

**ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
OF THE
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
SPECIAL SESSION
FEBRUARY 26, 2026
CONCHO, OK**

RESOLUTION: A Resolution to Approve of the Submission of a BIA Fish Grant and to Amend Public Law 93-638 One Year (2026-2027) Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Tribal EPA Program for a Tribal Fishery – Phase I Fish Stocking Program and Day Camp grant.

RESOLUTION NO: 11L-SS-2026-0226-005
DATE INTRODUCED: February 23, 2026
SPONSOR: Kendricks Sleeper, District A2
CO-SPONSOR: Rector Candy, District A4

SUBJECT: A Resolution to Approve of the Submission of a BIA Fish Grant and to Amend Public Law 93-638 One Year (2026-2027) Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Tribal EPA Program for a Tribal Fishery – Phase I Fish Stocking Program and Day Camp grant.

WHEREAS: The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are a federally recognized Indian tribes organized pursuant to a Constitution approved by tribal membership on April 4, 2006 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and,

WHEREAS: Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Constitution grants the Legislature the “power to make all laws and resolutions in accordance with the Constitution which are necessary and proper for the good of the Tribes;” and,

WHEREAS: Article VII, Section 4(d) of the Constitution requires that the Legislature or Tribal Council give prior authorization for the signing of contracts by the Governor; and,

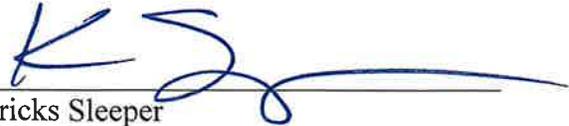
WHEREAS: The Tribes have identified a need for this fishery grant and to Amend a contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for one year beginning March 1, 2026 through March 30, 2027, or until funds are expended; and

WHEREAS: In accordance with 25 CFR § 900.8 (d) an “authorizing resolution” is required from the tribes; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Eleventh Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes approves and authorizes the Governor, Reggie Wassana, to sign an Amended BIA contract for one (1) BIA program for a period of twelve months beginning March 1, 2026 through

March 30, 2027 or until funds are expended for the Tribal EPA Program for a Tribal Fishery grant submission.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Governor is directed and authorized to carry out all acts necessary and proper to implement the intent of this resolution.



Kendricks Sleeper
Speaker of the Eleventh Legislature
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



ATTEST:

I, Jodi White Buffalo, Legislative Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a True and Accurate Copy of the Original Bill No. 11L-SS-2026-0226-005 which was acted upon by the Legislature of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in a Special Session of the Eleventh Legislature, by a roll call vote on the 26th day of February 2026.

VOTE RECORD:

DISTRICT	LEGISLATOR	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
A1	Pamela Sutton	✓			
A2	Kendricks Sleeper	✓			
A3	Travis Ruiz	✓			
A4	Rector Candy	✓			
C1	Bruce Whiteman, Jr.	✓			
C2	Milan Roman Nose, Jr.	✓			
C3	Thomas Trout	✓			
C4	Mariah Youngbull	✓			
TOTAL		8			
Passes (X) Fails () Tabled () Allowed to Die () No Action ()					

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 5, subsection (a) of the Tribes Constitution reads in part: "Tie votes in the Legislature shall be decided by the Governor."

		YES	NO	ABSENT
Governor	Reggie Wassana			


 Jodi White Buffalo, Legislative Clerk
 Eleventh Legislature, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



ATTEST:

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 7, subsection (a)(iv) of the Tribes Constitution reads in part: “All Bills passed by the Legislature shall be presented to the Governor for signature or veto. All laws shall take effect thirty days after signature by the Governor or veto override by the Legislature unless any Member of the Tribes submits to the Coordinator of the Office of Tribal Council a petition signed by at least one hundred fifty Members of the Tribal Council seeking to repeal the law or resolution at the next Tribal Council meeting. If the Tribal Council fails to repeal such law or resolution at the next Tribal Council where the matter has been properly placed on the agenda for the Tribal Council meeting, such law or resolution shall become effective immediately.”

Pursuant to Article VII, Section 4, subsection (g) of the Tribes Constitution reads: “The Governor shall have the power to sign any enactment passed by the Legislature into law or to veto any enactment passed by the Legislature within ten days of passage with a written explanation of any objections; and if the Governor takes no action within ten days, then the enactment shall become law in accordance with this Constitution.”

