

Bureau of Indian Affairs – Alaska Inter-Tribal Federal Subsistence Collaborative Management Program, Ranking Criteria and Application Process

Alaska Subsistence Inter-Tribal Collaborative Management Program:

This is a competitive annual funding opportunity for Federally Recognized, Inter-Tribal organizations to develop and implement collaborative subsistence management partnerships with the federal agencies responsible for implementing the Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA), on federal lands in Alaska.

Applicant Eligibility:

Eligibility is limited to Alaska inter-Tribal organizations authorized by Federally-recognized Indian Tribal governments.

Successful applicants must commit to provide annual reporting to the Regional BIA point-of-contact (listed below) by September 30.

Reports must include:

- Project Status
- Budget summary
- Objectives achieved

Project Eligibility:

Successful applications will focus on the development and implementation of goals and objectives pertaining to collaboration between inter-Tribal groups and the federal agencies responsible for the Federal Subsistence Management Program under ANILCA Title VIII.

Inter-Tribal collaborative subsistence management is defined as two or more Tribal entities, each having legally established management responsibilities, working together to achieve mutually agreed upon or compatible objectives to protect, conserve, use, enhance or restore subsistence resources, as mutually negotiated, defined and agreed by Tribal organizations and the Federal agencies responsible for implementing ANILCA Title VIII.

The Alaska Subsistence Inter-Tribal Collaborative Management funding will focus on two aspects of the Federal Subsistence Management Program:

- 1) **Planning** - assists in the development of Inter-Tribal organizations, and the development of plans leading to active participation in subsistence collaborative management activities.

- 2) **Implementation** - assists inter-Tribal organizations with implementing collaborative subsistence management plans and/or cooperative agreements, which will enable them to work jointly with federal partners to manage subsistence resources for Tribal members under ANILCA Title VIII.

The BIA will award one time annual funding in amounts from \$150,000 to \$750,000 per application. Proposals addressing more than one focus area may be combined into one proposal. Contract support costs will not be included. An eligible entity may submit multiple applications; however, only one proposed project will be funded per year per applicant.

Please be aware that the final funding amount might be a negotiated amount based on the total amount of funding being requested across all applicants, and the total amount of funding allocated for this program.

Ranking Criteria

Eligible projects will be ranked according to the degree they meet the following criteria:

- The degree to which the proposed project pursues collaborative Inter-Tribal management with the government agencies responsible for Federal subsistence management under ANILCA Title VIII. This includes building capacity toward this outcome.
- The degree to which the project effectively implements cooperative agreements, Memorandum of Action, or other type of agreements with the government entities responsible for Federal Subsistence Management under ANILCA Title VIII.
- The degree to which the project meets the goals/objectives/requirements of approved inter-Tribal and planning documents developed to implement ANILCA Title VIII.
- The degree to which the collaborative project focuses on the development and implementation of cooperative Federal Subsistence Management goals, across large landscapes to addressing Tribal subsistence issues/needs across broad sections of Alaska Native villages and Tribes.
- The degree of partnerships, cost share, and/or leveraging of funds.
- The degree of benefit to fish and wildlife resources important to Tribal subsistence users.
- The extent to which a proposal provides the most cost effective means of achieving Inter-Tribal subsistence co-management goals with the federal partners responsible for implementing ANILCA Title VIII.
- The degree to which the project fosters partnerships or other collaboration with the State of Alaska regarding Federal Subsistence management.

Applications/proposals must provide the following important information. Failure to provide this information will result in the disqualification of the proposal:

1. Geographic area covered by the inter-Tribal organization, descriptions of the particular ANILCA Federal lands/waters used by members, and the number/names of Tribes that are represented

2. A description of the existing levels of use among inter-Tribal members of the ANILCA Title VIII Federal Subsistence priority (including fish and wildlife species that are managed under Title VIII, plus estimates of harvests if available)
3. A description of available staff expertise (including technical/scientific personnel with experience in inter-agency Federal Subsistence Management of fish/wildlife resources)
4. A description and dollar amount of all Federal subsistence management related funding (across all bureaus) received over the past two years. Failure to report additional sources of Federal subsistence management related funding (outside BIA) will result in disqualification of the proposal

How to Apply

Submit your proposal electronically (preferred) or via hard-copy mail to the Alaska Regional Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (contact information below). **Proposals are due by close of business on June 26th, 2026.** The proposal must clearly address the ranking criteria listed above and be limited to **ten (10) pages maximum** (not including cover page, maps, citations, letters of support/contributions, photos, CV's/resumes of personnel, and/or copies of existing cooperative agreements).

Suggested Proposal Format:

- I. Introduction/Background – Name of applicant, project name, project location, background, and a description of the need.
- II. Goal/Objectives – Measurable objectives that work toward achieving the project goals must be included.
- III. Methodology – How do you plan on accomplishing the task?
- IV. Outcome/Results – What are the expected work products? What measurable benefits are expected? What is the expected timeline?
- V. Budget – All major budget items should be broken down into discreet line items showing the underlying costs/components making up the whole. Budget items should be justified in relation to the project objectives and clearly explained in the project narrative.

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