

# Opportunities to Enhance Your Local Recreation Economy



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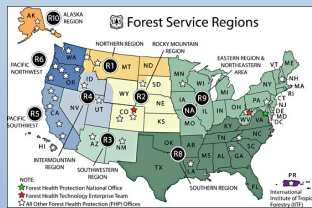
# FS works closely and regularly with Tribes



- FS Office of Tribal Relations  
[www.fs.fed.us/spf/tribalrelations](http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/tribalrelations)
- FS Heritage Program (In Recreation Dept)
- FS Tourism and Interpretation Program (Also in Recreation Dept)



# Joint FS/RD/NIFA Initiative: Strengthening Recreation Economies in Gateway Communities



## Recreation Economy Resource Guide



- Kickoff webinar in July 2016
- MOU signed in January 2017
- Playbook released in January 2017, currently revising Version 2, anticipated release is late summer 2019

## The Playbook

- Empowers FS and RD field staff to seek out field-level partnerships and connections
- Inform FS staff about funding and TA resources in RD/NIFA that can support the recreation economy
- Encourage FS and RD staff to collaborate with Cooperative Extension System (Land Grant Universities) and identify appropriate NIFA grants

# Some of Our Success Stories



Ely Recreation Meeting  
Ely, NV



Mon Forest Partnership  
12 Communities around the  
Monongahela National  
Forest  
West Virginia



City of Caliente  
Recreation Workshops  
Caliente, NV



Baileys Mountain  
Bike Trail System  
Athens, OH



Town of Mammoth Lakes/Inyo  
National Forest Sustainable  
Recreation Future  
Mammoth Lakes, CA



# Another Rec Economy Opportunity for 2020



Northern  
Border  
Regional  
Commission



Planning assistance sponsored by U.S. EPA, USDA-Forest Service, & Northern Border Regional Commission

<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/recreation-economy-rural-communities>

Who is eligible?

- Any community in the United States, U.S. territory, or tribal land
- Special consideration for communities that are:
  - Small towns (Our ideal small-town partners have a town center or main street, regardless of how small)
  - Economically disadvantaged communities, such as those in Opportunity Zones
  - Communities in the Northern Border region of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, and New York (see <http://www.nbrc.gov/> )

Timeline

- Applications due May 31, 2019
- Partner Communities selected and all applicants notified by July 31
- Planning process and workshops take place in late 2019/early 2020
- **Expect another round of partnerships will be announced in 2020**

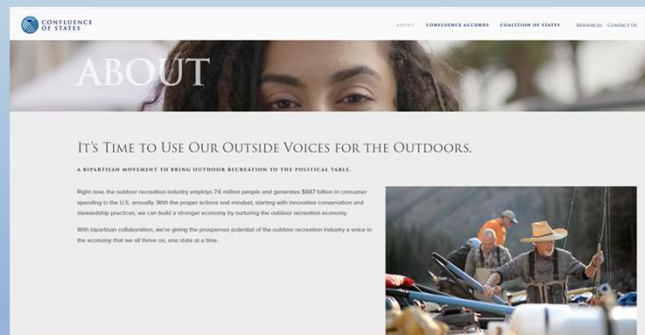


## State Outdoor Recreation Offices



### Current Offices:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado   | <input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main       | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan   | <input type="checkbox"/> Utah           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Montana    | <input type="checkbox"/> Vermont        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nevada     | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico | <input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming        |



Currently considering legislation to establish an Outdoor Recreation Office:

California, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin.





## Financing for Tribal Recreation Economy Projects

AITC Conference – September 19, 2019

 Rural Development  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Overview

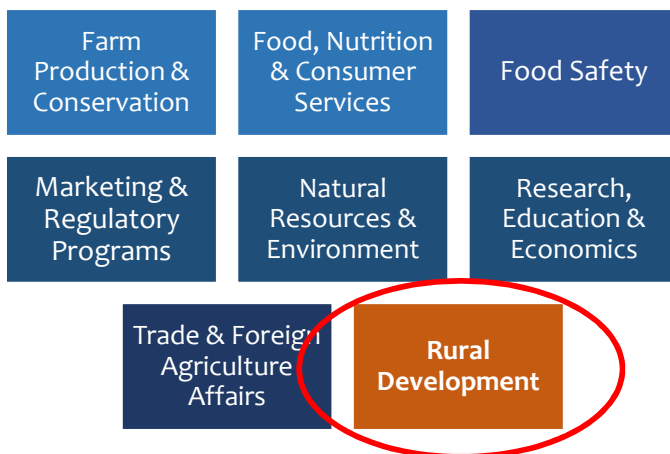
- USDA RD Overview
- Rural Business Development Grants
- Business & Industry Loan Guarantees
- Community Facilities Programs
- Value Added Producer Grant Program
- Contact Info - Q&A

