

2020 Centennial Accord Agency Highlights



Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
November 2020

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
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Nov. 19, 2020

Greetings,

On behalf of Washington, the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs presents the 2020 Centennial Accord Agency Highlights. This annual report is mandated under our government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes (RCW 43.376). The following report summarizes the work that state agencies completed this past year to strengthen relations with tribal governments and enhance tribal communities. While this report showcases valuable collaboration and commitment, we know the future holds opportunities for us to do even more.

We are collectively experiencing unprecedented challenges during this pandemic. More than ever, that's why this tribal-state collaboration is pivotal to the health, safety and protection of tribal communities – and the state – as a whole.

Thank you for your interest.

Respectfully,

Craig A. Bill
Executive Director

Washington State Attorney General's Office

Summary

Under the state constitution and state statutes, the attorney general has a dual role. The Office of the Attorney General serves as the law firm representing Washington and its agencies. The attorney general has the power to bring affirmative cases as "the people's lawyer" to represent the public interest.

Highlights

This year, Attorney General Bob Ferguson brought on a full-time tribal liaison position, adding Asa K. Washines (Yakama) to the AGO team. This addition will support the continued expansion of Ferguson's Free Prior and Informed Consent Policy and collaborate with local/state/federal/tribal partners on current Missing, Murdered and Indigenous Women efforts. The AGO is also reviewing use-of-force incidents in 2020 to determine whether, and to what extent, these law enforcement investigations comply with Initiative 940's independent investigation criteria.

Protecting sovereignty

- Proposing legislation to codify Free, Prior, & Informed Consent to ensure future AGs will continue to consult with tribes before initiating a program or project that directly and tangibly affects tribes, tribal rights, tribal lands and sacred sites.
- Proposing legislation to repeal a statute that conflicts with federally acknowledged and judicially affirmed treaty-reserved fishing rights held by Pacific Northwest Treaty Tribes (RCW Chapter 77.110).
- Supported the Washington Supreme Court's recall of its 1916 opinion that Alec Towessnute (Yakama) deserved criminal charges for fishing outside of his reservation on traditional tribal fishing grounds. The AGO worked with attorney Jack Fiander to vacate all charges and right this historical wrong.
- Joined 25 other states and District of Columbia in calling on the Fifth Circuit to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act in *Brackeen v. Bernhardt*. This is the third time Washington joined efforts to defend the constitutionality of ICWA.

Protecting the environment

- In January 2020, the attorney general, in partnership with the Suquamish Tribe, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance and the Washington Environmental Council, resolved a Clean Water Act lawsuit. This lawsuit was against the U.S. Navy for the illegal in-water scraping of a decommissioned aircraft carrier in Sinclair Inlet. The consent decree bars the Navy from scraping inactive ships in Washington waters for 10 years, and requires the Navy to complete a \$3 million remediation.
- In June 2020, Monsanto settled with the attorney general's lawsuit over its contamination responsibility from polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, for \$95 million.

- In July 2020, the attorney general led a coalition of 20 states and filed a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency over its new rules. The rules limited states' ability to protect their water quality under section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

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Department of Agriculture

Summary

We serve all Washington people by supporting the agricultural community and promoting consumer and environmental protection. We accomplish this mandate through programs that ensure the safety of the state's food supply, provide food assistance, regulate the use of farm chemicals, halt the spread of plant and animal pests and diseases, verify the quality of agricultural products and expand markets for Washington foods in the state and overseas.

Under Director Derek Sandison, we work to increase the agency's availability to tribal officials so we can support government-to-government relationships on agricultural issues and their effect on tribal lands and economies.

Our main interactions with tribes fall into five categories:

1. Manage food safety, animal health, pesticide, and dairy nutrient regulatory programs within and across tribal reservation boundaries.
2. Assist small and medium-sized agricultural businesses to develop domestic and international markets for farm products.
3. Support sustainable rural communities, agriculture and natural resources through a variety of outreach, education and technical assistance tools and projects.
4. Maintain food assistance programs that help local and tribal organizations provide emergency food to low-income and vulnerable individuals.
5. Encourage cooperative efforts to manage and eliminate invasive species that threaten environmental quality, native species and economic productivity.

Highlights

- Thirty tribes use our food assistance programs' state funds to distribute food through their tribal food pantries and to issue food vouchers to lower-income and vulnerable individuals. These programs also provided COVID-19 support not only to tribal members in need, but also to meet capacity needs (equipment, storage, and other support). In state fiscal year 2020, we granted tribes \$932,982 in state funds to provide critical hunger relief services. Tribal food pantries then distributed more than 306,000 pounds of food to 1,776 families who are on pace to visit the food pantries nearly nine times a year in 2020. In that same period, tribes will provide 3,100 families with food vouchers valued at \$391,331 that they can exchange for food at local grocery stores. These families will receive vouchers an average of two times per year. Food Assistance also helps tribes distribute federal commodities that tribal hunger relief programs receive through federal food assistance programs. *(Note: We will finalize this data at the end of 2020).*
- The Dairy Nutrient Management Program regulates dairy-generated nutrients to protect water resources and identify and correct discharges to surface water that could affect fish habitat and shellfish harvests. To address water quality issues, this program collaborates with the Lummi Nation, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Samish Indian Nation, Stillaguamish

Tribe of Indians, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and Tulalip Tribes. This program is an active partner in the Nooksack River Transboundary Technical Collaboration Group, coordinating with the Lummi and Nooksack Tribes and partners in British Columbia, and federal, state, and local government agencies. DNMP participates in meetings, data sharing, and coordinates water sampling to reduce bacteria inputs to the Nooksack, Samish, and Stillaguamish watersheds and the Salish Sea.

- During 2019 and 2020, the Pest Program worked collaboratively with tribal entities to survey and control various invasive species that threaten state and tribal lands, and resources. These efforts are ongoing and involve Pest Program staff participation in survey, control, and coordination activities on reservation, tribally-owned and accustomed lands. The Pest Program also provides grant funds directly to tribal entities for invasive species work.
- Knotweed Eradication Program staff provided direct and indirect assistance to the Colville, Hoh, Jamestown S'Klallam, Makah, Nisqually, Quileute, Quinault, Samish, Sauk-Suiattle, Skokomish, Snoqualmie, Suquamish, Swinomish, Tulalip, and Yakama tribal communities. The program provided field supplies, survey equipment, and herbicide in 2019 and 2020. Interagency agreements with county noxious weed control boards, conservation districts, and fisheries enhancement groups helped control and eradicate knotweed on tribal lands across the state.
- During 2019 and 2020, the Spartina Eradication Program worked collaboratively with a number of partnering tribal entities to further environmental stewardship through Spartina control and eradication. As part of this statewide effort, staff assisted the Lummi, Makah, Puyallup, Shoalwater Bay, Suquamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribal Communities. The Pest Program provided \$4,000 in 2019 and \$2,500 in 2020 (through interagency agreements) to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community to help control and eradicate Spartina. It also provided \$2,706 to control purple loosestrife.
- The Asian Giant Hornet Eradication Program worked directly with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Lummi Nation, Samish Indian Nation, and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. The program provided tribes with bottle trap supplies and instruction on how to participate, as a cooperator, in the citizen scientist-trapping program.
- The Food Safety Program inspects, licenses and provides assistance and outreach to food processing businesses, such as seafood-handling facilities. These include tribal-owned businesses and businesses operated on tribal land for foods that enter into commerce off tribal land.
- Through interaction with national pesticide regulatory organizations, Natural Resources Assessment Section leadership coordinates with tribal partners on pesticide programs throughout the Pacific Northwest. NRAS also continues to work with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to collect surface water samples on reservation land and analyze them for pesticide residues that may harm aquatic life. This partnership started in 2003.

- Rapid Response and Emergency Management Program is responsible for responding to animal, food/feed, and agricultural emergencies in Washington. By conducting outreach, training, and exercises with tribal, local, state, and federal partners, we have increased the state's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all-hazards emergencies that impact the state's animal and food supply. The program's Food/Feed Rapid Response Team also routinely offers incident command training to help tribal partners prepare for and respond to food safety incidents and outbreaks. The program has also been activated to lead and coordinate response capabilities under Emergency Support Function 11 (agriculture and natural resources) in response to COVID-19. This coordination, in partnership with federal and state agencies, focuses on addressing specific food access and issues for tribal food banks/food pantries.

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Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Summary

We are the state's sole agency that has a mission to preserve and protect Washington's cultural resources. We have project review authority under federal law and the federal agency is responsible to consult with tribes. However, we consider it a state responsibility to ensure that federal consultation occurs, and we conduct these affairs in a meaningful way. Under state law, we are required to solicit comments from affected tribes before we make a decision on archaeological and Native American burial excavation permits.

Highlights

- We continue to develop the State Historic Preservation Plan for the 2021-2026 plan cycle. This includes an updated Historic Preservation and Native American Values statement. The National Park Service is in charge of approving this plan and the State Historic Preservation Officer then adopts it. We anticipate that NPS and the SHPO will approve and adopt it by Jan. 2, 2021.
- We opened 48 new human skeletal remains cases in 2019, and 36 so far in 2020. This brings the total number of cases (opened and investigated since August 2008) to 641 cases.
- We notified affected tribes of 483 non-forensic human skeletal remains cases since August 2008.
- We notified affected tribes about our physical anthropologist's ancestry determination on 474 cases since August 2008.
- We repatriated or reburied, in place, 317 human skeletal remains cases. We are temporarily holding 147 cases for one of the following reasons:
 - Repatriation at the request of tribes
 - Requiring repatriation outside of Washington
 - Are non-Indian

Remaining cases are nonhuman, forensic and returned to respective coroners, or were handled by federal agencies under Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

- The United States Congress designated the Washington coastline – from the Canadian border to the Grays Harbor-Pacific County line – as a Washington Maritime National Heritage Area. The same legislation also designated the mountains to Sound Greenway as a National Heritage Area.
- At the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's invitation, we participated with tribes and other state and federal agencies to help develop the San Juan Islands National Monument management plan.
- We recorded 2,997 cemeteries and burial sites in the state since August 2008.
- There are now 122 active data-sharing users on the archaeological and architectural website. All archaeological users signed confidentiality agreements.
- We issued 61 excavation permits in 2019, and 98% of those were issued within the 60-day timeframe.
- We shared data with 30 tribal governments on a regular basis.

- We organized and hosted a summit with tribal partners, federal and state agencies, and consulting archaeologists on the archaeological survey and reporting.
- We participated in multi-agency and multi-tribal cultural work groups for the Columbia and Snake River Systems, the Upper Columbia Clean Up, Hanford Clean Up, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensed reservoirs.
- We participated in the Natural Resource Damage Assessments for Oil Spill Response. We also assessed impacts to archaeological and cultural resources across the state and Northwest region.

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Department of Commerce

Summary

Our purpose is to strengthen communities. This includes working with tribes in government-to-government relationships on a broad range of programs and services. Areas include infrastructure, clean energy, economic development, community development, housing, and social services.

Highlights

- Hired full-time tribal liaison (November 2019).
- Visited the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, and the Lummi Nation. Hosted visits from Tulalip Tribes and the Hoh Indian Tribe, along with direct correspondence with tribal leadership.
- Provided \$20 million in COVID-19 response grants to all 29 Washington tribes.
- Provided \$3.1 million in COVID-19 response grants to 7 native urban organizations.
- Created intertribal and interagency work group to address adequate tribal consultation (Executive Order 05-05).
- Guided policy developments and consistent outreach to local governments around our Growth Management Act efforts.
- Provided \$11,837,000 in current grants to 20 tribes and two tribal nonprofits through the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy.
- Helped with Opportunity Zone efforts to support Emerald Coast OZ tribes. This includes the Hoh Indian Tribe, Makah Tribe, and Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe.
- Provided technical assistance services to tribal member-owned businesses with Sister Sky through COVID-19 Small Business Resilience Grants technical assistance services contract.
- Filled the tribal representative position on the Washington Tourism Marketing Authority Board of Directors.
- Established a work group to address adequate tribal consultation (Executive Order 05-05).
- Filled the tribal representative position for the State Energy Strategy.
- Led equity work to develop energy grant program flexibility for tribal and tribal organization eligibility.
- Established Hoh Indian Tribe connections with emergent technology of Star Link (SpaceX) Low Earth Orbit satellite network.
- Managed COVID-19 response to maintain public health through expanded community broadband connectivity with drive-in hotspots for internet connectivity.
- Facilitated private-public partnership funding for broadband planning to eastern Washington tribes in partnership with Better Health Together.
- Approved a \$50,000 grant to the Makah Tribe for the *Makah Tribe Communications Master Plan* and a \$150,000 grant to the Nisqually Indian Tribe for the *Nisqually Broadband Regional Feasibility Project – Proposals 1-3* through the Community Economic Revitalization Board.

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Washington State Conservation Commission

Summary

The Washington State Conservation Commission's mission is to conserve natural resources in collaboration with conservation districts and other partners. The SCC and conservation districts offer voluntary, incentive-based services that engage and assist landowners with conservation projects. Tribes are a critical partner in this work. Together, we achieve mutual natural resource goals for communities, the state and tribal nations.

Highlights

- 2019 marked the 20th anniversary of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, the largest riparian restoration program in Washington. Farmers are compensated for voluntarily growing native vegetation along streams, rather than crops. Vegetation forms a buffer between agricultural land and streams, keeping water clean and cool and improving salmon habitat. We, along with conservation districts, implemented this 20-year highlight and federally funded program. Here are some things the program brought about:
 - We have 1,375 agricultural sites voluntarily enrolled in CREP.
 - We have 925 miles of stream enhanced for salmon – that's the distance from Seattle to the Grand Canyon.
 - We planted 5.9 million native trees.
 - Our forests along streams are wide at 142 feet, average width. This provides more fish and wildlife habitat from riparian forest buffers.
- The Stillaguamish Tribe used a \$1.7 million SCC grant to work with partners, including Snohomish Conservation District, to demonstrate and evaluate a Vapor Recompression Distillation processor for the whole treatment of dairy manure. The processor converts manure wastewater into distilled recycled water, concentrated liquid ammonia, and a pathogen-free organic fertilizer.
- Using our Shellfish Program funding and support from multiple partners, Whatcom Conservation District led the technical assistance, data coordination, and outreach for the successful Whatcom Clean Water Program. This program benefits valuable shellfish harvest areas to the Lummi Nation and Nooksack Indian Tribe. In October 2019, we approved 765 acres for shellfish harvest in Drayton Harbor. This builds on the nearly 1,000 acres that we previously upgraded through this initiative since 2016.
- Mason Conservation District promoted sustainable use to over 1,100 students by working with multiple stakeholders — including the Skokomish Indian Tribe and Pacific Shellfish Institute — to create field experiences that teach about local natural resources.
- North Yakima Conservation District worked with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and a private irrigator on Ahtanum Creek Fish Screening and Floodplain Enhancement. They constructed a new rotary drum fish screen that eliminated fish getting stranded. It also continued irrigating agricultural lands.

- Using our Shellfish Program funding, the Pacific Conservation District collaborated with partners to install the North Cove Wash-A-Way Dynamic Revetment Project to protect shoreline from ocean erosion. The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe is a key partner in this work.
- Lewis Conservation District completed phase two of their Irrigation Fish Screening Project in the Chehalis Basin, funded by multiple partners including the SCC. By the end of 2019, the district had installed 26 fish-friendly screens on irrigation intakes, many of which are in Chinook-bearing waters.
- The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and Kittitas County Conservation District continued serving as leads of the Yakima Integrated Plan – Toppenish to Teanaway Regional Conservation Partnership Program Project. Together with other partners and landowners, they're completing projects that accelerate the recovery of threatened Mid-Columbia steelhead by targeting high-priority watersheds. These watersheds currently produce over 50% of the wild steelhead run in the Yakima River Basin.
- Our staff attended a full-day tribal resource policy group session during a National Association of Conservation Districts meeting to learn about tribal and conservation district partnerships across the nation.

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Department of Corrections

Summary

The current population under our jurisdiction is approximately 36,000 individuals. As of June 2020, 5.9% of those incarcerated and 4.3% of those on supervision identify as American Indian/Alaskan Native. There is currently a 44.5% recidivism rate among the AI/AN population. Currently 1.5% of our staff identify as AI/AN.

Highlights

Meetings, summits, conferences

- Tribal Relations Liaison Lyn Dennis presented on our Parent-Teacher Conference Program at the 2019 Land & Water Education Teacher Professional Development Conference.
- Agency representation met with the Northwest Indian College administration and toured their Bellingham campus.
- Agency representation met with the tribal councils of: Jamestown S’Klallam, Lummi Nation, Nisqually, Nooksack, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Puyallup, Samish Indian Nation, Skokomish, Snoqualmie, Squaxin Island, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Swinomish and Tulalip Tribes.
- Agency representation attended the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Annual Convention 2019, Winter Convention 2020 and Mid-Year Convention 2020 to present what we are completing in criminal justice and reentry work.
- Secretary Stephen Sinclair and agency representation attended the Yakama Nation-State Agency Summit and the 30th Annual Centennial Accord meeting.
- Agency administration met with the Circles at Cedar Creek and Clallam Bay.
- Coordinated a meeting among multiple tribes, nonprofits and Correctional Industries to discuss creating sustainable shelters that could aid local tribes.
- The Executive Leadership Team hosted Huy Chair Gabe Galanda and former Swinomish Chair and NCAI President Brian Cladoosby to conduct a training on government-to-government relationships.

