American Indian and Alaska Natives Americans

During National American Indian Heritage Month each November, NMFS honors the generations of American Indians and Alaska Natives who have added to the character of our Nation.

Although the first "American Indian Day" was declared by the State of New York in 1916, a month long recognition of Native Americans was not achieved until 1990. In that year, President George Bush declared the first National American Indian Heritage Month on August 3. His action was based on legislation presented by Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Congressional Delegate Eni Faleomavaega (D-American Samoa). In each of the four previous years, Congress had enacted legislation designating "American Indian Heritage Week." This consecutive legislation allowed for the establishment of a month-long observance.

The purpose of National American Indian Heritage Month is to honor and recognize the original peoples of this land.

As NMFS celebrates our American Indian and Alaska Natives community, we do so with the following goals:

- Address the underrepresentation and underutilization of American Indian and Alaska Natives at all levels of NMFS.
- Create a workplace environment where American Indian and Alaska Natives are valued.
- Increase the number of American Indian and Alaska Natives at all levels of the NMFS workforce.
- Ensure that prospective applicants are aware of NMFS as an employer of choice and of the opportunities here at NMFS.
- Ensure that American Indian and Alaska Natives employees are fully developed and prepared to assume positions of greater responsibility.

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National Information and Conferences

American Indian Science and Engineering

http://aises.org/

For more information on this and other Affirmative Employment Programs within NMFS, please contact Natalie Huff, the NMFS Program Manager for EEO and Diversity.
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