



APHIS Native American Notebook

[an e-update on Native American Program Delivery in APHIS]

Vol. 2, No. 1—March 2010

Animal Disease Traceability: Veterinary Services Welcomes Tribal Representatives to Kansas City

Since 2004, APHIS' Veterinary Services (VS) program has been working to implement a nationwide mechanism for tracking certain livestock species as individual animals—or groups of animals in the case of poultry and swine—move from rancher to grower/finisher to sale barn to slaughter. The overriding purpose is to improve VS' ability to track the movements of sick animals backwards through the production chain, clear to their herd of origin. The faster “traceback” can be accomplished, the faster VS can take appropriate steps to contain foreign animal diseases and keep them from getting established in the United States.

This is important work, but not all sectors of the livestock community embraced the idea. Some of the federally recognized tribes, like the Seminoles of Florida, with their huge cattle operations, were early adopters of the “National Animal Identification System,” or NAIS. Other tribes registered their livestock premises but did not complete the NAIS processes and actually tag their animals. Some tribes waited to learn more. And this is precisely what non-Indian parts of American Agriculture did, as well.

Shortly after taking office, Agriculture Secretary **Tom Vilsack** realized that USDA's approach to animal identification needed an overhaul if it were to be enthusiastically supported by producers. So in the summer of 2009, the Secretary scheduled listening sessions nationwide where producers could give their views on the animal-identification process and make suggestions about how to change NAIS.

After months considering all the options and policy implications, on February 5, 2010, the Secretary announced the framework for animal disease traceability, and VS swung into high gear to organize and launch this effort. VS management determined that in

addition to explaining the new framework to the agency's State cooperators and mainstream producers, a coordinated outreach effort to tribal leaders and Indian ranchers was called for. Accordingly, VS set up a 2-day conference for everybody.

On March 18 and 19, about 200 individuals representing State governments, federally recognized tribes, and intertribal agriculture organizations like the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA) and the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) met in Kansas City, MO, to talk together. APHIS' Policy and Program Development staff provided experienced facilitators, and the VS tribal liaison, Dr. Terry Clark, and the Native American Program-Delivery Manager, Janet Wintermute, also attended the sessions.

The key feature that distinguishes the new framework from its predecessor is the greatly increased role of the States and tribes in running the program. Although VS provided overall guidance in Kansas City, there will be some variations from one State to the next in how the framework actually operates. Within each State, the resident tribes and State government officials will work out details that are mutually acceptable and fall within the scope of VS' traceability philosophy. Premises will still be registered and animals tagged. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will provide low-cost metal eartags. Some of the more expensive features of NAIS, such as tags equipped with radio-frequency-emitting chips, have been scrapped because producers across the board resisted the additional cost associated with such a program.

Terry Clark has spent lots of time over the last 3 years putting on seminars at tribes nationwide on NAIS. He will continue that effort with the new framework in the coming months.

VS gratefully acknowledges the help of USDA's Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Tribal Relations, **Janie Hipp**, for helping Terry identify 50 tribal and tribal-organization representatives to invite to Kansas City. Janie accompanied **Edward Avalos**, the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, to the March meeting; both spoke on the agenda. And those of us serving the Native American community within APHIS also thank VS for funding the participation of all invitees. It would be hard to overestimate the impact poverty has in many parts of tribal America, and without that help, some tribal officials would have been hard pressed to participate in shaping the new animal disease traceability program.

VS has constituted a new Traceability Regulatory Working Group that will meet many times in the coming months to keep the new framework moving forward. The State Veterinarians of Colorado, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Montana, and Mississippi are in that Group, along with these tribal members/representatives:

Brian Thomas (Indian Nations Conservation Alliance, INCA)
Glenda Davis (Navajo Nation)
Anita Matt (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of Montana)
Ross Racine (Intertribal Agriculture Council, IAC)
Carry Sexton (United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.)

We also anticipate making more presentations on traceability ADT in December 2010 at the joint meeting of IAC and INCA.

Helping Tribes in the Northwest Deal With Feral-Horse Overpopulation Issues

Make no mistake about it: Native Americans love their wild horses. Although these animals could be considered an invasive species—because the ancestors of today's horses were brought into what became the United States by Spanish explorers and later escaped—nobody wants to eradicate them. But getting their numbers down to a manageable level is imperative. On some reservations in east-central Washington and Oregon and nearby Idaho, feral horses are eating all the vegetation on rolling hillsides, depriving livestock of forage and endangering plants important as sources for traditional foods and medicines. And then there's the salmon.