{ } APPROVED

{ } VETOED: Attachment ____; Governor’s written explanation of any objections.

On the 26 day of February, 2026.



Reggie Wassana, Governor
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



TRANSMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS:

From the Legislative Branch to the Office of Records Management

ATTEST:

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 7, subsection (a)(v), of the Tribes Constitution reads, "The Office of Records Management shall compile all Laws and Resolutions into a comprehensive Code in an orderly manner that shall be published annually."

Office of Records Management Staff, hereby certify that the foregoing is a True and Accurate Original Resolution No. 11L-SS-2026-0226-005.

Space below is reserved for Stamp:

Received (Date) Office of Record Management



Signature: Cheryl Blind

Print Name: Cheryl Blind

Title: Director

Date: 2/26/26

Office of Records Management
Department of Administration, Executive Branch
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes



I. Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
Cheyenne and Arapaho Phase I Fish Stocking Program and Day Camp
Concho, Oklahoma

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes request \$104,953.00 for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Phase I Fish Stocking Program project to encourage, inspire, and promote awareness about natural resources, and climate change in and around tribal communities. This program will help promote awareness of how water conditions affect wildlife, and the food one consumes.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are sovereign tribes and exercise jurisdiction over their land base. The Tribes service area is located in eleven (11) counties including all of Dewey, Custer, Washita, and Roger Mills counties and portions of Blaine, Canadian, Kingfisher, Beckham, Major, Woodward, and Ellis counties. Due to the large jurisdictional land base of 8,992 square miles owned by the Tribes, it is of the utmost importance that the tribes maintain the natural resources using land management practices on their tribal lands and utilize the ponds to create a fish stocking program. This project will focus on the one area at Concho, Oklahoma in Canadian County.

The Tribes EPA Program, the Agricultural Director, and the Tribal Governor of the tribes have identified three (3) ponds on tribal property for a fish farm and day camp. Historically, the tribes came from the marshes up in the Great Lakes area in and around Minnesota and Illinois where fish were a main staple in their diet. This program will allow tribal member in underserved rural communities to receive fish from the fishery through the tribes' food pantry program as another healthy protein alternative.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are focusing on stocking two existing ponds located on Concho campus, stocking the ponds with a variety of fish species to create a thriving environment that supports both traditional practices and contemporary recreational interest for tribal members. There are two (2) existing on-site building for an operations facility and a classroom/maintenance shop. This project will also include an educational aspect for the tribes' youth and elders learn about the different types of fish and the importance of managing wildlife habitats.

II. Goal 1: Increase the habitat for fish

Objective 1: Testing ponds for water quality for fish habitat

Objective 2: Identify fish practices through SNARRC training

Goal 2: Introduce different species of fish into ponds

Objective 1: Work with Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR) to create a curriculum.

Objective 2: Introduce the tribes cultural aspect of natural resources and foods eaten by ancestors

Objective 3: Introduce fish to ponds

Goal 3: Increase the knowledge of fish and their habitat to youth and elders

Objective 1: Fish life cycle classes (natural and farm-raised)

Objective 2: Catching fish

- III. The tribes focus is to introduce the importance of a healthy diet and healthy water quality for the fish to flourish and sell. The tribal EPA program will work with Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR) on how to safely protect and manage the resources and create an economic value for the tribes' food pantry program. An estimated 90 tribal youth and elders will learn about the fishery, climate change, how it affects the natural resources, and health for themselves and the wildlife habitats. Tribal youth and elders will take a survey at the end of the day to evaluate their experiences and understanding of fish life's cycle, catching fish, and natural resources.
- I. **Safety and Security:** Ensuring the well-being of all individuals associated with the Concho Fishery is our top priority. We are dedicated to creating an environment where everyone, whether visitors or workers, can safely return home.
 - II. **Water Quality Management:** We conduct daily checks on the water quality of our ponds, with increased monitoring during warmer months. Maintaining a high water quality ranking is essential to provide a safe and optimal habitat for the thriving of our fish population.
 - III. **Economic Sustainability:** The Concho Fishery is not just about catching fish; it's about sustainable economic practices. By closely monitoring growth rates, water chemistry, and temperature. We aim to teach and implement effective business practices fostering a thriving and economically sound fishery.
 - IV. **Rights Protection through Tribal Participation:** Tribal members actively participate in the program, safeguarding their rights within the Cheyenne and Arapaho land base. The involvement reinforces the connection between cultural heritage and the responsible management of our resources.
 - V. **Intrinsic Resource Value:** The Concho Fishery hold immeasurable value, serving as an ongoing educational resource. By emphasizing the economic value of the fish and their contribution to the tribes' food banks, we ensure a sustainable valuable resource for both present and future generations.

