

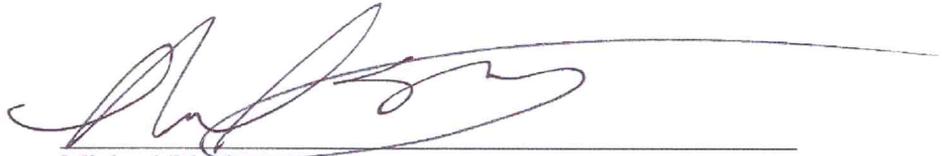
INDIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTIVES TRANSMITTAL SHEET

(modified DI -416)

<small>DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER</small> 54 IAM 2, 54 IAM 3, 54 IAM 4, 54 IAM 5, 54 IAM 6, and 54 IAM 7	<small>SUBJECT</small> Agricultural Resources - Multiple Indian Affairs Manual (IAM) policy chapters	<small>RELEASE NUMBER</small> # 14-20, #14-23, #14-24, #14-25, #14-26, and #14-01
<small>FOR FURTHER INFORMATION</small> Office of Trust Services, Branch of Ag & Rangeland Management (Division of Natural Resources)		<small>DATE</small> SEP 09 2014

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

These chapters establish the policies, authorities, and responsibilities for the protection, planning, administration, and monitoring of trust and restricted Indian land used for agricultural purposes under Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) jurisdiction.



Michael Black
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Remove: None

Insert: All 6 new IAM chapters

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- 1.1 Purpose.** This chapter describes Indian Affairs (IA) policy regarding the development of Indian agricultural and rangeland resources to increase production and to expand the diversity and availability of agricultural products for subsistence, income, and employment.

Note: *Agriculture/agricultural* herein refers to cultivated crops, marketable or traditionally used materials, and livestock production for commercial as well as subsistence use.

- 1.2 Scope.** This policy applies to all tribal and individually held trust and restricted Indian agricultural lands under Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) jurisdiction, to all IA programs and staff charged with the management of these lands, and to tribal entities acting for the United States through contracts issued under Public Law (P.L.) 93-638.

Compact tribes may not be required to abide by the policies contained in this chapter (depending on individual compact language), but are encouraged to use IA policy as guidance.

- 1.3 Policy.** It is the policy of IA:

- A.** To protect, conserve, utilize, and maintain the highest productive potential on Indian agricultural lands through the application of sound conservation practices and techniques.
- B.** To increase production and expand the diversity and availability of agricultural products for subsistence, income, and employment of Indians and Alaska Natives, through the development of agricultural resources on Indian lands.
- C.** To develop Indian agricultural resources in a manner consistent with applicable tribal programmatic resource management plans.
- D.** To coordinate and plan with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) to significantly increase the participation of Indian landowners and land users in applicable USDA farm programs.

- 1.4 Authority.**

- A.** 25 U.S.C. 466 Indian Forestry Units; Rules and Regulations

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- B. 25 U.S.C. § 3701 *et seq.*, American Indian Agricultural Resource Management Act of 1993, as amended

1.5 Responsibilities.

- A. **Director, BIA** ensures compliance and capacity to comply with applicable statutes, regulations, IA policy, and Department of the Interior (DOI) policy; and enters into national-level agreements with other federal and state agencies to increase resources and development opportunities for Indian land owners and land users.
- B. **Deputy Director, BIA Field Operations** assigns priority to agricultural and rangeland development activities, and supports budget and staffing to implement this work.
- C. **Deputy Bureau Director, BIA Office of Trust Services (OTS)** coordinates agricultural and rangeland development activities among and between OTS programs, and supports budget and staffing requests.
- D. **Regional Directors (RDs)** determine budget and staffing needs, justify budget levels and support requests through the budgeting process; provide regional guidance for agricultural and rangeland development activities; and enter into regional agreements with appropriate USDA offices to increase participation in USDA programs on Indian lands.
- E. **Agency Superintendents** determine the need for agricultural improvements, pursue funding opportunities, schedule and ensure completion of identified practices including those prescribed in programmatic and individual conservation plans; organize, train and assign Agency staff and resources to coordinate these activities with other Agency responsibilities; and build productive working relationships with counterparts in local USDA agency offices.