



Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation
Box Elder, MT

Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation, Tribal Lead Agency

PRIORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024

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Disclaimer

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Outreach was extended to Atokse, Rocky Boy Health Center, and Hill County Electric Cooperative and will be extended to the Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Center, Rocky Boy Veterans Center, and the Rocky Boy Volunteer Fire Department. Information about facility size, electricity and facility energy sources and use, and vehicle types and fuel use was provided by the Chippewa Cree Tribe, Rocky Boy Schools, Chippewa Cree Housing Authority, and Stone Child College. Chippewa Cree Utilities and Water Resources provided information about solid waste management and the Rocky Boy Health Center provided some information about wastewater management. Existing plans were reviewed including the Integrated Resource Management Plan, Agriculture Resource Management Plan, Climate Adaptation Plan, Tribal Transit Plan, Food Sovereignty Primer and Marketing Study, Grocery Store Business Plan, and the Sawmill Business Plan. The Tribal Directors' monthly meeting gave the opportunity to advance a leadership team for the PCAP.

Definitions

Work in progress

Table of Contents

topic	page number
Executive Summary	5
1. Introduction	9
1.1 CPRG Overview	10
1.2 PCAP Overview and Definitions	11
1.3 Approach to Developing the PCAP	13
1.4 Scope of the PCAP	14
2. Tribal Considerations (optional)	15
2.1 Tribal Management and Development Team	15
2.2 Special Consideration	15
2.3 Collaborations	16
3. PCAP Elements	17
3.1 Greenhouse Gas Inventory	17
3.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projection (optional)	22
3.3 GHG Reduction Targets (optional)	22
3.4 GHG Reduction Measures (required for priority measures only)	22
3.5 Benefits Analysis	27
3.6 Review of Authority to Implement (required)	27
3.7 Identification of Other Funding Mechanisms (optional)	27
3.8 Workforce Planning Analysis (optional)	27
4. Next Steps (optional)	27

List of Figures

Middle Dry Fork Development Area Preliminary Engineering Report *Diagram*

Work in progress

List of Tables

Work in progress

Executive Summary

- Purpose

The purpose of the Chippewa Cree Tribe's Priority Climate Action Plan 2024 is to work with all tribal departments to identify greenhouse gas emissions on the Rocky Boy's Reservation by compiling and consolidating, reviewing, and interpreting relevant information about GHG sources and the opportunities to decrease GHG emissions. A driving force will be the informed public input from the enrolled membership in the Chippewa Cree Tribe, residents of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, and the Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee – the governing body of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The Chippewa Cree Tribe will thereby determine measures and priorities for reducing GHG emissions, establish an effective and efficient system for monitoring the results, and will implement corrective actions when indicated.

- PCAP Overview

- Identifying PCAP team leadership

The PCAP team leadership is the Board of Directors, CEO, and Tribal CRPG Coordinator for the Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation on the Rocky Boy's Reservation as facilitated by Joan Mitchell, private consultant. The tribal department Directors, the CEO's from tribally-sanctioned entities, and the lead contact from relevant on-reservation organizations, and the designated staff will comprise the PCAP team leadership.

- Identifying responsible agency/staff

The responsible agency/staff is within the Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation: Joseph Eagleman, Sr., Chief Executive Officer and Chelsea St. Pierre, CCEC CPRG Coordinator.

- Tribe specific considerations for PCAP (e.g., geographic constraints, existing emissions reductions strategies, special interests)

The Chippewa Cree PCAP 2024 will focus study and effort on the Rocky Boy's Reservation 122,000 acres. Existing emissions reduction strategies within the 2019 Chippewa Cree Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan were derived from vulnerability assessments and will be revisited for inclusion into the PCAP. Special interests include Chippewa Cree cultural values and cultural resources, environmental assessment review, geographic information system, design and engineering, comprehensive centralized information management, consistent cost management across tribal departments for energy use, green construction standards including green procurement policies, resource recovery, and renewable energy options.

- PCAP elements and key takeaways
 - Developing a GHG inventory (required)

The Community GHG inventory will include tribal government operations. The base year is 2023. There are four key on-reservation entities yet to provide input and requests have been submitted to two of the four entities. Outreach has been extended to the Hill County Electric Cooperative to provide electricity use on the Rocky Boy’s Reservation and, tentatively, results are forthcoming. Except for the four entities previously mentioned, facility size and energy source/volume, and vehicle type, volume, and fuel use have been provided. Upon receipt of the information from the remaining on-reservation entities, the Tribe is poised to enter the data into the GHG inventory. The USEPA GHG Inventory tool will be consulted.

