

**Journal #5218 from sdc 6.8.22**

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Water flowing through the Walker River in August 2019. (David Calvert/The Nevada Independent)

## **Bois Forte celebrates historic return of tribal land**

By [Jana Hollingsworth](#) Star Tribune

June 7, 2022 — 6:26pm

NETT LAKE, Minn. — On powwow grounds overlooking the calm, wild rice-filled waters of Nett Lake, leaders of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa on Tuesday reclaimed a massive portion of land lost more than 100 years ago, marking the largest Native American land restoration of its kind in the United States.

They were joined by tribal leaders from other Chippewa reservations and dozens of Bois Forte citizens, who gathered to celebrate the purchase of more than 28,000 acres of former reservation land, procured in partnership with the Conservation Fund and the Indian Land Tenure Foundation. Before a ceremonial proclamation was read and papers signed, a traditional drum group thrummed a healing song. A pipe ceremony invoked the Creator as the scents of a fry bread and walleye feast lingered in the air.

"This is historic for Indian Country," said Bois Forte Chair Cathy Chavers. "We are proud to be here today to bring this back to our people. Our ancestors are looking down upon us, and they are very happy."

The reclaimed lush forestland falls within the Nett Lake and Deer Creek sections of the northern Minnesota reservation, accounting for 21% of its combined acreage. It was lost to Bois Forte 120 years ago when the federal government sold it to timber companies and homesteaders, with the Potlatch lumber company eventually coming to own the bulk of it.

In recent years, tribal nations throughout the country have been buying back land lost more than a century ago through the disregard of treaties as well as legislation designed to assimilate Native Americans into white culture.

Restoration has long been a goal of the band, but one it expected to meet with small purchases that would take decades to add up to anything substantial.

The sale, tribal leaders said, represents the return of a huge part of their homeland, ensuring hunting, gathering, fishing and trapping land for "our children, our children's children and the future of Bois Forte," Chavers said. "We never dreamed this would ever be possible."

The national nonprofit Conservation Fund [bought more than 70,000 acres](#) of Minnesota forestland from the PotlatchDeltic Corp. for \$48 million in 2020, with the intention of returning the large swaths within reservation boundaries to their tribal nations. The Conservation Fund worked with the band and the Indian Land Tenure Foundation to make the sale a reality.

The outcome "honors the heritage of this land by reuniting it" with the band and ensuring permanent stewardship, said Larry Selzer, president of the Conservation Fund.

"We must not forget or overlook the injustices suffered by the band in the past," he said, "but we are here to celebrate a brighter future."

The Ojibwe band of about 3,600 enrolled citizens bought the land with financing from a company that offers loans to tribal nations for land-acquisition projects.

The arrangement represents a model for other tribal nations working to reclaim land, said Cris Stainbrook, president of the Little Canada-based Indian Land Tenure Foundation, and offered the band financing through a general obligation bond.

"What it does for all of Indian Country is that it says these large-scale transactions can, should and will be done," Stainbrook said.

Conservation incentive payments from the state will eventually help the band pay off the undisclosed price tag. Bois Forte expects to directly manage the restored forestland, with a plan that focuses on environmental protection and economic and cultural benefits, leaders said Tuesday.

An 1854 treaty between the band and federal government set aside a region around Lake Vermilion for the Bois Forte reservation, and an 1866 treaty added the Nett Lake and Deer Creek areas, much of which was eventually lost when the federal government allowed reservation land to be sold to individuals as part of its assimilation plans. While the band regained some land in 1938, major portions of the Nett Lake and Deer Creek sections, together totaling nearly 135,000 acres, were not owned by Bois Forte.

Like many reservations, Bois Forte's is a patchwork quilt of land, some owned by the band and some owned by people or interests not linked to the tribe. Much of the Potlatch forest of spruce, aspen and red pine is in the Nett Lake section of the reservation, in St. Louis and Koochiching counties. It's an area where medicine is gathered and is known for its wild-rice harvesting, berry picking and other traditional practices.

Bois Forte member Darren Landgren, broadcasting the ceremony for the Nett Lake radio station, said he's glad the thousands of forested acres have been returned. But the band should never have been put in the position of reclaiming what it rightfully owned, he said.