Program, policy, and form changes and benefits

- We centralized the tribal trust accounting system. We also revised the tribal deposit form to simplify and streamline tribal deposits and allow incarcerated tribal members more access to tribal monies.
- We revised the Native American Heritage Questionnaire to collect more relevant information about incarcerated tribal members. This will better serve them during incarceration and better prepare them for community reentry.

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Department of Children, Youth and Families

Summary

We are in our second year as a cabinet-level agency focused on the well-being of children. Our vision is that “Washington’s children and youth grow up safe and healthy – thriving physically, emotionally and academically, nurtured by family and community.” Through the leadership of Secretary Ross Hunter, our guiding principles include a relentless focus on outcomes for children; a commitment to collaboration and transparency; a commitment to using data to inform and evaluate reforms, leveraging and aligning existing services with desired child outcomes; and a focus on supporting staff as they contribute to the agency’s goals and outcomes.

We also administer programs offered by the Juvenile Rehabilitation Division and the Office of Juvenile Justice. This includes JR institutions, community facilities and parole services. JR provides rehabilitation and reentry services to Washington’s highest-risk youth who are committed to JR custody. JR serves youth and young adults committed through juvenile and adult court up to age 25. From Sept. 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, we provided 53 American Indian and Alaska Native youth with JR rehabilitation services.

We created the Office of Tribal Relations to advocate for the delivery of DCYF services that are of high-quality and culturally-sensitive, and ensure Indian tribes can access our services in a timely manner. OTR is composed of a tribal liaison in each of our six regions, an ICW program manager, an early learning liaison and a director of tribal relations who reports directly to Secretary Hunter. Other divisions within the agency have added staff dedicated to supporting tribal work. This includes a tribal licensing support specialist, an early achievers government and partnership liaison, a tribal early support for infant and toddlers specialist, and a tribal ECEAP specialist.

Highlights

Meetings, summits, conferences, etc.

- We hosted a tribal briefing on the proposed budget reductions due to the economic impact of COVID-19.
- We met with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation for their Government-to-Government Summit.
- As part of the new foster care portal development process, we invited tribes to join in nine different taskforce groups and participate in two tribal listening sessions.
- JR facilities continue cultural programming and religious services consistent with the beliefs, values and culture of the AI/AN juvenile’s community.
 - Echo Glen constructed a new sweat lodge hosted by the Unkitawa Organization.
 - Inipi Ceremony was held with members of the Heal Re-entry Drum Group.
 - A Potlatch Ceremony was held at Naselle Youth Camp. It included: Chinook and Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe members, school facility, various DCYF administration, Sen. Dean Takko and Rep. Brian Blake.

Policy

- We held a tribal consultation on the DCYF Secretary's List of Disqualifying Crimes and Negative Actions to identify potential impacts on tribal child welfare and early learning programs. The list ensures that every child we serve is safe, while we stay true to federal requirements. The updated list has a less restrictive lens for more individuals to have a second chance through individualized consideration. This reduces the number of automatic disqualifiers, reduces racial inequities and improves outcomes for children.
- DCYF conducts more than 35 quarterly meetings with tribes (under the 10.03 policy) to evaluate the Annual Action Plans and Year in Review Progress Reports.
- We convene quarterly Tribal Policy Advisory Committee meetings, and bimonthly Indian Child Welfare and Indian Policy for Early Learning subcommittee meetings. We invite all tribes and recognized American Indian organizations to participate.
- As part of the federal Family First Prevention Service Act planning, we partnered with tribes to learn what prevention practices are embraced and effective in tribal communities. We identified four practices: Family Spirit, positive Indian parenting, Healing of the Canoe and healing circles. We contracted with a native researcher through a TPAC recommendation to conduct the evidentiary review process and prepare for FFPSA funding approval.
- We worked with tribes for the statewide ICW Case Review in 2019. This includes developing regional ICWA Practice Improvement Plans to increase ICWA compliance with federal and state laws and DCYF policy and procedures.
- The licensing division, in coordination with IPEL, created a new process for Certification for Payment Only to simplify the process based on federal guidance.

Memoranda of understanding and residential custody service agreements

- We are negotiating with tribes to update current agreements or initiate new agreements. In addition to these MOUs, Region 3 has entered into a CPS Protocol with Tulalip Tribes to ensure tribal participation with CPS investigations and to ensure adherence with state law, tribal law and policy. We continue to work with the tribes to edit our MOU template as policy and RCW changes. The template is a starting point that DCYF and tribes use to begin discussions on roles and responsibilities.
- JR continued to work with interested tribes in establishing RCSA to AI/AN youth adjudicated and sentenced by a tribal court of any federally recognized Indian tribe in Washington. This past year, additional RCSAs included: Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Squaxin Island Tribe and Suquamish Tribe. In May 2020, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation successfully referred their first young person to JR under the RCSA.

Contracts / grants

- ECEAP contracts with two Sovereign Nations (Lummi Nation and Suquamish Tribe) and subcontracts with eight Sovereign Nations (Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Puyallup Tribe, Sauk-

Suiattle Indian Tribe, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Squaxin Island Tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Tulalip Tribes and Upper Skagit Indian Tribe). The Salish School of Spokane is a nonprofit that provides Salish language immersion and is an ECEAP subcontractor. The Upper Skagit Indian Tribe is not continuing with ECEAP next school year because of COVID-19 impacts.

- ECEAP is working with Washington tribes to create a tribal pathway that will remove barriers. This will lead to more tribes providing ECEAP. ECEAP continues to gather feedback from tribes about how it can support tribes and meet the needs of their youngest learners. This includes a priority point system that meets the needs of sovereign nations.
- In the fall of 2019, we received a five-year cooperative agreement (in the form of a grant) with the Administration for Children and Families for the Strengthening Families Locally. This will work collaboratively with four communities. It will bring partners together to examine the strengths, resilience and barriers for families in communities with a specific focus on preventing child maltreatment. Partner communities include Bremerton, Spokane, parts of Clallam County and Ferry/Stephens counties. We are in the first year of the grant, and we are focused on implementation and evaluation planning. In the coming years, DCYF will support communities to engage tribes or tribal partners in community efforts.
- Home visiting services will increase capacity for voluntary home visiting through an expanded contract with United Indians of All Tribes. This will help additional families be engaged in the Parents as Teachers Program. Additionally, the Tulalip Tribes has been selected to implement the Family Spirit Program. We are still developing contracts for both.

Staff contact

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Department of Ecology

Summary

The Department of Ecology works in partnerships with tribes to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's land, air and water for current and future generations. Ecology and tribes frequently consult and coordinate on projects throughout the state in connection with water quality permits, water cleanup plans, water right actions, shoreline management, spill response, toxic cleanup, environmental impact assessments and more. Each reservation is effectively a neighboring state under federal environmental laws, and we work with tribes to coordinate on cross-border flows, consistent with our respective authorities. We had many significant government-to-government interactions with tribes and our 10 environmental programs this past year.

Highlights

Floodplains by Design Program

Since 2013, the Legislature has appropriated \$165 million to fund the state Floodplains by Design Program. The partnership with Ecology, The Nature Conservancy, and Puget Sound Partnership reduces flood risks while restoring aquatic habitat in the state's major river corridors. The program promotes integrated floodplain management, and engaging with tribes and all affected stakeholders to seek holistic, enduring solutions. Ecology has provided grants to work closely on these projects with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Puyallup Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Skokomish Indian Tribe, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Tulalip Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. From these projects, we reduced flood hazards in 59 Washington communities. We also reconnected over 7,200 acres of floodplains and protected 1,337 acres of farmland. Finally, we restored more than 49 miles of important salmon habitat and we moved over 2,200 homes and structures from high-risk flood zones.

Cle Elum fish passage project

Creating collaborative solutions to restoring fish runs in the Yakima basin is a high priority. The Yakima Basin Integrated Plan addresses fish passage and habitat, plus watershed protection and enhancement at reservoirs and important tributaries. The Cle Elum watershed in the Yakima River basin historically produced a thriving sockeye salmon population along with other anadromous fish species. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation is working cooperatively with the Bureau of Reclamation, Ecology, the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, and others to restore habitat and return sockeye to their historical home. This reintroduced run of sockeye will ultimately return tens of thousands of fish to the Yakima Basin.

When complete, the project will provide access to about 10 miles of lake habitat and 29 miles of high quality, cool stream habitat that sockeye and other anadromous fish need to reproduce in the upper Cle Elum watershed.

Water rights adjudications

As the decades-long Yakima Basin adjudication began winding down with the 2019 final *Acquavella* Superior Court decree, Ecology began planning for future adjudications of water rights. In 2019, the Legislature granted us a modest funding request for a short-term project to assess where to initiate the next state water rights adjudications. In September, we provided a report and recommendation to the Legislature. We received petitions for adjudications from three tribal governments, and plan to request funding to begin adjudication in two of the most urgent watersheds. As resources allow, we will pursue more detailed assessments in additional watersheds where adjudications could help resolve intractable water rights issues.

Spills prevention and response

Northwest Area Committee, Regional Response Team and Tribal Engagement Subcommittee

Ecology represents Washington as a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10 Regional Response Team, the Northwest Area Committee and its Tribal Engagement Subcommittee. The NWAC Tribal Engagement Subcommittee works to build and strengthen relationships with tribal partners. This includes actions taken before and during an emergency. Examples include development of geographic response plans, participation on NWAC task forces, and sending responders to incidents.

Equipment cache and training grants

We provide equipment and training grants to emergency responders to help local communities prepare for and respond to spills. The grant program helps preserve and protect vital resources by building spill response capacity through training and equipment. These tools conserve and preserve environmental and cultural resources important to exercising treaty rights. We have funding available to federally recognized tribal governments.

Oil spill drills

The Ecology Spills Program administers an oil spill drill program to verify efficacy and improve contingency plans. It uses national preparedness guidelines. This includes testing early notification, spill management teams, familiarity with the Incident Command System, equipment deployment, and assessing and mitigating response to protect sensitive resources. Drill exercises benefit from including tribes, agencies, and stakeholders who are potentially affected by an oil spill and can provide local expertise to aid in response efforts. We encourage tribes to participate.

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Employment Security Department

Summary

The Employment Security Department's vision is for Washington to have the nation's best and most future-ready workforce with opportunities for all. We provide our communities with inclusive workforce solutions that promote economic resilience and prosperity.

During the current COVID-19 crisis, we adopted the following sub-mission: Help workers, businesses and communities navigate employment uncertainty during a dynamic, stressful and unpredictable environment in the next 12 to 18 months.

We are a partner in the statewide, career-service delivery system known as WorkSource. This system includes partners from nonprofit organizations, community colleges, local governmental entities and other state agencies. Services are available to everyone, with special emphasis on individuals who historically need the most help finding work.

We also collect unemployment insurance taxes, provide unemployment benefits, analyze and disseminate labor market and employment information, manage the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program, and are currently implementing the new Long-Term Care Program.

Highlights

We played a critical role during the pandemic by providing unemployment benefits to Washington workers.

Throughout the year, we worked with WorkSource system partners to engage tribes in a number of ways. Specific examples of direct engagement with tribes are expansive and cover the entire state. Examples include:

- Met regularly with tribes to better understand their workforce and economic security needs.
- Partnered with tribes to provide job fairs, hiring events, trainings, webinars and technical assistance to tribal members.
- Established direct lines of communication between tribal governments, WorkSource centers and ESD programs to ensure tribes have the most up-to-date and relevant information.
- Targeted the hiring of tribal members into the workforce so they can provide a critical link between the system and tribal communities, while improving employment options for workers throughout the state.
- Worked with tribes to develop career pathway strategies for tribal high school students.
- Processed approximately 150 claims through our unemployment benefits escalation portal and provided rapid policy response to tribal members with unemployment COVID-19 questions.
- Worked with tribes to develop reentry programs for justice-involved tribal members.

ESD looks forward to building on existing partnerships and relationships in the next year.

Staff contact

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Department of Enterprise Services

Summary

The Department of Enterprise Services delivers services to tribes and government entities. We bring together the policy, planning and oversight of central services. This helps tribal governments focus on their core missions. We are committed to the Centennial Accord principles and to achieving the following goals:

1. Recognize and respect tribes as sovereign governments with distinct cultures and governmental structures.
2. Constantly improve the value and effectiveness of services that we provide to tribal governments. Strive to constantly improve our understanding of tribal government needs, and identify and seek remedies for any barriers that come up when people try to access the services we provide.
3. Identify matters of mutual concern, so we can foster early discussion and collaboration.

Highlights

Procurement and use of state master contracts

Tribal governments are eligible to use state master contracts. This can save time and money as well as comply with federal grant requirements by using competitively-awarded contracts. The following tribes participated: Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of The Yakama Nation, Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Hoh Indian Tribe, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Lummi Nation, Makah Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Samish Indian Nation, Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, Skokomish Indian Tribe, Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Squaxin Island Tribe, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Suquamish Tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Tulalip Tribes, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe.

In addition, tribal entities have access to Washington's Electronic Business Solution System. This is an internet-based tool we maintain for posting competitive solicitations to registered vendors who are interested in doing business with state, local and tribal governments. The American Indian Chamber Education Fund Procurement Technical Assistance Program, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Confederated Tribes and Bands of The Yakama Nation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Makah Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Skokomish Indian Tribe, Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, Standing Rock Public Transit, and Tulalip Tribes are all registered to post to WEBS.

We also demonstrate our commitment to supplier diversity. We do this by expanding economic opportunities and reducing barriers to doing business with the state.

Capitol Lake

Through a long-term lease agreement with the Department of Natural Resources, we manage the artificial 260-acre Capitol Lake-Deschutes Estuary. The Legislature approved \$4 million in 2018 and an additional \$1.7 million in 2020 (including \$284,000 of local funds) to complete a project-specific Environmental Impact Statement. We require an EIS for any long-term management option under the State Environmental Policy Act or even any short-term actions, such as initial dredging.

An executive level workgroup from Olympia and Tumwater, LOTT Clean Water Alliance, Port of Olympia, Squaxin Island Tribe, and Thurston County continues to collaborate and provide guidance as the process moves forward. We continue our work on the technical analyses that will form the EIS foundation. Finally, we plan to complete a draft EIS in summer 2021, with a final EIS expected in 2022.

Staff contacts

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Department of Financial Institutions (Financial Education and Outreach)

Summary

The Washington Department of Financial Institutions works to provide financial education resources to tribes and tribal members. This is part of our mission to “lead the way in consumer protection and financial services regulation.” We accomplish this mission in partnership with Washington tribes, working to meet their financial education needs in a manner that best meets their objectives. That could be providing an in-person workshop, assisting with a business fair, funding staff training or providing a grant for a financial education program.

Highlights

- Through a grant with Your Money Matters, more than 100 youth from the Puyallup Tribe, many who are students at Chief Leschi Schools, received free financial education classes from January through June 2020. Though the pandemic temporarily caused disruption in delivery, we moved classes and mentorship online within a few weeks.
 - Topics included credit, banking, insurance, savings, investing and debt management.
 - Mentors provided more than 60 hours of one-on-one education, in addition to lessons offered in 30 classes.
 - Students also learned the importance of having a budget, how to read a credit report, and why it’s good to have a savings and checking account.
- We continued communication with the Makah Tribe and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation on potential financial education outreach and grant opportunities.
- We participated in state-tribal interagency meetings on social services.

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Department of Fish and Wildlife

Summary

Our mission is to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

We implement this mission by managing fishing and hunting activities in concert with the Northwest Indian Tribes through a cooperative, government-to-government relationship. Federal case law (U.S. v. Washington and U.S. v. Oregon) and executive orders provide the foundation for this relationship. We also work closely with the tribes to restore and protect habitat needed to support healthy fish and wildlife populations.

Our director holds the primary responsibility to sustain WDFW's partnerships with Washington tribes, and upholds this agency's role in successful state-tribal, government-to-government relationships. The director formally delegates authority to senior staff to represent him in many tribal-state management forums.

Highlights

WDFW Office of the Director

- Within our director's first two years, Kelly Susewind led the charge to focus on conservation, support responsible resource management decisions, and promote the importance of intergovernmental relations. He oversees 1,800 employees and an operating budget of \$460 million for the current two-year budget period.
- In March, we responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. Working closely with tribes, we shut down fishing, hunting and public lands from April - May. We also moved to mandatory telework for all office-based employees and reduced fieldwork to essential services. Our essential employees have kept necessary enforcement on the ground, communications open and operated fish hatcheries. We have communicated with tribal governments to meet our responsibilities. Knowing that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected tribes, we continue to support natural resource management in this time of crises.
- We are developing a new tribal consultation policy. This will improve communication between WDFW and tribal governments. This plan will provide guidance to improve coordination, communication, and consultation when our actions and decisions may affect tribal interests.
- We proposed a new Cultural Resources Protection Policy. The director appointed a work group made up of WDFW archeologists, policy representatives, and managers to develop a new policy that preserves and protects cultural resources and historic sites. The intent is to better conform with the governor's Executive Order 05-05, Historic Preservation Act, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

- The Capital and Asset Management Program hired an archaeologist and an architectural historian to provide cultural resources support for the capital budget projects. This greatly improved tribal coordination and consultation.
- **Capitol budget:** We are actively managing over 190 facility and infrastructure improvement projects with a capital budget of \$140 million. Significant projects include hatchery improvements at Wallace River Hatchery, Soos Creek Hatchery, Minter Creek Hatchery, Naselle Hatchery, Toutle River Fish Collection Facility, Samish Hatchery, Dungeness Hatchery, Forks Creek Hatchery, Tumwater Falls Facility and Puyallup Hatchery, as well as several statewide wildlife area projects. We are also making improvements to more than two dozen boating access sites across the state.
- **Pinniped management and coordination:** WDFW, Yakama Nation, CTUIR, Warm Springs, Nez Perce, Idaho Fish and Game, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted an application in May 2019 to the National Marine Fisheries Service. This application would use the state and tribes' expanded new authority to remove California and Steller sea lions in the Lower Columbia. NMFS convened a pinniped task force in May to review the co-managers' application. We expect a final decision this fall. The Legislature appropriated funding so we could increase pinniped removals in this area.