- GHG Projections (optional)

The projections include a decrease in CO₂, CFCs, N₂O and methane. The carbon sink area will increase through wetlands restoration.

- GHG reduction targets (optional)

The reduction targets will be progressive and accumulative.

- GHG reduction measures (priority measures, at a minimum are required)

There are eight (8) priority reduction measures proposed: Energy Sector Measure 1 – Install a Solar PV System, Transportation Sector Measure 2 – Install an EV Charging System, Energy Sector Measure 3 – Operate a Comprehensive Weatherization and Energy Conservation Program, Agriculture Sector Measure 4 – Build Food Sovereignty Infrastructure, Solid Waste Sector Measure 5 – Establish a Tribal Recycling Program, Transportation Sector Measure 6 – Build Transportation Storage and Maintenance Facilities, Forestry Sector Measure 7 – Build a Tribal Sawmill, and Environment and Land Use Measure 8 – Deconstruct Abandoned Facilities in Close Proximity to Rocky Boy’s Reservation Wetlands.

- Benefit analysis for each measure (required)

The benefit analysis for each measure includes trained, employed tribal workforce, drafting and approval of tribal regulations, centralized information management for quality assurance and sustainability of effort and corrective action, public engagement for long-range behavior change based on native values and scientific/technological understanding, restoration of wetlands critical for water quality/storage and wildlife enhancement, and infrastructure improvement and expansion for sustainability of effort.

- Review of authority to implement for each measure (required)

The Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee is the governing body of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and is the authority for the implementation of each measure and can delegate the authority to a tribal entity.

- Funding opportunities beyond the PCAP (e.g., CCAP) for each measure (optional)

The Chippewa Cree Tribe through the Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation will request implementation funds from the US EPA CPRG program, wetlands protection, brownfields, and tribal solid waste management. The US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration and the US Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs can support design, engineering, and construction of infrastructure, the US Department of Agriculture can assist with agricultural infrastructure, and the US Department of Energy can assist with weatherization and tribal renewable energy.

- Workforce planning analysis for each measure (optional)

Basic labor will be needed for construction projects. Energy and agricultural engineers will be needed and most likely from the non-tribal private sector for project designs. Deconstruction can be provided by a tribal workforce trained to perform such tasks. Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation may facilitate the training of an energy labor force for the construction and maintenance of a tribal energy infrastructure. There will be a need for business managers brought on board during the final planning and design, and construction and startup operations of green economic development.

- Next steps
 - High-level overview of the CCAP

There are preliminary plans being set to engage high level federal employees, primarily tribal liaisons within the federal agencies which have a significant presence on the Rocky Boy's Reservation with the Chippewa Cree Tribe through funding agreements and self-governance. The agencies will participate in dialogue pertaining to GHG and opportunities within their respective federal trust responsibility. The federal agencies include the BIA, EPA, EDA, DOE, USDA, and the Department of Labor. The Chippewa Cree Tribe will be well-represented throughout the exchange through the participation of the PCAP team leadership.

- Implementation steps

The implementation steps will proceed as:

1. Ongoing public engagement;
2. Complete intake and GHG inventory;
3. Finalize the Chippewa Priority Climate Action Plan;

4. Develop a funding strategy;
5. Apply for CPRG funding;
6. Complete QAPP;
7. Apply for other supportive funding;
8. Site assessment, engineering and design;
9. Construction and deconstruction;
10. Supportive programs (recycling and workforce development); and
11. Regulatory and policy development.

