



If You Build It...

IAC Southern Plains Region

Pawnee Nation has dedicated 70 acres for specialty crop production including the site of two 30ft x 90 ft commercial greenhouses for hydroponic tomato and lettuce production. There are three wells with capacity between 105 and 250 gallons per minute with commercial electrical power, gas, and maintained ingress/egress.

Over the last three years IAC has been working with Pawnee in the form of outreach events, presentations at Pawnee Tribal College and long meetings with leadership at the Pawnee Nation and Pawnee Development Corporation to increase knowledge base in agricultural programs and to help develop a working knowledge of various agricultural systems including the value of long-term planning. This winter IAC assisted Pawnee with a feasibility assessment which was used to apply for a series of grants, last week Pawnee was awarded \$800,000 for a ICDBG through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



Pawnee Tribal Campus: Training on Specialty Equipment



Deb Echohawk: Using a Precision Seeder for Ancestral Corn Planting

The grant covers the installation, operating, and development cost for two Nexus Vail commercial greenhouses. Additional grants (still waiting for announcements) will compliment this project by adding resources for a training program that will also be used for recruitment in the development of a broader Agricultural Department.

An additional 422 acres is under reclamation in conjunction with USDA-NRCS for bison production. NRCS has performed an ecological assessment on this land and has been working with existing staff to develop conservation plans, EQIP applications, and long-term acquisition of existing lease lands. There is some 200 acres that comes due for lease in 2018 and 720 acres at Chilocco that Pawnee will be developing for pasture renovation.