

AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE

PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION

HELD AT THE

AFFILIATED TRIBES OF NORTHWEST INDIANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 22, 2010

2:25 p.m.

Northern Quest Casino

Airway Heights, Washington

A P P E A R A N C E S:

1
2
3 WILLIAM SHAFROTH, Deputy Assistant Secretary Fish,
4 Wildlife, Parks
5 DEL LAVERDURE, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian
6 Affairs
7 JAY JENSEN, Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources &
8 Environment
9 LINDA ANDERSON-CARNAHAN, Acting Associate Director, Office
10 of Ecosystems, Tribal & Public Affairs, EPA Region 10
11 BRYAN NEWLAND, DOI, Office of the Secretary
12 SCOTT AIKIN, DOI, Bureau of Indian Affairs
13 STANLEY SPEAKS, BIA, NWR
14 DON MOTONIC, Inter-Tribal Timber Council
15 RAY MULLEN, Snoqualmie Tribe
16 OLNEY PATT, Jr., Warm Springs Tribe
17 GARY MORISHIMA, Quinault Nation
18 PAT GONZALES-ROGERS, US Fish and Wildlife Service
19 RON BRAINARD, Confederated Tribes of Coos
20 JACK LENOX, Coquille Indian Tribe
21 JANICE MABEU, Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
22 BRIAN GUNN, Colville Tribes
23 MICHAEL FINLEY, Colville Tribes
24 CAL JOYNER, U.S. Forest Service
25 B. PAUL LUMLEY, CRITFC
26 MARK H. STANGER, Coeur d'Alene Fish & Wildlife
27 RANDY ABRAHAMSON, STI

- 1 MARTIN BALES, NRCS
- 2 DAVIS WASHINES, CRITFC
- 3 MATHEW TOMASKIN, Y.N.
- 4 TRACIE STEVENS, NIGC
- 5 W. RON ALLEN, Jamestown S'Klallam
- 6 HENRY CAGEY, Lummi
- 7 RUTH JIM, Yakama Nation
- 8 FRANCIS CHARLES, Lower Elwha
- 9 ANGELINA CAMPOBASSO, Colville Tribe
- 10 YVETTE JOSEPH, Colville Tribe

- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25

1 MR. SPEAKS: We're going to go ahead and
2 get the session under way. There's some people that feel
3 like perhaps we need to, and that we can get a lot of
4 people speaking and so forth. We'll break just before
5 3:00 o'clock for just a few minutes and have the other
6 tribal leaders come in.

7 So, as you know, this consultation session is
8 The Great American Outdoors. It's a major, major
9 initiative of Secretary Salazar, and I'm sure they'll
10 explain to you in more detail the importance of this and
11 the sessions, consultations that they'll be having at
12 various locations.

13 So I'm going to turn the time over to Del
14 Laverdure. And, Del, I'll have him introduce the people,
15 and we'll go around the table and have other people
16 introduce yourself so we'll know who's here.

17 Del?

18 MR. LAVERDURE: All right. Thank you.
19 Wow. That's loud. Where is the drum? I'll start. Hey.
20 How are ya?

21 Good afternoon, everyone. And thank you for
22 that introduction, Stan. We decided to go ahead. There's
23 some conflicting sessions in the general assembly over
24 there, but we wanted to utilize the time to give -- I know
25 there's several folks here who are very interested,

1 experienced in these issues.

2 And before I give a general background, we
3 wanted to start a little early and utilize the time
4 because we have a number of administration officials here
5 from the EPA, USDA, and Interior, and they've been
6 conducting sessions for -- for a number of months now all
7 across the country.

8 We have had one tribal-specific meeting
9 previously over in Minneapolis hosted by the Shakopee
10 Nation, and we heard for about an hour and a half to two
11 hours. And so we're very pleased that we could have this
12 follow-up one for the Northwest, as folks who are
13 definitely -- who have lived and experienced Indian
14 Country's great outdoors.

15 And so what we wanted to do was give you guys
16 more time, and then we'll break about 3:00 and then have
17 the other folks who are in the assembly come in here and
18 give a chance to go on the record as well.

19 We want to acknowledge the Kalispel Tribe, an
20 absolutely wonderful facility -- it's the second time I've
21 been here -- but for hosting this event and providing the
22 meals.

23 Federal principals here, I have Mr. Will
24 Shafroth, who is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish,
25 Wildlife, Parks. We've worked a number of issues together

1 since Secretary Salazar has come in.

2 Mr. Jay Jensen here, who is the Deputy Under
3 Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

4 We have Ms. Linda Anderson-Carnahan, the
5 Acting Associate Director of the Office of Ecosystems,
6 Tribal and Public Affairs EPA Region 10. I know that's a
7 mouth full. That's a really long title.

8 I'm Del Laverdure, the Deputy Assistant
9 Secretary for Indians Affairs serving with Mr. EchoHawk.

10 I would like to acknowledge Secretary Salazar
11 and his visionary leadership on a number of issues,
12 including this, the signature one that he had, Mr.
13 Shafroth here worked hand in hand back in Colorado, and so
14 he has a lot of experience on the local level with these
15 issues and they nationalize it as one of his priorities.

16 I would like to thank my boss, the Assistant
17 Secretary Larry EchoHawk, who wished he could be here, but
18 we do a tag team approach on the road, and he's on -- as
19 many of you know, he's visited many of your communities,
20 but he's been on the road quite a bit and asked me to go
21 forward on this.

22 Stan Speaks, the BIA Northwest Regional
23 Director, I called him a living legend. Everyone knows
24 Stan, many generations of tribal leaders and others, and
25 we certainly appreciate the service to the Bureau that

1 you've done all the years.

2 Scott Aiken, I don't know if he's still
3 rounding up people or if he's in the room, the natural
4 resource officer for BIA Northwest Region is here.

5 So on the larger aspect of this, President
6 Obama signed an executive memo on April 16th kicking off
7 America's Great Outdoors Initiative, and it's to help
8 America's natural and cultural resources and to better
9 help Americans reconnect with the outdoors, and I'm sure
10 Mr. Shafroth here can talk about some of the studies that
11 have been done and why this was such an important
12 initiative.

13 One of the primary objectives listed in the
14 memo is to build upon state, local, private and tribal
15 priorities for the conservation of land, water, wildlife,
16 historic, and cultural resources, creating corridors of
17 connectivity across outdoor spaces and for enhancing
18 neighborhood parks, and to determine how the federal
19 government can best advance those priorities through
20 public-private partnerships and locally supported
21 conservation strategies.

22 So that's kind of the nutshell of the
23 background of the objective. And I know that many of you
24 who work in natural resource management probably had a
25 number of things there that they -- you can provide

1 experience to all of us.

2 We have designated note takers here to ensure
3 that everyone's remarks are recorded, and it's going to be
4 turned around fairly quickly, and then Mr. Shafroth here
5 can talk about the larger timelines associated with this
6 initiative, which will be right around the corner for a
7 report due to the President.

8 The Indian Country faces many unique
9 challenges related to the protection and conservation of
10 natural and cultural resources. And some of those we do
11 know.

12 I was general counsel for the Crow Nation
13 prior to my appointment and have worked across Indian
14 Country for about 11 years now. Checkerboard jurisdiction
15 is always front and center and it makes it difficult to
16 have a single set of land base in order to have
17 initiatives like this, so there's always a need for
18 partnerships in many respects.

19 Federal laws relating to trust lands make
20 comprehensive land management difficult, and in fact we
21 have a regulatory initiative not directly related to this,
22 but on many aspects of leasing that we hope to get done in
23 the coming year, some federal regs that there will be
24 notice and consultation on, as well.

25 It's a Herculean effort and it's about ten

1 years of work. Some of it actually will impact this
2 initiative and Indian Country as a whole. The financial
3 and human resources that are always needed and don't seem
4 to be enough for tribes to do what they want to do to
5 protect their homeland and then the partnerships at the
6 local level aren't always the best, sometimes very
7 acrimonious depending on where you're at.

8 I'm not going to really go through any of the
9 other parts here other than to say really that from this
10 point and after the introductions of the other principals,
11 I'll turn it over to -- we want to turn this into a
12 listening session, listen to all of you, maximize tribal
13 participation, and then see how we can work together going
14 forward on this very important secretarial initiative,
15 presidential initiative now.

16 And then, you know, I'm sure we'll have a lot
17 to learn and you have a lot to share. So at this point,
18 thank you, and I'll turn the mic over to Mr. Shafroth.

19 MR. SHAFROTH: Thanks, Del, and thanks
20 Stan for your great work up here and the Kalispel Tribe
21 for hosting us here, and for everybody taking some time
22 out of your busy schedules to be with us today.

23 As Del said, this is a listening session and
24 it's not a talking-at session and so Jay and Linda and I
25 promise to be brief, and I'll give a little bit of

1 additional framing about the initiative.

2 We have held about 27 or 28 of these listening
3 sessions around the country right now at the President's
4 direction. He really wanted to get input, so we've
5 covered the gambit.

6 I have the booby prize of all the members of
7 the administration to go to most of these listening
8 sessions. So my wife hasn't seen me much this summer, my
9 kids don't remember who I am, but we have actually had a
10 fascinating journey from Bangor, Maine, to Orlando,
11 Florida; Annapolis; Seattle; Los Angeles; Missoula;
12 Chicago; St. Louis, and many, many places in-between.
13 Denver and Albuquerque and Salt Lake are in the middle of
14 the west there.

15 But it's been a really fascinating process and
16 we've heard -- we've had some session that have focused
17 more on historical and cultural preservation, some more on
18 wildlife habitat management, some more on urban parks and
19 open space issues because, you know, you go into the heart
20 of Chicago, you're going to hear something different than
21 if you go into Missoula, Montana. You're going to hear
22 something different than you're going to hear in Orlando,
23 Florida.

24 So we have intentionally made a real effort to
25 get out all over the country and hear from diverse people

1 with different interests, because this is a very broad
2 agenda that the President has laid out.

3 We've heard from nearly 15,000 people who have
4 showed up at these events for us around the country.
5 We've had tens of thousands of comments on our website and
6 letters that have come in.

7 So the President has given us a deadline of
8 November 15th to give him a report on what we heard, what
9 our recommendations are for achieving an agenda related to
10 America's great outdoors, and so we're really here to get
11 your best thoughts about how, you know -- what should we
12 be thinking about from your perspective around the
13 conservation of natural resources, about managing wildlife
14 habitat, about providing recreational opportunities to
15 your citizens and how we can better reconnect the next
16 generation of native peoples into the outdoors.

17 I know this is an issue that we've heard from
18 all over the -- all over the country, this sort of
19 disconnection that has resulted from increased use of
20 electronic equipment and TVs and computers and things like
21 that. So it may be less of an issue within some of your
22 communities and others, but it's an issue everywhere we've
23 gone.

24 So that's something the President explicitly
25 called out. In fact, it was the first thing he called out

1 in his directive to our agencies.

2 The other thing I want to point out, and I'll
3 turn this over to my friend Jay, is that this truly an
4 interdepartmental initiative, an administration-wide
5 initiative.

6 I will brag on my boss, Ken Salazar, who has
7 been driving this point from the day he was confirmed in
8 the Senate and talked about it at his confirmation
9 hearing. It's something that's very important to him and,
10 as Del said, as the director of natural resources in
11 Colorado he had a lot to do with establishing a number of
12 programs in Colorado similar to what we're undertaking
13 here.

14 But it wasn't really until Tom Vilsack, the
15 Secretary of Agriculture, and Lisa Jackson, the
16 Administrator of the EPA, and Nancy Sutley, the Chair of
17 the Council on Environmental Quality, really got engaged
18 that this initiative took hold within the administration.

19 And then we had Arne Duncan, the head of
20 Education, and head of HUD and the Transportation and the
21 Army Corps of Engineers, and pretty soon we have eight
22 other agencies who are really co-lead partners on this.
23 So it is an administration-wide effort that we have
24 undertaken.

25 And so from the point of the Department of the

1 Interior, you know, with BIA and BIE and Fish and Wildlife
2 and National Parks and BLM, we obviously have a really
3 important nexus in Bureau of Reclamation, a really
4 important nexus to what you all care about, and we have
5 direct relationships with you, but our friends at USDA and
6 EPA who are here today also I know care deeply about these
7 issues.

8 And I want to give the microphone to Jay
9 Jensen who we used to live 15 miles away from each other
10 in Colorado and we both ended up back in Washington.

11 MR. JENSEN: And now we have to come to
12 Washington State to see each other.

13 MR. SHAFROTH: Exactly.

14 MR. JENSEN: Good afternoon, everybody.
15 My name is Jay Jensen. I'm the Deputy Under Secretary for
16 Natural Resources and Environment at the Department of
17 Agriculture working for Secretary Vilsack. That's a long,
18 long way, a bureaucratic way of saying I get to work with
19 the Forest Service. I'm the tree guy here.

20 Before I offer just a few comments, I would
21 extend my thanks, as well, Del, for getting us all here
22 and getting you organized and kicking us off, and to the
23 BIA folks, Stan, thank you for organizing and making this
24 happen here.

25 And as well, I would like to acknowledge we

1 have both the NRCS and Forest Service folks here in the
2 room, so as we continue through this afternoon if there
3 are any specific follow-up points, there's multiple
4 engagement points you can come talk to us in a few
5 different ways, so.

6 Will, I think you hit off and nailed most of
7 the comments I wanted to lay out there. A really
8 important part of this is the interdepartmental context of
9 this whole effort, building a conservation agenda for the
10 21st century.

11 This is your time right now. You've got our
12 attention. It is rare to get. These three cabinet level
13 entities, plus the Council For Environmental Quality, are
14 focused on one thing, and this is that time right now.

15 So this is a rare opportunity to learn, for us
16 to learn and listen as to what's happening with you all.
17 At USDA, Under Secretary Vilsack and the Forest Service,
18 we're very proud of a lot of the work -- and I should add
19 the Natural Resources Conservation Service, too -- we're
20 very proud of the work we've been able to do.

21 At the Forest Service alone, over a billion
22 dollars, almost a fifth of that went to Indian Country.
23 We're working right now on trying to push through the
24 Tribal Forest Protection Act and extend those and use
25 those authorities and get them more engrained out there on

1 the ground.

2 The Department through the Secretary Senior
3 Advisor Janie Hipp, who some of you may know, is making a
4 large push Department-wide around consultation and sacred
5 sites and re-invigorating those stories, and training and
6 expanding the horizon for those who aren't within the
7 Department, familiar with those, what's needed there in
8 the government-to-government relationship.

9 So but one thing that I was particularly
10 looking forward to in coming here today is one aspect of
11 this America's Great Outdoors Initiative the President
12 really emphasized was wanting to reconnect people to the
13 land. And if there's a group of people that understand
14 what connection to the land means, it's going to be folks
15 here in this room.

16 So I'd really like to encourage you to share
17 with us what's on your mind, both the good and the bad.
18 It's really going to be important that we understand that
19 and take that in to create this agenda for the 21st
20 century that the President can take forward.

21 So again, thank you for showing up here today
22 and taking time out of your busy schedules. Hopefully
23 you'll find this to be a good, worthwhile report that
24 comes out at the end of the day.

25 I'll pass it on to Linda here. Thank you.

1 MS. ANDERSON-CARNAHAN: Hi. As Del said,
2 I'm Linda Anderson-Carnahan, and I'm with the
3 Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 office where I'm
4 the Acting Associate Director of our Office of Ecosystems,
5 Tribal and Public Affairs.

6 And our office does quite a bit of work with
7 tribes, both in assessing environmental conditions as well
8 as building tribal capacity for environmental programs.
9 And I'd like to join with my other federal partners here
10 and just thank you for inviting us and for giving us your
11 input.

12 I'm really looking forward to today to learn
13 from you what we can do to try to connect people back to
14 the outdoors. I myself am an avid outdoors person and I
15 spend a lot of my free time outdoors, and I'm continually
16 concerned that I seem to be seeing fewer and fewer young
17 people outdoors enjoying the environment.

18 And we know that people protect what they love
19 and so I'm really wondering what this generation will do
20 in the future, as I don't see them outdoors protect -- you
21 know, really enjoying the environment, and I'm wondering
22 how they'll value this -- the environment and the natural
23 resources.

