RESEARCH COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT

Conversations turn into presentations that initiate actions. A tribal research community focus is indigenous rights in connection to the land and its inhabitants. Sovereign nations have the inherent right to protect and nurture their cultural ties with their land, water, plants, and animals. The search to find Native American programs supporting environmental sustainability efforts revealed that IHS is such a program, which means research has provided facts of the direct relationship between human and environmental health. It is both relieving and inspiring to know this sacred tie is being given the attention needed to encourage people and programs to institute environmental stewardship endeavors. We live in a society where data is currency, which means financial support will go towards programs with beneficial measurable goals. The SWO is set up to continue growing in this direction as there are programs such as Fish & Wildlife, Natural Resources, Planning, Education, and so on that can come together on this common ground. It’s not only a Native American concern though, as many nations are on board with the Paris Climate Agreement, a worldwide plan to confront global warming. There’s bound to be much more research stemming from this undertaking. I am betting that our community will have a chance to participate.

The IHS website has extensive sustainability information and resources: [https://www.ihs.gov/communityhealth/sustainability/](https://www.ihs.gov/communityhealth/sustainability/)

Notice: Articles wanted for future newsletters & bulletins. Please contact Siyo if you would like to share how data/research assists your program in providing services to the Oyate.