

Kashia Band of Pomo Indians return home to the Pacific Coast



>>> Meet ILTF's Board of Directors

Ross Racine (Blackfeet) earned a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture and Animal Science from Montana State University and began his career in range management for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Since 2001, Racine has been Executive Director of the Intertribal Agriculture Council in Billings, Mont. IAC was founded by order of Congress to promote the conservation, development and use of Indian agricultural resources for the betterment of Native people. *"Land-based agricultural resources are vital to the economic and social welfare of tribes," Racine said. "We have subsisted because of the land. It is not our skin color or genealogy that is truly recognized but the piece of land that is our identity."*



<<< Spotlight on Our Supporters

Susan Rolfe's home is tastefully decorated with beautiful examples of American Indian artwork, reflecting her passion for American Indian people. An accomplished artist herself, Susan paints moving watercolors and constructs intricate dioramas with American Indian themes. Susan explains why she supports ILTF:

"I consider myself blessed to have learned so much of the history about what happened to American Indian people and their land, and I love the work that the Indian Land Tenure Foundation is doing."

We are grateful for Susan and the many supporters who are helping to return Indian Lands to Indian Hands.



Kashia Tribe recovers its Pacific Coast homelands

Nearly 150 years after being forcibly removed from their ancestral homelands to an inland reservation, the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians in Sonoma County, Calif., once again have access to the Pacific Ocean. On June 15, 2016 the Tribe celebrated the recovery of nearly 700 acres, a milestone made possible with the help of Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) and its affiliate, the Indian Land Capital Company (ILCC).

“This acquisition would not have been possible without the assistance of ILTF and ILCC,” said Kashia Tribal Chairman Reno Keoni Franklin. “Not only did they play a major financial role in our acquisition of the property, they also provided valuable advice and were a strong voice of empowerment for us when we doubted if we could complete the purchase.”

ILCC extended a loan to Kashia in 2015 to purchase the land north of San Francisco, which features redwood forest, towering coastal bluffs and spectacular waterfalls. The Tribe has established the Kashia Coastal Reserve, a protected open space and demonstration forest to educate and engage the public about the history and practices of the Kashia people.

To learn more about the important work ILTF is doing to help Native Nations recover their ancestral homelands, please visit iltf.org.

<<< *The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians has finally recovered its ancestral homelands for current and future generations*

ILTF partner: Indian Land Capital Company

Indian Land Capital Company (ILCC) was created in 2005 as a partnership between the Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) and the Native American Community Development Corporation (NACDC) to provide financing to Native Nations for land acquisition on a full faith-and-credit basis. ILCC is a for-profit organization and certified Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) that has made more than \$18 million in loans to Native Nations to acquire, develop and secure tribal land without a single default or significant delinquency.

Some examples of projects financed by ILCC include:

- ▶ \$2 million for timberland in Northern California for the carbon credit market
- ▶ \$1.2 million for land in the Pacific Northwest for housing and healthcare facilities
- ▶ \$1 million for a 1,200-acre cattle ranch in Montana
- ▶ \$900,000 for lakefront recreational development land in Northern California
- ▶ \$791,000 for senior housing and commercial development land in Washington state
- ▶ \$700,000 for cattle grazing and cultural preservation land in Eastern Oregon

Learn more about the Indian Land Capital Company at ilcc.net.

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