We contracted with six treaty tribes to conduct an aerial pinniped population estimate in Puget Sound in fall 2019. Our Canadian counterparts followed a similar protocol in British Columbia, which resulted in a Salish Sea population estimate for harbor seals. We continue to coordinate with Muckleshoot and Suquamish and non-governmental organizations to support testing of a non-lethal pinniped acoustic disturbance device at Ballard Locks. There are some administrative permitting hurdles with the Army Corps of Engineers, who owns and operates the site, for giving the evaluation team permission to conduct the analysis. We convened a meeting with interested western Washington treaty tribes in early winter 2020 to examine the results of the pinniped predation impacts to out-migrating salmon smolts. We also discussed how to best address this challenge given the limited effective non-lethal management options and the procedural complexity of the MMPA.

- **State/tribal hunting coordination:** There are 24 tribes with off-reservation hunting rights in Washington. We regularly meet with tribal wildlife staff to coordinate wildlife research, conduct population surveys and establish population management objectives. In the 2019-20 hunting season, 13 of the 24 tribes shared their hunting regulations with us. The NWIFC compiles a report of the 20 western Washington treaty tribes' harvest data, which they then share with us.

We shared a draft of its internal enforcement protocols for how its officers address contacts with tribal members with off-reservation hunting rights, and invited comment. The NWIFC reviewed and discussed the protocol with us this summer.

At the request of treaty tribes, we updated our draft procedural guidelines for evaluating a treaty tribes' asserted traditional hunting area in spring 2019. Many tribes commented. A common theme was that we should develop the guidelines collaboratively with the tribes. We hosted a summit on the traditional hunting area guidelines in fall 2019. Our key discussion points were to:

- collaboratively develop the guidelines and invite participation from WDFW's and tribal anthropologists, *and*
- for the tribes' to explore an intertribal dispute resolution forum to address conflicts over traditional hunting area claims.

In response to the summit, we shared our enforcement discretion guidelines for the 2019-20 season regrading traditional hunting areas outside of treaty ceded area. We resumed conversations with tribal leaders on how best to proceed.

- We meet quarterly with leaders and staff of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to discuss updates and coordination on multiple collaborative efforts. These efforts follow the commitments we outlined in the 2005 Memorandum of Understanding. The tribe and WDFW work together on a range of issues. These include developing a beaver relocation program, monitoring and sampling ESA-listed eulachon in the Cowlitz River, and improving fish passage in the Lewis River. In July 2020, Director Susewind and Chair Iyall participated in the quarterly meeting and reaffirmed their commitment to the MOU in support of the government-to-government relationship.

Fish management and science

- Our staff worked closely with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the other three lower Columbia River Treaty Tribes, and the Upper Columbia United Tribes to provide the Northwest Power and Conservation Council with consensus recommendations for the 2020 addendum to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The consensus recommendations helped the council revise the goals, objectives, and indicators in the current program. The collaborative state/tribal work resulted in reorganized, reformulated, and supplemented objectives and indicators to enable the council and others to effectively evaluate program performance and support meaningful adaptive management.
- Our staff worked closely with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the other three Columbia Basin Treaty Tribes to provide the Northwest Power and Conservation Council with consensus recommendations for the 2020 addendum to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The consensus recommendations helped the council revise the goals, objectives, and indicators in the current program. The collaborative state/tribal work resulted in reorganized, reformulated, and supplemented objectives and indicators to enable the council and others to effectively evaluate program performance and support adaptive management.
- We continued collaboration among Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, WDFW and scientists from NOAA, National Park Service, USGS and USFWS to recover salmon and steelhead in the Elwha River. This was after dam removal as we move from the "preservation" phase to the "recolonization" phase for native, anadromous fish.

- At a 2018 Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting, the FWC directed us to review the Hatchery and Fishery Reform Policy. Meetings with tribal co-managers throughout the state have been a crucial part of this project. These meetings focused on the following elements that progressed during 2019 and 2020:
 - Policy review (commission assignment).
 - Science update and synthesis, including emerging science.
 - Policy performance evaluation document.
 - Joint co-manager Hatchery Benefits document – authored by tribal and state co-managers, examines the socio-ecological role of hatcheries, tribal legal considerations, and the ecosystem services provided by hatcheries.
 - Engage tribal co-managers in policy development.
 - Public outreach and engagement.
- The commission will consider final reports and policy recommendations, synthesize information from the three documents above and incorporate input from tribes, partners, stakeholders and the public. On Feb. 26 and April 3, the FWC Commission met with Puget Sound and Coastal tribal co-managers, along with WDFW leadership, to discuss this project and gather tribal input.
- Washington’s attorney general settled a lawsuit against the Monsanto corporation. This related to a dangerous class of chemicals called PCBs. Under this settlement, Monsanto will pay the state \$95 million to minimize PCB damages in the Puget Sound ecosystem. Our staff provided key scientific support for this lawsuit. We identified the affected species, and the extent and magnitude of the problem in Puget Sound and its food web. We are concerned about the negative impact of PCBs as we help recover Chinook salmon and Southern Resident orcas.
- WDFW and the U.S. v. Washington tribes completed their annual salmon fishery planning process (North of Falcon) in April. They reached agreement on conservation objectives and fishery plans for the year. We received a one-year Endangered Species Act authorization in May from the National Marine Fisheries Service. This covered fisheries affecting ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook, while the co-managers continue work on a multiyear ESA resource management plan. They will submit this to NMFS.
- Jamestown S’Klallam, Makah and WDFW partnered with staff from Washington SeaGrant to request legislative funding for the SeaGrant monitoring program. This would help the European Green Crab in the Salish Sea. Without these funds, the citizen-science based monitoring program would have ceased, leaving the co-managers with no tools to detect newly establishing populations of this invasive crab. This would pose a significant threat to shellfish resources and the nearshore marine environment.
- Colville, Spokane, Kalispel and WDFW combined forces with other partners to combat the spread of Northern Pike in the Columbia Basin. This annual suppression of invasive Northern Pike, a prohibited species in Washington, is ongoing. WDFW and the tribes also worked to obtain funding for a long-term control program.
- We have worked with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to reintroduce sockeye salmon into Lake Cle Elum. As a result, sockeye are annually returning to the Yakima

River Basin. The state lost much of our sockeye in the Yakima Basin because of four U.S. Bureau of Reclamation irrigation storage dams from a century ago. Our work continues on constructing a permanent juvenile fish passage facility at Cle Elum Dam as part of the Yakima Basin Integrated Water Management Plan.

- WDFW and Western Washington treaty tribes agreed on shellfish harvest management plans. These plans provide frameworks for conducting commercial, subsistence, ceremonial and recreational fisheries. The shellfish governed by the agreements include Dungeness crab, pandalid shrimp, geoduck clams, horse clams, intertidal clams, Pacific oysters, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, scallops, crayfish and squid. Geoduck clam and Dungeness crab fisheries have produced the largest landings for shellfish fisheries in Puget Sound. About 4.8 million pounds of geoduck and 9 million pounds of crab landed in these state and tribal fisheries in 2018.
- Western Washington treaty tribes, WDFW, DNR, UW and other partners formed the Pacific Northwest Crab Research Group. This group advances our understanding of crab life history and population dynamics. To advise long-term fisheries management, we implemented a pilot larval light trap network to explore crab larval dynamics as the group's first research project.

Hatcheries

- In cooperation with the NWIFC, we worked through unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19. Through collaboration and partnership, we mass marked and code-wire tagged nearly all salmon released into Washington waters. This is a tremendous effort in normal years; Completing this critical work during a global pandemic makes this year's accomplishments especially notable.
- WDFW and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation implemented a plan at Priest Rapids Hatchery that more efficiently supplied surplus fall Chinook eggs/fish to help other facilities meet broodstock needs. This coordinated effort helped the Yakama Nation meet its production goals. It also ensured the Grant County Public Utility District and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers fall Chinook mitigation programs in the Hanford Reach could meet their broodstock needs.
- The following hatchery production has been proposed by the tribes that received Proviso funding for increased salmon production for SRKW in 2019-21:

Puget Sound

Chinook salmon proposed increase: 3.275 million

Coho salmon proposed increase: 800,000

Chum salmon proposed increase: 2.5 million

Coastal

Chinook salmon proposed increase: 570,000

Coho salmon proposed increase: 400,000

Wildlife management

- Our Wildlife Program has been under contract with the Squaxin Island Tribe to evaluate pinniped diets in the southern Puget Sound. We want to determine the species, size, and age of salmon and steelhead (including some stocks) that are constrained, threatened, or endangered. We will estimate consumption rates by pinnipeds and overall impacts to stocks that have enormous cultural, recreational, and commercial values to tribes and the state. We conduct the work in and around estuaries that are ecologically important to salmon and steelhead, and traditionally important to the tribes that harvest these stocks. WDFW and Squaxin staff work together to collect and process samples.
- We worked with several tribes to develop elk management plans. We worked with the Medicine Creek Treaty Tribes and Point Elliot Treaty Tribes to complete the North Rainier Elk Herd Plan and the Olympic Peninsula tribes to begin the Olympic Herd Plan. These plans highlight management objectives and identify strategies to accomplish those objectives.
- Our staff worked with Point Elliot Treaty Tribes on elk/agriculture conflicts in the Skagit River Valley. One of the main collaborations was working on non-lethal efforts to move elk away from agricultural areas. Tribal and WDFW representatives meet regularly at a policy and technical level to discuss progress, the vision for future cooperative efforts, and concerns related to conservation and/or hunting opportunity.
- Our staff worked with the Point Elliott Treaty Tribes on a variety of wildlife management projects. These included aerial elk surveys in the North Cascades Elk Herd area and mountain goat translocation (from the Olympic Mountains to the North Cascades Mountains). 2020 marks the last year of translocating mountain goat, which has been a positive cooperative venture.
- We continue to meet with tribal biologists on the Olympic Peninsula to discuss and coordinate on wildlife management issues. Elk management (and the Olympic Elk Herd Plan) continues to be a high priority. In addition, we jointly funded and conducted elk surveys in the spring to help inform management. Staff also supported the Makah, Lower Elwha Klallam, and Skokomish Tribes on various wildlife study proposals. We appreciate the time that the tribes invested.
- We continue to work with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation on multiple game management and conservation projects. This includes monitoring bighorn sheep disease outbreak in the Mount Hull herd, coordinating and monitoring the distribution of a tribal-led pronghorn antelope introduction effort, and collaborating on a tribal-led effort to implement big game surveys in northcentral/northeast Washington. Other projects include augmenting sharp-tail grouse populations through trapping in British Columbia and releasing in areas on and off tribal land, and sharing wildlife radio collar data through a formal non-disclosure agreement.
- We have coordinated grizzly bear monitoring and outreach and education efforts with the Kalispel Tribe.
- We continue work with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation on a variety of wildlife issues. This includes the Yakama Nation's pronghorn reintroduction effort and improving in-stream habitat on WDFW-owned lands.

- We continue work with several tribes to provide hunter education classes for tribal members and the non-tribal public. There is increasing tribal interest to provide hunter education and improve hunter safety.

Habitat

- On April 24, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted new rules implementing sections of the 2019 Increasing Chinook Abundance bill (House Bill 1579). This bill implements recommendations from the Southern Resident Orca Task Force to increase prey abundance. This bill authorized us to issue ‘Stop Work’ orders and comply notices when we can’t gain voluntary compliance or when someone violates statute. This bill also repealed the marine beachfront protective bulkheads, or rockwalls, for single-family residences statute that required us to issue permits for these structures. The bill added a procedure for potential applicants to request a pre-application determination about whether a project proposed landward of the ordinary high water line requires a hydraulic project approval.
- In response to SRKW Task Force recommendation, we started a rulemaking process to develop a new rule section. The main goals are to codify standards that we use for instream structures, fish screening and diversions, and climate adaptive water crossing structures. This will address compliance issues for instream structures and screening.
- We continued to chair the Fish Barrier Removal Board. We collaborated with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to help restore healthy and harvestable levels of salmon and steelhead statewide through removing fish passage barriers. The board currently has \$43 million in capital grants. These are extended to 69 fish passage projects statewide. We extended an invitation to Western Washington tribes for board membership.
- We continue to make progress on finishing an update to the Priority Habitats and Species (*Riparian Ecosystems – Volume 1 and 2*. Volume 1: *Science Synthesis and Management Implications for Protecting of Riparian Ecosystems* from May 2018 is fully designed and available online as of January 2020). In February and March, we conducted five regional workshops with Washington tribes to review the revised draft of Volume 2: *Management Recommendations* and to demo the new *Site-Potential Tree Height Online Mapping Tool*. We hosted in-person and virtual workshops in partnership with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation in southcentral, the Upper Columbia United Tribes in the east, the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in the northwest, and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission in south Puget Sound and the Olympic Peninsula, and received participation from more than 25 tribal nations and consortiums. We revised the document in small yet meaningful ways through these workshops. It’s now waiting for final approval from agency leadership. We made the online SPTH mapping tool available for public use in August. We want to thank our tribal members and leaders for their engagement and insight
- As part of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, we continue working with the Quinault Indian Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation. Our goal is to advance the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan’s development and implement on-the-ground restoration projects. This will protect and restore priority habitats throughout the Chehalis Basin.

- In June, the ASRP Steering Committee directed \$4.7 million in state grants to fund 20 aquatic habitat restoration projects. These projects will create jobs, improve local water quality and floodplain functions, and offer resiliency to climate change impacts. We expect these projects to protect and restore up to 430 acres of riverside and floodplain habitat, nearly 3 miles of instream habitat, and generate more than 10 miles of accessible stream habitat for migrating fish.
- In early 2020, we initiated a habitat restoration cultural resources working group with interested tribes. This group will improve communication and coordination for archaeological and historic resources related to restoration and other actions under the Chehalis Basin Strategy.
- We continue coordinating with tribes to make sure estuary restoration meets the shared goals of the tribes and state for the Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project. This project is part of the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project. Port Gamble S’Klallam, Jamestown S’Klallam, and Skokomish Tribal representatives reviewed SEPA and designs this past winter. The Skokomish Tribe participated in a multiagency review of hydrodynamic modeling results. Multiple THPOs were involved during development of the Ethnographic Context report.
- Our Habitat and Fish Program staff worked closely with the Upper Columbia United Tribes on a phased process to reintroduce salmon above the area of the upper Columbia River. This is currently blocked by Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams. Our staff connected UCUT leadership with the Department of Ecology’s Office of Columbia River to better understand juvenile salmon behavior in Lake Roosevelt and key tributaries. We also advocated to continue the phased reintroduction process at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Finally, we worked with the Colville, Spokane, and Coeur d’Alene Tribes to screen adult Chinook salmon. We did this to catch disease risk to resident redband trout and facilitate safe “cultural releases” of salmon above Grand Coulee Dam for the first time in 80 years.
- Our Habitat and Fish Program staff worked with several states, federal agencies, and tribes, including the Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and Columbia Inter-Tribal Fish Commission to implement “flexible spill” on the Columbia and Snake rivers in 2020. Thanks to this program, juvenile salmon benefited from additional spill over eight federal dams most of the day from April through June. This new set of dam operations is expected to reduce delayed, or early ocean, mortality after passing through the hydrosystem. It will result in higher future adult returns, while it also allows windows for the Bonneville Power Administration to reduce spill during times of higher energy demand.
- Our Habitat and Fish Program staff worked closely with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation over the past year to respond to a PacificCorp proposal. The proposal would replace fish passage at some of its Lewis River projects with “in lieu” habitat restoration. WDFW and the tribes have advocated, along with conservation groups and the Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, to retain plans to provide passage at all dams on the Lewis River. We provided technical support to demonstrate the extensive (and expensive) monitoring and evaluation work PacificCorp would have to undertake to try and prove that “in lieu” restoration in existing habitat could compete with the salmon recovery benefits of full passage.

