Council Member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Mike Iyall, speaks at Mount Rainier National Park. The Cowlitz Tribe from southwest Washington state joined the Tribal National Historic Preservation Program in March 2021. The Cowlitz peoples are an associated Tribe of Mount Rainier National Park, recognized as dedicated stewards of their sacred and ancestral lands.

PHOTO BY KEVIN BACHER

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) are officially designated by federally-recognized Native American Tribes to direct preservation programs approved by the National Park Service (NPS). The THPO assumes some or all of the functions and responsibilities of State Historic Preservation Officers on tribal lands. The NPS distributes Historic Preservation Fund grants, which are typically matched by Tribes, to THPOs by apportionment formula.

Background

For many years, THPOs have received insufficient federal funding to fully implement their federally mandated responsibilities. There were only 12 federally recognized THPOs when the program began in 1996, with $79,875 allocated to each. In FY 2021, by contrast, 198 THPOs received an average of $69,369 in funding. Collectively, Tribes with NPS-recognized THPOs exercise responsibilities over a land base that exceeds 50 million acres in 30 states. THPOs review federal undertakings—including projects using federal funding or requiring federal approval—for their impacts on tribal historic resources (Section 106 review). THPOs also survey and maintain inventories of tribal historic resources, prepare preservation plans, and provide technical assistance and funding for preservation activities. THPOs also facilitate nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) and Tribal Registers. Along with federal, state, and local law enforcement, THPOs work to prosecute looters of Indian remains and sacred objects. They also provide oversight for repatriation per the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

In FY 2021, THPOs:

- Reviewed more than 45,000 federal undertakings, providing 3,500 National Register eligibility opinions
- Surveyed approximately 75,000 acres for cultural resources and inventoried, evaluated, or designated over 2,600 significant historical and archeological properties
- Nominated more than 1,100 properties to Tribal Registers

FY 2023 Appropriations Request

Please support $34 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers in the FY 2023 Interior Appropriations bill.

APPROPRIATIONS BILL: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
AGENCY: National Park Service
ACCOUNT: Historic Preservation Fund
ACTIVITY: Grants to Tribes

Recent Funding History:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Enacted Funding</th>
<th>President's Budget Request</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>$13.735 million</td>
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<td>FY 2023</td>
<td>$34.000 million</td>
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JUSTIFICATION: Since the creation of the program, the number of federally-recognized Tribal Historic Preservation Officers has grown from 12 to almost 200 despite the significant shortfalls in THPO funding. The FY22 enacted funding falls drastically short of the needs for the growing number of THPOs.
Recognized Tribal Historic Preservation Officers*

ALABAMA
Poarch Band of Creek Indians

ALASKA
Organized Village of Kake

ARIZONA
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Gila River Indian Community
Hopi Tribe of Arizona
Hualapai Tribe
The Navajo Nation
Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Tohono Nation
White Mountain Apache Tribe

CALIFORNIA
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Bear River Band of the Puyallup Tribe
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley
Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Bishop Paiute Tribe
Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe of Indians
Bridgeport Indian Colony
Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
Cahuilla Band of Indians
Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria
Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
Elnem Indian Colony
Elk Valley Rancheria
Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians
Federated Indians of the Gitanos Rancheria
Fort Independence Paiute Indians
Habematolel Band of Pomo Indians
Hoopa Valley Tribe
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
Jamul Indian Village
Kashia Pechuman Indian Community of Cali
Karuk Tribe
Mamita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Metoopa Band of the Copco Indians
Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Mojave Indians of California
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Pala Band of Mission Indians
Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians
Picocheke Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians
Pinoleville Pomo Nation
Pit River Tribe
Presidiño Band of Luiseño Mission Indians
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Indians
Scherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Siskiyou Valley Band of the Shasta Tribe
Sonoma Band of the Pomo Indians

IDAHO
Coeur d’Alene Tribe
Nez Perce Tribe

KANSAS
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska

LOUISIANA
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana

MAINE
Aroostook Band of Micmacs
Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
Passamaquoddy Tribe
Penobscot Nation

MASSACHUSETTS
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head-Aquinnah

MICHIGAN
Bay Mills Indian Community
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of the Sault Chippewa Indians
Pottawatomie Tribe of thees Michigan Indians
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

MINNESOTA
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Lower Sioux Indian Community
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
Prairie Island Indian Community of Minnesota
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
Upper Sioux Community
White Earth Nation of Minnesota Chippewa

MONTANA
The Blackfeet Nation
Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes
The Crow Tribe of Indians
Fort Belknap Indian Community
Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes

NEBRASKA
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Santee Sioux Nation
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

NEVADA
Duckwater Shoeshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

NEW MEXICO
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Mesalero Apache Tribe
The Navajo Nation
Pueblo of Acoma
The Pueblo of Isleta
Pueblo of Jemez
Pueblo of Laguna
Pueblo of Pojoaque
Pueblo of San Felipe
Pueblo of San Ildefonso
Pueblo of Santa Ana
Pueblo of Santa Clara
Pueblo of Tesuque
Pueblo of Zia
Santa Domingo Pueblo
Zuni Pueblo

NEVADA
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation

NEW YORK
The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
Seneca Nation of Indians

NORTH CAROLINA
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

NORTH DAKOTA
Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation
Spirit Lake Tribe of Fort Totten
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Turtle Mountain Band of Chipewa Indians

OKLAHOMA
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Caddo Nation
Cherokee Nation
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Comanche Nation
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Muscogee Creek Nation
Osage Nation
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Quapaw Band of Oklahoma
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma
Thuilphloocic Tribal Town
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes
Wyandotte Nation

OREGON
Burns Paiute
Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians

RHYNE ISLAND
Narragansett Indian Tribe

SOUTH CAROLINA
 Catawba Indian Nation

SOUTH DAKOTA
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
Oglala Sioux Tribe
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of Indians
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Yankton Sioux Tribe

TEXAS
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

UTAH
The Navajo Nation

WASHINGTON
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Hoh Indian Tribe
Jamesstown S’Klallam Tribe
Lummi Nation
Makah Tribe
Nooksack Indian Tribe
Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
Quinault Indian Nation
Samish Indian Nation
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Skokomish Indian Tribe
Spokane Tribe of Indians
Squaxin Island Tribe
Stillichuashicamish Tribe of Indians
Suquamish Tribe
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

WISCONSIN
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of the Chippewa
Forest County Potawatomi Community
Huron Band of Lakota
Lake Carriere Ojibway Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Menominee Indian Reservation
Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Micmac Indians

WYOMING
Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation
Northern Arapaho Tribe

For additional information, contact Shaw Sprague, Vice President of Government Relations and Policy, SSprague@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6339 and Lauren Cohen, Associate Director of Government Relations, LCOhen@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6224.

*As of March 2022: https://www.nps.gov/tps/tps-search/