

ALASKA TRIBAL CONSERVATION



EST 2025

DISTRICT NETWORK

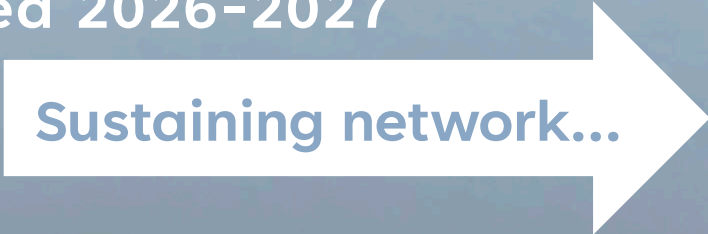
**ALASKA'S TRIBAL
CONSERVATION
DISTRICTS
AS A COLLABORATIVE
COMMUNITY OF
PRACTICE**



AITRC
Knik Tribe
Tyonek TCD



Formation phase
funded 2026-2027



Sustaining network...

22 current
 3 pending
 1 interested

Tribal Conservation Districts (TCD)

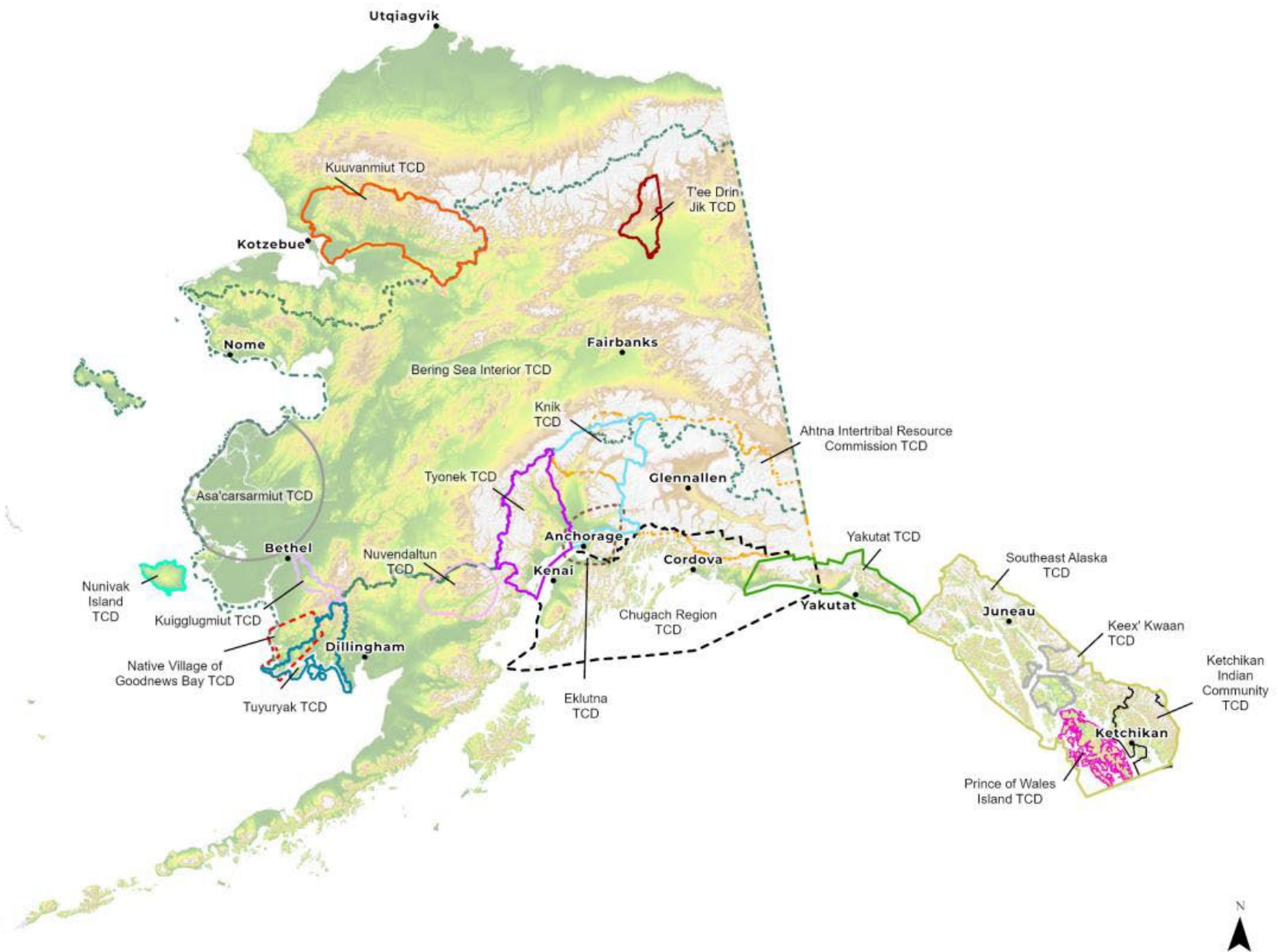
- Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission TCD (2014)
- Asa'carsarmiut TCD (Mountain Village) (2009)
- Bering Sea Interior TCD (pending)
- Chugach Region TCD (2021)
- Eklutna TCD (2016)
- Keex' Kwaan TCD (Kake) (2021)
- Ketchikan Indian Community (2018)
- Knik TCD (2014)
- Kuigglugmiut TCD (Kwethluk) (2009)
- Kuuvaarmiut TCD (Ambler) (2014)
- Native Village of Goodnews Bay TCD (pending)
- Nunivak Island TCD (Mekoryuk) (2011)
- Nuvendaltun TCD (Nondalton) (2014)
- Prince of Wales Island TCD (2014)
- Southeast Alaska TCD (2018)
- T'ee Drin Jik TCD (Venetie and Arctic Village) (2014)
- Tuyuryak TCD (Togiak) (2014)
- Tyonek TCD (2005)
- Yakutat TCD (2015)

