



Indian Land Tenure
FOUNDATION®

Annual Report 2015

*Serving American Indian nations and people in the
recovery and control of their rightful homelands*

ILTF Mission:

Land within the original boundaries of every reservation and other areas of high significance where tribes retain aboriginal interest are in Indian ownership and management.

Strategies:

Economic Opportunity

Increase economic assets of Indian landowners by gaining control of Indian lands and creating financial models that convert land into leverage for Indian landowners.

Legal Reform

Reform the legal mechanisms related to recapturing the physical, cultural and economic assets for Indian people and strengthening sovereignty of Indian land.

Education

Educate every Indian landowner about Indian land management, ownership and transference issues so that knowledge becomes power when decisions about land assets are made.

Cultural Awareness

Use Indian land to help Indian people discover and maintain their culture.



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Cover photo: The Black Hills of South Dakota/ Shutterstock

About ILTF:

The Indian Land Tenure Foundation is a national, community-based organization serving American Indian nations and people in the recovery and control of their rightful homelands.

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Reflects board and staff as of December 2015.



Programs >>>

Through innovative programs, initiatives and grants, ILTF makes a positive impact on the lives of Native Americans.



Photo credit: Columbia Heights (Minn.) Public Schools



Photo credit: Shutterstock

Lessons of Our Land

ILTF's *Lessons of Our Land* curriculum enables Pre-K through grade 12 teachers to easily incorporate Native American stories, lessons and games about land, cultures, histories and languages into regular classroom instruction. This inter-disciplinary curriculum aligns with state academic standards and is adaptable to include the history and culture of a region's Native nations. The website lessonsofourland.org offers more than 200 searchable lessons that are ready to use in the classroom. ILTF also provides professional development on the curriculum, and 719 teachers in five states took part in 2015. An online teacher training program is in development. Learn more at lessonsofourland.org.

National Indian Carbon Coalition

Founded by ILTF and the Intertribal Agriculture Council, the National Indian Carbon Coalition (NICC) provides resources, training and planning assistance for tribes that are developing carbon sequestration projects on reservation lands. The Coalition fosters relationships among tribal leaders and Indian farmers, ranchers, foresters and other organizations to help develop these projects. In 2015, ILTF conducted landowner training sessions on reservations and began work on new projects in New Mexico, South Dakota and Oklahoma. In addition, ILTF published an important article in the *William Mitchell Law Review* titled, "Climate Change Adaptation in Indian Country: Tribal Regulation of Reservation Lands and Natural Resources." Learn more at indiancarbon.org.

Current Grants & Projects

ACLU of Minnesota Foundation, St. Paul, Minn.

- \$25,000 to support the Greater Minnesota Racial Justice Project.

American Carbon Registry, Sacramento, Calif.

- \$60,000 to convene a working group to draft the "Indian Lands Carbon Project Guidance" to govern the registration of all tribal offset projects on the American Carbon Registry regardless of project type.

American Indian Law Center, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

- \$45,000 to research the impact of land-use regulations on small land users in the Navajo Nation Shiprock and Eastern Agencies in order to form recommendations for legal reform to the Navajo Nation Council for legislative action as part of the Navajo Nation Trust Land Leasing Act of 2000.

Carbon Cycle Institute, Petaluma, Calif.

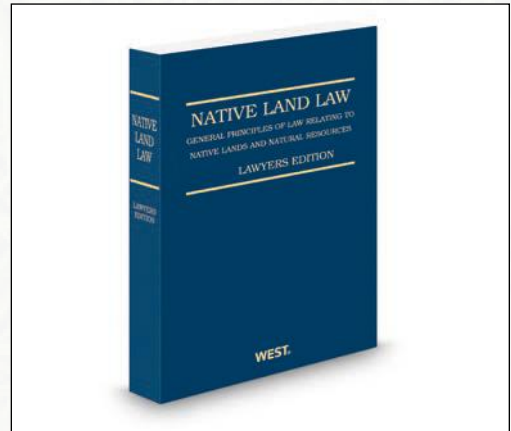
- \$35,000 to adapt American Carbon Registry's existing Compost Additions to Grazed Grasslands methodology to the Santa Ana Pueblo pilot project in New Mexico.

Joshua Isaacson, Grove City, Minn.

