Panel A: Tier One Tribes

Cherokee

Pat Ragsdale represented the Cherokee Nation. The following is a summary of his major points:

- Chief Mankiller strongly supports her belief that the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project works and should be opened up to other tribes.

- The Cherokee Nation’s participation in the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project represents an appropriate next step in the history of the tribe and could be categorized as a gradual and natural transition.

- Baseline measures were established on time. Goals and objectives were established to guide the activities of the Cherokee Nation. Short term (one to five years) and long term (ten years) planning strategies were developed.

- The Cherokee Nation has established an environmental protection program which has received special recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency.

- The Cherokee Nation has revitalized its tribal court system.

- The Cherokee Nation has developed cooperative law enforcement agreements and strengthened its law enforcement activities.

- The Cherokee Nation has placed a greater emphasis on promoting the welfare of its children as well as preventing alcohol and substance abuse. It is working with community leaders to reclaim communities.

- The Cherokee Nation believes that the trust evaluation process is a good approach. A trust evaluation was performed with positive results.

- The Cherokee Nation is using the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project to enter the 21st century under its own terms.

Lummi

G.I. James represented the Lummi Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:
Some things are not going as well as the Lummi Tribe thought they would under the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. As a result, the tribe is experiencing a degree of frustration.

Despite the Lummi Tribe's need to experiment, there has been a tendency for the BIA to throw road blocks in the way of the tribe. Substantial bureaucratic entanglements have resulted.

In the area of child welfare, the Lummi Tribe is being required to apply for a competitive grant and has already spent half of the amount identified in the annual funding agreement.

HIP guidelines have become regulations and have become a roadblock to spending.

Title III is intended to allow compact tribes to have access to their share of federal funds. This has not been the case in the area of construction and economic development funding.

Some education funding needs to be brought into the system.

Despite the frustrations, the Lummi Tribe is moving forward. The tribe has experienced some accomplishments, including the reduction of its administrative burden.

The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project is allowing the Lummi Tribe to establish its own priorities.

The tribe is able to reallocate its resources. Budgets are being applied to tribal goals and objectives. Programs are being redesigned and new programs are being established.

Tribal accountability to tribal communities is being enhanced.

The Office of Self-Governance (OSG) faces obstacles. It is difficult for the OSG to deal with four or five problems being thrown at it. Existing OSG staff could become buried in so much work that the office will not be able to help compact tribes move forward.

There is a need to help the OSG help the self-governance tribes. Compact tribes should focus on how the OSG can help.

There is lots more to be accomplished. The compact tribes should lay out specific plans and choose the road to be taken to get there.
Ron Allen represented the Jamestown-S'Klallam Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- There is a need to concentrate on the fundamentals and basics. Change does not come over night. Compact tribes must be persistent. They must focus on the vision, keep chipping away, and keep a good sense.

- The Jamestown-S'Klallam Tribe is newly recognized and has spent its time getting organized. Goals and objectives have been put in place.

- Compacting has been a positive experience. The tribe has shown that a small tribe can successfully operate a compact.

- For the first year and a half, the Jamestown-S'Klallam Tribe learned about its new authority. The tribe spent its time establishing its policies and procedures. It determined the priority of its members for allocating funds.

- The program can be used as a base for solving problems. Greater flexibility was used in education, housing, and cultural areas. Immediate changes were made.

- Compacting will not solve all problems. Some pains were experienced. There was a tug of war as to who gets the money.

- There is a need to ensure that compact tribes are clearly eligible for add ons, adjusted programs, and new programs. A structure for eligibility must be in place. Compact tribes must not be removed out of the system.

- The establishment of a stable base is important.

- All compact tribes must be together to fix things when they are broken. They must also be together when implementing the project and making requests to Congress.

- The fact that BIA is 87% Indian is not necessarily good if BIA is threatened and becomes an obstacle by opposing the efforts of compact tribes. BIA is starting to make a commitment.

- Child welfare and community economic development grants should be negotiated into the annual funding agreements.

- BIA needs to be more aggressive in supporting the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) to get waivers. Constraints on tribal discretion should be removed.
Quinault

Joe De La Cruz represented the Quinault Nation. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Quinault Nation has developed a paper identifying the technical problems it experienced.
- Having dealt with six generations of paternalism, the Quinault Nation was in the forefront of drawing upon the lessons of the past and establishing the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. A philosophical basis for the establishment of the project was provided.
- The relationship was drawn between the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project and the Compact of Free Association dealing with Micronesia.
- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project provides a sound basis for protecting Indian interests and rights.
- One of the major purposes of the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project is to justify the need for an additional $1.0 billion for Indian affairs.
- Shortfall should not be negotiated in the same way as last year.
- The Senate Select Committee, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and the Secretary of the Interior are committed to the success of self-governance. Self-governance is here to stay and will not go away.

