

# Climate Change Strategic Plan

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

September 2013

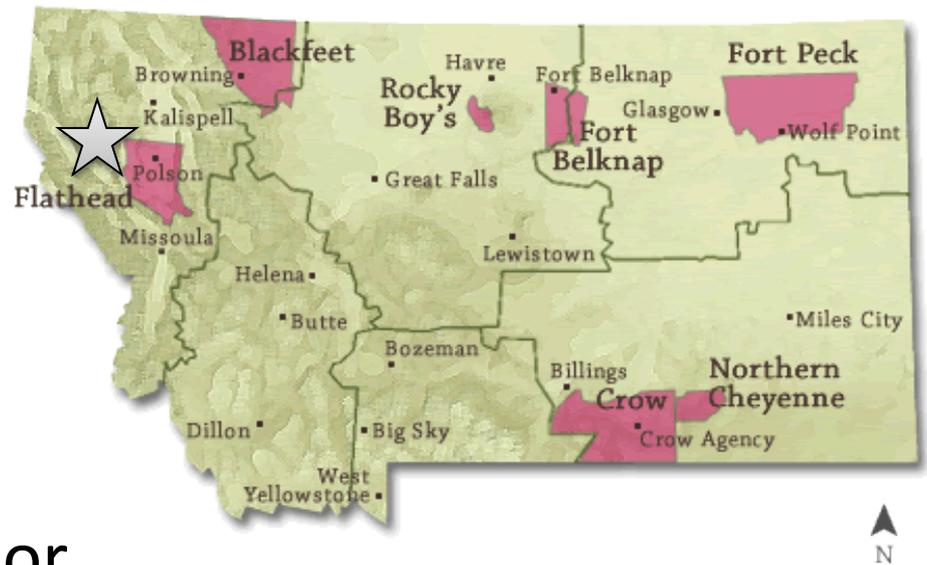
# Strategic Plan Purpose

- Serve as an **early step** towards addressing the **impacts** of climate change on the Flathead Reservation in Montana.
- Improve the Tribal **community and its lands resiliency** by effectively informing the Tribes.
- Initiate the development of collectively beneficial impact **mitigation** and **adaptation solutions**.



# Flathead Reservation

- Flathead Reservation
  - Western Montana
  - Lake, Sanders, Missoula, & Flathead Counties
  - US Highway 93 is the transportation corridor

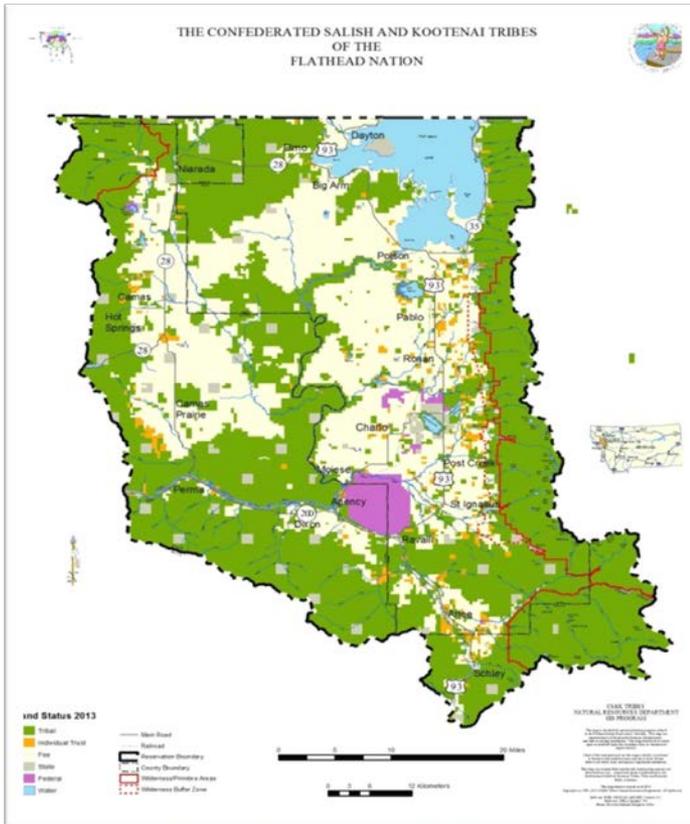


Montana Reservation Map by Montana Office of Tourism



# Flathead Reservation

- 1.3 Million Acres
- 790,000 acres owned by Tribes and Tribal members



Land Status 2013 by CSKT



# Climate Change

- The CSKT Tribal Council recognizes and acknowledges the potential impacts of climate change and declares the intent and commitment of the Tribes to address effects of climate change and that Traditional Ecological Knowledge shall be integrated into the CSKT Climate Change Strategic Plan.