- \$9,000 to review all *Lessons of Our Land* Curriculum and align with Minnesota State Academic Standards or Common Core State Standards as identified.

Native Land Law Publication and CLE Series

As part of its mission, ILTF works to reform the legal mechanisms related to recapturing the physical, cultural and economic assets for Indian people and strengthening the sovereignty of Indian land. These efforts include the publishing of “Native Land Law: General Principles of Law Relating to Native Lands and Resources” in partnership with Thomson Reuters. It is a comprehensive overview and extensive legal analysis of federal law and policy relating to Indian land. ILTF also offers the Native Land Law Continuing Legal Education (CLE) series through in-person sessions across the country as well as online learning opportunities. Learn more at iltf.org/native-land-law.



National Tribal Land Association

The National Tribal Land Association (NTLA) was founded by ILTF and a group of tribal land professionals to create opportunities for land and natural resources staff to learn, share and network with their colleagues from other tribes. In 2015, NTLA held its fifth Tribal Land Staff National Conference in Pala, Calif., an annual event that provides educational opportunities on the latest issues facing tribes, as well as opportunities for networking with other land professionals in Indian Country. There were 79 tribes represented at the Conference. In addition, NTLA began developing a national training and certification program in 2015 for tribal land staff. Learn more at ntla.info.



Koahnic Broadcast Corporation, Anchorage, Alaska

- \$25,000 to develop a broadcast and online series called *Our Sacred Places* to increase awareness about Native land ownership issues, and the spiritual importance of Native lands.

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Nixon, Nev.

- \$40,000 to conduct an ethnographic study on Black Warrior Mountain to determine its eligibility as a Traditional Cultural Property with the National Register of Historic Places.

Sig-Nal, Pleasanton, Calif.

- \$344,200 to help tribes develop tribal GIS capacity building projects.

University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc., Lawrence, Kan.

- \$35,000 to provide funding for graduate research assistant dissertation to conduct a Geographic Analysis of Allotment on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

Yurok Tribe, Klamath, Calif.

- \$50,000 to develop a probate code and establish a probate court for the Tribe, allowing heirs to probate non-trust and trust properties on the reservation.

Programs > Estate Planning

ILTF supports estate planning as one of the most effective ways to ensure that Indian lands are controlled and managed by Indian people.

For more than a century, Indian families have seen valuable land resources diminish as fractionated ownership increases with each passing generation. The Indian Land Tenure Foundation supports estate planning as one of the most effective ways to stop the continued division of Indian land titles and ensure that Indian lands are controlled and managed by Indian people.

Over the past several years, ILTF has funded projects that provide education and free estate planning services for tribal members across the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. As a result, more than 3,000 landowners have received direct legal service and will writing assistance. In addition, more than 6,800 people, including elected tribal officials, landowners, attorneys and Indian land heirs, have received training through ILTF-funded estate planning programs.



Photo credit: Clara NiiSka

Estate Planning Grants & Contracts

American Indian Law & Sovereignty Center, Oklahoma City University School of Law

- \$38,308 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets, including 10 tribes served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Anadarko Agency and Concho Field Office.
- \$47,100 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets.

DNA People's Legal Services, Window Rock, Ariz.

- \$43,325 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets in Eastern and Western Navajo communities.
- \$32,500 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets.

Will writing, legal services

Today, ILTF continues to build upon its estate planning and probate program by developing new, more efficient and cost-effective models for helping Indian people safely transfer their lands from one generation to the next.

ILTF currently works directly with qualified contractors throughout the country who provide specialized legal and will writing services and training to tribal members in the communities and on the reservations where they live. By providing services that reduce fractionation, and training that informs Indian people about the laws governing land ownership and transfer, ILTF empowers tribes and individual landowners to protect their land assets and preserve economic and cultural resources for future generations.



Photo credit: Shutterstock

Partnering with local law firms

In 2015, the U.S. Department of the Interior awarded a \$350,000 grant to ILTF to provide estate planning services, with an agreement to provide additional funding to continue this work through 2017. The scope of the project is gradually transitioning from direct legal services for beneficiaries to policy development for wills and family associations. Services in 2015 were provided in Arizona, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wisconsin through partnerships with local law firms and legal agencies. These efforts served 229 clients and executed 319 estate planning documents.