Unmapped Tribal Conservation Districts:

- Akiacuarmiut TCD (Akiachak) (est. 2014)
- Native Village of Eyak TCD (est. 2021)
- Nuiqsagmiut TCD (Nuiqsit) (est. 2018)
- Ruby TCD (est. 2019)
- Salamatof TCD (pending)
- Tanana TCD (est. 2018)

Kawarek

23



[Link to map](#)



A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (“NETWORK”) FOR TCD’S BY TCD’S

- Not a separate organization
- A collaborative community with shared leadership through volunteer committees
- Internal membership (participation) exclusive to current TCD staff and representatives, with external outreach and relationships
- Shared communication platform
- Potential for shared resources, skillsets, advocacy efforts
- Members co-create charter, committees, and strategic goals to review annually.
Committees and structure could shift as the community of practice moves from “potential” stage to “coalescing” stage to “active stage”



AITRC
Knik Tribe
Tyonek TCD

2026 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

WED

PLENARY SESSIONS

FOUNDATIONS OF TCDS

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

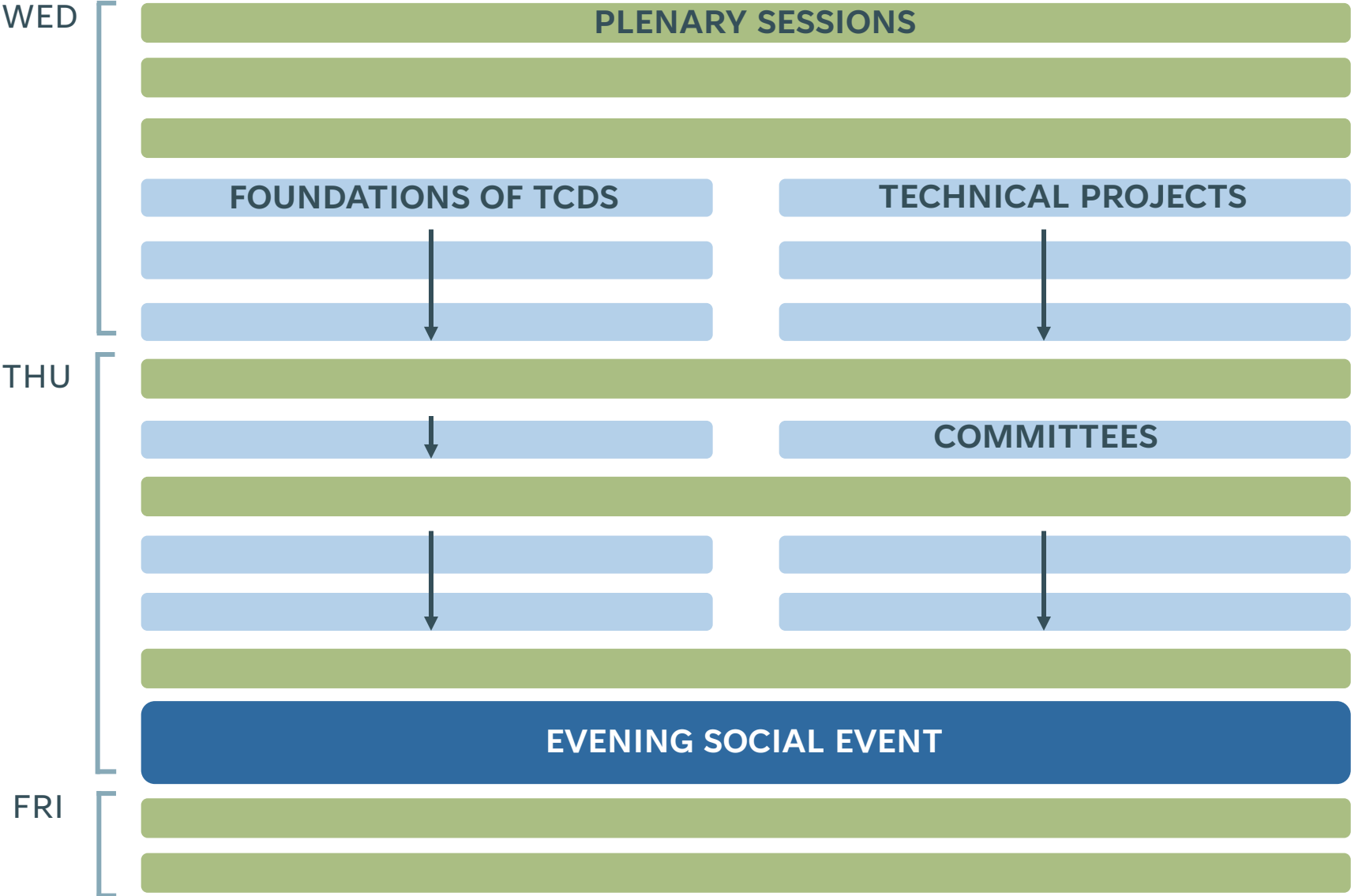
THU

COMMITTEES

FRI

EVENING SOCIAL EVENT

2026 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM



ALASKA TRIBAL CONSERVATION



EST 2025

DISTRICT NETWORK

**OPPORTUNITIES TO
PARTICIPATE**

GOAL 1.

PROGRAMS THAT IMPACT ALASKA'S TRIBAL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ARE INFORMED BY AND DESIGNED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE TCDS



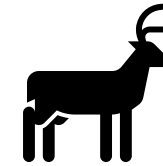