# Impacts on the Tribes

- Cultural resources of the Tribes are being lost, substantially altered, or destroyed with increasing frequency in the face of energy, economic, residential, highway, sanitation, and public health developments.



# Planning Sectors

- 3.1 Forestry
- 3.2 Land
- 3.3 Fish
- 3.4 Wildlife
- 3.5 Water
- 3.6 Air Quality
- 3.7 Infrastructure
- 3.8 People
- 3.9 Culture



Flathead Reservation, photo by Roian Matt



# Cultural Considerations

- Indigenous people of the world have a special moral stature on this issue [of climate change] and may have a special role in coming together to advocate for action. –SPCC



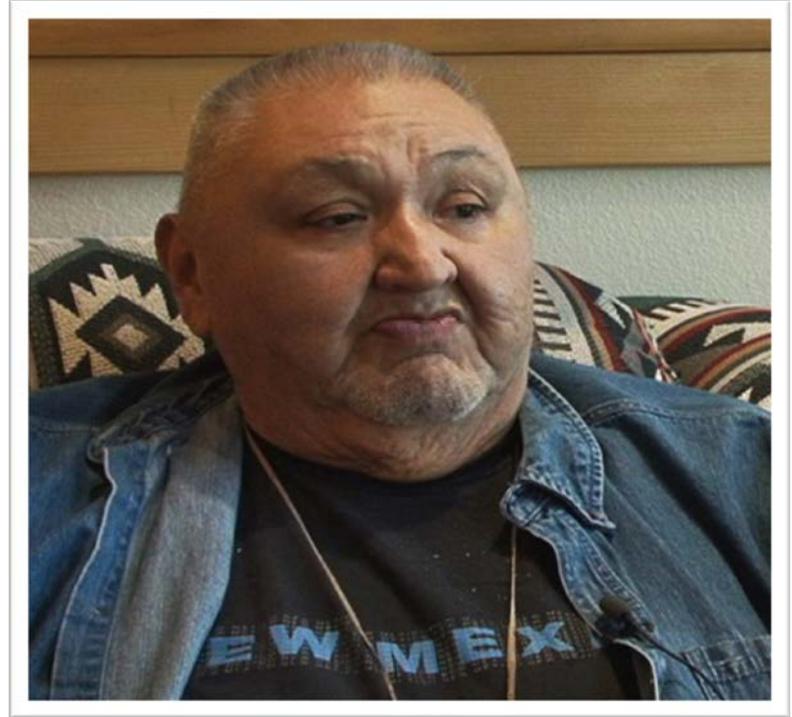
River Honoring, photo by Conrad Durglo



# Tribal Elder Observations

“I do not know when the last time the lake completely froze. It has been awhile since it did that. I do not know if we will ever see that again.”

- Ignace Couture



Ignace Couture, photo by Frank Tyro



# Tribal Elder Observations

“As an Indian people we get concerned especially for the higher elevation plants that we use for medicine - not only for the plants but for the animals”.

- Mike Durglo Sr.



Mike Durglo Sr., photo by Frank Tyro



# Tribal Elder Observations

“One of the things my dad always did was when we took a drink out of the creek we always put some [water] back. You took a drink then you threw some [water] on the plants or somewhere.”

