

**FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL  
NATIONAL INDIAN TIMBER SYMPOSIUM**

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**June 8-11, 2026**

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Hosted by Intertribal Timber Council, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin &  
Stockbridge-Munsee Community at Menominee Casino Resort and College  
of Menominee Nation in Keshena, WI

## **Forty-Ninth Annual National Indian Timber Symposium** *"Forestry in a Changing Environment"*

Hosted by Intertribal Timber Council, Menominee Indian  
Tribe of Wisconsin & Stockbridge-Munsee Community  
June 8-11, 2026, Keshena, WI

## **Welcome**

The Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and Stockbridge-Munsee Community welcome you to the Intertribal Timber Council's 49th Annual National Indian Timber Symposium being held at the Menominee Casino Resort and the College of the Menominee Nation in Keshena, WI. We would like to welcome relatives, friends, and honored guests, to the homelands of the Menominee and Stockbridge-Munsee people. These forested lands have long sustained our people, and they remain the heart of our culture, spirit, and identity.

We come together at a time of great change for our environment. The forests remind us that life is a balance of renewal and responsibility, and that stewardship must guide every choice we make. Just as our ancestors tended this land, it is our responsibility to ensure its health and abundance for the generations yet to come.

May our time here be rooted in respect, like the deep roots of the pine, may our dialogue branch outward in strength, like the hardwoods, and may the wisdom shared among us bear fruit that nourishes all our Nations.

On behalf of the Menominee Nation and Stockbridge-Munsee Community, we extend our warmest welcome. May this gathering honor the forest, strengthen our bonds, and guide us together on the path of caretaking in a changing world.

Cover artwork by Josh Besaw at Besaw Media LLC. Inspired by Chief Oshkosh quote "Start with the rising sun and work toward the setting sun, but take only the mature trees, the sick trees, and the trees that have fallen. When you reach the end of the reservation, turn and cut from the setting sun to the rising sun, and the trees will last forever."

## **2026 Symposium Committee**

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**Howard Teasley, Jr.,  
Chairman**  
Nez Perce Tribe

**Tia Beavert**  
Confederated Tribes and Bands  
of the Yakama Nation

**John Bryson, Jr.**  
Quinault Indian Nation

**Shawn de France**  
Confederated Salish  
& Kootenai Tribes

**McKaylee Duquain**  
Menominee Indian Tribe  
of Wisconsin

**Paul Koll**  
Stockbridge-Munsee  
Community

**Nicole Stiffarm**  
Environmental Policy  
Innovation Center

**Ron Waukau, Sr.**  
Menominee Indian Tribe  
of Wisconsin

**Kendra White**  
Menominee Indian Tribe  
of Wisconsin

## **Intertribal Timber Council Board of Directors**

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**Cody Desautel, President**  
Confederated Tribes of  
the Colville Reservation

**Phil Rigdon, Vice President**  
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**Robin Harkins, Secretary**  
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**Dawn Blake**  
Hoopa Valley Tribe

**Shannon Wheeler**  
Nez Perce Tribe

**John Bryson, Jr.**  
Quinault Indian Nation

**Clinton Northway**  
Tanana Chiefs Conference

## **Intertribal Timber Council Staff**

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**Cal Mukumoto**  
Executive Director

**Laura Alvidrez**  
Program Manager

**Monica Rushworth**  
Program Coordinator

# Monday, June 8, 2026

## *Symposium Officially Begins*

**4:00 – 6:00 pm**

### **Registration for All**

Location

Menominee Casino Resort (MCR)

Description

All attendees check in and pick up name tags and registration materials.

**5:00 – 7:00 pm**

### **Host Icebreaker**

Location

MCR: Courtyard

Description

Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and mingle. Guests welcome. No registration required.

## **Storytelling Studio**

### **50 Years in the Making: The Symposium Legacy Studio**

**2:30 - 7:00 pm**

Location

MCR: Wolf Room

Help ITC set the stage for our milestone 50th Annual Symposium in 2027! We are looking for the voices, laughs, and lessons that have shaped the last five decades of Tribal forestry. Stop by our Video Storytelling Studio during the week to share a brief memory—whether it's a breakthrough moment from a past Symposium, a funny story from the field, or a tribute to the mentors who led the way. These recordings will be preserved and featured as part of our 50th-anniversary celebration. Come help us anchor our future in the stories of our past.

# Tuesday, June 9, 2026

**7:00 am – 4:30 pm**

### **Registration & Exhibits Open**

Location

Menominee Casino Resort (MCR)

Description

Collect name tag and registration materials. Stop by the exhibit booths during the breaks and learn about exhibitors. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets.

**7:00 am – 4:30 pm**

### **Raffle Begins at MCR: Eagle Room**

**7:00 am – 4:30 pm**

### **Storytelling Studio at MCR: Wolf Room**

**7:00 am – 4:30 pm**

### **Attendee Workspace at MCR: Moose Room**

**8:00 am – 4:30 pm**

### **General Session**

Location

MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom

Moderator

*Paul Koll, Forest Manager, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, Bowler, WI*

**8:00 – 8:30 am**

### **Opening Ceremony**

#### **Invocation**

*Luke Besaw, Menominee Language & Culture Code, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI*

#### **Posting of the Colors**

*Veterans of the Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI  
Mohican Veteran's Organization, Bowler, WI  
Skud Nation Drum Group, Keshena, WI*

