



Coeur d'Alene

Coeur d'Alene

LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation is located in the Idaho panhandle, about 40 miles southwest of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Spokane, Washington, lies 40 miles to the west. Principal settlements on the reservation include Benewah, DeSmet, Plummer, and Tensed. Over 247,000 acres within the Coeur d'Alene Reservation are privately owned. The State of Idaho owns 12,640 acres, mostly in Heyburn State Park, which is situated at the south end of Lake Coeur d'Alene. The U.S. Forest Service owns 570 acres that are administered by Idaho Panhandle National Forests.

The reservation was officially established by an Executive Order in 1873. The reservation included almost 4,000,000 acres of the tribe's traditional territory, but it dwindled to its present size through treaties, forced sales, and the allotment process.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Reservation lands range from 2,200 to 2,600 feet above sea level. Mountain peaks rise to between 4,000 and 5,500 feet. The area consists of rolling hills and evergreen timber as well as wetlands and rangelands. Lake Coeur d'Alene and Black Lake are located in the southern regions of the reservation. Lake Coeur d'Alene is the region's major body of water. Several creeks and mountains are located in the northern quarter of the reservation. The St. Joe River and St. Maries River flow through the reservation.

CLIMATE

The average summer temperature on the reservation is 65°F, while the average winter temperature is 31.2°F. The annual precipitation is 10 inches and snowfall is 59.5 inches.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Schitsu'umsh, "Those who are found here," originated in the regions of present-day northwestern United States. The tribe is comprised of three family bands. The first band is made up of those families living along and near the Coeur d'Alene River; the second band is made up of those living along the St. Joe River; and the third band is made up of those families living near Hayden Lake, Coeur d'Alene Lake, and Spokane River. Their ancestral lands encompassed nearly 5,000,000 acres in what are now Idaho, Washington, and Montana. The tribe traditionally hunted buffalo on the Montana plains, fished for salmon at Spokane Falls, and dug for cams and other wild root crops near Kalispel and present-day Palouse. Tribal members utilized the ancient trade routes between their homelands and those of other indigenous groups, including the Nez Perce, Shoshone, and Bannock. Members of the Schitsu'umsh tribe traveled as far west as the Pacific coast. The Schitsu'umsh became known as the Coeur d'Alene, "Heart of the Awl," following their encounter with French trappers.

The Coeur d'Alene band populations were decimated by the arrival of smallpox, measles, and other European diseases that came with Euro-American encroachment on tribal lands. Records indicate that in the late eighteenth century there were as many as 5,000 members of the Coeur d'Alene bands. In 1905, less than 200 years later, the population was recorded at only 490.

An Executive Order establishing the reservation was issued in 1873. In 1887 the tribe ceded nearly 3,500,000 acres in Washington, Idaho, and Montana to the U.S. government. Several thousand more acres were ceded in 1889 and 1894. Tribal lands were reduced from almost 4,000,000 acres to 345,000 acres.

Under the Homestead Act of 1909, over 80 percent of the reservation passed out of tribal ownership. Specifically, the tribe lost ownership of most of its land along Lake Coeur d'Alene through allotment and the opening of the reservation to non-Native settlers beginning that year. Moreover, the effects of the Homestead Act were gradual social, cultural, and economic degradation. The loss of a land base jeopardized tribal identity through forced acculturation, which in turn opened the door to many social problems. In response to this tragic downward spiral, the tribe filed a claim with the Indian Claims Commission on November 15, 1950, for compensation for the illegal confiscation of their traditional homelands. On May 6, 1958, the Commission awarded the tribe \$4,342,778 on behalf of this claim. The tribe has subsequently pursued other claims and litigation, generally successfully. The proceeds from these awards have been applied toward economic development projects such as a gaming facility, which in turn have generated more profits, ultimately to be applied toward the general welfare of tribal members.

GOVERNMENT

The tribe's governing body is the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council. The council has been empowered to act on behalf of the tribe under the terms of the revised constitution and bylaws, adopted on November 10, 1984, and approved by the secretary of the interior on December 21 of that year. The tribal council consists of seven members, each elected to three-year terms. Its officers include a chairman, a vice chairman, and a secretary-treasurer. The general council consists of all tribal members who are of voting age.

Tribal government is comprised of 18 departments. They include the gaming board, the housing advisory board, the health advisory board, the development advisory board, the law and order advisory board and the tribal school advisory board, each with their respective directors. There are also

Coeur d'Alene Reservation Federal reservation Benewah and Kootenai counties, Idaho

Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council
850 A Street.
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Plummer, ID 83851
208-686-1800
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cdatribe-nsn.gov

Total area (BIA realty, 2004)
74,693 acres

Total area (Tribal source, 2004)
344,900 acres

Trust lands (Tribal source, 2004)
36,370 acres

Tribally owned (BIA realty, 2004)
30,559 acres

Tribally owned (Tribal source, 2004)
14,310 acres

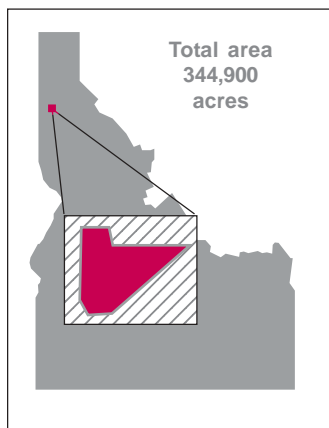
Allotted lands (Tribal source, 2004)
22,060 acres

Individually owned
(BIA realty, 2004)
44,134 acres

Population 2000 census
6,551

Tribal enrollment
(Tribal source, 2004)
1,907

Coeur d'Alene



Total labor force 2000 census
3,032

Total labor force
(BIA labor report, 2001)
560

High school graduate or higher
2000 census
84.3%

Bachelor's degree or higher
2000 census
15.8%

Unemployment rate 2000 census
12.7%

Unemployment rate
(BIA labor report, 2001)
67%

Per capita income 2000 census
\$16,421

the finance department, the grants office, the facilities department, human resources, social services, natural resources, and education. housing, planning, Benewah Medical Center, and law and order are also major programs in the tribal government.

The tribe maintains its own police force and court system. Jurisdiction over the reservation is concurrent with state and local law enforcement agencies. There is currently only one police station on the reservation, but plans to develop facilities in the lower third of Lake Coeur d'Alene are in progress.

BUSINESS CORPORATION

The tribe's federally chartered development corporation works in conjunction with the tribal council's planning department to initiate development projects for the tribe. The development corporation is responsible for daily bookkeeping duties, for conducting research into the feasibility of proposed economic development and business projects, and for conducting evaluations of current revenue-producing projects.

ECONOMY

The economy of the reservation is largely sustained by the tribe's enterprises in the logging and agriculture industries. The tribe's enterprises in the gaming industry are proving to be successful and generate a substantial amount of revenue, which the tribe uses in large part to fund the enhancement of the tribal services. The Coeur d'Alene tribal government is also a major force in the tribe's economic stability. It employs at least 1,000 people throughout the tribe's businesses and governmental departments.

Government as Employer. The tribe employs approximately 1,000 individuals throughout the tribal government and business enterprises.

Economic Development Projects. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe's planning department is an essential part of the tribe's economic development. The planning department carries out long-range planning, comprehensive planning, site planning, coordination with all departments, land use codes development, and grant writing. With the oversight of the planning department, the tribe is in the process of developing numerous economic projects. They include the improvement of roadways that will enhance tourism and recreation in the region, the development of an industrial park, the development of a ferry system and an airport, and the development of educational tourist attractions to the region.

The tribe's most recent project was the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, approximately 15 miles of rail bed, converted to a multi-use trail within reservation boundaries. Construction began in spring 2001, and it was completed in summer 2003. A trailhead at Plummer marks the historical trail as the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, and it includes a tunnel under U.S. 95 that connects the trail to the tribal celebration grounds.

A 2004 comprehensive plan outlines the tribe's commitment to protecting the environment, managing and regulating natural resources, providing for the health, education and welfare of all tribal members, protecting religious freedoms, and making and enforcing laws. The comprehensive plan is designed to provide an official statement of growth and to serve as a guide to decisions about overall development.

Agriculture and Livestock. Agriculture provides 10 percent of the employment opportunities for tribal members, employing approximately 266 people. Tribal agricultural enterprises include a 6,000-acre farm. It produces wheat, barley, peas, lentils, and canola. Thirty thousand acres of tribal land produce

Kentucky bluegrass. Approximately 150,000 acres of tribal lands are occupied by privately owned farms.

Forestry. The reservation lies partially within national forest land in a region where the timber industry has been traditionally prominent. A limited amount of timber harvesting continues on tribal lands. Though a considerable number of tribal members find employment through this industry, many tribal members work through non-Indian timbering enterprises. Pacific Crown Timber Products is the largest private employer of tribal members within this domain. Over 180,000 acres of the reservation are forested. The tribe does not authorize clear cuts on tribal lands. All logging is done with selective cutting.

Gaming. The Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel is located in Worley, Idaho. It offers over 1,400 slot machines, bingo, MegaBingo, off-track dog and horse betting, and video pull-tabs. There is also a non-smoking game area. The facilities include the adjacent resort, four restaurants, and an entertainment venue. The resort offers 202 guest rooms, a conference center, a video arcade, and daycare accommodations upon request. The resort offers transport to the Spokane airport for guests as well as daily shuttles to Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, and Post Falls.