- We continue to partner with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservations on fish passage restoration in Mill Creek (Walla Walla County). For over 70 years, the flood control project has hampered the passage-to-passage movement to upper Mill Creek's pristine habitat in Walla Walla. Opening up Mill Creek will benefit the CTUIR's spring chinook reintroduction program, as well as ESA-listed steelhead and Bull trout. WDFW and the tribe have combined our expertise and resources, along with the Tri-State Steelheaders and the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, to identify and complete projects that will greatly reduce the impact of fish barriers to these populations.
- Our staff in Region 2 continue to work with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to implement habitat restoration projects on WDFW-owned lands. We initiated the partnership in August 2013 through a 5-year memorandum of understanding. Once the original MOU expired in 2018, WDFW and the Yakama Nation entered into a second five-year MOU this year to continue habitat restoration work through November 2024.
- We are considering estuary restoration on up to 270 acres at the WDFW-owned Island Unit site. Representatives from the Skagit River System Cooperative (providing natural resource management services for the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community) and Upper Skagit Indian Tribe participate on the project advisory group. This group provided input on alternatives and criteria that we will use to assess the alternatives. One of the criteria is tribal treaty rights. SRSC staff are also completing channel and smolt estimates in support of the alternatives analysis. We will select a preferred alternative in late 2020.
- We continue work with our tribal partners to advance habitat protection and restoration initiatives throughout the Puget Sound. Nearshore restoration and protection grants were awarded to the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, the Skagit River Systems Cooperative, and the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians. The Puget Sound National Estuary Program's Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead Program we run (in collaboration with Washington Department of Natural Resources), awarded federal fiscal year 2019 and 2020 Puget Sound Geographic Fund grants to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe; Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe; Tulalip Tribes; and Skagit River System Cooperative. The Suquamish Tribe is a lead collaborator in another grant.
- The Golf Club Hill Road Fish Barrier Removal Project removed the highest priority county-owned fish passage barrier in Kitsap County. The project removed the barrier culvert and associated log weir fishway, restoring fish passage and natural stream processes in the Chico Creek watershed. The culvert consisted of three concrete boxes, each 12 feet diameter, and a bridge replaced the culvert. The project also includes over 2,000 linear feet of stream channel restoration. This includes removal of a log weir fishway, floodplain reconnection, installation of large wood habitat features, and planting native vegetation. Chico Creek is within the usual and accustomed fishing area of the Suquamish Tribe and supports chum and coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and steelhead populations. Recreational anglers use the marine waters at the Chico Creek estuary for sportfishing. Project partners included the Suquamish Tribe, Kitsap County Public Works, WDFW, and Recreation & Conservation Office. Construction is in progress.
- In concert with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, we facilitated an annual meeting and three quarterly meetings with all Stevens Treaties tribes. During these meetings, state

agencies presented their culvert injunction status, coordinated upcoming barrier corrections and discussed injunction implementation guidelines.

- We attended site visits and collaborated closely with all Stevens Treaties Tribes throughout the design and permitting process regarding Olympic, Northwest and Southwest Washington State Department of Transportation culvert injunction projects. We currently have 145 fish passage projects under design or construction. With all fish passage projects, close coordination is an effective approach as we address tribal concerns and priorities.

Enforcement

- We continue to implement an agreement with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation for enforcement and cooperative patrols of recreational fisheries within the Rufus Woods Reservoir of the upper Columbia River. As a part of that agreement, we provided \$3 million in pass-through funding to create fishing access sites on the reservoir. This benefits state and tribal citizens, and funds two Colville tribal fish and wildlife officer positions.
- Tribal and state law enforcement collaborated to address poaching and trafficking cases where non-tribal and tribal individuals co-conspired in violations. Alone, our jurisdictional reach is limited. Together, we disrupted illegal harvests and markets.
- Our enforcement works with our local Yakama Nation officers on joint enforcement concerns and coordinates investigations of non-tribal members within the reservation boundaries.
- WDFW police continue responding to illegal shellfish gear reports in tribal special management areas off the Washington coast. Our officers recently responded to a report of illegal non-tribal gear in the SMA. However, when they arrived on scene, they discovered it was misidentified and legally placed.
- 11 WDFW new hire officers attended in-house training presented by the Attorney General's office. The training focused on tribal case law, policies and procedures. This important training helps staff understand the varying level of agreements we have with tribal governments.

Staff contact

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Washington State Gambling Commission

Summary

Our mission is to protect the public by ensuring that gambling is legal and honest, and to foster full cooperation between tribes and the state, based upon equality and a shared concern for the welfare of all the citizens of the state and tribes.

Of the 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington, 29 have compacts for Class III gaming and 22 of the tribes operate 29 casinos.

Highlights

Due to the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19, we offered relief options for tribal-state compact provisions related to: Class III employee certification, eligibility, and/or registration fees, annual regulatory fees, contribution accruals and payments, and audited financial statement deadlines. The relief options we offered (specifically related to certification, eligibility, and/or registration renewals and fees) unexpectedly affected our aging information technology systems. As we and our tribal partners worked to process renewals, often from remote locations, we communicated frequently to resolve IT barriers so that we could quickly process certifications, eligibility determinations, and registrations as tribal facilities reopened.

Although we have not yet identified an agreeable solution for improving the current regulatory billing structure outlined in the Class III gaming compacts, our discussions with tribal leaders and regulators continue, as well as discussions on a statewide self-exclusion process approved by the Legislature. After working with tribal representatives and lawmakers on sports wagering legislation, we have started negotiations on sports wagering. Our staff is taking an open and transparent approach to communication regarding the licensing and regulation of sports wagering. We will continue regular discussions and updates with tribal leaders on these and other emerging topics.

We mutually agreed to an amendment to the Skokomish Indian Tribe's Class III gaming compact. The changes are consistent with other tribes' gaming compacts. We also worked with the Puyallup Tribal Gaming Agency to process numerous Class III employee certifications and complete the pre-operational inspections of the new Emerald Queen Casino before its June 2020 opening.

We continue working with a group of tribal regulators, operators, and industry staff to improve the review process for electronic gambling equipment used only in tribal gaming facilities. The group has completed a draft of electronic table game technical standards that, once agreed to, we will use for future electronic equipment reviews.

In partnership with the Colville Tribal Gaming Agency, we conducted a weeklong, new, agent training course for 60 students from our agency and 10 tribes. The students were regulatory staff who will work at the tribal casinos. Topics included history, licensing, and regulation of Class III gaming in Washington.

We provided updates to and participated/organized meetings and training for: licensing staff, tribal gaming agency directors, gaming executives, equipment manufacturers and independent testing laboratories.

We and our partner TGA's were notified by the National Indian Gaming Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigations that tribes could not share FBI fingerprint results as part of the Class III employee certification, eligibility and/or registration process. This change significantly impacted our processes. For years, many tribes had agreed to share this information through compact amendments and memorandums of understanding as a cost savings measure and to eliminate work duplication. We worked together to implement new agreements and processes to process applications in a timely manner.

As part of our ongoing co-regulatory relationship with the tribes, and to improve operational efficiency and the use of new technology, we jointly agreed to 40 clarifications of compact appendices. We also concurred with 280 internal control and game rule submissions.

Staff contact

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Tribal Liaison

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Department of Health

Summary

The Department of Health continued to maintain a government-to-government relationship with tribes. This resulted in partnerships that promoted effective public health services for Indian people.

We engaged tribal leaders, tribal program representatives, and tribal members in ongoing collaborations and consultation regarding the impacts of DOH programs, grants and services. We sent formal “Dear Tribal Leader” letters inviting input from tribal leaders on policies, programs, and funding issues that impact their members.

We also held informal needs assessments. These took place during regular meetings among our staff and tribal program representatives, leaders and community members. They included advisory committees, tribal roundtables and monthly agency staff/tribal representative meetings.

Highlights

We invested approximately \$7.4 million in our tribal partnerships with 23 tribes and six American Indian health organizations.

The funded projects included the Women, Infant and Children Nutrition Program, Healthy Eating/Active Living, Tobacco and Marijuana Use Prevention, Teen Parenting Outreach, Opioid Overdose Education, Cancer Screening and Foundational Public Health Services.

In response to COVID-19, we passed through an additional \$2.3 million in public health emergency preparedness crisis response contracts to tribes and tribal organizations. During the pandemic response, we also:

- Partnered with the American Indian Health Commission so that its emergency preparedness consultant could be assigned as the permanent tribal liaison to the Incident Command Team.
- Met weekly with other government agencies and the AIHC to communicate what resources were available for tribal nations and Indian health organizations.
- Met regularly with tribal health and clinic program representatives to discuss resource needs and provide technical assistance.
- Provided workforce development training on effective tribal public health partnerships, including their responsibilities to more than 200 staff (under RCW 43.376).

Ongoing government-to-government activities for DOH include:

- Providing financial support to the American Indian Health Commission to develop the American Indian Health Care Delivery Plan (RCW 43.70.590).
- Serving as a nonvoting member on the Governor’s Indian Health Advisory Council.
- Coordinating with the Health Care Authority’s Tribal Administration to host monthly tribal meetings with tribal leaders and health program representatives.

Staff contact

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Health Care Authority

Summary

We seek to provide high quality health care and support services through innovative policies and purchasing strategies that involve the Apple Health (Medicaid) Program; various behavioral health block grants; and the Public Employees Benefits Board and School Employees Benefits Board Programs.

Highlights

COVID-19 pandemic response

In response to the public health emergency, we obtained authority to pay providers and tribes for health care services delivered by phone or telehealth. We also distributed 839 pre-paid cell phones for tribes to give to clients, loaned 106 laptops to tribes to provide telehealth services, and provided 146 Zoom licenses for tribal providers to offer telehealth services.

Tribal consultation on Apple Health managed-care contracts

Based on tribal consultation in early 2020, we amended the state's contracts with the five Medicaid managed-care organizations July 1, 2020. They are now required to pay the full applicable tribal rate even without a contract. They are also required to improve care coordination with tribes and other Indian health care providers.

An act improving the Indian behavioral health system

We supported tribes in preparing Senate Bill 6259 to improve the behavioral health system for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Among other things, this law authorizes us to designate crisis responders in consultation with tribes. This law also recognizes a tribe's standing to petition state court for involuntary detention.

Apple Health innovations for Indian health

Since the last report, we completed the items below:

- Received federal approval for an enhanced rate for tribal nursing facilities. We developed this in collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.
- Received elections from 24 tribes to designate one or more of their clinics or programs as federally-qualified, tribal health centers.
- Provided technical assistance on tribal implementation of policies and procedures for tribal FQHC billing. We also helped tribes with care coordination agreements for nontribal providers. These activities will enable the state to deposit funds into the Indian Health Improvement Reinvestment Account (RCW 43.71B.040).
- Paid over \$3.6 million to support 29 tribal Medicaid transformation activities, such as opening clinics and integrating physical and behavioral health care.

Apple Health coverage

In calendar year 2019, Apple Health provided health care coverage to 81,000 AI/ANs statewide. It also paid \$471 million for services, including nearly \$192 million to tribes for health care, transportation and administration.

Behavioral health funding

In state fiscal year 2020, 28 tribes received nearly \$2.9 million to support behavioral health prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support programs.

Staff contact

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Washington State Historical Society

Summary

Our mission is to partner with our communities to explore how history connects us all. We are committed to continue implementing the Centennial Accord, which was established in 1989 by gubernatorial proclamation. Toward that end, we hired a half-time tribal liaison last year. We honor the government-to-government policy with the tribes of Washington.

Highlights

- In 2019, we instituted a land acknowledgement that we shared at all public programs and events at the State History Museum.
- The State History Museum hosted the 14th annual In the Spirit Contemporary Native Art Exhibition and Festival. Last year, the exhibition lasted from June 20 through Aug. 11 and featured art submitted by 30 native artists. The festival took place at the State History Museum, Tacoma Art Museum and Museum of Glass in Tacoma. It featured art vendors, performers, demonstrators, and native art exhibitions open to the public for free during the day of the festival at all three institutions. We are working with the tribal community to plan this year's event, which will be online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We were one of the financial sponsors for the 2019 Canoe Journey. We fully appreciate and support the significance of this annual gathering.
- We continue to provide the [Treaty Trail: U.S.-Indian Treaties in the Pacific Northwest](#) curriculum online through washingtonhistory.org.
- We will work toward renovations to the Great Hall exhibit area of the museum, and will reach out to tribes in the coming months to hear your ideas and thoughts.
- In 2019, we completed a multiyear project focused on fully cataloguing the Society's Native American artifact collections. Through this project, we photographed and catalogued every Native American artifact in our collection, and then made it available online through our online collections [database search](#). We will send letters notifying all tribes in Washington about this resource and invite feedback/corrections in the next month.
- We provided a Heritage Capital Project Grant to the Kalispel Tribe of Indians. This funding will help restore Our Lady of Sorrows Church. If you are interested in learning how Heritage Capital Projects might help your community, contact Director Jennifer Kilmer.

Staff contact

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Office of the Insurance Commissioner

Summary

The Insurance Commissioner is a statewide-elected official. Under the commissioner's direction, our staff members regulate the insurance business in Washington under state insurance laws. Our mission is to protect consumers, the public interest, and our state's economy through fair and efficient regulation of the insurance industry.

Our consumer assistance services, including our Insurance Consumer Hotline and our Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors Program, provide free, unbiased information about health care coverage and access to Washington residents.

By working in partnership with state tribes, we hope to better understand and respect the rights and interests of tribal members and create long-term relationships. We work with American Indians and Alaska Natives through state-tribal partnerships to reduce health care disparities and make quality health care more accessible. To facilitate this effort, we collaborate with American Indian Health Commission representatives for Washington through a mutually established consultation policy.

We also continue to explore new work with state tribes in all areas of insurance. Our Consumer Advocacy Program offers experienced insurance counselors who advocate for Washington consumers on many types of insurance. They investigate consumer complaints against insurance companies and make sure they comply with state laws. They also provide counseling and insurance education to consumers through our hotline, the web, email, or in person at our Tumwater office.

These services are available through our Insurance Consumer Hotline at 1-800-562-6900 and our website at insurance.wa.gov.

Highlights

Meetings, summits, conferences and outreach events

We participated in the following tribal-related meetings Sept. 1, 2019, through June 1, 2020:

- 30th annual Governor's Office Centennial Accord meeting
- Regular quarterly AIHC delegate meetings (pre-pandemic)
- Weekly AIHC meetings (during the pandemic)
- Regular tribal liaison meetings with the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

SHIBA and its sponsors participated in 304 outreach events that included AI/AN. SHIBA also provided training and information about its services, Medicare benefits and subsidies, income and asset levels for AI/AN, Medicare and fraud education, kids' health care access. Finally, SHIBA held Medicare and health care coverage enrollment events for the following tribes and programs:

- Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Cowlitz Indian Tribe

- Lummi Nation
- Samish Indian Nation
- Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

In addition, SHIBA volunteers conducted over 227 one-on-one Medicare counseling sessions with AI/AN.

Staff Contact

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Washington State Department of Labor and Industries

Summary

We are dedicated to keeping Washington safe and working. Our staff collaborates with tribal governments, medical providers, employers and workers to support that mission.

L&I recognizes the inherent authority of tribal nations and seeks to maintain the highest respect for tribal governance. We provide workers' compensation insurance coverage, oversee workplace safety and health, help with wage compliance matters and provide the trade industries with licensing, inspections and apprenticeships.

Highlights

We continue our commitment to work closely with tribal governments, ensuring that individuals have the information they need and are aware of their rights.

To fulfill our commitment, we have created the L&I Tribal Advisory Committee. The committee consists of points of contact from the following programs: Department of Occupational Safety & Health, Apprenticeship, Employer Services, Office of Human Resources, the agency tribal liaison, and one point of contact for all regional offices.

The input from these programs will help guide the committee's decision-making on policies and guidelines for the agency. We have a few committee members with experience working directly with tribes in positions outside of the agency. We know their perspective is valuable in determining how tribes perceive us and how we communicate with each tribal entity.

Activities

- We are working on a Tribal Field Guide for our staff. This is currently under review and we've sent it to local tribes for review and input.
- We have worked with a number of tribes to stream the permitting process, and enter into MOUs to provide better services to tribal businesses. From Jan 2020 through June 2020, we issued 82 electrical permits to tribal properties or to tribes.
- We continue offering our government-to-government training to our employees. The agency completed three rounds of training in 2019. We have an additional training scheduled for L&I staff Feb. 25, 2021.
- We support apprenticeship programs for tribal members, where apprentices earn a wage while they learn specific, high-value skills in the trade or profession of their choice. Graduates of apprenticeship programs receive nationally recognized certifications that verify they have the knowledge and skills required for their chosen career. These opportunities can be found all over the state.
- The Tribal Apprentice Subcommittee is part of the Washington State Apprentice Training Council. We work closely with the council, which created a subcommittee with tribal members that work with **all** the tribes. The committee reports quarterly to the council.

- We highlight the contributions of all Indigenous communities throughout the world. For the past 16 years, we have sponsored a series of events during American Indian Heritage Month in November to educate others, and celebrate the rich cultural traditions and proud ancestry of American Indians. Our 2019 events included:
 - Labor & Industries celebrates legacy of late advocate Billy Frank Jr., March 18.
 - American Indian heritage film series: Back to the River, Nov. 1.
 - Performance by Wa He Lut Indian Dancing Turtles, Nov. 14.
 - Solana Booth, American Indian storyteller, Nov. 20.

Staff contact

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Tribal Liaison

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Department of Licensing

Summary

The Department of Licensing serves Washington residents by licensing drivers, vehicles, vessels and over 40 different professions. The agency also collects more than \$2.8 billion in fuel taxes and licensing fees each year that fund the state's transportation network. Our mission is to help every Washington resident live, work, drive and thrive.

Highlights

Tribal license plate compacts

In 2020, the Legislature passed a bill (House Bill 2491) that authorizes DOL and Washington tribes to enter into compacts to provide tribal license plates and vehicle registrations. We requested this legislation and we worked closely with tribes to develop the proposal and pass it through the legislative process. We are currently working with several tribes on tribal license plate compacts.

Fuel tax agreements

Our department may enter into motor vehicle fuel tax compact agreements with any federally recognized Indian tribe located on a reservation in Washington. DOL is party to 25 fuel tax agreements with tribal governments. We continue to work with tribes to enter into new agreements and update language. For calendar year 2019, we provided \$53.9 million in fuel tax refunds to tribes pursuant to fuel tax agreements.

Due to COVID-19 impacts, the governor issued [Proclamation 20-56](#) in May to suspend the restriction that fuel tax refunds only be used for transportation purposes. The Legislature extended this proclamation until Sept. 1 and may extend it further. We have worked with tribes to communicate updates about the proclamation and help answer questions.