24 So I really think that we do need to work
25 together to help safeguard these resources for future

1 generations and help everyone, all of our communities,
2 understand the importance of these -- of the land and the
3 water and the air and the other natural resources, too, to
4 our lives.

5 Tribes, obviously, have long understood and
6 appreciated the importance of natural resources and have
7 protected them for countless generations. And you tribes
8 obviously manage huge amounts of land, so the federal
9 government, I think, can stand to learn very much from you
10 as we move forward on this initiative.

11 EPA's role in this initiative is not only to
12 work with you and our other federal partners in trying to
13 connect people back to the land, but also to ensure that
14 the space, that open space, is safe for the people who are
15 out there enjoying it, as well as for the plants and the
16 animals that live there.

17 Our work is especially important, I think, for
18 urban environments where we're focused on making these
19 environments more liveable. We're focusing on restoring
20 urban waters and also on environmental justice issues.

21 And of course Lisa Jackson, our administrator,
22 has a number of priorities, and one of them is
23 strengthening our tribal partnership, so I do think this
24 is a wonderful opportunity for us to try to realize that
25 goal.

1 So in our region and in our agency, we have a
2 great deal of experience in working with tribal
3 governments and we value that government-to-government
4 partnership, and I think that this is a great opportunity
5 for us to continue that consultation and to really learn
6 from you as we try to move forward on this.

7 So I think with that I'll close, but, again,
8 I'm just looking forward to learning from you today and to
9 hearing what you can teach us about trying to preserve
10 these natural resources and reconnect to them.

11 MR. LAVERDURE: A couple of points and
12 just one thing. Bryan Newland over there -- he can raise
13 his hand -- if you ever had to get ahold of me, you can
14 just get ahold of Bryan and he has my -- he's my right
15 hand, and when warrants, he's my left hand.

16 Bryan has been very involved in the AGO and
17 he's been very active in pushing and being a voice for
18 Indian Country as trying to be part of this initiative.
19 So I -- sometimes I just always expect him to be there and
20 I forget to thank him publicly, and I'm learning my
21 lessons well, my political lessons here.

22 In any event, I'm going to read off a set of
23 four questions that we would like to focus on, and of
24 course it can vary in offshoots, and since we have more
25 time today than we've had in the previous events. But

1 these are the ones we'd like to here directly from you
2 from.

3 First is: What works? You know, please share
4 your thoughts and ideas on effective strategies for
5 protecting and conserving natural and cultural resources,
6 promoting recreation and reconnecting people to the
7 outdoors.

8 What are the challenges? Number 2. What
9 obstacles exist to achieve your goals of conservation,
10 recreation and reconnecting people to the outdoors?

11 Number 3, tools. What additional tools and
12 resources would help tribal efforts be even more
13 successful?

14 Question 4 is: What's the federal role in all
15 of this? How can the federal government be a more
16 effective partner in helping to achieve all of those goals
17 that we just mentioned?

18 And so if we could focus on those, that would
19 be very helpful as we transcribe all the remarks and turn
20 it into the larger report that Will had mentioned.

21 I want to acknowledge Tracie Stevens. Part of
22 her must still be in Interior because she's floating back
23 there in the background. I worked closely with her. You
24 know she's the chair of NIGC now and certainly miss her
25 efforts.

1 MR. SHAFROTH: Hi, Tracie.

2 MR. LAVERDURE: Our offices were right
3 next to each other in D.C. before she left us in the dust.
4 In any event, congratulations to her and we know she's
5 going to serve well.

6 So we'll keep one microphone here, and then,
7 please, the folks on the side, if you could just join at
8 the table. We're just going to pass the mic and go around
9 and start to hear from you.

10 MR. SPEAKS: If you would, give your name,
11 first name, last name, and if the name is a little bit
12 hard to understand, spell it out so our reporter here will
13 get it correct for you and we'll get it on record.

14 MR. SHAFROTH: I guess the only thing I
15 would throw out now is does anybody have to leave sooner
16 than later? And if you do, then we might want to take you
17 first if there's another session you need to go to. If
18 not, then we'll just be random.

19 MR. LUMLEY: I actually have to leave at
20 around 3:00.

21 MR. SHAFROTH: You're the first. We want
22 to make sure we hear from you.

23 MR. LUMLEY: You spring these poor
24 questions on us at the last minute so I'm not quite sure I
25 have my thoughts in order but maybe --

1 MR. SHAFROTH: It doesn't matter. Yeah.
2 We can organize your answers in the way we have to think
3 about them.

4 MR. LUMLEY: Sure.

5 Well, my name is Paul Lumley, L-U-M-L-E-Y.
6 And I work for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish
7 Commission, which is an inter-tribal consortia of four
8 tribes -- the Yakama, for which I'm a member, and
9 Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce.

10 And you know, I happen to have a presentation
11 in my bag here that has a graphic that shows the location
12 of our reservations. I thought I'd just pass that around.
13 And you're welcome to look at the whole presentation if
14 you want, but the graphic I think is helpful, and there's
15 actually a graph on the other side that I might reference
16 as well.

17 The Yakama Tribe is located in Washington
18 State. I have two tribes in Oregon, Warm Springs and
19 Umatilla, and the Nez Perce Tribe is located in the State
20 of Idaho.

21 We have ceded territories which are very
22 large, and we also have reservation land which is much
23 smaller, but the ceded land combined is about the size of
24 Georgia, so it's a pretty big chunk of the Columbia River
25 Basin.

1 The Columbia River Basin goes clear into
2 Canada. About a third of the water that's stored in the
3 Columbia River for flood control comes out of Canada.
4 Several states -- Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana,
5 Utah, Nevada, and a little bit of Wyoming. Our fish swim
6 out of the Columbia River and most of them swim up through
7 -- up on the coast, up to the state of Alaska, although we
8 have some that go all the way down through Mexico.

9 So the geographic scope of our work is pretty
10 large. We were formed in 1977 by those four tribes to
11 address treaty fishing rights challenges. The non-Indian
12 fishery was preventing us from catching our fair share,
13 and our fair share was defined in our treaties.

14 The treaty right to fish and hunt in our usual
15 and accustomed fishing place, that's a right that was
16 reserved by the tribes. It wasn't granted to us in those
17 treaties. It was a right that was reserved to us. We had
18 that right before.

19 We had two landmark court cases, United States
20 versus Oregon, and the United States versus Washington,
21 which established the "fair share" principle. What that
22 meant is that 50 percent -- 50 percent of the harvestable
23 surplus. And those two lawsuits, they define quite a bit
24 of natural resources activity out here in the Pacific
25 Northwest.

1 Not all the tribes have the same kinds of
2 treaties that we do. Some tribes have different kinds of
3 treaties. It just means to have a different kind of a
4 relationship with the federal government which is
5 different than ours.

6 There are many other federally recognized
7 tribes in the Columbia Basin, about 15 that we are aware
8 of that have federal home management responsibility.

9 We enjoy our partnership with them as well, as
10 the tribes in the Pacific Northwest represented by the
11 Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, and also in
12 Southern Oregon all the way down to California. So good
13 working relationship there.

14 When we formed in 1977 we were primarily
15 looking at just the fishing right challenges, but we found
16 out real fast that we had to look at the salmon's entire
17 lifecycle. We had to look at more than just the fish that
18 were being harvested and the ocean or up in Alaska.

19 We had to look at how the little salmon, the
20 smolts, were getting out of the Columbia River Basin, and
21 most of them were being killed by the dams, just the
22 little fish just couldn't make it past the dams. They
23 were getting sucked into the turbines that created
24 electricity.

25 And if you've ever seen the Columbia River

1 Basin, it's a huge river. There's some huge dams that
2 were built for flood control and power generation, and it
3 just decimated Indian culture.

4 Now there's a graphic in there that shows the
5 loss of salmon. When we signed the treaty in 1865, we had
6 about 15 million salmon in the river. That's estimated
7 from canneries that were harvesting at the time. But most
8 of those fish were lost before even the dams went in. So
9 it wasn't the dams that killed all those fish. It was
10 primarily overharvest.

11 But by the time the dams came in and we had
12 all this enormous habitat degradation throughout the
13 Columbia River Basin, it made it impossible for us to
14 rebuild the fish runs to its former size.

15 When the Fish Commission formed, they gave us
16 the first priority was to halt the decline of salmon. So
17 you can see from some of our hard work it's actually
18 started to rebound a little bit. So I'm going to talk a
19 little bit about that.

20 Before I get to that, I want to point out that
21 our organization is driven almost entirely by what's
22 called "Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit," which means "where the
23 spirit of the salmon live," and it's our salmon
24 restoration plan over the salmon's entire lifecycle.

25 We also have an enforcement division. That

1 was something that was envisioned from the very first days
2 of the formation of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish
3 Commission. Our chief of enforcement is here today,
4 Davis -- Chief Davis Washines is in the back.

5 I see also we have another staff person. Lori
6 Gephart is here as well. She works in the watershed
7 department at CRITFC. And we do work with -- back there,
8 too, Mathew Tomaskin. Thank you for coming.

9 So what works. Well, let me start with what
10 doesn't work. And what doesn't work is constantly suing
11 and fighting with each other. And you all know what the
12 salmon -- you've heard of the salmon wars out in the
13 Pacific Northwest.

14 Well, salmon wars don't necessarily bring back
15 fish. It can. It can have some success, but we found a
16 collaboration and partnership go a long ways. We've been
17 able to find some success in that.

18 It was actually borne out of litigation.
19 There's a fairly major lawsuit on the federal Columbia
20 River power system that's been going on for quite some
21 time, and three of our member tribes decided to call a
22 truce and sign what's called accords, and that's with
23 three federal agencies -- the U.S. Army Corps of
24 Engineers, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the
25 Bureau of Reclamation.

1 And it's a ten-year agreement that streamlines
2 funding to the tribes for salmon habitat restoration
3 projects and also hatchery projects, including our
4 enforcement program.

5 There's much more than that, but those are the
6 main elements. And in exchange we agreed to withhold our
7 litigation position for ten years to see if we can have
8 dams and salmon in the rivers at the same time. So this
9 is a ten-year experiment. We're about two and a half
10 years into it right now.

11 We, in fact, just a few days ago here in this
12 building we celebrated. We had what's called an accord
13 celebration with various other tribes that signed the
14 agreement and the federal agencies. It was a nice event.

15 So I'm happy to say that, while it was rough
16 during the salmon wars, we found a way to work
17 collaboratively together. And these agreements were
18 signed well before I took this job, and I used to work
19 here. I worked at the Fish Commission for 17 years.

20 I was gone for five in D.C. and I come back
21 and it took me awhile for me to switch gears because I was
22 used to the fighting, but when I came back I cannot tell
23 you how pleasantly surprised I was to have a partnership
24 that is maturing. It's a really good feeling to have.

25 And it changed our relationship not just with

1 our federal accord partners but with other entities in the
2 Pacific Northwest. The Northwest Power and Conservation
3 Council is a state-run agency that administers the Fish
4 and Wildlife Mitigation Program and it's called for in the
5 Northwest Power Act.

6 It's a state-run agency, and as tribes you
7 must understand the history that we have, the challenging
8 states in courts and how difficult it was for us to go,
9 hat in hand, to a state-run agency to try to get our
10 mitigation dollars.

11 But we now have a different relationship with
12 them now that we have the accord. So it actually improved
13 that relationship. So they're not a party to the accord
14 but it changed our partnership relationships throughout
15 the Columbia River Basin.

16 MR. SHAFROTH: Can I ask you a question
17 about the particular partnerships you have with the
18 federal agencies -- Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Rec, Army
19 Corps, whoever else. And what about those relationships
20 is working or isn't working?

21 I just want to make sure I get to that. I
22 know you have to leave in a couple of minutes. I want to
23 make sure I get to those questions, if we could.

24 MR. LUMLEY: Well, it really helps when
25 federal agencies are taking a proactive approach. I'll

1 give you two examples.

2 One is with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
3 They took the initiative to write into their budgets
4 setting aside \$5 million a year for fixing issues with
5 lamprey. Lamprey are a species that are not listed, at
6 least not yet, but they're declining dramatically to the
7 point where they might get listed in the very near future.

8 They started working on this at the very
9 beginning, right at the onset of signing the accords. The
10 Bureau of Reclamation, on the other hand, has not
11 approached it this way at all. In fact, we have to
12 continue to hold up the accords and say "You signed this
13 document. You need to start doing more for lamprey."

14 So far all they've been able to offer us is
15 end-of-year budget monies, if they're available. So when
16 I go back to Washington, D.C., next week, I'm going to be
17 reaching out to the Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner
18 Michael Connor to see if he can sit down with us and help
19 us plan out out-year funding.

20 They haven't approached us. They haven't even
21 asked to do this yet. It's been already two and a half
22 years. So they have not taken a proactive approach. It
23 really takes an agency wanting to do it. I want to
24 develop those out-year budgets with them, but they have to
25 also want it too.

1 MR. SHAFROTH: Great. Anything related to
2 Forest Service or EPA that would be useful for them to
3 hear about?

4 MR. LUMLEY: I do want to talk about EPA.
5 We have a set of data we compiled through a fish
6 consumption survey with our tribes, as well as a fish
7 contamination survey. It was all done in cooperation with
8 EPA, and it was completed in the mid '90s, and it's --
9 it's a wonderful set of data, but you really have to think
10 about how we use it most effectively.

11 Tomorrow the State of Oregon is going to
12 accept our recommendations to change the consumption rate
13 for tribal people. We found that we eat about ten times
14 more fish than the general public. And if you look at the
15 kind of contaminants that are in those fish, it is a
16 concern.

17 So the EPA is changing their standard from
18 17 grams to 175 grams -- I'm sorry, the State of Oregon
19 is, and it's at the recommendation of the tribes and EPA.

20 There's also legislation that's been proposed
21 called the Columbia River Restoration Act. We really need
22 to have more funding in the Columbia River basin so we can
23 address toxics.

24 There's a lot of funding from Bonneville Power
25 Administration, the Fish and Wildlife Program for doing

1 primarily land work, but there's no funding out there that
2 they're providing, not in any significant way, to address
3 toxics.

4 And so there's this assumption out there that
5 the EPA will just pay for it, but they won't. So we
6 really need to have this legislation pass because it will
7 provide -- it amends the Clean Water Act and it also
8 authorizes \$40 million to address toxics in the Columbia
9 River Basin.

10 Actually, maybe I'll mention we also interact
11 on two treaties with Canada. One is the Pacific Salmon
12 Treaty. It's something that we as tribes in the Pacific
13 Northwest helped build and are part of that.

14 There's another treaty, the Columbia River
15 Water Treaty, and that was signed in 1964. It did not
16 include the Tribe's interest. It's all about power and
17 flood control. Completely ignored salmon and fishing
18 rights.

19 It's up for renegotiation in the year 2024,
20 which is a long ways from now, I know that, but there's a
21 ten-year notice to terminate it. That's 2014. That's
22 just around the corner. And you probably haven't heard
23 about the Columbia River Treaty that much but you will be
24 hearing more about that in the future.

25 The Tribe's treaty rights should have been

1 recognized, but what's happened since 1964 are a lot more
2 federal laws that have come into play, Clean Water Act,
3 Endangered Species Act, NEPA. None of that was in place
4 back then. So there is going to be a paradigm shift in
5 the way the Columbia River may be managed in the future,
6 might be.

7 MR. JENSEN: I'd love to ask the question
8 before we do lose you.

9 And not to monopolize all the time and
10 attention on the fish issues here, but what has been your
11 experience with the -- with your agency around the land
12 management aspect of fish and in terms of outside of the
13 actual channel of the river?

14 What do you see that's successful and what are
15 the challenges there?

16 MR. LUMLEY: I'd like to talk about an
17 example of the Umatilla River. And salmon were extricated
18 a long time ago because of water withdrawal primarily from
19 farming communities.

20 And the Tribe took the initiative to try and
21 get salmon back into the river, but there were -- there
22 was a strong opposition from the farmers because they felt
23 like they could have used all the water they want in that
24 river and the fish really didn't have to use water when
25 they're protected.

1 So the tribe went to Bonneville Power
2 Administration and figured out a way to pump water out of
3 the Columbia River way up into the hills into a reservoir
4 just for the farmers.