1. Introduction

Rocky Boy's Reservation

The Rocky Boy's Reservation is located on approximately 120,000 acres of land in north central Montana 100 highway miles south of the US – Canadian border in Hill and Choteau Counties. Specifically, the reservation is located in Township 28, 29, and 30 North and Range 13, 14, 15, & 16 East. The reservation spans 193 square miles. The unincorporated town of Box Elder, Montana is on the northwestern border of the reservation and Havre, Montana (popn est. in 2005 was 10,000) is located approximately 25 miles north of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The reservation is unallotted although free use land assignments are granted to individual tribal members for lifetime privileges within established limits. Rocky Boy's foregoes the jurisdictional issues found on many other reservations that had been allotted. All of the land within the Rocky Boy's Reservation is held in trust for the full tribal membership of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The land is located within a contiguous border and there are few nontribal land holdings within the reservation borders. The Bear's Paw Mountains are located in the southern portion of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The mountains are within 30,000 acres set aside by official Tribal Resolution as a recreational area precluding, for the most, home sites. Three of the taller mountains in the Bear's Paw are Baldy Butte (elev. 6,916 feet), Centennial (elev. 5,900), and Bowery Peak (elev. 5,804). The mountain elevations support communication leases including one for the tribal public radio station. A Tribal Resolution restricted use at Baldy Butte during certain times of the year for cultural purposes. There are campgrounds and picnic areas throughout the recreational area with the more groomed areas in Beaver Creek drainage connected to Beaver Creek Park, one of the largest county parks. The Bear's Paw Mountains support a major forest on the reservation with a mountain pine beetle infestation underway. Flooding washed away gravel roads and culverts in the mountains. The mountains also sustain fish and wildlife including cougar, elk, deer, and big horn sheep. East Fork Dam is a man-made dam, expansion of which was recently complete. The lower elevations of the Rocky Boy's Reservation provide for farmland, grazing and range, transportation and environmental infrastructure, government buildings and schools, the tribal college, and numerous home sites in clustered villages and scattered settings. Natural gas wells are in production in the lower elevations. Other mineral holdings include gravel reserves. There will be major development occurring in the Middle Dry Fork area as a flood recovery effort. Man-made dams in the lower elevations include Bonneau, Brown's, Williamson, and Towe Dams.

Chippewa Cree Tribe

The Rocky Boy's Reservation was established by Congressional Act in 1916 as the home of Rocky Boy's Band of Chippewa and Little Bear's Band of Cree Indians. The Chippewa Cree Tribe (CCT) of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation was organized in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (34 Stat. P. 984) as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (74' Congress, Pub. No. 14'7). The Federal Register, Vol. 67, No. 134, Friday, July 12, 2002, Part IV, Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, "Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs; Notice," lists the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation on page 46328. The governing

document of the Chippewa Cree Tribe is the Constitution and By-Laws of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, Montana enacted in 1935 and amended in 1973. The CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION, MONTANA RATIFIED JULY 25, 1936 documents that the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation has appropriate Federal operating authority. The Tribe entered into a BIA Self-Governance Compact Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior in October 1993 and thereby assumed all the functions, services, and activities that were previously administered directly by the Rocky Boy's BIA Agency. The Chippewa Cree Tribe's governing body is the Tribal Business Committee comprised of nine members who are elected at large by the tribal membership and serve alternating four-year terms.

Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation

The Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation (CCEC) was formed by the Chippewa Cree Tribe (CCT) in 2012 as a Section 17 corporation to carry out goals as outlined in the Chippewa Cree Energy Master Plan, which was completed in 2009. The Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation is managed exclusively by its Board of Directors and charged with the duty to conduct and do business either within or outside the exterior boundaries of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, which is located in Northcentral Montana. The CCEC is the designated tribal entity for the CPRG program granted through the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

1.1 CPRG overview

The CPRG process was initiated through the grant application to the US EPA CPRG program and subsequent work plan approval. The CCEC selected a consultant to facilitate the initial phases of the PCAP and CCAP including the GHG emissions inventory and QAPP. The consultant conducted an intake to assist in preliminary identification of GHG sources and volume. Tribal departments and organizations were contacted and face-to-face interviews resulted in the identification of facilities, vehicles, size, type, fuel use and amounts. There remain four on-reservation organizations yet to complete the intake process. Substantial review and training via US EPA CPRG webinars were undertaken by the consultant in order to address present status and requirements. The purpose of the PCAP is to base priority GHG reduction measures on sound information and to prioritize the reduction measures. The consultant will present public awareness material to facilitate informed decision-making and public engagement. The Chippewa Cree Tribe chose to participate in the CPRG program as the program aligns with the Tribe's mission, "To conduct all tribal business in the best interest and understanding of the tribal members." Furthermore, during this time of on-reservation challenges, social upheaval and trauma, and changing landscape, the PCAP and CCAP can help reinforce a growing commitment to cultural revitalization and cultural integrity, an activated leadership learning and applying sound scientific, technological, management principles, and a healing community guided by intergenerational equity for sustainable world. The Cree word for "atmosphere" is closely translated as "heaven" while the Cree words for "greenhouse gases" can be understood as "not good" and "we put them there;" this is according to a 91-years old Cree woman, a mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and great-great grandmother with Cree as her first language, enrolled tribal member, and lifetime resident of the Rocky Boy's Reservation.