Mille Lacs

Dee Fairbanks represented the Mille Lacs Tribe. The following is a summary of her major points:

- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has had an impact on the structure of the Chippewa Tribe.
- Historically, the Mille Lacs Tribe has been poor. It has a small population and land base.
- Having the largest water table in the world, the Mille Lacs Tribe has a large concern for the environment. It is looking to protect its water table.
- The Mille Lacs Tribe is looking into the future. Recently, it has had some success operating a casino. It is interested in protecting its tax base and preventing alienation of its land.
The Mille Lacs Tribe needs to build two new towns. Homes and infrastructure are needed.

The Mille Lacs Tribe is placing a high priority on the provision of scholarships to its members. This will allow them to choose useful professions.

The Mille Lacs Tribe is involved in the planning of extending the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project to IHS programs. It has also been involved in selecting the first annual assessor of the project.

The Mille Lacs Tribe has been involved in developing rules that meet its own needs and acquiring tools to do what needs to be done. In this way, the tribe will be able to control its own destiny.

Absentee Shawnee

Dwayne Hughes represented the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has had more positive than negative experiences under the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. Self-governance is a good workable concept where needs can be addressed locally.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has been hindered by the BIA turning its HIP manual into regulations.

Under the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe has been more able to respond to the changing needs of its clientele by reallocating available funds.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has had greater access to BIA dollars. Its budget has grown four fold.

The attitudes of tribal members have changed. They can now impact the tribal budget process in a democratic way.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe did not need to participate in a planning phase. It had much of its desired infrastructure in place including, for example, law and order codes, tax structure, severance tax, foster care licensing, and gaming later on.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has been able to reduce the wastefulness of administrative processes by removing BIA manual requirements and reducing repetitive paper work.
Hoopa

Danny Jordan represented the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe has just ended thirty years of litigation. However, it is currently in the process of defending its newly acquired homelands.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe is in the process of developing its own set of rules and regulations to promote self-governance. It is promoting its own tribal goals and objectives.

- Self-governance is not a federal program. It is the exercise of inherent powers of tribal government.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe is at odds with the federal system. It is developing a working relationship with the federal government by expressing what it expects from the federal government, including the protection of the trust.

- One of the major goals of the Hoopa Valley Tribe is to reduce outside influences over internal tribal affairs by preventing preemption of tribal authority.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe has been involved in a number of controversial issues including, for example, implementation of a drug testing policy.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe is working with IHS to get them involved in self-governance.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe is in the process of reforming its tribal court.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe is updating, redesigning, and modifying its current fiscal system so as to gain good control of its financial system. This will facilitate the ability of the tribe to reprogram its funds.

- The Hoopa Valley Tribe believes that the regulatory waiver process being proposed is unworkable. The tribe does not want every regulation to be reviewed. New and better ways to develop tribal procedures should be established.

- There is a need to streamline the negotiation process. The Hoopa Valley Tribe is concerned about a surname process being used to approve negotiation decisions. Heads of government should be able to come to agreement in the negotiations without a surname process.

- Self-governance is here to stay. The federal government is expected to be a full partner with tribal governments.
Panel B: Tier Two Tribes

Duckwater
Jerry Miller represented the Duckwater Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Duckwater Tribe began operating under a compact on March 1, 1992. Self-governance is different and better. It allows the tribe to run programs in the way they meet tribal needs.

- The tribe is using its greater budget flexibility to make improvements. For example, this flexibility was used to alleviate an operating shortfall at its school.

- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has reduced hassles with the BIA. The BIA Agency is more helpful.

- The Duckwater Tribe is placing a greater emphasis on the coordination of substance abuse, social services, law enforcement, schools, agriculture improvements, and wildlife funding.

- A comprehensive budget has been developed for the tribal council.

- The Duckwater Tribe is concerned about shortfall funding. Budgets have remained the same and there is no incentive for BIA to restructure.

- There is a need for better budget information. In addition, there is a need to shorten the timeframes for dealing with issues.

Makah
Don Johnson represented the Makah Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Makah Tribe began operating under a compact on January 1, 1992. The tribe is beginning to explore ways to improve implementation. Self-governance represents an opportunity for the tribal members.

- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has allowed the Makah Tribe to add revenue to pursue important projects. It has also provided the tribe with added flexibility.

- A petition was circulated in December 1991 which likened the compact to termination. A referendum was held in which the tribe decided not to move forward with self-governance. A subsequent referendum was held before January 1 reversing this decision.
The Makah Tribe has recovered some of the rights which had been taken away.