5 So they found a way to keep the natural water
6 in the river for the fish and bring in new water for the
7 farmers. And now we have salmon coming back. A
8 combination with that kind of habitat restoration, this is
9 for the farmers, right, in combination with habitat
10 restoration, we use hatcheries to bring fish into the
11 river and out-plant them.

12 So now we have fairly healthy runs of fish
13 coming back into the Umatilla River, and it's not uncommon
14 at all to see tribal fishermen and non-Indian fishermen in
15 the same river getting along just fine, and some of those
16 are farmers.

17 So if you ever go into the Pendleton area
18 around the Umatilla River, you're going to hear great
19 praise on what the tribe was able to accomplish.

20 MR. LAVERDURE: Thank you, Paul. I
21 appreciate that. I think in order to give everyone a
22 chance to speak, we're going to go through each of the
23 questions and pass the mic. So we're going to go now to
24 what works, and then we'll have everybody have a chance on
25 the partnership.

1 And for those of you who just joined us, we
2 have a number of federal principals here across the
3 administration. From the USDA, Mr. Jensen. We've got a
4 Ms. Anderson-Carnahan from the EPA Region 10. Mr.
5 Shafroth, who is the DAS, Deputy Assistant Secretary, for
6 Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and I'm the Deputy Assistant
7 Secretary for Indian Affairs.

8 We're talking about America's Great Outdoors
9 Initiative and to get the tribal voice heard in this. So
10 we have the four sets of questions. What works, we'll go
11 around the room on that. Then we'll come back to
12 challenges, tools, and then, finally, the roles, the role
13 that the feds.

14 And I want to thank Mr. Lumley here for giving
15 a very condensed summary. I know you could probably talk
16 for days on the issues, but we're glad that you made it
17 and were able to provide the information.

18 The chairman is used to having the mic so
19 that's why he took it from me.

20 MR. SHAFROTH: Let me say one more thing,
21 if I could. Having done like 23 of these things now, I
22 think I've learned to figure out what does work and what
23 doesn't in terms of this.

24 So everybody doesn't -- don't feel compelled
25 to speak every time. If you've got something to say, then

1 go for it, and try to be concise. Everybody gets a
2 chance.

3 We will not -- everyone will get to speak as
4 much and as often as they want, but I also want to make
5 sure -- I want to make sure everybody gets a chance to
6 speak.

7 And so -- and these are also not really hard
8 lines between the different things. You know, maybe
9 something that worked could also be morphed into a
10 suggestion, too. We're open to that.

11 So we're not trying to be too regimented here,
12 but find that some of the conversations that will result
13 in the first question here will spring different ideas
14 around the room that we can -- so everybody doesn't have
15 to feel like they get all their two cents' worth in all at
16 once.

17 So, Mr. Chairman, why don't you go ahead.

18 MR. FINLEY: Thank you. Michael Finley,
19 F-I-N-L-E-Y, Chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the
20 Colville Reservation in Washington State.

21 We're 1.4 million acres in size and have 9,400
22 members, approximately. Paul did a wonderful job of
23 laying out what the bi-op has done for the tribes that had
24 signed on. We're one of them, the Colville tribes, and as
25 a result of that we have a Chief Joseph Hatchery that's

1 hopefully will be on line in a couple of years. We just
2 broke ground recently on components of that.

3 It was a part of the MOU of the bi-op and it's
4 going to do wonderful things for us because we're so high
5 on the Columbia River mainstem. The salmon returning, the
6 last stop is at Chief Joseph Dam, because there's not a
7 fish passage there.

8 So the importance of that, though, is exactly
9 what this initiative is trying to do, is trying to
10 reconnect people back to the outdoors. And for us it's
11 reconnecting us back to something that was so important to
12 our culture.

13 It did decimate our culture at Colville
14 because that's the only portion of our reservation that
15 salmon do return. We've always fished in perpetuity for
16 generations, but it has slowed because we're so far up on
17 the Columbia mainstem.

18 Where all the CRITFC tribes are on the Lower
19 Columbia, they get first stab of what ultimately ends up
20 in our area. I'm sure some of the scars I see on the
21 sides of some of these fish are no doubt a result of
22 someone on the Lower Columbia maybe just barely missing
23 it.

24 But for us, that's important. I think the
25 things that do work for us, the fact that we have our TPO

1 office. That was a huge step for tribes. It enables us
2 to better manage our cultural resources.

3 I'm excited about the component of this
4 initiative that's going to allow for tribes to be -- to
5 better manage and to co-manage those lands that are
6 important to us, because as what was shared a little bit
7 ago, our traditional territories extend far and beyond.
8 And for us, the Colvilles, we extend up into Canada. It's
9 unfortunate this can't extend into Canada along with our
10 traditional territories.

11 So our reservations are only a small size of
12 what our traditional territories once were, but we have
13 never stopped visiting the areas that are important to us
14 that are outside of our boundaries.

15 And so I'm excited to see this work in our
16 favor of helping us stay connected to those important
17 lands and to help protect those lands that could be at
18 risk of being lost for whatever reason, whether it be
19 development or environmental issue that may -- may arise
20 from contamination of some sort.

21 But I'll keep it short. I do realize we had
22 more people walk in the room. But our tribal member,
23 lobbyist here, Brian Gunn, has a few words to say.

24 MR. GUNN: You had to throw in the "L"
25 word.

1 Just following up on the chairman's remarks.
2 One of the things that I think that works is, for whatever
3 my opinion is worth, is just having more delineated and
4 expanded opportunities for tribes to co-manage federal
5 land, adjacent federal land or contiguous federal land.

6 You know, there's some authorities that are
7 out there now, but they vary pretty wildly between the
8 different land management agencies, and a lot of the
9 authority is really delegated to the people at the most
10 local levels, especially in the Forest Service's case.
11 Sometimes that good, sometimes that bad.

12 But I guess I just leave you with I think
13 that, just thinking of the Colville Reservation as an
14 example, the north half of the reservation, which was open
15 to the public domain in the 1890s, is an area that the
16 tribe still has a significant presence in and really cares
17 for what happens in those lands.

18 And I guess I would offer that I think the
19 tribes that are similarly situated that have reserved
20 rights areas, aboriginal areas, will have maybe an
21 increased motivation to I guess be stewards of those lands
22 and to keep them -- keep them maintained and keep them
23 accessible.

24 One example that I would just throw out for
25 your consideration is an agreement that the Colville Tribe

1 is a party to with NPS, the BIA, the Department, and BOR,
2 and Colville together with the Spokane Tribe have an
3 agreement to manage Lake Roosevelt, which is a national
4 recreation area.

5 And, you know, realistically the tribes are
6 the ones that are out there patrolling this area, making
7 sure that it's safe not just for tribal members but for
8 all visitors to the lake.

9 So I think that's a good example of how this
10 kind of management can work. That's done under a 1990
11 agreement. If I can get you a copy of it, that kind of
12 lays out. It's called The Lake Roosevelt Management
13 Agreement.

14 So I just leave you with that to consider.
15 One of the recommendations, having increased authority for
16 tribes to engage in co-management.

17 MR. SHAFROTH: That's great. Would you
18 also be willing to give us some other ideas about other
19 potential places where you see the opportunity there?
20 Lake Roosevelt is a good example of what's working.

21 Are there two or three other places where you
22 see the potential for that working? Also, you don't have
23 to introduce them now but just send us an e-mail.

24 Perfect. Thank you.

25 MR. GUNN: One of them would be the

1 national -- the Colville National Forest Plan, much of
2 which is contiguous to the northern boundary of the
3 reservation, and we've had some discussion with them.

4 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

5 MR. LUMLEY: I'll be brief. The Pacific
6 Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, the PCSRF, is an example of
7 a federal program that works well. It gives the tribes
8 the authority to decide what their priorities are and to
9 implement them.

10 I want to leave you with a thought. The Fish
11 Commission has been around for over 30 years. We have
12 over 100 employees. The four tribes have their own
13 fisheries programs. In combination, all four plus us, we
14 have about 700 employees in just fisheries programs.

15 We have quite a bit of sophistication. We've
16 set up a system to grant these funds out to the four
17 tribes that includes independent scientific review panels.

18 We are completely capable of with our own
19 science and our own management capabilities that we don't
20 need to have a state level guidance, we don't need -- we
21 don't need them. We don't need their approval to decide
22 what's important to us and to decide what is
23 scientifically feasible and practical and the best
24 management practice.

25 So, you know, I've had a lot of experience in

1 various federal programs, and a lot of these programs
2 require us to work through the states and we don't -- you
3 don't need to establish programs that require a state
4 level of approval.

5 We have a maturity within our own government
6 to manage our programs just as well as the states can, and
7 the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund is a great
8 example of that.

9 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you. Sir?

10 MR. MOTANIC: My name is Don Motanic.
11 Last name is spelled M-O-T-A-N-I-C.

12 I'm a technical specialist with the
13 Inter-Tribal Timber Council, which is an organization
14 that's a national non-profit with more than 60 member
15 tribes nationally. I'm also a Umatilla tribal member, and
16 forest engineer is my background. I've been involved in
17 Indian forestry for 32 years.

18 And things that I've seen that has worked in
19 Indian Country is the partnerships that's unique versus
20 maybe some of the things that I've seen.

21 And one of the things that all -- different
22 organizations like the Columbia River Fish Commission,
23 Northwest Indian Fish Commission, Native American Fish and
24 Wildlife Society, the Inter-Tribal Ag Council, that
25 there's one item that all of these organizations that work

1 together on, is that as far as youth and education,
2 reconnecting.

3 To give you some numbers of something where
4 Indian Country has worked where I think the general public
5 would like to see, the National Science Foundation has a
6 science and engineering criteria as far as the number of
7 bachelor degrees given in different professions.

8 Like with agriculture science, you know,
9 between 1995 and 1997 there was 140 degrees awarded to
10 Native Americans, and that's moved up to 170 between 2005
11 and 2007.

12 As many of you know, the general public,
13 that's actually decreased, the number of enrollments in
14 that type of thing. Even in biological science, it
15 includes nursing and those things. But the growth is
16 outstanding where it's gone from 315 degrees up to
17 500 degrees per year.

18 MR. SHAFROTH: Wow. That's great.

19 MR. MOTANIC: But the interesting thing is
20 most of those are female, about 85 percent of those are
21 female. But that's kind of a challenge to throw out.

22 But to give you some examples or what has
23 worked, the Columbia River Tribal Fish Commission has been
24 involved with something that's called Salmon Camp, and
25 getting youth involved that they actually follow the

1 course of the salmon.

2 There's about four different tribes that work
3 together. The kids start out the ocean camping. They
4 move up the Columbia River, and then they actually go to
5 the fish ladders on the Columbia River and end up up at
6 Warm Springs at the headwater. And then each -- every
7 night those kids get in and out and move.

8 And this four tribes, the American Indian
9 Science and Engineering Society is an organization that I
10 volunteer for. They're also a part of this. And the
11 Oregon Museum of Science and Industry is also a big part,
12 like a science fair. That's another one in Minnesota that
13 works with tribes.

14 Inter-Tribal Ag Council has an outreach
15 program, is what they've done some work with. And if I
16 get requests from their group, you know, I try to send out
17 that type of information.

18 Native American Fish and Wildlife Society has
19 a youth camp that they have every year. We try to promote
20 that. Inter-Tribal Timber Council has scholarships.

21 Working with universities where our
22 scholarships of about \$1,800, if there's a shortfall --
23 like with the University of Washington, the tuition is
24 about \$5,000. We've worked with the University of
25 Washington that they'll actually pay for the shortfall

1 in-between the \$1,800 and \$5,000.

2 MR. SHAFROTH: Is there a compendium of
3 these kinds of programs? Those are really good ideas. Is
4 there a place where one can go and find out more about
5 them?

6 MR. MOTANIC: That's the challenge.
7 Because the things -- to give you -- it's kind of hard to
8 get into the challenge.

9 The thing -- the other thing that working with
10 the universities, like the State of Oregon has an added
11 tuition waiver to about 70 tribes in the Northwest, and
12 it's just not the nine tribes in the State of Oregon.

13 But because of the treaties and how -- the
14 sphere of influence, they call it, like if somebody, a
15 student was with the Spokane Tribe and wanted -- and just
16 happened -- if they lived in Corvallis -- or, I mean, not
17 Corvallis, but if they lived out of state, out-of tuition,
18 you know, that's an extra 5 or 7 thousand dollars.

19 But it's real frustrating that many of these
20 universities, it's a state law, but they're not actually
21 promoting that, and there's a lot of deans that come in
22 and it makes me wonder how many other universities or how
23 many states have this out-of-state waiver --

24 MR. SHAFROTH: Sure.

25 MR. MOTANIC: -- when you're trying to get

1 students involved in natural resources, that those
2 opportunities, that's the --

3 MR. SHAFROTH: Sure. Why don't we move.
4 We've got ten more people who want to speak on this
5 question alone and I've got three more questions.

6 So do you want to go next? You've got a
7 microphone right next to you.

8 MR. MORISHIMA: Sure. Thank you. My name
9 is Gary Morishima, M-O-R-I-S-H-I-M-A. I'm kind of used to
10 spelling my last name because when I was in the Army they
11 always used to say, "Hey, alphabet," and I'd have to spell
12 my name.

13 First of all, I'd like to welcome the
14 administration here to talk about a very important issue,
15 and that's to restore the health of the land and to
16 encourage you to play -- to give a very prominent place to
17 Indian Country in that effort.

18 Indian Country poses some very unique
19 opportunities to serve as anchor points both ecologically
20 and economically for restoration and maintenance of those
21 landscapes. With respect to what works, I'd like to offer
22 a couple of things.

23 One of them is prevention. The Earth is sick,
24 it's getting sicker every day, and one of the problems
25 that we're confronted with is the unwillingness of various

1 entities to take steps to stop the damage from occurring
2 in the first place.

3 We see this happening over and over again in
4 terms of fragmentation of the landscape, the imposition of
5 new laws and regulations that come on the scene that make
6 it even more difficult to manage across the landscape.

7 I also would like to -- to encourage you to
8 take advantage of the wealth of knowledge that still
9 exists in tribal communities from generations of living in
10 the same place and knowing the resources, knowing the
11 values, knowing the interactions and knowing the places.

12 That's going to be extremely important for you
13 to be able to move forward.

14 MR. SHAFROTH: Uh-huh. Great. Thank you.
15 Anybody -- yeah. Go ahead.

16 MR. WASHINES: Thank you. My first name
17 is Davis Washines, W-A-S-H-I-N-E-S. I'm currently the
18 chief of enforcement for the Columbia River Tribal
19 Fisheries, and I just started in March. Been in law
20 enforcement most of my life. So old sheriff in a new
21 town.

22 And what I want to talk about is, as the topic
23 is about the great outdoors, America's great outdoors, in
24 terms of what works specific to illegal drug activity,
25 marijuana production, illegal grows in the forested areas.

1 At noon Ernie Stevens mentioned that he was at
2 Taos, Pueblo, and that same year in '72, the President
3 signed the executive order and returned a portion of Mount
4 Adams to the Yakama Nation.

5 And we've had within the past several years a
6 serious problem with marijuana eradication particularly in
7 forested areas. I know it affects not only reservations,
8 but also lands that are under BLM, USDA, other areas.

9 And so what works. In January of 2008, Yakama
10 Nation, tribal police were at the White House ONDCP Award.
11 We harvested over 106,000 marijuana plants and were
12 recognized.

13 That would not have happened without
14 collaboration as we hear, and collaboration leads to
15 creation, which leads to, you know, success in that
16 particular area.

17 So what works as far as protecting the great
18 outdoors is collaboration between tribal law enforcement
19 and federal agencies and the local agencies, the state
20 police, the county sheriffs.

21 And, as the buzz word is Tribal Law and Order
22 Act, the implementation, I think there's opportunities I
23 think for the federal agencies to become more engaged with
24 tribal law enforcement in terms of addressing some of
25 these very serious problems.

1 So I just wanted to bring that to your
2 attention and whatever you can to assist in promoting more
3 collaboration among the federal agencies and to help
4 tribes assist working with the different states and
5 counties, because there are still pockets in this country
6 of resistance to tribal sovereignty in terms of
7 enforcement. So I just wanted to bring that to your
8 attention. Thank you.

