

CASE STUDY

UPPER COLUMBIA UNITED TRIBES

TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY

The Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT), a consortium of 5 northwest tribes, secured a Planning Grant through the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program (CPRG), enabling them to develop a Climate Action Plan for all five tribes. However, the timeline to develop the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) was short, and the stakes were high, as the EPA was offering \$4.6 Billion for implementation through a competitive grant program. Simultaneously, UCUT staff also managed the implementation of several other significant grants, so capacity had to expand to seize the CPRG opportunity.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Resource Synergy drafted a Quality Assurance Plan, developed a GHG inventory for 4 of the 5 tribes (one had already completed such), surveyed departments within each tribe to solicit project ideas, distilled the submitted projects into common project "buckets," then authored a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) and an Engagement Plan. Once these initial plans were submitted, Resource Synergy and UCUT turned their attention to the Implementation Grant applications, electing to compete in both the "General Competition" and "Tribes and Territories" competition. Resource Synergy authored applications for both funding competitions, incorporating the feedback of UCUT and its member tribes.

A ROADMAP CREATED

Resource Synergy's support allowed UCUT to successfully submit the PCAP by the EPA's "General Competition" deadline, qualifying UCUT to apply for the Implementation Grant. The team then led engagement activities with each tribe and authored a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. Collectively, these documents lay the foundation for future climate mitigation activities and funding applications.



Resource Synergy is a pleasure to work with. They took the time to understand the unique needs of each of our member tribes and developed a plan that not only delivers environmental value but also benefits tribal members.

-MARC GAUTHIER