ASSET MAP

Who are Alaska's TCDS? What are our current skills, gaps, challenges, opportunities?



'HOW TO' GUIDE

“How to effectively partner with Tribal Conservation Districts in Alaska” for federal and state partners



METRICS

Create metrics of “most effective TCD operations and programs” *to assist with USDA negotiations*

GOAL 2.

RAISE THE CAPACITY OF ALASKA'S CURRENT AND FUTURE TRIBAL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS SO THAT EVERYONE CAN EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT



FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

An annual symposium in Anchorage + three quarterly meetings held alternatively in Palmer, Kodiak, Juneau, and/or Fairbanks.



METRICS

Create metrics of “most effective operations and programs” *to provide foundational models for emerging TCDs*



BASE FUNDING

\$1,000,000 in subgrant funding for Alaska TCDs in 2026-2027



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Hands-on trainings and cross-TCD outreach to build capacity of TCDs to meet our conservation priorities

GOAL 3.

TCD'S COLLABORATIVELY BUILD AN ACTIVE, GOAL-ORIENTED COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE WITH GENERATIVE LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE ROLES



COMMUNICATION VECTORS

Sharing information, questions, and resources on an internal web platform with content provided by members. Quarterly newsletters and social media posts published regularly.



COMMITTEES

Ad hoc and standing committees meet regularly to achieve goals set by the Steering Committee.



