



TRIBAL PRESERVATION PROGRAM 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Expanding Partnerships in a
Second Century of Stewardship

Tribal Preservation Program Expanding Partnerships in a Second Century of Stewardship

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this, and future generations. The Park Service collaborates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

NPS is a part of the national network of preservation partners who are committed to preserving the nation's cultural heritage. We are specifically honored to work with our tribal partners to preserve the unique cultures within their communities. The Tribal Preservation Program supports the mission of the NPS by partnering with tribes to preserve and protect our shared national cultural heritage.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Program is dedicated to working with Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian organizations. The mission is to preserve and protect resources and traditions of importance to Native Americans. The Tribal Program is engaged in strengthening capabilities for operating sustainable tribal preservation programs. The tribal line item of the Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the National Park Service, supports two grant programs: Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) grants and Tribal Heritage Fund grants. These two grant programs provide much needed assistance to Native American communities interested in protecting their cultural heritage.

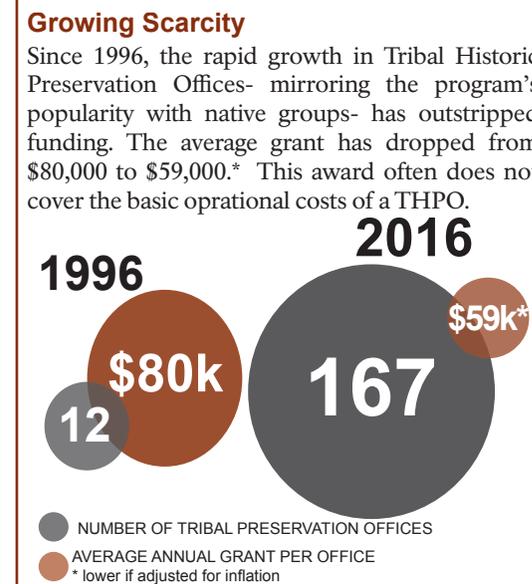
The National Park Service's preservation programs continue to expand and evolve to maintain relevancy. This year, as we celebrate the centennial of the establishment of the National Park Service, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the National Historic Preservation Act, and 20 years of funding for Tribal Historic Preservation, we reflect on the accomplishments of our partners. We look forward to a renewed engagement with tribes, youth, and other members of the federal preservation family as we begin our second century of stewardship.

“The table we gather around always has to get bigger. We need to engage [...] Native American educators to tell the true stories.”

Peggy O'Dell, Deputy Director for Operations,
National Park Service (retired)

Closing Remarks, 2016 National Park Service and
National Geographic Society National Learning Summit,
“Learning from the Outside In.”

Cover photo: Museum volunteers Harry and Brigid Dodge provide transportation for archaeologist Patrick Saltonstall on a survey of the Kodiak Archipelago that was funded by a Tribal Historic Preservation Fund award to the Koniag, Inc. Learn more on page 11.



Redwoods and Sharing Cultural Knowledge: the Wiyot and Yurok Tribes

This past July the Bureau of Land Management Arcata Field Office provided a fallen 600 year-old redwood tree to the Wiyot Tribe. The Wiyot Tribal Council and the Wiyot Tribal Historic Preservation Officer organized a hands-on workshop for youth where they loaded and transported the old-growth tree to Table Bluff Reservation, and crafted traditional dug-out canoes and planks for redwood houses in collaboration with the Yurok Tribe. Participants learned from Wiyot Elder George Buckley and Yurok Elder Willard Carlson about how to split the logs, and the cultural and historical importance of redwoods to Wiyot and Yurok cultures.



Back Row: Guy Dowd and David LaFever. 3rd row: Melvin Farmer, Ted Hernandez and Thomas Dunklin ; 2nd row: Alex Lopez, James Paguia and George Buckley; Front row: Vincent Tracy, Willard Carlson and Dakota Farmer.