Reporting vessel information

We continue working with tribes to increase the number of vessel registrations they report to us. A 1994 Consent Decree requires 21 tribes to issue DOL-supplied vessel decals to their members to help register their vessels and submit the information to us. For 2019, we provided 3,000 decals to the Tribal Fisheries Commission and received 387 tribal vessel registrations.

Tribal government vehicles

Similar to other government entities, we issue government exempt license plates for tribal government vehicles. These license plates do not need to be renewed and are exempt from standard vehicle registration fees. In 2019, DOL issued 331 new tribal government vehicle plates. Currently, there are about 3,936 issued tribal government vehicle plates in circulation.

Staff contact

Beau Perschbacher

Legislative and Policy Director

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Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

Summary

Our mission is to serve the public by promoting public safety and trust through fair administration and enforcement of liquor, cannabis, tobacco and vapor laws.

We support the principles of the Centennial Accord by promoting partnerships with tribes throughout Washington that are affected by alcohol, tobacco, vapor and cannabis regulation.

Highlights

We worked with several tribes throughout the last year to update our government-to-government Consultation Policy. We developed our current policy before the legalization of recreational cannabis in our state. It is now outdated. Now, we are working with our tribal partners to update the policy so that it accurately describes the full scope of our current work, and how our relationships with tribal governments function. We will soon present this updated policy to our agency leadership.

Our agency has also developed and published a tribal resources section on our website. This section provides information and resources related to marijuana compacts and liquor memorandums of agreement. It also includes a template for tribes that are interested in negotiating one or both of these agreements, which we describe below. The website includes links, information, and staff contacts for our liquor, cannabis, tobacco and vape-related business.

Compacts and memoranda of agreement with tribal governments

To date, we have negotiated and the governor has signed 16 marijuana compacts with Washington tribes. These compacts are formal agreements between a tribe and the state that authorize Washington marijuana licensees to conduct cannabis-related business with any federally recognized tribe with a compact. We have also completed seven MOAs with tribes for liquor activities, and are currently negotiating marijuana compacts and liquor MOAs with several tribes.

We are grateful for the relationships we have strengthened through the process of negotiating marijuana compacts and liquor MOAs. We are proud to be the frontrunners in the nation for government-to-government cannabis agreements and hope to serve as a model for other states with regulated cannabis markets. We look forward to creating more efficiencies for our tribal partners who wish to pursue a liquor MOA.

Staff contact

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Washington's Lottery

Summary

As an agency, we are mandated to generate funds for the support of state programs. We sell tickets for games of chance to the public. Revenue from those sales pay for the costs of running the lottery business, including producing, marketing and selling lottery products. All of our profits support the public good.

The recipients of our statutorily defined proceeds include the Washington Opportunity Pathways Account, Economic Development Account, Problem Gambling Account, General Fund Account and stadium debt payments for Century Link Field. We have contributed more than \$4 billion to various state programs since its inception. In addition, we are committed to maximize opportunities for qualified minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises. We require all contractors to fully comply with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (28 CFR Part 35) and other federal and state nondiscrimination laws.

Highlights

Tribal sales in fiscal year 2020: There are 50 licensed tribal retail locations that have sold tickets that total \$12,685,412. Ticket sales at tribal locations have provided \$634,271 in sales commissions to those retailers.

Promotions: BJ's Enterprises (Puyallup Tribe) from November 2019 and January 2020, Second chance drawing for a chance to win Scratch tickets – four prize levels per promotion.

- November 2019: Scratch sales weekly average increased by 52% over the previous month's weekly average.
- January 2020: Scratch sales weekly average increased by 28.2% over the previous month's weekly average.

Staff contacts

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Washington Military Department

Summary

Our mission is to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters on people, property, environment and the economy of Washington and the region; provide trained and ready forces for state and federal missions; and provide at-risk youth the values, self-discipline, education and life skills necessary to succeed as productive citizens. The department includes the Emergency Management Division, Washington National Guard and Washington Youth Academy. EMD's 24-hour Alert and Warning Center provides timely notification to tribes impacted by natural or man-made emergencies, and regularly tests and activates systems we use to alert tribal communities.

Highlights

Hazards and Outreach Program

- EMD's Tsunami Program helped maintain the All Hazard Alert and Broadcast siren for the Hoh Indian Tribe, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, the Lummi Nation, the Makah Tribe, the Quileute Tribe, the Quinault Indian Nation and the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe. The program also provided weather radios and supported the Nisqually Indian Tribe's Safety Fair, the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe's Tsunami Walk and Health Fair and the Suquamish Tribes Tsunami Awareness Training.
- The tsunami team provided ongoing assistance to the Makah Tribe for a potential vertical evacuation structure grant application through Federal Emergency Management Agency's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program.
- The Volcano Program helped connect the Nisqually Indian Tribe to the Mount Rainier Lahar Warning system.

Public Assistance Program

- We provided support through our Public Assistance Program for Severe Winter Storms (4418-DR-WA) to the Lummi Nation, the Makah Tribe and the Nooksack Indian Tribe.
- We provided support through the Public Assistance Program for the COVID-19 pandemic (4481-DR-WA) to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes Of The Chehalis Reservation, the Confederated Tribes Of The Colville Reservation, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, the Lummi Nation, the Makah Tribe, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, the Nisqually Indian Tribe, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, the Puyallup Tribe, the Quileute Tribe, the Quinault Indian Nation, the Samish Indian Nation, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, the Skokomish Indian Tribe, the Spokane Tribe of Indians, the Squaxin Island Tribe, the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians and the Suquamish Tribe.

- We also provided support through the Public Assistance Program for Severe Storms and Flooding disaster (4539-DR-WA) to the Nisqually Indian Tribe and the Nooksack Indian Tribe.

Mitigation

- We awarded Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program grant funding to the Nooksack Indian Tribe for a flood control project, and the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe for the FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Our Mitigation and Public Assistance Program staff provided technical assistance to the Lummi Nation for a pending Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant. This grant would strengthen a critical seawall.
- The State Hazard Mitigation Officer assisted the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe's use of FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants to fund the Tsunami Evacuation Tower Project.

Preparedness Grants Program

- We provided \$96,203 in Emergency Management Performance Grants during fiscal year 2019 to: the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Makah Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribe and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community.
- Under the fiscal year 2020 EMPG COVID-19 Supplemental Awards, we provided federal grant funding to: the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Makah Tribe and the Squaxin Island Tribe. Total funded was \$61,397.
- We awarded federal grant funding under Operation Stonegarden within the Homeland Security Grant Program. This increased border security and situational awareness. Fiscal year 2019 awards included: the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the Makah Tribe, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the Quileute Tribe and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. Total funded for fiscal year 2019 was \$473,423. The fiscal year 2020 awards included: the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, the Makah Tribe, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the Quileute Tribe, and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. The total for this year was \$491,220.

Preparedness programs

- **Planning Program:** The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation participated in the Nov. 13, 2019, workshop. The planning team and EMD's Limited English Proficiency coordinator hosted the event.
- **Training:** We conducted 23 FEMA and state emergency management courses for members of the following tribes: Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, the Makah Tribe, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, the Nisqually Indian Tribe, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, the

Samish Indian Nation, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribe, the Suquamish Tribe, the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and the Tulalip Tribes.

- **Assessment and Exercise Program:** The Cowlitz and the Muckleshoot Indian tribes participated in a Continuity Assessment Tool Workshop in February. This helped with continuity planning efforts.
- **HAZMAT/Continuity of Government:** First responders from Washington joined the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and the Makah Tribe to attend the 30th Annual Continuing Challenge Workshop in Sacramento, California. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation hosted and attended two Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response trainings. The Kalispel Tribe of Indians and the Quinault Indian Nation also attended.

Washington Youth Academy

- The WYA is a National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program designed to help at-risk youth change their lives, recover academic credits and gain important life skills to become productive, responsible citizens. The WYA is a residential (22 weeks) and post-residential (1-year) program with one-on-one adult mentors for 16 to 18 year-old students who have or are at risk of dropping out of high school. Historically, our graduates increase an average of two years and four months in academics and earn an average of 7.83 credits out of 8.0 total possible credits. Every class in the last year has included Native American youth.
- Our WYA recruiters work with high school Indian education specialists across the state and tribal schools and organizations throughout the year.
- Over the past year, outreach staff have provided all tribal contacts from the state's tribal directory, newsletters, materials and invitations to professional tours.

Staff Contact

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Washington State Office of Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises

Summary

We work to increase equity and participation in public contracting and procurement for small businesses owned by minorities, women and economically disadvantaged people. This includes tribal members and tribally-owned small businesses.

We manage the [state and federal certification programs](#). We certify that a business is small and is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or economically disadvantaged person. We maintain an online certification directory so agencies, educational institutions, local governments, and prime contractors can find certified firms that provide the goods and services they need. We assist agencies with best practices to increase spending with minority- and women-owned small businesses. This includes developing required [annual agency inclusion plans](#). To ensure accountability, we [report](#) on the amount we spend on contracts and procurements with certified minority- and women-owned businesses. We also lead the [Governor's Subcabinet on Business Diversity](#), which is a cross-agency effort working for equity in public contracting and procurement.

Highlights

Responding to a global pandemic: using challenges to inspire new approaches

COVID-19 disproportionately impacted minority communities and small businesses. We quickly adapted to the “next normal” of the pandemic and have continued serving minority- and women-owned businesses without service disruptions. In these difficult times, we have shared information and resources available to minority- and women-owned small businesses from state agencies, federal programs, nonprofits and local efforts. We also used these new challenges to focus on customer and agency outreach changes. This inspired more webinars and other virtual approaches such as more frequent communications with tips for agencies and businesses, and monthly updates that recognize newly certified firms.

Implementing the 2019 statewide disparity study recommendations

The state completed a 2019 [statewide disparity study](#) on equity in public contracting and procurement. Since then, we helped lead the Governor’s Subcabinet on Business Diversity to implement study recommendations. This includes implementing the Business Diversity Management System, the most critical recommendation. The BDMS is an electronic data collection and monitoring system for all state agencies. It will gather more specific data on diverse participation in state contracts and procurement. Among its benefits, this data will help us better understand Native American business levels and see where we can improve.

Staff contact

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Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Summary

The Department of Natural Resources, under Washington State Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz, works alongside tribal sovereigns to protect and care for Washington. In this partnership, we work to improve conditions for salmon, mitigate the impacts of climate change, address and improve protections for cultural and natural resources, support sustainable resource economies and address the cumulative impacts of activities on state-owned landscapes.

We are committed to strengthen the health and resilience of our lands and waters, restore Puget Sound and support salmon recovery. Below is a snapshot of the collaborative success we have experienced with our tribal sovereigns.

Highlights

Preservation and restoration efforts

We worked with the Samish Indian Nation on creosote log removal. This included moving the largest creosote pile they had seen in the six years since the project began, and moving marine debris removal on Lopez Island. Creosote contains more than 300 chemicals that can be toxic to human and marine species. Together, DNR and the Samish Indian Nation have removed 800,000 pounds of creosote from San Juan beaches. Watch the video [here](#) or at this web address: <http://bit.ly/SanJuanCreosoteRemoval>. DNR also worked with the Tulalip Tribes' restoration ecologist to remove invasive species in the Monroe area, creating room for cedar and spruce trees to reseed and establish new forests. Watch the video [here](#) and read about it [here](#). Or, watch the video at this web address <http://bit.ly/MonroeRestorationVideo> and read the article using the web address <http://bit.ly/MonroeRestorationBlog>.

Aquatics

We continue to prioritize support for salmon and steelhead habitat restoration projects led by tribal sovereigns. This includes projects with the Quinault Indian Nation and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to install large wood in rivers to restore ecological processes, and aquatic use authorizations tailored to meet the particular funding requirements of Lummi Nation Natural Resources riverine restoration. These efforts always prioritize issuing use authorizations so tribes can work during “fish windows.”

Additionally, the Derelict Vessel Removal Program partnered with several tribal sovereigns. The DVRP worked with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community to remove a derelict 39-foot cabin cruiser from the Swinomish Channel. The group also worked with the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe to remove a 33-foot cabin cruiser from the Port Gamble jetty, and assisted the Skokomish Indian tribe and State Parks to remove a 32-foot trawler from the Potlatch area. The Aquatic Invasive Species program at DNR and Puget Sound Corps helped the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe control reed canary grass. The grass is invading important salmon spawning gravels in Indian Creek and other Lower Elwha tributaries.

Broadband

Our Olympic Region office facilitated a land use license with the Hoh Indian Tribe. This license will enhance their communications by using our Octopus Mountain East communications site for general and broadband internet access to the Hoh Reservation. The commissioner is actively seeking more opportunities to aid rural communities by increasing broadband access. Currently, DNR is working with the state Department of Commerce and the Department of Health to overlay broadband speed data, and environmental health data on state land maps to identify underserved areas. You can find a current site map on our communication sites [website](#) or at this web address: <http://bit.ly/DNRBroadbandMap>.

Geology

We invited the Washington Geological Survey Tsunami Hazards Team to serve as peer reviewers for the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe's vertical tsunami evacuation tower. The team members served as scientific and technical experts and helped inform the design team and project managers of the tsunami hazards at the proposed site. These activities led to the successful design of the structure to be built over the next year.

Forest health and resiliency

We are partnering with the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and other agencies to restore more than 90,000 acres of forest and riparian habitat in Pend Oreille County. The Sxwuytn Trail Project is a forest and watershed restoration project that spans a 90,700-acre 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan priority area. It includes multiple land ownerships in northeast Washington. We know there is a need to improve forest health and resilience so that we can further reduce the potential for insect and disease outbreaks, and severe wildfires. Watch the video on the project online [here](#) or use this web address to watch the video: <http://bit.ly/ForestHealthAndResilience>.

Executive management

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Quinault Indian Nation, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation helped inform our statewide Carbon Sequestration Advisory Group. This group explores how we can store and sequester carbon in our forests, farms, and other natural and working lands. We are using their insights for a report DNR is currently developing for the Legislature. In February 2020, we released our [Plan for Climate Resilience](#). Multiple tribes shared vital expertise and suggestions that helped inform the content for this first-ever plan. You can also access this plan at this web address: <http://bit.ly/PlanForClimateResilience>.

Forest practices

Approximately 30 years ago, we helped forge the Timber, Fish and Wildlife Agreement. In the past year, policy and elected members from tribes, principals from industry and the environmental community, and leadership from state agencies and timber counties embarked on a journey. This journey reset TFW to better meet the needs of all participants, address current concerns and recommit to engagement. While we've made progress, we will continue that effort into 2021. Our Forest Practices Program values and relies on the expertise of tribal staff in many ways. This includes evaluating proposed forest practices activities that may impact fisheries and other resources of cultural importance. We have also communicated with tribes' natural resources departments to

clarify their role in reviewing forest practices applications. We often accomplish this review and discussion through on-the-ground meetings. When COVID-19 safety concerns came about in early 2020, our forest practices staff creatively used remote technology to interact with tribal staff. We used Skype to hold remote interdisciplinary team meetings, and we sent photos and videos to tribal staff to illustrate particular discussion topics.

Conservation, recreation and transactions

Our Recreation Program is working with the Tulalip Tribes and other sovereigns about the relationship between recreation and wildlife habitat. While this is early in discussions, we're exploring how to balance the two while ensuring responsible public access to DNR-managed lands. We are incorporating thoughtful implementation and planning that honors the relationship tribes have to our public lands. We seek to prioritize funding that will support evaluation and study, recognizing that it is our partnerships that ensure a healthy Washington for all.

Legislative collaboration

We know that the best type of legislation and legislative proposals happen when all affected parties are at the table. That's why we continue to vet legislative priorities and agency strategies with tribal sovereigns, their lobbyists and policy level staff. We are particularly thankful for the critical review these key partners provide, and we continue to meet with them.

Wildfire preparedness

Tribal sovereigns, entities and members regularly engage with DNR to respond to fire, staff responders, conduct cultural review and staff cooperative command centers. Recently, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians received a \$12,000 grant to assist the tribal fire department in converting a 2020 F-350 pickup trucks into fire engines. These new engines got a water tank, foam tank, fire pump and storage cabinets. The grant will also help outfit the engine with fire hose nozzles and fittings. The tribe will use this type of engine for fire protection on the Kalispel Indian Reservation, neighboring fire jurisdictions within Pend Oreille County and regional fires.

The tribe also purchased personal protective equipment through the DNR Fire Cache at 50% of the cost. We make this possible by administering funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Volunteer Fire Assistance. This provide grants and wildfire training opportunities to fire districts and departments in Washington. In January, we hosted the first-ever Northwest region Fire Adapted Communities Workshop with partner agencies and key community members. Lummi, Swinomish and Tulalip Tribes staff members, among others, attended. We hope to see this coordination with our tribal partners spread in future years.

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Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Summary

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission looks for opportunities to develop mutually beneficial partnerships and agreements with tribes throughout the state. We manage more than 120 state parks and properties that total approximately 138,000 acres. We support a variety of recreational and educational opportunities and provide stewardship protection for a diverse array of natural, cultural and historic resources.

Highlights

Government-to-government training

- We coordinated with the Governor's Office on Indian Affairs to deliver government-to-government training to over 100 managers and park development staff.