Speakers	<p><b>Welcomes</b></p> <p><i>Joey Awonohopay, Chairperson, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Keshena, WI</i></p> <p><i>Jennifer Peters, President, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Neopit, WI</i></p> <p><i>Shannon Holsey, President, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, Bowler, WI</i></p> <p><i>Cody Desautel, ITC President / Executive Director, Colville Tribe, Nespelem, WA</i></p> <p><i>Cal Mukumoto, Executive Director, Intertribal Timber Council, Portland, OR</i></p>
<b>8:30 - 9:30 am</b>	<p><b>Keynote</b></p> <p><i>Chris Caldwell, PhD, President, College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI</i></p>
<b>9:30- 10:00 am</b>	<p><b>Morning Break</b></p>
<b>10:00 - 11:30 am</b>	<p><b>Panel: Changing Environment: Extreme Weather Events and Threats, Tribal Adaptation</b></p>
Coordinator / Moderator	<i>Sara Smith, Midwest Tribal Resilience Liaison, College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI</i>
Description	This panel explores how extreme weather and environmental changes are reshaping landscapes, livelihoods, and cultural heritage in tribal communities. Featuring various perspectives, the discussion highlights traditional knowledge, adaptive practices, and creative resilience in the face of a changing environment.
Speakers	<p><i>Dan Grignon, Menomini Language Community Advocate, MenominiyoU, Keshena, WI</i></p> <p><i>Ally Scott, Deputy Midwest Tribal Resilience Liaison, College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI</i></p> <p><i>Wayne White, Former Logger and Current Production Manager, Primal Wood Products, Neopit, WI</i></p> <p><i>Kendra White, Forest Health Forester, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i></p>
<b>11:30 - 12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Tribal Wood Markets Study</b></p>
Description	In 2025, Sustainable Northwest conducted a Tribal Wood Market study in collaboration with a steering committee of Tribal members, forestry professionals, and industry experts. A Tribal Wood Market aims to elevate the value and visibility of wood products from tribally managed forests by highlighting stewardship, cultural values, and community economic growth. Surveys, interviews, focus groups, and market research were used to collect and analyze data and synthesize findings. The study examined market opportunities and challenges for Tribal wood products. This session highlights key findings, including barriers, opportunities, and strategic recommendations such as developing a Tribal Wood certification and a Tribal Wood directory.
Speaker	<i>Steve Rigdon, Tribal Partnerships &amp; Resource Stewardship Manager, Sustainable Northwest, Portland, OR</i>
<b>12:00 - 1:00 pm</b>	<p><b>ITC Luncheon (provided)</b></p>
<b>1:00 - 2:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Strategic Initiatives in Tribal Forestry</b></p>
Coordinator / Moderator	<i>Ryle Smartlowit, Timber Management Technician, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish, WA</i>
Description	This session spotlights three initiatives opening doors to careers in Tribal natural resource management—the Yakama Nation’s forestry-focused youth camp, College of Menominee Nation FAHN (Forestry, Agriculture, Human Sciences, and Natural Resources) Club for community youth, and the Society of American Foresters’ #forestproud–Menominee Tribe media collaboration. The session will explore strategies for engaging the next generation, advancing sustainable forest management, and strengthening an inclusive professional pipeline.

Speakers *Alexandra Lister, Fuels GIS Forester, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish, WA*  
*Terry Baker, Chief Executive Officer, Society of American Foresters, Washington, DC*  
*Brian Kowalkowski, Dean of Department of Continuing Education, College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI*

**2:30 – 3:00 pm** **Afternoon Break**

**3:00 – 4:30 pm** **Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and Stockbridge-Munsee Community Host Presentation**

Speakers *Ron Waukau Sr., Forest Manager, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI*  
*McKaylee Duquain, GIS & Inventory Forester, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI*  
*Paul Koll, Forest Manager, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, Bowler, WI*

**4:30 pm** **Adjourn**

**6:00 – 9:00 pm** **Host Welcome Dinner**

Location Woodland Bowl, Keshena WI

Description Join us for dinner provided by our host Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. Guests welcome. No registration required.

## **Wednesday, June 10, 2026**

**8:00 am – 4:30 pm** **Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and Stockbridge-Munsee Community Tribal Tour**

**7:45 – 8:00 am** **Bus Loading**

Location Bus loading at Menominee Casino Resort - 4 buses  
Bus loading at North Star Mohican Casino Resort - 2 buses

**8:00 am** **Depart for the Tour**

Transportation leaves promptly at 8:00 am. Permethrin tick spray and mosquito repellent will be given to treat clothing and shoes prior to departure. Wear long pants tucked into your boots or socks and check for ticks after returning from wooded areas.

Coordinators *McKaylee Duquain, GIS & Inventory Forester, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI*  
*Mike Jones, Wetland Specialist, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, Bowler, WI*

Description Join us for a field tour of the renowned Menominee and Stockbridge Forests. We will make stops at various treatment sites as detailed below. Each stop will showcase the variety of different treatments as well as the diverse forest types across the reservation.

Stop **Stockbridge Wind Disturbance**

Stockbridge Forest, along with the Menominee Forest, was heavily impacted by a severe windstorm in the summer of 2022. Menominee experienced straight-line winds, while Stockbridge was struck by a tornado. This stop highlights the storm's aftermath, the cleanup efforts, and the next steps in responding to this natural disturbance.