How can horses affect fish? Well, if you're a salmon, you need especially clear water in order to thrive on your way back upstream, from the ocean to your river of origin, where you can spawn. Horses can wreck the clarity of streamwater and even of entire rivers—just because of how they eat. In the wild, horses tend to pull whole plants out of the ground rather than just browsing the tops of the plants. That makes it hard for plants to reestablish themselves after the horses pass on to new territories for their next meal.

When a hillside has no more plant life on it to hold down the topsoil, rains simply roll that soil downhill and right into streams. Clear water becomes silty and salmon suffer.

The salmon is not just any old species to northwestern Indians, either. Salmon occupy a central position among the animal kingdom in the spiritual traditions of many northwestern tribes. This fish is viewed as a brother by Indian people. The return of the salmon upstream to spawn is celebrated locally, and many subsistence hunters rely on salmon harvests to feed their families year 'round. On a commercial scale, numerous tribes manage salmon production facilities where tribal members harvest the fish, salt down or otherwise preserve it, and market it nationally and internationally. As goes the economy of the salmon industry, so goes the economy of the northwestern tribes.

The **Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Indian Reservation** of eastern Washington State have the biggest horse problems. Currently, about 12,000 feral horses roam their reservation, near the city of Yakima (note the different spelling). **Jim Stephenson**, the tribe's big-game manager, has been studying the Yakama ferals for years. He figures the reservation can support a stable population of about 2,500 horses without unacceptable levels of rangeland degradation.

Out West, rangeland is not fenced, however. The Yakama horses wander around without reference to reservation boundaries. Similar herds are eating their way through natural forage at the same alarming rate nearby, at the **Colville Reservation** (also in Washington), at **Warm Springs** and **Umatilla** (in Oregon), and at **Shoshone Bannock** (in Idaho).

When representatives of the wildlife management units at those five tribes gathered together in November 2008 to talk about this problem, they came to the conclusion that there are at least 20,000 feral horses on their reservations altogether. Now horses typically live to about age 30, and a mare ordinarily has a foal every year. With few to no

apex predators in that part of the United States, feral-horse populations are going up about 20 percent *every year*, with no end in sight.



Arlen Washines, natural resources manager for the Yakama Nation, furnished this shot of a harem out looking for lunch. Note that there's pretty much nothing on the ground left to eat. Those rolling hills in the background should be green but aren't....

If the tribes don't figure out how to control the burgeoning population of feral horses, and soon, the ecological damage will wreck the salmon situation. And supplies of certain wild plants will be disrupted, if not wiped out completely. These plants, such as wild carrot and bitterroot, are important for medicinal purposes, for seasonal foods, and for use in spiritual ceremonies. This spring, Yakama reports that their horses have been digging up and eating the actual roots of bitterroot plants. This has never happened before and clearly indicates just how sparse local forage has become.

Since this problem is acute on Indian reservations and the U.S. Government has a trust responsibility to manage reservation lands for the benefit of the federally recognized tribes, Federal agencies must help rectify this situation. But which agencies, and how?

As Janet Wintermute found out when she began working with Jim Stephenson on the feral-horse problem in late 2008, APHIS is not a major player. Our authorities with regard to equines are extremely limited overall. VS does not have a major horse program, and Animal Care's involvement is restricted to enforcing the Horse Protection Act, which is solely about protecting gaited horses from the inhumane practice of soring in order to get them trained faster to produce the high-stepping gait called the "big lick." VS is charged with enforcing the Humane Transport of Horses to Slaughter Act, and that is the extent of the agency's authorities on the matter.

Part of today's problem can be traced to actions by Congress in 2007 that eliminated the last three remaining horse-slaughtering plants in the country. Now if you have too many horses to take care of, or they've grown too old to do their work (e.g., aged racing animals, circus performers, etc.), you can pay a veterinarian to euthanize the horses and bury them—at a cost of up to \$2,000 apiece. In today's economy, people are struggling to feed their children. Feeding a high-maintenance animal like a horse definitely comes in second place, and giving one a decent burial may be totally out of reach now for many owners.

Before 2007, you could ship your excess horses to an American slaughtering facility, which would pay you a fairly low amount of money per animal and then process the meat for export. (In France, Germany, and Japan, people eat horsemeat and it shows up on the menu at expensive restaurants.) Now that option is more complicated.

First, you have to ship your animal to either Canada or Mexico to be slaughtered. Second, the price you'll receive for the horse barely covers the cost of transporting it across the border.