Planning, land management and environmental protection

- Our staff partnered with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to design a 5-panel exhibit wayside at Steamboat Rock State Park. This multiyear effort incorporated work from tribal artists and tells Steamboat Rock's origin story from a tribal perspective.
- As a key element of the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center exhibit renovation, we collaborated with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to tell the story of deep generational tribal relationships with the Mount St. Helens landscape. The story shows how these relationships continue to evolve and helps ensure their perspective is transmitted to future generations.
- We collaborated with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to document a traditional camas harvest and roast at a Southwest Region state park. We produced a short film for tribal and interpretive use.
- We initiated an on-site meeting with the Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe at Steptoe Battlefield and Steptoe Butte to develop interpretive opportunities that tell the story and significance of the Yakama Indian War and these areas through tribal perspectives. We have additional tribal outreach in the planning stages.
- Our department and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation jointly signed a memorandum of understanding to guide cooperative engagement and collaboration over future salmon habitat, watershed health, and trail improvements to the Klickitat Trail in Swale Canyon.
- We met with the director of archeology and historic preservation of the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe for input on the design of a permanent Marie Louie exhibit. We also worked to refinish and relocate the interpretive paddle to a more visible area. This paddle represents welcome and safe passage to the shore at Lake Sammamish State Park.

- We participated in government-to-government meetings with the Omak District of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Tribal Council Natural Resource Committee about planning efforts at Bridgeport State Park.
- Our staff participated in government-to-government meetings with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Wanapum Indian Tribe about planning efforts at Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park.
- Our personnel collaborated with the technical staff of Tacoma Public Utilities (lead agency and landowner), the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation to assess and repair recent cemetery vandalism within southwest Washington. They also implemented protection measures. This work is ongoing.

Developing the first new state park in over a decade with the Nisqually Indian Tribe

- Under an existing MOU, staff from the Nisqually Indian Tribe and State Parks met monthly between October 2019 and May 2020 to discuss options for cooperative management of Nisqually State Park and plans for the first development phases.
- State Parks and the Nisqually Indian Tribe are developing an additional MOU. It will outline the shared planning and decision-making structure to guide the park's operation.
- In consultation with the Nisqually Indian Tribe, we conducted significant cultural resource surveys at Nisqually State Park and participated in several meetings to prioritize joint conservation efforts at the park.
- The Nisqually Indian Tribe conducted an interpretive effort that collected the stories of their people, salmon, and the land associated with Nisqually State Park. The tribe's contractor conducted a story mapping session with tribal members and our staff. This work will help visitors understand the rich history of the tribe and their ancestral ties to the land.
- State Parks and the Nisqually Indian Tribe are entering the design and permit phase of development for Nisqually State Park. This phase includes designing interpretive elements, key cultural and natural resource stewardship initiatives, trail planning and camping areas. The work completed during this phase furthers the development of this new park.

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Puget Sound Partnership

Summary

The Puget Sound Partnership's mission is to accelerate the collective effort to recover and sustain Puget Sound. Working with our partners, we generate the Puget Sound Action Agenda, which charts the course to recovery. We manage and report on shared measurements of recovery, and we support our partners through mobilizing funding, removing barriers to implementation, and educating key decision-makers. State law also charges the Partnership's Leadership Council with developing, implementing, and monitoring a recovery plan to restore salmon populations in Puget Sound.

Highlights

Collaboration with Puget Sound tribes is central to this collective effort

- Tribes hold seats on our three boards established in statute: the Leadership Council, the Ecosystem Coordination Board, and the Science Panel. They also hold seats on our two advisory boards: the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council and the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program Steering Committee.
- Tribes regularly participate in partnership-supported groups at the watershed scale to develop and implement priorities for salmon and ecosystem recovery.
- We collaborate directly with tribes through the Partnership/Tribal Co-management Council and, when invited, the Tribal Management Conference.
- Partnership staff work with individual tribes throughout Puget Sound to coordinate specific local and regional projects to recover Puget Sound and its salmon.

We work closely with tribes on salmon and Puget Sound recovery issues

- We participated in the state natural resource agency discussions of riparian management after the 2019 Centennial Accord meeting.
- Executive director Laura Blackmore partnered with Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission Executive Director Justin Parker to host virtual Puget Sound Days on the Hill in June 2020. In this series of events, we met with our congressional delegation to discuss how investing stimulus funding in salmon and watershed restoration could jump-start our economy.
- In June 2020, the Leadership Council adopted the proposed vision for the 2022-2026 Action Agenda for Puget Sound, which incorporates tribal recommendations.

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Recreation and Conservation Office

Summary

The Recreation and Conservation Office manages grant programs that help tribes recover salmon, create places for outdoor recreation and protect wildlife habitat.

Highlights

Grants

For fiscal years 2019-2020, we awarded more than \$34 million in grants to 18 tribes. This went toward 73 projects to restore and protect salmon habitat, develop athletic and boating facilities, create water access sites and protect critical riparian habitats. Program funding for these grant awards include:

- Boating Facilities Program
- Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board
- Coast Restoration Initiative Projects
- Chehalis Basin Strategy
- Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program
- Family Forest Fish Passage Program
- Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration
- Puget Sound Critical Stock
- Salmon State and Federal Projects
- Youth Athletic Facilities

Since 1972, when the agency first assisted a tribal project, we have administered 573 grants to 27 tribes. Totalling over \$176 million, these projects have helped tribes with waterfront access and restoration, boating facility construction, salmon habitat restoration and monitoring, fish hatchery improvements, trail development, athletic facility development and local park development.

Grant agreement contracts

Since the Centennial Accord meeting in November 2019, we continued a dialogue with the state's sovereign nations to establish new contracting processes and a new tribal agreement template for grant-making. This new template includes limits on liability and indemnification responsibilities, as well as a modified dispute resolution process.

In early 2020, we launched this new contract with our tribal partners. We continue to implement it with individual outreach to each funded tribe, answering questions and working together for a smooth transition. Since the last Centennial Accord meeting, our progress here brought in over 70

new agreements issued to our tribal partner. These agreements help with salmon recovery, planning, studies, monitoring, restoration and land purchases, and staff capacity at tribally managed lead entities.

Outreach

All tribal governments are eligible to apply for grant funds through our agency. Our staff is outreaching with tribal communities to share these funding opportunities.

RCO's cultural resource consultation

We review restoration, construction and acquisition projects for possible impacts to cultural and historic resources (Executive Order 05-05). The law requires most projects to undergo extensive review to minimize impacts to cultural resources. Our goal is to facilitate a comprehensive consultation process that provides a thorough review of funded projects. To improve our process, we contract with archaeologists at the Washington State Department of Transportation. These archaeologists help our staff review grant-funded projects for potential impacts to cultural resources. Our cultural resources coordinator then conducts consultations with natural and cultural resources tribal directors. These consultations are about potential impacts to cultural resources, and further enhance the government-to-government relationship. Our website displays information about every grant proposal. This includes maps, design plans and detailed projects. (Please note: We do not make sensitive information available to the public.)

Our staff facilitates cultural resources trainings for grant recipients. They also participate in the annual Cultural Resources Protection Summit, and frequently meet with tribal staff and attend functions hosted by tribes.

Project highlight: Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Port Gamble Bay Coastal Protection

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe was awarded a grant to acquire a conservation easement. This easement was on 22.5 acres of upland, bluff, shoreline and tideland habitats along Port Gamble Bay. The Port Gamble S'Klallam people view the property as highly culturally significant because it connects them to their ancestors and a tribal village that once existed in the area. Indigenous people have lived and relied on this land for thousands of years, and this acquisition ensures they can protect the land for future generations.

This acquisition is the first step in our overall goal to restore high quality nearshore habitat and provide water access, recreational and educational opportunities. This is a testament to what we can accomplish through the partnerships of tribal, state and local governments and community volunteers working together. Jeromy Sullivan, chairperson of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe describes the importance of these lands best by stating, "One of my tribe's ongoing priorities is to ensure that Port Gamble Bay remains productive and healthy for future generations."

Project highlight: Tulalip Tribes, Pilchuck Dam Removal Restoration Project

The Tulalip Tribes used grant funding to fully remove the Pilchuck River Dam. This allows fish to access 37 miles of priority spawning and rearing habitat. Since its 1912 installation, the dam has

blocked upstream migration. This reduces capacity for fish and other species to use more than one-third of the river. It includes pristine and diverse habitat types. The Tulalip Tribes partnered with the City of Snohomish to make this project a reality.

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Results Washington, Office of the Governor

Summary

Results Washington, founded in 2013 within the Office of the Governor, integrates performance management, continuous improvement and cross-agency collaboration to achieve key goals and improve government effectiveness. Our vision is to be a collaborative partner championing the best results for the great state of Washington. We support the governor's five goals to achieve:

- World-class education
- A prosperous economy
- Sustainable energy and a clean environment
- Healthy and safe communities
- An efficient, effective and accountable government

Highlights

- We held nine [Results Review](#) meetings with the governor from 2019 into early 2020. We highlighted the meetings for Infant Mortality, Economic Security, Employee Engagement and Customer-Facing Communication in our [Annual Report](#).
- We held our eighth annual Lean Transformation Conference, which provided learning opportunities in continuous improvement, performance management and innovation for over 2,000 participants. Most of the participants were state government employees.
- New leadership joined Results Washington in the transition from 2019 to 2020. We are in the process of:
 - Introducing [Public Performance Reviews](#) in calendar year 2021. This is a new approach to Results Reviews, which will focus on partnering with state agencies on complex, cross-enterprise projects.
 - Moving the ninth Annual Washington State Lean Transformation Conference to a virtual setting. This includes thinking innovatively about the content and how we deliver it. This year, we plan to include a land acknowledgement on the first day of the conference before the governor's opening remarks. Conference participants will join us from Washington and beyond. It is important to our agency to dedicate time to recognize traditional territories of Indigenous people.
 - Thinking ahead to the next phase of Washington's Lean/Continuous Improvement journey.
 - Defining our role in the state's performance management space.

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Department of Revenue

Summary

The [Department of Revenue](#) is the state's primary tax administration agency, overseeing more than [60 different types of taxes](#).

We are committed to fostering our government-to-government relationships with the tribes by dedicating staff time and resources to work with the tribes, tribal citizens, tribal businesses and others that do business in Indian Country.

Our director actively engages in government-to-government meetings with tribes. The Tribal Tax Advisory Group remains active and meetings are co-led with the director and Ron Allen, Tribal Council chairperson for the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe.

In January 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding was negotiated with the Tulalip Tribes. The MOU represents a historic step in a federally-mediated settlement of a lawsuit between the governments. It created a blueprint for resolving certain current and future tax issues between the state and the tribes. Shortly after the MOU was signed, the department proposed and advocated passing Substitute House Bill 2803. This legislation authorized the state to enter into a "retail taxes" compact with each of the federally recognized tribes located in Washington, and was signed into law effective June 11, 2020.

To help implement this new legislation and focus more resources on tribal tax issues, our director created the Tribal Partnerships Program. This program consists of a program manager, tribal legal counsel, a tribal liaison, a tribal partnership coordinator, and a tax information specialist.

We have prioritized implementing the retail sales tax compacts as one of our highest priorities. We estimate it will take approximately 9,000 hours and over 100 staff to implement.

Highlights

- We co-hosted six TTAG meetings to share information and receive feedback from the tribes on implementing SHB 2803.
- We continued to support and discuss tribal tax issues identified by TTAG members:
 - Reconvened Minimal Burden Subgroup.
 - Established the Cigarette Subgroup. This group issued a report that outlined recommendations regarding 2019 state legislation that raised the legal age on tobacco sales from 18 to 21, and cigarette tax compacts.
 - Continued ongoing work with the Nuts & Bolts Subgroup. We focused on treaty fishery consultation, business licensing registration, confidentiality and other important issues.
- We facilitated communication between tribes, the Utilities Transportation Commission and public utilities districts to work on public utility tax matters.

- Began discussing and planning a formal consultation with tribes regarding the taxation/exemption of certain economic activity associated with tribal treaty fishing rights and other treaty rights.
- We finalized our consultation policy based on input from tribal representatives.
- We shared tax information at tribal, state, and national events such as Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and the National Intertribal Tax Alliance.
- We received and responded to over 100 tribal-related inquiries. Provided guidance to tribal and nontribal businesses that engage in business with tribes and their citizens. Responded to 44 binding letter rulings, and looked into 47 technical inquiries.
- We conducted outreach to tribal governments, other state agencies and taxpayers.
- Continued updating our [GIS lookup tool](#) that allow users to input an address and identify if the address is in Indian Country.
- We created a hard copy tribal addendum form to accompany the business license application. This helps us identify tribal and tribal-member owned businesses for proper reporting and exemptions.
- We established a tribal refund request form and streamlined the process for tribes and tribal citizens to more easily request refunds for overpaid sales tax.
- Collaborated with the Liquor and Cannabis Board to review state and tribal marijuana compacts.
- We continued annual meetings with tribes on cigarette compacts. Executed renewals of cigarette compacts and one amendment to a compact. The state now has cigarette compacts with 27 tribes.

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Office of the Secretary of State

Summary

The Washington State Secretary of State's office and Secretary of State Kim Wyman continues to work closely with the tribal communities in Washington to further knowledge of their unique histories, ensure their right to vote and take part in the 2020 electoral process, and maintain historic and literary documents related to Washington's tribes.

Highlights

Elections Division

This division is working with tribal leaders to provide information on voter registration drives for nonprofits such as the Na'ah Illahee Fund. This division published educational census information in the Voters' Pamphlet for the 2019 general election and 2020 presidential primary. The office mailed 3.3 million copies of the pamphlet for each election to every household in the state. The census results have a direct impact on redistricting and, therefore, voting districts.

New legislation helped us better collaborate with the Skokomish Indian Tribe and prepare for digital signatures so that tribal members can register to vote electronically. Our new voter registration system, VoteWA, has the capability to add digital signatures from tribal digitalized files when the tribes provide them. We are working closely with county election offices to ensure drop boxes are located on or very near tribal land.

Legacy Washington

Legacy Washington's exhibit, "Ahead of the Curve," spotlights the 2020 centennial of the 19th Amendment that secured women with the right to vote. Fawn Sharp, president of the Quinault Indian Nation, and the late Janet McCloud, a descendant of Chief Seattle, are among the women featured in the [exhibit](#) on our site. Legacy Washington is completing a biography on former congresswoman Julia Butler Hanson and the major role she played to advance Native American self-determination and reform the Bureau of Indian Affairs. For more information, contact Laura Mott at laura.mott@sos.wa.gov or call 360-902-4171.

Washington State Archives

Archives continues to scan and make public hundreds of government documents and photographs from various tribal communities. These documents include marriage licenses, land records, historic maps, reservation censuses, oral histories and court papers from state and local courts – to name a few. You can search the digital archives by accessing the state's [digital archives website](#). The archives is honored to have Joe Kalama, Nisqually Tribal archivist, as a Washington State Historic Records Advisory Board member.

Washington State Library

This library reaches out to tribal librarians through a variety of methods. The WSL tribal consultant organizes an annual face-to-face meeting and an online meeting for tribal librarians in Washington to

share information. Before the pandemic shut down travel, site visits enabled the tribal consultant to assist tribal librarians with a variety of projects.

This year, these tribes received grants for the following: Professional development grants to attend conferences went to the Hoh Indian Tribe, and two for library staff from the Lummi Nation. The library also continues its outreach to the library at Northwest Indian College to assist with their work as part of the Federal Depository Library Program. For more information see our [library webpage](#).

The CARES act grants funded subscription costs for hot spots, which were granted to tribes. The hot spots grants went to Hoh Indian Tribe, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Suquamish Tribe, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. We distributed CARES Grants for personal protective equipment to libraries on the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Yakama Nation Library, Suquamish Tribe, Hoh Indian Tribe, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Lummi Nation Library and Northwest Indian College. These grants for new outreach programs help minimize the pandemic effects with the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Suquamish Tribe and Hoh Indian Tribe.

Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

The library continues to provide comprehensive library services statewide at the library and by mail. These services are for any Washington tribal resident unable to read standard print material due to blindness, visual impairment, deaf-blindness, physical disability (cannot hold a book or turn pages) or reading disability. For more information, visit the [Washington Talking Book and Braille Library website](#).

Combined Fund Drive

The CFD distributes donations to dozens of charities that assist tribal communities and members in need throughout the Washington. For more information, see the Combined Fund Drive webpage.

Corporations, on-Profits, and Charities Division

The Corporations, on-Profits, and Charities Division continues to work with tribal members to help them establish a corporation or charity, and maintain entities through filing annual reports and other documents.

Proposed new Library and Archives building

The Legislature approved the design and construction of a new Washington State Archives and Library Building. This 147,000 square footage state of the art facility will replace the current state archives and library buildings, and provide offices for the divisions of elections and corporations.

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Department of Social and Health Services

Summary

The Department of Social and Health Services' mission is "Transforming Lives." We value honesty and integrity, open communication and the pursuit of excellence.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, 1.8 million Washingtonians – over 500,000 of them children – lived in a household that struggled to make ends meet. We know even more families will battle with the long-term financial impacts of the pandemic for years to come. COVID-19 has forever changed our workplaces, our services and our communities.

As the virus spread throughout the state, it amplified all the social inequities our teams work to dismantle daily. Staff took immediate action. We established widespread telework, unified emergency response teams, adapted client services and distributed mass personal protective equipment to caregivers across the state.

The future of our work demands resilience more than ever before. The lessons we learned here will propel us into continuous improvement and change. While we have come a long way, we have much to do for our future generations because of how much the world has changed.

Highlights

We continue to actively support the Indian Policy Advisory Committee. We recently developed methods and measures to address the COVID-19 crisis while meeting our clients' needs.

Office of the Secretary

Summary

The Office of the Secretary provides executive level strategic and policy direction for the state's largest department. We encompass a biennial budget of \$14 billion, nearly 17,000 employees and 23,000 contracted service providers. We also support the success of all agency programs through information technology services, human resources, communications, innovation and strategy, public records, diversity and inclusion, Indian policy and other critical central and statewide services.

