

## FUND DISTRIBUTION PROCESS

**Program:** Invasive Species

**Type of Funding:** Non Recurring – Proposal/Project Based

**Funding Authority/Responsibility:** 25 U.S.C. 13 (The Snyder Act of November 2, 1921), 42 Stat. 208, Pub.L. 67-85; 90 Stat. 2233, Pub.L. 94-48 25 U.S.C. 450 (The Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act), 88 Stat. 2203, Pub.L. 93-638, Pub.L. 100-472; 102 Stat. 2285, Pub.L. 103-413.2; 16 U.S.C. §4701, National Invasive Species Act of 1996

The Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Trust Services (OTS) has responsibility for this funding.

**Criteria for Distribution:**

Regional Biologists, Agriculture Rangeland Managers and Regional Weed Controllers assess projects aligned by criteria and identify distribution.

Funding criteria emphasizes cooperative and integrated weed management, local priority species, and Early Detection/Rapid Response.

**Noxious Weeds:**

The program provides and supports weed awareness training and research into biological control.

Regional weed coordinators work to increase the number of tribes implementing noxious weed management programs and to boost participation in cooperative weed management organizations. The Program also encourages completion of dedicated noxious weed inventories in order to increase the number of reservations with current noxious weed inventory data needed to support weed management planning and control decisions.

Impacts from invasive species occur primarily at a landscape level, and program efforts emphasize support for projects that increase tribal participation in cooperative, stakeholder-driven planning and management efforts to help ensure that tribal issues and solutions become part of resulting management strategies.

Requires a 50% match of funding by recipient.

**Invasive Plants/Animals:**

Funds for this component of the Invasive Species (IS) program protects important tribal resources such as fisheries, wildlife, clean water, healthy ecosystems, and forest health, by providing tribes with funding to address invasive species issues on a landscape level. Successful applications focus on the management/control of invasive species on tribal trust lands, individual Indian allotment lands, or in areas managed by tribes through treaties or agreements. This Program emphasizes damage caused to Tribal Trust Resources and leaves it up to the applicant to describe whether the species is “invasive” or represents an instance where a native species is behaving as an invasive species due to altered environmental conditions. This funding can cover all invasive species (plants/animals) outside of agricultural settings.

All projects should focus on alleviating or preventing IS impacts on tribal natural resources. Eligible projects will be ranked according to the degree they meet the following criteria:

- The extent to which collaboration with other partners has been investigated/pursued;
- The extent to which a proposal provides the most cost effective means of controlling or managing IS;
- The extent to which a project is self-sustaining; requiring little, if any, future funding for operations/ongoing management;
- The extent to which a management plan attempts to eradicate the IS, reduce the IS to the lowest level possible, or prevent the invasion of IS;
- The degree of benefit to native species and other tribal natural resources;
- The degree of benefit to tribally important species and/or habitats that are listed in official and approved tribal documents, management plans, or Tribal Resolutions;
- The degree to which the project meets the goals/objectives/requirements of approved tribal or federal/state planning documents;
- The extent to which the proposal demonstrates an awareness and ability to achieve environmental compliance (NEPA, ESA) and other permitting requirements;
- The degree of cost-sharing and partnerships (include letter of support);
- The extent to which a project engages tribal youth in natural resources management (play, learn, work, serve);
- Ability to provide reports that highlight project successes (by Sept. 1st of each year).

**Distribution Process:**

- RFPs go out Oct 1.
- Upon receipt of apportionment, OBPM moves funding to the Trust Central Office budget address. (within 5 days)
- Fund amounts are conveyed to Central OTS for submission to OTS Program Management (PM) Office for generation into FBMS Entry Document (FED) 26 IAM 3. (within 5 days)
- PM submits the FED to OBPM to move the funding to the appropriate BIA Regional office (within 2 days)
- PM submits the Office of Self Governance (OSG) FED to OSG for approval. (within 2 days)
- OSG approves and submits request for fund transfer to OBPM. (within 3 days)
- OBPM moves funding to the regions and OSG. (within 3 days of receipt)

**Regional Processing:**

- Indian Self Determination (ISD) Awarding Official negotiates terms, conditions of award, including payments. They calculate Contract Support Costs and prepare contract award/modifications in PRISM. (within 5 days)
- The ISD Awarding Official prints and mails the award/modification to tribe for review and acceptance. (within 5 days)
- Tribal elected official approves award/modification and returns the documentation to the Region/Agency.
- The ISD Awarding Official executes the award/modification and releases the obligation in PRISM. PRISM interfaces with ASAP and funds are available to tribes. (within 3 days of receipt of signed document)

**OSG Processing:**

- Once both OSG and OBPM are in agreement with the distribution list, a FED document is processed to OSG for distribution. (within 3 business days.)
- OSG will process the FED, subsequent PR, and obligate funding. (within 7 business days.)

Tribes log into ASAP to draw funds into their account.