If you can't afford to keep the animal and can't afford to send it away to be processed, what can you do? Unfortunately, many Americans have answered that question by applying the "kitty formula." They take their unwanted horses out into the country and abandon them.

These owners are not Evil Incarnate. They believe, incorrectly, that they are giving their horses a fighting chance to survive when they can no longer take care of them. They think the animals will pal up with a roaming herd of feral horses and just become part of the family, so to speak.

Unfortunately, this is not what happens at all. Domesticated horses have never learned to forage for their food. Some of them starve straightaway in the wild. Others do stumble across roving bands of feral horses, but the reception they get from their wild brothers is anything but familial. The alpha female or the single stallion in each of these clusters, known in the animal-science trade as "harems," often attacks the newcomer. At best, it slinks away. At worst, it is killed. There is no happy ending for domesticated horses dumped in the countryside.

And these horses add to the number of equine mouths feeding on the forage base.

What Are the Northwestern Tribes Doing About the Problem?

When Jim Stephenson made a speech about the Yakama horses at the September 2008 annual meeting of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Janet was in the audience. She spoke with Jim afterwards, and he sent her a huge report he had written after rounding up and examining a big sample of the Yakama ferals. The tribe's wild horses are small and relatively dark, with few paints or palomino types. Their size and coloration makes them less attractive to people wanting to get a horse through the **Bureau of Land Management's** Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program. And the slaughter plants pay very little for small animals. But the Yakama's horses are in good health, which contributes to their reproductive success—and furthers the damage they cause to local grasslands.

Janet shared Jim's report with Terry Clark and others in VS, and Terry and Janet both attended a couple meetings of the five named tribes in the fall and winter of 2008–09 out West. The tribes decided to incorporate as a nonprofit and work together on the feral-horse overpopulation issue. They formed the **Northwest Tribal Horse Coalition** (NTHC) and have been meeting every other month since then. Janet and Terry participate by speakerphone from back East.

NTHC member-tribes are willing to examine all possible solutions to reduce the numbers of feral horses on their reservations. Nobody endorses killing all the horses. But some

culling of these herds must happen in order to bring down the population fast enough to save the rangelands from becoming permanently barren. Tribes will continue to try to find buyers for their animals at livestock sales and auctions.

Surgical sterilization would be expensive and difficult to implement with such large populations of free-roaming animals. But birth control for horses is a possibility. There are two vaccines that prevent pregnancy by keeping mares from coming into estrus. One is based on porcine zona pellucida (PZP), derived from pigs, and the other on gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH), which is common to all mammals. The PZP product requires two injections, which makes it expensive for large populations of horses that have to be captured in the wild. The GnRH-based product can work with only one shot, making it a less expensive and more convenient option.

But there are some hoops to be jumped through yet. The Humane Society of the United States recently submitted data to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting that the PZP vaccine receive a registration label so it can be used by suitable personnel in nonresearch settings (i.e., real-world use) for horses. APHIS–Wildlife Services scientists at the **National Wildlife Research Center** (NWRC) in Fort Collins developed a GnRH-based vaccine that works well (and is labeled for) white-tailed deer. They need to find out how well it can work in equines. And then somebody must pursue getting the product labeled for nonresearch use in horses.

The product is called GonaCon. NWRC produces it inhouse for experimental purposes and, now that it has been labeled for deer, makes GonaCon to sell to wildlife-management agencies and governmental units wanting to try immunocontraception to get a handle on their excess deer populations.

GonaCon researchers **Lowell Miller**, **Kathy Fagerstone**, and **Jim Gionfriddo**, plus APHIS Native American Working Group member **John Eisemann**, who handles product registration work at NWRC, are already involved in one efficacy study on GonaCon in horses. They are managing a study in Montana on nontribal lands, and need to do another efficacy study on feral horses to be sure the science supports extending GonaCon's label, through EPA, to cover equines.

Early results from Montana are encouraging. In previous pen studies, contraception was about 100 percent effective for a year after mares were injected. Up to 4 years later, fully 60 percent were still not producing foals. The long efficacy curve here is a big consideration when you're talking about the need to round up wild animals in order to contracept them. Not quite the same things as taking Fido or Fifi to the local vet for a shot....

Janet is exploring with Wildlife Services management the possibility of hooking up the NWRC team with one of the NTHC tribes to do another efficacy study on GonaCon. The study and the subsequent timeframe for getting the product labeled for horses will take about 4 years, and no decisions have yet been made on this matter. But collaborating with the tribes of the NTHC on the birth-control issue is one of the few ways APHIS, within its statutory authorities, could actually help in the feral-horse arena.