"It's complicated, but it feels good," he said.

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*"When wireless is perfectly applied the whole earth will be converted into a huge brain, which in fact it is, all things being particles of a real and rhythmic whole. We shall be able to communicate with one another instantly, irrespective of distance. Not only this, but through television and telephony we shall see and hear one another as perfectly as though we were face to face, despite intervening distances of thousands of miles; and the instruments through which we shall be able to do this will be amazingly simple compared with our present telephone. A man will be able to carry one in his vest pocket."*

—Nikola Tesla

"When Women Is Boss." *Colliers*, January 30, 1926.



### [Sara Wiley Weird, Fantastic and Odd Things](#)

This not a snake. This is a Hemeroplanes Caterpillar that disguises itself as a snake when it feels threatened by predators.

Photo: Daniel Janzen

New US quarter honors Cherokee Nation's [first female chief](#).

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Harvard Holds Human Remains of 7,000 Native Americans, 19 Former Slaves

<https://www.rsn.org/001/harvard-holds-human-remains-of-7000-native-americans-19-former-slaves.html>

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Biden's EPA to Restore Power of States and Tribes to Block Pipelines -

EcoWatch <https://www.ecowatch.com/biden-epa-clean-water-act-pipelines-trump.html>



[bbc.com](#)

[Ozette: The US' lost 2,000-year-old village](#)

[In 1970, a violent storm uncovered a Makah village that was buried by a mudslide more than 300 years earlier. A newly re-opened museum tells the fascinating story of the ancient site.](#)

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The New York Times

[As the Great Salt Lake Dries Up, Utah Faces 'An Environmental Nuclear Bomb'](#)

SALT LAKE CITY — If the Great Salt Lake, which has already shrunk by two-thirds, continues to dry up, here's what's in store: The lake's flies and brine shrimp would die off — scientists warn it could start as soon as this summer — threatening the 10 million migratory birds that stop at the lake annually to feed on the tiny creatures. Ski conditions at the resorts above Salt Lake City, a vital source of revenue, would deteriorate. The lucrative extraction of magnesium and other minerals from the

Please join me in welcoming Duane Hall as the Supervisory Workforce Development Specialist in DINAP! Duane has served as a Team Lead and as such, has assisted for many years in taking on collateral duties to support DINAP including but not limited to serving as a subject matter expert in regulations, budget, financial management, and serving as a reviewer of all Federal Project Officer related tasks/assignments as well as other areas.

While Duane will continue to serve as a subject matter expert, he will also help develop deeper WIOA- and grants-specific subject matter expertise within the DINAP team and be a part of the Office of Workforce Investment management team.

Thank you,  
Athena Brown, Division Chief



## In Memoriam

Indian Country recently lost several dedicated workers and advocates.

On April 30, 2022, Cynthia Kay Payment (Cindy) passed away at the age of 68. Cindy was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and worked at the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan's Employment and Training Program for over 35 years. She is survived by two children, 5 grandchildren and a great-grand child as well as her partner, Bernard "Manny" Krull of Sault Ste. Marie and her five siblings.

On May 18, 2022, Leroy Emerald Bingham left this earth while surrounded by his family in Billings, Montana. He was 67 years old. Leroy was a member of the Blackfeet Nation and an advocate for Indian Country, most notably for the P.L. 102-477 Program. He previously served as the Executive Director of the Cook Inlet Tribal Council and served as a consultant, grant writer, planner, historian, and advocate. He is survived by his wife JoAnn, his four children, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren with another on the way.

In April, DINAP was also informed of the passing of Don Eddy, Employment and Training Director for the Colorado Indian Tribes. Mr. Eddy served as a long time director and worked under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Program, Job Training Partnership Act and the Workforce Investment Act programs until his retirement in 2012. He will be truly missed by all who knew him.

## Important Dates

- **GPMS Virtual Office Hours**

Thursday, June 16

11:00 am – 12:00 pm EST

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST

Sign up [here](#).

