

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Land Management Department



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Current Land Facts

As of 2012, there are 584 tracts* total, equaling 31,633* acres total. The Land Management Department has an interest in tending all 31,633 acres. All acres of the Nations interest have coordinating efforts and cooperation with PBPB Tribal Governing body to include all Tribal Departments, Bureau of Indian Affairs Horton Agency, USDA or US Department of Agriculture, CRP or Conservation Reserve Programs, NRCS or Natural Resource Conservation Service and EQUIP or Environmental Quality Incentive Programs management obligations.

(*Information received to date from the PBPB Tribal office.)

Commitment

The Land Management Department commitment is to protect and regain Tribal lands. To accomplish this commitment the Land Management Department, or LMD, shall invoke the Prairie Band Potawatomi's sovereignty and its inherent right to the Nations Treaty Lands. We will assert the Nations paramount and superior claim to any grant or sale of Tribal Property to other entities, government or otherwise, and will regain the Nations Tribal properties through land acquisition.

Employees

The Department currently has a total of 8 employees with expertise and specifically assigned obligations within the departments programs with an assurance of protecting and preserving the Nation's land.

Programs within the Land Management Department

Currently the following 7 programs are managed and regulated under the LMD.

- ✧ Agriculture Program
 - Haying Program
 - Fencing Program
 - USDA Program
- ✧ Prescribed Burn/Conservation
- ✧ Specified Land Leasing Program
- ✧ Buffalo Management Program

The staff of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Land Management Department acknowledges the land is not a commodity to be sold, bartered, exchanged, or given up. Caretaking responsibility for the land is in the hands of the generation of today to insure the land for the future generations.

About the programs

Farming program: This is the Row Crop portion of the Land Management Division. There are approximately 1500 acres in this branch of LMD. The Department is involved in a two crop rotation of that being corn and beans. With the constant care and help from desirable weather conditions all harvested crops are hauled to the local distribution centers and sold at the highest market values available.



Haying Program: Historically the LMD on an average puts up approximately 1000 bales per year during the haying season. Of these bales approximately 800 to 1000 bales are used to help the Buffalo Program in supplementing the herd during the winter months. The rest of the inventory is sold to the highest bidder from other producers throughout the surrounding area.

Fencing Program: LMD employees have been trained and continuously update themselves in the Tribal Laws & Ordinances as well as the Kansas State Laws as to constructing fence on personal property as well as for right-of-way projects that the Nation is involved in. On average this supports constructing or maintaining around 5 to 10 miles per year of fence work. The miles of pasture fence the Nation owns is typically a maintenance duty of the Lessee.

USDA programs: With Compliance issues being a major part of the LMD there are ongoing contracts with the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture). Through the USDA the department is involved in CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), and other disaster relief programs through this organization. The department also is involved with the FSA (Farm Service Agency) and through this branch of the USDA the LMD receives monies to help improve HEL (Highly Erodible Land) through EQIP (Environment Quality Incentive Program).



Prescribed Burn/Conservation Program:

This is a newly established program actually beginning in 2011. This program is geared towards prescribed burn assistance for the Nation, regulatory clearing on Tribal Tracts as required and needed.

Below is an excerpt from a Natural Resources website to better explain the need & purpose of this program.

Prescribed burning actually helps improve the property and its value by improving 1) wildlife habitat; 2) boost pasture productivity; & 3) Enhance Native plant communities.

When properly managed, fire can rejuvenate open areas to create lush and healthy grasslands.

This program coordinates closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Local Fire Departments, and assistance to other Tribal Nations within this area. In 2012, over 4000(+/-) acres of prescribed burns have been completed by this crew as a conservation effort.

Specified Land Lease Program: During certain planting, grazing rotations or active lease expirations LMD holds lease land auctions for selected sites of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribal Tract properties under approval the Nation's Tribal Council. These declared tracts are to be utilized "as announced" for leasing; changing the use of the tract is unacceptable.

Tribal Members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation are encouraged to take advantage of the agriculture, haying, or grazing leases when the auctions are held to promote the self sustaining of the Nation.



Buffalo Management Program: The LMD maintains the Nation's buffalo herd within the Reservation on 420 acres of Tribal Lands. The herd has grown to over 200 head since the introduction to their present site which is incorporated with the Prairie People's Park site seeing.

As of 2012 the herd has been separated on 2 different pastures. Additional information in regards to the Buffalo Program can be found in an additional brochure entitled the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Land Management Buffalo Program.

Mission Statement

The Land Management office has a dedication and obligation to the Nations Tribal tracts to preserve, protect, and manage any and all tribal land, tract, and/or allotments under the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation for self governance and self sufficiency to support the Nation. Under observance and suggestion of the PBPN Tribal Governing body, Bureau of Indian Affairs Horton Agency, USDA or US Department of Agriculture, CRP or Conservation Reserve Programs, NRCS or Natural Resource Conservation Service and EQUIP or Environmental Quality Incentive Programs management obligations will be fulfilled effectively and better serving the Nation.

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LAND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

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