreen Magazine issue on tribal forestry and also conduct workshops. In March 2004, the ITC and the Western Forestry and Conservation Association cosponsored a reforestation workshop in Grand Ronde, Oregon.

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

The 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, 2004**

	Grant and Contract Fund	Membership Fund	Scholarship Fund	Total All Funds
<b>Revenue, gains and other support:</b>				
Federal program	\$ 468,048	\$	\$	\$ 468,048
Registration fees		68,494		68,494
Members' dues		14,875		14,875
Interest		-	11,160	11,160
Donations		-	25,611	25,611
Miscellaneous		1,878	13,916	15,794
<b>Net Revenue, gains and other support:</b>	<b>468,048</b>	<b>85,247</b>	<b>50,687</b>	<b>603,982</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Consulting and professional fees	199,450	23,543		222,993
Northwest Forest Plan	11,250			11,250
Meeting facilities	-	37,016		37,016
Office expense	51,692	346	-	52,038
Payroll and payroll taxes	97,593			97,593
Reproduction costs	21,391	52	186	21,629
Travel and symposium expenses	81,334	4,904		86,238
Scholarships			21,600	21,600
Miscellaneous	5,338	21,519	57	26,914
Raffle prizes			6,963	6,963
Depreciation	6,782			6,782
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>474,830</b>	<b>87,380</b>	<b>28,806</b>	<b>591,016</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in unrestricted Net assets from operations</b>	<b>(6,782)</b>	<b>(2,133)</b>	<b>21,881</b>	<b>12,966</b>
Investment settlement		4,615		4,615
Unrealized loss on investments		32,635		32,635
Loss on disposal of equipment		-		-
<b>Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>(6,782)</b>	<b>35,117</b>	<b>21,881</b>	<b>50,216</b>
Unrestricted net assets Beginning of year	33,572	409,649	18,503	461,724
Fund transfers	-	-	-	
<b>Unrestricted net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 26,790</b>	<b>\$ 444,766</b>	<b>\$ 40,384</b>	<b>\$ 511,940</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	2002-04
Vice-President Frank Johnny Endfield, Jr.	White Mountain Apache	2002-04
Secretary Reggie Atkins	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	2002-04
Treasurer Alfred Ketzler, Sr.	Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.	2004-05
<u>Members</u>		
D. Fred Matt	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	2002-04
Guy Capoeman	Quinault	2002-04
Max Corpuz, Jr.	Yakama Nation	2003-05

### Chief Administrative Personnel

Joann Reynolds

Program Manager

#### Board of Director Meetings for FY 2004 - 05

December 10 – 11, 2003	Portland, Oregon
February 17 – 19, 2004	Portland, Oregon
April 26, 2004	Ocean Shores, Washington (symposium)
June 15 – 17, 2004	Lakeside, California
September 15 – 16, 2004	Visalia, California (symposium site visit)
December 8 – 9, 2004	Portland, Oregon
February 15-17, 2005	Palm Springs, California
June 6 – 9, 2005	Visalia, California (symposium)
September 13 – 15, 2005	Fairbanks, Alaska (symposium site visit)