Highlights

We have worked diligently to consult and collaborate with tribes to develop the relationships that are in place today. We have helped create programs in collaboration with tribes across several decades. Our department leadership supports working closely with tribes to accomplish incredible goals, including our consultation and communication protocols/policy.

In a new government-to-government framework, tribes will partner with DSHS and other state agencies to elevate and address issues affecting their communities. This model brings together the

Office of the Governor, tribal leaders and other departments to consult and inform our policies, practices and our future.

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Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

Summary

The Aging and Long-Term Support Administration provides long-term services and support to Washingtonians. We also serve as the state-level Medicaid office for LTSS policy and program development. We are committed to promoting choice, independence and safety through innovative services that maintain and improve the quality of life of adults with functional disabilities due to age, physical or cognitive limitations and their caregivers.

Highlights

Adult Protective Services Division

APS continues to work with and assist tribes to protect vulnerable adults. We have eight working agreements with tribes, with additional agreements in development. The memorandum of agreement incorporates tribal legal codes, and clear investigation guidelines for when tribal members are involved on and off reservation lands. APS is also working with two tribes using an Elder Protection Team. Regional staff provided on-site trainings on elder abuse, financial exploitation and self-neglect. APS has successfully transitioned to a centralized intake service.

Rate enhancement

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, ALTSA, HCA and Empire Foundation worked in support of HB1564. The bill exempts tribal nursing homes from the state rate-setting methodology.

Consumer Directed Employer

DSHS entered into a contract with Consumer Direct Washington to become the [Consumer Directed Employer](#). CDWA will serve as the employer of record for all in-home individual providers and respite providers receiving services through DSHS. CDWA will manage credentialing, payroll and other employer responsibilities currently managed by the ALTSA, Developmental Disabilities Administration and the AAAs. Consumers will continue to select, schedule, supervise and dismiss their Individual Providers. The CDE will go into effect in 2021.

Electronic visit verification

Federal requirements enacted in 2016 as part of the “21st Century Cures Act” requires states to implement an [electronic visit verification system](#) for in-home personal care services. EVV is required for Medicaid-contracted home care agencies and individual providers who serve people receiving in-home personal care services from ALTSA and DDA. Licensed residential services and supported living services are **not** required to comply with EVV requirements.

Life span respite

ALTSA, through an Administration for Community Living Grant, is expanding the respite voucher program for unpaid family caregivers. Two tribes are developing and will test service delivery models specific to tribal family caregivers and providers.

Kinship care

Kinship navigators continue to assist grandparents and relatives raising children to connect with community resources. These resources include health, financial, legal services, support groups, training and emergency funds. The program helps tribal families establish/maintain greater self-sufficiency and long-term stability needed to keep their children out of foster care. Funding is provided to seven tribes: the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Lummi Nation, Makah Tribe, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Samish Indian Nation, and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.

Health Home Program

In partnership with the HCA, ALTSA assists tribes with contact development, coordination and trainings to become care coordinators. The Makah and Muckleshoot Tribes hold signed contracts to operate health home care coordination organizations. Other tribes are exploring the program.

Nutrition services

The Home-Delivered Meal Program provides food, a safety check, and an opportunity for face-to-face contact with elders who typically cannot leave their homes unassisted. The state-funded HDM Program supports expanded deliveries to six tribes. In 2019, we provided more than 6,180 additional meals to tribal elders.

Medicaid Transformation Project

- **Streamlined eligibility for public programs:** Under the Medicaid Transformation Demonstration Project (1115 Waiver), Initiative 2, the Medicaid Alternative Care and Tailored Supports for Older Adults, programs continue to grow and provide services to persons who are pre-Medicaid eligibility group. As of March 20, 2020, HCS and AAAs have enrolled and served over 6,700 people. This includes unpaid family caregivers.
- Foundational community supports, Initiative 3, is a HCA/DSHS partnership that provides supportive housing and employment services to individuals receiving Medicaid services through HCA, DBHR and ALTSA.

Long-term Care Trust Act

In May 2019, Gov. Jay Inslee signed into law the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Act. The act will provide up to \$36,500 of lifetime long-term care benefits to elders, regardless of their income level or assets.

Area Agencies on Aging

AAAs and tribal governments continue to develop meaningful, individualized 7.01 work plans, assist with resources and ensure service contracts provide culturally-relevant services.

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Behavioral Health Administration

Summary

The Behavioral Health Administration provides long-term inpatient treatment to people with intensive behavioral health needs. DSHS operates Eastern and Western state hospitals and the Child Study and Treatment Center. BHA provides forensic behavioral health services through the Office of Forensic Mental Health Services. The BHA also operates the Special Commitment Center, which provides services for individuals who are civilly committed for sex offenses after completing their prison sentence.

Highlights

The state hospitals continue on the path of major transformation. Part of this transformation includes moving away from serving civil and forensic mental health patients in the same facility. To this end, each hospital has started to transform some civil wards to newly renovated forensic wards.

The master plan for the Western State Hospital campus was submitted to the city of Lakewood for public comment. In addition, BHA has developed a predesign report for a new forensic hospital on the current grounds at Western State Hospital in Lakewood.

The 2019-2021 operating budget provides funding to begin developing new capacity for long-term 90- and 180-day civil commitments. The goal is to move the existing WSH civil commitment capacity bed to community facilities located throughout the state. This includes a new 16-bed facility for civil commitments, two 48-bed facilities that include beds for 90- and 180-day civil commitments, a new 150-bed teaching hospital operated by the University of Washington, and an increase of 119 beds contracted by the Health Care Authority. We are exploring initial options for the 16/48 bed facilities in Clark and Thurston counties.

In addition to these community capacity developments, the Legislature passed HB 2803 in 2020. This was passed as part of a negotiation with the Tulalip Tribes and the Office of the Governor. The tribes will construct a new 48-bed behavioral health facility that the department will operate. We are prepping for further partnership around this topic.

The Trueblood v. Washington State DSHS settlement agreement calls for specific investments that we have included in the state budget beginning in fiscal year 2020-2021. The investments for these priorities appear in several areas in both DSHS and the HCA budgets and will require extensive coordination between the two agencies. These include:

- **Competency evaluations** – The agreement calls for additional positions for timelier evaluations.
- **Competency restorations** – The agreement creates new state-operated restoration beds at Eastern and Western state hospitals and requires a transition to close current beds in Yakima and at Maple Lane residential treatment facilities.
- **Outpatient competency restoration** – The agreement creates an outpatient competency restoration option through Health Care Authority contracts with others.
- **Crisis triage and diversion supports** – Helps with housing supports, crisis triage, intensive case management program, crisis outreach and peer support for class members.
- **Forensic navigators** – Allows DSHS to hire more staff who will work with courts. They will advise the courts on whether forensically involved criminal defendants are suitable for conditional release into the community to receive competency restoration services in an outpatient setting. Navigators work with the court to tailor the specific needs of each defendant’s conditional release order. Once a defendant is released into the community for OCR services, navigators work with that individual to ensure they remain engaged and in compliance with their release conditions. Navigators also work to connect individuals to other services they may need, such as housing, case management services, mental health and substance use treatment, supported employment services, and any public benefits for which they may qualify.
- In consultation with the tribes, BHA developed and published a new policy on tribal communications. It will require someone to inquire if patients are American Indian/Alaska Native. It will also ask if they would like to request services through a tribal provider, provide patients with information on tribal behavioral health provider services, and require staff work with tribal providers.
- BHA has developed new opportunities to provide treatment to AI/AN patients through coordination of services and partnership with tribal behavioral health organizations.

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Developmental Disabilities Administration

Summary

Our mission is to transform lives by providing support and fostering partnerships that empower people to live the lives they want. DDA values the opportunity to work with all tribes across Washington and to form stronger government-to-government relationships in each regional office. We ensure tribal members who are eligible for our services can access them at an office closest to their residence and in a culturally appropriate and timely manner that preserves their cultural values and promotes the welfare of American Indians/Alaska Natives. We value the opportunity to increase awareness of DDA eligibility, paid services and natural supports with tribal families and communities. We are committed to learn from local tribal representatives about what supports them and services are most helpful.

For elders and individuals with developmental and physical disabilities, every Washingtonian deserves the best quality of life in the home setting of their choosing. DSHS is a national leader in fostering a robust home caregiver workforce, engaging clients with person-centered planning and ensuring safety through licensing and investigations.

Highlights

- The DSHS, ALTSA and the DDA reached out to tribal leaders Jan. 21 to gain advice on Consumer Directed Employer and Electronic Visit Verification Projects. We scheduled two roundtable meetings and a consultation. After the first roundtable meeting and discussion, based on tribes' reflections, we found that the state should continue with the current structure. We use the structure to monitor, plan and implement action through subcommittees and other government-to-government meetings to inform tribes.
- DDA serves 457 tribal members across the state.
 - Staff worked alongside tribal staff to assist a tribal family to reestablish SSI eligibility for their daughter and reestablish service with DDA.
 - Staff conducted outreach during the COVID-19 pandemic and received request for services from three different tribes. We conducted intake and eligibility reviews and three new clients are now receiving DDA services.

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Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Summary

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation helps individuals with disabilities participate fully in their communities and become employed. We provide individualized vocational rehabilitation services and counseling to people with disabilities. We also provide technical assistance and training to employers about employing people with disabilities. DVR continues cooperative working relationships and service delivery commitments with all federally recognized tribes in Washington.

Highlights

- We actively maintain a strong partnership at the state and local levels with all American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services in Washington. This ensures that American Indians and Alaska Natives with disabilities receive the services they need to ensure their independence and inclusion in the workforce. We have assigned staff to provide direct services and liaison functions with all tribes.
- DVR, the Department of Services for the Blind, and AIVRS updated the statewide government-to-government agreement in October 2019. This committed all parties to work cooperatively and facilitate access to vocational rehabilitation services.
- As DVR responded to the pandemic by implementing telework, DVR tribal liaisons stayed connected to AIVRS partners and continued to serve AI/AN cases.

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Economic Services Administration

Summary

The Economic Services Administration transforms lives by empowering individuals and families to thrive. ESA provides services to clients who need a cash grant, food assistance, work-related support services, medical assistance, child support or disability determinations. ESA's unifying goal is to reduce the number of individuals and families living in poverty (below 200% of the federal poverty level) by 50% by 2025 in a way that eliminates disparities. To achieve this goal, ESA must integrate services, eliminate transition gaps, and build opportunity and well-being for individuals and families. A multigenerational, family-centered approach must focus on employment, education and training, barrier removal, support services, cash assistance, food, medical, child support, coaching and mentoring. ESA's strong working relationships and partnerships with Indian tribes and recognized American Indian organizations are critical to reduce poverty in local communities.

Highlights

Gov. Jay Inslee's Poverty Reduction Workgroup

After two years of work, we helped develop the PRWG and we're now asking for input on a 10-Year Plan for the Future. The PRWG includes a diverse group of state agencies, legislators, racial and ethnic commissions, community-based organizations, advocates, employers, philanthropy and two tribal representatives: Lummi Nation Councilperson Nickolaus Lewis and Chief Seattle Club Executive Director Colleen Echohawk. They met monthly to develop strategies and recommendations. If implemented, these recommendations would meaningfully and measurably reduce poverty and inequality. PRWG identified eight strategies with 56 specific recommendations that, if implemented, will reduce poverty and inequality, and ensure social and economic opportunity be passed to the next generation.

Community Services Division

CSD promotes and supports government-to-government relationships with all Indian tribes in Washington by recognizing tribal sovereignty in how we develop and deliver programs and services. Our headquarters and regional staff partner with 15 Indian tribes and a tribal consortium (South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency) who operate Tribal TANF programs, to coordinate service delivery based on intergovernmental agreements.

- **Tribal TANF programs** – Throughout the year, staff from CSD and the 11 tribal TANF programs work closely together to coordinate services. The CSD director, tribal TANF directors and staff meet twice a year to build relationships, share updates, and provide a forum to work together on efforts to reduce poverty and best serve families.
- **Legislative changes** – Recent legislative changes reflects CSD's steadfast commitment to reducing poverty:
 - Individuals eligible for the Pregnant Women's Assistance Program can now access the Housing and Essential Needs Program for 24 consecutive months from when their PWA eligibility is established. The new law allows us to set the income standard for HEN eligibility for persons who are eligible for PWA.
 - In July 2021, new legislation will improve access to TANF and revise economic assistance programs.
 - In February 2022, new legislation will allow CSD to authorize public assistance human trafficking victims.
- **COVID-19 impacts** – CSD implemented some waivers from federal and state requirements, and made several policy and service delivery changes to help meet the needs of our clients and staff. Some of these changes include:
 - **Emergency food supplements** – Effective April 4, 2020, recipients of food assistance are receiving the maximum amount for their household size.
 - **Injunction to the new Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents waiver rules** – All Washington counties are temporarily granted 'good cause' to not be terminated for non-participation in work-like activities.

- **Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer food benefits** – Food benefits are available (even during COVID-19) to families with children in grades K-12 who are eligible for schools’ free or reduced-price meal programs.
- **Disaster cash assistance** – Assistance is available to all Washington families and people without children who meet the program’s income and resources limits, and who are not eligible for other cash programs.

Division of Child Support

DCS and tribes work together to improve child support services to Native American families. DCS is a national leader in government-to-government work with tribes, advocating for child support policies, laws and intergovernmental agreements that respect tribal sovereignty. DCS partners with the 29 federally recognized tribes of Washington, including eight tribes that operate federally funded tribal child support programs.

- **Tribal child support programs** – The DCS director and tribal directors participate in biannual Child Support Directors Roundtable meetings that involve policy discussion and decision-making. The meetings let directors convene as peers, critique program elements and offer suggestions for improvements.
- **COVID-19 impacts** – Loss of employment, school and child care closures, and illnesses have impacted parents and those caring for children. DCS implemented policy guidance for staff that balances the importance of continuing child support payments with a parent’s inability to work due to COVID-19. While the pandemic has postponed or canceled many in-person meetings and conferences, DCS continues to meet virtually (whenever possible) with tribal leaders and staff to discuss legislative proposals, share resources/training, seek resolution to issues and reinforce our relationships.
- **Legislative changes** – The following legislative changes reflect our commitment to reduce poverty: the abatement of child support obligations during incarceration, expanding the criteria we use to determine parental income, and child support pass-through for families receiving public assistance. We will implement the legislation starting February 2021.

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Facilities, Finance and Analytics Administration

Summary

The Facilities, Finance and Analytics Administration provides leadership in facilities management and design, financial, operational, research and data analysis services to support the department's goals. By promoting sound management of department resources, FFA enables DSHS programs to place a priority on their core, client-focused missions.

Highlights

- Leasing and managing 2.5 million square feet of private market office space.
- Providing skilled trades maintenance and operational services for 12 facilities, including state hospitals, residential habilitation centers and the Special Commitment Center.
- Planning and managing design and construction at more than 350 state-owned buildings with 3.5 million square feet of space on 600 developed acres.
- Making vendor payments worth over \$200 million a year for 1.9 million clients.
- Acting as custodian for 1,900 client trust accounts.
- Producing payroll worth more than \$1.2 billion annually for over 16,500 people.
- Budgets and accounts for over \$7.2 billion in 150 fund sources annually.
- Preparing and publishing research and analysis for more than 20 studies on outcomes and program effectiveness for at least five major state agencies.

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Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Office of Native Education

Summary

We established our Office of Native Education in the mid-1960s. ONE serves as a liaison between school districts, tribal governments, state-tribal education compact schools, tribal schools, Native communities, parents/guardians of Native children, and other groups and individuals.

Our primary goal is to help school districts meet the educational needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students. This goal outlines duties that include the following:

- Facilitate the development and implementation of curricula and instructional materials in Native languages, culture and history, and the concept of tribal sovereignty ([RCW 28A.320.170](#)).
- Help districts acquire funding to develop curricula and instructional materials with Native language practitioners and tribal elders.
- Coordinate the implementation of state tribal education compact schools ([RCW 28A.715.010](#) and Chapter 392-800 WAC).
- Coordinate technical assistance for public schools that serve AI/AN students.
- Implement support services to increase the number of AI/AN teachers and principals, and provide professional development to educational assistants, teachers and principals who serve AI/AN students.
- Facilitate Native language programs in districts.
- Work with relevant agencies and committees to highlight the need for accurate, useful data that is considered specific to American Indian and Alaska Native students, to provide a more accurate picture regarding AI/AN students;
- Annually report to the governor, the Legislature, and the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs on the status of Native education in Washington.

Highlights

Office of Native Education staffing

Jon Claymore, citizen of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, joined the Office of Native Education as director in February 2020. Jon has over 30 years of experience working in K-12 education as a teacher, coach, and administrator in public schools and Bureau of Indian Education schools throughout the Pacific Northwest. Born in Crow Agency, Montana, Jon grew up in Fort Yates, North Dakota on the Standing Rock Reservation. He is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in Eagle Butte, South Dakota.

Response to COVID-19

On March 13, Gov. Jay Inslee issued a proclamation that ordered Washington schools to close because of COVID-19. ONE collaborated with the Washington State Native American Education Advisory Committee, State Tribal Education Compact School leaders, Tribal Leaders Congress on Education leaders, and all state Native Education organizations to lift up and respond to the needs of over 61,000 Native learners and their families. As OSPI developed district guidance on schools reopening for the 2020-2021 academic year, two members of WSNAEAC served on the task force to provide statewide guidance.