The casino also sponsors a cruise boat on Lake Chatcolet. Cruise tours include brunch, lunch, dinner, special events, and special themed and private tours. There are facilities on the beaches of Lake Chatcolet for guests to enjoy recreational activities, seaplane tours, fishing, performances, and boating. The casino provides direct access to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene, a scenic 73-mile paved trail that courses along the rivers and lakes of the Silver Valley in Idaho.

The Circling Raven Golf Club is located adjacent to the Casino Resort. It offers a par-72 championship golf course. The club is located in the forest meadows and wetlands of the tribe's recreation area. The club offers a School of Golf with classes, a Junior Golf Clinic, and one-day golf clinics with renowned golf instructors. The golf course opened in August 2003, and within four months it was honored as one of *Golf Magazine's* top 10 best new public courses in America. In 2004, it was honored by Audubon International by inclusion in the International Cooperative Sanctuary System.

The casino hosts numerous entertainment acts and events, including the PRCA Coeur d'Alene Casino Championship Rodeo Series and the July Coeur d'Alene Tribe Encampment and Powwow. The casino has been voted "#1 Casino in the Pacific Northwest" by the *Spokesman Reader Review* four years in a row.

Fisheries. The region surrounding the reservation is rich in streams, rivers, and lakes, most of which have excellent recreational fishing. Tribal members continue to fish on and beyond reservation boundaries. Coeur d'Alene Lake is a popular fishing spot, one that the tribe is seeking to regulate and enhance through its lake management policy.

Construction. In 1999, the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Housing Authority (THA) oversaw the construction of 221 homes on the reservation. An estimated 163 more will be needed by 2008. The primary aim of the THA is to administer the development of affordable housing for all tribal members.

The goal of the THA is to enhance the lives of all tribal members by anticipating and providing affordable housing opportunities to individuals in all walks of life. The THA administered 221 homes in 1999, and by 2008 an additional 163 homes will be required on the reservation.



TRI-ID-006



TRI-ID-002



TRI-ID-005



TRI-ID-003



TRI-ID-004

Manufacturing. The manufacturing industry is the second-largest source of employment among tribal members. As of 2004, manufacturing represented employment for 10 percent of the tribe's workforce, employing 268 tribal members. Except for the reservation-based cottage industry of traditional artisans, virtually all of these people work for enterprises located off the reservation.

Industrial Park. The tribe has proposed construction of the Coeur d'Alene ECO-Industrial Park on 24 acres south of Plummer. Development will include upgrading of the existing Union Pacific Railroad road, and construction of sidewalks, parking lots, walkways, and transit parking and boarding sites. Highway 95 and Agency Road will receive upgrades, and a bridge will be constructed at the existing culverts. Facilities will be constructed in three phases. Phase one will include construction of a business incubator building, a retail and light manufacturing building, and six cottage industry/residence units. Phase two includes two office buildings, and a manufacturing/warehouse building. Phase three will complete the complex with four additional office buildings, and a manufacturing /warehouse building.

Real Estate/Commercial Development. The tribe is in the process of constructing housing units at various sites across the reservation. The plans call for the construction of 17 units and include improvements to local roadways.

Services and Retail. The reservation hosts several businesses, including the Benewah Market, which employs about 20 people.

The Benewah Auto Center began by renovating an existing Exxon Station into a full-service automotive center. The auto center has expanded further into a convenience store and employs four people.

Media and Communications. The tribe publishes the *Coeur d'Alene/Schitsu'umsh Council Fires*, a monthly newspaper.

Tourism and Recreation. The Shadowy St. Joe Stream courses through the reservation to Lake Coeur d'Alene. It is considered one of North America's premier trout streams. It is the highest navigable stream in the world and serves as a waterway for tugboats working the Spokane River.

Upon completion of the Plummer-Mullan Rail Trail, the tribe plans to build an interpretive center and museum at the trailhead in the 45-acre area known as the Celebration Grounds. Other projects planned for the location are a longhouse, a war dance arena, an RV park, elderly housing, a vendors' building, a permanent sweat lodge, and recreational ball fields. The Celebration Grounds are ceremonial grounds used for tribal ceremonies and celebrations.

The historical Cataldo Mission is the oldest standing building in the state of Idaho. It was built in the mid-1840s to serve the Coeur d'Alene tribal people. In the 1870s, the mission was moved from the church site to a building in DeSmet when tensions between the tribe and Euro-American settlers began to rise. The historic Catholic mission and the adjacent Sisters' Building, built in 1880, serve as important cultural and religious gathering places.

Outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the reservation's abundant fishing, boating, and water sport activities. In the more remote regions to the east, hunters pursue big game such as bear, elk, and deer, as well as waterfowl. Golf, hiking, mountain climbing, and winter skiing are all quite popular. There are several camping areas on and adjacent to tribal lands.

INFRASTRUCTURE

U.S. Highway 95 is the main north-south road through the reservation, connecting with Interstate 90 to the north. Over 400 miles of county, local highway, and BIA roads traverse the reservation. The various governmental entities are responsible for maintaining the roadways. The tribe actively monitors and evaluates existing roads and determines the needs for additional roadways.

TRI-ID-006 Headquarters Sign at Coeur D'Alene Tribal Building

TRI-ID-002 Main entrance of Tribal Building complex

TRI-ID-005 Coeur D'Alene Casino Hotel US Highway 95 Worley, Idaho

TRI-ID-003 Tepees & Stagecoach Display in front of Trading Post off of Highway 95

TRI-ID-004 Back of Coeur D'Alene Tribal Wellness Center

Coeur d'Alene

Electricity. Washington Power Company provides electricity.

Water Supply. Solid waste is collected by private contractors and transported to county landfills. The tribe is currently expanding landfill capacity on the reservation.

Transportation. The tribe's Transportation Plan 2003 addresses the motorized and non-motorized transportation issues of the tribe now and over the next 20 years. The tribe has identified the need for a public transit system on the reservation, a transit system for disabled tribal members, ferry transportation, and an airport.

The tribe is developing a ferry project that would provide east/west access to the eastern half of the reservation and Lake Coeur d'Alene. It is also developing plans for an airport near the Coeur d'Alene Casino and Resort. Furthermore, the tribe is in the process of developing the North U.S. 95 Casino Resort Corridor in collaboration with the cities of Worley and Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai County, and local businesses and residents. The corridor extends over five miles from Worley into the reservation.

The nearest commercial airline service is in Spokane, 40 miles west. Commercial train and bus lines serve the city of Coeur d'Alene, about 25 miles from the reservation. Commercial truck lines serve the reservation directly. The tribe provides bus services for the tribal school.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A wellness center provides community members with programs concerning wellness, recreation, fitness, pregnancy, child rearing, infant care, and general nutrition. The Youth Crisis Center is an emergency shelter available for tribal youth experiencing violent or potentially violent relationships in the home. There are also public libraries in Worley, DeSmet, and Plummer. The tribe operates a community center in DeSmet. The tribe sponsors an annual lottery for hunting moose on the reservation and in the ceded areas. The lottery is open to tribal members 14 years and older.

Public Safety. The reservation is serviced by volunteer fire departments from Worley, Plummer, Sorento, or Tensed.

Education. The tribal school system includes a Head Start program, a K-8 tribal school located in DeSmet, the Circling Raven Vo-Tech Program for adults, and a bachelor's degree program offered through Circling Raven and Lewis and Clark College. Tribal youth may attend the tribal school, public elementary and secondary schools, or a Christian academy located on the reservation. A new tribal school is currently under construction. The tribe offers instructional classes in the Schitsu'umsh language.

Health Care. The tribe operates the Benewah Medical Center in Plummer, Idaho. The center offers outpatient services, an in-house pharmacy, a laboratory, X-ray facilities, dental services, mental health programs, and community health outreach services for Native and non-Native community members. Programs of the center include various fitness and exercise classes, sports teams, alcohol recovery programs, and swimming classes. The center has been nationally awarded and recognized as a national model for Indian health care and rural health care. A contract health service provides ambulatory health care and hospital services. Additional medical facilities are available in Spokane, Washington, and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Project springs from the largest natural resource damage lawsuit in American history.

Over a 100-year period, the mining industry in Idaho's Silver Valley dumped 72 million tons of mine waste into the Coeur d'Alene watershed. As mining and smelting operations grew, they produced billions of dollars in silver, lead, and zinc. In the process, natural life in the Coeur d'Alene River was wiped out.

Today, the Silver Valley is the nation's second-largest Superfund site. The natural resource damages, however, extend upstream and far downstream from the 21-square mile "box" that is now under Superfund. The Superfund cleanup is expected to cost \$200 million. The tribe's natural resource damage assessment for the river, its tributaries, the lateral lakes, and Lake Coeur d'Alene totals over \$1 billion. The tribe, working with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey, has taken the leading role in cleanup efforts and the leading role toward responsible stewardship of the basin.

The tribe took its case to court not only with a plea for environmental stewardship, but also with detailed and peer-reviewed science. The issue has become the Interior Department's number one priority for cleanup. The Justice Department followed the tribe's lead, and the United States government filed suit against the mines and Union Pacific Railroad in the spring of 1996, echoing almost verbatim the tribe's 1991 lawsuit. Union Pacific has since settled.

As the tribe works to create a basin cleanup, it also works to resolve ownership of Lake Coeur d'Alene. A lawsuit filed in October 1991 against the State of Idaho would enable the tribe to take the state into court and eventually prevent the state from interfering with tribal jurisdiction over Lake Coeur d'Alene, which is the heart of the tribe's homeland and reservation. The tribe's quest to resolve ownership was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2001. The U.S. Supreme Court recognized that the tribe has always been the owner of the lower one-third of Lake Coeur d'Alene and other related waters.

