



WISCONSIN TRIBAL CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

2024 Fall Newsletter



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WTCAC 2024 INTERNSHIP

Ryan
Metoxen-Hamilton



My name is Ryan Metoxen-Hamilton. I am entering my 4th year as a student at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. This summer I was accepted into the WTCAC summer internship program. I was stationed at the Oneida Orchard. My main job was to conduct a pest survey of the orchard looking for specific invasive species: the *Megaplatypus mutatus*, the European Cherry Fruit Fly, the Summer Fruit Tortrix Moth, the Plum Fruit Moth, and the False Codling Moth. To do the survey I placed a couple traps for each invasive species around the orchard and collected samples from them. I used four different types of traps with lures for the specific invasive species: Orange Delta trap for the Summer Fruit Tortrix Moth, White-Wing trap for the Plum Fruit Moth and the False Codling Moth, yellow sticky cards for the European Cherry Fruit Fly, and Translucent cross van panel for the *Megaplatypus mutatus*. Once every week I checked them to make sure they were not damaged, missing, or if needed collected samples. When I was not checking my traps I did other work around the orchard like helping the orchard workers like taking care of the orchards garden, weed whacking the rows around the apple trees and removing giant piles of branches that were pruned during the winter from the orchard. I also help with taking care of the chickens that the orchard got last year. I help by working with the orchard workers to move the fence that keeps the chickens contained in the area and also help catch any chickens that manage to get out. I help collect, sort, clean, and pack the eggs that were laid by the hens. Sometimes they like to lay their eggs in random areas so when in the fenced area there is a bit of an egg hunt. I cut down scrub trees that were growing in between the apple trees and I removed grapevines that were climbing up the apple trees and smothering them. I also helped pick wild berries like black cap berries, raspberries, and black berries and near the end of my internship I helped pick and grade the late summer apples like the jersey mac's and the pristine apples. The work at the orchard was hard especially on hot days but I enjoyed the work I did and thank WTCAC for giving me this opportunity.

WTCAC 2024 INTERNSHIP

Deven
Metoxen-Hamilton



Hi everyone, my name is Deven Metoxen-Hamilton from the Oneida Nation and I would like to share my experience as a WTCAC summer intern. A bit more about me, I am 22 and will be entering my final semester at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point finishing my degree in Wildlife Ecology & Management. A few of my hobbies are fishing, bowling, and spending time with my pets.

This summer I was given the opportunity to work with Oneida Nation's Environmental Health & Safety Division as an Invasive pest intern through WTCAC. I spent my internship working on a variety of projects and tasks. I worked on trapping invasive insects, such as the Oak Ambrosia Beetle, Pine Tree Lappet, and Siberian Silk Moth. For the Oak Ambrosia Beetle we used a trap called the multi funnel trap with a lure that uses pheromones that attract the insects. We collect samples from each of these traps and store them in the freezer until they can be sent off to be identified. For the Pine tree Lappet and Siberian Silk Moth, we used a trap called the milk carton trap that also uses a pheromone lure with the addition of pesticide strips.

I also got the opportunity to help out the water resource specialist in lake and stream sampling. We conducted lake and stream samplings with water sampling equipment. For lakes we used a VanDoren to collect the water samples, a Secchi disk which is a black and white disk used to measure turbidity in bodies of water, and a Sonde which is a probe that automatically transmits information such as pH and Dissolved Oxygen percentage from its surroundings.

Through this internship I had the opportunity to interact and learn from many people in different fields of study. I am grateful for this opportunity and eager to make the most of this experience.

WTCAC 2024 INTERNSHIP

Jaylynn
Brisk



Posoh I am Jaylynn Brisk and I had the opportunity to be an intern for WTCAC once again. This will be my second summer internship with WTCAC. I am 20 years old and a part of the Menominee nation. I am currently enrolled at the College of Menominee Nation pursuing a degree in natural resources. This summer has been fulling and expanded my knowlegdeg of natural recourses through hands on work and experance. I placed at the Menominee Enviromental Services where I worked as an invasive species intern.

Specifically we focused on treated terrestrial invasives and trapping for insects. Some plants we treated are garlic mustard, wild parsnip, and spotted knapweed. The majority of the summer the insaves crew spent treating areas that are overgrown with these aggressive non native plants. We used backpacks filled with an herdicied to treat the infected areas.