9 MR. SHAFROTH: Sir, are you ready to speak
10 or are you going to still chew for a minute?

11 MR. ALLEN: No. You can pass it down.

12 MR. SHAFROTH: All right. Good. We have
13 one right in front of you, if you want.

14 MR. STANGER: Okay. My name is Mark
15 Stanger, S-T-A-N-G-E-R, with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. I
16 work for the Fish and Wildlife Fisheries Program, outreach
17 and education.

18 I had -- if I could just -- could you repeat
19 the question again? Because it's been awhile and I just
20 want to make sure I'm going to cover most of the stuff.

21 MR. LAVERDURE: Under what works, please
22 share your thoughts and ideas on effective strategies for
23 protection and conservation of natural and cultural
24 resources, promoting recreation, and reconnecting people
25 to the outdoors. It's a mouthful.

1 MR. STANGER: Yeah. Okay. I can probably
2 answer some of those, anyways.

3 I just need some feedback, too, about how does
4 the Forest Service see that on the Coeur d'Alene Tribe
5 we're probably one of the tribes that they had it open for
6 homesteading. So actually, you know, The Homestead Act
7 back in whatever, but we got a lot of our land taken away
8 from us. We probably were lucky to own 20 percent of our
9 reservation.

10 And actually I know in the last couple of
11 years actually the Forest Service had some land come up
12 for sale, and it's like how could they sell the land
13 that's on the reservation?

14 And it's slotted that I've heard in the past
15 that if there -- you know, if the Forest Service ain't
16 going to manage their land any more, it should be going
17 back to the tribe.

18 Could I have any -- any answer about that?

19 MR. JENSEN: Yeah. I'm not aware of this
20 issue and I'm not familiar with it, so it's good to
21 understand that history that's there and it would be good
22 to know a little more about what's going on behind the
23 scenes with what those lands are being sold for and what
24 was driving that, and I think it could bring -- you raise
25 an issue that's clearly we need to understand more about

1 it.

2 MR. STANGER: Well, one of the deals that
3 I know, I've been working for the tribe for about ten
4 years over on the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, but actually I work
5 for the Colville Tribe, part of Colville, too. And I
6 worked for there for 20 years in forestry. So, you know,
7 I know a lot about forestry.

8 And the deal that I had is the foresters, they
9 were selling the land actually to, to like Boise or
10 Stimson or, you know, a lumber company. So, you know, how
11 could they do that?

12 You know, for us it's almost like a spit in
13 the face. You know? It's like those guys, they're doing
14 it for profit, you know, or something, some private land
15 timber guy, which, you know, actually a lot of the land on
16 the tribe is privately owned. You know, a lot of it is by
17 timber companies.

18 They're desecrating a lot of our fisheries
19 habitat, and that's what we're trying to preserve, our
20 westslope cutthroat trout. That's our main fish. That's
21 the only thing that we have. Because, you know, our
22 salmon got cutoff a long time ago, you know, with the dams
23 and everything.

24 So the only thing we have left is our
25 westslope cutthroat trout, our native fish that we're

1 trying to preserve, and these timber companies are
2 desecrating our areas. And in the Forest Service, you
3 know, they have a big chunk of land.

4 I know it's over in the St. Maries area, but
5 it's a big chunk of land. And I don't know if they
6 already sold it or if they're still in the process or
7 whatever, but that's the deal that we see, is, you know,
8 how can they be selling -- it's on our eastern part of the
9 reservation -- selling that to some private landowner
10 instead of giving it back to the tribe or even giving us a
11 chance to buy it back, you know, or something like that.

12 So that's just -- you know, I know big -- you
13 guys in Washington, D.C., or whatever, you guys don't hear
14 nothing about that because it's just the little deal, but.

15 You know, that's the deal getting back to our
16 roots and stuff, that that would be a part of our land.
17 That's a big area, a sacred area of our land that we would
18 like to bring our youth and our kids you know up to so
19 they can go up and go hunting or go do some of our berry
20 picking and stuff.

21 MR. JENSEN: I wish I was more versed in
22 being able to speak to the example there, but in the
23 context of this listening session this is exactly what we
24 need to understand, to hear, that it sounds like there's
25 some, you know -- it's being received as disrespectful in

1 terms of the ancestral claims that are there on those
2 lands and understanding how -- what sounds like in this
3 case are claims.

4 So we need to be aware of that and understand
5 how that fits in as we chart this course here.

6 MR. STANGER: Okay. So, yeah. That was
7 just one of my deals.

8 And then what about -- actually, I work a lot
9 with -- get back to the Native American Fish and Wildlife
10 Society. Those guys, I know they put out every year, they
11 put out about \$1,000 in scholarships, just for like one
12 student.

13 But, you know, with all your guys' programs if
14 you want to get Native Americans back into our natural
15 resource programs, which, you know, most of our lands here
16 especially in the Northwest have -- you know, that's all
17 we do is natural resources, you know, working out in the
18 woods, fish and wildlife or whatever.

19 So if we could actually get more scholarships,
20 and scholarships, actually like a full-term scholarship,
21 you know, and offer that, you know, through all your guys'
22 programs with the Forest Service or BIA or the EPA, you
23 know, and all those guys.

24 Because it's all programs that affect the
25 tribes that we try to work with. You know, so we get more

1 scholarships in those areas. And we have a lot
2 of students that I work with a lot, you know, that are
3 very intelligent, that they could get on these programs.

4 And if they could get a decent, you know, a
5 ride like that, then we would have more people I know that
6 would be helping our tribal people to get back into our
7 programs.

8 That's all I have for know.

9 MR. LAVERDURE: Okay. Thank you.
10 Appreciate it. I passed the other mic down to the end.

11 MS. JIM: Thank you. My name is Ruth Jim.
12 I'm a member of the Yakama Tribal Council and I thank you
13 for this opportunity to speak.

14 You know, a lot of people have spoken up on
15 behalf of the fish, but I sit here before you talking
16 about our foods, our native foods, our traditional foods.
17 I can't name them, you know, in the English language.
18 They all have their own Indian names.

19 But the Yakama have a vast ceded area and we
20 protect our foods and our hunting and fishing rights in
21 the ceded area not only within the boundaries of our
22 reservation.

23 I believe you, USDA, should remember the
24 Yakama, how we stepped forward in regards to the Hawaiian
25 waste issue, because we felt that the Columbia Gorge is

1 very important to our very existence, because that's where
2 the salmon travel, but not only the salmon, we have foods
3 and we have people that live along the river yet, that
4 choose to remain on the river.

5 You say that you want to put the great
6 outdoors back into being and promote recreational areas.
7 You know the Yakama have huckleberry fields that are off
8 the reservation, but that's a fine example of opening up
9 to the public, because then you have the four-wheelers
10 coming in, you have the motorcycles, and you have people
11 that don't have respect for agreements that were made by
12 our elders.

13 You know that when it was opened up, our
14 elders stood up and had a handshake agreement and they
15 agreed that certain sides of the road would be for the
16 Indians and the other side for the non-Indians to gather
17 huckleberries, but there's no respect for that agreement
18 no more.

19 And it worries me that, you know, we wouldn't
20 be in this state of being if what you call progress was
21 allowed in all areas, because when you open up areas and,
22 you know, you have people put up fences and it closes that
23 access to the land.

24 And a lot of times you have some landowners
25 that are willing to let you go and gather foods where your

1 usual and accustomed areas are, but then you have the
2 younger people that don't know and they won't allow you
3 to.

4 And I would suggest, you know, that USDA when
5 they're going into an area where they have plans for, that
6 they look and research to see what tribe is near, to see
7 what their usual and accustomed and their ceded areas are
8 so you won't infringe on anything that is important to
9 them.

10 And I thank you for this time for allowing me
11 to speak. Thank you.

12 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

13 MR. ALLEN: Okay. I'll get started. I'm
14 Ron Allen. I'm the chairman from the Jamestown S'Klallam
15 Tribe. My sister tribe down there, the Lower Elwha
16 Klallam Tribe.

17 What works. You know, it's a broad brush
18 question to a very complex subject, you know, in terms of
19 what can the United States do to help us protect and/or
20 restore or preserve, you know, our precious resources for
21 different reasons.

22 And the comments that I was listening to in
23 terms of cultural traditional values that we have that's
24 important to us, this seems to me that a permanent program
25 or collaboration between the departments that would allow

1 for a number of different options.

2 And I think you need to be -- you need to
3 start thinking creatively because you only have so much
4 resources. We all understand the political realities of
5 how much can you get in a budget to be able to advance an
6 agenda with regards to the tribes' interests.

7 And I'm assuming this agenda is not just
8 tribes, that it's cutting across states and communities
9 all having their own interest, and so we're competing with
10 them.

11 I would make a pitch for set aside for the
12 tribes, because we're just going to have a tough time
13 competing even though, you know, I think we probably could
14 compete fairly.

15 But, you know, when it comes to the restoring
16 of precious sites and areas that are important to us,
17 whether it's a sacred site -- Del, I gave you an example
18 in our area of a small, little sacred site, and just like
19 the previous speaker from Yakama that, you know, been
20 desecrated.

21 This one happens to be a sacred rock and
22 they're doing mountain -- they're doing rock climbing on
23 this rock that we feel is actually inappropriate. The
24 whole community actually wants to protect this site and we
25 don't want it to be used for those kinds of purposes any

1 more because it has a longstanding historical/cultural
2 value.

3 But how do you get out of private ownership
4 that wants to desecrate it? This example is where the
5 owner thought that he was going to just, you know, stick a
6 bunch of dynamite in there and blow that big rock up and
7 try to develop it, which would have been devastating and
8 it would have been, you know, a serious loss.

9 And for our Indian communities, it would have
10 been a spiritual loss. You have to be able to learn how
11 to -- and you probably aren't even aware of it -- but
12 attach that value to -- it's a value that's important to
13 our society, regardless of your religious beliefs.

14 So a program that would allow tribes to be
15 able to, you know, petition or appeal for grant monies to
16 be able to acquire properties or matching, and sometimes
17 matching can -- may be a way to make the money spread a
18 little bit further out. That would be an important issue.

19 And it's not just those kind of cultural
20 sites. You know, for us here in the Northwest, you know,
21 rivers are a big deal to us and we want to protect those
22 rivers, those streams.

23 And so sometimes we want to acquire properties
24 to do what the state and our society should do, you know,
25 in terms of having appropriate riparian zones and buffers,

1 you know, to prevent people from making dumb mistakes,
2 building houses on top of rivers and stuff like that. You
3 just kind of go, "What are you thinking here?" You know.

4 And we're very active -- you know, to the
5 credit of the tribes, we're very active in restoring
6 rivers and estuaries and so forth and acquiring them. And
7 I can give you examples of my tribe that did just that.
8 We live right on a bay, right on an estuary, and through
9 some collaboration by the state and the feds and our own
10 resources were able to acquire and restore an estuary.

11 So on one hand I talk about cultural sites
12 that are important to our community that we want to
13 preserve. Or, you know, if it's forestry, then it's how
14 do we -- how do we advance policies or regulations that
15 can preserve cultural practices that are relative to
16 sacred areas that you would want to go to and it's too
17 broad, too big of an area to be able to preserve.

18 You know, you got to purchase and preserve for
19 that intended -- or for that purpose, because you have
20 multiple purposes. So I didn't think that a program like
21 that would probably make a difference in terms of helping
22 us move an agenda forward.

23 When we look at your budgets, your programs,
24 they're very restrictive and they're very limited in terms
25 of trying to address this kind of a problem. And we

1 really do need to start designing a program, if we're
2 really intending on protecting these resources, at least
3 from our perspective in Indian Country, in my area.

4 You need something that's dedicated for that
5 particular purpose. If we don't do it now, then the
6 future generation is going to regret it. And we're
7 already regretting. We're already fixing errors of the
8 past, and it just gets very costly.

9 I guess part of my thinking is a program that
10 allows us to at least chip away at. You know, large
11 reservations like the Colville or Yakama, our area here,
12 it's a big deal. They've got a lot going on. You know, a
13 small area like mine, I have a small tribe, I have a small
14 reservation, but it's still equally important.

15 And then also, you know, Del, we'll want to
16 put them in the trust. So the trust regs is a fact before
17 us because the reg's got to be structured so that it has
18 to be adjacent or, you know, how far away is it.

19 If it's in our ceded territory, it's where we
20 exist, it's what we did, and sometimes we would do things
21 that would go away from where we actually resided to
22 conduct these kind of practices, activities, and even
23 hunting that was mentioned earlier.

24 So those are my suggestions. It's got to have
25 some practical application. And I don't -- you know,

1 since we have 565 Indian nations, it's complicated, from
2 Alaska to Florida, but we've got to start somewhere.

3 So, you know, from my perspective, do
4 something. You know, get something going there. So I
5 hope that out of this you guys come up with a way that
6 develops the collaborative effort between the agencies.

7 MR. SHAFROTH: So Chairman Allen, thank
8 you for being here, first of all, and your very good
9 comments.

10 I don't necessarily need an answer now, but it
11 would be very helpful to get some additional specifics on
12 your -- especially your comment about the budgets and
13 programs are too restrictive. Okay. So I get that. I've
14 heard that.

15 But as someone who's relatively new to the
16 federal government and, you know, I don't know, depending
17 upon how long -- hopefully Mr. Obama will be here for
18 eight years from my perspective but I'm not sure that's
19 going to happen -- I want to make sure I know as much as I
20 can as soon I can so that we can make the kind of changes
21 you're talking about.

22 So help me. Again, not -- maybe we can talk
23 afterwards or send me something, but what programs
24 particularly? Is it the Fish and Wildlife Habitat
25 Conservation programs or is it the Forest Legacy program.

1 MR. ALLEN: I can give you an answer right
2 now. I mean, I work with Del and his -- the BIA team on
3 just the BIA budget in terms of the -- you know, what kind
4 of flexibility do they have within the activities that are
5 authorized under that budget scheme.

6 You can't find any place where you can do what
7 I'm suggesting. There's no place -- they have no place to
8 put it. You know, it's not in there.

9 So in your budgets, you know, I'm suggesting
10 that a budget that would accomplish this objective. Now,
11 the objective I'm talking about is land acquisition or,
12 you know, matching land acquisition projects and something
13 along that line, but it's more than that. It's education,
14 too, because you're trying to educate the communities
15 around you why you want to protect these sites and things
16 that you can do to develop collaborative efforts.

17 The one example I was sharing with you on this
18 -- on what we call Tamanowas Rock in our area, the Lower
19 Elwha Klallam, my tribe, and the Port Gamble S'Klallam,
20 are collaborating with the local community. So it's about
21 vehicles, you know, budgets that are dedicated to enhance
22 that kind of education to assist tribes in reaching out
23 and developing a partnership.

24 So I'm more interested in some resources that
25 we can access to acquire some lands that we can't do it.

1 And if you think that, well, those tribes are casino-ing,
2 industry tribes, they're doing fine, they'll make a lot of
3 money, that isn't the real world. The majority of us
4 aren't in that bucket, if you will.

5 And even if we were doing well, to state the
6 obvious -- Del, you know -- that we have so many needs
7 that that money, that disposable money that we have just
8 -- it just -- we shift it in all these different
9 directions from education to health and so forth. It just
10 goes.

11 So is it available to do something like this
12 with this support initiative? No. It's just not. You
13 know, sometimes we'll make it -- make it work, but more
14 often than not it won't work. We don't have the
15 resources.

16 MR. LAVERDURE: Thank you. If I could add
17 something. Thank you, Chairman Allen. I know the Land
18 Wildlife Conservation Fund, kind of the base of this
19 initiative, it's silent on Indian tribes and so, you know,
20 I think --

21 MR. SHAFROTH: Yeah. There's an
22 opportunity there.

23 MR. LAVERDURE: -- the Department having
24 the ability to have the objective include Indian tribes
25 and the way that we can do it --

1 MR. ALLEN: Absolutely.

2 MR. LAVERDURE: -- I think that would be
3 one example where we're talking about.

4 MR. ALLEN: Absolutely.

5 MR. SHAFROTH: So we need to demonstrate
6 there's a demand for these dollars in LWCF for land and
7 water protection within the tribal community, and that's
8 something we should talk about as a -- you know, what's
9 going to happen as a practical matter with this report is
10 that we're not going to be able to do everything on
11 November 15th.

