

What is research?

Research is more than scientists in lab coats running tests. It also includes the following:

- Surveys and questionnaires
- Interviews and focus groups
- Analyses of existing data or biological specimens
- Epidemiological studies
- Evaluations of social or educational programs
- Cognitive and perceptual experiments
- Medical chart review studies

Chapter 77: Research Codes

On July 14, 2015, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Council passed Resolution No. SWO-15-080 approving the Chapter 77—Research Codes.

Chapter 77 mandated that the Tribe operate a Tribal Research Office. It also established the Local Research Review Board, giving them the authority to approve, monitor, report and archive all research projects conducted on the Lake Traverse Reservation.

Chapter 77 protects the interests of the Oyate by mandating that all data collected from research remains the property of the Tribe and all subsequent publications must be approved by the LRRB. It also provides penalties to researchers who do not abide by the code.

Research Specialist

Heather Larsen is an enrolled member of the Buffalo Lake District of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate. Presently, she resides with her family on the Lake Traverse Reservation.



Education:

- Masters of Education degree in Administration of Student Affairs, Counseling and Human Development, South Dakota State University
- Bachelor of Art degrees in American Indian Studies and Liberal Arts for the Human Services, University of Minnesota, Morris
- Associate of Art degree in General Studies, Sisseton Wahpeton College
- High School Diploma, Flandreau Indian School

Work Experience:

- Worked in the student support services field at our Tribal College for five years.
- Worked in the recruitment and retention field and mentored students at the high school and college levels.
- Worked in the human services/social work field providing financial assistance to the SWO tribal members located on and off the Lake Traverse Reservation.



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Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate

Research Office

Located in the Tribal Administration Building, Ska (White) Quadrant, in the Education Suite



<http://www.swo-nsn.gov>



**PO Box 509, Agency Village,
S.D. 57262**

Research Office Goals

- To ensure that all researchers and research projects on the Lake Traverse Reservation comply with Chapter 77: Research Code.
- To safeguard the rights and welfare of the members of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation when human subject research is undertaken within the reservation.
- To store, protect and archive all data, and to make it accessible for future researchers, grant-writers and other interested parties with permission.

Mission

The current mission of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Research Office is to enhance the tribal research infrastructure by continuing to build the research review capacity, education through community engagement, and exercising tribal sovereignty through research data management. The main objective of the Tribal Research Office is to improve the overall status of all Tribal members through relevant, tailored, and culturally sensitive research as outlined in the SWO Code Chapter 77 – “SWO Research Code.”

Local Research Review Board (LRRB)

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Local Research Review Board is comprised of a maximum of eight members with varying backgrounds. Each member is recruited to serve on the LRRB because of their expertise in a given areas. The Board members provide each research protocol a comprehensive, balanced and thoughtful review, utilizing their education and experience, while assuring the projects are culturally competent and relevant to our community.

The LRRB 's purpose is to review, approve and monitor all research projects carried out on the Lake Traverse Reservation. The LRRB meets once a month.

Data Management

Data management is a key component of fully realizing the potential of the data generated by research. At this time, current projects submit their data to the Tribal Research office in accordance with Chapter 77. This protects the privacy and interests of the Oyate. The Research Office is in the process of developing a Data Management Plan, consisting of policies and processes which will outline how data may be requested and utilized.

Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH)



Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate was awarded a CRCAIH grant to assist in establishing the Research Office, and the SWO is one of five tribes in the Great Plains Region establishing their tribal research process. CRCAIH provides capacity building assistance with data management, research methodology, research regulation, ethics and community involvement. This project is supported by the National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparities under Award Number U54MD008164.

Website

The Research Office's website is located at: www.swo-nsn.gov, hover over the 'Departments' tab and click on 'Research Office.'

The website contains information about the Research Office, including the following:

- History and authority of the Research Office
- List of the current research projects
- Link to the Research Codes
- Profiles of the Local Research Review Board
- Schedule of LRRB monthly meetings and submission deadlines
- Contact information

These Dakota values guide our progress:

Woadbdeza
(Observation)

Wowicake
(Truth)

Woohoda
(Respect)

Wowaonâsida
(Compassion)

Woksape
(Wisdom)