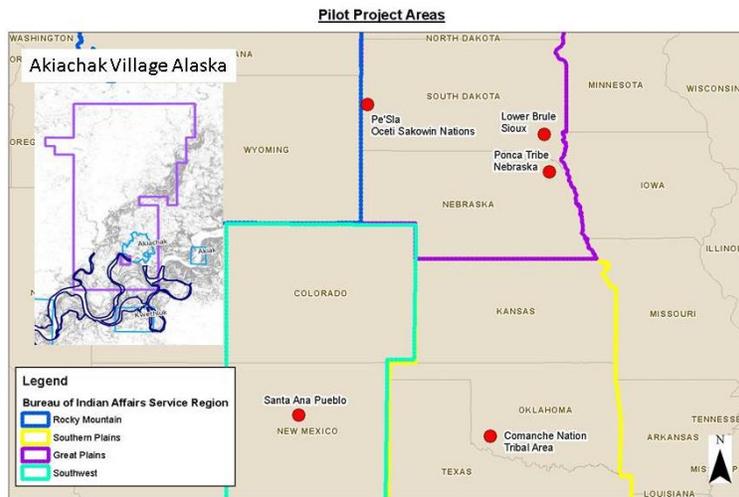




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Indian Land Tenure Foundation
Regional Conservation Partnership Program Grant Award**

On Friday, February 12, 2016, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) and eight of its partners, as recipients of one of its 2016 Regional Conservation Partnership Program grant. The \$1.8 million grant awarded to the Intertribal Agricultural Council (project lead) addresses conservation management and training on tribal lands for increased carbon storage on forest and rangeland. Projects are spread across the U.S. with partners in New Mexico (Santa Ana Pueblo), Oklahoma (Comanche Tribe), South Dakota (Lower Brule Sioux Tribe/Pe’sla Council), Nebraska (Ponca Tribe of Nebraska), and Alaska (Akiachuk Village, Choggiung Corporation). ILTF will use its National Indian Carbon Coalition program to help develop these projects.



The program consists of conservation planning and practice, tribal staff and student training, and development of accessible tools for making land management decisions.

An estimated 1,004,699 acres of forest and rangeland are to be entered into the project from the five pilot projects listed above. For each of these land bases, Conservation Activity Plans and Conservation Stewardship Plans will be developed which together serve as an inventory of baseline levels of carbon sequestration on the land and lay out activities for increasing sequestration or lowering greenhouse gas release that are practical and cost-effective. Once plans are implemented, these lands can be entered into various carbon markets around the country for added economic development.

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National Indian Carbon Coalition

Training for tribal staff and students will provide education on the conservation planning process and relevant conservation practices for ecosystem health. The trainings will provide the opportunity for participants to obtain formal Technical Service Provider certification for work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Finally, project partners will develop web-mapping portal technology that allows access to detailed information on tribal lands that managers can use to make key decisions on land use without having prior training or specialization. The mapping tool can be used for decision making, analysis of lands, and as a platform for presenting data.

More information about the National Indian Carbon Coalition can be found at www.indiancarbon.org



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National Indian Carbon Coalition is a joint project of Indian Land Tenure Foundation and Intertribal Agriculture Council

