

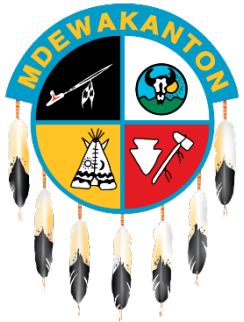


Advancing Tribal Food & Agriculture Production to  
Build Healthy Tribal Economies and Communities in  
the 2018 Farm Bill and Beyond  
*National Tribal Public Health Summit; May 24, 2018*

# Regaining our Future 2018 Farm Bill Report

**Regaining Our Future: An Assessment of Risks and Opportunities for Native Communities in the 2018 Farm Bill**

- Commissioned by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Release at NCAI Mid Year Conference in June 2017
- Compendium of information on the Farm Bill, Indian Country's involvement, the asks of Tribes, Tribal organizations, and a review or potential opportunities in the 2018 reauthorization
- **Available at:** <http://seedsofnativehealth.org/farm-bill-report-and-title-summaries/>



**Seeds of Native Health**  
A Campaign for Indigenous Nutrition



Native Farm Bill Coalition

# Building the Native Farm Bill Coalition

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**Established in Oct. 2017 at the NCAI Annual Conf. in Milwaukee, WI**

- Co-chaired by Keith B. Anderson, Vice-Chair of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, and Ross Racine, Executive Director of the Intertribal Agriculture Council

## **Founding Partners:**

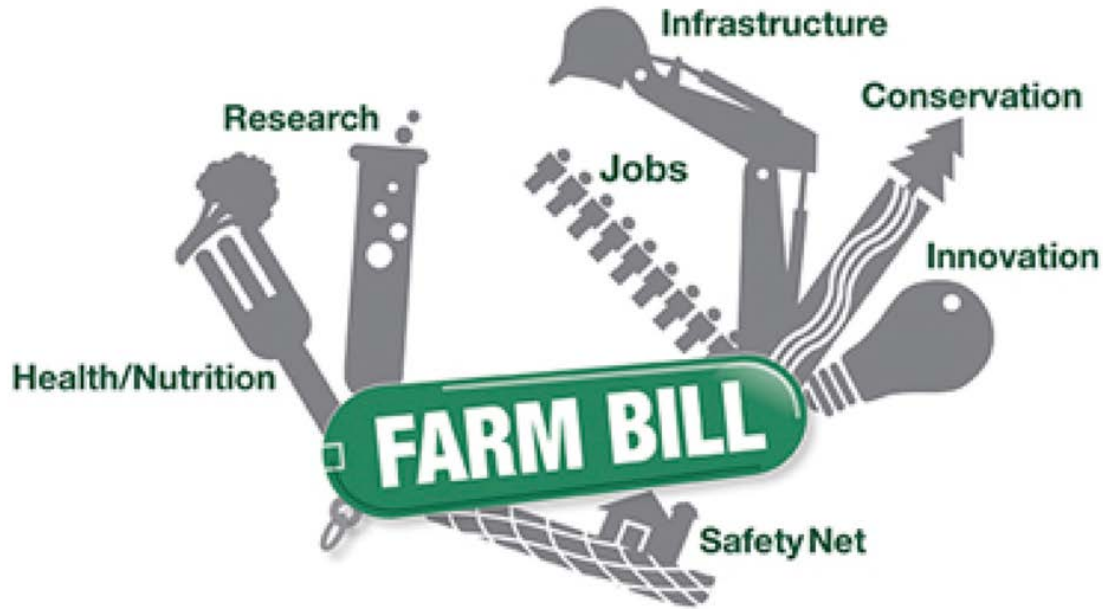
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Intertribal Agriculture Council
- National Congress of American Indians
- Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (Research Partner)

## **Largest coordinated effort to defend/extend Indian Country's interests in the Farm Bill**

- Over **150 Tribes** represented: **70 Native Nations** passed resolutions/sent letters of support
- 12 Intertribal/Native Organizations – including the **National Indian Health Board**
- 2 Ally Organizations – including MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger

**Native Farm Bill Coalition**

# About the Farm Bill



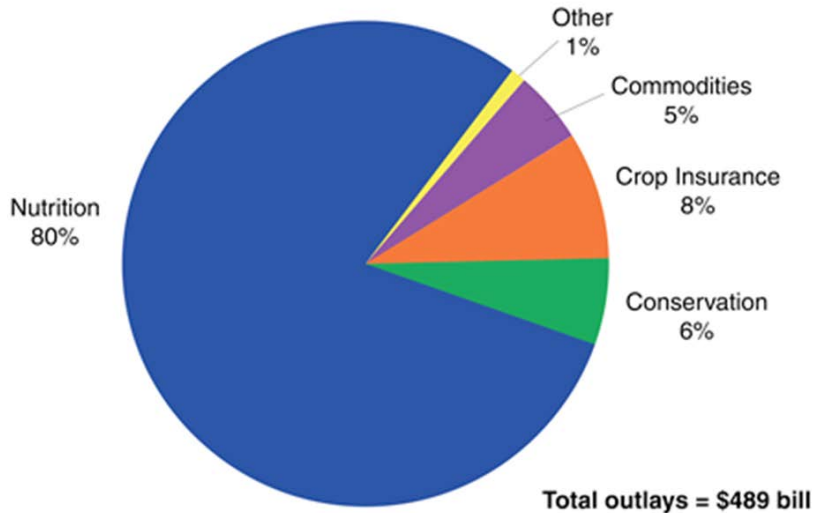
**“It’s like a Swiss Army knife.”**

Image courtesy of the USDA

- President Obama 2/7/14

# The 2014 Farm Bill

## Projected Outlays under the 2014 Farm Act, 2014-2018



Source: USDA Economic Research Service using data from Congressional Budget Office, Cost Estimates for the Agricultural Act of 2014, Jan 2014.

## What's in the Farm Bill?

- 5 Year Bill -\$489 billion Bill
- Expires September 2018

## Includes Programs and Support for:

- Commodities, Crop Insurance, Conservation, Trade, Nutrition, Credit, Rural Development, Research, Forestry, Energy, Horticulture, etc.