12 I mean, we're coming up with so many
13 interesting ideas and potential things that we want to do
14 that there's going to be some work that we're going to
15 need to do before we're actually going to be able to take
16 action, and one of those could be a little project we
17 could think about.

18 This is the first time I've heard this
19 particular point, so I appreciate it.

20 My friend from the Lower Klallam whose hat I
21 wore throughout the Boundary waters for a whole week. My
22 friend got tired of seeing that hat, but I didn't.

23 MS. CHARLES: Good afternoon. And, again,
24 thank you for listening to the concerns of all of the
25 tribal leaders and representatives here pertaining to it.

1 My name is Francis Charles. I'm the tribal chairwoman for
2 the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

3 And also I really support all of the comments
4 that was made before me because, again, some of them I'm
5 going to bring back up again pertaining to the cultural
6 aspects of it, the sensitivities. But like our Yakama
7 friend here had indicated on to the gathering rights, it's
8 the access.

9 Once these lands have ties to them, whether
10 they're Forest Service, DNR, or private land, it prohibits
11 a lot of the tribes to have the access into our treaty
12 rights, ceded areas for the hunting and the gathering and
13 the fishing areas that are so important to the tribal
14 communities.

15 But in the partnerships, I have to say with
16 the dam removal projects that we are taking out next year,
17 February of 2011, one of the two dams on the Olympic
18 Natural Park areas, we have a lot of concerns and
19 sensitive areas not only for the habitat, the restorations
20 that we have been occurring and working with for so many
21 years now, but also some of the sacred land barriers that
22 we have up there.

23 And we do have a good working partnership with
24 the National Park Service up in those areas, but, again,
25 it gets back to the issues of it for the land acquisition

1 for the protections of the river basins and for the future
2 developments for any of the species and any of the
3 habitats adjacent, whether it's one of the creeks that are
4 running off adjacent to the main river, the Elwha River,
5 but also some of the other tributaries that we're dealing
6 with in our ceded areas and our U & A areas.

7 We have a great need for the resources, and
8 that's one of the things that we have been competitive
9 with, is identifying as a tribal government. We don't
10 have those resources to be competing with the federal
11 governments and the state governments because it's not
12 recognized as a tribal government.

13 And those are some of the changes that need to
14 take place in some of our ceded area so that we have the
15 opportunity to acquire for some of these grants that will
16 help offset some of our hard dollar cost to the
17 restoration or the habitat areas that are really important
18 to all of us.

19 We overlap. We're reservations that overlap
20 with one another, whether it's with Makah, Quileute, or
21 even some of the other areas, Jamestown, Port Gamble,
22 Snoqualmie, and some of the other resources that are out
23 there are so limited.

24 The borders are another issue. Our friend
25 across the table here had brought up the drug issues. We

1 too have those border issues pertaining to drugs coming
2 across from the Canada waters and we are also in the need
3 for some more of those resources for law enforcement.

4 We've had some big, major drug busts that have
5 taken place on isolated trust land matters and that's
6 something that's really alarming because on Monday we had
7 to bury a 43-year-old tribal member due to methadone, due
8 to the prescription drugs, and she left behind a
9 3-year-old daughter.

10 These are the challenges that all of the
11 reservations are faced with, is trying to find solutions
12 not only for the need of our communities but for the
13 outreach of the families because of the children that are
14 being left behind or put into foster care areas that
15 should not be -- it's something that should not have
16 happened.

17 We need to have some of the set aside
18 resources identified for tribes, something that we don't
19 have to compete for but something that is identified for
20 the tribes, because I know that with all of the 565
21 nations out there, we each have a uniqueness need for our
22 territories.

23 And some of them we can collaborate with one
24 another because we do overlap in these jurisdictions,
25 whether it's with the Forest Service, DNR, or private

1 landowners.

2 And I'd like to see some language put into
3 some law so that if the Forest Service or DNR are looking
4 at selling or trading off some of their lands, that the
5 tribes do have the opportunity to acquire it. Hopefully
6 the first opportunity because of the territories that were
7 in -- that we're looking at. A lot of this land was taken
8 back from -- taken away from us and we have to purchase it
9 back step by step.

10 So I could go on, but the main part of it is
11 really the cultural parts of it, our elders. You have the
12 resources with the elders. Utilize and listen to them for
13 what our gathering rights were and what our history is as
14 well. So with that I'll go ahead and quit and move this
15 on. [Non-English word(s) spoken]. Thank you.

16 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

17 Anybody else? Ma'am, are you -- Chairman
18 Allen, would you mind handing the microphone along there.
19 Go ahead. Yeah.

20 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you. My name is
21 Frank Cunningham [phonetic]. I'm a Nisqually [phonetic]
22 Indian.

23 My concern, and through Indian Country, is
24 wild horses. You've heard a little bit about it, a whole
25 lot about it over the last several years.

1 In recent times and later times it killed a
2 lot of these horses. I don't know Fish and Wildlife and
3 the Forest -- I presume that the Forest Service is
4 involved in this, and the Environmental Department, the
5 good lady, and you, sir, discussing this towards you, if
6 you don't mind.

7 You talked about issues that would be
8 effective for children. Okay. The part about -- before
9 we get into that, the part about murdering horses, horses
10 have been a history to us for centuries.

11 You know that. They were the Cadillac of that
12 time before wheelers. They were used in every direction.
13 We still love them. We enjoy them, and they -- they use
14 them yet.

15 Now, we have controls on wolves, salmon, deer,
16 elk, coyotes, et cetera. My concern and my thought is,
17 and the tribes that discussed this, why can't we neuter
18 them, have controls on neuter them, like we have controls
19 on these other things we just mentioned? We don't neuter
20 them but we have controls on these reservations if they
21 want that, or in the wild.

22 Now, the other thing is we can make -- you say
23 you want to do something for our children, society. We
24 could neuter these animals, like I say, control them by
25 neutering. You do that with wolves, like I say, and this

1 type, a factor.

2 We could do that to control them and control
3 the stallions and still have wild horses. I realize that
4 we'd have a problem with many, many people for doing that,
5 but that's one way to save horses.

6 I for one always wanted a horse and I love
7 horses to this day. I'm 81 years old. And I've had dogs,
8 cats and other animals and when I lose one, it hurts.
9 Some of you folks know that. I also know that my heart,
10 if I had a horse, he would become a loved one to me, a
11 good friend. That's why I never got one. So that's --
12 that's what most Indians think about, too.

13 So that's a thought for you folks, and I wish
14 that you would consider that. You probably have discussed
15 that. I think you have, but I think that would be one way
16 in the wild, government land, instead of killing these
17 animals. Okay?

18 Now, probably -- I don't know why it has to be
19 legislation passed, but probably, I don't know, that would
20 be up to you folks and the Indian tribes to work on that.

21 MR. LAVERDURE: Can we --

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I think I pretty well
23 said what I have to say. That is important. We discussed
24 that in this session also in the elders meeting, and
25 there's several people concerned about that yet, but it

1 seemed like the other -- the neutering didn't come up. I
2 brought that up.

3 But they are concerned about it. We'd like to
4 see something done about that. If you would record that
5 and do something about it. Don't just talk about it.

6 That's -- a lot of that is -- you know, and
7 those, by the way, the information is put on the bottom of
8 the pile and that's the end of it, not unless we keep
9 walking through it.

10 I just thank you for that.

11 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: I appreciate you people
13 coming in here today and standing by and listening to us,
14 and thank you so kindly.

15 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you. Sir?

16 MR. LENOX: I'm Jack Lenox, Colquille
17 Indian Tribe. Lenox, L-E-N-O-X. We're located down in
18 Southwestern Oregon, along the Oregon coast. We're one of
19 the restored tribes, a very small tribe, about 950 members
20 and a land base of about 7,000 acres, primarily forest
21 land. And one thing about going last, everyone has
22 covered most of what I wanted to talk about.

23 But getting back to the forest, the tribes
24 know how to manage forest land. Forest lands were
25 pristine before contact, and nobody will argue that. It's

1 a simple fact.

2 But what I'm thinking about is from the
3 standpoint of the tribes, are managing the cultural
4 natural resources that they used to in the past and today
5 and I think it just -- it didn't go dead.

6 So where I'm at, is I'm looking at from the
7 aspect of the U.S. Forest Service I know is losing staff
8 dramatically, management staff managing their forests.

9 What I would like to see is some discussion or
10 thoughts about co-management with the indigenous peoples,
11 and eventually maybe even turn over management, of course
12 with the appropriate funding. So that's really where I'm
13 at. And most everything else was covered.

14 But I want to thank you all for coming to
15 listen to us.

16 MR. SHAFROTH: Yep. Great.

17 MR. JENSEN: I'm glad you brought that up.
18 And Chairman Finley brought that up too.

19 And I -- it would be really helpful to
20 understand a little more about what that means to you and
21 what are the challenges or hurdles you're seeing out
22 there. I think we touched upon that a little, but if you
23 can explore that a little more.

24 MR. SHAFROTH: Chairman Finley, you want
25 to go back to you now?

1 MR. FINLEY: Yeah. It's been mentioned
2 several times, and it started off with Mr. Stanger was
3 talking about a problem that they had with lands that are
4 going to be surplused or excessed through the U.S. Forest
5 Service, and the Colvilles had a similar situation.

6 And what the U.S. Forest Service was doing,
7 they were auctioning off a piece of property within our
8 traditional territory, roughly 6 and a half acres, and
9 they're using the U.S. Forest Service Facility Realignment
10 and Enhancement Act to do this. And we tried to 638 that
11 through existing 638 law and it ultimately went to court
12 and the judge said, "Well, this trumps the 638," and
13 didn't really truly recognize it. So we were left kicking
14 rocks.

15 And this is around the time when this
16 initiative, we first started hearing about this
17 initiative. We thought, well, great, this is something
18 that we're hoping will assist tribes should they ever be
19 faced with this again. I know Cowlitz has a similar
20 situation because their chairman contacted me directly as
21 this was moving forward when we had this situation.

22 We ultimately ended up not getting that
23 property. They sold it for one million dollars, 6 and a
24 half acres, and, you know, through the Indian Claims
25 Commission we lost. We were compensated for \$0.50 an acre

1 for that same property.

2 When we did the Indian Claims Commission in
3 1960s and '70s, we weren't given fair market value then.
4 We were given fair market value at the time of taking,
5 which was 1859, which is \$0.50 an acre. I'm sure other
6 tribes have similar situations where it's happened.

7 But I guess if we try to fix something now,
8 it's all well and good as we move forward, but I would
9 like -- I've noticed that the U.S. Forest Service have
10 used this legislation to dump a lot of property. And so
11 if and when we were ever able to get something in place
12 that will better assist tribes, I think that a lot of the
13 properties will be fully owned.

14 I think I share the thoughts over here that we
15 want to help co-manage those National Forests that are
16 contiguous or adjacent to our land. We've looked at
17 different ways of using the Tribal Forest Protection Act
18 to help assist us in doing, but it's not all-inclusive.

19 It has its limitations. And so this
20 initiative, as it's being unfolded, there's a lot of
21 different components that we see that will be beneficial
22 to tribes. But I just wanted to state that earlier, that
23 what he was talking about and what they used to do that,
24 but the tribes are pretty much pushed aside in that
25 process.

1 MR. SHAFROTH: So while you have the mic,
2 do you want to just go to the next set of questions?

3 We'll talk about challenges and some ways that
4 you think, the tools that you could use that would help
5 you resolve those challenges. So combining a couple of
6 questions since we're not going to be able to get through.

7 MR. FINLEY: Okay. Could you repeat that
8 one more time for me?

9 MR. SHAFROTH: You talked about what works
10 in the area, but tell us about some of the challenges that
11 you're facing on these issues related to Fish and Wildlife
12 management, related to recreation, related to connecting
13 people to the outdoors, and then maybe share with us some
14 of your ideas about what kind of tools you need for that
15 and how can the federal government be a better partner in
16 providing those tools, talk about the collaboration, but
17 what are the specific ways we can be helpful.

18 Stan?

19 MR. SPEAKS: While you're thinking a
20 little bit, can we take a three-minute break because we
21 want a break and come back.

22 MR. SHAFROTH: Does anybody need a break?
23 We'll offer a break.

24 MR. SPEAKS: We have some snacks outside.
25 People might need to get up.

1 MR. SHAFROTH: Okay. Three minutes.

2 (A brief recess was had.)

3 MR. SPEAKS: Should we get things under
4 way again? People out in the hall, come in. I think Mike
5 is ready. He's had some time to think.

6 MR. LAVERDURE: Just very quickly. I know
7 that -- there were some new folks. So I'm Del Laverdure,
8 Deputy Assistant Secretary For Indian Affairs. This is
9 Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks
10 over at Interior. We have --

11 MR. SHAFROTH: My name is Will Shafroth.

12 MR. LAVERDURE: Will Shafroth. I've said
13 it a few times. I thought you were getting tired of it.

14 We got Mr. Jensen here from USDA, the Under
15 Secretary, and EPA Region 10 represented as well.

16 One thing, I was going to pass it to Will
17 Shafroth here because a number of people have said "Is
18 there a handout? Is there any information on this?"
19 They'd like to know more, where do they submit comments.
20 You did mention a website.

21 Maybe you can give that address so people can
22 have that and access it and send in comments and find out
23 more about the background, as well.

24 MR. SHAFROTH: Sure. This is, as we said
25 earlier, this is an effort to get public comment and

1 feedback about the President's America's Great Outdoors
2 Initiative.

3 To be honest with you, this is the last of our
4 listening sessions. And we've done 27, 28, 30, something
5 like that, and you are the very final group that we have
6 reached out to, and so your comments are being recorded.

7 They will be incorporated into the report that
8 we submit to the President, but if there are things either
9 that you think about after this meeting or if, like,
10 Chairman Finley over here where he's been given an
11 assignment by me to write something up to make sure we get
12 the information, we would be glad to hear from you.

13 And you go to the Department of the Interior's
14 website, DOI.gov, and there will be a link there for
15 America's Great Outdoors. It's right on the front page of
16 our website, and you can submit your comment right there.

17 And so I think we've gone through the first
18 question about what works and people have dipped into
19 answers to other questions as we've gone through, but we
20 really want to hear more from you. We've got until, what,
21 5 o'clock, Del, to hear from you all about what are some
22 of the challenges that you face, and if there are
23 different ones you haven't already spoken about.

24 But really we would like to spend the last
25 45 minutes or so, if we can, talking about solutions.

1 What are the tools that you think you could use to
2 accomplish your goals and how can we and the federal
3 agencies be better partners to you-all in achieving your
4 goals.

5 And that could be, you know, different way of
6 doing business. We've heard about that already. What are
7 some ways we can improve the way we do business? And be
8 as specific as you can because there's some things, we're
9 going to be able to move quickly on some of these things,
10 other things might take awhile. So thank you for that.

11 MR. LAVERDURE: Yes. Thank you. One
12 point that bears mentioning again, just because of Indian
13 Affairs, we do recognize there's a federal trust
14 responsibility that cuts across everywhere, but uniquely
15 lead by Department of Interior, and Secretary of Interior
16 is the trustee for Indian Country. So we are designees of
17 that and we know that there's a whole body of 200 years of
18 case law, statutes, executive orders, of regulations, two
19 binders full of regulations.

20 So I just mention that because it's important
21 that we acknowledge that and that we are your partners.

22 And so the question is how do we utilize those
23 tools or the lack thereof and how can we merge the
24 President's initiative here and make it useful for Indian
25 Country as well.

1 And I'll hand it to Chairman Finley now.

2 MR. FINLEY: I tried to mesh this together
3 the best I can. Challenges, solutions and tools.

4 MR. SHAFROTH: Yeah.

5 MR. FINLEY: Okay. Lake Roosevelt
6 borders, oh, about half of our reservation or more, about
7 150 miles of riverfront property. It's the national
8 recreation area that was mentioned earlier. Mr. Gunn
9 mentioned the agreement that we have in place on that.

10 We do the lion's share of managing that lake.
11 A lot of the tourists that go to that area, they spend
12 most of their time on our side of the river. They bring
13 with them their problems, their garbage. They leave it
14 behind. As well as our staff having to respond to calls
15 to not just tribal members on the lake, but non-members.