Legislative implementation

- House Bill 2551 assures Native students' right to wear traditional tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies and related events. On June 26, State Superintendent Chris Reykdal issued [Bulletin 45.20](#) that informed all district superintendents, high school principals and counselors of the Right to Tribal Regalia Act.
- House Bill 6263 created a model educational data sharing agreement between school districts and tribes.
- Implemented a proviso to add a Career Technical Education position to ONE.
- Implemented a proviso for tribal consultation.

Washington State Native American Education Advisory Committee

The [Washington State Native American Education Advisory Committee](#) reconvened in March 2019 to promote leadership, and the unique principles and effective practices of Native American education. This increases academic success and cultural integrity at the community, school, state and tribal levels. The 19 committee members nominated by tribes and tribal organizations consult with OSPI on the well-being and achievement of AI/AN students who attend public, STECs and tribal schools in the state. On Aug. 11, WSNAEAC members met with Chris Reykdal. The meeting highlighted tribal sovereignty, COVID-19 budget impacts and basic education issues, which includes school reopening, equity and promising practices in Native education.

State tribal education compact schools

Honoring treaties, executive orders, the 1989 Centennial Accord, and other government-to-government agreements, STECs create a unique opportunity for tribes to lead efforts focused on improving the educational achievement outcomes for tribal students. State-tribal education compact schools became official Jan. 28, 2014. ONE and other sections of OSPI continue to provide technical support and guidance to STECs. ONE updates the online STECs Guide and hosts meetings to strengthen and sustain collaborations. Currently there are seven STECs:

- Chief Kitsap Academy (Suquamish Tribe)
- Chief Leschi Tribal School (Puyallup Tribe of Indians)
- Lummi Nation School
- Muckleshoot Tribal School

- Quileute Indian School
- Wa He Lut Indian School
- Yakama Nation Tribal School

Pilot project for tribal compact schools

Passed by the Legislature in 2018, this legislation created a pilot project for STECs to modify requirements that govern school attendance, school year length and assessments. ONE continues to provide technical support to STECs engaged with the pilot project ([RCW 28A.715.800](#)).

The following STECs are participating with the pilot:

- Chief Kitsap Academy (Suquamish Tribe)
- Lummi Nation School
- Muckleshoot Tribal School
- Quileute Indian School

Teaching Washington’s tribal history, culture and government in the common schools

Passed by the 2015 Washington State Legislature, this legislation effectively amended earlier legislation from 2005. This law now requires public schools to include Native American history, culture and government ([RCW 28A.320.170](#)). The requirements include the following:

- When school boards review and/or adopt social studies curriculum, it must include tribal experiences and perspectives. The first goal is to better engage Native students so they can learn more successfully. The second goal is that all students learn about the history, government, and experiences of their Native American peers and neighbors.
- School districts must meet these requirements by using the Since Time Immemorial Tribal Sovereignty curriculum. This online curriculum is available free of charge through OSPI and may be modified to include regionally specific tribal focus or to incorporate the curriculum into existing curricular materials.
- School districts must collaborate with OSPI on curricular areas regarding tribal government and history that are statewide in nature. This includes the concept of tribal sovereignty and the history of federal policy toward federally recognized Indian tribal nations.
- School districts must collaborate with any federally recognized Indian tribal nations within their district, and with neighboring tribes to incorporate expanded and improved curricular materials about Indian tribes. They must also create classroom and community cultural exchange programs.

Since Time Immemorial: Tribal Sovereignty in Washington State Online Curriculum Project

The Washington State School Directors’ Association, the Washington State Board of Education, and OSPI developed a model online curriculum for elementary, middle and high schools. These groups infused Native American history, culture, and civics into curriculum content and resources that school districts most commonly use. The intent is to imbed the history surrounding tribal sovereignty and intergovernmental responsibilities into our state’s classrooms, so that all citizens

understand the unique relationships of tribes and tribal citizens in Washington. The STI curriculum is available for free on our [website](#).

- We conducted eight STI introductory trainings (281 participants) and six STI training of trainer sessions (92 participants) through all-day in-service workshops in the fall/winter of 2019. Additional fall trainings took place through conference workshops, district/school coordinated staff trainings, and an information booth at the Puyallup Fair. In response to COVID-19 school closures, we developed a new set of “Ready to Go” curriculum resources and provided a series of “Ready to Go” and “Teacher to Teacher” webinars. Between May and June 2020, nearly 1,600 educators participated in 10 “Ready to Go” and three “Teacher to Teacher” webinars. Where possible, we involved tribal education and/or culture specialists on how we planned and taught these trainings. Districts continue to develop systemic districtwide plans (with tribal partners) to implement the curriculum.
- Tribal leaders and educators continue to develop tribal-specific lessons to integrate and/or add to existing STI curriculum. A network of tribal curriculum writers from across the state convene on a quarterly basis to share best practices to develop tribal-specific curriculum, strengthen tribal-district collaborations and support systemic district implementation.
- OSPI social emotional learning programs will align with STI curriculum SEL standards. We have aligned all lesson resources with state social studies, English language arts, environmental and sustainability education, and SEL standards.

Integrating STI curriculum teacher preparation programs

This 2018 legislation requires teacher preparation programs to integrate the Since Time Immemorial Tribal Sovereignty curriculum into existing Pacific Northwest history and government requirements. The Professional Educator Standards Board is charged with monitoring and supporting preparation program leaders’ efforts to use the STI curriculum in educator preparation programs. ONE continues to collaborate with tribal and higher education partners, OSPI, PESB, Washington Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and Washington Council of Education Administrative Programs (RCW.28B.10.710/WAC 181-78A-300 (Sec. 3)).

Collaborations with tribes, districts, statewide and national Native professional organizations

ONE continues to provide support to school districts, tribes, state and national Native organizations. The Every Student Succeeds Act prioritizes tribal consultation for school districts serving AI/AN students. ONE developed guidance to support this effort. We added tribal consultation criteria to our Consolidated Program Review monitoring. We monitor those districts who are scheduled for CPR review and who are required to engage in tribal consultation through ESSA. This provides evidence that we worked on goals established through tribal consultation and the implementation of STI.

District-tribal consultation guidance

ONE developed, in consultation with tribes and the Tribal Leaders Congress on Education, a tribal consultation protocol. ONE based the protocols on the 1989 Centennial Accord, which created the

law that describes government-to-government relations ([RCW 43.376](#)). Our protocol intention is to sustain quality and healthy relations between the state and tribes. ONE continues to collaborate with OSPI Consolidated Program Review leaders to support ESSA implementation. This strengthens tribal consultation processes with federal program application and review processes. ONE also continues to collaborate with the Washington State School Directors Association to assess and strengthen government-to-government relationship between tribes and school districts.

Native organization collaborations

- Western Washington Native American Education Consortium 2020 Educator Conference
- Columbia Plateau Indigenous Education Alliance
- Washington State Indian Education Association 2020 Conference postponed due to COVID-19
- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Quarterly updates

Collaborations and ongoing support with OSPI programs and initiatives

- Native Voices Arts Academy
- Climate Science proviso
- Braided Futures Tribal Climate Science Education Initiative
- Title III-Title VI collaboration webinars
- Office of System and School Improvement / Educational Service District ESD Tribal Nations Pilot Initiative
- Region 16 Comprehensive Center
- Data Reporting Task Force

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Washington Traffic Safety Commission

Summary

American Indian and Alaskan Natives have higher death rates involving high-risk behaviors than other racial/ethnic groups in Washington. For example, the rate of AI/AN unrestrained vehicle occupant deaths per 100,000 population is nearly nine times higher than other races combined.

Beyond that, Washington AIAN residents are:

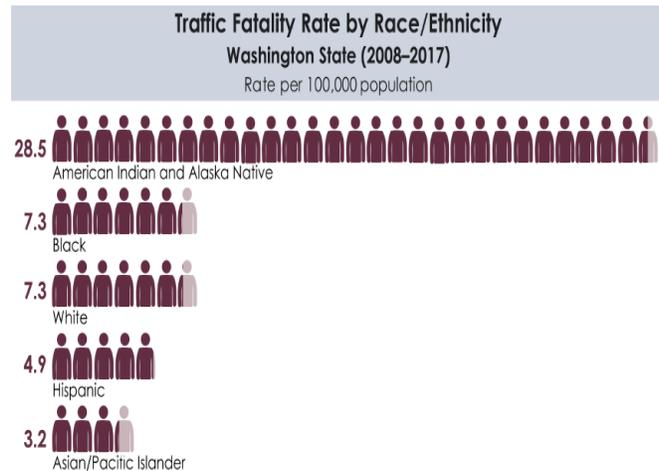
- 4.4 times more likely to be involved in a fatality crash than the state's general population.
- 6.4 times more likely to be involved in a pedestrian-involved fatality.
- 5.8 times more likely to be involved in an impairment-involved fatality.
- 4.2 times more likely to be involved in a speeding-involved fatality crash.

The over-representation of AI/AN in the state's traffic fatality and serious injury crashes means we must develop effective strategies to identify and reduce fatalities occurring among this population. This especially applies on reservation lands that belong to the state's 29 federally recognized tribes.

Highlights

We allocated more than \$300,000 to support traffic safety programs on tribal lands. These include:

- The Tribal Traffic Safety Advisory Board met once in January 2020 but was unable to meet again because Washington tribes shut down for a considerable time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In May 2020, TTSAB co-chair Dezeray Hayes notified TTSAB membership that the board would suspend operations for the rest of 2020 and would try to reconvene in early 2021. The other co-chair for the group is Washington Traffic Safety Commission Acting Director Pam Pannkuk.
- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and Confederated Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation operated Tribal Traffic Safety Coordinator projects in 2020. Despite individual tribe orders shutting down much of the economic and social activity on the reservations, the coordinators continued to increase awareness about traffic safety issues. In August 2020, the WTSC contracted with the Lummi Nation to begin a new Tribal Traffic Safety Coordinator project there.
- We allocated funds to support Northwest Association of Tribal Enforcement Officers to provide equipment and training support to tribal law enforcement for tribes located in



Washington. The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation has been the fiscal agent for the NATEO project for the past 10 years. Beginning last year, the Swinomish Tribal Police became the administrator for the NATEO project. As the result of an application process they initiated and administered, eight tribal law enforcement agencies received funding for materials and training that totaled \$60,000.

- Each year, the statewide Child Passenger Safety Program offers at least one Child Passenger Safety Technician training in partnership with a tribe. During the past two years, the statewide program trained 25 new tribal CPSTs and provided direct training or technical assistance to five tribes to set up effective child safety seat education and promotion programs.
- The Washington Traffic Safety Commission updated its Target Zero Highway Safety Plan in 2019. This included the chapter on tribal traffic safety.

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Department of Transportation

Summary

We provide and support safe, reliable and cost-effective transportation options to improve livable communities and economic vitality for people and businesses. Our vision is to be the best in providing a sustainable and integrated multimodal transportation system. We collaborate with tribes on a variety of transportation issues that include project development and administration, safety, planning and workforce development. Consulting with tribes on how our projects affect natural resources, cultural resources and other tribal interests is a key element of this work.

Highlights

- We experienced a rockslide along State Route 20 on tribal trust lands belonging to Upper Skagit Indian Tribe citizens. WSDOT's Northwest region coordinated with members of the Washington family, the tribe, and Bureau of Indian Affairs to get access permits. This gave entry to the property so we could clear the debris and reopen the highway.
- We provided an additional \$80,000 in grant funding to the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe to restore and expand service levels to Darrington, Arlington and Concrete. This serves tribal members and the public. This project includes us providing operating expenses and transit services during COVID-19.
- WSDOT and members of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Tribal Transportation Safety Committee are in their third year of facilitating transportation safety in the Lower Valley. Most recently, we supported Yakama Nation's plans to provide more than 100 miles of walking paths, called the Heritage Connectivity Trails throughout the Yakama Reservation. The South Central region also supported the Nation's successful First Mile/Last mile Grant.
- Our Tribal and Regional Integrated Planning Team developed procedures to implement Engrossed House Bill 1584, the law that requires regional transportation planning organizations to offer tribes voting membership on their boards. We have engaged the RTPOs and tribes in this effort.
- We corrected seven fish passage barriers. This improved access to approximately 20 miles of potential habitat. We have an additional 90 barriers in the design phase. We participate in quarterly meetings with tribes and state agencies to implement the culvert injunction.

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Utilities and Transportation Commission

Summary

The Utilities and Transportation Commission regulates many utilities that directly impact tribal communities, including electric, natural gas, water and solid waste services. We also inspect the safety of pipelines and railroad crossings on tribal lands.

The Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, a separate agency that receives our administrative support, provides one-stop licensing for large energy projects that may impact tribal communities.

We support the Centennial Accord among the federally recognized tribes in Washington through collaboration and information sharing. Through the last year, we strengthened partnerships among tribes and the commission to encourage understanding, cooperation and trust.

Highlights

We are investigating taxes charged to tribal accounts. In August 2019, our staff met with representatives from the Lummi Nation and the Department of Revenue to discuss how Puget Sound Energy applies the public utility tax. We are investigating whether Lummi Nation customers were improperly charged the public utility tax. *This is ongoing.*

We provided consumer protection information to tribal communities. Our staff presented at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2019 Fall Annual Convention. We provided information on public utility tax exemptions on utility bills, telephone and energy assistance programs, and discussed additional consumer protection services available for tribes who are served by UTC-regulated utilities. *We completed this in October 2019.*

We are addressing COVID-19 customer impacts. We held a special open meeting in June that addressed COVID-19 issues for the state's regulated utilities. We discussed the governor's Proclamation 20-23 and how we can help alleviate economic hardship created by COVID-19. We then convened a work group with utilities and consumer advocates to facilitate low-income utility assistance distributions and extend the ongoing moratoria on disconnections and late fees. We are committed to evaluate how regulated utilities can provide more efficient and equitable service to tribal customers impacted by this crisis. *This is ongoing.*

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Department of Veteran Affairs

Summary

The Washington Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to serving all veterans and their families in a culturally appropriate manner. This includes approximately 5,000 American Indian and Alaska Native veterans in the state. This group serves in the United States armed forces at a higher rate than any other ethnic group. They also have access to unique federal programs to better meet their needs. Our goal is to better serve native veterans by supporting program expansions and making sure they can access the same benefits as other veterans.

Highlights

- We sponsored the 2020 Tribal Veteran Service Officer Training and Tribal Leaders Conference in February. The Suquamish Tribe hosted the event, which was supported by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Sessions included veterans' disability compensation, pension benefits, survivors' benefits, health care, suicide prevention, behavioral health, education benefits, veteran homes and other services. The VA Office of Transition and Economic Development held sessions on economic investment, rural veteran outreach and serving at-risk veterans.
- We signed a memorandum with the Makah Tribe that allows us to provide training, accreditation, and technical assistance to tribal veteran representatives and tribal veteran service officers employed by the tribe.
- We presented at the Veteran Committee of the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians in October 2019 and January 2020. Topics included veterans' disability and survivors' benefits, education benefits, and establishing tribal veterans' service officer programs in partnership with state veterans' agencies.
- We participated in the VA Puget Sound Health Care System Joint American Indian Veterans Advisory Council meetings in November 2019, February 2020 and May 2020. Sessions topics included suicide prevention, veterans' education benefits, VA community-based health care, and readjustment counseling services.
- We participated in the White House Conference for Supporting Contemporary Native American Veterans in November 2019 with tribes from across the nation. Topics included policies and priorities impacting Native Americans veterans, veterans' benefits and resources, and workforce and business development.

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Washington State Patrol

Summary

Our mission at the Washington State Patrol is to make a difference every day, enhancing the safety and security of our state by providing the best in public safety services. Our employees are committed to earning the trust and confidence of the public through strong leadership, effective partnerships, professional excellence, acting with integrity and accountability, respecting and protecting individual rights, and pursuing a culture of continuous improvement. We strive to achieve our goals while keeping in line with our motto, “Service with Humility.” We also pursue our Target Zero Plan across the state with many tribal partners and communities.

Highlights

- We attend local chief and sheriff regional meetings throughout the state. These include local tribal representation and/or tribal law enforcement.
- Wenatchee area troopers continue to assist with collision investigations and emergency response planning around include wildfire responses on tribal lands.
- We commissioned our Yakima employees to attend the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country Training Program in 2019. These employees also recently received their Special Law Enforcement Commission and we are working through training protocols to effectively patrol the Yakama Nation State Routes. However, there is still no current memorandum of understanding in place with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of The Yakama Nation.
- Our Yakima command staff continue to participate with the White Swan Safety Coalition. This consists of community members, school officials, law enforcement, and community leaders who meet to discuss and address issues that affect the community. With COVID-19, we have had to cancel these monthly meetings. However, we continue to correspond and network through online correspondence. Our personnel have attended the coalition meetings for several years and this has developed into a great partnership.
- We hired WSP Tribal Liaison Patti Gosch in November 2019 and she is actively involved in the following agency initiatives:
 - Building relationships among Indian tribes and tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations and non-governmental entities that serve native communities.
 - Regular communication with law enforcement agencies at the tribal, local, state and federal level.
 - Weekly distributing a missing native persons list and quarterly distribution of all missing persons list to tribal law enforcement agencies.
 - Provides leads for investigations through a professional relationship with government agencies.

- Provides support and emphasis on best practices protocols for law enforcement response to missing person reports for Indigenous persons, and provides steps for people to take when reporting a missing Indigenous family member.
- Works directly with our Missing and Unidentified Persons Unit to coordinate ongoing efforts to find and locate missing and murdered indigenous people.

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