## Nutrition = 80 percent of the funding

- The most contentious title

# Why the Farm Bill Matters

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**\$956 Billion – 2014 Farm Bill CBO projected spending over 10 year period**

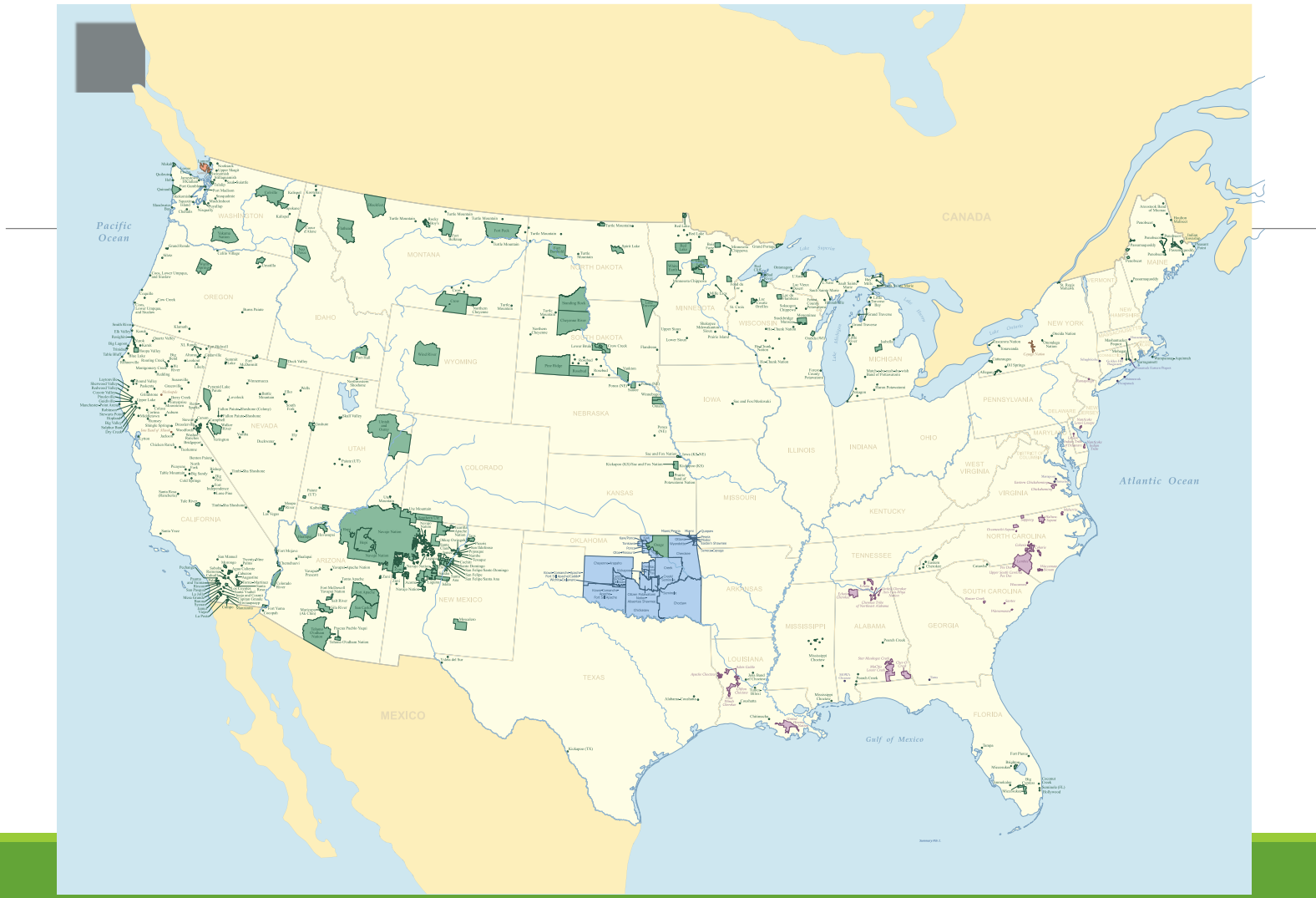
- One of the only truly rural development focused pieces of legislation

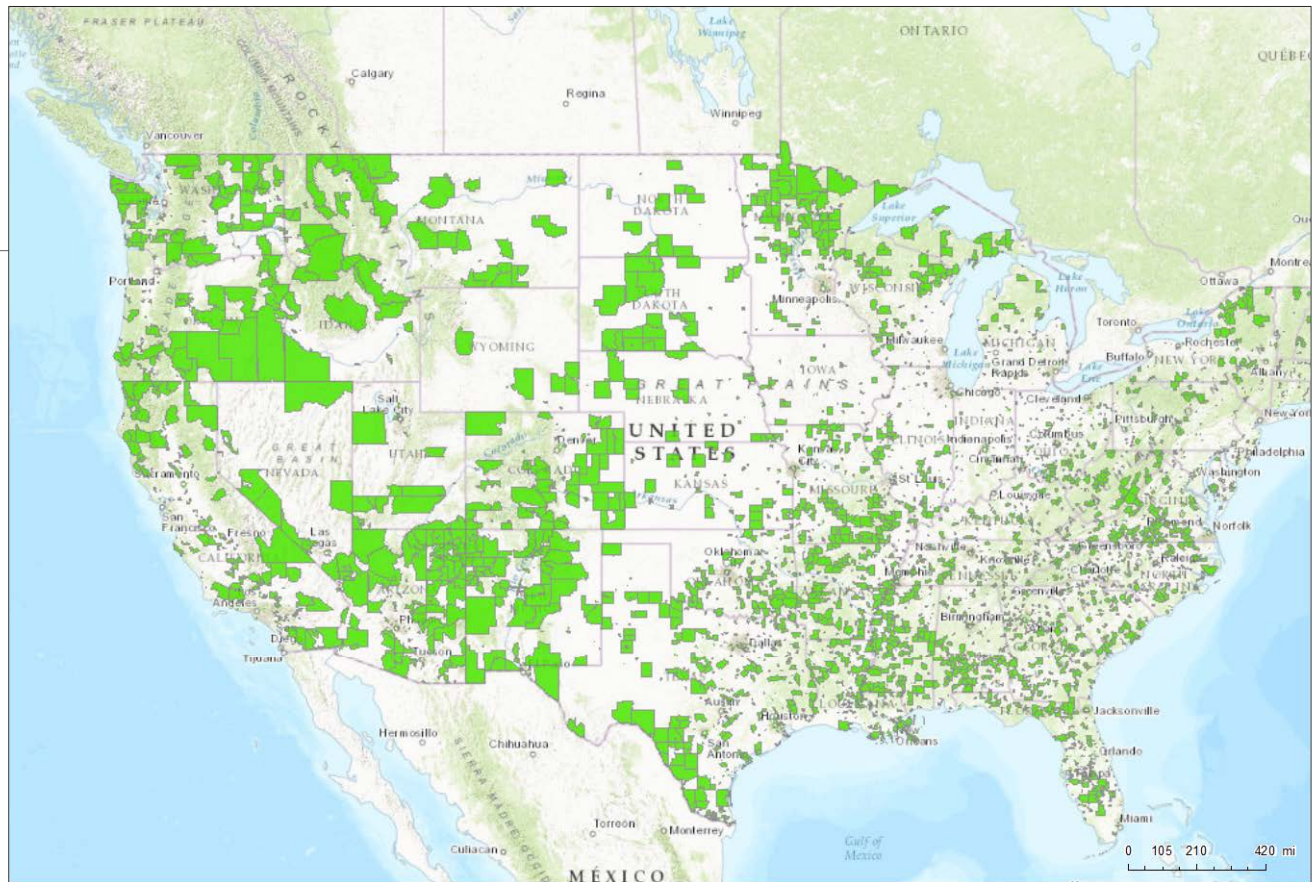
**Represents rural and urban partnership that's existed for over 40 years through the Nutrition Title and Farm Programs**