1.2 PCAP Overview and Definitions

- GHG Inventory (required)

The CCEC Tribal CPRG program will utilize the community greenhouse gas inventory and will include the tribal government organizations, specifically. There are four tribal or on-reservation that organization that still need to complete the intake process so the inventory tool advanced the US EPA can be efficiently completed. There is electricity use information that is also needed to support baseline information. There are support documents produced by the Tribe that provide background information such as the tribal transit plan, the 2020 Integrated Resource Management Plan (2024 update to be completed by September 2024), the 2019 Chippewa Cree Climate Adaptation Plan, and the most recent US Census American Community Survey.

- GHG emission projections (optional)

GHG emission projections will be generated by utilizing US EPA GHG models which contain constants for various fuel use.

- GHG reduction targets (optional)

The GHG reduction targets are dependent on cumulate impacts from the reduction measures and how those measures are supported by funding over a timeline that is not guaranteed.

- Quantified GHG reduction measures (priority measures only are required)

The Rocky Boy Health Center, Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services, and Atoske are significant parties that must complete the GHG intake. They have many vehicles and facilities that will greatly impact the GHG emissions inventory. Of the eight priority measures, the Rocky Boy Health Center, Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services, and Atoske will contribute to all but two of the measure (4 & 8). The reduction measures are:

Energy Sector Measure 1 – Install a Solar PV System,
Transportation Sector Measure 2 – Install an EV Charging System,
Energy Sector Measure 3 – Operate a Comprehensive Weatherization and Energy Conservation Program,
Agriculture Sector Measure 4 – Build Food Sovereignty Infrastructure,
Solid Waste Sector Measure 5 – Establish a Tribal Recycling Program,
Transportation Sector Measure 6 – Build Transportation Storage and Maintenance Facilities,
Forestry Sector Measure 7 – Build a Tribal Sawmill, and
Environment and Land Use Measure 8 – Deconstruct Abandoned Facilities in Close Proximity to Rocky Boy’s Reservation Wetlands.

It is premature at this time to quantify GHG reduction measures until all community organization complete the intake.

- A benefit analysis

The benefits for the measures are a trained skilled workforce to affect a decrease in joblessness and an increase in economic prosperity; reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; behavior change at the micro and macro levels; green infrastructure, including solar energy, for sustainability of effort; tribal regulatory enhancement and policy development will compel green building standards and green procurement to prevent emissions; a centralized information system will support quality assurance; carbon sinks will be enhanced through wetlands restoration; and EV charging stations will support EVs to decrease GHG emissions.

- A review of authority to implement (required)

The Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation is a sovereign nation with self-governance agreements in place with the US DOI BIA and US DHHS IHS. The tribe is establishing water quality standards and may opt for a tribal air program. Specific regulatory language will be provided in subsequent writings. The Chippewa Cree Tribe will strongly consider language appropriate for a Tribal Resolution to Address Greenhouse Gas Emissions on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The Chippewa Cree Tribe may request the Tribal CPRG program to establish a tribal-wide and community-wide working agreement to implement the PCAP and CCAP.

- Identification of other funding mechanisms (optional)

The Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration and the Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs have grant funding and loans available for facility engineering and design and for construction that can be used for cost share. The savings from a recycling program can be used to support a long-range effort after an initial startup investment. The cost savings from vehicle fuel can be used to sustain EV charging stations and the US Department of Transportation has grant programs and initiative for E and for transit facilities. The USDA may move toward tribal self-governance but nevertheless has programs to support agricultural facilities construction and operation; the funds, for the most, are cost share requiring match. The US Department of Energy has a Tribal Renewable Energy Deployment Program or a similar program that is accessible for solar power. US EPA may be called upon for wetlands restoration, brownfields facility deconstruction, and solid waste management options (although recycling programs are questionable). US EPA supports tribal air programs which can impact GHG reduction and monitoring. The US Department of Labor may have opportunities for labor force development while the Tribal TANF program and the workforce investment may provide a trained labor pool for many of the reduction measures.

- Workforce planning analysis

Workforce planning will consider that changing labor force on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. It has been quite difficult to maintain a workforce and this may be a result of substance use disorder impacting individuals and families. As the younger adults enter the workforce, there is an opportunity to guide them into careers that will have a positive influence on GHG reduction. Business managers are needed as are program managers for GHG reduction monitoring and project oversight, while tribal transit facility construction and other facility construction will need skilled laborers. Students need to be encouraged to enter renewable energy education and training programs, including engineers. An agricultural engineer is also needed. Stone Child College, the tribal college service the Rocky Boy's Reservation, is the prime choice to deliver many related training and educational degree programs in support of GHG emission reduction.