Guy Dowd, Melvin Farmer and Dakota Farmer are moving the old growth log on to the Wiyot Tribe trailer for transport.
Credit: Courtesy of the Wiyot Tribe

Chairman of the Wiyot Tribe, Ted Hernandez, shared that **“it was a great feeling to witness these young men and even the BLM staff learn our traditional knowledge from these two elders.”** According to Hernandez, by combining hands-on artisanal skills with learning stories from tribal members, **the workshop highlighted how stories about Wiyot and Yurok culture “intertwined with the redwoods.”** Thomas Torma, Cultural Director and THPO for the Wiyot Tribe added that a strong partnership with the Bureau of Land Management Arcata Field Office, in part due to the THPO program, made this cooperation successful.

Why the THPO Program Matters

The THPO program provides federal agencies and communities at large with a tribal representative to whom an agency may consult directly in making important decisions regarding historic preservation issues, particularly regarding Section 106 undertakings. In addition, the THPO provides various educational materials and events, performs survey and inventory of historic properties within tribal lands, and performs preservation planning to help stakeholders make informed decisions. As we look toward the next 100 years, NPS tribal partners of the THPO program will continue to play a crucial role in national historic preservation.

Contact the NPS THPO program

Email: THPO_Program@nps.gov
Web: <http://www.nps.gov/thpo/>

Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Indian Tribes and Alaskan Native Groups

In 2016, 16 organizations were awarded \$531,187 in Tribal Heritage Grants to support the preservation of America's native cultures.

Yavapai Apache Nation (AZ) \$14,900 This project will engage Tribal youth in documenting and mapping the 180 mile route from Verde Valley to San Carlos, AZ, traversed when the Yavapai and Apache People were removed from their homelands and force-marched over rugged terrain.

Karuk Tribe (CA) \$39,911 A K-12 Oral History Curriculum project will train youth in videography and document Tribal culture through K-12 curricula and documentaries on Karuk Traditional Ecological Knowledge to be used as public outreach.

Tejon Indian Tribe (CA) \$36,369 This GPS & GIS Capacity-Building Program will help to establish a new GIS system and training to further the building of the Historic Preservation office and the participation in efficient tribal consultation.

Mashantucket Pequot (CT) \$5,848 This Youth Preservation project will provide interpretive signage along with historical context and significance. Highlighting the Sugar Shack cultural site. The project includes a youth event and the production of a book on the traditional skill of syrup making.

Nez Perce Tribe (ID) \$39,681 Niimiipuum Tit'waait: Bringing Legend Stories into the Classroom and Community Cultural Resource Program involves the transcription of 33 old recordings that are specifically focused on compiling place and story-based knowledge about important cultural and legend sites on Nez Perce land.

Seminole Tribe of Florida (FL) \$48,070 This grant will facilitate the preservation of The Red Barn, a structure important to the Seminole cattle industry that served as a “town hall” for the formation of a Tribal government. The barn was Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps Indian Division and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (MI) \$15,091 As stewards of St. Martin Light Station, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Tribe will conduct a predevelopment study and management plan for the preservation needs of this site. The site provides access, safe harbor, and biological services in important Treaty fishing waters.

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa (MI) \$40,000 Students from Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College will assist in conducting oral history research with elders on Tribal traditions and everyday life, with an emphasis on memories of key historic events and developments integral to Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. The project includes an outreach and education exhibit.

The Pueblo of Jemez (NM) \$41,437 The Tribe will conduct a comprehensive structural stabilization of San Jose de los Jemez Mission and Giusewa Pueblo ruins at Jemez Historic Site. The Site is recognized as an ancestral village associated with the aboriginal peoples of Jemez Pueblo and was designated a National Historic Landmark.

Pueblo of Pojoaque (NM) \$39,920 The grant will help fund an archaeological survey of the Pueblo's land base and create a database of past and present land use on Pueblo of Pojoaque land, both native and non-native, to guide the use and stewardship of the land.

Pueblo of Zuni (NM) \$39,966 This project will develop a centralized GIS database which will equip the Zuni Tribe with a critical tool in the documentation and management of historic, heritage, traditional cultural properties and sacred places.

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (NV) \$39,050 The Tribe will initiate an ethnographic study on sacred sites and possible Traditional Cultural Properties within the reservation boundaries and ancestral territories in an effort to ensure stories and information will be preserved for the education of community members. Information will be used to evaluate eligibility for NRHP/Tribal Register.