# USDA's Strategic Goals

1. **Ensure USDA programs are delivered efficiently, effectively, and with integrity and a focus on customer service.**
2. Maximize the ability of American agricultural producers to prosper by feeding and clothing the world.
3. Promote American agricultural products and exports.
4. Facilitate rural prosperity and economic development.
5. Strengthen the stewardship of private lands through technology and research.
6. Foster productive and sustainable use of our National Forest System lands.
7. Provide all Americans access to a safe, nutritious and secure food supply.

“To expand rural business opportunity and rural quality of life with access to capital; improve infrastructure, broadband access and connectivity; and support workforce availability”

## One USDA - Eight Mission Areas



We are committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America. Through our programs, we help rural Americans in many ways.

# USDA Rural Development – One RD

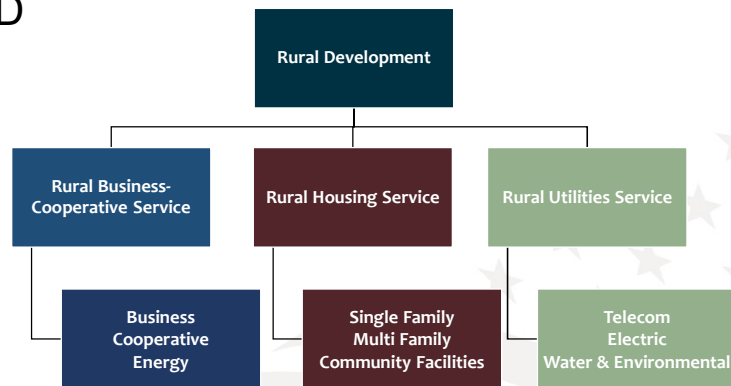
## Leadership

- Under Secretary for RD
- Administrators
- State Directors

## Offices

- 47 State Offices
- 400 Area Offices
- National Office in DC

## OneRD – Three Agencies



# Rural Business Development Grant Program

- RBDG is a grant program that supports:
  - **Capitalization of a revolving loan fund**
  - Technical Assistance
  - Feasibility Studies
  - Purchase of Real Estate (Business incubator)
  - Purchase of Equipment
- All assistance to a business is **indirect**
- Assistance must be provided to a “Small and Emerging Business”
  - *“Any private business which will employ 50 or fewer new employees and has less than \$1 million in projected gross revenues”*
- FY 19 - \$32.7 million available and \$4.9 available in Tribal Set-Aside funding



[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants)

# Rural Business Development Grant Program

- RBDG Program historically has had funds set-aside for Tribes
- Set-aside grants have been limited to \$500,000 (not statutory)
  - Average tribal grant has been about \$100,000
  - Regular program grants are more competitive & smaller
  - Enterprise and Opportunity type projects
- Matching funds are not required
- Leveraged funding is a scoring criteria
  - This makes a huge difference in the regular program
  - Not as critical with tribal funding
- Must assist businesses in rural areas of 50,000 or less
- Applications have been due mid-spring the last 2-years



[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants)

## Rural Business Development Grant Program FY 19 Examples

### **Confederated Tribes of The Goshute Reservation (UT) – \$46,600**

- Funds will be used to finance the Financial and Market Feasibility Study of a hunting lodge and cultural retail center.

### **Northwest Native Development Fund (WA) – \$22,200**

- Funds will be used to support Native American artists in the Northeast Washington State region through education, art shows and the establishment of a Native Art Gallery. The project estimates that 25 artists from the Colville and Spokane Reservations will be assisted.

### **Tonto Apache Tribe (AZ) – \$38,846**

- Funds will be used to conduct a feasibility study, business plan, site master plan, and environmental assessment for an RV park campground business on the Tonto Apache Reservation in Gila County, Arizona.