1.3 Approach to Developing the PCAP

- Identifying and engaging key stakeholders

The key stakeholders were identified based on historic working relationships that tended to successful involvement. The employee turnover rate is of concern but this is being addressed as training for succession practices become instilled in the workplace. The tribal department directors and support staff were requested to be involved and will participate in drafting a working agreement for the PCAP and CCAP leadership team. A major step will be taken as public education and awareness material is presented through various media on the reservation and at tribal venues, ongoing, and for an intergenerational audience. The Tribe may be requesting involvement from the relevant federal agencies for a comprehensive review of GHG emissions reduction and opportunities for the Chippewa Cree Tribe. The vision is an eight-hour exchange that may be accessible to other tribes and other federal employees.

- Understanding the GHG emissions inventory

The webinars and documents available online were substantial almost to the point of being overwhelming. It took way too much time to find out where to submit this PCAP document, for example. This is an excellent opportunity for the PCAP Leadership Team to learn the GHG process as it evolves especially since there are alternatives such as the Indian Health Service GHG inventory. Also, the involvement of Northern Arizona University ITEP is very encouraging as they have consistently provided quality training and career development opportunity at the local and national levels on behalf of tribes.

- Establishing GHG reduction goals

Participation in the tribal directors' meeting started the process to establish GHG goals. Follow-up included face-to-face discussion to help with the determining priority measures.

Also, there are key documents the Tribe produced that influenced the goals. Yet, there is need for more involvement from four tribal organizations for the GHG emissions inventory which will contribute to establishing GHG reduction goals based on informed, data-driven decision making.

- Identifying measures to reduce GHG emissions

Reviewing key tribal plans, meeting with community members and tribal decision makers, and surveying best practices in place throughout the industry and tribal communities helped to identify reduction measures. These were discussed with tribal staff.

- Prioritizing and selecting GHG reduction measures

Prioritizing and selecting GHG reduction measures will be accomplished within the first two weeks of April 2024. The present measures were derived from discussions with key tribal staff and staff from on-reservation entities. Decision-makers may justify changes and additions although the reduction measures herein presented are doable, measurable, and represent many different disciplines.

- Estimating potential GHG reduction measure impacts

CO₂, N₂O, CFCs, and methane will be reduced, incrementally at a steady pace and accumulatively although the amounts will not be provided until the GHG inventory is completed.

- Establishing an administrative process for measure implementation

The CCEC will either oversee or be involved in an advisory capacity as the measures are implemented. This will be evident in the fuel use reporting as the CCEC will devise a means to centralize the reports.

1.4 Scope of the PCAP

The Chippewa Cree PCAP 2024 will span 5 years and take place on the Rocky Boy's Reservation, primarily in the lower elevation where most of the infrastructure, facilities, and residential development is located. Tribal decisions are made through a hierarchal structure starting with the project coordinator and proceeding through the director, subcommittee, and ultimately, when indicated, the Tribal Business Committee. The scope of the PCAP spans transportation, housing, energy, land and environment, facilities, tribal health, education, and agriculture.

2. Tribal Organization and Considerations

2.1 The Tribal Management Team

- Tribal leaders

The Tribal Business Committee and subcommittees review, comment, and approve PCAP tribal management team recommendations.

- Tribal agencies (environment, natural resources, land use departments)

Rocky Boy Schools, tribal roads/transportation department, food sovereignty, sustainability and planning department, tribal health, law enforcement, tribal natural resources, environmental protection, community development (Atoske), Stone Child College, tribal central services, housing authority, solid waste management, the Rocky Boy Volunteer Fire Department, and the Great Plains Veterans Organization are the agencies involved in the PCAP.

- Advisory committees

Cultural review may be requested from an advisory committee.

- Other groups (e.g., third party consultants, community-based organizations)

The Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee is the final authority and will receive recommendation from its subcommittees. The PCAP team leadership will draw members from the Tribal Roads and Transportation Department, Tribal Natural Resource Department, Chippewa Cree Housing Authority, Chippewa Cree Central Services, Rocky Boy Health Center, Chippewa Cree Housing Authority, Atokse, Tribal Planning, Chippewa Cree Law Enforcement Services, Rocky Boy School District, Great Plains Veterans Organization, Tribal Water Resources and Utilities, and the Tribal Environmental Protection Department.