Since 1990, more than \$17 million has been awarded to over 460 Indian and Alaskan Native communities. On average, over \$1.5 million are requested per year--almost three times above available funding in 2016. The average award in 2016 was \$33,199.

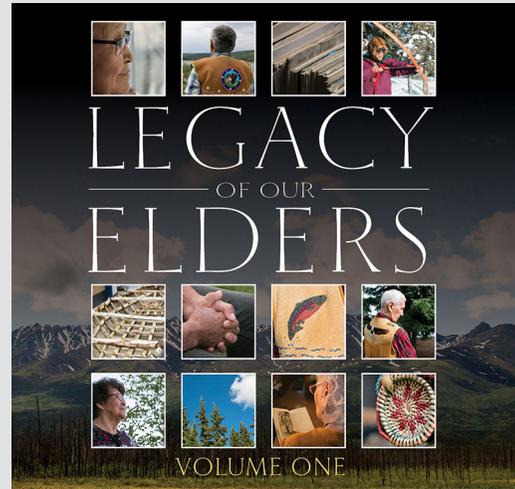
Kaw Nation (OK) \$36,000 The purpose of this grant is to provide training and skill-building activities, including GIS, laws and planning, survey methods, and GPS to the Kaw Nation Preservation Committee in order to build a Historic Preservation Program.

Muscogee Creek Nation (OK) \$29,690 As part of a program to reconnect high-risk youth, grant funds will involve mentoring and teaching by Tribal elders on the traditional ways of the Muscogee people, imparting life skills, customary use of traditional items, and the meaning of ceremonial grounds and traditional dances.

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (OR) \$25,254 In their commitment to preserve and protect their unique culture, the Tribes will interview Tribal elders to collect traditional fishing stories, locations, techniques, tools, cooking, etc. thus preserving and recapturing the Tribes' fishing history and culture. Interpretive kiosks will be established in each of the three Tribal Governments for use by members and guests.

Coquille Indian Tribe (OR) \$40,000 In an effort to intergrate best-practice methods in stewardship, the Tribe will complete a cultural survey and inventory of approximately 30 acres of the Sek-Wet-Se forest to ensure sites of cultural significance are preserved and protected.

Tanana Chiefs Conference: Legacy of Our Elders



A 2015 Tribal Historic Preservation Fund grantee, the Tanana Chiefs Conference, is in the production and editing stages of a film series called *Legacy of Our Elders* as part of the larger Historic Preservation Fund project “Dena’ Nena’ Henash – Our Lands Speaks.” The film includes interviews with elders from each of the six sub regions in the Tanana Chiefs Conference region, and will be complemented with a book telling the story of the lives of the Athabascan Elders.



“Whenever I see anyone that I know speaks my language, boy am I there talking. It really does something to me, that wonderful feeling ‘it’s you’—you know, nobody else but you.’
Your language is you.”

Poldine Carlo, a Koyukon Athabascan elder, in *Legacy of Our Elders*, funded in part by a 2015 Historic Preservation Fund grant

Secretary of the Interior’s 2015 Historic Preservation Award Winner

Loretta Jackson-Kelly, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Hualapai Tribal Nation



Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Loretta Jackson-Kelly.
Credit: National Park Service

This June, the Secretary of the Interior presented Loretta Jackson-Kelly with a Historic Preservation Award in recognition of over twenty years of service to historic preservation with the Hualapai Tribal Nation, where she served formally as the Hualapai Tribal Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer from 2003-2015. As a THPO, Loretta acted as the liaison between federal agencies and the Hualapai Tribe, lending her voice to promote partnerships and collaborative processes to meet the needs of both Tribal and non-tribal entities.