*Paul Koll, Forest Manager, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, Bowler, WI*

Stop	<p><b>White Pine Shelterwood</b></p> <p>This stand of mature white pine was first treated with a shelterwood cut in 2016, followed by an intermediate shelterwood harvest in 2021. Fire was then used to maintain the stand in a holding pattern while they waited for a strong cone crop, with prescribed burns conducted in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2024. Young regeneration is now well established, and the increase in berry-producing plants has created a multiuse landscape that supports both forest management goals and tribal community use.</p> <p><i>Ron Waukau Sr., Forest Manager, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i></p>
Stop	<p><b>Single Tree Selection Treatment</b></p> <p>Northern hardwoods are the most extensive covertime on the Menominee Forest and are generally managed using single tree selection. Along this stop, one side of the road features a recently harvested unit, while the opposite side shows an area scheduled for an upcoming entry. Both sites have undergone multiple harvest cycles over the years, demonstrating the sustainability and resilience of this management approach. The drive also offers a chance to experience the surrounding oldgrowth hardwood and hemlock stands.</p> <p><i>Christel Kern, Project Leader (Acting) &amp; Research Forester, USDA Forest Service, Rhinelander, WI</i></p>
Stop	<p><b>Lunch (provided) at Smokey Falls</b></p> <p>Enjoy a relaxing midday break at the stunning Smokey Falls, located on the Wolf River. This site holds deep historical significance for the Menominee people and is also a notable location for recreational tribal use. Attendees will have time to enjoy lunch and explore the surrounding grounds.</p> <p><i>Peggy Gristeau, Administrative Assistant, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i></p>
Stop	<p><b>Oak Understory Burn &amp; Oak Wilt Treatment</b></p> <p>This site features an experimental oak understory burn paired with cutting-edge oak wilt treatment. The understory was burned as site preparation ahead of a future shelterwood harvest, reducing competing regeneration—particularly ash—and allowing us to monitor how garlic mustard responds to fire. The MTE Forest Health Department pioneered a ‘Rapid Response Treatment’ for oak wilt, treating infected trees within their first year of infection. This early intervention has significantly limited spread and reduced the size of mortality pockets. At this stop, you can compare how our oak wilt treatment has evolved over time by examining two different pockets.</p> <p><i>Marcus Waupoose, Fuels Technician, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i>  <i>Kendra White, Forest Health Forester, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i></p>
Stop	<p><b>South Branch Fuels Treatment Unit</b></p> <p>Through coordinated efforts—pruning, thinning, mechanical fuels treatments, and a scheduled prescribed burn—this natural red pine stand is being managed for longterm health and reduced wildfire vulnerability.</p> <p><i>Kristen Lease, Forest Management Inventory &amp; Planning, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bloomington, MN</i>  <i>Martin Cassellius, Wildland Fuels Specialist, Bureau of Indians Affairs, Bloomington, MN</i></p>
4:00 – 4:30 pm	<p><b>Travel back from the Tour</b></p>
3:00 - 8:00 pm Location	<p><b>Storytelling Studio</b></p> <p>MCR: Wolf Room</p>
5:30 – 7:30 pm Location Description	<p><b>General Membership Meeting</b></p> <p>MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom</p> <p>An opportunity for member tribes to meet with the Board of Directors to discuss the activities of the ITC with Board members. Join us to get involved.</p>

# Thursday, June 11, 2026

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<b>7:30 am – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Registration Open</b>
Location	Menominee Casino Resort (MCR)
Description	Collect name tag and registration materials. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. Place your tickets in the raffle buckets by 3:00 pm. Winners must be present at the Awards Banquet to pick up items, or a friend can pick them up on your behalf. Stop by the exhibit booths during the breaks and learn about the exhibitors.
<b>7:30 am – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Raffle Continues at MCR: Eagle Room</b>
<b>7:30 am – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Attendee Workspace at MCR: Moose Room</b>
<b>7:30 am – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Exhibits Open at MCR</b>
<b>7:30 am – 10:00 pm</b>	<b>Storytelling Studio at MCR: Wolf Room</b>
<b>8:00 am – 10:45 am</b>	<b>General Session Updates at MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom</b>
Moderator	<i>Cassie Moses, Forest Manager, San Carlos Apache Tribe, San Carlos, AZ</i>
<b>8:00 – 8:25 am</b>	<b>ITC President's Report</b>
	<i>Cody Desautel, ITC President / Executive Director, Colville Tribe, Nespelem, WA</i>
<b>8:25 – 8:50 am</b>	<b>U.S. Wildland Fire Service, U.S. Department of Interior Update</b>
	<i>Brian Fennessy, Director / Fire Chief, U.S. Wildland Fire Service, U.S. DOI, Boise, ID</i> <i>Aaron Baldwin, Director, Office of Tribal Trust, U.S. Wildland Fire Service, U.S. DOI, Boise, ID</i>
<b>8:50 – 9:15 am</b>	<b>Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Forestry Update</b>
	<i>Caleb Cain, Acting Chief Forester, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Forestry Billings, MT</i>
<b>9:15 – 9:40 am</b>	<b>Legislative Update</b>
	<i>Matt Hill, Information &amp; Research Specialist, Lone Rock Strategies, Glide, OR</i>
<b>9:40 – 10:05 am</b>	<b>USDA Forest Service, Office of Tribal Relations Update</b>
	<i>Reed Robinson, Director, USDA Forest Service, Office of Tribal Relations, Washington, DC</i>
<b>10:05 – 10:15 am</b>	<b>Retire Colors</b>
	<i>Veterans of the Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI</i> <i>Mohican Veteran's Organization, Bowler, WI</i> <i>Skud Nation Drum Group, Keshena, WI</i>
<b>10:15 – 10:45 am</b>	<b>Morning Break</b>
<b>10:45 am – 4:15 pm</b>	<b>Breakout for Concurrent Workshops at College of Menominee Nation (CMN)</b>
Description	Agendas on pages 6-9.
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch (provided) at CMN: Courtyard</b>
<b>2:30 – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Break</b>
<b>4:15 pm</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>
<b>4:30 pm – 6:00 pm</b>	<b>Annual Business Meeting at CMN: Campus Commons</b>
Description	Delegates will cast votes for 2026 ITC Board elections and select the Host Tribe for the 2030 Symposium.

