

# Indian Health Service

## IACC Overview and Updates

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# Objectives

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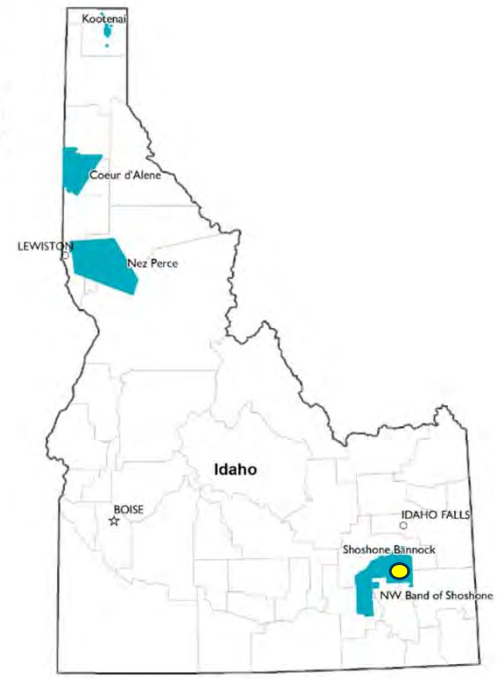
Provide our project stakeholders and funding partners with an understanding of:

- The technical and financial assistance available from IHS
- Qualification criteria for funding
- Impacts of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Recommendations for project success





**Portland Area DSFC District and Field Office Locations**



# IHS Assistance for Tribal Infrastructure

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**Public Law 86-121 (July 31, 1959)** – established the SFC Program to cooperatively address AI/AN community sanitation needs.

**Public Law 100-713 (Nov. 23, 1988)** – amended the Indian Health Care Improvements Act, expanded IHS authority to include operation and maintenance support, and required an annual report to Congress on deficiencies.

## Primary Mission Activities

- Identify deficiencies and develop multi-agency sanitation projects
- Provide funding for water supply and waste disposal projects
- Provide professional engineering design
- Provide technical consultation and training to improve operation and maintenance capacity



# O&M Program Technical Assistance

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- Comprehensive Sanitation Facilities Surveys
- Composite Utility Drawings (as-builts)
- Operator Training
- Specific O&M Technical Support
- Organizational Capacity Development
  - Ordinance Development
  - Budgeting
  - Rate Studies
  - Asset Inventories
  - Asset Management Planning





# Project Funding Types

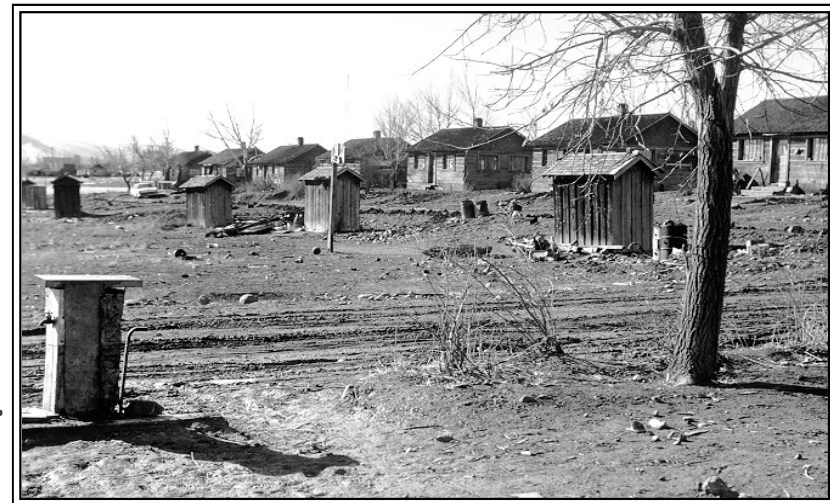
Type	Project Purpose	Area Funding Allocation By DSFC Director (HQ)
Housing	Provide adequate sanitation facilities to newly constructed and like new-homes.	Housing Priority System (HPS)
Regular	Provide adequate sanitation facilities to existing homes.	Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS)
Special	Engineering investigations, planning, and training	Project Proposal Review
Emergency	Water supply and waste disposal emergencies cause of natural disasters or other unanticipated situations.	Project Proposal Review



# Project Funding Types

**Regular Funds** – provide sanitation facilities for existing homes

- Homes are defined as permanent, 24-hour, year-round family dwellings.
- IHS does not provide funds to serve commercial, industrial, or other non-residential establishments, including health clinics, schools, and office buildings.
- Projects are prioritized using a range of factors: deficiency level, health impact, cost, O&M capacity, tribal priority, contributions, previous service.
- Projects are managed through the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System