[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants)

# Rural Business Development Grant Program FY 19 Examples

## **Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (OK) – \$250,250**

- Funds will be used to assist the Cherokee Nation and City of Stilwell in the development of a three-lane access road with a continuous center turn lane and five-foot sidewalks with energy efficient street lighting in rural Adair County.

## **Cornfields Chapter, Navajo Nation (AZ) – \$107,534**

- Funds will be used to convert the former Chapter House into a Community Visitor/Commerce Center for local entrepreneurs, artists, and veterans and provide local business opportunities and historic information for tourists.

## **Ho-Chunk Community Capital Corporation – Winnebago Tribe – \$212,610**

- Rural Development funds will be used to construct a business incubator project in Winnebago, NE. The project will entail the construction of a Farmers' Market Pavilion structure in the Ho-Chunk Village development area in Winnebago.

[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-business-development-grants)

# B&I Guaranteed Loan Program

**Purpose:** The B&I Program guarantees loans from eligible lenders for rural business projects

### **Eligible uses include but are not limited to:**

- Business conversion, enlargement, repair, modernization, or development
- Purchase and development of land, easements, rights-of-way, buildings, or facilities
- Purchase of equipment, leasehold improvements, machinery, supplies, or inventory
- Debt refinancing when certain conditions are met
- Business and industrial acquisitions when the loan will keep the business from closing and/or save or create jobs
- % of Loan Guaranteed, Fees and Equity Requirements

### **Eligible borrowers include:**

- For-profit businesses
- Nonprofits and cooperatives
- Federally-recognized Tribes
- Public bodies
- Individuals

[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees)





# B&I Guaranteed Loan Program FY 18 Example

## Red Lake Retail Center, Inc. – Red Lake Nation

- Red Lake Retail Center, Inc is a tribal business of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
- \$6.5 million loan from Native American Bank, NA paired with NMTCs
- Guaranteed loan funds are being used to provide financing to replace and expand the existing Red Lake Trading Post
- The new store will feature a bakery, coffee shop, an eat-in and take-out deli, automotive department, a dollar store, a new c-store to partner with the fuel operation, and a Subway franchise
- The project proposes to create 45 jobs and save 68 for a total of 113 jobs
- Red received the [small deal of 2019 from NAFOA](#) for this project



[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees)

## Community Facilities Programs

Eligible borrowers include:

- Public bodies
- Community-based non-profit corporations
- Federally-recognized Tribes

Rural = 20,000 or less

Loan Terms:

- Up to 40-year
- fixed rate loans

Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment.

- CF Grants are typically less than **\$30K**

**Contact:**

- State and/or Local Office



[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/community-facilities-programs](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/community-facilities-programs)

# Value Added Producer Grant Program

- This program helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of new products.
- The goals of this program are to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income. For example turning milk into cheese, grapes into wine, corn to popcorn, etc.
- 50% Matching funds required (dollar for dollar)
- Maximum Awards: Planning - \$75,000 Working Capital - \$250,000
- Examples of planning activities include: conducting feasibility studies and developing business plans for processing and marketing the proposed value-added product.
- Examples of working capital expenses include: processing costs, marketing and advertising expenses, some inventory and salary expenses
- FY 18 Award - Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians (CA) – \$14,000 to help fund a feasibility study and business plan for the tribe's wine production.



[www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants)

## Contact Info

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*Together, America Prospers*



Rural Development  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## Forest Bathing/Shinrin Yoku/Forest Therapy



<https://www.natureandforesttherapy.org/>

A screenshot of the website for the Association of Nature &amp; Forest Therapy Guides &amp; Programs. The header includes the organization's name and a navigation menu with links: Home, What is Forest Therapy, Experience Forest Therapy, Become a Guide, Membership, Contact, Blog, and Subscribe. Below the header is a banner with the text "The Forest is the Therapist. The Guide Opens the Doors." and a world map showing various locations. Below the map is a section titled "2019 Experiences Trends: Wellness Experiences Are on the Rise" with a sub-header "Inspiration" and a list of wellness experiences. At the bottom, there is a section titled "You Might Like" with a list of recommended experiences.

# Thank You!