Natural Resources. The tribe's natural resources department serves to enhance the quality of life for tribal members, to foster the development of social and economic benefits for the tribe, to protect and preserve natural resources on tribal lands, and to restore natural resources within the historical and traditional lands of the tribe. The department manages the forest management plan and lake management plan and is in the process of developing an environmental action plan. It is also creating a plan for the implementation of the tribe's comprehensive environmental statute.

The tribe is also a member of the Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area. A USDA project, the RC&D program facilitates community involvement in resolving environmental and economic problems. To date, over 300 projects have been completed in the area, with the emphasis shifting from traditional conservation practices to extensive involvement in rural economic development.

In addition, the tribal council enacted an Interim Land Use Ordinance in 1988 that enables the tribe to review and regulate development and land uses that threaten or result in significant social, environmental, or economic impact on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation.

The establishment of water quality standards protects the tribe's rights to water sources located on or bounded by the reservation.

Duck Valley

See Nevada

Honoring Nations Honoree 1999

Coeur d'Alene Tribal Wellness Center, Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Plummer, Idaho)

Created in 1998, the Coeur d'Alene Wellness Center promotes healthy lifestyles by offering programs in fitness, aquatics, physical rehabilitation, childcare and community health to over 2,500 Indian and non-Indian clients. Utilizing a whole-life approach to health and focusing on preventative care, the Center complements acute and chronic illness care provided by the Benewah Medical Center, which was created in 1990 through a joint venture between the Tribe and the City of Plummer, Idaho. Together with the Medical Center, the multi-purpose Wellness Center is the culmination of the Tribe's goal to provide reservation residents with affordable health care.

Until the 1990s, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's health care services were clearly inadequate. The Tribe was served only by a small Indian Health Service (IHS) satellite clinic, which was located in a semi-condemned building. Additional barriers to quality health care included the long distance tribal members had to travel to access more comprehensive services and higher quality facilities, poor continuity of care, and the IHS's poor financial management, which resulted in tribal members' bills being turned over to collection agencies. Further, none of the ambulatory care facilities in the four surrounding counties provided services on a sliding fee schedule, which would allow for low-income users to pay lower medical fees.

In 1987, the Tribe began searching for ways to improve health care services offered on-reservation to its more than 6,000 resident members. The Tribe's efforts led to an innovative joint venture with the City of Plummer, in which the Tribe and the City together developed a rural outpatient health care delivery system for both Indians and non-Indians. Not only were the partners able to collectively secure construction funds from the state and federal governments for a new medical facility - the Benewah Medical Center (BMC), which opened in 1990 - but they also gained federal classification as a "Medically Underserved Population Area," a designation that increases BMC's operating revenues through additional cost reimbursement. These revenue gains have enabled BMC to bill its non-Native clients on a sliding fee scale, an important service given that approximately one-third of the eligible non-Native users in Benewah County qualify for reduced fees. Because of strong demand, BMC's 6,750 square foot building was expanded to 17,000 square feet in 1994, and medical exam rooms, a dental wing, pharmacy services and community health programs were added.

With its improved health care system in place, the Tribe began to think about how it could move the BMC toward a prevention and wellness focus. Of particular concern was the fact that community members had no access to a recreation or fitness facility. Therefore, the Tribe and the City of Plummer expanded the scope of their joint venture and opened the Tribal Wellness Center in July 1998. The 43,000 square foot, \$5 million Wellness Center was built debt-free, using funding from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and private funds and BMC equity (tribal gaming revenue was not used). Today, the Wellness Center serves 2,500 users and provides a host of programs designed to improve mental, spiritual, emotional and physical health.

The Wellness Center's success is evident on several fronts. First, the Center addresses an important need in the community by enabling the BMC to complement its acute and chronic

care services with preventative, wellness-based services. Programs and services are offered in aquatics, childcare, fitness, nutrition, physical therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, and community health. To promote these activities, the Wellness Center publishes a quarterly newsletter that informs the community about its programs and provides fitness and health tips. To improve the continuity of care between the Medical Center and the Wellness Center, staff members at the two organizations are encouraged to cross-train and to communicate regularly with each other. This way, care providers at the BMC can work cooperatively with experts at the Wellness Center on the best ways to meet specific patient needs. Given disproportionately higher incidence of chronic illness and preventable hospitalizations in the American Indian population (for example, American Indians' diabetes mortality rates are three times higher than the rates for whites), the various activities and initiatives offered through the Wellness Center have considerable potential to improve many individuals' lives.

Second, the Wellness Center's operations are impressive. Its Olympic-size recreational pool, therapy pool, gym, track and classrooms are state-of-the-art. The equipment is well maintained, and the Center's members and 30-member staff take great pride in keeping the facility as clean and functional as possible. In addition, the staff of both the BMC and Wellness Center has been proactive in making quality improvements: a full-time quality improvement director oversees safety, accreditation standards and other quality related matters. In fact, the BMC's and Wellness Center's leadership chose to conform to rigorous accreditation standards as a means of maintaining superior service. This choice underscores the Tribe's commitment not just to having a wellness center, but to having one with high operational standards.

Moreover, the Wellness Center is well governed. A nine-member Health Board (comprised of two Tribal Council members, two tribal members, two non-Indian community members and three clinicians) oversees both the BMC and Wellness Center. The Board operates under its own by-laws and is autonomous from tribal politics - distance that has allowed its members to make important decisions about hiring, budgeting, and facility priorities in response to user needs, not political pressures. Interestingly, the Tribal Council is looking at the BMC/Wellness Center's board as a model for some of its other tribal departments. Such attention is well deserved.

In terms of the Wellness Center's operational funding, the Tribe has chosen to rely primarily on third party reimbursements rather than gaming revenues. While this choice may only be possible in service areas that possess a sufficient number of users with private insurance, it should be encouraging to non-gaming tribes to know that such impressive facilities can be established without significant infusions of casino revenues and without compromising quality. Further, this choice is a source of pride for the Wellness Center's management, and it is committed to ensuring the financial stability of the Center in this funding environment. The Wellness Center's response to the tribal government's request that it continue to offer childcare (because no other childcare services exist on the reservation) is an inspirational example of the management's commitment. They found a way to maintain the Wellness Center's childcare services, despite the fact that this service is expensive to sustain.



Honoring Nations
Honoree 1999

Text in its entirety from:
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Development

John F. Kennedy School
of Government
Harvard University

Health care service in the United States is steadily shifting toward a more preventative focus, and the Coeur d'Alene Wellness Center's focus on preventive health care and positive lifestyle behaviors is consistent with these trends. It is a critical shift in Native health care because of the importance of chronic disease management in American Indian communities. Clearly, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe realized the importance of building a healthy, fit community and of offering services that have long been available to non-Indians, and in so doing, it has begun to build a healthier society. Yet the tribal government deserves recognition not only for the size, quality and comprehensiveness of the facility it created, but also for its commitment to finding innovative solutions to potential organizational and funding barriers. Both the idea and its implementation warrant replication throughout Indian Country.

Lessons:

- Indian nations can complement acute and primary health care services with broader approaches that seek to promote healthy lifestyles. Such approaches are especially important given that American Indians suffer disproportionately from chronic diseases that can be ameliorated by behavioral change.
- Tribal medical and wellness centers should focus on quality of care. One way to ensure high quality services is to empower a board to make decisions based explicitly on user needs; another is to institutionalize quality control mechanisms.
- Wellness centers can operate without significant infusions of tribal revenue when a sufficient proportion of their clients possess private insurance. If neighboring communities have similar health care needs, tribes may consider joint ventures as an attractive option.

Fort Hall

Fort Hall Reservation
Federal reservation
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
of the Fort Hall Indian
Reservation
Bannock, Bingham, Caribou,
and Power counties, Idaho

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
of the Fort Hall Indian
Reservation
P.O. Box 306
Pima Drive
Fort Hall, ID 83203
888-297-1378
208-237-0797 Fax

Total area (BIA realty, 2004)
522,671.07 acres

Total area (EPA)
547,570 acres

Tribally owned
(BIA realty, 2004)
271,775.42 acres

Individually owned
(BIA realty, 2004)
218,263.77 acres

Federal trust
(BIA realty, 2004)
32,632.88 acres

Population 2000 census
5,762

Tribal enrollment
(Tribal source, 2004)
4,673

LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Fort Hall Reservation is located in the eastern Snake River Plain of southeastern Idaho. It is comprised of two separate segments that lie north and west of the town of Pocatello. The Snake River, Blackfoot River, and the American Falls Reservoir border the reservation on the north and northwest.

The reservation was established by an Executive Order under the terms of the Fort Bridger Treaty of 1868. It originally contained 1.8 million acres, an amount that was reduced to 1.2 million acres in 1872 as a result of a survey error. The reservation was further reduced to its present size through subsequent legislation and the allotment process.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Topography ranges from relatively lush river valleys to rugged foothills and mountains. Elevations vary from 4,400 feet at the American Falls Reservoir to nearly 9,000 feet in the southern mountain areas.

CLIMATE

The nearby town of Pocatello experiences summer temperatures ranging between 68°F and 88°F. The winter temperature often drops into the low teens. Average rainfall is 11.5 inches per year. The snowy season lasts from September through May with an average of 43.3 inches annually.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall comprise members of the eastern and western bands of the Northern Shoshone and the Bannock, or Northern Paiute, bands. Ancestral lands of both tribes occupied vast regions of land encompassing present-day Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and into Canada. The tribes are culturally related and, though both descend from the Numic family of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic phylum, their languages are dialectically separate. When the Northern Paiutes left the Nevada and Utah regions for southern Idaho in the 1600s, they began to travel with the Shoshones in pursuit of buffalo. They became known as the Bannocks then.