<b>6:30 pm – 9:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Annual Awards Banquet at MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom</b>  <i>Cody Desautel, ITC President, Nespelem, WA</i>  <i>Shawn de France, ITC Education Chair, Pablo, MT</i>  <i>Robin Harkins, ITC Awards Chair, North Bend, OR</i>  <i>2026 Host Tribes, Menominee Indian Tribe and Stockbridge-Munsee Community, WI</i>  <i>2027 Host Tribe, San Carlos Apache Tribe, San Carlos, AZ</i></p>
<b>10:45 am – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Workshop 1: Biomass and Carbon</b>  <i>Sean Crisman, Forest Development Forester, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish, WA</i></p> <p>Coordinator / Moderator  Location  Description</p> <p>College of the Menominee Nation: Campus Commons</p> <p>This workshop will explore the critical roles of carbon management and biomass utilization in supporting Indian Country. The workshop will highlight the benefits of integrating carbon sequestration and biomass utilization into land management strategies, including improved soil health, enhanced biodiversity, renewable energy production, and climate change mitigation. Through case studies and practical examples, we will showcase successful applications of these practices in Indian Country, emphasizing their potential to foster resilient ecosystems, generate economic opportunities, and honor traditional ecological knowledge.</p>
<b>10:45 - 11:15 am</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b>  <i>Sean Crisman, Forest Development Forester, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, White Swan, WA</i></p>
<b>11:15 – 12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>How Carbon Market Opportunities Can Support Tribal Stewardship</b>  <i>Jake Stanton, Project Manager, National Indian Carbon Coalition, Little Canada, MN</i>  <i>Quentin Ikuta, Project Manager, National Indian Carbon Coalition, Little Canada, MN</i>  <i>Ben Steven, Forest Manager, Penobscot Nation, Indian Island, ME</i>  <i>Stacy Zeigler, Forested Wetland and Peatlands Manager, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cass Lake, MN</i></p>
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Lunch (provided)</b></p>
<b>1:00 – 1:45 pm</b>	<p><b>A Forest Biomass Learning Network</b>  <i>Brad Warren, Chief Executive Officer, Global Ocean Health, Partnerships for Tribal Carbon Solutions, Seattle, WA</i></p>
<b>1:45 – 2:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Establishing a Forest Carbon Project: Data Quality, Commitment, and the Value of Getting it Right</b>  <i>Logan Wimpe, Biometrician, Northwest Management, Inc., Moscow, ID</i></p>
<b>2:30 – 3:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Afternoon Break</b></p>
<b>3:00 – 3:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Multifaceted Carbon Projects Supporting Tribal Land Management Objectives</b>  <i>Jeremy Koslowski, Director of Forest Carbon Partnerships, The Climate Trust, Catawba, WI</i>  <i>Sam Castro, Reforestation Carbon Analyst, The Climate Trust, Chino Hills CA</i></p>
<b>3:30 – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Question and Answer &amp; Workshop Summary</b></p>

<b>10:45 am – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Workshop 2: Building Partnerships in Fire Management</b></p> <p><i>Jim Durglo, Wildland Fire Technical Specialist, ITC Contractor, St. Ignatius, MT</i></p> <p><i>Dan Sims, Fuels Planner, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish, WA</i></p> <p>College of the Menominee Nation: Shirley Daly 226-227</p> <p>This workshop will offer participants valuable opportunities to gain knowledge, connect with peers, and exchange information regarding the formation and maintenance of effective partnerships in wildland fire management. Attendees will examine both the advantages and difficulties that arise when working collaboratively. As the workforce landscape continues to evolve, there is an increased need to engage with non-traditional partners. Building relationships beyond conventional boundaries is now essential for overcoming emerging challenges and ensuring the ongoing success of fire management.</p>
<b>10:45 – 11:00 am</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p><i>Jim Durglo, Wildland Fire Technical Specialist, ITC Contractor, St. Ignatius, MT</i></p>
<b>11:00 – 12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>U.S. Wildland Fire Service, U.S. Department of Interior’s Consolidation of Federal Fire Programs: Impacts on Tribes and Bureau of Indian Affairs Fire Programs</b></p> <p><i>TJ Clifford, Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Relations, Office of Tribal Trust, U.S. Wildland Fires Services, U.S. DOI, Boise, ID</i></p> <p><i>Juliette Jeanne, Deputy Director of Engagement, Office of Tribal Trust, U.S. Wildland Fire Service, U.S. DOI, Lakeside, AZ</i></p>
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Lunch (provided)</b></p>
<b>1:00 – 2:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Expanding Partnerships</b></p> <p><b>Case Study 1: Fire for Buffalo</b></p> <p><i>Augusta Rattling Hawk, Projects Coordinator, Intertribal Buffalo Council, Rapid City, SD</i></p> <p><b>Case Study 2: Cross Boundary Collaboration</b></p> <p><i>Keith Karnes, Forestry Director, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cass Lake, MN</i></p> <p><i>Robert “BJ” Gotchie, Fire Management Officer, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Cass Lake, MN</i></p> <p><b>Case Study 3: Workforce Capacity Building Model and Opportunities</b></p> <p><i>Adrian Leighton, PhD, Western Forest Conservation Coordinator, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Missoula, MT</i></p>
<b>2:30 – 3:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Afternoon Break</b></p>
<b>3:00 – 4:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Facilitated Group Exercise to Capture Key Barriers, Challenges, and Solutions to Improve Partnership Building</b></p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to freely engage in specific discussion tables that focus on Barriers, Challenges, and Solutions. Group findings will be captured and reported out and included in the workshop summary.</p> <p><i>Dan Sims, Fuels Planner, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Toppenish, WA</i></p>
<b>4:00 – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Question and Answer &amp; Workshop Summary</b></p>