The following tribal programs and other organizations will instruct the tribes youth and elders about the fish stocking program, climate change, how it affects our natural resources, and the cause and effects of ignoring and restoring them. Tribes EPA staff, Parks and Recreation, Exercise & Sports for the Elders and Children of our Tribes (Respect) program, experts from Fish and Wildlife, and the Tribal Language and Culture Department.

The EPA Environmental Specialist will work with the tribes Procurement Grants and Contracts (PG&C) to contract out the work to be done in cleaning the ponds, clearing of any materials needed around ponds to have safe access and filling the ponds with fish.

In preparation for stocking the pond with catfish, the tribes Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) program will contract two (2) persons to help work on the fish farm and day camp. During that time our EPA will work through getting the ponds tested to make sure the water has the safe amount of pH and oxygen levels, the fish will be introduced at a later time.

Tinker Air Force Natural Resource Biologist will work with the Tribes EPA program and Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR) to advise the tribes on any aspects needed to make this project a success. The Tribes EPA program will offer information on fisheries and offer safe hands-on activities for youth and elders.

The Tribal Respect program has experience and background checks to work with our tribal youth and will assist the tribal EPA Environmental Specialist with the youth activities, and will use their small busses to transport the youth from one area of Concho to another for hands-on experiences.

The tribal Language and Culture Department staff will inform the youth and elders about the culture of the tribes' historical food consumption,

Experts from the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR) will help tribal staff with information to teach tribal youth and elders about the fishery and explore the subject from April through May 2025.

VI. Outcome/results:

What are the expected work products?

Create a database for existing fish in the pond, recording contaminants in the fish and water.

Youth and elders will have an increased awareness of the fishery.

How to catch fish.

How to protect the environment from contaminant levels for fish.

What measureable benefits are expected?

Healthier habitat for fish and other wildlife (water)

Amount of fish supplied to tribal families distributed through the tribes' food distribution program.

What is the expected timeline?

Fish Camp preparedness and timeline

	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Test Ponds	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rent Equip. Lay gravel		X	X	X							
Order Supplies						X	X				
Prepare camp area			X	X	X	X	X				
Learning & Fish Day Camp								X			
Gather data								X			
Prepare report for grant										X	
Send all Financial reports											X

1. Budget - Need a detailed line item expenditure breakdown. Do not include contract support cost (indirect cost).

Vehicle-\$0.00

Insurance- \$0.00

Fuel- \$0.00

Materials & Supplies-\$40,065.00

Copy Paper- \$45.00 (1 case of 10 reams) x 2 equals \$90.00

Super scoop net - \$210.00 x 1 =\$210.00 to catch fish for harvesting

Secchi disk - \$100.00 testing algae blooms

Oxygen transfer aerator - \$1,300.00 x 1 \$1,300.00

Lime - \$ 1,000.00 for thirty (30) units (30 gallons and 30 Eco Socks)

Water Probe – \$1,800.00 for collecting water quality data in ponds

Water Test Strips - \$30.00 quantity 50 x 3 \$90.00 for education purposes

Retractable Power cords - \$150.00 x 2 = \$300.00 for oxygenating the water

Waders- \$220.00 x 1 \$220.00 for testing and harvesting

Gas Generator — One (1) \$1,600.00 to be used when oxygen levels are low for fish

Fuel for Gas Generator - \$422.00

Table — One (1) \$600.00 to do reports and other paperwork needed to fulfill the grant goals and objectives

Chair — \$100.00 to sit and do reports and other paperwork needed to fulfill the grant goals and objectives

Laptop — \$1,200.00 x 1 do reports and other paperwork needed to fulfill the grant goals and objectives in the office

Cell Phone - \$700.00 x 1 used for contracting organizations, and tribal programs

Fishing Pole kits- including tackle and pole \$30.00 x 50 participants = \$1,500.00

