



**Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council
(RTCAC)**

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Please provide the following information if interested in serving on a RTCAC:

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

State(s) you represent: _____

Your Tribe or Tribal Affiliation: _____

Tribal Organization you represent: _____

Describe experience and/or special interest with Natural Resources or Natural Resource Committees:

State Conservationists

Talking points for Establishing Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Councils (RTCACs)

WHAT: Establish three (3) Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Councils (RTCACs). Each Council will have 16 members: five Federal members (1 RC, 3 STCs, and 1 American Indian Alaska Native Employee Association [AIANEA] representative); 10 Tribal representatives (9 Tribal representatives and 1 AIANEA elder), and 1 representative from a Regional Tribal Organization.

PURPOSE: USDA Policy calls for Tribes to establish RTCAC with assistance from NRCS to fulfill NRCS' trust responsibilities to Tribes under public law and E.O. 13175. These Councils can be instrumental in assisting the Chief, RCs and STCs in strengthening government-to-government relations and clarifying the lines of communication and consultation with Indian Tribes. These Councils will provide an effective means to consult with Indian Tribes regarding national or regional-level program policy and regulations and provide a direct line of communication with Tribes at both the national and regional levels. These councils will also provide a venue for agency leaders to gather input on Tribal issues.

WHEN TO MEET: It is recommended that the councils meet at least twice a year within their Region.

LENGTH OF TOUR: Each Federal member and Tribal member will serve a period of 3 years.

HOW TO APPLY: Federal members will volunteer or be nominated and appointed by the NRCS Chief. The Tribal members will volunteer or be nominated by a tribe or a tribal organization. The Tribes will determine the method of volunteering, appointment and selection. All interested Tribal applicants will be asked to fill out and provide the information requested on the enclosed form.