



IDAHO
NSF EPSCoR
ADVANCING GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY IN STEM



Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

University of Idaho, 875 Perimeter Drive MS 3029, Moscow, ID 83844-3029
Tel: 208-885-7102 Fax: 208-885-5111

US Environmental Protection Agency
Michael S. Regan, Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW,
Washington, D.C. 20460

March 26, 2024

Dear Mr. Regan,

Idaho National Science Foundation (NSF) Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) is a supporter of Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) members and is dedicated to the efforts they are putting forth to reduce their carbon footprint through the collaborative Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Projects. Idaho EPSCoR has successfully created and implemented synergistic workforce development programs such as Student Authentic Research Experiences (SARE) as well as the new Community Integrated Programs (CIPs) described here. Our commitment to workforce development goals will entail expanding opportunities for SARE and CIPs available to students and community members.

Community Integrated Programs are a new course type offered to undergraduate and graduate students, co-created with community members, to address complex systems issues. CIPs engage learners across disciplines and knowledge systems. Community, students, and faculty together learn with each other as they imagine more equitable interdisciplinary solutions to energy-water issues. For example, a CIP course might bring together Tribal elders and employees of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Natural Resources and Education programs with faculty from the University of Idaho Colleges of Law and Natural Resources to examine topics related to climate pollution.

We are grateful for the opportunity to support UCUT through building partnerships which support such an important endeavor focused on reducing pollution and elevating healthy living for all. Furthermore, we are especially excited for the opportunity to assist in supporting equitable education and workforce development in Tribal communities! Idaho EPSCoR is dedicated to collaborating with them in achieving their goals.

Sincerely,

Adrew Kliskey
Idaho EPSCoR Project Director

CC: Karla Eitel, NSF EPSCoR RII Track-1 Education and Workforce Development Lead, University of Idaho