- Nutrition Title acts as a “price support” for crops’ SNAP/Food Stamps helped secure votes of urban congressional representatives
- Now – 20 percent of rural households receive federal food assistance; over 25 percent in Indian Country with some communities reaching over 50 percent

**The 2018 Farm Bill Could Mean—**

**\$1 Trillion to Indian Country  
and Rural Areas**





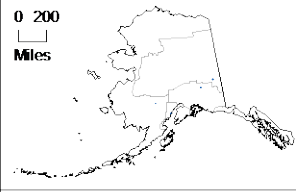
Low income & low food access: 1/10 Miles

Date: 4/3/2017 Source: USDA Economic Research Service, ESRI. For more information: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/documentation>

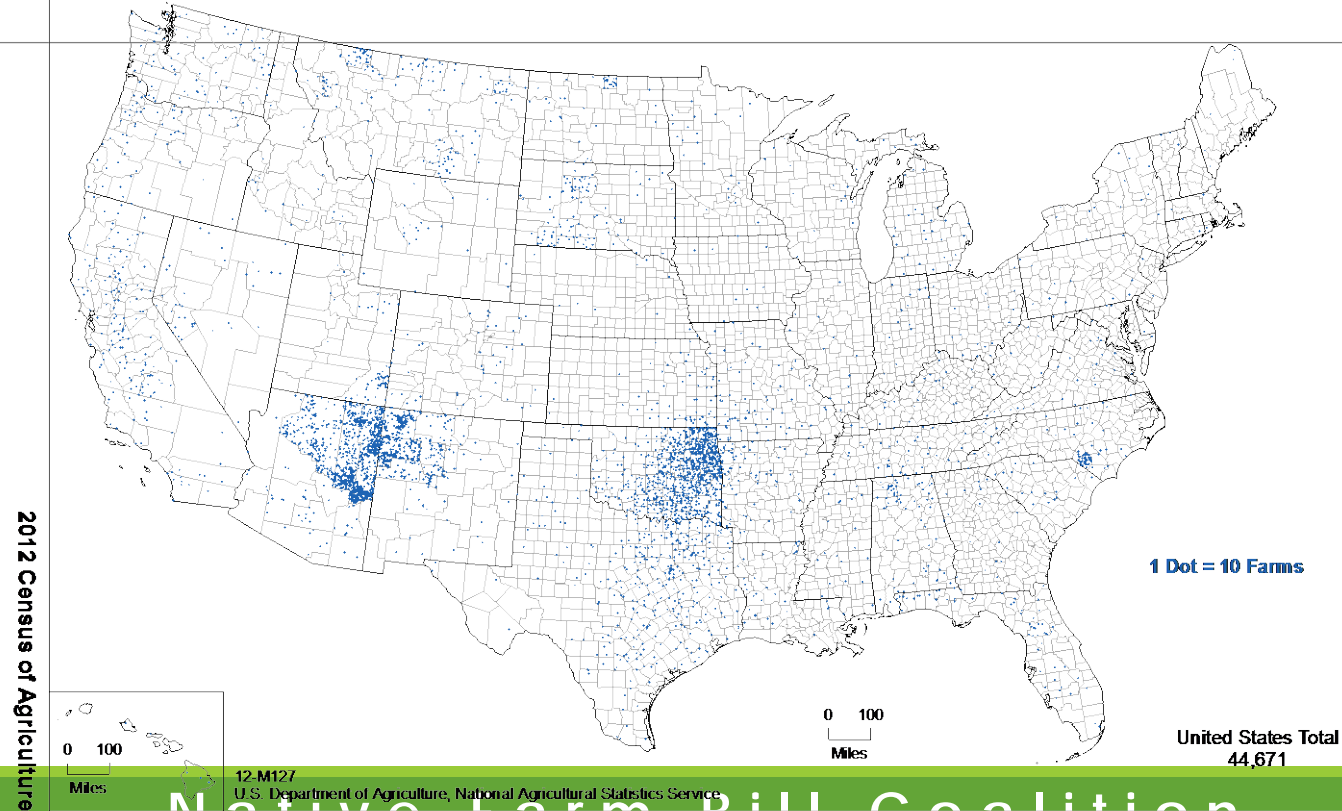
■ U and LA at 1 and 10 miles 2015

# Native Farm Bill Coalition

Source: USDA Economic Research Service, ESRI. For more information: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/documentation>



## Number of Farms with American Indian or Alaska Native Operators: 2012



# Current Scope of Ag in Indian Country – People/Land

## The Basics

### 71,947 Native Farm Operators

**57 million acres** of land in Indian Country are already engaged in food and agriculture (2012 USDA Census of Agriculture)

- Example: **20 million** of the 26 million acres in Arizona involved in food and agriculture is under direct Tribal control
- One of the largest contiguous farms in the U.S. is Navajo owned (NAPI).

### American Indian and Alaska Native Farm Operators and Farm lands

USDA Ag Census Year	2007	2012
Total Native Farm Operators	77,437	71,947
Acres Operated	58.1 million	57.2 million
Avg. Acres per Operation	946	1,020