As a long-standing THPO and advocate for the unique and crucial work done by indigenous professionals engaged in cultural resource management, Ms. Jackson-Kelly defined her career as someone who serves as a resource to other THPOs. Fellow THPOs nominating her for the award recognized Loretta as someone who “paved the way for a younger generation” of women working in the field of CRM, and as a collaborator who was open to discussing her role as a “traditional Hualapai woman in the field of CRM.” The 2014 Historic Preservation Award Winner, Vernelda Joyce Grant, San Carlos Apache, commented that: **“without knowing it, she empowered me to keep moving forward, overcoming many obstacles that worked against me in my field; such as being a young, educated, indigenous woman in Archaeology and Anthropology.”**

Ms. Jackson-Kelly has spent more than half of her life working for the Hualapai Tribal Nation where she developed educational training programs about Hualapai culture and language and championed oral history and cultural landscape programs. As the director of the Hualapai Department of Cultural Resources, Jackson-Kelly launched a diverse range of preservation programs, including the creation of a Hualapai Cultural Atlas, which includes documentation of more than one thousand cultural sites of importance to the Hualapai Tribe. The Cultural Atlas serves as the major source of information for designating sites as eligible for the Hualapai Register of Heritage Places. She also developed the Hualapai Federal Telecommunication Documentation Registry in conjunction with the Tower Construction Notification System under the Federal Communications Commission.

Her knowledge and leadership has been integral to the development of numerous education and training programs for Tribal members and non-members who want to learn about Hualapai culture and language. She set the cultural guidelines driving the publication of bilingual children’s literature, and the development of several Tribal cultural programs targeting youth, such as a Cultural Arts and Language program; the yearly Pai Language Immersion Camp, and an annual Cultural Hualapai River Trip. She was also an advisory board member for Native Voices on the Colorado River 2007 – 2012, and continues to teach river guides about indigenous cultures and their connections to the Grand Canyon. Loretta was fundamental to the establishment of a framework for the THPO office by assisting in the formulation of the Hualapai Cultural Heritage Resource Ordinance, which formally established the Department of Cultural Resources in 1998. This comprehensive program guides the identification, protection, preservation and management of cultural resources within Hualapai tribal and traditional use lands.

THPO Spotlight: LEGO Bricks, Artifacts, and Active Learning in Seminole Tribe of Florida Youth Outreach

Brighton Field School

For the second year in a row, the Seminole Tribe of Florida (STOF) THPO has partnered with the sixth grade classes from the STOF Pemaquett Emahakv (“Our Way”) Charter School on an archaeological field school that examined a 20th century Anglo-American pioneer homestead. During the day long field school and follow up classroom visit, the students participated in excavations at the site, stratigraphy and feature mapping, as well as identifying and recording artifacts. As a part of the field school, a Tribal elder also spoke to the students, sharing his memories of the area from when he was their age. By using the knowledge and tools learned at the site, as well as their background information, the students provided their interpretations of what occurred at the site. These interpretations will be incorporated into the STOF THPO’s National Register of Historic Places and Tribal Register of Historic Places determinations.

Building Skills with LEGO Blocks

The Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, and Ahfachkee School have partnered to provide tribal youth with hands-on experience building with LEGO blocks that facilitates the development of skills in science, engineering, geography and math. Leaders of the program work with students to demystify historic preservation, the technical aspects of GIS, and make the THPO and the Museum more approachable and exciting to tribal youth. Piloted in 2015, the program is now in its second year under the direction of Juan Cancel, THPO Chief Data Analyst and Alyssa Boge, Museum Education Coordinator.



Ahfachkee Students in the summer program building a scale model of the science building.
Credit: Courtesy of Seminole Tribe of Florida.

In the summer of 2016, 14 students grades 4-6 participated in the four-week program, using LEGO building blocks to construct a scale model of the science building located on the Ahfachkee School campus. Students learned about mapping and scale through the use of spatial software like Google Earth. They measured the building inside and out, using and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of different tools including measuring tapes, laser distance meters, and sonar measuring devices. They also reviewed multiplication and division as they calculated the dimensions of their scale model. Students learned about engineering as they scientifically tested the strength of different walls using a miniature wrecking ball. In the end, the students successfully completed the scale model of the science building and were able to present their accomplishments to the rest of the school. Not only did students enhance their math skills during this project, but they also learned how to work together as a team and forged a closer connection to the THPO and Museum as they worked with staff and spent much of their time constructing their model at the museum itself. Through the fun of building with LEGO blocks, students took away important skills and made lasting memories at their museum and the THPO.

