



AIANTA
American Indian Alaska Native
Tourism Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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American Indians Tell Their Untold Civil War Stories After 150 Years

*The National Park Service, American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education and Eastern National release the book *American Indians and the Civil War**

Albuquerque, New Mexico (June 3, 2013) -The National Park Service (NPS) made a landmark commitment to include American Indian voices in the 2011-2015 150th anniversary commemoration of America's Civil War. To honor that commitment, NPS partnered with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) and publisher Eastern National to produce the cultural heritage interpretive book, *American Indians and the Civil War* (AICW) available this month.

A little known but crucial part of Civil War stories is that more than 20,000 American Indians fought on both sides of the conflict. Most thought their participation would guarantee their survival and protect their lands. Instead, federal Indian policy became more savage during the war, and when it was over, a reunited nation turned its vision to westward expansion, overrunning Indian lands and decimating Native populations.

"AICW is an important new tool for cultural heritage tourism. Our goal at AIANTA has always been to help Indian Country link its historical interpretations to landscape," said Sammye Meadows, AIANTA Senior Public Lands Partnership Coordinator and AICW contributing author. "Because of instrumental partnerships with NPS, BIA, BIE and Eastern National, American Indians will now be referenced in American History teachings."

Book authors include 11 Native American and non-Native American scholars from across the country, including Editor Robert K. Sutton, Daniel Wildcat and Elliot West.

Through a cooperative agreement between the BIA and AIANTA, AICW copies will be sent to tribal colleges and universities, Indian primary and secondary schools

across America and tribal museums and cultural centers. For more information, please visit www.AIANTA.org.

The book will be available later this month at www.eParks.com and in select national parks across the country for \$9.95.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:

- Book quotes and excerpts
- Book graphics
- Author biographies
- Author interviews
- Partner interviews
- Low-resolution digital copy for embargoed reviews
- Book preview flyer is available at www.AIANTA.org

About:

To learn more about the American Indians and the Civil War, visit www.Facebook.com/AmericanIndiansAndTheCivilWar.

To learn more about AIANTA, visit www.AIANTA.org.

To learn more about the Bureau of Indian Affairs, visit www.bia.gov.

To learn more about the Bureau of Indian Education, visit www.bie.gov.

To learn more about Eastern National, visit www.eParks.com.

To learn more about the National Park Service, visit www.nps.gov.

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