# Current Scope of Ag in Indian Country – Production

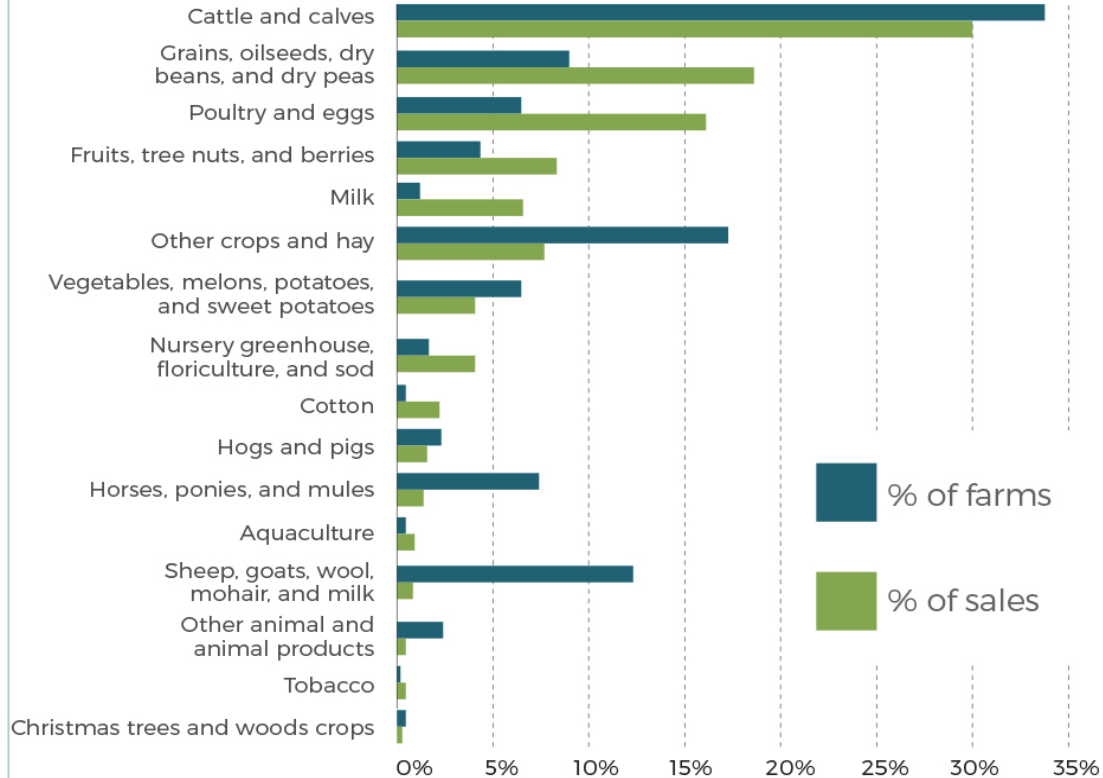
## The Basics

**\$3.2 billion** – Estimated actual annual value of ag commodities from American Indian/Alaska Native producers.

AMERICAN INDIAN FARMS AND RANCHES Income Statement Sheet		
	2007	2012
Market value of products sold	\$3.2 billion	\$3.2 billion
Government payments received	\$90 million	\$90 million
Total production expenses	\$2.9 billion	\$2.9 billion
Net cash farm income	\$513 million	\$371 million
Average net cash income per farm	\$8,351	\$6,632

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service

## SALES OF CROPS AND LIVESTOCK BY COMMODITY GROUP On American Indian Operations, 2012



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service

# Current Scope of Ag in Indian Country – Production

2012 AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE FARMS AND RANCHES Total Value of Production		
	American Indian or Alaska Native Operators	All Farms
Market value of products sold	\$3.3 billion	\$395 billion
Crop sales	\$1.4 billion	\$212 billion
Livestock sales	\$1.8 billion	\$182 billion
Average per farm	\$59,398	\$187,097

*Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service*

Reality is dollars and the food products leave Tribal lands and communities, creating a situation where food (and the economic development potential of producing it) is present but unavailable to benefit the community members who need it.

# Average Farm Payments

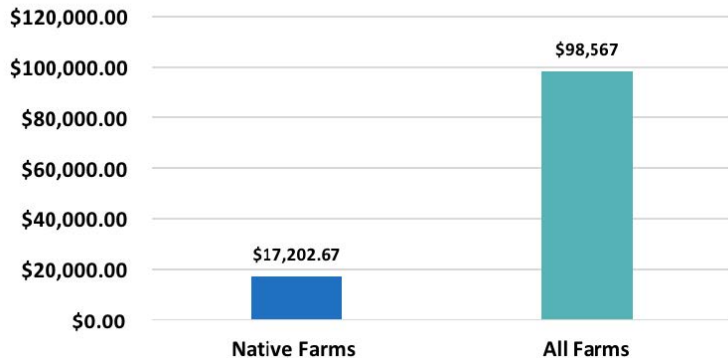
## Arizona, Nevada, and Utah

### Average Size of Native-Run Farms <sup>5</sup>

Native-Run Farms in the West - - - - 3,819 acres

All Farms in the West - - - - - 1,117 acres

### Average Per Farm Receiving Payments



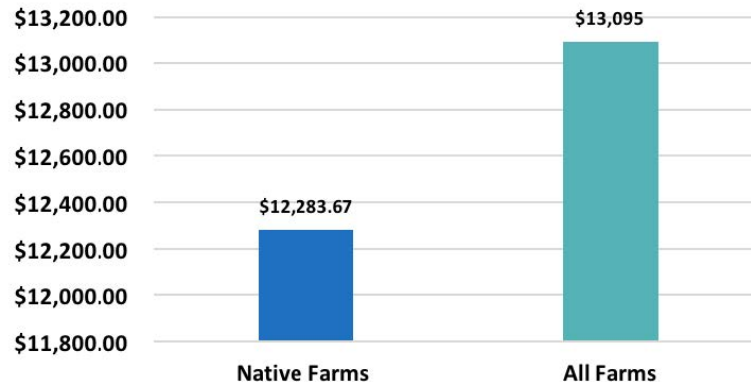
## North Dakota, South Dakota, & Nebraska

### Average Size of Native-Run Farms <sup>5</sup>

Native-Run Farms in the Great Plains - - - - .2,340 acres

All Farms in the Great Plains - - - - - 1,310 acres

### Average Per Farm Receiving Payments



# Importance of Value Added

2016 Food dollar: Industry Group (nominal)



Value added means more jobs, lower costs

3 steps would nearly **TRIPLE** Reservation Economies



# Current Farm Bill Titles

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- I. Commodities
- II. Conservation
- III. Trade
- IV. Nutrition
- V. Credit
- VI. Rural Development
- VII. Research/Education
- VIII. Forestry
- IX. Energy
- X. Horticulture
- XI. Crop Insurance
- XII. Miscellaneous

# The Nutrition Title

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BASICS AND UPCOMING ISSUES

# The Nutrition Title Basics

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## The Basics

- The Most Contentious Title
- 80 percent of total funding of the entire Farm Bill
- SNAP cut by \$8.6 billion in 2014 - Survived a \$20 billion cut & being removed from the Bill
- Represents rural and urban partnership that's existed for over 40 years
- Must keep this partnership together to improve food access for everyone

# The Nutrition Title Basics

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## Impacts the Largest Number of People