Sterilization of some of the ferals on reservation lands in the Northwest is still being considered by the NTHC member-tribes. Because of the harem behaviors of horses, sterilizing the dominant stallion in a cluster might go a ways to help reduce foaling.

Horses do not pair-bond for life like swans, however, so castrating those stallions is not a final answer.

Can it help, though? VS veterinarian **Terry Hensley** has worked with Oregon's Warm Springs tribe to find out. Terry got the veterinary school at Oregon State University to supply students to work with him twice in the last few years to castrate stallions on the Warm Springs Reservation.

Warm Springs reported significant reductions in foal crops in the test populations. This suggests that, in certain settings, sterilization may work to lessen population increases. But horses that have been sterilized, or have received contraceptive injections for that matter, don't die. They keep right on eating. Hence, the rangeland where they eat continues to experience vegetation damage and siltation of streams.

What Does the NTHC Think About How To Solve This Problem?

After examining all the relevant options, Coalition members concluded that a mix of techniques offers the best chance of reducing feral-horse populations in order to save forage, tribally significant plants, and salmon habitat. But to save the land base fast enough, some population reduction operations will likely have to be involved.

The NTHC would like to get Congress to reverse its position on the issue of horse slaughter for human consumption, and the Coalition is not alone in this regard. Since the NTHC formed, more than a half-dozen States have launched investigations into the feasibility of operating horse-processing facilities and getting Congress to roll back the prohibition on horse slaughter if the meat is destined for human consumption. The **Bureau of Indian Affairs**, which has the overall Federal trust responsibility for managing reservation rangelands, is working with one of the NTHC tribes to fund a feasibility study on this subject. If a processing facility can be profitable as well as environmentally safe, the tribe would fund and run a processing plant and kill the animals with appropriate tribal protocols. The key to profitability is a change in Federal law to, once again, fund **USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service** inspection of horsemeat destined for human consumption.

NTHC members have been distributing information about this issue to their congressional delegations. While all Federal employees are explicitly forbidden to lobby Congress, the tribes can do so. Janet has been working with the Coalition to prepare persuasive written information and encourage the GonaCon research agenda. Terry Hensley will likely pursue the sterilization activities he initiated in Oregon—a fine example of how an individual APHIS employee can reach out to help the tribes. But for now, the limitation on APHIS' authorities in connection with equines is a controlling factor in how much the agency can undertake.

Future issues of the newsletter will keep you up to date on the Northwest Tribal Horse Coalition's activities and progress.

Ancient Canyons, Ancient Stories

By Greg Bartman (PPQ, Los Angeles)

When I'm out exploring the deserts and mountains and hiking, photographing, or collecting insects, I have often seen rock art left by ancient peoples. The art is an intriguing reminder that hundreds and thousands of years ago, people lived and thrived in the areas we now call home. The ancient people who made these symbols have long disappeared, but we know they were there because of what they left behind.

Many of the symbols are recognizable as animals. Some look like interpretations of the people themselves, while others are more abstract. Many experts believe that the art was done by shamans as they journeyed in a spirit world. Some symbols may be stories of travels or events in someone's life like rites of passage, births, or deaths. For the most part, the meaning of much of this rock art will remain a mystery.

Here are some samples of what I have seen.

Some rock artworks, called pictographs or pictoglyphs, were painted on the rocks. The paints were made from minerals found in the environment. Here is such a painted rock panel, from Sequoia National Park in California:



Guidebooks won't give exact locations where such painted rocks can be found so images like this one stay safe.

Petroglyphs are the most common type of rock art. The symbols on petroglyphs are chipped into the rock rather than painted on it. In Little Petroglyph Canyon, safely tucked away on U.S. military land, are fantastic displays of petroglyphs. One can hike for hours and see hundreds of them.

This rock is at the entrance to the canyon. Experts say it is very old, with symbols chipped on top of older symbols.