2.2 Special considerations for Tribal Entities

- Presence of sector-specific goals

There are existing plans for climate, food sovereignty, tribal transit, preliminary engineering, energy, natural resources, agriculture, and business development that are accessible and have been reviewed for the relevance to sector-specific goals.

- Existing GHG inventories or similar assessments

The DHHS Indian Health Services has a model GHG emissions inventory and the Rocky Boy Health Center will be conducting a GHG emissions inventory, which will be consistent and compatible with the PCAP.

- Benefits quantifications

Search is underway for a benefits quantification model although a simple determination has been made.

- Existing emissions reduction plans, programs, or strategies

The Tribe's climate adaptation plan contains vulnerability assessments for ten subject areas.

- Authority and accountability structures or systems associated with emission reduction plans, programs, or strategies

The challenge is to centralize budget reports of fuel and electricity use in order to advance ongoing monitoring.

- Cultural restriction, geographic remoteness, land governance and/or need for special permissions that impact emission reduction measures and strategies

Rocky Boy's Reservation is rural and remote. Shopping is done in stores that are a 30 to 60-mile roundtrip. This can have a major effect on GHG emissions. Information about electricity use is not readily accessible for the Rocky Boy's Reservation from the Hill County Electric Cooperative.

2.3 Collaborations

A public awareness and engagement effort is being developed. This will be an ongoing delivery.

3. PCAP Elements

3.1 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) required

The following information supports a simplified GHG inventory for the Tribe.

Base Year: 2023

Population

Rocky Boy's Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, MT	
Source: 2018-2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates	
Sex and Age	Estimate
Total population	3,613
Male	1,973
Female	1,640
Under 5 years	324
5 to 9 years	363
10 to 14 years	317
15 to 19 years	345
20 to 24 years	338
25 to 34 years	348
35 to 44 years	460
45 to 54 years	422
55 to 59 years	252
60 to 64 years	95
65 to 74 years	254
75 to 84 years	75
85 years and over	20
Median age (years)	30.1
18 years and over	2,410
65 years and over	349

Chippewa Cree Housing Authority

Number of Employees: 45

Number of Homes: 944

Number of Buildings: 3

Cost for propane: \$5,000 per year

Number of Vehicles: 4

Cost for vehicle fuel per year

Gas: \$43,000

Diesel: \$9,000

Cost for electricity: ?

Rocky Boy Schools

of employees:

Number of vehicles: 7 passenger vehicles
15 buses

Cost for vehicle fuel per year
Diesel: \$97,000

Number of buildings: 8

Electricity cost: \$164,000 per year

Propane cost: \$107,000 per year

Solid Waste/wastewater/water: \$72,000 per year

Stone Child College

Number of Employees in 2023: 166

Number of Buildings: 12

Total Cost for Electricity in 2023: \$70,887.84

Total Cost for Fuel in 2023, please specify type (propane, natural gas, etc.):

Propane \$91,408.88

Vehicles (in 2023) Fuel costs \$14,170.64

Chippewa Cree Tribe

of employees: 547

of buildings: 21

Electricity cost: \$262,000/year

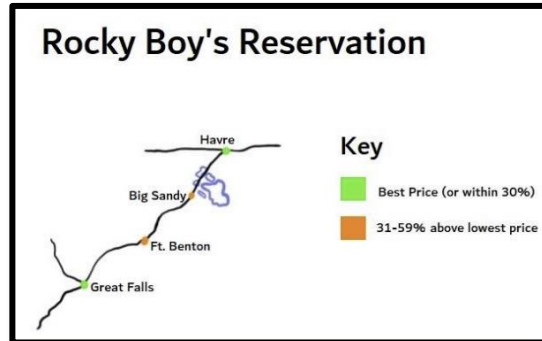
Propane cost: \$123,000/year

vehicles: 94 vehicles

Fuel cost: \$578,000/year

Food Sovereignty

The Montana Food Distribution Study, November 2020, Native Ways Today LLC, provided the following excerpt.



For many years, there were no food stores on the reservation. In addressing this issue, the Chippewa Cree tribal government opened a store in Rocky Boy several years ago.

However, Gramma's Store serves more as a convenience store than a grocery store, carrying no fresh produce or whole foods. Because they have been unable to find an affordable grocery distributor, Gramma's purchases its goods at Walmart or Sam's Club (in Havre or Great Falls) for retail price and mark them up 30% or more. There is also a convenience store in Box Elder.

With no grocery store on the reservation, everyone is forced to travel to Havre or Great Falls to shop. Although Big Sandy and Fort Benton are closer, the prices don't make those locations a good option.