<b>10:45 – 4:15 pm</b>	<b>Workshop 3: Tribal Self-Governance &amp; Self-Determination</b>
Coordinator	<i>Jason Robison, ITC Board Member / Lands &amp; Resource Officer, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Roseburg, OR</i>
Moderator	<i>Peter Wakeland, Tribal Council / Retired BIA Chief Forester, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Grand Ronde, OR</i>
Location	College of the Menominee Nation: Cultural Learning Center
Description	This workshop offers a practical overview of Tribal Self-Governance and Self-Determination and how they strengthen tribal sovereignty. Sessions cover the foundations of 638 mechanisms (contracts, compacts, and cooperative agreements), the key legal and policy frameworks guiding their use, and current legislative updates. Federal agency perspectives will outline available options and emerging implementation priorities. The workshop concludes with tribal case studies on real-world applications, lessons learned, and a Q&A to synthesize takeaways for participants.
<b>10:45 – 11:00 am</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
	Introductions and workshop goals. Framing the importance of self-governance in advancing tribal sovereignty.
	<i>Jason Robison, ITC Board Member / Lands &amp; Resource Officer, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Roseburg, OR</i>
<b>11:00 – 11:30 am</b>	<b>Foundations of Self-Governance</b>
	Overview of 638 Mechanisms: Cooperative Agreements, Contracts, and Compacts. Comparative Discussion: How tribes use different mechanisms and lessons learned.
	<i>George Smith, President, Pacific Management Associates, North Bend, OR</i>
<b>11:30 am – 12:00 pm</b>	<b>Legal and Policy Frameworks</b>
	Legal Overview: Key statutes and case law shaping self-governance. Trust Responsibility & Self-Governance: Balancing obligations and autonomy.
	<i>Brian Gunn, Principal, Powers Pyles Sutter &amp; Verville PC, Washington, DC</i> <i>Sara A. Clark, Partner, Shute, Mihaly &amp; Weinberger LLP, San Francisco, CA</i>
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>
<b>1:00 – 1:45 pm</b>	<b>Emerging Legislative Pathways for Self-Governance and Co-Management</b>
	Overview of current legislative concepts and active (or recently introduced) bills aimed at strengthening self-governance and co-management frameworks.
	<i>Matt Hill, Information Specialist, Lone Rock Strategies, Glide, OR</i> <i>Colleen Rossier, PhD, Senior Research and Policy Advisor, Karuk Tribe, Orleans, CA</i> <i>Sara A. Clark, Partner, Shute, Mihaly &amp; Weinberger LLP, San Francisco, CA</i>
<b>1:45 – 2:30</b>	<b>Federal Alignment Advancing Self-Governance, Including ITARA</b>
	Agency discussion on aligning federal policy priorities and agency actions with self-governance including implementation of ITARA.
	<i>Gordon Smith, Compact Negotiator, U.S. Department of the Interior – Indian Affairs, Office of Self-Governance, Vancouver, WA</i>
<b>2:30 – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Break</b>

<b>3:00 – 3:30 pm</b>	<p><b>Tribal Self-Governance Case Studies, Lessons Learned, and ITARA Video</b></p> <p>Tribal leaders and managers share real-world experiences navigating contracts, compacts, and cooperative agreements, highlighting successes, challenges, and innovations in advancing self-governance. The sessions features practical insights from on-the-ground implementation and concludes with a preview of the Intertribal Timber Council’s ITARA video.</p> <p><i>Robin Harkins, ITC Board Member / Natural Resources Director, Coquille Indian Tribe, North Bend, OR</i></p>
<b>3:30 – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Question and Answer &amp; Workshop Summary</b></p>
<b>10:45 am – 4:15 pm</b>	<p><b>Workshop 4: Forest Vegetation Simulator Technical Training</b></p>
Coordinator	<i>McKaylee Duquain, GIS &amp; Inventory Forester, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Keshena, WI</i>
Moderator	<i>Kristen Lease, Forest Management Inventory &amp; Planning, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bloomington, MN</i>
Location	College of Menominee Nation: Shirley Daly 028
Deadline / Limit	Registration is now full and closed.
Description	<p>This training is a collaborative effort between the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the USDA Forest Service and is designed for individuals who are new to the Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS). The beginner-level course provides an overview of FVS concepts and functionality, including how to navigate the interface, understand key inputs and outputs, and run basic simulations. Participants will receive hands-on instruction and will have the opportunity to work with their own forest inventory data, allowing them to apply what they learn to real-world management scenarios. The training is intended to build foundational skills and confidence for using FVS in forest planning and decision-making. Bring your data on a flash drive for use during the workshop. Attendees will receive an email prior to the workshop with clear guidance on what to expect.</p>
Speakers	<p><i>Benjamin Bagdon, Inventory Forester, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Forest Inventory and Planning, Lakewood, CO</i></p> <p><i>Matthew Diskin, Forest Biometrician, USDA Forest Service, Ashville, NC</i></p> <p><i>Violet Holley, Inventory Forester, BIA Branch of Forestry Inventory and Planning, Anchorage, AK</i></p>
<b>10:45 am – 12:00 pm</b>	<b>Part I – Input data structure (how to get inventory data into FVS)</b>
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>
<b>1:00 – 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Training, Part II - Navigating the FVS interface to compile forest inventory data</b>
<b>2:30-3:00 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Break</b>
<b>3:00 – 4:15 pm</b>	<b>Training Conclusions - Basic overview of using FVS to simulate future forest conditions</b>