First SFC project: Elko, Nevada 1958



# Qualification Criteria – Regular Funds

**Table 2: Services Available to Communities with Varying Eligibility**

<b>Community Category</b>	<b>% American Indian and/or Alaska Native Population</b>	<b>Overall Community Population</b>	<b>Is the community eligible for Regular project funds per Criteria guidelines?</b>
Non-Indian	<50 %	>10,000 people	Limited <sup>1</sup>
Non-Indian	<50%	< 10,000 people	Yes <sup>2</sup>
Indian	>50%	N/A	Yes <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IHS can provide new service line connections for Indian homes with failed or non-existent on-site facilities. IHS can also provide replacement service line connections for Indian homes with failed service lines. Other than these service connections, no Regular project funds can be provided for improvements to or replacement of existing community sanitation facilities.

<sup>2</sup> IHS funds may be provided for improvements to, or replacement of, existing sanitation facilities proportionate (on a demand basis) to the number of existing Indian homes served by the facilities.





# Project Funding Types

**Housing Support Funds** – new or recently renovated (like-new) homes – eligibility criteria must be met.

- Criteria include functional structural/mechanical systems, plumbed kitchen and bathroom, adequate insulation and heating, electricity, roof, etc.
- Exception: homes of patients with medical conditions, requires physician's certification.
- IHS is prohibited from serving new homes constructed with funding from HUD housing programs.



# Project Funding Types

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**Special Project Funds** – engineering investigations, O&M projects, special studies, training projects. No specific cost cap, but available funding is limited.

Sanitation facilities can be provided for limited non-residential facilities (ceremonial or community gathering areas, cost cap of \$10,000).

**Emergency Project Funds** – actual or imminent public health problems related to sanitation facilities. No specific cost cap, but available funding is limited.



# Funding Process – Regular Projects

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- The SFC Program is finalizing its project lists for FY25 funding. SFC Staff met with Tribes over the summer to collect project proposals. The Portland Area submitted the prioritized proposals to IHS Headquarters on August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- IHS Headquarters reviewed the proposals and provided feedback. Portland Area staff are reviewing and addressing those comments.
- The final submission is due to HQ November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- HQ takes a ‘snapshot’ of the SDS list and uses that to develop the FY25 funding plan, which is then reviewed and approved by DHHS and OMB.
- Once the funding plan is approved, HQ distributes project funding to the Areas, likely late spring/early summer 2025.
- The Areas then work with Tribes to develop the project funding documents and begin work.



# Funding Process – Housing Projects

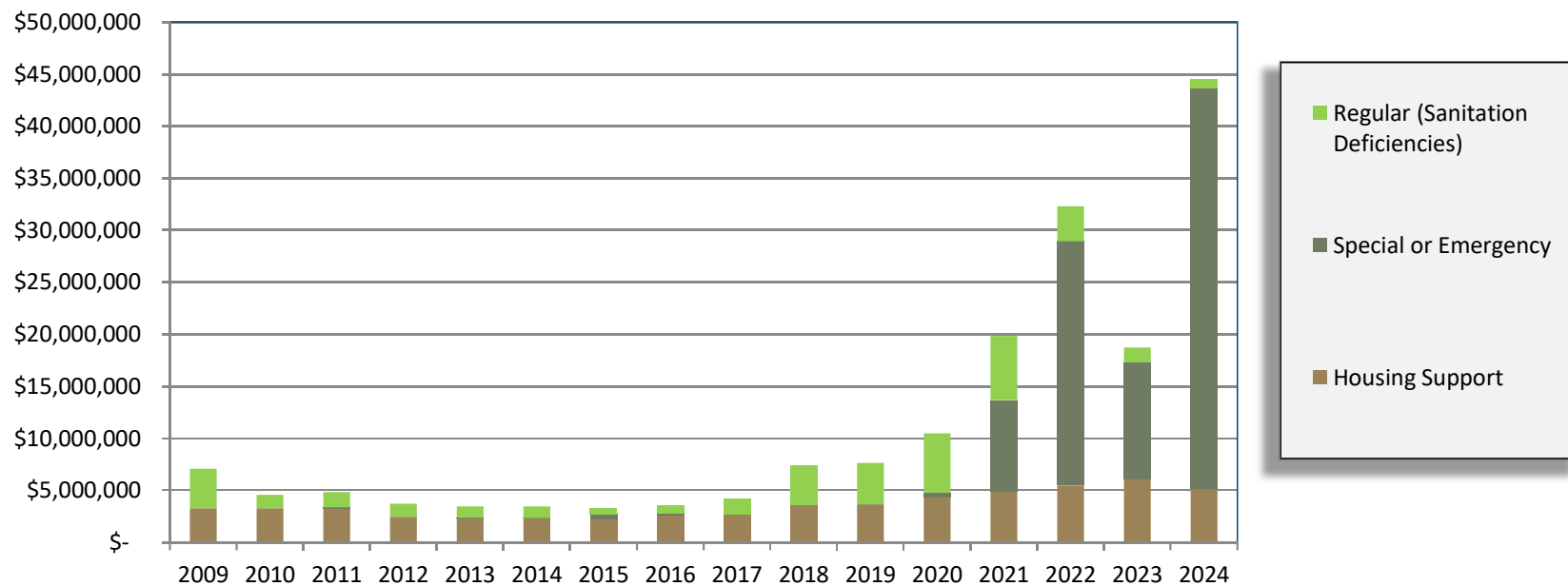
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- IHS staff work with Tribes to develop proposals.
- The final submission is due to HQ November 1<sup>st</sup>. IHS Headquarters does not review proposals and send feedback.
- HQ takes a ‘snapshot’ of the HPS list and uses that to develop the FY25 funding plan. Housing Projects do not require DHHS and OMB approval.
- Once the funding plan is approved, HQ distributes project funding to the Areas, likely late spring/early summer 2025.
- The Areas then work with Tribes to develop the project funding documents and begin work.



