Protection and Preservation of Natural Resources

Environmental Area's is mission is to provide quality professional services to reclaim the land and to restore and protect the environment and people of our Nation. The report for this area includes Eco Services, Tsyunhehkw^ Farm, OCIFS, and Environmental Quality Departments. Health and Industrial Services is part of the Area, however have been directed to report in the Public Safety group and are not included in this report.

Status report of the service group's Three Year Outcomes



Funding for the phase two of On^yoteaka Lake was secured and project was bid out to contractors for implementation. Mowing treatments were completed on the invasive species Phragmites at Ray Road, Adam Drive, Oneida Health Center, Trout Creek and Oneida Waste Water Treatment Facility. Funding was submitted for restoration and maintenance of wetland, grassland and edge habitat, restoring groundwater seepage areas and reducing erosion. The new Forester secured a new bid for contracted hazardous tree removals that OCC is unable to perform and 11 hazardous tree contract work orders were completed in the first half of FY19.

All activities under stewardship of natural resources activities completed by Environmental Area directly supports the Nations priorities of Protection and Preservation of Natural Resources. Program and project management includes natural resource restoration grants applied for and administration of current grants. Program and project Implementation include any activities that occur directly on the land or waters. Professional development training was completed on strategic planning, and for the new Forester to support staff in program management duties. Nine woodcutting permits were issued to tribal members.

Future plans to implement for Outcome 1: Stewardship of Natural Resources include project and program implementation of construction of phase 2 expansion of On^yoteaka Lake is scheduled to commence in Spring/Summer of 2019. Hazard tree removal contract budget was increased to finish old work orders from the previous Forester and to reduce the wait time for future contracted tree removals. Program management and implementation will begin on new projects when we receive notification on numerous grant applications for stewardship projects from BIA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Circle of Flight funding sources.

Outcome # 2



Managing Natural Resources through Laws, Regulations and Consultation

Meetings with BC and state legislators and DNR Secretary were conducted to allow Tribal consultation. Professional development was completed to maintain credentials for pesticide application, UST inspection, Federal Stormwater Inspections and CPR. Comments were submitted from staff on rescinding of Oneida water quality standards, STHWY 29/VV interchange. Inspections and compliance assistance were completed in response to manure spill at Robertson, two constructions stormwater inspections and 7 requests for UST technical assistance were processed. Wardens responded to 55 complaints including nuisance animals, cemetery infractions, trespassing hunter harassment and intoxicated person; which was turned over to OPD. Three contacts resulted in issuing warnings or citations.

Maintaining credentials and certifications, providing consultation and comments on regulation and developing a climate change resolution directly supports the BC priority of Protection and Preservation of Natural Resources by exercising our sovereignty.

Future plans for Outcome 2 of Managing of Natural Resources through laws, regulation and consultation are: develop and enact an Environmental Review Law, evaluate applying for Treatment as a State for Surface Water, Solid Waste Law amendments, and apply for one new federal credentialled inspector for underground storage tanks for a total of two inspectors. Other activities to be implemented include: a tracking tool for requests, services provided, and regulatory actions taken and participate in developing the Land Use Review tool.

Outcome # 3



Community Outreach, education and direct services

Program implementation accomplishments of Outcome 3: Community Outreach, Education and Services include 73 firewood deliveries for Elders for supplemental heating, 35 Community Work requests completed and 8 firewood deliveries for funeral and/or ceremonial purposes by OCC. Six workshops on Gardening, Farm Management, Nutrition Education and Beginning Farmer and Growing Traditional Medicines were conducted by OCIFS. Tsyunhehkwa donated one cattle to Oneida Pantry and sold one to Oneida Market. Tsyunhehkwa finished harvest of white corn crop in mid-January of this quarter. Dried, shelled white corn sales to the Cannery this quarter were a total of 1680 pounds.

Outcome 3: Community Outreach, Education and Services support the Nation's priorities of protection and preservation of natural resources, human services and public safety. Activities done in this outcome directly affect the community; such as elder hazard tree

removal and firewood programs and providing Oneida white corn to the community. Members also get direct services by attending educational events and workshops. Providing tours and workshops educates community and regional partners on the significance of our work.

Tsyunhehkwa Farm is continuing work on a business plan to move towards sustainability and profitability. White corn plan is being updated and cattle expansion plans are nearing completion. Continue implementation of Youth Agriculture programming by OCIFS. Several outreach events are being planned and occur in May including: May 3 Garlic Mustard Pull behind NHC, May 4 ERB Earth Day Clean up at Oneida Lake and Tree Giveaway at Conservation Field office, May 11 Tsyunhehkwa Seed and Plant distribution, and May18 is the 25th Youth and Elder Fishing Day. Garden tilling will also begin for community members.