The Next 50 Years of National Historic Preservation: a Conversation with Valerie Hauser

Members of the NPS Tribal Preservation Program met with Valerie Hauser on the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act to discuss the future of indigenous historic preservation, and the special role Native Youth play in envisioning its future. Hauser is the Director of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s (ACHP) Office of Native American Affairs. She joined the ACHP staff in 1989 as a Historic Preservation Specialist reviewing Federal agency projects and programs. The National Park Service is engaged with the ACHP and other agencies in an inter-agency Native American Youth Working Group, which works with Native federal employees, as well as Tribal leaders and staff, on promoting the inclusion of Native Youth in federal preservation programs.

Q What are some of the most important things that you think people interested in supporting Native and Tribal historical preservation in the U.S. should focus on?

I think those of us that work in Native or indigenous affairs just have to keep pushing forward and create opportunities for dialogue. An important aspect of making some progress is to include Native Youth in preservation, and to include more indigenous peoples in preservation, in general, both as practitioners and as concerned citizens. I think that's probably the path where we would see the greatest change. This is an important opportunity on the 50th anniversary of the NHPA for us to take a fresh look at it, and envision Native and tribal participation in a whole different way--really more as partners. One of the best paths forward is to get more young people involved.

Q You’ve been doing important work to spearhead a multi-agency working group. Could you share a little bit about that?

The ACHP started our own inter-agency Native Youth Program in response to the President's initiative “Generation Indigenous.” Right now, offices at the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Smithsonian’s Repatriation Office, and the United States Forest Service participate. We are looking at what programs currently exist, and when programs don’t have a Native Youth component, we are discussing how to involve Native Youth in those programs or create new opportunities. There is no separate budget for it, so we are all trying to leverage the resources we do have. The ACHP’s program has two goals. One is to introduce more Native Youth to the world of historic preservation, so that they know that they can have a voice in influencing federal decisions and in other aspects of preservation as well, and the other is to encourage them to consider career paths in preservation. Over the past three years we have also engaged via social media outreach, attending some Native Youth conferences, facilitating in-person roundtables and workshops in collaboration with tribal leaders and staff, and we hope to have a remote lecture series as well.

“There seems to be a better understanding of the responsibility that Federal agencies have to Tribes and Native Hawaiians, but we still have lot of work to do.”

Valerie Hauser,
Director of Native
American Affairs, ACHP

Q What resources would you recommend to individuals interested in learning more about this initiative?

We are currently trying to create more resources, and are now engaged in dialogue with tribal leaders and tribal preservation staff about how we communicate with their youth about preservation, and about their needs. We are developing a toolkit for youth and adults who work with youth that includes careers, resources for youth to learn about preservation, and opportunities for youth to get involved. We are seeking input from tribal leaders and staff about those resources, and will share them when we know that tribal leaders and staff are comfortable with them. This is a collaborative process, and just the beginning.

Native Youth & Historic Preservation Resources

ACHP

Native Youth Program

<http://www.achp.gov/native-youth-program.html>

Facebook: [Facebook.com/Preservation-Indigenous-Native-Youth](https://www.facebook.com/Preservation-Indigenous-Native-Youth)

National Park Service

The Cultural Resources Diversity Internship, in partnership with the American Conservation Experience. Tribal Historic Preservation Offices may seek to host interns through this program. For more, visit: www.crdip.org

The Ancestral Lands Program engages Native Youth and young adults in meaningful conservation projects on Native Lands, including a cultural diversity internship program: <http://sccorps.org/join/ancestral-lands/>

NativeOneStop.gov

a one-stop shop for American Indians and Alaska Natives to access resources available from the U.S. Government.

THPO Spotlight: The Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Nominate Historic Rice Bay to National Register



Credit: National Park Service

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians successfully nominated its Historic Rice Bay to the National Register in support of the United States Forest Service and Ottawa National Forest.