- Sadie Saloway



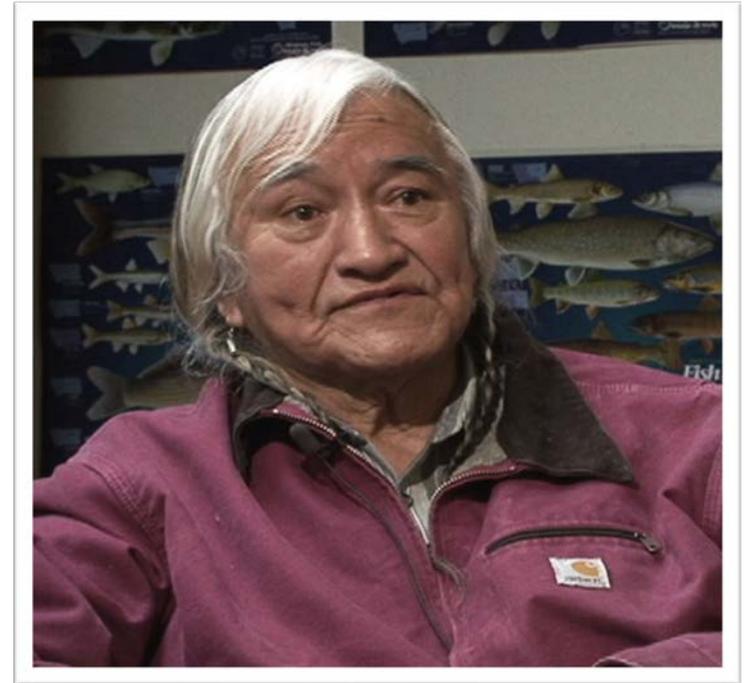
Sadie Saloway., photo by Frank Tyro



# Tribal Elder Observations

“The weather [may bring a] big change and then maybe the world will go back the other way.”

- Stephen SmallSalmon



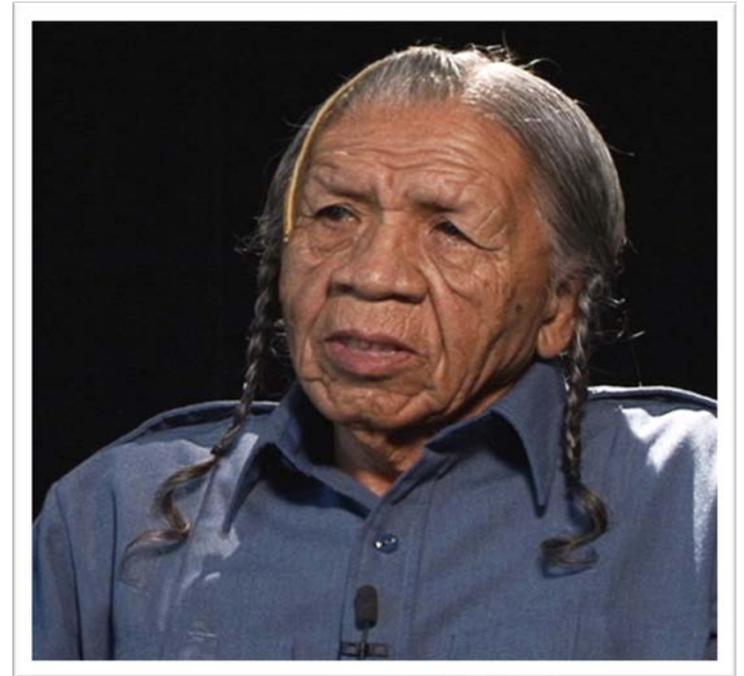
Stephen SmallSalmon., photo by Frank Tyro



# Tribal Elder Observations

“The old people used to say that in the winter when it got cold you could hear the trees pop, it sounded like a rifle shot, then the coyote stories could come out, then in the spring when you hear the first thunder then that when you put them away.”

- Louie Adams



Louie Adams, photo by Frank Tyro



# Tribal Elder Observations

“The elders would sit down and they would tell stories. They would talk about certain things that were coming...One day this earth is going to become warm...The snow and ice is going to melt in the north and the oceans are going to fill up...I am witnessing this today.”

- Patrick Pierre



Patrick Pierre, photo by Frank Tyro



# Next Steps

- **Develop implementation plans**
  - Establish specific tasks and timeframes
  - Monitor and measure progress of goals
  - Research more Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- **Regularly revisit and modify the plan**
  - Review basic assumptions
  - Add new information as it becomes available



# Next Steps

- **Engage in resource development**
  - Request grant funding
  - Leverage available resources
  - Promote active collaboration



# Contact Information

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