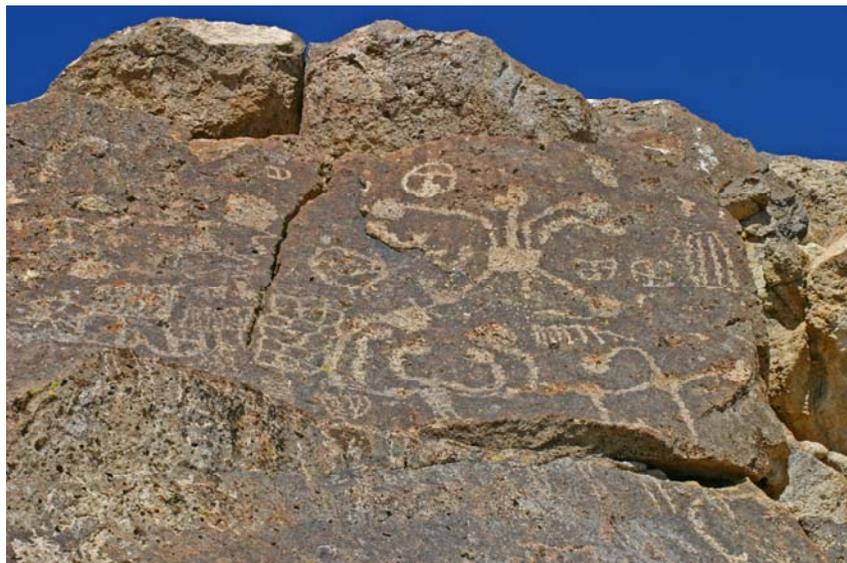
Inside the canyon, the rocks are covered with petroglyphs.



One of the most common animals depicted is bighorn sheep. Although now very rare, they were once a plentiful food source. The next petroglyph shows a sheep that has been killed by hunters at the top. Below that, a living sheep is followed by its lamb. Maybe the hunters paid homage to their prey, or knew that they also must protect populations of prey animals before they can hunt them.



On a lonely, dusty road on the eastern side of the Sierra Mountains is a seemingly endless flow of rocks called the Volcanic Tablelands. Some of the petroglyphs there are right beside the road; to find others, you have to explore around the rocks. The main figure on this big petroglyph may be an early version of the thunderbird:



Red sandstone dominates the rock formations in Nevada's Valley of Fire State Park. Petroglyphs there are thought to have been made by the Anasazi peoples, perhaps as long as 3,000 years ago. Nobody knows what is represented on this glyph:



Perhaps it's a map to resources, the depiction of events in someone's life, or something else entirely.

Years of harsh weather and biological forces have already taken their toll on the petroglyphs of the West and eventually will fade them from history. Now is the time to go look at them. But while exploring, remember to take only pictures and leave only footprints.

To learn more, check out these Web sites:

<http://www.sbnature.org/research/anthro/chumash/index.htm> This Web site for the Natural History Museum of Santa Barbara has lots of research on the Chumash Tribe.

<http://www.maturango.org> A museum of the Cultural and Natural History of the Upper Mojave Desert. This organization also runs tours into Little Petroglyph Canyon.

<http://www.petroglyphs.us> This site has information about petroglyphs in the United States.

The North Carolina Indian Unity Conference

State Plant Health Director Deborah Stewart and emerald ash borer manager Phil Bell—both ANAWG Field Coordinators for their State—attended the 34th annual renewal of the North Carolina Indian Unity Conference in March. Sponsored by the United Tribes of North Carolina, the conference is open to members of the eight State-recognized tribes, including the Eastern Band of Cherokee (which is also federally recognized). Traditionally, the conference hosts a juried art exhibit that is open to the public and a dance competition and banquet. This year's theme was "Continuing the Tradition for the Seventh Generation: Honoring, Respecting, and Recognizing our American Indian Women."

The reason this story is important to APHIS is that it demonstrates how line-program employees can take the initiative to tell our story in Indian Country. PPQ set up their local exhibit at the conference. In the photo below, Export Certification Specialist Susan Kostelecky offered agency information from the exhibit.

Note the orange-bordered publication on the table. That's the 2010 leaflet from American University's Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) program. It's especially helpful when ANAWG field folks publicize WINS outside of Washington, DC, because without that kind of outreach effort, many Indian college students would never hear about this superb internship opportunity.



Participating tribes included the Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee, the Haliwa-Saponi, the Meherrin, the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, the Sappony, the Lumbee (Terry Clark's tribe), and the Waccamaw-Siouan. Here are a few shots illustrating the caliber of artwork entered into various categories during the annual competition. The drum team came from the Haliwa-Saponi.

Thanks to Deb Stewart for furnishing all the pictures.