# IHS Historical Funding Summary

**IHS Construction Funding (Portland Area)  
Sanitation Facilities Construction**





# Partnership with EPA

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- The Portland Area SFC Program works with EPA Region 10 to allocate funding from EPA Tribal set-aside programs to projects in the IHS Sanitation Deficiency System:

– FY24 Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside ‘Base’ Funding:	\$ 916,000
– FY24 Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside BIL Funding:	\$ 4,511,000
– FY24 Clean Water Indian Set-Aside ‘Base’ Funding:	\$ 1,673,000
– FY24 Clean Water Indian Set-Aside BIL Funding:	\$ 4,764,000
– FY24 WIIN Act Small/Underserved/Disadvantaged Communities:	<u>\$ 885,000</u>
	Total: \$12,749,000

- This additional funding allows us to jointly reach further down the priority list



# Impacts of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

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- IHS is receiving \$700M each fiscal year from FY22 through FY26
- For a total of \$3.5B for the IHS SFC program
- These funds are available until expended
- These funds are one-time, non-recurring, and can only be used for the purposes specified in the statute
- As a result, only projects that were on the SDS list at the end of calendar year 2021 are eligible for IHS BIL funding
- 44 Reportable Projects were on the list, total eligible cost = \$71.7M



# Impacts of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

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## Portland Area BIL Funding Summary, FY22 – FY24

■ Tier 1 Project Construction Funding:	\$ 60,874,664	22 projects*
■ Tier 1 Project Engineering Support:	\$ 6,828,663	
■ Tier 2/3 Project Planning and Design Funding:	\$ 796,245	5 projects
■ Funding for Ex. Projects with Budget Shortfalls:	<u>\$ 1,926,825</u>	<u>5 projects</u>
■ Total BIL Funding:	\$ 70,426,397	
■ Total # of Projects with BIL Funding:		32 projects

\*1 project funded by others



# Project Highlight

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- IHS Project PO-22-N46, Replacement Surface Water Treatment Plant, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- **Scope:** Provide a replacement 4.2 MGD surface water treatment plant employing advanced treatment technology capable of removing organic micro-pollutants and contaminants of emerging concern
- **Project Funding:** \$ 13,601,000 (IHS BIL)
  - \$ 6,130,000 (EPA SDWA Tribal Set Aside)
  - \$ 4,132,000 (EPA BIL Tribal Set Aside)
  - \$ 23,863,000 (Total)
- **O&M Support:** \$ 42K for contracted O&M Support, Manual, and Training  
\$TBD – Contracted Utility Capacity Development: Budget Development, Asset Inventories, and Operator Certification Support
- **Project Delivery:** Design-Build



# Recommendations for Project Success

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- Projects can't be funded if they're not on the list
- Plan ahead for joint funding needs – eligible/ineligible costs
- Leverage technical assistance resources early for project support
- Comprehensive stakeholder and risk identification during project planning
- Consider O&M technical, financial, and managerial needs





# Portland Area DSFC Contact Information

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## **Area Office Contacts**

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