The Rocky Boy Food Coalition, led by the tribal Planning Department, is working toward more local food production, processing, and access by residents. Projects in the works include a flour mill, mobile slaughter and meat processing unit, a food pantry, gardens, green houses, and a full-service grocery store. All these steps will lead toward greater food sovereignty. In conducting a feasibility study for the grocery store, one of their biggest challenges will be procuring food products at a reasonable price from a distributor that will deliver to their location.

Evaluation: While Rocky Boy's nearest grocery store supplies their community with reasonably priced food, it still requires a 60-mile round trip. Consequently, those without a car are forced to rely on the convenience store food at Gramma's. The research team is hopeful that the Rocky Boy Food Coalition will implement policies that support food sovereignty and ultimately result in more fresh and whole foods available on the reservation. This may manifest as the above goals or by finding ways to add a full-service grocery option to the existing store.

Tribal Transit

The following was excerpted from the Chippewa Cree Tribal Transit Plan 2022:

I. A vehicle count was conducted on June 30, 2020 – a low count day due to traditional native ceremony and the July 4th holiday – of the vehicles parked at community facilities. The numbers included GSA vehicles, other program vehicles, and vehicles in disrepair but did not include school buses. The tally is:

Tribal Natural Resources	12
Wellness Center	3
Rocky Boy Veterans Center	4
Tribal TANF and Agency	18
Law Enforcement	50
Head Start	9
Social Services	5
Housing	32
Roads and Courts	20
Tribal Office	57
Tribal Water Resources/RBU	15
Environmental Protection	6
Commodities	5
Stone Child College	80
Rocky Boy School	30
Rocky Boy Health Center	121
Plain Green and CCC	67
TOTAL	534 x Parking Permits at \$1/day for 260 workdays = \$138,840 or \$2/day = \$277,680

Relevant policy development includes a tribal parking permit policy (regulation, fees, and reinvestment strategy), a community blight ordinance, and a tribal transit policy to address hitch hikers.

▪ Transportation Routes

There are 7 routes for transportation throughout the Reservation, all paved highways:

1. Route 6, Upper Box Elder Road,
2. Duck Creek Road,
3. Haystack Loop,
4. Mission Taylor Road,
5. Parker Canyon Road,
6. Lower Box Elder Road, and
7. Laredo – Agency Road.

The total of highway miles is 586 miles.

- Community Members

There is an estimated 7,000 members enrolled in the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation. The on-reservation population is significantly lower as indicated by the 2020 U. S. Census American Community Survey SELECTED SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES 2020: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, Rocky Boy's Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, MT at

<https://censusreporter.org/profiles/25000US3205-rocky-boys-reservation-and-off-reservation-trust-land/>

Workers 16 years and over 1032	
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK	
Car, truck, or van	83.8%
Drove alone	61.8
Carpooled	22.0
In 2-person carpool	19.4
In 3-person carpool	2.6
In 4-person carpool	0.0
Workers per car, truck, or van	1.16
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	0.5
Walked	4.9
Bicycle	0.0
Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	1.7
Worked from home	9.0
Mean travel time to work 17 minutes	
TIME OF DEPARTURE TO GO TO WORK	
7:00 a.m. to 7:29 a.m.	9.3%
7:30 a.m. to 7:59 a.m.	24.7
8:00 a.m. to 8:29 a.m.	25.1
8:30 a.m. to 8:59 a.m.	7.2
9:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.	18.5
VEHICLES AVAILABLE	
Workers 16 years and over in households	1032
No vehicle available	5.9%
1 vehicle available	29.6
2 vehicles available	26.9
3 more vehicles available	37.6

- Scope

The information thus far provided is incomplete but charts a course for additional input and revision. An integrated solid waste management plan and solid waste sort are being drafted and will be completed soon. There is more detail regarding vehicle type (light weight, heavy duty, etc.) that will be updated.

