

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Council for Native American Farming and Ranching

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Council for Native American Farming and Ranching

3b. GSA

Committee No.

79536

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

07/11/2016 07/11/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

07/12/2018

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Keepseagle vs Perdue Settlement

13. Effective Date

12/22/2011

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

08/02/2018

Report Title

Recommendations

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a.

Open

2 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities5 17d. Total7

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Start

End

The purpose of this Council is: (1) to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on issues related to the participation of Native American farmers and ranchers in USDA programs; (2) to transmit recommendations concerning any changes to regulations or internal guidance or other measures that would eliminate barriers to program participation for Native American farmers and ranchers; (3) to examine methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through enhanced extension, sound conservation practices, targeted rural business services, and financial literacy services; (4) to examine methods of encouraging intergovernmental cooperation to mitigate the effects of land tenure and probate issues on the delivery of USDA programs; (5) to evaluate other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities for Native American producers; and (6) to address other Native American related issues as deemed appropriate.

11/29/2017 - 11/29/2017

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[Credit and Credit Desert]	Credit and Credit Desert Subcommittee Meeting - to discuss issues relevant to outstanding recommendations	06/20/2018 - 06/20/2018
[Credit and Credit Desert]	Credit and Credit Desert Subcommittee Meeting - to discuss issues relevant to outstanding recommendations	01/09/2018 - 01/09/2018
[Credit and Credit Desert]	Credit and Credit Desert Subcommittee Meeting - to discuss issues relevant to outstanding recommendations	03/16/2018 - 03/16/2018
[Farm Bill]	Farm Bill Subcommittee Meeting - to discuss issues relevant to the Farm Bill, the Council, and Indian Country	10/03/2017 - 10/03/2017
[Farm Bill]	Farm Bill Subcommittee Meeting - to discuss issues relevant to the Farm Bill, the Council, and Indian Country	10/13/2017 - 10/13/2017
[Youth and Education]	Youth and Education Subcommittee meeting - to discuss current and relevant issues that pertain to both the Council and youth and education	03/08/2018 - 03/08/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 7

Current FY	Next FY
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18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$600.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$34,269.00	\$35,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$14,674.00	\$15,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$3,837.00	\$3,000.00
18e. Total Costs	\$53,380.00	\$53,000.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.30	0.30

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The purpose of this Council is: (1) to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on issues related to the participation of Native American farmers and ranchers in USDA programs; (2) to transmit

recommendations concerning any changes to regulations or internal guidance or other measures that would eliminate barriers to program participation for Native American farmers and ranchers; (3) to examine methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through enhanced extension, sound conservation practices, targeted rural business services, and financial literacy services; (4) to examine methods of encouraging intergovernmental cooperation to mitigate the effects of land tenure and probate issues on the delivery of USDA programs; (5) to evaluate other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities for Native American producers; and (6) to address other Native American related issues as deemed appropriate.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

According to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, which initially authorized the Council and was approved by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the Council shall consist of 15 members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. To ensure that the recommendations of the Council have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall also include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities as well as persons who represent a diverse range of experience in different types of production agriculture. In addition, regional balance will be sought so that those representing Native American farmer and ranchers are sought and seated from throughout the country.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Council shall meet approximately twice per fiscal year. Agendas are developed to allow the Council to discuss USDA programs and services, policies and regulations, and to hear public comments. These meetings are vital in supporting the Council's ability to make strong and informed recommendations to the Secretary of USDA.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The United States Department of Agriculture's CNAFR was created to advise the Secretary on ways to eliminate barriers to participation for Native American Farmers and Ranchers in USDA programs. The Council was originally established as part of the Keepseagle settlement and has since been re-established under the Secretary of Agriculture's discretionary authority. This Council is pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The Council holds open meetings unless the Secretary determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. § 552b).

21. Remarks

The Council for Native American Farming and Ranching (CNAFR) met 2 times during FY 2018. During FY18, the Council held in-person meetings in November 29, 2017 and June 20, 2018. Personnel Pmts and Travel and Per Diem payments to Federal Members are not included in the overall budget for this committee and paid by

the respective agencies under USDA. Costs associated with the committee does not include compensation for RGE members that serve on the Committee.

Designated Federal Officer

Abigail Cruz DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Brunsch, Tawney	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Executive Director of Lakota Funds	Representative Member Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Cronin, Linda	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Acting Director, Office of Tribal Relations	Representative Member
Crutcher, Sherry	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Farmer/Rancher and Natural Resource/Land Director	Representative Member
Fordyce, Richard	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Administrator, Farm Service Agency	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Goode, Margaret	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Ranch Manager	Representative Member
Jordan, Leonard	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Acting Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Louis, III, Gilbert	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Farmer / Rancher	Representative Member
McDaniel, Shannon	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Executive Director of Agriculture, Choctaw Nation former Oklahoma State	Representative Member
McPeak, Jerry	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Representative / Farm and Ranch Owner	Representative Member
Parker, Erin	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Assistant Director of the University of Arkansas School of Law Indigenous Food & Agriculture Initiative	Representative Member
Peter, Angela	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Executive Director, Alaska Tribal Conservation Alliance	Representative Member

Scott, Winona	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Vogel, Sarah	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Civil Rights Attorney	Representative Member
Wadsworth, Mark	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Range Manager, Shoshone- Bannock Tribes	Representative Member
Yazzie, Roselyn	09/05/2016	09/04/2018	Crop Manager	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 15

Narrative Description

The CNAFR provides recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture concerning how the department may better serve tribal communities and members with its programs and services.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

We are unable to determine what, if any, savings will be had because of CNAFR recommendations. We do know that the Keepseagle Settlement's overall cost was significant. If CNAFR, which was created by the Settlement, is successful at identifying better ways to serve Native Americans, then the risk of another Keepseagle-like lawsuit will decrease. Many recommendations provided by this Council additionally benefit USDA's service to other historically-underserved constituents.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

59

Number of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The number of recommendations total provided by the Council at the end of FY18 is 59. Since the council expired on July 11, 2018, this is also the grand total number of recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

30%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Initial action has been taken on all recommendations that have not been fully addressed. Some recommendations require continuous monitoring and updates.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

75%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Initial action has been taken on all recommendations that have not been fully addressed.

Some recommendations require continuous monitoring and updates.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Agency feedback is provided in meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

n/a

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

n/a