# What to Expect during the 2026 Symposium

## Questions

Please stop by the Registration Desk with any questions.



## Event Website

Visit the symposium event website for information regarding the agenda, hotel information, registration, speakers, and more: <https://www.eventsquid.com/event/31367>.

## Getting Around

- Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport (GRB): [www.flygrb.com](http://www.flygrb.com).
- Appleton International Airport (ATW): <https://atwairport.com>.
- All attendees will require a vehicle to get to the Symposium and scheduled events.
- ITC is not providing shuttle service between the airport or hostel hotels.
- The Menominee Casino Resort (MCR) is approximately a 10-minute walk from the College of Menominee Nation (CMN). Transportation will be provided for those who need assistance travelling from MCR to CMN

## Meals

- Meal tickets are provided for the Tuesday Luncheon and Thursday Banquet. The tickets are located at the back of your nametag and have your dietary preferences printed on them.
- For attendees who selected dietary restrictions (dairy free, gluten free, vegan) you will be contacted prior to the event with instructions.

## Scholarship Raffle Fundraiser

- Since 1988, ITC has awarded 629 Truman D. Picard scholarships totaling \$1,381,000!
- ITC members donate raffle items, many are hand-made. The 2025 raffle fundraiser raised \$10,866.
- Raffle ticket prices are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. Deposit your tickets by 3:00 pm on Thursday. Winners must be present at the Banquet to pick up items, or a friend can pick them up.

# What to Expect during the 2026 Events

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## Monday, June 8, 2026

- Optional Pre-Symposium Workshop registration for workshop attendees from 7:00 am – 8:45 am. Register online by May 20, 2026.
- Exhibitors set up from 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm.  
Visit the Menominee Casino Resort (MCR) to collect your booth materials.
- Registration for all attendees from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm.  
Collect name tags and registration materials.
- Host Icebreaker from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and mingle with attendees. Guests welcome. No registration required.

## Tuesday, June 9, 2026

- Registration, raffle and exhibits from 7:00 am – 4:30 pm.  
Collect your name tag and registration materials.
- General Session from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.
- ITC Luncheon from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm. One ticket included with registration.  
Guest meal tickets are 18+ and sales end on May 29.  
*No onsite sales of guest meal tickets.* ITC has to submit headcounts prior to the event.
- Host Welcome Dinner at Woodland Bowl from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Guests welcome.  
No registration required. Parking available. Driving to the event is suggested.  
One shuttle will depart the MCR at 5:50 pm and return to MCR and North Star Mohican Casino Resort if requested.

## Wednesday, June 10, 2026

- ITC registration desk is closed today.
- Exhibits are closed today.
- Bus loading begins at 7:45 am at the Menominee Casino Resort and North Star Mohican Casino Resort. Transportation departs promptly at 8:00 am. Guests welcome.  
Bring a jacket and wear appropriate footwear in case of inclement weather.
- General Membership Meeting from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. An opportunity for member tribes to meet with the Board of Directors to discuss the activities of the ITC with Board members.