The tribes generally subsisted as hunters and gatherers, traveling during the spring and summer seasons, collecting foods for use during the winter months. They hunted wild game, fished the region's abundant and bountiful streams and rivers (primarily for salmon), and collected native plants and roots.

Buffalo served as the most significant source of food and raw material for the tribes. After the introduction of horses during the 1700s, hundreds of Idaho Indians of various tribal affiliations would ride into Montana on cooperative buffalo hunts. The last great hunt of this type occurred in 1864, signaling the end of a traditional way of life.

Fort Hall was established in 1834 as a trading post. It became a way station for settlers traveling along the Oregon and California trails that cut through tribal lands. Relations between the tribes and the Euro-American settlers were strained at best. In 1863 more than 200 Shoshones were massacred along the Bear River. The attack was led by volunteer soldiers from California, and it was one of the first and largest massacres of Native peoples west of the Mississippi River. In 1864 the government attempted to confine the tribes to a reservation with the Treaty of Soda Springs, but it failed to gain ratification. The Fort Hall Reservation was established for the tribes by an Executive Order in 1867. The 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger confirmed the agreement. This treaty established both the Fort Hall Reservation in Idaho and the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. The treaty stipulated the establishment of a separate reservation for the Bannock band, but the promises were breached and the band remained at Fort Hall with the Shoshones.

Although the tribes were initially permitted to leave reservation lands for summer hunting and gathering practices, settlers rallied against it, and the Bannock Wars of 1878 ensued. Tribal members participating in the conflict were returned to Fort Hall. The population of the reservation increased when other Northern Shoshone bands were forcibly moved to Fort Hall.

In 1888 the tribes were forced to cede over 1,800 acres of their 1.2 million-acre reservation to accommodate the development of the town of Pocatello located nearby. Around the turn of the century, Pocatello had grown so dramatically that the tribes were forced to agree to the cession of an additional 420,000 acres. For this they received approximately \$600,000. The bulk of the lands were made available to the public through a land rush, a competition of sorts where individuals and families staked claim on designated lands during a race. On June 17, 1902, 6,000 settlers took part in the "Day of the Run" land rush of the Shoshone-Bannock lands.

The 1887 Dawes Severalty Act initiated the allotment of the reservation. This process was completed by 1914, with over 347,000 acres having been distributed among 1,863 individual allotments between 1911 and 1913 alone. By the time allotment of the tribal lands was terminated, nearly 36,000 acres had been alienated from Native ownership through sales, patents in fee, or certificates of competency. Surplus lands were ceded to Pocatello or sold to non-Natives, thus creating the checkerboard pattern of land ownership that now exists within the reservation boundaries.

In 1907, the Lehmi Reservation for the Lehmi Band of Shoshones was terminated. Remaining families were relocated to Fort Hall. In 1936, the tribes approved a constitution and bylaws for self-government under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The tribes ratified a corporate charter in 1937. As of 1992, 96 percent of the Fort Hall Reservation was once again under Indian control, either through federal trust or ownership by individual tribal members.

In 2002, the tribe hosted the Native American 2002 Foundation, a division of the Advisory Committee for Arts and Cultures of the Salt Lake Organization Committee for the 2002 Winter Olympics. The foundation was comprised of representatives of Native nations throughout the country serving to advise the committee on historical, political, and cultural matters pertaining to the depiction of the indigenous people of the United States.

In November 2002, the tribe hosted the Tribal Sovereignty Summit. Co-hosts were the Shoshone Paiute tribes and the United Vision for Idaho. The summit served to educate attendants on the historical and contemporary status of the Native nations of Idaho.

GOVERNMENT

The tribes are organized under the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act, and they operate under a constitution approved on April 30, 1936. The charter was ratified the following year.

The tribe is governed by the Fort Hall Business Council. The council includes seven members elected by the general membership to two-year terms. It maintains authority over all normal business procedures, including the development of lands and resources, and all matters of self-government.

The tribes operate numerous governmental departments and programs. They include the administration, credit energy, education, employment and training, election board, emergency management and response, enrollment, finance, property management, fire, fish and wildlife, Head Start and early childhood, land alliance, land use, transportation, tribal construction, health human services, T.E.R.O., tribal planning, utilities, and water resources departments, among others.

The tribes maintain their own judicial system with a law and order commission providing oversight, a tribal courts system, an attorney's office, and a police department. The federal government maintains authority over crimes that fall under the Major Crimes Act. The tribes may share jurisdiction over such matters. The State of Idaho exercises jurisdiction, under PL-280, over civil and criminal matters on the reservation such as truancy, juvenile delinquency, child welfare, matters of mental illness, public assistance, domestic relations, and matters involving motor vehicles. The tribes maintain jurisdiction over issues of personal property, water rights, ownership of property, treaty rights, and tribal land rights. The tribes are in the process of developing a tribal justice center to house all branches of the judicial system.

ECONOMY

The tribal economy is supported in large part from revenue earned from leasing agricultural lands and from gaming. Right-of-way agreements also contribute to the general fund. A large portion of monies is earned through taxes imposed upon utilities conducting business on tribal lands.

Government as Employer. Through various governmental programs and tribal enterprises, the Shoshone-Bannock tribes employ over 1,100 tribal members and 153 non-Native individuals. The beadwork industry is the largest employer, with 400 tribal members working in that industry. The tribal government and gaming enterprises offer the next highest number of employment opportunities.

Economic Development Projects. The Tribal Enterprise Board, a separate corporation from the tribal council, serves as the conduit for tribal commercial development. It coordinates all tribal projects including federally funded programs.

The reorganization of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Economic Development Department resulted in the creation of the tribal planning department. A director was selected in 2001 and the existing staff was trained in the elements of planning. The primary goal of the planning department is to develop revisions to the tribe's comprehensive plan, which was first adopted in 1976. Other goals include providing technical support to tribal government departments, promoting economic development, and providing services to tribal members.

The tribes recently signed an agreement with Power County to work in cooperation toward economic development projects that will affect the tribes and the county. They hope to reach a similar agreement with Bingham County.

Additional projects being explored by the tribe include an RV park and the development of college credit courses in planning and management. The tribe also hopes to secure an agreement with the City of Pocatello and Power County to establish a foreign trade zone and an airfreight terminal at the Pocatello Airport.

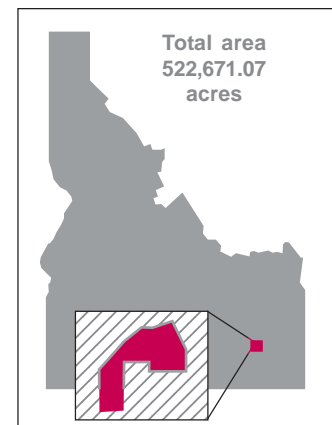
Agriculture and Livestock. Shoshone-Bannock Buffalo Enterprises manages a herd of over 250 head of buffalo. The herd grazes on the bluffs of the Fort Hall Bottoms and Cedar areas. Buffalo meat is sold at tribal stores and restaurants and donated to tribal functions. Buffalo robes are also sold, as are live buffalos. The tribes also authorize buffalo hunts for a fee. The Buffalo Enterprise Committee advises the tribe on management and marketing practices.

The reservation lies in the heart of Idaho's prime agriculture land; principal crops grown in the area are potatoes, small grain, and alfalfa. While the major portion of the tribe's nearly 100,000 acres of irrigated land is leased to outside farming interests, the tribe continues to operate about 2,000 acres on its own. The tribe currently receives about \$150 per acre of irrigated farmland that it leases and somewhat less for grazing land. In total, agriculture comprises one of the most significant sources of revenue on the reservation.

Forestry. The reservation contains relatively little in the way of forest, none of which is considered commercially viable.

Gaming. Shoshone-Bannock Gaming is located in Fort Hall at exit 80 on interstate Highway 15. It features 570 slots/VLTs, and high-stakes bingo, and it can hold up to 1,000 people. The building itself was constructed in 1992 as a multipurpose facility and thus serves as a venue for other community activities as well. The Bannock Peak Casino located on Interstate Highway 86 features 80 slot machines and one restaurant.

Fort Hall



Total labor force 2000 census
2,363

High school graduate or higher
2000 census
73.3%

Bachelor's degree or higher
2000 census
6.3%

Unemployment rate 2000 census
16.1%

Per capita income 2000 census
\$11,309

Fort Hall

Construction. The tribes own and operate a construction company that primarily employs tribal members. The company, founded during the 1970s and reactivated in 1992, does roadwork and builds commercial structures on the reservation.

Manufacturing. FMC/Astaris, a private, non-tribally owned company manufacturing phosphate-based products, was located on the reservation. The company closed its plant in 2001. Its plant site is now known as the Michaud Superfund Site. The tribes are taking a lead role in redeveloping this site.

Mining. The tribes possess right-of-way agreements with Northwest Pipeline, Williams Gas, and Idaho Power. These agreements generate income for the tribes. A non-Indian-owned phosphate mine that had been operating on the reservation since 1947 closed in 1993 due to diminishing recoverable reserves. This had been a source of significant employment for the tribe, and its closing has had a fairly severe impact.

Services and Retail. The tribes own a store, Indian Goods: The Corner Mercantile, located within the historic Fort Hall Trading Post. The store offers seed beads, cut beads, and traditionally tanned buckskin. It also sells handmade crafts, items for regalia, paintings, antique photographs, postcards, and music.

