

**Coeur d'Alene Tribe and Student Conservation Association  
Combine Efforts to Map Lands in Northern Idaho**

During the summer and fall of 2005, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe brought a team of interns from The Student Conservation Association (SCA) to northern Idaho to work with the Tribal GIS office and collect data on forested land. The Tribe will use the data gathered by the SCA crew in conjunction with existing Continual Forest Inventory (CFI) and remote sensing data to produce GIS layers that will help local land and fire managers make more informed decisions about fuels reductions projects, managing fires, and mitigating risks in the wildland urban interface.



*SCA Crew with Tribal Youth Interns*

The SCA team collected much of their data on Continual Forest Inventory (CFI) plots located on forested land owned by the Tribe. Though most data was collected within the reservation itself, the team also spent a significant amount of time in the surrounding Benewah County area. The SCA crew collected data on lands owned by the Potlatch Timber Company, Inland Empire Paper, and the Idaho Department of Lands, leading to larger databases and increased awareness of fire behavior potential on their land holdings.

For nine weeks during the summer, the SCA team had the chance to work with tribal youth interns. These youth (ages 14-16) were hired by the Tribe for the summer to work with the GIS office and SCA crew. Two different groups of four interns helped collect data with the SCA team. The tribal youth saw a lot of rarely visited land around the reservation, and got the chance to navigate to work locations using GPS units.

For more information go to <http://gis.cdatribe-nsn.gov/projects/firemon/default.asp>