

What are Forestry and Climate Change, and What Do They Do?

Matthew Anderson
Regional Forester

FORESTRY AND FIRE

100,000 Foot View

- The Forestry program grows trees in the same way that a gardener grows vegetables.
- The Fire program puts out fires and tries to prevent them from happening in the first place.

The (Somewhat More) Detailed View

- The Forestry program plans, implements, and monitors silvicultural treatments designed to meet the Tribe's (or other landowners') objectives.
- The Fire program plans, implements, and monitors fire suppression, fuels management, ecological restoration, and fire prevention activities in order to protect and enhance the resource according to the Tribe's (or other landowners') objectives.

The Budget View—Forestry

- Forestry (TPA)
 - “Base” funding, provided for staffing necessary to carry out the Forest Management Plan.
 - Discretionary funding, provided for projects, special equipment purchases, and other uses.

The Budget View

- Forestry Projects
 - Nonrecurring project funds.
 - Forest Management Inventory and Planning.
 - Forest Development.
 - Timber Harvest Initiative
 - Woodland Management

The Budget View

- Fire
 - Allocated nationally through a complex interagency process.
 - Preparedness.
 - Suppression and Severity.
 - Fuels Management
 - Fire Prevention

Program Execution

- BIA Central Office Forestry provides budget and policy guidance and technical expertise.
- BIA Midwest Region Forestry provides budget and policy guidance and technical expertise and provides on the ground service for some Tribes.
- BIA Agencies provide technical expertise and on the ground service for several Tribes.
- Tribal Forestry programs provide on the ground service for that Tribe.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Program Purpose

- Support Tribes' efforts at managing the impacts of climate change.
- Current focus is on high level adaptation planning and vulnerability assessments of key values (resources, infrastructure, etc.).
- Facilitate communication between Tribes and the multitude of climate change practitioners: government agencies, universities, NGOs, consortia, and many more.

The Budget View

- Most of the BIA's climate change budget is allocated to the national grant program funding Tribally-developed projects.
- Some goes to supporting BIA's national Climate Change staff of 3 persons.
- Each BIA Region gets a small budget to support travel and training.

Program Execution

- Central Office staff provide program coordination, facilitate communications, liaison with the scientific world.
- Each Region has a collateral duty Climate Change Point of Contact to coordinate stuff at the Regional Level.
- Each Midwest Region Agency has a Climate Change Representative to work more closely with Tribes served by the Agency.
- Program is support, so Tribes develop and carry out specific projects and goals.

THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUESTIONS

- How can I get BIA to provide funding for a project that's important to the Tribe that doesn't neatly fit into an existing BIA program?

Other Questions or Discussion?