## Thursday, June 11, 2026

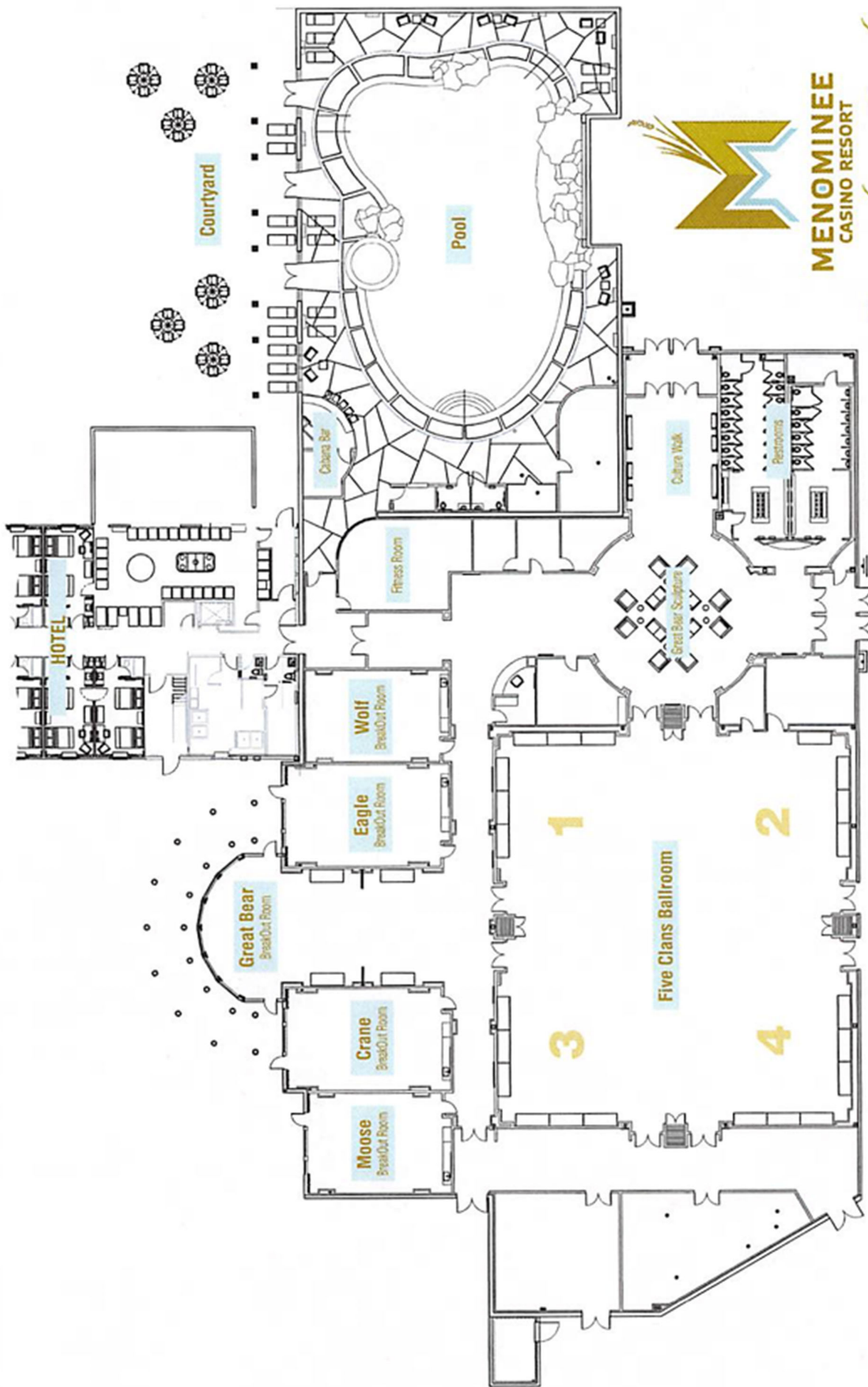
- Registration from 7:30 am – 3:00 pm. Collect your name tag and registration materials.
- Raffle is from 7:30 am - 3:00 pm. Winners must be present at the Annual Awards Banquet to pick up items, or a friend can pick them up on your behalf.
- Exhibits from 7:30 am - 1:00 pm.
- General Session Updates from 8:00 am – 10:15 am.
- Breakout for concurrent workshops sessions from 10:45 am - 4:15 pm.  
Reserve a spot for one of the workshops during registration
- Attendees lunch from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.
- Exhibitors break down exhibits and move out at 1:00 pm. Schedule FedEx or UPS to pick up your booth materials on Friday, June 12, 2026, before 2:00 pm.
- Annual Business Meeting from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm.
- Annual Awards Banquet from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm. One ticket included with registration.  
Guest meal tickets sales end on May 29, 2026. *No onsite sales of guest meal tickets.*  
ITC has to submit headcounts in advance.

# 2026 Symposium Event Schedule

Day	Time	Description	Location
Mon, June 8	7:00 am–8:45 am	Pre-Symposium Workshop Registration	MCR
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 1: USDA Forest Service, Accelerating Tribal Shared Stewardship	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am CMN: Cultural Learning Center
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 2: Braided Canopy—Building Partnerships that Work with USDA NRCS	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am CMN: Campus Commons
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 3: Basket Weaving	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am Van loading – 7:45-8:00 am
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 4: Canoeing	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am Bus loading – 7:45-8:00 am
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 5: Contemporary Fire Use Field Trip	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am Van loading – 7:45-8:00 am
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 6: Inventory & Silviculture Field Trip	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am Van loading – 7:45-8:00 am
	8:00 am–4:00 pm	PS WS 7: Stockbridge-Munsee Community Forestry & Ecology Tour	Check in at MCR – 7:00-7:45 am Bus loading – 7:45-8:00 am
	9:00 am–3:00 pm	PS WS 8: Menominee Sawmill Tour	Check in at MCR – 7:00-8:45 am Bus loading – 8:45-9:00 am
	2:30–7:00 pm	Storytelling Studio	MCR: Wolf Room
	4:00–6:00 pm	Symposium Begins with Registration for All	MCR
	5:00–7:00 pm	Host Icebreaker	MCR: Courtyard
Tue, June 9	7:00 am–4:30 pm	Registration / Exhibits Open Raffle Begins Storytelling Studio Attendee Workspace	MCR MCR: Eagle MCR: Wolf Room MCR: Moose
	8:00 am–4:30 pm	General Session	MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom
	12:00–1:00 pm	ITC Luncheon (provided)	MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom
	6:00–9:00 pm	Host Welcome Dinner	Woodland Bowl
Wed, June 10	8:00 am–4:30 pm	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin & Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Tour	Bus loading at MCR – 4 buses Bus loading at NSMCR – 2 buses
	3:00–8:00 pm	Storytelling Studio	MCR: Wolf Room
	5:30–7:30 pm	General Membership Meeting	MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom
Thu, June 11	7:30 am–3:00 pm	Registration Raffle Continues Attendee Workspace	MCR MCR: Eagle MCR: Moose
	7:30 am–1:00 pm	Exhibits Open	MCR
	7:30 am–10:00 pm	Storytelling Studio	MCR: Wolf
	8:00–10:15 am	General Session Updates	MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom
	10:45 am–4:15 pm	WS 1: Biomass & Carbon	CMN: Campus Commons
	10:45 am–4:15 pm	WS 2: Building Partnerships in Fire Mgmt.	CMN: Shirley Daly 226-227
	10:45 am–4:15 pm	WS 3: Tribal Self Governance & Self Determination	CMN: Cultural Learning Center
	10:45 am–4:15 pm	WS 4: Forest Vegetation Simulator Technical Training	CMN: Shirley Daly 028
	12:00–1:00 pm	Lunch	CMN: Courtyard
	4:30–6:00 pm	Annual Business Meeting	CMN: Campus Commons
6:30–9:30 pm	Annual Awards Banquet	MCR: 5 Clans Ballroom	