"Estate planning is one of the most effective ways to ensure that Indian lands are controlled and managed by Indian people."

Swanson, Drobnick & Tousey, LLP, St. Paul, Minn.

- \$33,000 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets.
- \$41,486 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets.

University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

- \$11,993 to provide community outreach sessions and deliver estate planning services for tribal members at Tohono O'odham Nation and Indian Wells Chapter of the Navajo Nation.

Wisconsin Judicare, Inc., Wausau, Wisc.

- \$18,372 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets at Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau and Red Cliff Bands of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.
- \$33,000 to provide free estate planning services for tribal members with trust assets.

Community Funds >>>

ILTF's community funds support many important projects in Indian Country, including buffalo restoration, education, land acquisition and economic development.



Indian Country Cooperative Extensive Fund

The Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP) is a successful tribal community outreach model that is focused on agricultural productivity, youth development and healthier communities. The Indian Country Cooperative Extension Fund (ICCEF) supports FRTEP extension agents and offices so that they can expand programming and move to multi-year funding cycles in implementing important programs with local partners, including tribes, tribal colleges and other institutions.



Spirit of Sovereignty

The Spirit of Sovereignty (SOS) — a National Indian Gaming Association-advised fund at the Indian Land Tenure Foundation — provides college scholarships for well-qualified Native students at 37 tribal colleges. Funds can be used for any education-related expense, including tuition, books, housing, travel and childcare. The fund also supports the Native Children's Holiday Program, which seeks to ensure that every American Indian child has at least one gift and one article of clothing under the tree on Christmas morning. Visit spiritofsovs.org to learn more.



Tanka Fund

Many Native Nations relied on the sacred buffalo (Tatanka) to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, clothing and ceremony. In the 19th century, more than 50 million buffalo were deliberately destroyed in order to starve Native people onto reservations, resulting in dire poverty and ill health. The Tanka Fund is a partnership between ILTF and Native American Natural Foods to bring back the buffalo and healthy lands, diets and economies to American Indian people through education, food programs and other important initiatives. Visit tankafund.org to learn more.

Contributors >>>

The work of ILTF is supported through the generosity of foundations, corporations, tribes and individuals who are committed to returning Indian lands to Indian hands.

Tribes

- Barona Band of Mission Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Pala Band of Mission Indians
- San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Shoshone Bannock Tribes
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
- Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
- White Earth Nation

Individuals

- \$35,429 from 232 individuals

Combined Federal Campaign

- \$6,123 from 20 regional CFC headquarters

Foundations & Corporations

- Analytical Environmental Services
- ASM Affiliates
- Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers
- BMM Test Labs
- Bromelkamp Company, LLC
- CGI Technologies and Solutions, Inc.
- CIS Technology
- Clearing House CDFI
- Disability Opportunity Fund
- Eastside Consultants, Inc.
- ESRI
- Fidelity Charitable Organization
- Finley & Cook, PLLC
- FirstGiving
- First Tribal Lending
- Garelick Family Foundation
- Gasser Chair Company, Ltd.
- Goff Public
- Google
- Greater Twin Cities United Way
- Houston Productions
- Image Spigot, LLC
- *Indian Gaming Magazine*
- Intertribal Agriculture Council
- Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations
- KCM Group
- K Foundation
- LSA Associates, Inc.
- McElroy, Meyer, Walker & Condon, PC
- Microsoft
- Minneapolis Foundation
- Mirabelle Plum Foundation
- Multimedia Games (Everi Holdings)
- National Indian Gaming Association
- Native American Natural Foods
- Native American Rainbow Network
- New Forests
- NoVo Foundation
- Old Republic Title Insurance Co.
- Onnit Labs, LLC
- Ortiz Gaming
- Pacific AG Insurance Agency
- PENTA Building Group
- Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP
- Red Plains
- Redleaf Family Foundation
- RSF Social Finance Fund
- RSM U.S., LLP
- Saint Paul Area Council of Churches
- Shikoba Services, LLC
- Shingobee Builders
- Southern California Gas Company
- Swanson, Drobnick and Tousey, PC
- SWCA
- Tiffany & Company
- Tribal Print Source
- United Way of Greater Atlanta
- United Way of Greater Milwaukee
- U.S. Bank
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
- Van Ness Feldman
- VizExplorer
- Wells Fargo