The Trading Post Grocery is located on the reservation and provides full supermarket services. It also contains a butcher shop that occasionally features buffalo meat from the tribe's herd. The grocery offers the largest, and lowest priced, tobacco products selection in the state of Idaho.

The Oregon Trail Restaurant serves buffalo stew, Indian tacos, and Indian fry bread in addition to traditional Euro-American foods.

The Trading Post Clothes Horse is a retail outlet and distribution center for craft work produced by the tribe. Clients can purchase hand-crafted and beaded moccasins, purses, bolo ties, belt buckles, hatbands, and jewelry as well as leather goods, porcupine quill work, and contemporary Native artwork. The store also sells books, jeans, shirts, and Pendleton brand clothing.

The Travel Plaza Fuel and Convenience store offers a full-service station that caters to travelers. Facilities include a lounge, shower facilities, office facilities, a restaurant, and grocery selection. It is located in the tribal enterprises complex off exit 80 on Interstate 15.

The Bannock Peak Fuel and Convenience store offers a full-service station as well as a deli and convenience store. It is located on Interstate 86.

The tribes maintain a number of businesses on the reservation. Among these are a small cabinet shop, an electrical contracting firm, a credit union, and a gas station and convenience store.

Media and Communications The tribes publish the *Sho-Ban News*, a weekly newspaper distributed nationwide and in several countries.

Tourism and Recreation. The tribes own the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Museum, located on the reservation. The museum was initially opened in 1985 but closed for a number of years. It reopened in 1993 with the assistance of volunteers. The museum houses photos and artifacts donated by community members. The gift shop offers hand-made beaded items and buckskin crafts as well as books, posters, T-shirts, caps, and calendars. The museum sponsors daily tours of the Oregon Trail Crossroads.

The tribes host the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Festival in early August. Activities include art shows, a youth powwow, rodeo events,

children's games, royalty competitions, traditional hand games, an NIAA softball tourney, a competitive powwow, and a parade. The Sho-Ban Golf Classic is held during the festival, as is the RMRIRA Rodeo. The tribes also host the Fort Bridger Treaty Day on July 3 to recognize the signing of the Fort Bridger Treaty.

Fort Hall Bottoms is a premier fishing ground that is located on the reservation. In addition to vast populations of fish, there are moose, elk, deer, wild horses, and buffalo in the area. The ecosystem at the Bottoms was in grave danger due to loss of vegetation, erosion of stream banks, warmer water temperature, and siltation in spawning gravels brought on by unrestricted grazing and rapid flooding. Restoration efforts have successfully revitalized the natural resources in this area. Fishing is permitted at the Bottoms with limited permits and adherence to strict regulations set forth by the tribes.

There are also historical sites of great interest near the reservation: the Old Fort Hall Monument at the original trading post site and The Oregon Trail.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Interstate 15 crosses the reservation north-south, while Highway 84/86 crosses in an east-west direction. The reservation is also crossed by the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad and a north-south line connecting to Montana and Utah.

The Pocatello Airport, located on reservation land that was alienated under the World War Two Powers Act, provides an all-weather instrument-certified runway for large commercial aircraft.

Electricity. Electricity is provided by Idaho Power Company.

Fuel. Natural gas is supplied by Intermountain Gas Company.

Water Supply. The Fort Hall Water and Sewer District supplies the reservation with water and sewer service in the form of a large lagoon located north of the Fort Hall town site. Because of agricultural chemical contamination of much of the reservation's groundwater, a domestic water supply system is being constructed to serve the core area of the reservation. Outlying residents rely on wells and septic tanks.

Transportation. The tribes have contracted with the BIA for their roads program, including planning, maintenance, and construction. The tribes maintain a number of school buses to transport students to schools within the tribal school district. Commercial air service is available at the Pocatello Municipal Airport on the reservation. Commercial bus lines also serve the reservation directly, as do the Union Pacific Railroad and numerous truck lines.

Telecommunications. A site on Ferry Butte, north of Fort Hall, commanding a 50-mile radius, is leased out to communications service providers and is used for police, fire, and public safety communications.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The tribes maintain a Human Resource Center, a Tribal Business Center, and a Multipurpose Center for various tribal activities and meetings.

Education. Students attend schools on the reservation that are operated under the tribal school district. A new high school was built in 1992.

Health Care. The Indian Health Service runs a large health clinic at Fort Hall, and there are hospitals in Pocatello and Blackfoot. Traditional healing medicines and ceremonies continue to be honored by many tribal members. Medicine persons are still consulted and often collaborate with Euro-American medical practitioners to treat Native patients.

Fort Hall



TRI-ID-010



TRI-ID-013



TRI-ID-012



TRI-ID-011



TRI-ID-014



TRI-ID-015

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The tribes participate in the Snake River Sockeye Salmon Enhancement Program. The program aims to restock the river and Redfish Lake with the endangered sockeye salmon. The installation of dams along the river has reduced the salmon's ability to return to the lake to spawn, thus creating a vast reduction in population. The tribes support breaching the dams to restore the natural ecosystem.

In 2002, the tribes initiated a research project in their agricultural enterprises. The Alternative Potato Rotation Technique uses radish and mustard crops to fertilize the soil in potato fields. The hope is that the technique will reduce the amount of pesticides required to grow potato crops, thus reducing the amount of chemi-

cals being absorbed into the soil and making the potatoes safer for human consumption.

Natural Resources. In 1998, the Fort Hall Indian Mineral Resources Agreement was finalized. The agreement recognizes the tribes' water claims to the Snake River Basin in Idaho. This includes the natural flow, groundwater, and federal contract storage water. The agreement further stipulates access to storage water in American Falls Reservoir and access to a specific amount of storage water in the Blackfoot Reservoir and Grays Lake to maintain and improve regional ecosystems. The tribes received funds for water management, grazing rights, enhancing the Fort Hall Irrigation Project, and BIA purchase of lands.

TRI-ID-010 Shoshone Bannock Junior-Senior High School

TRI-ID-013 Trading Post "Clothes Horse" off Highway 15

TRI-ID-012 Covered walkway -Playground at Day Care/Early Childhood Center

TRI-ID-011 Day Care/Early Childhood Center Building

TRI-ID-014 Fort Hall Rodeo Grounds

TRI-ID-015 Front entrance, Shoshone Bannock Gaming Casino

Kootenai

Kootenai Reservation
Federal reservation
Kootenai
Kootenai Boundary County,
Idaho

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
 County Road 38A
 P.O. Box 1269
 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805
 208-267-3519
 208-267-2960 Fax

Total area *(BIA realty, 2004)*
1,974.77 acres

Tribally owned *(BIA realty, 2004)*
72.66 acres

Individually owned
(BIA realty, 2004)
1,902.11

Population 2000 census
71

Tribal enrollment
(Tribal source, 2004)
165

Tribal enrollment
(BIA labor report, 2001)
121

Total labor force 2000 census
32

Total labor force
(BIA labor report, 2001)
289

High school graduate or higher
2000 census
90.7%

Bachelor's degree or higher
2000 census
20.9%

Unemployment rate
2000 census
3.13%

Unemployment rate
(BIA labor report, 2001)
11%

Per capita income 2000 census
\$16,291

LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Kootenai Reservation is located in the northern tip of the Idaho panhandle, about 30 miles from the Canadian border. The reservation has 250 acres in federal trust, with approximately 2,000 additional acres allotted to individual tribal members. The Kootenais refused to participate in the 1855 Hellgate Council called by Washington Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens. Throughout the next decade, the tribe resisted all attempts to move it to the Flathead Reservation in Montana. In the early 1900s, the federal government finally set aside 8,000 acres for the Kootenais, with each recognized tribal member receiving a plot of 160 acres. Having little experience with farming, however, most tribal members failed to cultivate the land, and the majority of it was eventually leased to white settlers. Today, the Kootenais still have a very small community land base, consisting of little more than the tract upon which their tribal headquarters, community center, and a tribal housing project are situated.

CLIMATE

Annual rainfall on the Kootenai Reservation is 24.5 inches. The average temperatures range between 26°F and 68°F.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho is one of six bands of the greater Kootenai Nation. Aside from the Idaho band, the Kootenai people may be found in British Columbia and northwestern Montana. The Kootenais traditionally relied on the region's rivers, lakes, prairies, and mountain forests for their sustenance.

Fur traders were the first Euro-Americans to appear on Kootenai lands, arriving in the 1830s. Within a decade, Jesuit missionaries began arriving, and shortly thereafter, homesteaders began to appear, crossing through or settling on Kootenai lands.

The ambitious Washington territorial governor, Isaac Stevens, was determined to open the Northwest to the railroad and agricultural development. This ambition spurred him to call for the 1855 Council at Hellgate, Montana. At the council, Stevens offered reserved lands and protection from further encroachment to the various bands of Salish and Kootenai in attendance. Several of the bands agreed and were placed on the Flathead Reservation, but the Idaho Kootenais had refused to even participate in or attend the council.

After losing its land to allotment, the tribe was dealt a further series of blows. First, in 1930 the Grand Coulee Dam was constructed, destroying the salmon runs upon which the tribe had depended for centuries. Then in the 1940s, non-Indian landowners refused to allow the tribe to work its traditional fishing areas along the Kootenai River. The third strike came later in that decade when the Idaho Department of Fish and Game forbade the Kootenais to hunt in their traditional areas. This decision was revised three decades later when in 1976 the Idaho Supreme Court ruled that the Hellgate Treaty of 1855 guaranteed the tribe's hunting rights on state and federal lands. In 1947, the tribe established its own government, though they had essentially no land base. In 1974, after decades of frustration, the tribe declared war on the U.S. government in an attempt to force the BIA to fulfill its trust responsibilities and provide a reservation. Tribal members turned the road through the minuscule reservation into a toll road, charging vehicles 10 cents each, and demanded that the U.S.

enter negotiations with them. Hostilities ceased when the tribe received assurances that negotiations would be forthcoming. The federal government finally fulfilled their obligations and deeded the tribe 12.5 acres.

