

National Bulletin: 360-25-1

Date: 10/16/2024

PER – Solicitation of Volunteers and Nominations
Subject: for Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Councils
(RTCAC)

Action Requested By: October November 1, 2024

Purpose: This national bulletin requests nominations and volunteers for the Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Councils (RTCAC).

Expiration Date: September 30, 2026.

Background: Executive Order 13175 “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,” signed in 2000, requires that NRCS establish regular and meaningful consultation with tribal officials when developing federal policy with tribal implications. In 2013, three RTCAC were formed for the Eastern, Central, and Western regions to improve Indian country’s access to federal conservation and land stewardship programs through the NRCS.

Each 16-member RTCAC is made up of nine tribal representatives, one regional tribal organization representative, one American Indian Alaska Native Employee Association (AIANEA) elder, one NRCS regional conservationist, three state conservationists (STCs), and one NRCS employee AIANEA representative. RTCAC representatives are selected through nominations except for the elders, who are appointed by the AIANEA. All RTCAC representatives serve 3-year terms.

Explanation: This bulletin solicits STCs to volunteer for their region’s RTCAC by contacting Pedro Torres at pedro.torres@usda.gov or (951) 654-6328. This bulletin also requests STCs to inform each tribe in their state of this volunteer opportunity. The attached application includes RTCAC talking points for encouraging volunteers to apply.

Tribal volunteers may include tribal members, elected tribal officials, and tribal organizations or intertribal natural resource organizations. Tribes may volunteer through the STC.

Contact: Direct questions to Pedro Torres, national tribal relations liaison, at pedro.torres@usda.gov or (951) 654-6328.

Attachment: RTCAC Application and Talking Points