16 And presently our tribe are the only entity
17 that responds to calls after dark. The National Park
18 Service is charged with helping us do a lot of that on the
19 lake, but they do not respond presently to calls after
20 dark. The Colville Tribe, we do.

21 The other part I want to talk about, that
22 national recreation itself and the Columbia River at
23 large, is all the pollution that's been dumped into that
24 river from Teck Cominco for a century now, and the U.S.
25 government has done virtually nothing about it.

1 It's been the Colville Tribe stepping up and
2 holding the company's feet to the fire with hardly any
3 help from the federal government.

4 It should be the federal government's
5 responsibility to hold this company accountable because of
6 the pollution. And the pollution is there.

7 And in a former life I worked for the tribal
8 assistant archeology program and we did a dig up above
9 Kettle Falls, and I had to dig through over 10 -- what was
10 it, 10 centimeters, whatever it is, through slag to get
11 down to where the site was because that much slag had
12 accumulated in that area.

13 And, you know, I've been talking about the
14 health, you know, the health risk of doing that and
15 working in those conditions, but, you know, we have
16 limitations on what we can take and eat from the lake
17 because of Teck Cominco and all the stuff they've dumped
18 in the river.

19 So I think that those are things that the
20 federal government can do to help clean up an area that
21 they want their citizens to reconnect with because it's
22 dirty. And we've had long discussions with the
23 appropriate staff at the D.C. level to try to see whether
24 or not there's an opportunity to get the help from the
25 federal government in this litigation.

1 So we've had those discussions. I just wanted
2 to mention it because it shouldn't have come to the
3 Colville Tribes stepping up and doing something about it.

4 Solutions. Brian Gunn had a few things he
5 wanted to talk about on the solutions, so I'll hand it
6 over to him now. Oh, wait. One last thing.

7 We want to reconnect to that river as much as
8 we can; however, I mentioned earlier that Chief Joseph Dam
9 is the last stop for salmon. There's no fish passage
10 beyond Chief Joseph Dam, and further upriver there's Grand
11 Coulee Dam.

12 I think you would see a huge increase in
13 sports fishermen if someday the federal government and the
14 action agencies can make fish passage possible at Chief
15 Joseph Dam and Grand Coulee Dam.

16 And I hope in my lifetime that I will see that
17 our cherished Kettle Falls where our people gathered for
18 centuries on end to do the annual fish harvest is
19 inundated. Salmon no longer reach there.

20 Paul mentioned earlier that it decimated our
21 culture. It did that to us. We were salmon people, and
22 so when the dams went in and these fish went away, part of
23 our culture was lost.

24 And so if we want to reconnect to these
25 important areas that we always talk about, we hold so near

1 and dear, the federal government has to own up to its
2 trust responsibility to put salmon back in the river in
3 that part of the Columbia.

4 But I'll pass it on.

5 MR. GUNN: Just really quickly.

6 I know there's been discussion about giving
7 Indian Affairs access to the Land Water Conservation Fund.
8 I guess I would recommend that. I know that you're all
9 talking about it.

10 Whether or not that makes it in the
11 recommendations, though, what I would in terms of a tool
12 is when talking about, you know, getting land to tribes,
13 using different mechanisms. Like I said, the Land
14 Management Agency's authority to dispose of land in excess
15 surplus is really all across the boards. It's just wildly
16 different from even NPS to BOR. BOR has a lot of
17 authority and BOS has some, but the Forest Service has
18 very little.

19 I guess what I would suggest, if you're
20 looking at in any way trying to be able to transfer title
21 to land or for beneficial title to land for tribes in this
22 initiative, that you recommend for at least purposes of
23 this initiative there be an effort to unify those land
24 disposal and transfer authorities at least for purposes of
25 the Interior agency.

1 That's all I have.

2 MR. SHAFROTH: Great. That's a good
3 point. Thank you. That's a very good, specific
4 suggestion. Appreciate that.

5 We've heard that before, Jay.

6 MR. JENSEN: Yeah. We should have had a
7 few more of those authorities in some places but we have
8 to make sure we do it in consultation, that it's being
9 done.

10 MR. SHAFROTH: Yes, sir?

11 MR. MOTANIC: Don Motanic with the Inland
12 Tribal Timber Council again.

13 I guess if I had to pinpoint one thing or
14 maybe things I've seen as coming back, which is a good
15 thing, but maybe anything that you see supporting tribal
16 languages would help because that's something that makes
17 tribes unique in the U.S.

18 There was a study done back in 1990 with the
19 Center of Demographics. It was titled American Indians,
20 1 Percent of the Population, 50 Percent of the Diversity
21 Based on Language. Because there's two -- at that time
22 there was 200 languages, and 100 of those 200 languages
23 were native languages. It would be interesting to see
24 what it is now.

25 But that's what really defines the value for

1 tribes and nature. Because I was talking with Jay during
2 the break, and the difference between -- to me when I try
3 to explain things, it's like tribal people get their names
4 from nature versus the western culture gives its name to
5 nature.

6 Gifford Pinchot National Forest is named after
7 one man, one generation, versus the tribal names, the
8 tribal language where we get our names, that's passed down
9 for 5,000 years and can be shared with somebody else 5,000
10 years beyond.

11 And I think if there's any way to support the
12 tribes with their tribal language, that would probably be
13 the thing that I would focus on.

14 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

15 MR. STANGER: My name is Mark Stanger,
16 again with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

17 And actually going off of this guy, his -- in
18 our area on the reservation, plus in our ceded land, we
19 have actually a big write-up one of our elders has had.
20 He has all the mountains named; he has all the valleys.
21 He has everything named in our Indian names.

22 And if they could actually, the Forest Service
23 or the state or whatever, if they could, you know,
24 acknowledge some of those, some of those, our language.
25 You know, and actually I see that actually in some of

1 these areas that you can go for educational purpose that
2 you can, you know, press a button and it talks about the
3 whole watershed or whatever.

4 Yeah, you press the button and hear a tribal
5 elder talk, say about what this area was used for and
6 what, you know, how the Indians -- how that area was
7 sacred to them and stuff.

8 And, you know, we have all that -- we probably
9 have one of the most extensive libraries of the language
10 of the area's -- of the area's names and places. Actually
11 I think that's names and places of our tribal people in
12 the Coeur d'Alene area.

13 And so going off on that, too, and one of the
14 challenges, actually, that I was looking at with the --
15 there's somebody with the state, too; right? That do the
16 -- no? Just the Forest Service and -- I mean that oversee
17 the state, different -- is that just individual states?

18 MR. SHAFROTH: Depending upon what you're
19 talking about.

20 MR. STANGER: For management.

21 MR. SHAFROTH: For state forest or
22 state --

23 MR. STANGER: Yeah, state forest.

24 MR. SHAFROTH: Yeah, we don't have a lot
25 to say about that, but if it relates to a larger

1 management of a landscape, then there might be some --

2 MR. STANGER: I know here in Washington,
3 BLM or the Department of Natural Resources. You know, in
4 Idaho it's just the state forestry. But that's actually
5 the guys who manage -- who help manage our lands on the
6 reservation.

7 And that's one of the deals that I just wanted
8 to mention, is how our areas, you know, logging areas and
9 how they're just -- you know, they're not going -- the
10 logging guys isn't going by state rules and the tribal
11 rules. You know, they definitely ignore them, you know,
12 because it's like, you know -- so they're just doing
13 whatever they want.

14 And I just wanted to know if -- how we could
15 get that resolved about if they could actually somehow
16 pass it on to the tribes to see if they could oversee
17 because it's on the tribal land, you know, to help with
18 the logging.

19 Because it's almost like the logger's in the
20 middle so he -- you know, the tribe has nothing to say
21 because, you know, it's -- they said, "Well, the state's
22 the management because it's off tribal land." It's on
23 private land, I guess you'd say.

24 That's why I was saying that. The tribal only
25 owns 20 percent of the land, so the areas you're logging

1 is in the private land but it's within the tribal
2 boundaries.

3 So it's one of those tricky deals. And so
4 it's like, you know, and then a logger just uses it
5 against everybody and he pretty much does what he wants to
6 do because, you know, the tribe has no jurisdiction in the
7 state.

8 I don't know if they're in cahoots with him or
9 whatever because they could give a crap about what the
10 tribe -- and, you know, this is our area we're trying to
11 keep our westslope cutthroat trout fish. You know,
12 there's fish there in creeks and stuff that they're
13 logging right down to the creeks, you know, even right in
14 the creeks leaving all their slash, everything, you know.
15 We're just getting desecrated, you know. They've been
16 doing this for a long time.

17 MR. JENSEN: The management of private
18 forest land is governed by state forest practice acts
19 where they actually do exist. Idaho does have one of
20 those.

21 But relevant I think to the conversation here
22 is where the federal government intersects with that is I
23 think a pertinent -- it's been brought up here a few
24 times, is a need for collaboration because these issues
25 transcend those boundaries that we typically are operating

1 from.

2 So I'm hearing this is an example of something
3 that kind of speaks to the problems that we are faced
4 with, but we've got some solutions. We've heard some
5 examples of how to accomplish some of this.

6 MR. STANGER: Okay. That was one of the
7 deals that I just had. And I was just saying that the
8 tribe, you know, if they could help have a say in that.

9 You know, and, you know, speak up when they
10 know something is going on, you know, ahead of time before
11 they already log because I know, you know, we have an area
12 right now that they're probably logging it right now that,
13 you know, we tried to talk to whoever, but they, you know,
14 they don't -- they don't care.

15 You know, it's kind of a sad deal. Up in
16 North Idaho it's like, I don't know, pretty much the
17 people -- the tribes aren't looked at highly, you know,
18 because we're not a big tribe. You know, if we were a
19 bigger tribe, that we would have more say in stuff, but
20 it's not. It's a hard area.

21 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

22 MR. MORISHIMA: Gary Morishima from the
23 Quinault Nation again. With respect to challenges, I
24 would like to highlight three primary ones.

25 One of them is fragmentation across the

1 landscape.

2 We've got fragmented land ownership
3 boundaries, fragmented political jurisdictions, fragmented
4 agency jurisdictions, and a lot of conflicts that are
5 quite difficult sometimes to try to reconcile.

6 The second thing is devolution of decision
7 making, authority and responsibility down to the local
8 level that very often what we find, out in the Quinault
9 area at least, is you find yourself contending with
10 multiple layers of bureaucracy that are making the
11 decisions, and the decisions should be made locally where
12 there's greater knowledge of the resources of the people
13 in the valley that's at stake.

14 The third major challenge that I see coming up
15 here, and it's happening right now in the Olympic
16 Peninsula in Washington State, and that's the growing
17 emergence of conservation transactions.

18 These are organizations that go out and
19 acquire large tracts of land and then they try to turn
20 them over to somebody else to manage. And in the Olympic
21 Peninsula that entity is the Olympic National Park.

22 This is not a good thing to do from the
23 standpoint of policy, of maintaining landscapes that are
24 functional and working to support rural communities, to
25 support ecological values.

1 You don't manage landscapes, you don't respect
2 the landscapes by locking them up. You have to manage
3 these resources or they're going to deteriorate. And if
4 you put them within the jurisdiction of an entity that's
5 primary purpose is to essentially lock -- lock the lands
6 up or just open them up to pretty minimal use, those lands
7 are going to deteriorate.

8 With respect to tools, I think there are two
9 primary tools that we really haven't talked about today.
10 One of them is the need for cross-boundary data synthesis
11 and analysis in a collaborative way.

12 When you get yourself into a situation where
13 you're dealing with multiple owners, multiple values,
14 multiple jurisdictions, each one of which maintains their
15 own data systems, those data systems are not always
16 compatible, very rarely compatible, and the synthesis is
17 very difficult to accomplish across boundary.

18 That means that everybody is operating off
19 their own separate information bases and it makes it much
20 more difficult for them to reach consensus.

21 The second tool is really the need for some
22 facilitation skills. There's a lot of mis-information and
23 communication gaps that interfere with the ability to
24 accomplish cross-boundary, cross-jurisdictional
25 management. And the availability of facilitation skills

1 that are supportive of tribal -- of local efforts
2 involving tribes and other entities enable them to
3 reconcile differences in a respectful way, in a way that
4 allows them to move forward, I think is critical.

5 MR. SHAFROTH: Great. Thank you. Very
6 helpful.

7 MR. WASHINES: I just want to follow-up a
8 little bit on my earlier comments about the illegal
9 marijuana grow operations in our forest areas.

10 In addition, listening to speakers talk about
11 the importance of our medicines, our foods, these illegal
12 grows destroy the ecosystems in these areas, the water
13 systems, and they trash the place.

14 And so this, again, presents another danger
15 not only to the public but also to the environment which
16 we rely so heavily on, and I just wanted to include that.

17 In terms of tools, too, I have to rely on my
18 -- put my police badge on here. In terms of
19 collaboration, the secretary came from Colorado and I know
20 another federal partner, Department of Justice, had a very
21 successful initiative regarding working with the tribes in
22 terms of prosecuting crimes on Indian reservations.

23 And so I look at activities and
24 responsibilities such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
25 Service. During the break while I was admiring the

1 feather on Jack's lapel, and which speaks to laws such as
2 the Endangered Species Act and other responsibilities that
3 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife has.

4 With the enactment of the Tribal Law and Order
5 Act, tribes now have the ability, hopefully with the
6 funding, to increase sentencing. Three years, it could be
7 stacked as far as up to nine years.

8 So there's currently an eagle case in the
9 Eastern District of Washington involving Yakama tribal
10 members, and using the leadership that was shown in
11 Colorado by the U.S. attorney there, there needs to be
12 some type of a mechanism with our federal partners in the
13 Department of Justice for prosecutorial or case referral
14 so that it will truly give tribes an opportunity to
15 promote sovereignty in terms of make and enforce your own
16 laws.

17 And with this new act, tribes do have that
18 ability now, and simply for the fact that treaty hunting
19 and fishing rights can only be denied or suspended by a
20 tribe. State and federal government do not have the
21 ability to suspend a tribal member's hunting or fishing
22 rights, and so that is a very powerful deterrent.

23 We've had people convicted of poaching where
24 the judge would sentence and say, "You cannot go fishing
25 for a certain amount of time," or "You cannot go hunting

1 for a certain amount of time," and the defendants would
2 plead saying, "Give me jail time, give me a large fine,
3 but do not keep me from doing this."

4 So that's a very strong deterrent there, I
5 think, in terms of working with the tribes in this
6 particular area, particularly with regards to Fish and
7 Wildlife Service responsibilities. And so I just want to
8 mention that.

9 And within the act also there's a creation
10 under Section 305 of the Law and Order Commission, and
11 with this initiative, and I appreciate the due diligence
12 that you have shown in going out to Indian Country and
13 getting, gathering this information, but there's a nine
14 member Law and Order Commission that is going to be
15 responsible for providing that current update information
16 regarding these public safety issues.

17 And so maybe somewhere within the process,
18 your initiative, that would also recognize that there
19 needs to be ongoing advisory, somebody to -- that you can
20 continually return to to keep these issues burning.

21 So I just wanted to say that and I appreciate
22 your time. Thank you.

23 MR. SHAFROTH: Jack? Ladies?

24 MR. LENOX: Thank you. I just wanted to
25 make a quick comment on follow-up about the language as

1 far as perhaps putting together some additional grants for
2 language programs.

3 One thing that needs to be included in the
4 language of the grant would be for restoration of tribal
5 languages. There's a lot of cases out there for some of
6 the small tribes where there are no fluent speakers left
7 alive, but they do have plenty of recording, as well as
8 texts that they can use to restore the language.

9 And so I think that that's really something
10 that's very important, and it's been missing in a lot of
11 the language grants that you find out around from some of
12 the federal agencies.

13 MR. SHAFROTH: Great.

14 MS. CAMPOBASSO: I just wanted to --
15 Angelina Campobasso from the Colville Tribe.

16 And what really bothers me is our reservation
17 is a little over a million acres and we have like a
18 homeland security problem, if you want to call it that.

19 We have our reservation is so large we don't
20 have enough police power for the drug trafficking that's
21 crossing the Canadian border into our reservation. And
22 just one time that I know of we were able to actually
23 seize a plane flying in that was delivering drugs and
24 another plane had escaped but they caught the driver.