This month's virtual office hours will feature Ben Cheriyan from the Office of Disability Employment Policy and Laura Aron from Social Policy Research Associates. They will be providing an overview on the disability data question and strategies in increasing data collection

- **Juneteenth – Federal Holiday**

Monday, June 20

- **Deadline for submitting PY 2021 Youth (SYS) Annual Reports**

Thursday, June 30, 2022

- **Native American Employment and Training Council Meeting**

Wednesday, June 22 – Thursday, June 23

Public comment will be held 3:00 – 4:00 pm EST on June 23, 2022. Members of the public not present may submit a written statement by Friday, June 17, 2022, to be included in the record of the meeting. Statements are to be submitted to Athena R. Brown, Designated Federal Officer, at [brown.athena@dol.gov](mailto:brown.athena@dol.gov).

More information can be found [here](#). You can find the agenda for the meeting [here](#).

You can join the meeting [here](#).

Meeting ID: 160 724 4786

Passcode: 195989

- **Eastern and Mid-Western Multi-Regional WIOA Training**

September 12–15, 2022

Myrtle Beach, NC at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center

- **Western Regional 166/477 Training**

November 7–11, 2022

Gila River Hotel and Casinos – Wild Horse Pass in Chandler, AZ

The full calendar of webinars can be found [here](#).

## Workforce System Opioid Webinar Series

On **June 9** from **1:30 pm–2:30 pm** EST, the Office of Workforce Investment will be kicking off their Workforce System Opioid Webinar Series.

The series will open with **Opioid Addiction in the Construction Industry**. This webinar will feature the guest speakers Executive Director Chris Trahan Cain and Opioid Projects Coordinator Christopher Rodman from the Center for Construction Research and Training. They will share their expertise on mental health and opioid conditions in the construction industry, highlighting current research and sharing evidence-based solutions.

[Register Here](#)

## Tribal Playbook for Accessing Infrastructure Dollars Released

Thirteen billion dollars specifically for tribes has been set aside through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Tribes are also eligible to compete for hundreds of billions more in other programs.

To help facilitate the funding process, the White House has released a **Tribal Playbook** that outlines what is available and how to apply.

More information on President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law can be found [here](#).

## BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW



## Presentations Available

Presentations from the 42nd NINAETC Conference have been posted! You can find them [here](#).



## Grab Bag – Spotlight on Success

We congratulate all the participants recognized at the 42nd NINAETC, which took place last month in Tulsa, OK. These honorees each took the opportunities offered by their respective programs and achieved results that have improved their community, their families, and their futures. We are sharing here a brief profile of one such participant.

When **Richard Cosson**, an Oglala Sioux Tribal member, arrived at the California Indian Manpower Consortium-Chicago Based Operations ("CIMC-Chicago") in 2011, he had just finished a 20-year prison sentence. While he had a place to stay, he had no money, no car, and no resources except his determination to continue his education. During his time at the Jacksonville Correctional Center, he had gained advanced computer skills and was sharing this knowledge with other participants at the CIMC-Chicago resource center. Richard had an associate degree in General Studies, so CIMC-Chicago staff encouraged him to pursue his educational goals and he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology with honors from Roosevelt University.

CIMC-Chicago assisted Richard with computer access, job search and interview skills, and business attire for job interviews. Staff told him, "Good luck, and remember you can't go wrong with a nice, clean white shirt and a tie." He was relentless in seeking employment and now works for the State of Illinois as a Human Services case worker. Richard has been employed with the state for over 10 years and helps others in their quest for state employment. He is grateful for the assistance and guidance he received from CIMC-Chicago which helped him rebuild his life and has allowed him to help others in return.

## GPMS News and Resources

GPMS updates were successfully released in late April and early June. Notable enhancements include:

- **DINAP Additional Performance Indicators** – The performance outcomes box was enhanced to display INA's additional performance indicators: 1) Percent in Training and 2) Employability Skills Enhancement.
- **FPO Performance Dashboard** – A dashboard was developed for FPOs to view national and individual grantee progress in real-time. Reports include participant enrollment counts, service activity trends and a snapshot of performance results. The purpose of the dashboard tool is to improve grantee training and technical assistance. A grantee performance dashboard will be deployed at the end of June.
- **Training Completion Updates** – Training alerts and managing training services were updated to allow training completion to be edited when a client is in active and exited status.
- **Follow-Up Report** – Report was enhanced so future quarters will not display in the report grid.