We also set up five traps around the reservation for Oak Ambrosia beetles. Each week we collected samples. OAB has not been detected yet but we are still actively surveying for it. We use the green multi funnel traps they are covered in wax so wehn the insect is lured to the trap they fall into the sample cup on the bottom.

When I wasn't working with the invasives I was out helping the fisheries and wildlife biologists. With the fisheries biologist we worked a lot with trout surveys and surveying stream health. Each stream we would walk up with an electrofishing backpack and catch the fish as they are stunned. This allows us to get an estimate on population and health of the streams.

Along with working in the stream i also helped with grey wolf surveys. These take place at night and are done to track population and behavior of the wolves. The crew goes out and howls in all four directions and waits for a response and does this for each mile of the route. I loved working on each project and with such great people. I am grateful for this opportunity gain valuable experience

Pest



Alert

The Elm Zigzag Sawfly was recently found in Portage County Wisconsin in July 2024. It has since been found in several other counties in WI.



The Elm Zigzag Sawfly feeds only on Elm species. The larvae cause damage by feeding on leaves in a “zigzag” pattern.

For more information click [HERE](#)

To report a sighting of Elm Zigzag Sawfly, go to [EDDMapS](#)





WTCAC Forestry Subcommittee Meeting

Visual Merchandising

- An introduction to log grading
- Visual merchandising of standing trees
- Merchandising/bucking of felled trees
- Discuss external grades based on surface defects
- Discuss defects and impacts on lumber
- Mill logs and discuss defects
- Discussion of marking implications and management strategies

JOIN US!

Register at
www.wtcac.org

**Travel Reimbursement
available for Tribal Staff**



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**North Star Mohican Casino-Resort
Galaxy Lounge**

**W12180 County Road A
Bowler, WI 54416**



**University of Wisconsin
Stevens Point**





WISCONSIN TRIBAL CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

10 WEEKS

Summer 2025

\$17/HOUR

WTCAC Summer Internship Program Announcement

**Internships for 2025 Include
Potential Opportunities to
Work With:**

- Tribes in WI
- US Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services
- National Agricultural Statistical Service
- Ottawa National Forest Visitor Center

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must be enrolled full-time in a college or university located in Wisconsin
- Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized Tribe in Wisconsin
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MELISSA JOHNSON,
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WTCAC to receive \$1 million of \$10 million grant to fund Tribal Agricultural Apprentices!



The vision of the SAS-CAP project, "Returning to Our Roots: Rebuilding Native Farming Traditions and Food Sovereignty for Great Lakes Indigenous People," is to develop a collaborative partnership between UW-Madison and Tribal Nations in Wisconsin. These efforts honor and support the Tribes' ongoing cultural leadership to support and enhance Intertribal food networks that increase the capacity of Indigenous food producers, improve access to traditional foods, and provide positive nutritional impacts.

"Returning to Our Roots" is a 5-year, \$10M research partnership between the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council; the Menominee, Oneida, Forest County Potawatomi, and Ho-Chunk Nations; and University of Wisconsin-Madison. It's funded by the USDA AFRI's Sustainable Agriculture Systems program area. The project will run from ~June 2024-June 2029.



Ohe-láku corn

Six Project Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1: ASSET MAPPING

Map assets and resources in regional Tribal food systems

OBJECTIVE 2: INDIGENOUS CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

Research production strategies in Indigenous crops and livestock systems

OBJECTIVE 3: INDIGENOUS CORN HARVEST & STORAGE

Research culturally appropriate mechanization methods for harvesting and storing Indigenous corn

OBJECTIVE 4: SUPPLY CHAINS & TRADEROUTES

Build safe and resilient supply chains and restore traditional trade routes throughout the Great Lakes Region. Offer trainings in warehouse management and meat processing

OBJECTIVE 5: TRIBAL NUTRITION

Facilitate nutrition education and storytelling and mentoring for Tribal nutritionists. Conduct policy research to support healthy food access

OBJECTIVE 6: TEACHING & MENTORING

Develop curriculum, mentoring for Native students at UW-Madison, and extension training for Tribal producers

Read more about it HERE



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