Today the tribe is actively engaged in preserving its traditions and heritage, which have been so integral to its survival. Elders continue to speak the Native language, with some informal teaching it to the young people. The Kootenais remain a small, tenacious band that continues to hold fast to its sovereignty and pursue its goal of expanding its land base.

GOVERNMENT

Historically, the Kootenai Tribe was governed by a hereditary chief. The tribe's existing constitution was ratified on July 16, 1947, and structured according to the provisions of the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act, which established the tribal council as the tribe's governing body. The five-member tribal council consists of a chief (elected for life), and a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer, all elected to staggered three-year terms. The general membership meets annually, while the tribal council meets weekly or as needed. Voting membership can legislate by initiative or referendum. The tribal government oversees health, housing, job training, environmental, fish and wildlife, health, and education programs for the Kootenai people.

The Kootenai Tribe has its own tribal court, which is overseen by the tribal council. The tribal court has exclusive jurisdiction over all judicial matters occurring on the reservation involving Indians and non-Indians to the full extent allowed by federal law.

ECONOMY

Tribal government, agriculture, gaming, and tourism are the major components of the Kootenai economy. The tribe is actively pursuing additional economic development projects and tax incentive programs to attract new industries to the reservation.

Government as Employer. The numerous departments and programs of the Kootenai tribal government provide employment opportunities for approximately 32 tribal members. Four people are employed by the environmental program and eight are employed in the administration and finance division.

Economic Development Projects. The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho is a member of the Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area. A USDA project, the RC&D program facilitates community involvement in resolving environmental and economic problems. To date, over 300 projects have been completed in the area, with the emphasis shifting from traditional conservation practices to extensive involvement in rural economic development.

Agriculture and Livestock. Most of the 250 acres of tribal lands are under agricultural use, primarily in wheat and barley cultivation. Additionally, a number of individual tribal members lease land to outside agricultural interests. The tribe realizes approximately \$20,000 annually from agriculture.

Forestry. There is a fair amount of forested acreage on tribally affiliated land, though very little is presently under commercial development.

Kootenai

Gaming. The tribe's Kootenai River Inn and Casino is a 30,000-square-foot resort, with a class II and class III gaming facility. The casino features over 400 slot machines, a 250-seat bingo hall, a restaurant, and a hotel. There are several small retail and service establishments at the Kootenai River Inn and Casino resort. The Best Western Motel franchise has 65 hotel rooms and houses the Springs Restaurant, a 24-hour deli, a video arcade, and a recreation facility featuring an indoor/outdoor swimming pool, an exercise room, a sauna, and a Jacuzzi. The facility is currently under renovation and will include a spa facility including four massage rooms, a flow-through tub, facials, manicures, pedicures, and a hair salon. The Kootenai River Inn and Casino is situated on the scenic Kootenai River in Bonners Ferry and does a thriving, though largely seasonal, business.

The Kootenai River Inn and Casino employs approximately 160 people. Revenue from the casino has funded the development of the tribal medical center, scholarships for tribal members, various tribal programs, and generous donations to the local schools in the district.

Fisheries. The tribal hatchery is co-managing a project with the Idaho Fish and Gaming Department designed to repopulate the Kootenai River with sturgeon, a fish of spiritual significance to the tribe. The project employs about six tribal members and six non-Indians. Other divisions of the tribe's fish and wildlife program include: improving the Kootenai River ecosystem, the wildlife mitigation project, wetland conservation, and Trout Creek biological assessment.

Construction. A number of tribal members find employment through the construction industry. The tribal government has successfully created construction jobs for its members through development projects like the Kootenai River Inn.

Tourism and Recreation. The Bonners Ferry region is extremely popular with outdoors enthusiasts year round, featuring excellent hiking, boating, fishing, swimming, skiing, snowmobiling, mountain climbing, and more.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The primary road access to the reservation is provided by Highway 95 (running north-south) and Highway 2 (running east-west).

Electricity. The Northern Lights Power Company provides electricity to the area.

Water Supply. The Bonners Ferry municipal system supplies water. The reservation's lagoon and individual septic tanks provide wastewater service.

Transportation. The nearest commercial air service may be found at the Coeur D'Alene municipal airport, 90 miles away, and at the Spokane International Airport, about 120 miles distant. Additionally, there is a small private airport in Bonners Ferry. Commercial truck, bus, and rail freight lines serve Bonners Ferry, while Amtrak passenger rail service is available 30 miles south of the reservation.

The Kootenai Tribe provides a 24-hour transportation service for elderly tribal members.

Telecommunications. AT&T provides local telephone service.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

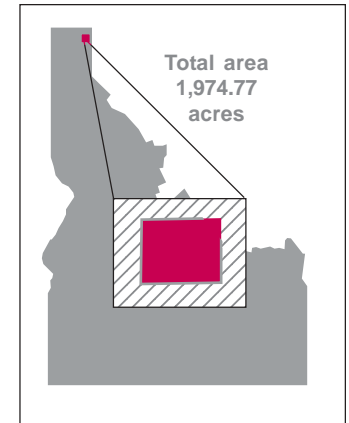
The tribe maintains a community center at its tribal headquarters, three miles west of Bonners Ferry.

Education. The Kootenai Tribal School serves about 36 students in grades K-12. The school has a staff of three teachers, a counselor, a teacher's aide, a language teacher, a general assistant, a cultural teacher, and an administrator. Tribal elders often volunteer to lead classes in the Kootenai language. Students may also attend the local public school system.

Health Care. The tribe owns and operates the Kootenai Tribal Clinic, located at tribal headquarters. The facility has a physician, a nurse practitioner, a community health representative, and a mental health counselor as well as two contract administrative health employees. These positions are direct tribal hires. A public health nurse also provides services once a month. Community health services include a well child program, diabetes, woman's health, and an immunization program as well as mental health counseling. The clinic also provides transportation and billing assistance. For health care services not provided by the clinic, tribal members are referred to outside providers in the surrounding area whose services are covered by contract health. The clinic includes two exam rooms, a laboratory, four business offices, a medical records room, and a reception lobby area covering approximately 720 square feet.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The tribe maintains an environmental program that monitors air and water quality on tribal lands. The program has a staff of six. The program also assists in improving water quality for the Kootenai River, located within the tribe's ancestral lands. The tribe's environmental department also includes an environmental health program. The Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation and Development Area projects include fuel for schools, community forestry assistance, noxious weed control efforts, a seedling and seed bank program, and a forestry assistance directory.



Nez Perce

Nez Perce Reservation
Federal reservation
Nez Perce
Nez Perce, Clearwater, Idaho,
Latah, and Lewis counties,
Idaho

Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho
P.O. Box 305
Lapwai, ID 83540-0305
208-843-2253
208-843-7354 Fax
nezperce.org

Total area (BIA realty, 2004)
108,534.78 acres

Total area (Tribal source, 2004)
770,453 acres

Tribally owned (BIA realty, 2004)
42,767.84 acres

Individually owned
(BIA realty, 2004)
46,268.49 acres

Federal trust (BIA realty, 2004)
19,489.45 acres

Individual-Indian trust lands
(Tribal source, 2004)
46,250 acres

Tribal trust lands
(Tribal source, 2004)
43,106 acres

Tribal fee lands
(Tribal source, 2004)
11,365 acres

Fee title lands
(Tribal source, 2004)
643,565 acres

Tribal fee land
outside reservation
(Tribal source, 2004)
44,293 acres

LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Nez Perce Reservation is located in north-central Idaho and encompasses five counties. Several small towns are located within the boundaries of the reservation: Lapwai, on the reservation's western edge, serves as the tribal headquarters and is home to the largest population of tribal members. Kamiah, on the reservation's eastern boundary, contains the second-highest concentration of tribal members and provides social services through the Wa A'Yas Community Building. Other towns within the reservation are predominantly non-Indian.

The Treaty of June 11, 1855, established a reservation of some 7.5 million acres. However, the United States reduced the size of the Nez Perce Reservation to 750,000 acres in 1863 after the discovery of gold in the region. An additional 542,000 acres were lost to individual and non-Native ownership as a direct result of the Allotment Act of 1877. Today about 12 percent of the land within the reservation is owned by the Nez Perce Tribe or tribal members. The Nez Perce Tribe is currently raising funds to acquire 60 acres of land in Wallowa County, Oregon. The lands are the site of a proposed housing development adjacent to Old Chief Joseph Cemetery. The area is known to contain at least two archeological finds and is of great cultural and historical importance to the tribe.

CLIMATE

The reservation experiences an average temperature of 43°F. The annual rainfall averages 21.6 inches, and snowfall 61 inches.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Nimiipuu originated in the northwest region of the United States. Their ancestral homelands encompassed present-day north-central Idaho, northeastern Oregon, and southeastern Washington. Carbon dating of village sites along the Snake River and its tributaries indicates that the Nimiipuu occupied these regions as long as 11,000 years ago. There are indications of even older settlements. The Nimiipuu encountered the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805. Translators from that group identified the people as Nez Perce, or "pierced nose" (French). The assignment of this term to the Nimiipuu is not clear as the tribe did not practice nose piercing. However, the name was accepted and the tribe became known as the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho.