Rice Bay comprises the north-easternmost portion of Lac Vieux Desert, a 6.6 square-mile lake on the Michigan-Wisconsin border. Much of the surface of Rice Bay is seasonally covered with wild rice (*Zizania*), an aquatic grass of cultural importance to the Ketegitigaaning Ojibwe Nation (federally recognized as the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians) who have managed and harvested the wild rice bed for generations. The annual rice harvest played a role in Ojibwe migration to the area and led to the establishment of a seasonal, and later permanent, settlement at Lac Vieux Desert.

The harvest continues to prompt an annual gathering of band members, as well as guests from other bands, to partake in an act which remains to this day a critical component of Ojibwe culture and identity.

Want to share your grant success stories? We'd love to hear them!

THPO_Program@nps.gov

Program at a Glance

Origin and Purpose

In 1989, Congress directed the National Park Service to report on tribal preservation needs. The findings of that study, *Keepers of the Treasures—Protecting Historic Properties and Cultural Traditions on Indian Lands*, provided the foundation for the program, which awards grants, assists Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian organizations, as well as approves requests from native groups to assume the duties of Tribal Historic Preservation Offices.

Grants

Tribal Heritage Grants are available to all federally recognized Indian Tribes, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office formula grants are drawn from the Historic Preservation Fund annually as appropriated by Congress and are awarded to eligible offices to support the preservation and promotion of cultural traditions.

What do THPOs do?

- Work with their communities to protect cultural resources and significant places vitally important to the cultural identity of American Indians
- Ensure activities reflect the knowledge and participation of tribal elders, culture bearers, and spiritual leaders, as well as other preservation professionals
- Assist federal agencies in complying with the National Historic Preservation Act on tribal lands
- Create tribal oral history programs, develop and operate tribal museums and cultural centers, and develop training and education programs that preserve traditional culture

Tribal Historic Preservation Spotlight: Survey of the Kodiak



Credit: Courtesy of Koniag, Inc.
Project also pictured on report cover.

“Beneath the thick blanket of wild grasses that cover Kodiak’s coastal meadows lies a wealth of cultural information. Here, generations of Alutiq people dug their houses into the damp soil, creating a detailed record of their activities.”

In Alaska, the Koniag, Inc. members conducted an important archaeological survey in Alaska’s Kodiak Archipelago, helping to preserve their past. This project was funded by a Tribal Historic Preservation grant.

To learn more about the Alutiq people, visit their museum:
<http://alutiqmuseum.org/>

New NPS Tribal Historic Preservation Office Partnerships (2015-2016)

- Osage Nation, OK
- Pueblo of Laguna, NM
- Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, MN
- Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, WA
- Bridgeport Indian Colony, CA
- Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, MI
- Ponca Tribe, OK
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, OK
- Cahuilla Band of Chippewa Indians, CA
- Pueblo of San Felipe, NM
- Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, WA
- Mechoopda Indian tribe of Chico Rancheria, CA*
- Hoopa Valley Tribe, CA*
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, OK*

*agreement finalization in process at time of publication

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science

Tribal Relations and American Cultures

Tribal Historic Preservation Program
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Washington, DC 20005

web

nps.gov/thpo/
nps.gov/thpo/tribal-heritage/
nps.gov/history/tribes/ailo.htm

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THPO_program@nps.gov
Preservation_grants_info@nps.gov

THPO Spotlight:

The Coquille Indian Tribe has been engaging local youth in the protection, preservation, and maintenance of cultural resources early and often to ensure the continued survival of the Tribe, its culture, and its history. This summer, the **Kilkich Youth Corp** participated in an archaeological field school at Miner’s Fort with the Southern Oregon University Laboratory of Anthropology. Participating in the excavation allowed the youth to take an active part in uncovering a piece of the history of the Rogue River War to foster a better understanding of the Tribe’s past, present, and future. Learn more about the Coquille Indian Tribe Kilkich Youth Corp:

<http://www.coquilletribe.org/youthprograms.htm>



Samatha Perez showing an artifact found at Miner’s Fort.

Credit: Courtesy of Coquille Indian Tribe

Evan Tobias and Courtney Krossman sift through and clean excavated artifacts at Miner’s Fort. Also pictured: Adam Sharp.

