

Tribal College and Universities National Facilitation Project

Goal

The Tribal College and Universities (TCUs) will plan strategically to access and improve educational opportunities, conduct research, and implement extension projects to increase Native Americans' knowledge and capacity to manage water resources.

Objectives

- Involve TCUs with the USDA-CSREES Water Program
- Institutional assessments of TCUs need, interest, and capacity
- Build collaboration with TCUs and land grant system analytical laboratories
- Develop curriculum case studies on tribal issues: toxics, native food sources, water rights, and water quality jurisdiction
- TCU Annual Water Summit



Invasive flowering rush dominating native vegetation



Expected Outcomes

- Partnerships of TCUs, 1890, and 1862 institutions improve programming efforts with tribal communities that improve water quality
 - TCUs bring programming to tribal communities resulting in improved water quality by adopting best management practices, creating educational and research opportunities, developing local technical assistance capacity, and National Program enrichment involving the TCUs
 - Local analysis and interpretation of data, watershed investigations conducted, water quality enhancement projects planned, implemented, and monitored
- TCU students work in water quality arena and seek additional educational opportunities. Curriculum on Indian water issues available
- Involvement of TCUs in the Network, inclusion of tribal communities in USDA opportunities, and foundations for future community engagement
- Water quality work at the TCUs with tribal communities and tribal representation with USDA-CSREES Water Program



Analytical labs at Tribal Colleges

Priorities

- During the water summit conference in Polson MT we identified priority areas:
 - Water Quality
 - Toxics
 - Restoration
 - Undergraduate Educational Experience
- Invasive species
- Safe drinking water



Participating Institutions: Initially eight institutions now increased to ten active institutions

- ❖ Salish Kootenai College
- ❖ Fort Belknap College
- ❖ Chief Dull Knife Community College
- ❖ College of Menominee Nation
- ❖ Haskell Indian Nations University
- ❖ Sitting Bull College
- ❖ Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
- ❖ Northwest Indian College
- ❖ United Tribes Technical College
- ❖ Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College

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