

Hoh Indian Tribe Takes Steps to Close the Digital Divide

Selects Native Network to Develop Broadband Feasibility Study & Implementation Plan

WENATCHEE, WA (August 30, 2017) – The Hoh Indian Tribe, located in Western Washington State, has selected Native Network to complete a Broadband Feasibility Study. The Tribe wanted a feasibility study to assess the current broadband environment, identify opportunities to enhance broadband and municipal services, and identify opportunities to accelerate the deployment of broadband infrastructure. Native Network and the Hoh Indian Tribe Council will kick off the project with a meeting in early August 2017 and the company will deliver a comprehensive feasibility study, including a shovel-ready five-year implementation plan, in November 2017.

“The Hoh Tribe is very excited to start this project with Native Network. In the world we live in today, reliable internet is a necessity. Most tribes are in rural America and are underserved by broadband internet services,” says the Honorable Maria Lopez, Chairwoman of the Hoh Tribe. “As Tribal Governments, it is our responsibility to provide public safety services, health and human services, and most importantly educational support for our youth. The internet is a vital tool to provide the services that are needed in our communities.” Ms. Lopez goes on to address other issues that the Hoh Tribe struggles with on a regular basis. “The electronic reporting that is required by most state and federal agencies is another hurdle for tribes, like the Hoh, that lack reliable internet. Tribal Governments must have the capabilities to work successfully with our federal and state agencies. The Hoh Tribe looks forward to moving into the digital age with rest of the world.”

“I applaud the leadership team, headed up by Council Chairwoman Lopez, for the Hoh Tribe’s vision and dedication in bringing robust broadband infrastructure to their Reservation and ultimately improving the economic vitality for their members,” says Jenny Rickel, COO & co-founder of Native Network. “We look forward to helping them take a leap into the 21st century.”

ABOUT HOH INDIAN TRIBE

The Hoh River Indians are considered a band of the Quileutes but are recognized as a separate tribe. The Hoh Reservation consists of 443 acres located 28 miles south of Forks, and 80 miles north of Aberdeen. The Hoh Indian Reservation was established by an Executive Order of September 11, 1963. The livelihood of the Hoh Indians is primarily fishing although a few of the residents make traditional decorative baskets, carved canoes for ocean going or river use and other decorative carvings. www.hohtribe-nsn.org

ABOUT NATIVE NETWORK, INC

Native Network, Inc. helps Native American Tribes connect with communications technology so they are empowered to reduce costs, generate revenue, create jobs and ultimately diversify their economies. Native Network provides professional services, wholesale telecommunications services, a web based ecommerce platform & full suite of software offerings to enable customers with the tools to connect & realize the benefits of the 21st century digital economy. www.nativenetwork.com

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CONTACT

Carl Patterson, Director of Marketing
Native Network, Inc
844-558-2472 x.107 | cpatterson@nativenetwork.com