In the early nineteenth century, the tribe participated in the fur trade with both Great Britain and America. As more and more settlers began to encroach upon the region, the tension between the Native population and the Euro-American newcomers escalated into violent conflicts. In June 1855 the Nez Perce agreed to cede several million acres to the United States in return for an approximate 7.5 million-acre reservation. In 1863 a new treaty was signed mandating a reduction in the tribe's lands to just 750,000 acres. Often called the "steal treaty", it stripped the Nez Perce of the Wallowa and Imnaha valleys and the land at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers, the site of the present-day towns of Lewiston and Clarkston. A number of Nez Perce bands refused to sign the treaty, including the Wallowa Valley Band led by Chief Joseph. A war ensued and resulted in the eventual surrender of the Nez Perce in 1877. Members of the Wallowa Band, among others, retreated north to Canada for a period of four months. Upon their return, the Nez Perce were confined to the new reservation lands. The reservation was further reduced by the

effects of the Allotment Act of 1877. In 1893, the federal government opened all non-allotted Nez Perce lands to the public. These actions resulted in the loss of 542,000 acres of tribal lands. In 1948, the tribe became a self-governing Nation under an adopted constitution and bylaws. As with many other tribes, the Nez Perce have experienced a cultural renaissance during the past half century. A revival of traditional arts and crafts, dance, and religion has been ongoing since the 1940s. Today, the Nez Perce are involved in writing their own history and reviving the Nez Perce language.

GOVERNMENT

The Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, a nine-member body elected at large, manages economic development, tribal social service programs, natural resources, and tribal investments. Committee members serve three-year terms, with elections occurring annually. The tribe did not accept the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and is a self-governing nation. The current constitution and bylaws were adopted on April 2, 1948.

The Nez Perce Tribal Court is involved in implementing and activating laws as set out in the Law and Order Code. The court maintains jurisdiction over most criminal, civil, juvenile, and domestic matters within the reservation. A part-time public defender provides services for tribal members in adult criminal matters, as well as for a few juvenile cases. The University of Idaho provides legal aid interns to practice in the Nez Perce Tribal Court. They provide representation in criminal and juvenile matters. Both of these services are provided at no cost to the clients.

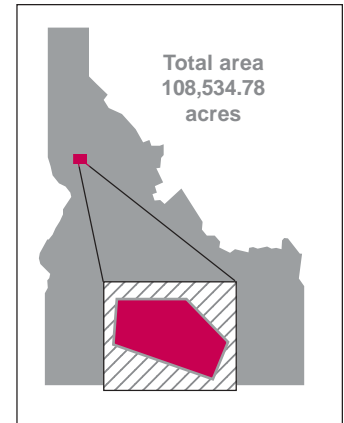
The Nez Perce Tribe has numerous governmental departments and programs. They include human resources, law and order, youth affairs, land commission, budget and finance/credit, natural resources, the court system, enterprise system, and office of the prosecutor, law enforcement, executive direction, and office of legal counsel. The tribe also has the following boards and authorities and, commissions: TERO Commission, NPT Housing Authority, utility board, gaming commission, NMP Health Authority, enterprise board, F&W Commission, LCBC Advisory Committee, foundation board, and retirement board.

The Lewis and Clark Program of the tribal government serves to represent the tribe during the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Bicentennial Commemoration between 2003 - 2006. The program works with other tribal, federal, and state agencies to provide accurate and appropriate information about the Nez Perce Tribe and to protect the cultural properties of the tribe in this matter. Projects within the program include oral history and Native traditions, archaeology and historic preservation, ERWM cultural resources, the Nimiipuu language, archival, and the Lapwai Arts Council.

ECONOMY

The tribe's economy is sustained by revenue earned through its many businesses. Enterprises of the tribe include Nez Perce Tribal Gaming, the Nez Perce Express Store, Aht'wy Plaza RV Park, and the Nez Perce Forest Products. The Nez Perce tribal government contributes greatly to the economy of the reservation as well. The government employs over 1,000 individuals throughout the various tribal businesses and services. Over 700 people are employed by governmental departments and programs.

Nez Perce



Government as Employer. The Nez Perce Tribe employs a total of 1,145 employees in its tribal government and various enterprises. Of this number, 526 are tribal members, 501 are non-tribal and 118 are from other tribes. The tribal government employs 742 persons.

Economic Development Projects. The Nez Perce Department of Economic and Community Development Program provides management of economic, community, and transportation planning for the tribe. Some current projects of the department include an annual update of the Comprehensive Economic Strategy (CEDS), development of a tourism plan, and development of funding sources for small business on the reservation. This program also investigates new business development such as industrial parks, natural resource development, added-value businesses, and related private business development.

The Aht'way Commercial Plaza is under construction near Lewiston, Idaho. The tribe is also considering a proposal to establish a polyethylene plastics recycling plant on or near the reservation.

Agriculture and Livestock. The tribe cultivates 37,639 acres of reservation land; wheat is the major crop. Other crops include barley, dry peas, lentils, canola, bluegrass seed, alfalfa, and hay. The tribe also raises some cattle.

The tribe's herd of horses produces an Appaloosa - Akahl-Teke cross. The tribe hopes that through the breeding process, it will reestablish its line of horses that dominated the tribal herds prior to American contact in 1806. The Nez Perce horse program is administered by the Nez Perce Tribe. The program teaches tribal youth ages 14 - 21 about horsemanship, management practices, and economic opportunities available in the horse industry.

Forestry. The Nez Perce Forest Resource Management Program manages 40,203 acres of tribally owned timberland, harvesting approximately 7,000 MBF annually on a sustained-yield basis. The forest is primarily composed of mixed conifers. The Nez Perce Forest Products Enterprise conducts harvesting, marketing, and replanting of tribally owned timber.

Gaming. The Clearwater River Casino is located in Lewiston. It is an 18,000-square-foot facility that features video lottery machines, bingo, and over 400 video terminals. Amenities include a grille, a gift shop, and an adjacent RV park. The It'Se-Ye-Ye Bingo and Casino is located in Kamiah. It offers over 100 video lottery machines and electronic bingo. Combined, the casinos employ approximately 250 individuals. The average net revenue is between \$2 and \$3 million. The tribe infuses the funds into the general budget, economic development projects, and services for tribal members. The revenue is also used to donate sums to local police and fire services, charitable organizations, and local schools. Although the tribe has encountered some legal issues concerning electronic gaming machines, it is moving forward with plans for expanding the gaming facilities.

Fisheries. The tribe's department of fisheries resources management is an extensive program that is responsible for the restoration and recovery of watershed environments and fish populations. It works to ensure that the harvest and conservation actions taken by any tribal or non-tribal entity comply with all tribal laws and regulations. The department currently oversees 17 watershed projects. The tribe manages three tribal fish hatcheries, site management, fish recovery, and restoration plans.

Mining. The tribe is currently studying the feasibility of re-opening the Mission Creek Quarry and developing a new mining and basalt plan to improve efficiency at the quarry. Early studies indicate a high quality limestone and basalt deposit on the reservation.

Services and Retail. The Nez Perce Express Enterprise includes one full service convenience store. The Express II is a 5,400-square-foot store that offers tobacco products, a full deli, groceries, gift selections, automotive supplies, housewares, and bakery items. The store has recently added petroleum products for tribal programs and the general public.

Tourism and Recreation. The tribe hopes to expand its involvement in the local tourism and recreation market. Currently the Nez Perce National Park, partially located on tribal land, attracts over 36,000 visitors annually. The tribe is presently developing a brochure that will present tribal stories about rock formations on the Snake, Clearwater, and Columbia rivers to tourists and will serve as a reservation road map for visitors. The Nez Perce Reservation lies in the proximity of several outdoor recreational areas, including Hell's Canyon, Clearwater River, Clearwater National Forest, and the Nez Perce National Forest. Five Idaho state parks are also located near the reservation. The Aht'way Plaza RV Park has 33 hook-ups, 10 dry camps, 15 tent sites, restrooms and shower facilities, a coin-operated laundry, vending machines, a heated pool, and a picnic area. It is located within walking distance of the casino.

The tribe participates in the operation of the Nez Perce Cultural Museum at Spalding, Idaho where Nez Perce artisans sell cornhusk weaving, jewelry, and other crafts.

INFRASTRUCTURE

U.S. Highways 12 and 95 run through the reservation.

Electricity. Electricity is provided to the reservation by Washington Water Power and Clearwater Power.

Fuel. Natural gas service is available through Washington Water Power.

Water Supply. Groundwater wells provide water.

Transportation. Commercial airlines serve Lewiston Airport, located in Lewiston. Several truck lines service the area via Lewiston, including United Parcel Service, Pony Express, Federal Express, Quick Delivery, Broadway Package Service, and Viking. Camas Prairie, Union Pacific, and Burlington Northern railway services are available in Lewiston. Several freight barge companies operate out of the Port of Lewiston, including Lewiston Tidewater Barge Lines, Brix Maritime, and Gem Chip Trading Company. Nez Perce Municipal Airport serves Nez Perce and Lewis counties. It is owned by the City of Nez Perce. The paved runway extends for 2,000 feet. The facility is at an elevation of 3,201 feet at a distance of about a mile or less from Nez Perce.