Fish live – \$2,000.00 to stock ponds for fishing

Fishing Nets-, \$28.00 x 5 \$140.00

Fishing Live Bait-, \$50.00 for 250 live worms x 10 buckets = \$500.00

Educational booklets - \$25.00 each x 50 = \$1,250.00

30x13x6" = 8 yards of concrete for a deck around the facility for safe access = \$9,750.00

6"x6"x20' concrete sidewalk at \$55.00 square yard 2.5 yards = \$3,000.00

20' ADA-compliant ramp with guardrails \$4,555.00

2"x6"x14'lumber for sidewalk forms \$15.00 each x 4 \$60.00

Pens-Bic 144/Pack 1 @ \$25.29

Visual Aids/ Fish ID Posters \$150

Safety Whistles 15 @ \$1.53 = \$23.00

Sunscreen/ bug spray bulk purchase \$150

Coolers/Food storage \$100

Food-snacks/breakfast snacks/lunch for camp \$500

Portable tables 8-10 \$500

Water Jugs/ Refil stations \$150

Signage & Registration Materials; welcome signs, name tags \$100

Cleaning and sanitation supplies: trash bags, wipes, gloves \$100

Certificates of completion card stock \$75

First Aid Kits 2-3 \$150

Picnic Tables five @ \$129.00 = \$645.00

Folding Chairs 50 @ \$15.00 = \$750.00

T-shirts (Participants and staff) 60 @ \$25.00 = \$1,500.00

Water Bottles (Participants) 50 @ \$4.00 = \$200.00

Water Trough – 2 x \$800.00 = \$1,600.00

Voice Amplifier – 2 x \$300.00

10'x10' Canopy(s) 4 @ \$99.99 = \$399.96

Fish Measuring Board 10 @ \$15.99 = \$159.90

Travel- \$2,886.00

Attend SNARRC training to New Mexico July 2024

Mileage 65.5 cents per mile x 1,045 miles around trip \$684.00

Hotel for three (3) nights @ \$141.00/night \$423.00 x 3 people = \$1,269.00

Per Diem M&IE @ \$69.00/day x 4.5 \$311.00/ person x 3 = \$933.00

Professional Services- \$1000.00

WMWR compensation for assistance with Day Camp - \$1000.00

Contractual- \$61,002.00- cleaning out ponds, cleaning up around ponds and cabin area for safe use and filling ponds with fish.

Equipment - \$0.00

Other - \$0.00

Funding Source BIA- TOTAL \$104,953.00 Funding

Source Tribes - TOTAL \$0.00

Funding Source TERO - TOTAL \$0.00

GRAND TOTAL- \$104,953.00

V. Letters of support/contributions

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes signed by the Governor

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes RESpECT Program Director

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Language and Culture Department Director

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Food Pantry Director

Tinker Air Force

Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge (WMWR)

Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO)

NezPerce Tribe

**HATCHERY MAINTENANCE PROJECT PROPOSAL
FORM**

(Duplicate this form for each project)

Hatchery Name: Concho Fishery

Project Description: Establishment of Tribal Fishery

Project Cost: \$104,953.00

Project Ranking: Number: of a total of: recommended projects in area

Project Merits relative to established ranking criteria:

Project Merits relative to established ranking criteria:

Supporting justification for project and project ranking:

Ranking Criterion	High	Moderate	Low
Health, Safety and Security			
Water Quality			
Economic value			
Rights Protection			
Resource value			

Safety and Security: Ensuring the well-being of all individuals associated with the Concho Fishery is our top priority. We are dedicated to creating an environment where everyone, whether visitors or workers, can safely return home.

Water Quality Management: We conduct daily checks on the water quality of our system, with increased monitoring during warmer months. Maintaining a high water quality ranking is essential to provide a safe and optimal habitat for the thriving of our fish population.

Economic Sustainability: The Concho Fishery is not just about catching fish; it's about sustainable economic practices. By closely monitoring growth rates, water chemistry, and temperature, we aim to teach and implement effective business practices, fostering a thriving and economically sound fishery.

Rights Protection through Tribal Participation: Tribal members actively participate in the program, safeguarding their rights within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Land base. This involvement reinforces the connection between cultural heritage and the responsible management of our resources.

Intrinsic Resource Value: The Concho Fishery holds immeasurable value, serving as an ongoing educational resource. By emphasizing the economic value of the fish and their contribution to the tribe's food banks, we ensure a sustainable and valuable resource for both present and future generations.