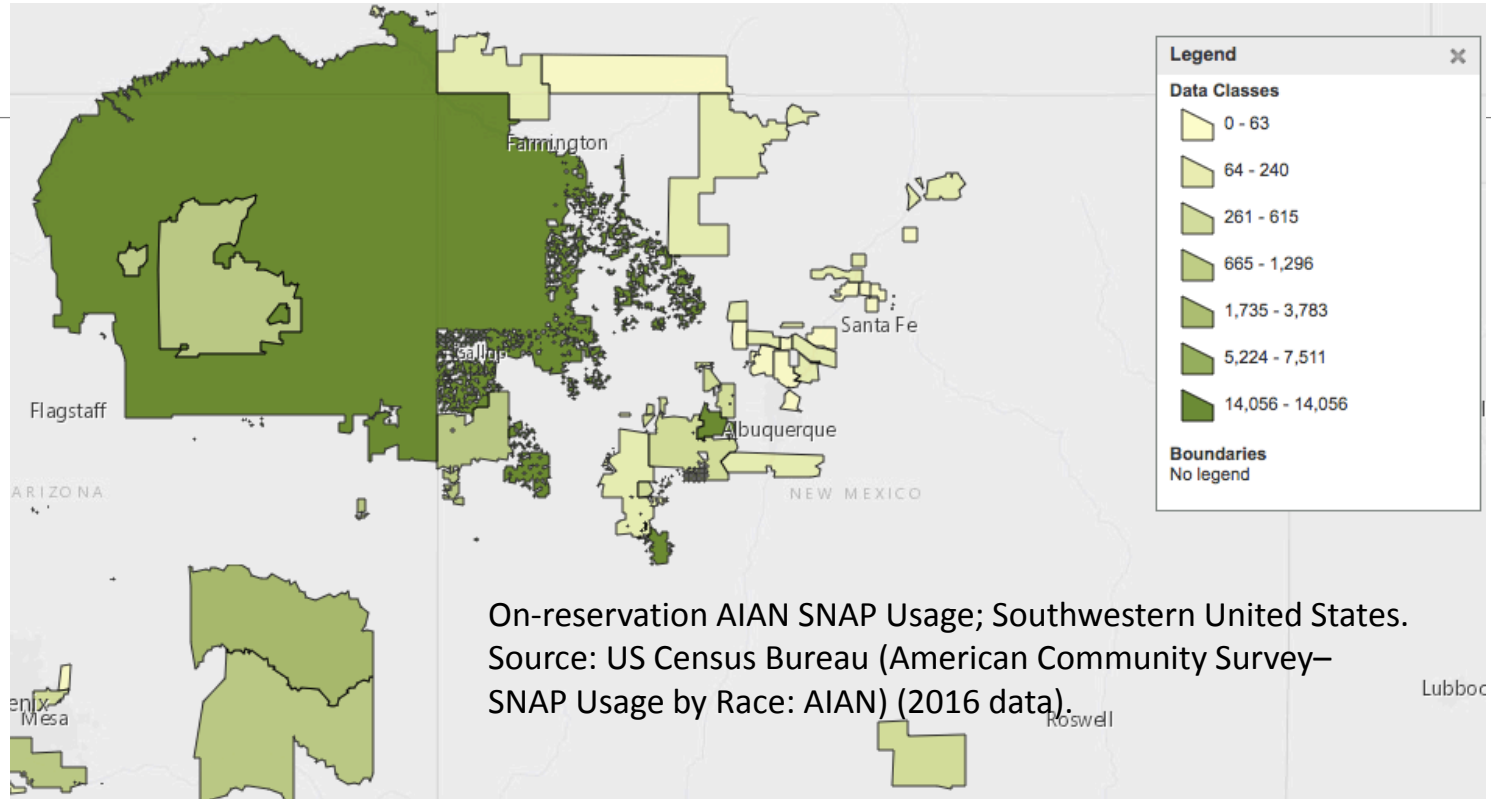
- 15 federal food assistance programs – tribes can manage 3
- 25 percent of all American Indians and Alaska Natives receive some type of food assistance**
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
  - 24 percent of AI/AN households– but in some communities that number is double or triple that percentage

## Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) (Commodity Food Package)