3.2 GHG Emissions Projections (optional)

3.3 GHG Reduction Targets (optional)

3.4 GHG Reduction Measures (required for priority measures only)

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe - Energy Sector Measure 1 - Install a Solar PV System</u>	
Implementing agency	Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation
Implementation milestones	Engineering and Design Site Assessment Funding application Establish energy utility PPA Construction O&M
Geographic location	Near congregate housing sites
Funding sources	USEPA CPRG USDA Rural Development & HEC US DOE Tribal Renewable Energy Deployment
Metrics tracking	Decreased electricity consumption Electricity billing
Cost	\$10 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	CO ₂ decrease due to decreased wood burning
Implementation authority milestones	Energy utility PPA

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe – Transportation Sector Measure 2 – Install an EV Charging System</u>	
Implementing agency	Chippewa Cree Energy Corporation
Implementation milestones	Engineering and design Site assessment and selection Pilot projects Purchase and install equipment Establish billing structure
Geographic location	Middle Dry Fork Development Area Rocky Boy Schools Rocky Boy Health Center Stone Child College
Funding sources	US Department of Transportation US Economic Development Administration US EPA CPRG
Metrics tracking	Charging meters
Cost	\$1 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	Decreased CO ₂ emissions
Implementation authority milestones	Parking permits system

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe – Energy Sector Measure 3 – Operate a Comprehensive Weatherization and Energy Conservation Program</u>	
Implementing agency	Chippewa Cree Housing Authority
Implementation milestones	Identify facilities and homes Energy audit Prioritize Workforce development Weatherize
Geographic location	Lower elevations of RB Reservation
Funding sources	USEPA CPRG Department of Energy

Metrics tracking	Power bill
Cost	\$2 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	Decreased CO ₂ emissions
Implementation authority milestones	Grant applications

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe - Agriculture Sector Measure 4 - Build Food Sovereignty Infrastructure</u>	
Implementing agency	Food Sovereignty Initiative
Implementation milestonesG	Mobile slaughter units Storage and green refrigeration Agricultural engineer Engineering and design for grocery store Workforce development Build/install infrastructure
Geographic location	Bonneauville and MDFDA
Funding sources	USEPA CPRG USDA EDA DOL
Metrics tracking	Harvest, storage, employment
Cost	\$6 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	Methane
Implementation authority milestones	USDA certified Food Safety

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe – Solid Waste Sector Measure 5 – Establish a Tribal Recycling Program</u>	
Implementing agency	TWRD/Utilities/Solid Waste
Implementation milestones	Design and install collection Public awareness Purchase additional collection vehicle Identify disposal and re-use mechanisms
Geographic location	Reservation-wide
Funding sources	US EPA
Metrics tracking	Decreased solid waste disposal volume and cost
Cost	\$1 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	CO ₂ emissions decreased
Implementation authority milestones	Recycling requirements

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe – Transportation Sector Measure 6 – Build Transportation Storage and Maintenance Facilities</u>	
Implementing agency	Tribal Transportation Department
Implementation milestones	A & E, site assessment and selection Tribal transit facilities construction Build Rocky Boy School Bus garage
Geographic location	Rocky Boy Schools MDFDA
Funding sources	US DOT US EPA
Metrics tracking	Decreased facility energy use
Cost	\$6 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	CO ₂ emissions decreases

Implementation authority milestones	Green procurement policies Green construction standards Parking permits
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<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe - Forestry Sector Measure 7 - Build a Tribal Sawmill</u>	
Implementing agency	Tribal Natural Resource Department
Implementation milestones	See business plan
Geographic location	See business plan
Funding sources	US DOI BIA US EPA CPRG program USDA rural development
Metrics tracking	Decreased fuel load
Cost	\$5 million
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	CO ₂ emissions decrease
Implementation authority milestones	Logging permit

<u>Chippewa Cree Tribe -Environment and Land Use Measure 8 - Deconstruct Abandoned Facilities in Close Proximity to Rocky Boy's Reservation Wetlands</u>	
Implementing agency	Tribal Environmental Protection
Implementation milestones	Public awareness and input CCT drafts, approves a blight ordinance Houses and facilities are identified, mapped and prioritized in consideration of potential impact to wetlands Demolition debris waste disposal plan, resource recovery, and cost estimate Train workforce for deconstruction Deconstruct Wetlands restoration
Geographic location	90,000 acres in the lower elevations of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Hill & Choteau

	Counties, north central Montana; wetlands proximal
Funding sources	US EPA CPRG; Brownfields; Wetlands Restoration
Metrics tracking	Wetlands acres, volume of GHG emission materials in deconstructed facilities
Cost	\$400,000
Annual estimated GHG and criteria air pollutant emissions reduction	CFCs, carbon sinks expansion in wetlands
Implementation authority milestones	Blight ordinance C&D disposal practices Water quality standards for wetlands

3.5 Benefits Analysis (required)

Previous sections provide narrative.

3.6 Review of Authority to Implement (required)

Previous sections provide narrative.

3.7 Identification of Other Funding Mechanisms (optional)

3.8 Workforce Planning Analysis (optional)

4. Next Steps

Previous sections provide narrative.