Telecommunications. The reservation is served by U.S. West Communications and Northwest Communications.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The Nez Perce Tribe Teweepuu Community Center and the Wa-a'yas Community Center provide recreation, sports, and educational and cultural activities for tribal members. The Teweepuu Center served as the host to the Governor's Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Trail Committee meeting. The Wa-a'yas Center sponsors the annual Turkey Shootout, Community Christmas Dinner, and ECHDP Powwow. The Pi Nee Waus Community Center serves as the host for the annual Halloween party

Population 2000 census
17,959

Tribal enrollment (Tribal sources)
3,872

Total labor force 2000 census
7,737

High school graduate or higher
2000 census
81.6%

Bachelor's degree or higher
2000 census
14%

Unemployment rate 2000 census
9.2%

Unemployment rate
(BIA labor report, 2001)
64%

Unemployment rate
(Tribal sources)
39%

Per capita income
(Tribal sources)
\$21,620

Nez Perce



TRI-ID-006



TRI-ID-007



TRI-ID-009



TRI-ID-016



TRI-ID-008

TRI-ID-007 Directional sign to: PI-NEE-WAUS Community Center & Tribal Headquarters

TRI-ID-009 The Nez Perce Tribe Horse Registry's logo painted on horse barn

TRI-ID-016 Limestone Compound Young Horsemen Bicentennial

TRI-ID-008 Registered Appaloosa Stallion

TRI-ID-006 Nez Perce Housing Authority Sign

and activities in the summer for the youth. They also facilitate numerous events, such as tournaments, Christmas dinners, powwows, and employee fitness.

In 2003 the tribe established the Nez Perce Tribal Children's Trust Fund. The organization provides funding for the Nez Perce Tribal Children's Home and Advocacy Center, Child Protection Services, Foster Care Placement, supportive services, and youth development programs. Future programs will include internships and college scholarships for specific social service needs. The tribe's hope is that the trust fund will become a self-sustaining children's service program that will exist indefinitely to serve the needs of tribal youth.

The tribe offers the Students for Success program to tribal youth. The program aims to provide participants with the personal strength and ability to achieve educational, career, and personal goals. The program provides educational and support services toward the prevention of substance abuse and HIV. The program is a recipient of the Drug-free Communities Support Program Grant, the HIV Prevention Grant, and the Spirit of Eagles Grant, the Increase Resiliency and Development Assists in our tribal Youth to Prevent, Reduce or Delay Onset of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) use for Native American youth, age 9-18. The infusion of cultural practices and knowledge is the main strategy of the program. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lewis Clark Valley provide recreational and after-school activities for community youth. The program is located on the reservation in Lapwai at its Lapwai Club unit, which features a 10,300-square-foot facility with gymnasium, technology center, arts and crafts, and teen center.

Education. There are five public schools, a tribal Head Start program, and the Nez Perce Tribal Employment and Training Department on the reservation. The tribe provides financial assistance to students seeking postsecondary and vocational education. The tribe offers instructional classes in the indigenous language and a cultural camp for children between the ages of 4 and 12 years.

Health Care. Under the provision of PL 93-638 in 1997, the tribe assumed operation of the Nimiipuu health programs, which

include health clinics in Lapwai and Kamiah. Both clinics are ambulatory facilities that offer medical, pharmacy, lab and X-ray, dental, behavioral health, and community health services. Offices for behavioral health and community health services are located at separate sites.

The tribe is in the process of building a 42,000-square-foot facility that will put all health programs under one roof. Under the Self-Governance Compact of 2002, the tribe has gained greater autonomy, allowing it the ability to reallocate funds to best suit the needs of its population. The tribe also has better access to other sources of funding such as grants for program expansion and construction. Health care is also available at St. Joseph's and Tri-State hospitals in Lewiston

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The tribe has been the leading force in the statewide recovery of the endangered Idaho gray wolf. The program is headed by the tribe's wildlife program. The tribe is working to reestablish the gray wolf population in a 13,000,000-acre area in central Idaho. Operations of the program include monitoring the wolf population, providing public education, population management and control, and research. In 2000 the project received the Honoring Nations/Ford Foundation Award administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. In 1999, the tribe began the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with local and state officials to address the issue of illegal dumping on tribal lands. Illegal dumping by non-tribal entities has become a serious issue on the reservation.

The tribe is also involved in the management of its surface and groundwater sources, resources to which the tribe's rights have been reserved by treaties with the federal government. The U.S. EPA awarded the tribe a grant in order to develop a wetland management, restoration, enhancement and protection program. The methodology will establish a process by which wetlands will be identified for preservation activity in order to restore a watershed level and facilitate the total maximum daily load implementation.

Honoring Nations Honoree 1999

Idaho Gray Wolf Recovery Wildlife Program, Nez Perce Tribe

In 1995 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) resolved to reintroduce gray wolves to their traditional habitat in the northern Rocky Mountains. State governments are the Fish and Wildlife Service's traditional partners in such efforts, but giving substance to local opinion, the governments of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming declined to participate in the wolf recovery program. USFWS remained committed to working with the states in the future, but their present non-participation created a vacuum-the Service needed to find an alternate partner to take responsibility for implementation.

The Nez Perce Tribe (headquartered in Lapwai, Idaho) was one possibility. Many of the Tribe's members were in favor of wolf reintroduction, and the Tribe itself had sought and gained the right to participate in an earlier stage of the recovery program, the drafting of the environmental impact statement. Yet the Tribe's leaders knew that further involvement would require both technical capacity and political courage. The implementation agent would have to be able to monitor and manage the wolf population across a vast, rugged, and largely roadless wilderness area encompassing nearly 13 million acres of central Idaho. And, management would have to occur in the face of strong opposition from powerful rancher and hunter organizations and from states rights advocates. Professional wildlife staff, access to appropriate equipment, and a willingness to be "wolf ambassadors" would be vital components of any implementation plan.

Instead of tackling these challenges independently, the Nez Perce Tribe had hoped to partner with the State of Idaho in the recovery effort. With that possibility no longer available, the Nez Perce became determined to gain the opportunity to manage wolf recovery themselves. To that end, they entered into partnership talks with the USFWS-but they did so with forethought and strategy. In particular, the Tribe's Executive Committee believed their staff's experience with other recovery efforts would give them expertise on the technical aspects of the wolf recovery, and they chose to view the political situation as an opportunity to strengthen external relationships. Several concrete steps followed: the Tribe signed a cooperative agreement with the USFWS, developed a Gray Wolf Recovery and Management Plan for Idaho, and gained approval of that plan from the USFWS.

While the USFWS retains ultimate responsibility for wolf recovery, the Nez Perce plan adopts an innovative team approach to accomplish the program's four key tasks-monitoring, wolf management and control, research, and education and outreach. The Tribe is primarily responsible for monitoring the wolves. Tribal biologists gather data about the wolves' movements, food habits, habitat use, and reproductive success. Wolf management and control is a team responsibility. Wildlife Services, a Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, is under the direction of the USFWS to determine if depredations on livestock are caused by wolves. After verification, tribal biologists capture and relocate the wolves to which attacks have been attributed. The USFWS handles law enforcement, addresses policy issues, and when necessary, authorizes lethal control measures. Research and education and outreach are conducted by an even larger group of program cooperators. The Tribe, federal agencies, special interest groups, and affected parties together conduct research and address public concerns about the effects of wolves on livestock and game populations.

After only four and a half years of implementation, the Program is a success on all fronts. From the standpoint of biology, the packs are healthy, and because the number of breeding pairs in Idaho has reached the target level, talks are underway to start the next phase of the reintroduction process-delisting.

The Tribe also has adeptly addressed the political sensitivities of wolf recovery. Through an effective combination of outreach, communication, and coalition building, the Tribe's recovery program has been able to make substantial progress in responding to livestock producers' concerns. In its work with these and other stakeholders, the Tribe has effectively coupled a neutral political position with an active commitment to answer concerns, develop solutions, and defuse conflicts-an accomplishment that has won the Nez Perce respect in many circles. Similarly, in its work with the general public, the Tribe's goal has been to educate and assuage concerns. For example, the Tribe works with the Wolf Education and Research Center, a non-profit outreach organization, to provide a broad dissemination of information about wolves, the reintroduction program, and the Nez Perce role in the wolf recovery.

Cultural benefits are another measure of the Recovery Program's successes. Being Nez Perce entails respecting and celebrating wolves, and in the future, it will even mean harvesting wolves. This aspect of Nez Perce culture had languished as local populations of wolves disappeared, but it has been refreshed through wolf reintroduction. Today, wolf legends that had been sequestered within families are shared widely in the Tribe, baby naming ceremonies include wolf names, and dancers are once again using wolf pelts as part of their regalia.

Finally, and significantly, the Gray Wolf Recovery Program has been a success in terms of tribal self-determination and tribal sovereignty. The Nez Perce were able to make a credible offer to implement wolf recovery because of the expertise, track record, and reputation the Tribe had earned in earlier wildlife management efforts. Just as these investments in institutional effectiveness and technical capacity enabled the Nez Perce to seize an opportunity for increased self-determination, its effective management of wolf recovery is now opening even more doors-proof that good governance and enhanced self-determination go hand-in-hand. The Tribe's entrepreneurial involvement in wildlife management has similarly increased tribal sovereignty. The Wolf Recovery Plan gives the Tribe a new measure of responsibility over off-reservation treaty lands (on which Indian jurisdiction is otherwise limited) and promotes sovereign, government-to-citizen or government-to-government relationships between the Tribe and private land owners, the State of Idaho, and other governmental entities.

Today the Nez Perce people draw parallels between the wolves' fate and their own. Both were deprived of habitat necessary for their traditional means of support, and both were systematically driven off their land at a great cost of life. Thus, it is not surprising that the wolf recovery is intertwined in many tribal members' minds with Nez Perce survival and resurgence. The Wolf Recovery Program is an exercise in effective tribal administration, but it is also an investment in culture, community, and nationhood.



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