- 276 Tribes and 100 ITOs manage the program

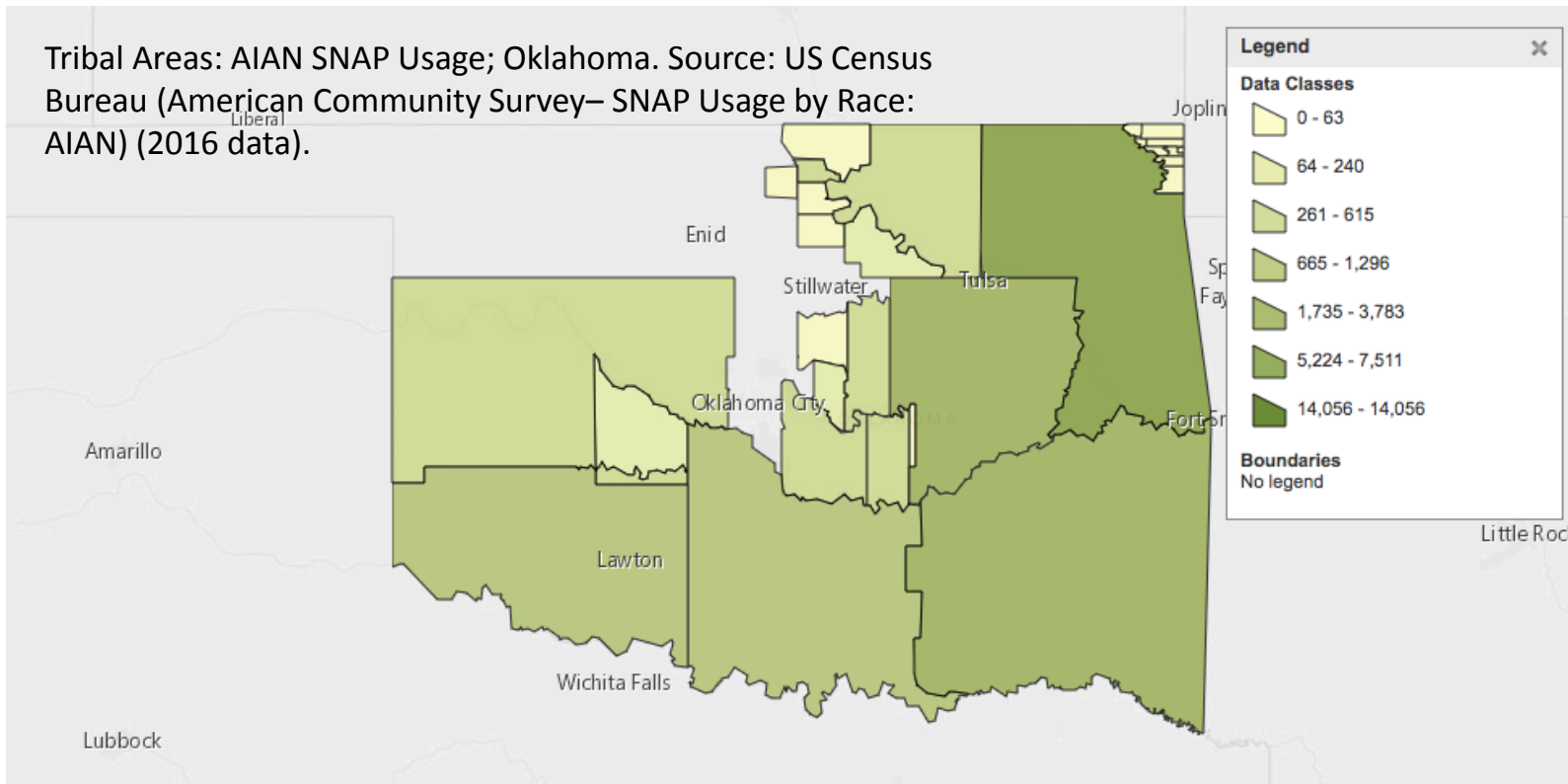


# SNAP in Indian Country



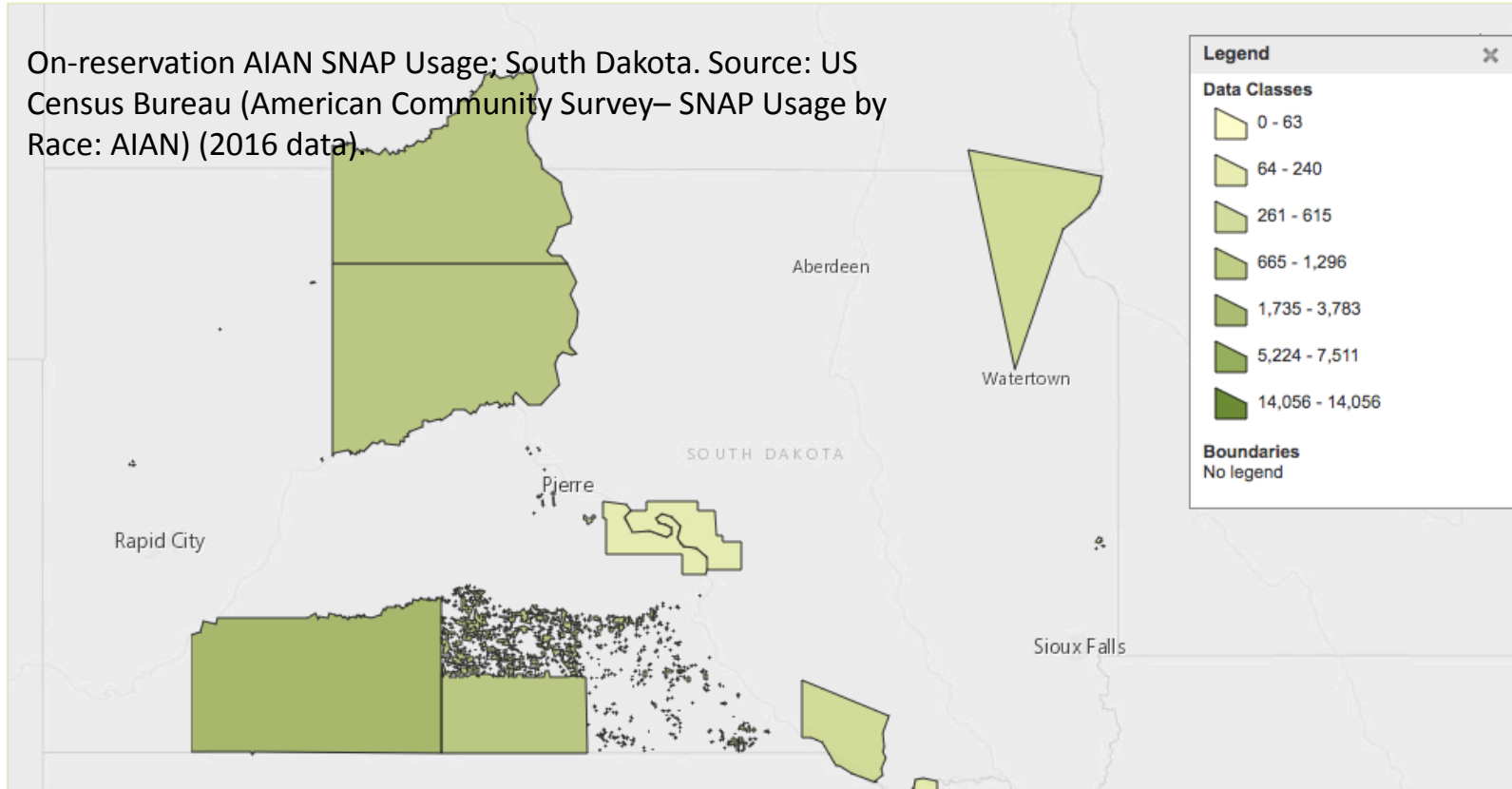
# SNAP in Indian Country

Tribal Areas: AIAN SNAP Usage; Oklahoma. Source: US Census Bureau (American Community Survey– SNAP Usage by Race: AIAN) (2016 data).