Location	Address	City	ST	Zip
Menominee Casino Resort (MCR)	N277 State Hwy 47/55	Keshena	WI	54135
College of Menominee Nation (CMN)	N172 WI-47/55	Keshena	WI	54135
Woodland Bowl	W3024 Fairgrounds Rd	Keshena	WI	54135
North Star Mohican Casino Resort (NSMCR)	W12180 County Rd. A,	Bowler	WI	54416





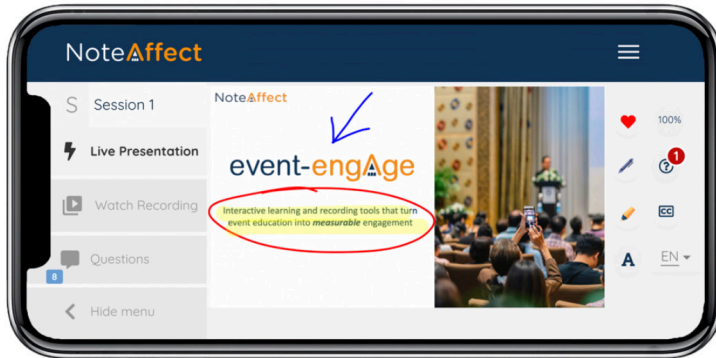
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*Convention Center*

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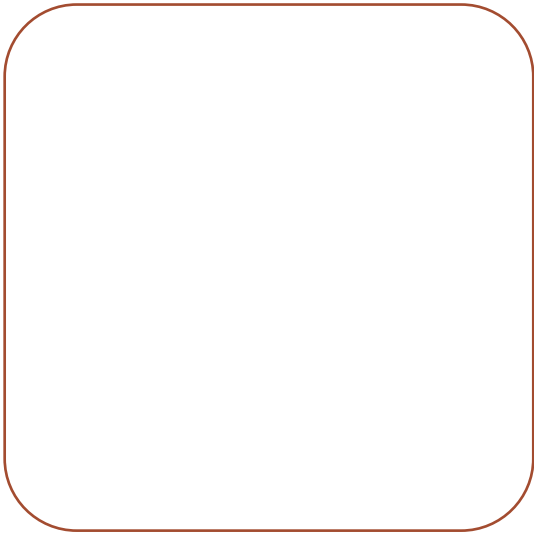


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# Notes



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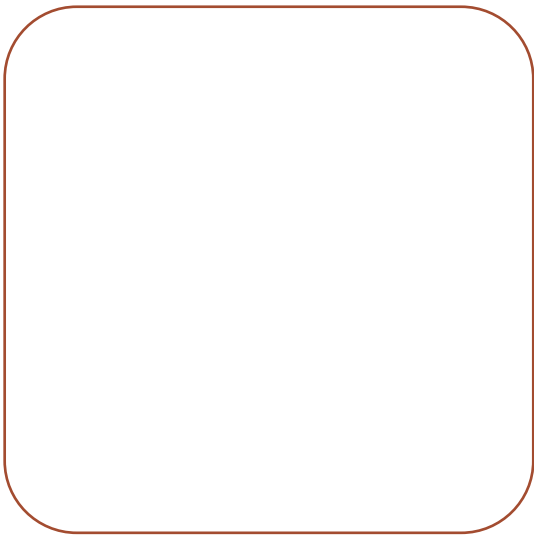
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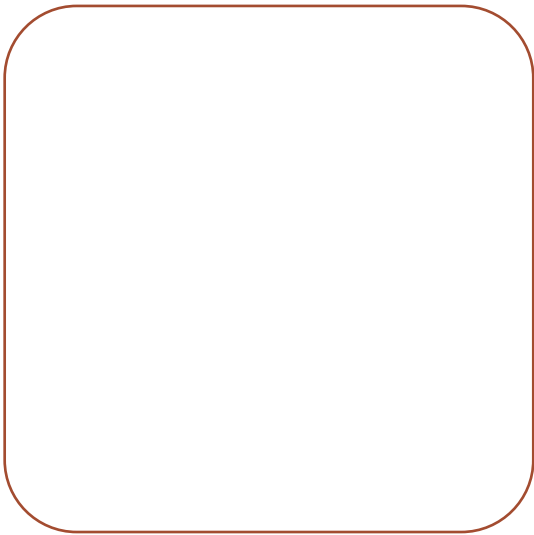
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