25 But I just feel we need more police power,

1 more security type things along the borders to help us
2 with that.

3 We found meth labs, and we don't exactly have
4 the training for clean up, and we need more grants for
5 that type of thing.

6 MR. SHAFROTH: Okay. Thank you. So we
7 can just open it up to -- for instance, do you want to
8 jump in? Sorry.

9 MS. CHARLES: I just kind of want to,
10 again, with the challenges that we have that the tribes
11 have and the continuing education that we have to deal
12 with when we're dealing with the levels of the staff and
13 individuals back in Washington, D.C., and even in our
14 local government, that's always a challenge for tribes
15 because of the turnover and the changes that we have.
16 We're always continuing to make an outreach to reeducate.

17 I mean, in the Port Angeles area we had a
18 major turnover IN the city council as well as in some of
19 the other governments, the local agencies that we're
20 dealing with, and DNR, we had some changes.

21 But what I see as tools and the solutions, is
22 one, like yourself, you're making the outreach, you're
23 visiting the reservations or you're visiting the
24 territories so that you're listening. And that's -- we're
25 really gratified for that.

1 But it's a challenge for the tribes because we
2 do have some areas where local governments don't want to
3 meet with the tribes or they don't recognize the tribes,
4 and that's a challenge in itself.

5 But also, some of the reservations are
6 checkerboard. We are one of those checkerboard
7 reservations to where we're overlapping jurisdictions and
8 it gets back into the enforcement aspects of it and the
9 border issues of it.

10 Because that's what we're really lacking, is
11 the meth labs that are out there that we do not have the
12 resources and the training ability and for the families
13 that run across it, let alone our enforcement to be safe
14 so that they're not carrying anything back to their
15 families as well.

16 We need some more of those resources. We use
17 our hard dollars, but then again that's taking away some
18 of those resources to our elders, to our youth.

19 The language program, I'm really proud of our
20 language program, but we're always in the need. We are
21 one of the few tribes in Washington State that has been --
22 we had Jaime Valdez, who is one of the first Native
23 Americans who started teaching in the public school, and
24 we just certified two young ladies to continue on with
25 that task. But really having an outreach and working with

1 the local school districts.

2 But also the superintendent and the changes
3 that take place and having the understanding of the
4 overlapping of the ceded areas as well as the overlapping
5 of the territories.

6 Because in the hunting issues we are being
7 challenged in the state court systems with the tribal
8 member who are over -- we're overlapping with our
9 neighboring tribe and it's a gray area. And we sure the
10 heck don't want the state to come in and dictate to the
11 tribe, identifying that no. By the history with the
12 documentation we have pertaining to that, we've always
13 hunted in those areas.

14 But really making an outreach for the
15 education process through DOJ or whatever local resources
16 that we have to say we want this out of the courts, the
17 district court aspects of it, because we feel that it's an
18 inter-tribal matter and it's not a state district court
19 matter to be dealing with these hunting and gathering
20 right issues on those.

21 But it gets back to the outreach and it gets
22 back to the federal responsibilities of the Indian Affairs
23 and some of the outreaches that we have with our
24 enforcements, but really educating one another.

25 That's what I really wanted to point out, is

1 that we really need to make the outreach to our local
2 governments and to the local agencies because it's a
3 challenge.

4 But really put some language in there and
5 emphasize to DNR, to the Forest Services and some -- not
6 so much the private landowners, but it would be good to
7 have some kind of language, some kind of tool so that if
8 they are giving up some of this land base, then the tribes
9 have an opportunity.

10 We have some of the bigger tribes that have
11 made some outreach for that land acquisition to happen and
12 we have made some efforts in that area, too, but really
13 understanding that we're limited on the resources, again,
14 is taking away from our tribal priorities for our tribal
15 community members.

16 And that's really, that's all I have to say.

17 Again, thank you.

18 MR. SHAFROTH: So can I follow-up on that
19 comment, Francis? And other people have talked about it
20 as well.

21 Just to be clear, the sources of funding that
22 Jay -- Jay's agency and my agency have at our disposal
23 will come with strings. You know, the Land and Water
24 Conservation Fund is required to be perpetually in use for
25 open space or recreation. The Forest Legacy has certain

1 strings, as does the Endangered Species Trust Fund.

2 So those funding sources that I'm hearing that
3 you would like to have opened up for you all to be able to
4 apply for and use to acquire some land, are you okay with
5 the kinds of restrictions that would come with that?

6 Because I heard this gentleman acknowledge
7 that some of the things that are going on may not be --
8 may not be ideal, but I just want to make sure that you
9 get it. That's part of the deal.

10 Because we're probably not going to go back
11 and tell Congress that we'd have a carve out for tribes
12 but we're also going to completely change the rules for
13 this big funding block. That will be a harder lift for us
14 to accomplish.

15 MS. CHARLES: I speak only on Elwha.

16 MR. SHAFROTH: Yeah. I understand.

17 MS. CHARLES: I can't speak for anybody
18 else and have no intentions to.

19 One of the things on some of the land
20 acquisition that we're looking at -- and we had a group
21 come and approach us on one of our territories on the
22 conservation groups.

23 And by looking at some of the language in
24 there, our community was comfortable with it because we
25 are the co-managers and we have in -- all along we feel we

1 have been using our resources, our staff, and our
2 employees that have been doing some of the habitat and
3 restoration in our U & A area.

4 And it's a process that we had gone and we had
5 seeked grants. We've been very successful. We have a
6 good crew that has done and worked on the estuary of one
7 of our primary creeks that we've been working on for many
8 years.

9 But we see it as a process that it's not only
10 going to be utilized by the tribe for the protection of
11 the sacred sites, but also for the protection of the land
12 and the river basin of itself, that it will protect the
13 surrounding land bases.

14 So we were comfortable with that and the
15 acquisition of that. We feel that we've been co-managing
16 it all along.

17 MR. SHAFROTH: Great. Do you have any
18 thoughts, sir? Any reaction to that? Because you were
19 saying some similar things I know.

20 MR. MORISHIMA: Gary Morishima.

21 I would really like to encourage you to
22 explore any way possible that you can increase the
23 flexibility of available funding.

24 One of the challenges that many tribes face
25 when you're talking about trying to secure resources or

1 lands for landscape restoration, they're basically
2 matching funds requirements, and those don't require some
3 special appropriations, but there's certainly kinds of
4 waivers that may be possible, administrative waivers or
5 even legislative waivers could be added as riders much
6 more easily than trying do the heavy lifting of trying to
7 establish a whole new program.

8 MR. SHAFROTH: Right. Thanks.

9 I think we just opened it up to the floor at
10 this point for any final comments that anybody wants to
11 make, observations. If you're holding back any big idea
12 or suggestion, now is the time to put it on the table.

13 MR. GUNN: I have a question.

14 MR. SHAFROTH: Go for it.

15 MR. GUNN: This is Brian Gunn again.

16 Are you guys considering having in the
17 recommendation -- is there going to be -- is the structure
18 of the recommendation, are they going to be sort of -- is
19 there going to be anything specifically addressed as
20 tribal issues?

21 I guess my question is: In the
22 recommendations of the report, is there going to be a
23 section of it or is there going to be some, I guess,
24 treatment of the tribal issues that you've heard about
25 during these sessions or recommendations related to

1 implementation of this vis-à-vis Indian Affairs?

2 MR. SHAFROTH: To be honest with you, we
3 haven't gotten to the point of organizing the report so
4 I'm reluctant to say, yes, there will be a separate
5 chapter on tribal issues or a separate chapter on cultural
6 resource issues or whatever. We're trying to figure that
7 out.

8 We've been in the heavy duty listening and
9 information gathering mode and now we're trying to,
10 frankly, make sense of it. There are a lot of really good
11 ideas out there, more than we're going to be able to act
12 on immediately, so we're having to kind of winnow those
13 down.

14 But I can say that we -- even though there
15 have only been a couple of sessions that have been devoted
16 to this kind of tribal-specific focus, in every place that
17 we've gone we've heard from members of tribes who have
18 come out and shared similar things that you all shared
19 here, but in the context of a 300- to 500-person meeting,
20 or something like that.

21 And so we've been able to derive those. We
22 have people on our staff who are pulling out those
23 comments separately so we understand what the tribe is
24 saying. This is "We are for historic preservation" or
25 "for local government parks." You know, we're trying to

1 tease out some of the distinctions.

2 I can't say with confidence that they will be
3 addressed. I'm not sure exactly how or in what specific
4 format.

5 Jay, you want to --

6 MR. JENSEN: Yeah. That is where we're at
7 right now. There is a number of high leveled themes that
8 have come out for me, and I think you're going to see
9 those things come through in the final document. Again,
10 however it's going to be pulled together. I can only
11 imagine what that process might look like after 30-plus
12 sessions and probably more than that and thousands of
13 pages.

14 But the co-management notion, collaboration
15 and consultation, checking in on the front end of projects
16 before a land exchange goes through, as an example, so you
17 know what is happening on that piece of land, what that
18 piece of land means.

19 It's really interesting notions around the
20 language and place names. I thought it was really some
21 intriguing high points in terms of some things I've heard
22 here.

23 MS. ANDERSON-CARNAHAN: I think also,
24 another thing is the federal government's role in working
25 among our federal partners to try to find more flexibility

1 in the grant programs that exist and in any other laws and
2 regulations.

3 And the other thing that I heard is our role
4 in trying to work with states on your behalf and these
5 local governments on your behalf to educate them of the
6 fact that you are sovereign governments and the fact you
7 have treaty rights.

8 MR. SHAFROTH: I also think that from the
9 Interior's perspective our friends and brothers at the
10 Department of Bureau of Indian Affairs have their hands
11 very full, as we all do, on lots of other issues.

12 And I think Secretary Salazar has been
13 especially interested in making sure that this agenda is
14 embraced by and a part of what BIA does. He made some
15 efforts around that and I think he wants to continue to do
16 that, and hence these kinds of conversations. And not to
17 say this isn't already what the Bureau of Indian Affairs
18 is working on and cares about.

19 But I think within our Department, as it is
20 across agencies, we tend to work in our little silos, and
21 I think part of the comments that were just made were we
22 need to figure out how to better work with each other.

23 You know, the Fish and Wildlife Service with
24 BIA and the Park Service with BIA and the Bureau of Rec
25 and BLM, we need to have a better cross-fertilization that

1 happens with the Interior and between Interior and
2 Agriculture and between Interior and EPA and Army Corps of
3 Engineers, you name it.

4 And that is one of the thing that is coming
5 out of this initiative is a better, common understanding
6 of the overlap and commonality of interest that we have in
7 these kinds of issues, so.

8 MR. LAVERDURE: And if I could -- as one
9 of the voices for Indian Country and the Interior, you
10 know, there's roughly 100 politicals that are appointed by
11 the President. We have five amongst the 100 and we see
12 each other quite a bit on a regular basis and consistently
13 remind each other kind of our mutual obligations, not only
14 for the trust responsibility but that the Indian Country's
15 voice is heard.

16 Bryan and I have been involved in this. I
17 mean, I've been involved in this since I was appointed
18 some 14 months ago. In fact, gave an introductory
19 presentation to a wide variety of folks in the Interior
20 focusing on many of the same themes, and you guys have
21 validated and become more specific and I think
22 transmitted, you know, the knowledge and values, which is
23 absolutely essentially to why Indian Country should have a
24 seat at the table in this really important presidential
25 initiative.

1 And I can reiterate a couple of things. One
2 is that Secretary Salazar is consistently asking everybody
3 in the meetings I've been in, you know, "How are the First
4 Americans doing?" You know, that's one of the first
5 things he does for his presidentially appointed folks and
6 a variety of others.

7 So don't think that all of this somehow isn't
8 going to be incorporated or that the initiative itself is
9 going to somehow sail by the tribes. And as Deputy
10 Assistant Secretary with Larry EchoHawk, the two of us
11 will continue to push and see that tribes have a seat in
12 the table in all of these initiatives, and that's our job.

13 So to the extent we have to help with the
14 drafting or review or however it goes, certainly Bryan and
15 I are going to be there and be available for any of the
16 questions or permutations on the ideas and information.
17 If you have later information that you want to disseminate
18 and provide, we can certainly synthesize that.

19 And I guess I'll just -- my closing comments
20 as well is that, you know, I am Crow, citizen of the Crow
21 Nation, born and raised there. Both of my parents were
22 fluent in the language, all my uncles and aunts. And it's
23 about 66 percent speak. When I was there most everyone
24 was fluent in the language.

25 We have a 2 and a half million acre

1 reservation, and you can imagine all of the things that
2 you're talking about, firsthand experience on the ground
3 among your own people. And so I hope that gives you a
4 sense of, you know, that there's somebody there who, you
5 know, has lived what we're living and would represent us
6 in a way that we hope will be helpful for all of you.

7 So sometimes I think it helps to reiterate
8 that it's not just, you know, someone sitting in D.C. and
9 they haven't been there. I mean, I worked in a legal
10 trailer and someone drove a truck through my office. I've
11 been there in the hard knocks, too. I don't want to tell
12 just bad stories. There were lots and lots of good ones,
13 a lot of rallies.

14 But in any event, you know, the land, language
15 and culture is really what AGO is about, and that's what
16 you guys have said loud and clear, and that's certainly
17 something that we represent and will continue to push, so.

18 MR. SHAFROTH: Sir?

19 MR. STANGER: I just had one more comment
20 that is getting back to the reconnecting the people with
21 the outdoors. That's the same that we would have with our
22 culture. I think I was talking loud enough.

23 Anyway, that's -- yeah, I'm actually, I'm one
24 of our teachers of our culture for the tribe, for the
25 Coeur d'Alene Tribe. And actually with the Forest Service

1 and the BLM, you know, and everybody around the area, we
2 have areas that we go and, you know, because of the tribal
3 people just didn't stay in one area; they migrated.

4 So actually the Coeur d'Alene, we actually go
5 over here to the State of Washington and go to an area
6 over here. It's on private land, BLM land, I think. But
7 they know that was our gathering area and they let us come
8 and gather our bitter roots and our camas and stuff, and
9 that's probably the closest area from where we're at over
10 in the Pend Oreille area and stuff. So the bitter roots
11 and the camas don't really grow around there so we have to
12 kind of migrate over.

13 So what I'm getting at is, you know, for -- if
14 you guys can have set aside more areas or if you can have,
15 like, you know, maybe set up some grants and stuff that
16 you're saying, especially getting back to our getting the
17 outdoors, getting the kids out in the outdoors instead of
18 the classroom. Because we have one tribal school and we
19 have the one local school, too, that mainly has tribal
20 people, to get it integrated into the program for
21 education.

22 Because I know the Forest Service, they always
23 come out with pamphlets about education and stuff and, you
24 know, with the Forest Service. And we would like to come
25 out with pamphlets, just our traditional, you know, what

1 our plants are and specific -- you know, we don't usually
2 like to give away our specific areas where we gather, but
3 I mean the general areas.

4 But I mean getting back to our roots to our
5 teachers and stuff that teach our culture ways and stuff
6 so we can keep that going as part of our language and
7 stuff with our names and places, areas.

8 You know, so that was one of my last deals,
9 is, you know, that's how our children can reconnect to our
10 lands, you know, and our waters and our fish. You know,
11 the main deal was my concern was about the fish, and
12 that's been a part of our history and our culture, is our
13 fish and animals, you know, and stuff, so.

14 That's my only concern with the -- with the
15 state and the feds and stuff, that they could help out the
16 kids get back to their roots, gathering their plants and
17 stuff.

18 MR. SHAFROTH: Thanks. Go ahead.

19 MR. MORISHIMA: Gary Morishima again.

20 There are a couple of things that I wanted to
21 call to your attention if you're not already aware of
22 them. I've been working for about the last year and a
23 half with a number of inter-tribal organizations on an
24 initiative to try to advance a tribal natural resource
25 strategy, and that's really about reconnecting tribal

1 communities with the land because the land and the
2 communities, the health of those two, are very closely
3 intertwined.

4 The second thing I wanted to ask you about,
5 that I'm not really sure what's going to come out of this
6 initiative. So you are charged with the responsibility of
7 producing a report to the President --

8 MR. SHAFROTH: Right.

9 MR. MORISHIMA: -- but we all recognize
10 the kind of fiscal challenges that the administration is
11 presently confronting, but do you have any sense as to
12 what the following steps may be after you deliver your
13 report?