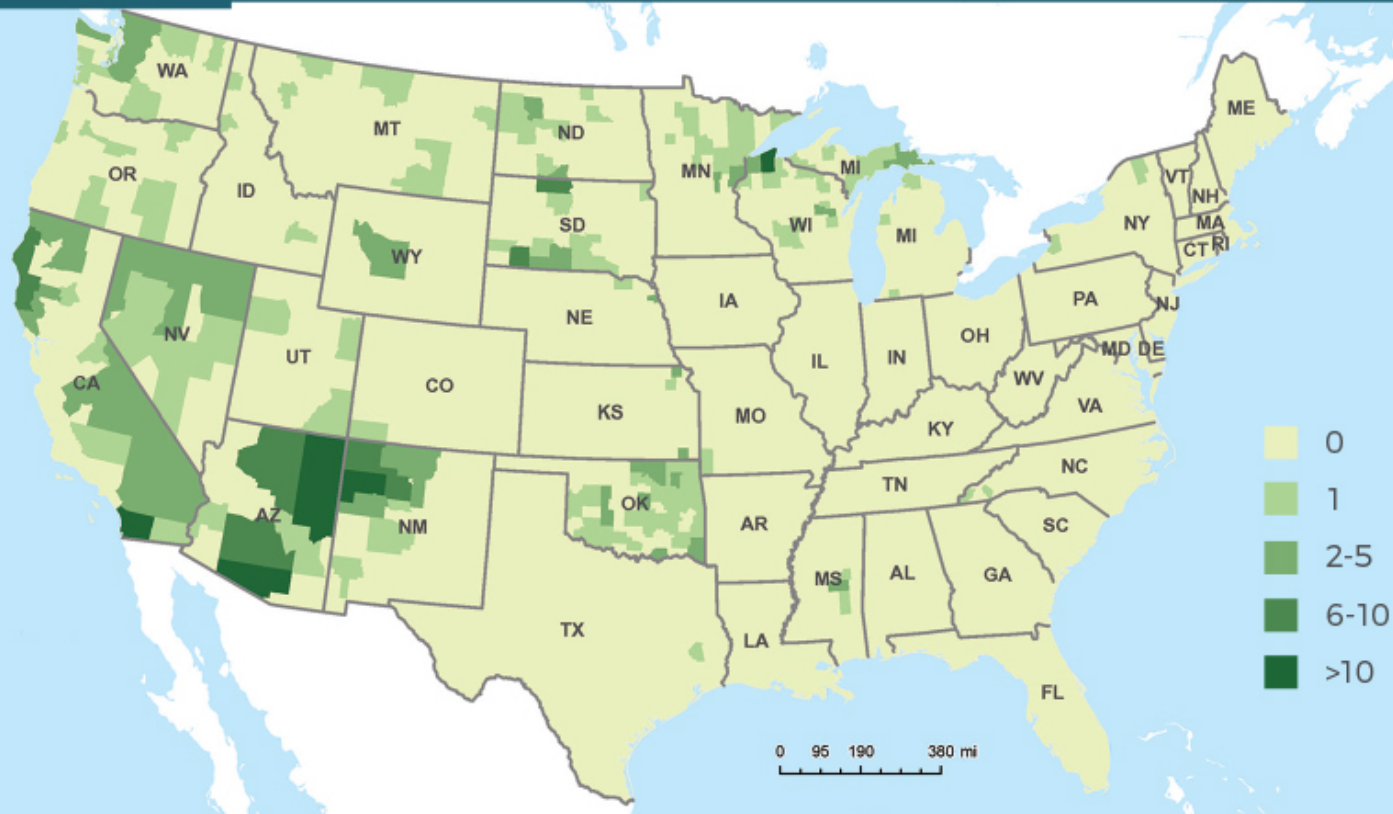


# SNAP in Indian Country

On-reservation AIAN SNAP Usage; South Dakota. Source: US Census Bureau (American Community Survey– SNAP Usage by Race: AIAN) (2016 data).



# FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS SITES, 2012



Source: USDA Economic Research Service, ESRI

# Program Relationship: FDPIR and SNAP

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Participants may only use either FDPIR or SNAP in a given month. Policy changes– such as budget cuts and benefit reductions– to SNAP typically result in higher FDPIR usage without any additional funding, leaving ITO's with more clients to assist but no additional resources to do it.

- Example: When the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) expired in October of 2013, the temporary increase the ARRA gave to SNAP benefits ended.
- The following month, in November 2013, participation data for selected Tribes in FDPIR showed an immediate rise in participation, sometimes by more than 100 new participants at an ITO site.
- ITO's could not receive additional funds to support these new participants, and the government shutdown that occurred during those months resulted in a food shortage for FDPIR. The effects of the shortage persisted for nearly a year in some places.

# Indian Country Opportunities in the Nutrition Title

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## **Tribal administration of SNAP/federal food programs – 638 Authority Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations:**

- A Tribal Leaders Consultation Working Group has been sitting in consultation with USDA for the past two years on this program, and has surfaced up a variety of opportunities in the FDPIR that could be addressed through the Farm Bill, including:
  - Eliminate match require for program sites
  - Allow for carryover funding
  - Stop regulatory-approved “tailgating” practice
  - Tribal consultation for contingency plans
  - Food and Nutrition Service should hire a national tribal liaison and have regional liaisons
  - At least \$5 million increase for education funding
  - All traditional food purchases should be included in FDPIR packages
  - Distribution should be regionally based and include local, tribally produced foods
  - Remove “Urban Place” definition and limitation

# Nutrition Title Issues in 2018 Farm Bill

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## **Potential for deep cuts and structural changes**

- SNAP was cut by \$8.6 billion in 2014 Farm Bill – negotiated down from \$20 billion
- House Ag has held well over 20 hearings on SNAP and published white paper on issues
- Proposals to Block Grant program to states
- Increase work requirements on Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)
- Further restrictions on eligibility
- Budget cuts proposed in President's Skinny Budget in March 2017 - \$193 billion over 10 years, including shift to 50/50 state match model/block grant
- FDPIR is funded from SNAP budget, leaves uncertainty in the program

# Supporting and Protecting Traditional Foods

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BASICS AND UPCOMING ISSUES

Native Farm Bill Coalition

# Supporting and Protecting Traditional Foods

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## Traditional Foods can be Impacted by Many of the Farm Bill Titles

- Conservation and Forestry Titles highlight some of the most important parts of traditional foods protection:
  - Conservation measures protect not only the land but the waters which contain foods
  - Healthy, well-managed forests are vital since they're where many traditional foods are grown, gathered, fished, or hunted
- Many Tribes are involved with using conservation programs, working with farmers in their areas to protect the health of shared water ways to protect salmon and other fish
- In Alaska, especially for those that practice traditional and customary lifeways, natural resources and animal health and protection is essential to Native subsistence practices
- In all areas of Indian Country, natural resources and animal health and protection are essential to the protection of traditional foods
- Food sovereignty activities which involve traditional foods can be found in at least half of the titles of the Farm Bill

# Supporting and Protecting Traditional Foods

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## 2014 Farm Bill Efforts on Traditional Foods

- **Demonstration Projection**

- Authorized a demo project to include traditional and locally grown foods from Native producers in FDPIR food packages.
- An authorization of \$5 million has existed since 2008, but has never been funded.

- **Donation of Traditional Foods**

- Section 4033 allowed traditional foods to be donated in residential child care facilities, child nutrition programs, hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and senior meal programs.
- Traditional foods were defined as: wild game meat, fish, seafood, marine mammals, plants, and berries. Based on the Alaska State Food Code
- Section waived liability arising from harm caused by donation food but also included call for USDA and FDA to require service of these foods "if certain food safety measures are met."

Previous Farm Bills authorized purchasing of traditional foods for feeding programs such as the Food Distribution on Indian Reservation Program.

# 2018 Farm Bill Opportunities for Traditional Foods

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- **Commodities Title**
  - Protections for livestock/animals traditionally raised by Native producers
- **Conservation Title**
  - Recognition of Traditional Ecological Knowledge in practices for traditional foods
  - Leveraging programs to protect water ways and expand to fisheries
- **Trade Title**
  - Promote commercialized Traditional Foods in international markets; protect from fraud in the marketplace
- **Nutrition Title**
  - Increase inclusion in Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations using a regional/local food sourcing model
- **Forestry Title**
  - Protect from fires, infestation, and disease to promote health of traditional foods and medicines that grow in federal and tribal forests
- **Horticulture Title**
  - Many Traditional crops are “produce” or “specialty crops” under federal law
  - Protection of Native seeds and Traditional Foods

# 2018 Farm Bill Opportunities for Indian Country

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- **Tribal administration of SNAP/federal food programs** – “638”
- **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations** – Increased authority, regional model, traditional foods, no matching, etc.
- **Tribal Parity, Sovereignty, and Self-Determination** through out the Farm Bill and USDA Programs
  - “638” Tribal contracting and compacting where appropriate
  - Treatment as States/State Departments of Agriculture
  - Conservation and Forestry
  - Improved Access to Credit
- **Rural Development:** “SUTA” and Technical Assistance
- **Increase Support and Access** to healthy, traditional, local, and regionally produced food by Native Farmers and Ranchers
- **FRTEP, Research, Education, and TCUs**

# Update on the Native Farm Bill Coalition

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## Current Membership

- Over **150 Tribes** represented:
- **70 Native Nations** passed resolutions/sent letters of support
- 12 Intertribal/Native Organizations:
  - **Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians**
  - **All Pueblo Council of Governors**
  - **American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA)**
  - **First Nations Development Institute**
  - **Four Bands Community Fund CDFI**
  - **Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (research partner)**
  - **Intertribal Agriculture Council**
  - **National Congress of American Indians**
  - **National Indian Education Association**
  - **National Indian Health Board**
  - **Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission**
  - **United South and Eastern Tribes SPF**
- 2 Ally Organizations – including MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger

# NFBC DC Fly-In Week

*May 8-10, 2018*

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**60 Tribal Leaders and Representatives**

**29 Hill Meetings**

**White House and USDA Meeting**

**Follow-Ups:**

- Finding a Senate champion for the top priorities:
  - 638 of Nutrition and Forestry
  - Rural Development and SUTA
  - Parity in Conservation
  - TCU Parity in Research Title funding
- Had several more meetings this week; important for NFBC to approach their Senate delegation to support

# Update from The Hill: *The 2018 Farm Bill*

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## House Ag Committee Farm Bill Released – April 12, 2018

- Held Mark-up on April 18, 2018 – Passed 26-20 along party line
- No Democratic amendments offered; 22 Republican amends.
- Major concerns with the Nutrition Title issues:
  - increased work requirements, ABAWDs waiver limits, etc.

