FY 2020-Amendment to the CCT/WPP

Action:

For FY 2020, Chippewa Cree Wetlands Program in collaboration with 106 Water Quality Program will monitor headwater wetlands condition and water quality in the Upper Big Sandy Creek Watershed. Data will be used to assess for restoration needs, develop Tribal Wetland Narrative and Numeric Wetland Water Quality criteria and standards. Data will also serve to evaluate sites as potential restoration sites and finalize Tribal Wetlands Water Quality Standards. Data will also be used to collaborate with US EPA and Army Corps to update Tribal wetland regulatory mechanisms.

Activities:

- Review and revise (if needed) the Wetlands Monitoring Quality Assurance Project Plan. (Core Element 1. Monitoring and Assessment). Jan-Feb 2020
- Develop wetland monitoring plan for 2019 field work in Upper Big Sandy Creek Watershed; including GIS wetlands mapping and research. (Core Element 1. Monitoring and Assessment). February-March 2020
- Conduct headwater wetland condition monitoring and water quality sampling in the Upper Big Sandy Creek Watershed Using Tribal Assessment Methodology. (Core Element 1. Monitoring and Assessment). June-August 2020
- Analyze water and wetlands monitoring data and enter into AWQMS database (Core Element 1. Monitoring and Assessment). September-October 2020
- Develop restoration plans for identified headwater springs and wetlands (Core Element 3. Restoration and Protection). September-October 2020
- Provide final headwater wetland monitoring results, draft and final versions of Wetlands Water Quality Standards to US EPA for review and comment. (Core Element 4) October 2020
- Develop and enhance the Tribes' SOPs and BMPs for restoring local wetlands and perennial stream channels to maintain water quality, water storage, cultural plant populations and other ecological benefits necessary for maintaining or improving water quality. (Core Element 1 and 3. Monitoring and Assessment, Voluntary Restoration and Protection). Nov/Dec 2020
- Incorporate public and Tribal Council reviews into Wetland Water Quality Standards (Core Element 4) *Nov-Dec 2020*
- Develop Wetlands water quality standards based on monitoring results from all 3 watersheds (Core Element 4. Wetland Water Quality Standards) Ongoing 2020
- Conduct existing wetlands regulatory review in collaboration with U.S. EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineering regarding the Waters of the U.S. revised definition (Core Element:2 Regulation) February- March 2020
- Conduct education and forum for public comments on draft Tribal wetland water quality standards (Core Elements 1,3,4) Ongoing 2020