PROCESS EVALUATION

“Assess the boat’s strength while sailing” to ensure that all TCD partners are able to participate and get value to the fullest extent



ITERATIVE GROWTH

A successful community of practice will be catalyzed by high-capacity TCDs in the organizing stage, then maintained and expanded by TCDs who find value in participation.

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DISTRICT NETWORK

**BUILDING NETWORK
SUSTAINABILITY**

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION



**“HANDBOOK”:
STANDARDIZING
EFFECTIVE TCD’S**



**“HANDBOOK”:
HOW TO WORK
EFFECTIVELY WITH TCD’S**



COMMUNICATIONS



STEERING

Ad hoc
CHAIR: Laurie Stuart
2:15-3:00 PM

Ad hoc
CHAIR: Karen Linnell
3:15-4:00 PM

Ad hoc > Standing
CHAIR: Theo Garcia
3:15-4:00 PM

Catalyst team > Standing
CHAIRS: AITRC, Knik, TTCD
(bi-weekly)

*Ad hoc goal: What is the
format of this deliverable?
Creation by **December 2026**?*

*Ad hoc goal: What is the
format of this deliverable?
Creation by **March 2027**?*

*Ad hoc goal: Website design
by **April** and implementation
of website by **August**?*

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Catalysts provide assistance upon request:



AITRC

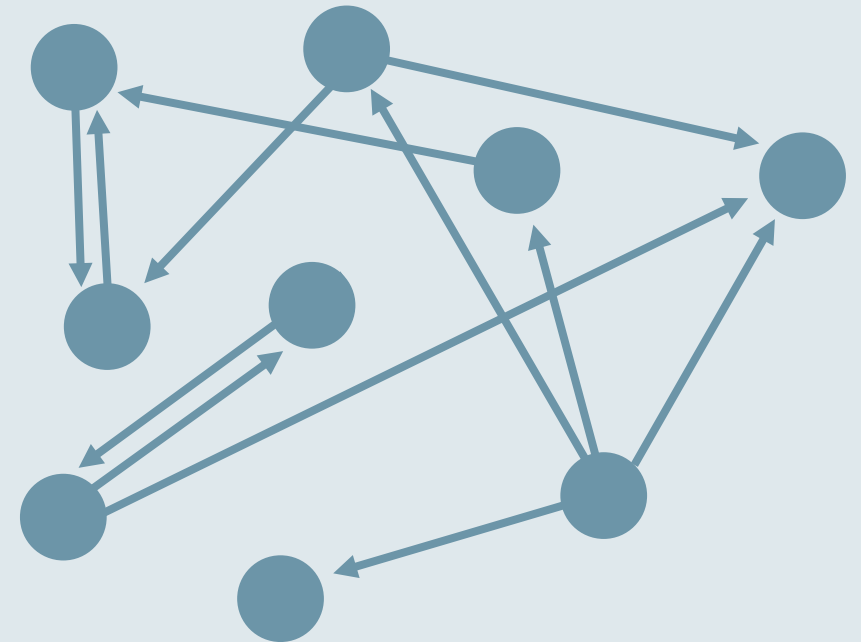
Knik Tribe

Tyonek TCD



Possible topics: resource or strategic planning, developing governance and policy documents, mentorship/peer to peer support, research partnerships...

Develop connections and facilitate lateral assistance:



Options are limitless!