## House Floor Action Last Week

- Over 100 Admts Filled – 51 Considered, mostly Republican
- **Voted Down 198-213**
  - House Freedom Caucus killed it over issues on immigration
- Will revote again on June 22<sup>nd</sup>

# Update from The Hill: *The 2018 Farm Bill*

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## The Senate Action So Far

- The Senate Finalizing a Bipartisan Bill
  - To be released after Memorial Day Recess – Week of June 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Possible mark-up – June 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>
- Senate Committee on Indian Affairs – CROPS Act
- Sen. Heitkamp Bill – FDPIR Waiver, RD Tech. Asst., Housing

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Nutrition Title*

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### **Latest Issue – the SNAP-Ed funding Proposal**

- Would require that all of the SNAP-Ed money go through 1862 and 1890 Land Grant Institutions
  - No mention of 1994s or TCUs or Tribal governments
  - In states where there are no 1862s, like NV, or they don't serve tribal citizens, no other mechanism for the SNAP-Ed funding to benefit Tribal SNAP participants
  - Even in states that have 1862, there is no assurance that Tribes will be served

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Nutrition Title*

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### Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

- Adds “**regionally-grown**” to the traditional foods provision purchases for FDPIR
- Requires the Secretary to purchase traditional foods that can be produced “**cost-effectively**”
- Allows **2-year carryover** funding for FDPIR

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Nutrition Title*

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### SNAP – New and Expanded Work Requirements

- **ABAWDs** – Increases age range for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) from 18-49 to 18-59;
  - adds ABAWDs with children over the age of 6
- **New Work Requirements** – **20 hrs. a week** work requirement (was 80 hrs. a month) in FY21-25; increases to **25 hrs. in FY26**
  - ABAWDs failure to find work/job training programs requirements within 1 month ineligible for SNAP for 1 year, additional violation--ineligible for 3 years
- Doesn't **directly** impact FDPIR by statute, but new work requirements could increase demand on FDPIR 25-40 percent or more and USDA will likely move SNAP work requirements to FDPIR program

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Nutrition Title*

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### **SNAP – Cont.**

- New Duplicative Enrollment Database, to stop multiple enrollments by a single individual
- No more broad-based categorical eligibility, simplifies SNAP enrollment for families using other food assistance programs like Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
  - Now limited to families earning 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Line or less
- New retailer-funded incentives pilot program to allow SNAP participants to get bonuses for purchase fruits, veggies, and milk

# Potential Impacts of the *House Nutrition Title*

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**ABAWDs will dramatically increase the number of participants in the FDPIR program**

- Historical experience when SNAP restricts, FDPIR expands
- Could rise 25-40 percent

**SNAP restrictions will be imposed on FDPIR participants?**

- Historical experience USDA FNS seeks conformity in requirements between programs
- Shortages of food could occur
- Historical experience has shown dramatic food shortages because USDA FNS has no contingency program for rapid escalation pressure on the FDPIR participation numbers

**ABAWD restrictions contemplates actual jobs available**

- All changes will be imposed by the **States** unless categorical waiver for Tribes or Tribes seeking and obtaining 638 to run all feeding programs

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Forestry Title*

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Adds Tribes as eligible for the Good Neighbor authority agreements

Expedites the Secretary's review and initial response of Tribal request under the Tribal Forest Protection Act

Allows the Secretary, under the National Indian Forest Resources Management Act, to treat certain federal forest lands as Indian forest lands for the purpose of management at the request of a Tribe.

Permits the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to enter into 638 self-determination demonstration project agreements with Tribes to take over the management and functions of the federal government under the Tribal Forest Protection Act.

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Conservation Title*

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Increases CRP acreage cap to 29 million acres while allowing more grazing

Merges CSP into EQIP while keeping CSP functionally distinct and boosts spending for the program to \$3.0 billion by 2023

Restores funding to the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program to \$500 million per year while also streamlining and providing more flexibility for producers and stakeholders

Simplifies application process, program administration and funding mechanism while adding additional flexibility to the innovative and popular Regional Conservation Partnership Program

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Other Titles*

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### **Credit Title**

- Reduced eligibility requirements for ownership loans under certain conditions: down from 3 to 2 years with 16 hours of post-secondary education, or honorable discharge status, or repayment of youth loans
- Allocates up to \$9 million of the \$34.5 million in Market Development Program for Specialty Crops

### **Rural Development Title**

- Cuts funding for Tribal College and University and University Essential Community Facilities from \$10 million to \$5 million
- Tribes eligible for Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network

### **Horticulture Title**

- Tribes can regulate the use of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act

### **Miscellaneous Title**

- Tribes eligible new National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program

# The House 2018 Farm Bill

## *Office of Tribal Relations*

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**Removes language in 2014 putting the Office Of Tribal Relations (OTR) in the Office of the Secretary**

- Now statutorily in the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement
- This goes against the comments of Tribes during the Consultation on the USDA reorganization at NCAI in October 2017

# Updates from other Agriculture Sectors and Allies

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## 39 Programs That Lose Baseline FY 2018

- Rural Water
- FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations)
- Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program
- Other Local and Regional Funding Programs
- Research Programs
- Conservation, Horticulture, Crop Insurance (some programs within each of these titles)

Trade, Immigration and Other Issues are Impacting Agriculture Sector - - keep an eye on these issues as potential drivers

# *Join the* **Native Farm Bill Coalition**

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**Need More Tribal Leadership and Tribal Organizations to get involved!**

- Pass a resolution, send logo, and point of contact's information
- Provide input, get latest updates, and receive information
- Coalition will provide talking points, one-pagers, and tailored data to support your advocacy; regular lawyer/lobbyist strategy calls; regular webinar and discussions

**Website:** [www.nativefarmbillcoalition.org](http://www.nativefarmbillcoalition.org)

**Email:** [info@nativefarmbillcoalition.org](mailto:info@nativefarmbillcoalition.org)



# Building the Native Farm Bill Coalition

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Native Farm Bill Coalition