And the drum team, from the Saponi Tribe:



“Safeguarding Natural Heritage”: Update on This Year’s *Two* Programs

With support furnished entirely by the Office of the Administrator, APHIS was able to expand the Safeguarding Natural Heritage program to a second tribal college for 2010. Not only are we continuing the Tohono Land Connections course at the Tohono O’odham Reservation in Arizona, but we’re putting on a parallel version at the United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND, as well.

Both courses run for 2 weeks; they’re scheduled to be put on consecutively during June. We’ll have lots of photos and information in our summer issue. Once the leaflets advertising both programs are off press, we’ll be putting them up onto the Web at www.aphis.usda.gov/anawg as well.

Washington Internships for Native Students

At presstime (early April), APHIS programs had committed to only three WINS interns for this summer. Budgets are tight, but many outstanding college students accepted into the program are still available to work for APHIS this summer.

WINS is a unique internship in that the participants take night-school classes and earn 6 hours of college credit from the sponsoring institution, American University. They pay nothing—not even the cost of their airfare to get to the Nation’s Capital and back home again at the end of July. Each student works 40 hours a week for 2 months for the Federal agency that has agreed to fund the \$10,500 cost.

USDA typically hosts about 30 WINS students across all agencies and the Department proper, and APHIS generally sponsors between 6 and 9.

The ANAWG is repeating its enrichment events for the WINS students working here, including a trip to the Port of Baltimore, a “goose roundup” with Wildlife Services, and Bob Baca’s seminar on how to get a Federal job.

If you work in either DC or Riverdale and want to sponsor a WINS student for June and July, contact Janet Wintermute (301 734-6336). You do have to supply a cubicle, a computer, and meaningful work that needs to be done to meet your mission objectives over the summer. But there is no financial hassle involved. The Department has a single master cooperative agreement with American University to fund all the sponsored interns, and you just supply your accounting code and the money is whisked into that agreement with no paperwork required on your side of the equation.

Update on the ANAWG's Biennial Training Event

We certainly wish we could say more. But at presstime, we have not received an answer to our request for permission to put on this important meeting. Because of the overall dollar amount, the paperwork had to be approved by the Administrator, the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, the USDA's Chief Financial Officer, *and* personnel in the office of Secretary Vilsack. The package is currently in the Secretary's office.

We planned to meet the first week of May. But we've run out of time to complete the necessary contracts for our venue, awards banquet, and speaker compensation. Rather than cancelling the training, we are postponing it until (1) the Department gives us the green light, and (2) we can find a suitable new time to hold the event. We still want to go to Albuquerque, but not at the height of the summer....

Janet will keep ANAWG members up to date on this subject by e-mail.

Hails and Farewells on the ANAWG

In January, right after our last issue appeared on the Web, Veterinary Services answered the request to provide a headquarters-based voting representative to the ANAWG. **Inez Hockaday** is filling that slot. And in Minnesota, VS' **Dr. John Piehl** handed over the reins to coworker **Dr. Sheryl Shaw** after many years of service as a Field Coordinator.

PPQ officially began recruiting to fill in behind Christina Jewett by announcing their national tribal liaison position on April 5, and management expects to fill the job promptly. That will be good news for **JoAnn Cruse**, Wisconsin's State Plant Health Director, who has been doing Christina's job since February on top of her ordinary responsibilities. We hope to introduce the permanent occupant of the job in our next quarterly issue.

The following States still have no outreach reps: **Georgia, Kentucky, New Hampshire, and Tennessee.**

Readers who work in those States and are interested in helping Native Americans are encouraged to contact Janet Wintermute (301 734-6336) about becoming involved with the ANAWG. Naturally, supervisors must concur. Numerically, more reps come from PPQ than from any other APHIS program. But we are happy to work with employees from all line and support programs in this effort.

What To Look for in Our Next Issue

Updates on the Department's tribal-consultation policy development and training work.

A profile of Eugenia Tashquith, the Tohono O'odham student who won APHIS' first 1994 Tribal Colleges Scholarship.

Liaisons' travels to meetings of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, the Southwest Indian Agriculture Association, and the National Congress of American Indians.

A snapshot of how both "Safeguarding Natural Heritage" programs went in Arizona and North Dakota in June.

A new "Spotlight" on an APHIS employee who makes a big difference in Indian Country.

And more.

Questions or Comments?

To reach out to your own State's ANAWG rep, get contact info from <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/anawg>. In the blue box at the right-hand margin, click on the "Contact a State Representative" bullet.

To get in touch with Janet Wintermute, phone (301) 734-6336 or send her an e-mail through Lotus Notes or the Internet (janet.s.wintermute@aphis.usda.gov).