2015 Financial Statement >>>

Assets

2015

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,212,042
Investment	\$11,164,046
Accounts Receivable	\$17,172
Grants Receivable	\$250,000
Contracts Receivable	\$18,367
Funds Held for Others	\$357,726
Interest Receivable	\$39,673
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	\$39,567
Notes Receivable, net of allowances for uncollectable notes of \$748,594.	\$6,414,267
Property and Equipment, less depreciation	\$610,138
TOTAL ASSETS	\$21,122,998

Liabilities and Net Assets and Minority Interest

Accounts Payable	\$96,902
Grants Payable	\$254,724
Recoverable Grant	\$250,000
Funds Due to Others	\$107,726
Accrued Payroll Expenses	\$41,816
Accrued Interest	\$14,063
Deferred Revenue	\$0
Notes Payable	\$5,000,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$5,765,231
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$14,933,378
Temporarily Restricted	\$0
Minority Interest	\$424,389
TOTAL NET ASSETS & MINORITY INTEREST	\$15,357,767
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$21,122,998

Expenses >

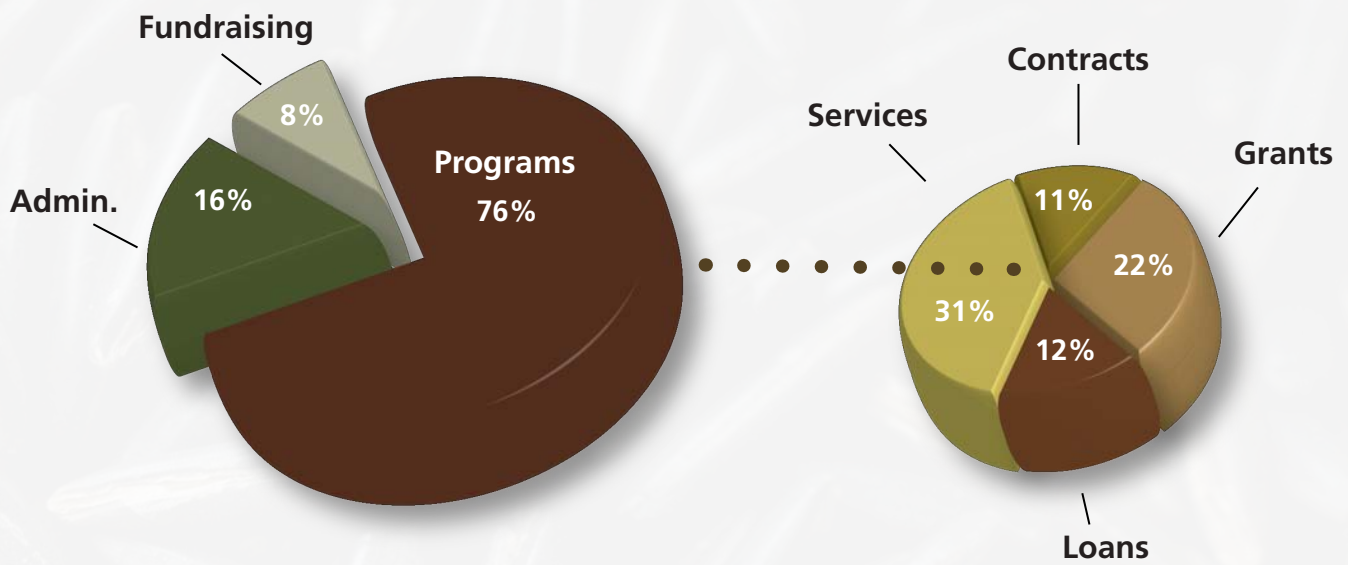


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Indian Land Tenure
FOUNDATION.

The Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) is a national, community-based organization focused on American Indian land recovery and management. ILTF's primary aim is to ensure that all reservation and important off-reservation lands are owned and managed by Indian people and Indian nations.

As a community foundation, ILTF relies on funding from private foundations and donations from Indian nations, corporations and individuals to support its programming in Indian Country. Please consider making a donation to the Indian Land Tenure Foundation today.

To learn more about our work and programs, and to make a donation, visit our website at: **www.iltf.org** or email **info@iltf.org**.