If there are any questions or concerns about [Login.gov](https://www.login.gov) or other GPMS processes, please submit an inquiry through the **GPMS Technical Assistance Ticket Form** or contact the Help Desk at:

(800) 674-2605  
or  
[DINAP.GPMS.Support@dol.gov](mailto:DINAP.GPMS.Support@dol.gov)

[newyorker.com](http://newyorker.com)

**The Strange and Secret Ways That Animals Perceive the World**

Nonhuman creatures have senses that we're just beginning to fathom. What would they tell us if we could only understand them?

[nbcnews.com](http://nbcnews.com)

**Lakota elders helped a white man preserve their language. Then he tried to sell it back to them.**

"No matter how it was collected, where it was collected, when it was collected, our language belongs to us," said Ray Taken Alive, a Lakota teacher.

THE INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA  
IN COLLABORATION WITH NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION  
INVITE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO A

**COVID-19 VACCINE OUTREACH EVENT**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 17TH**  
**STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL**

6PM-9PM

with special guests

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STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL  
CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION

## ***And from several disparate sources by way of the Minnesota Department of Health (and Journal reader MM):***

### **The Never-Ending Maze: Continued Failure to Protect Indigenous Women from Sexual Violence in the USA**

<https://www.amnestyusa.org/maze/>

### **Planting Seeds: The Power of Indigenous Circle Work with Strong Oak**

In this episode we speak with Strong Oak Lefebvre, co-founder and executive director of the Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition INC. Strong Oak co-authored the Walking in Balance with All Our Relations teaching curriculum, a violence prevention approach that is based on transformative/restorative circle practices and traditional values of indigenous people prior to colonization.

They speak with us about the years leading up to starting their own organization, including what catalyzed their move away from mainstream gender-based violence work in order to embrace restorative and transformative justice practices. Strong Oak asks us to be mindful of the ways in which RJ and TJ are often co-opted by the state. ... [See More](#)



### **Pasifika Power & Control Wheel Translation Project Report**

Matāpuna Ma'ilo Levenson, MSW

API-GBV

This report highlights the indigenous methodologies used and lessons learned from this project, and provides recommendations for how communities can integrate the approaches and lessons learned to their own work of ending gender-based violence in their respective communities.

#### **[Download Report](#)**

<https://www.api-gbv.org/resources/pasifika-wheel-project/>

### **Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias**

In 2022, the Department of Justice released updated guidance on Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias. This guidance is designed to help law enforcement agencies recognize, mitigate, and prevent gender bias and other bias from compromising the response to, and investigation of, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other forms of gender-based violence. The guidance provides a set of eight basic principles that – if integrated into LEAs' policies, trainings and practices – help

ensure that gender bias, either intentionally or unintentionally, does not undermine efforts to keep survivors safe and hold offenders accountable. The full guidance as well as a four-page summary are available at the links below.

- [Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias](#)
- [Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias – Summary](#)

[View the annotated list of resources that accompanies this guidance](#)

**[A collaboration between MenHealing and the Massachusetts-based Center for Hope and Healing.](#)**  
**[Click for video](#)**



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[nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)

**[Can Ancient Maori Knowledge Aid Science? Ask These Freshwater Crayfish.](#)**

[As a weed choked a New Zealand lake, a tribe found a surprising solution in a centuries-old tool, adding to a pitched debate over how Indigenous knowledge can complement conventional science.](#)

**The Hill**

The Energy Department announced on Wednesday that it will make a major loan to a facility that would create and store clean hydrogen energy. It will loan \$504.4 million dollars to the Advanced Clean Energy Storage Project, which will be located in Delta, Utah. Hydrogen energy involves causing chemical reactions between hydrogen and oxygen in...

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*Ed note:*

*I had delayed seeing out this Journal as Gladys Frazier Hicks walked on to the spirit world and I wanted to post any forthcoming information in a timely manner.*

*However, there has been no official information, so let it be noted that Auntie Gladys was beloved of many and that she will carry some of our cherished moments with her on her journey.*