14 MR. SHAFROTH: No. I'll take a shot at
15 this and maybe give Jay another shot, too.

16 There will be a variety of different kinds of
17 recommendations that we make, the President has asked us
18 to make. Some will relate to budget, how are we going to
19 reflect these priorities within the context of the budget.

20 Because the 2012 budget is to be delivered on
21 February 1st and the report is due November 15th, there
22 will be some ability to influence the budget, but not --
23 we're not going to see a right turn in the 2012 budget
24 just because so much of it has already been developed and
25 it's on its way, but there will be some opportunities to

1 begin to reflect the new policies and direction in the
2 2012 budget and beyond.

3 Second, there will be administrative
4 recommendations. There are things that -- one of the
5 reasons that we've been pressing you to be specific is
6 that there may well be some things that we can begin to
7 work on right away and accomplish right away through a
8 secretarial order, through an executive order, through
9 other actions taken by the Forest Service chief or the
10 assistant secretaries, whoever, whoever has that
11 authority.

12 So we've identified literally hundreds of
13 those kinds of things from around the country that we have
14 to choose from and need to figure out how we're going to
15 prioritize those, and those things we can again act on,
16 some immediately, some will take awhile.

17 Third category will be programmatic changes.
18 You know, one of the things we've learned is the power in
19 accomplishing some things, anyway, of competitive grant
20 programs, that they're locally driven, they are -- they
21 breed innovation and creativity and there's a way with
22 limited funds to have your money be highly leveraged or
23 whatever that is to accomplish some important purposes
24 we're trying to accomplish.

25 So that's not going to be something we're

1 going to unveil on November 15th. That would take us a
2 while to figure out, all right, what are the criteria,
3 what are we trying to accomplish, how are we going to
4 select these things. That would be a programmatic
5 development element, for instance.

6 And then, lastly, we'd be looking at potential
7 for legislation. Some things we can't do. We're going to
8 need new authorities and the Congress is going to be the
9 entity to give us that.

10 There may well be some things that require
11 rule making. That's again more programmatic. So there
12 will be a number of different categories of the kinds of
13 things we're going to do. Again, some we can act on right
14 away, some we're going to rely on Congress to make out.

15 MR. JENSEN: The only other thing I have
16 to offer is that I think that this is a pretty unique
17 effort. You don't often get a President calling attention
18 to natural resource issues, outdoor issues like what's
19 happening here.

20 It hasn't happened in a generation where all
21 of the departments that have some intersection point, not
22 only just what you see here, but those you might not think
23 of -- the Department of Education, the Department of
24 Transportation, Veterans Affairs, even intersect with this
25 effort.

1 So I think on top of these specifics, what
2 you're going to see is really a call to action in some
3 way. The highest calling possible within our system of
4 government in this country, laying out what that vision
5 looks like and what needs to get accomplished. And that
6 started with going out and visiting here and what's
7 happening and that's what we've been doing.

8 MR. SHAFROTH: I want to say one more
9 thing, that is that Jay just sort of alluded to it, and
10 that is, this is a beginning. We're not -- we began this
11 conversation.

12 The President actually articulated in his
13 directive to the secretaries and other leaders of the
14 agencies that this is a multiple year process, that our
15 first initial report is due on November 15th and we'll
16 have a set of recommendations that we'll move forward on.

17 But I can certainly anticipate the need for
18 additional dialogue, for instance, at this point. I mean,
19 this is hopefully the beginning of the conversation, not
20 the end of it. That's certainly our intention. And that
21 we have learned a lot of things that frankly we need to
22 learn more about before we step out and start acting on
23 them.

24 We've opened a dialogue that we want to keep
25 going on and I see a series of things that will roll out

1 over time as they become ripe and as we learn more.

2 MR. SPEAKS: I think we have one other
3 person that wants to comment.

4 MR. SHAFROTH: Yes?

5 MS. JOSEPH: Hi. Good evening. My name
6 is Yvette Joseph. I am a member of the Colville
7 Confederated Tribes. I'm here as a private citizen but a
8 member of the Tribe and very pleased to see the chairman
9 of our tribe here as well as Ms. Moses who works with our
10 tribe's natural resource programs and environmental
11 protection.

12 I am an individual who works here in Spokane.
13 I work as a contractor. I'm actually out here promoting
14 the Department of Justice consultation for our company,
15 Kauffman and Associates.

16 But I have had a really fortunate life. Like
17 the gentleman from Department of Interior, I've worked in
18 Washington, D.C., too. I spent eight years working there
19 for Senator Dan Evans from the State of Washington, as
20 well as Senator Dan Inouye. So I've worked on both sides
21 of the aisle, but I've always been a yellow dog Democrat.

22 I'm actually a candidate for State
23 Representative. So I've traveled throughout the district,
24 the Seventh Legislative District here in Washington State,
25 which is the largest district, and it's larger than nine

1 states. And it's probably, you know, home to about three
2 of the poorest counties in Washington as well as three of
3 probably the next-to-poorest counties, I think.

4 And very similar to, you know, the lands
5 around the Crow reservation and, you know, there's a lot
6 of mountains; there's a lot of territory.

7 And I worked my way through college,
8 basically, working every summer for fire control and
9 worked from being a lookout, watch person, to a
10 dispatcher.

11 And it was interesting because I worked for my
12 tribe for about five years in Indian Land Services and
13 then I went to Washington to work in the Senate after
14 graduate school, and so I kind of made my way to Denver
15 and then made my way back to D.C., sort of paid my dues
16 sort of serving the country in the policy position, and
17 then went back to Denver to run a national organization,
18 the National Indian Health Board.

19 So I'm really used to helping to facilitate
20 tribal government consultation.

21 And but one of the things that I was concerned
22 about is I was gone from the reservation for 18 years and
23 I went back after 18 years to work for my tribe once
24 again, and that happened in 2003, and I was really shocked
25 by the -- the clear cutting, the lack of forest

1 management, and the efforts of the tribes to continue --
2 because they hadn't diversified -- to continue to cut down
3 the forest.

4 So I noticed that there were a lot of streams
5 that disappeared, there were a lot of huckleberries --
6 huckleberries, which is sort of one of our main staples --
7 that disappeared, and there are just lakes that have sort
8 of died out.

9 And we lived kind of in the country and so
10 because I want my kids to become familiar with the
11 resources of the land, you know, I was -- I was surprised.
12 But it's not just true to the Colville reservation. It
13 was true to other areas of the Seventh Legislative
14 District.

15 And I guess what I would want to say is that
16 there needs to be better forest practices. And I know the
17 USDA has some oversight over that. There should be
18 probably more collaboration.

19 When I was actually working in the community,
20 I was appointed by Governor Locke to serve on the
21 Washington State Biodiversity Council, and I served my
22 term for four years on that council, and I was honored
23 because I was one of the native tribal representatives.

24 And we learned during that time a lot about
25 what climate control was doing to the country and how in

1 by the year probably 2020 Washington State will be very
2 much like Southern California, sort of mid California.

3 Our temperatures are going to increase by
4 10 degrees by the year 2020, and that's because of the
5 fact that there's not enough climate control happening in
6 the country.

7 And I worked really hard in the past year to
8 try to get e-mail addresses for every tribal chairman and
9 I worked very closely with the Alaskan native villages
10 with their presidents to try to get their e-mail addresses
11 just so we can communicate with them.

12 Now, in that process I found out that they
13 were at the United Nations addressing the United Nations
14 to address their village situation. They have 14 villages
15 that are probably going to be flooded or continually be
16 flooded because of global warming, and there's no real
17 clear initiative out in Indian Country to how the Indian
18 people understand what the consequence of the lack of
19 climate control means to them and to their children.

20 I think that the USDA, our Department of
21 Interior, should really launch an aggressive sort of
22 social marketing campaign about what is happening to the
23 land. I mean, if in ten years we're going to have our
24 climate is going to be 10 degrees warmer, what does that
25 mean to our community?

1 We've had more flooding; we've had more
2 natural disasters; we've had more storms that are odd and
3 consequential affecting Indian Country more so than ever,
4 but we don't have our young people understanding what it
5 means. They learn in school, but there isn't really a
6 sort of a culturally in tune social marketing campaign to
7 help them understand that they need to be better -- I
8 guess better stewards of the land.

9 You know, I remember being in Inchelium. And
10 Mike knows this. In order to enter the reservation you
11 have to catch the ferry, the Gifford ferry, and I remember
12 one time me sitting there waiting for my half hour for the
13 ferry to show up, which we appreciated, but the only way
14 you could get across was to wait.

15 And there were young people there who were
16 throwing garbage out and they just dumped all of their
17 McDonald's bags or whatever they got from town and just
18 left them there on the street, on the little ramp way
19 going down to the ferry. And those kids said "This isn't
20 our land. It doesn't matter." And they just sort of have
21 that attitude.

22 A lot of young people don't really have an
23 appreciation for the land. They may not be reared as well
24 as I feel I was, but I think that a lot of parents are
25 shirking their responsibility. A lot of grandparents

1 don't have enough time and they're not helping the young
2 people to understand what their responsibilities are.

3 So I know that you don't have a lot of money
4 because of the way the economy is right now, but you have
5 a little bit of money to sort of invest in sort of
6 educating people in Indian Country about the value of the
7 land. You don't have to take and do the, what is it, Iron
8 Eyes Cody thing with the guy with the tear.

9 I mean, you know, but you could do something
10 really catchy with young people, you know, podcasts,
11 videocasts, webinars, Facebook, competitions to help them
12 understand what it takes to recognize the value of our
13 resources.

14 And, you know, I would like to say that I just
15 think there, you know, needs to be a lot more coordination
16 between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Indian
17 Affairs around forest practices. There are some really
18 beautiful U.S. forests in our districts, in our
19 communities. And I know from having conversations with
20 our chairman that there are efforts to sort of
21 collaborate, but I'd like to see a lot more of that
22 happening.

23 And, you know, I love the National Park
24 Service. My kids are Junior Rangers every national park
25 in the western region almost, because we go out to see how

1 those lands look and what those sites are because they're
2 beautiful.

3 I don't think we do enough of that in Indian
4 Country. So I think we need to spend more time educating
5 our young people and I think you guys have the resources
6 to do that.

7 Now, the only other thing is I don't know
8 when, you know, they're going to do more to concentrate on
9 the -- you know, I work in human services. I'm a social
10 worker by training, but I really know the federal budget
11 inside and out and I know that there's some resources that
12 are dedicated towards helping the National Park Services
13 and these Legacy lands and some of these other initiatives
14 to sort of promote the value and the resources that are in
15 the community, but I guess I'd like to see a little bit
16 more of that in the Indian Country because I don't think
17 there's enough of that.

18 And, you know, I have concerns for my Alaska
19 native friends and I just hope that we do something about
20 the global warming. I don't think there's enough
21 acknowledgment of that and I don't think we're engaging
22 the tribes well enough to help them understand what the
23 impacts are.

24 So, anyway, that's sort of my comments for
25 today.

1 MR. SHAFROTH: Thank you.

2 MS. JOSEPH: But I appreciate the fact
3 you're here. I think it's good for you to learn and to
4 listen and, you know, I hope you have a chance to see some
5 of the community, but -- oh, I know what it was.

6 The last thing was the stuff about synthetic
7 salmon. It really gets me because our tribes are really
8 working hard. The Colville Tribe particularly is
9 investing a lot in trying to enhance the Sockeye hatchery
10 and all of their work efforts are being realized now
11 because we've had more salmon than we could ever
12 appreciate, and so we've been giving some to the Spokanes
13 and some of our neighbors.

14 And I guess we need to see more supportive
15 initiatives like that to bring the salmon back before we
16 start getting into genetically-altered salmon. So that's
17 just one of my concerns. And I think you guys have some
18 sway over that and maybe with the FDA. But, anyway,
19 that's a concern that I have.

20 And then the final thing, because I know you
21 guys have a chance to help these little, small farmers, my
22 stepfather and my brother are hay farmers. They don't
23 have enough resources to buy the latest tractor.

24 If you go east of -- or west of here, you'll
25 see tons of really beautiful wheat, and those guys are

1 saving their wheat and they're going to sell it very soon
2 because they're going to try to get better prices because
3 Russia couldn't produce its wheat. They had a lot of
4 these fires, too.

5 But we have a lot of Indian people, a lot of
6 small time Indian farmers, and they can't afford to buy
7 the tractors, they can't afford to buy the balers. You
8 know, they can't afford to buy very much of the
9 infrastructure.

10 But I don't know why, you know, each tribe
11 isn't provided with an equip program that basically gives
12 the tribes the equipment to loan out to their farmers to
13 take and develop.

14 MR. LAVERDURE: I'm sorry to interrupt but
15 one of the individuals here has to catch a flight, so
16 really appreciate all the comments and if you have any
17 others on the website to submit, we'd really appreciate
18 it. There's a lot of information you conveyed.

19 MS. JOSEPH: I just want to say that is my
20 last statement. We need to see the USDA helping the
21 farmers to do their job. That's what I think is most
22 important.

23 MR. LAVERDURE: Okay. Thank you for that.

24 I'd like to, you know, thank all the federal
25 officials here that traveled a great distance and set

1 aside most of their day to come here to hear from Indian
2 Country and certainly from the Assistant Secretary's
3 office, we're very appreciative. And I want to thank Will
4 Shafroth here who I see every now and then, not this
5 summer at all, but I did used to see on a regular basis,
6 Mr. Jensen from Department of Ag, and Ms.
7 Anderson-Carnahan from the EPA.

8 And thank you Stan and folks from the Bureau
9 for facilitating this meeting and making it possible.
10 Like I said, Mr. Jensen does have to run and catch a
11 flight so I think -- I think she has to travel as well.

12 A couple of us may linger for a few minutes if
13 there are any other comments, but --

14 MR. JENSEN: I actually got on a flight so
15 we're good.

16 MR. LAVERDURE: Well, I definitely want to
17 say thank you to all of you for being here and even though
18 it was only two weeks' notice of the meeting, it was
19 actually a long lead-in for an AGO event, it's my
20 understanding. Sometimes they're one or two day notices.
21 So thank you all for coming here and sharing your
22 experiences. We really appreciate it.

23 MR. WASHINES: I just have a request that
24 our brother here, Mark, say a few words before everybody
25 departs as kind of a prayer for us, if it's okay.

1 MR. STANGER: Thanks, Davis. Just say a
2 few words for the people that have a good journey and that
3 glad that all these bigwigs could come here to meet us
4 natives, local natives.

5 I wish we could have had a lot more people in
6 here. It would have been nice for all of the tribal
7 representatives could come here to see that -- you know,
8 and talk to you guys because you guys are the ones that
9 help make decisions for the people.

10 So with that, I would like to sing a short
11 song, one of our traditional honor song to have a good
12 journey and a good blessing to where you guys are going
13 and for future endeavors.

14 (Singing).

15 [Non-English word(s) spoken]. That's until I
16 see you again. Hmmm.

17 MR. LAVERDURE: Thank you very much for
18 that. Appreciate it.

19 MR. SHAFROTH: Great. Thanks, Del.

20

21 (Meeting concluded at 5:16 p.m.)

22

23 * * *

24

25

1 STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) ss.
2 County of Spokane)
3
4

5 I, Amy J. Brown, do hereby certify that at the
6 time and place heretofore mentioned in the caption of the
7 above-entitled matter, I was a Certified Shorthand
8 Reporter and Notary Public for Washington and Idaho; that
9 at said time and place I reported in stenotype all
10 testimony adduced and proceedings had in the foregoing
11 matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to
12 typewriting and that the foregoing transcript consisting
13 of 123 typewritten pages is a true and correct transcript
14 of all such testimony adduced and proceedings had and of
15 the whole thereof.

16 I further certify that I am herewith securely
17 sealing the said original transcript and promptly
18 delivering the same to
19 Witness my hand at Spokane, Washington, on this _____ day
20 of _____, 2010.

21
22 _____
23 Amy J. Brown, RPR
24 WA CCR NO. 2133, ID CCR NO. 700
25 Certified Court Reporter
Notary Public for Washington and Idaho
My commission expires: 3-29-11 and 7-19-12