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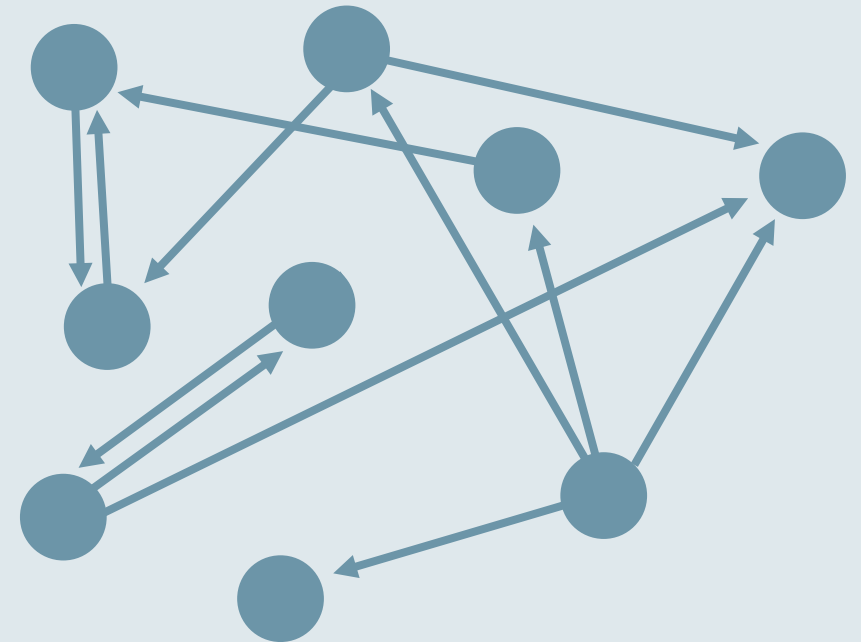
Knik Tribe

Tyonek TCD



Possible topics: resource or strategic planning guidance, developing governance and policy documents, mentorship/peer-to-peer support, field work partnerships...

Develop connections and facilitate lateral assistance:



Options are limitless!

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

Annual Meeting
January 2026

all districts
travel provided

Regional #1

Regional #2

Regional #3

Specific trainings?

Concept discussions?

Collaborations by region?

....by resource concern?

.... by shared capacity?

Other?

Annual Meeting
January 2027

all districts
travel provided

Regional #4

Regional #5

Regional #6

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**LET'S
BRAINSTORM!**

SUBGRANTS

At-a-Glance

Purpose

To increase the capacity of Alaska Tribal Conservation Districts to build and maintain sustainable resource plans, as well as funding and technical relationships with NRCS and other TCDs.

Eligibility

Alaska Tribal Conservation Districts that have a signed MOA with USDA (whether current or being renewed).

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Round 1

Budget Range: Up to \$40,000

Project Length: Up to 20 months

(MAY 2026 – DEC 2027)

Round 2

Budget Range: Up to \$20,000

Project Length: Up to 12 months

(JAN-DEC 2027)

SUBGRANTS

2026-2027 Timeline



SUBGRANTS

Application Packet

Documents

- Project Narrative, including timeline
- Budget with details
- Most recent audit or balance sheet, if available
- NICRA, if applicable
- Letter of collaboration if partnering with NRCS or another TCD

SUBGRANTS

Application Packet

- **Justification** – What gap or needs does this proposal address?
- **Outcome(s)** – How will your TCD be in a stronger position to meet your natural resource concerns in future years? How will this project increase the capacity of your TCD to build and maintain sustainable resource plans, as well as funding and technical relationships with NRCS and other TCDs?
- **Proposed Activities** – What specifically will you do to accomplish the outcomes you identified and why do you think these activities will be effective?
- **Simple Timeline of Activities**
- **Perceived Challenges to these Activities**
 - Describe any anticipated challenges or inherent risks that might inform, delay, or alter your project during this timeline, and how you are accounting for them in your plans.

SUBGRANTS

Disbursements

\$20,000 or more

Half will be disbursed upon executed agreement. Program administrator will hold a check-in call and disburse the remainder if the project is demonstrably on track.

\$20,000 or less

Will be disbursed upon executed agreement

Final Reporting Requirements

Budget

Final expense report

Narrative

Final narrative report can be submitted in written format or by interview

SUBGRANTS

What is Capacity Building?

For the purposes of this funding opportunity, “capacity building” refers to activities that enhance the skills, resources, and abilities necessary to increase your Tribal Conservation District’s ability to operationalize programming that effectively addresses your District’s natural resource priorities. We are interested in learning how your district develops, utilizes, and strengthens existing internal resources (e.g., personnel, expertise, partnerships, supplies, facilities, etc.), as well as external partnerships with NRCS and other Tribal Conservation Districts, to most effectively achieve its natural resource goals.

SUBGRANTS

Activity Ideas

- Attend one or more regional meetings/trainings
- Bring more than two reps to the 2027 annual meeting
- Take a leadership role on a network committee
- Skills trainings for staff
- Staff time
- Accounting software
- Grant writer / grant writing
- Strategic planning facilitator
- Building coalitions and partnerships
- ...