The Makah Tribe experienced some problems negotiating its agreement.

Self-governance provides the tribe with an opportunity to preserve its culture, people, and jobs.

**Duck Valley**

Edit Manning represented the Duck Valley Tribe. The following is a summary of her major points:

- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project is important for the self-preservation of the Duck Valley Tribe.

- The Duck Valley Tribe was one of the first tribes to apply for self-governance but was not selected.

- The Duck Valley Tribe has experienced the effects of budget cuts (including the loss of agriculture, fisheries, water, and in-patient hospital care). The tribe appeared before Congress to secure water adjudication and halt the closing of its in-patient hospital.

- The Duck Valley Tribe has also experienced the effects of an Air Force bombing range near its reservation.

- The first negotiation was a disaster. The Duck Valley Tribe was first told what its base was. Problems were worked out.

- The Duck Valley Tribe began operating under the compact on February 1, 1992 after a petition was circulated among those opposed to self-governance were voted out of tribal office.

- The Duck Valley Tribe only recently got a handle on its budget. The budget is elusive and tribes must be on their toes.

- Program managers now defend their budget before the tribal council and the tribal council sets its priorities.

- Waivers are needed for the operation of the tribe's general assistance program.

**Confederated Tribes of Siletz**

Nelson Witt represented the Confederated Tribes of Siletz. The following is a summary of his major points:
The Confederated Tribes of Siletz began operating under a compact on January 1, 1992. To date, the tribes have not received all of their funds. Agency contracted funds have been received.

The relationship between the federal government and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz was terminated in the 1950s. In 1977, federal recognition was restored. However, the former reservation was not restored. Instead, the tribes were given a service area.

Regulations (for example, trust acquisition regulations and general assistance regulations) do not allude to the concept of a service area.

The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has not resulted in a lot of changes in the structure of the BIA Agency.

There is a need for mutual trust to develop. It is not necessary for BIA to rework the tribe's field work. BIA must put trust in the field work being done by the tribe.

The BIA Area Office retracted fee to trust authority from Agency to Area within eight days of a person retiring.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz prefer to have the trust authority of the federal government exercised at the Agency level.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz only have 3,600 acres of land which is not sufficient to run their tribal government.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz lost an opportunity to purchase land and get it put into trust status because the BIA could not get the paper work done fast enough.

BIA employees themselves have not been provided with good information on self-governance.

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz faced a take it or leave it attitude at its negotiations. No one had a finger on the figures. Different figures came up.

The tribal council used outsiders to confirm the information which it was being provided on self-governance.

The tribes are caught in a catch 22 situation. Tribes cannot have staff and authority if they do not have funds. Since the BIA Area and Central Offices control funds, then they control staff and authority.
The Confederated Tribes of Siletz did not take welfare assistance programs. They entered into an agreement with the BIA to gain control of the programs after a transition period.

**Ely**

Peter Ford represented the Ely Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Ely Tribe began operating under a compact on January 1, 1992. The tribe is committed to self-governance.
- The Ely Tribe was unable to draw down money early in January. On March 10, it finally got money. There was considerable confusion.
- The Ely Tribe has yet to hold its budget hearings on the compact. Questions still remain on the contribution from the central office and indirect cost amounts.

**Panel C**

**Tlingit and Haida**

Ed Thomas represented Tlingit and Haida Central Council and the Southeast Alaska signatory tribes. The following is a summary of his major points:

- A total of six independent signatory tribes signed the Southeast Alaska compact.
- The Southeast Alaska tribes were relatively pleased with the negotiations with BIA.
- The Southeast Alaska Signatory Tribes did not get funding for sixty days. Tribal dollars had to be used. Cash flow became a serious problem. A lawsuit was filed and settled out of court.
- The Southeast Alaska Signatory Tribes have still not received second quarter funding or shortfall dollars (including start-up money).
- There is a need to set up workshops in Alaska. Otherwise, there is likely to be far too much divisiveness.
- There is a need to get the law changed to allow roads to be included in the funding level.
- BIA should not be an employment agency. Delivering services to tribal members should be the focus.
There is a need to revisit the idea of having a strong budget analyst in the Office of Self-Governance.

The compact resulted in a 55% increase in the base of the budget of the Tribes in Southeast Alaska.

The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has allowed more people to understand the BIA budget.

**Sac and Fox**

Elmer Manatowa represented the Sac and Fox Nation. The following is a summary of his major points:

- A federal judge has ruled that the Sac and Fox Nation does indeed have a reservation.
- The Sac and Fox Nation was not satisfied with the delivery of programs and funding by BIA. Things were different than what the tribe was told.
- In the 1980s, the Sac and Fox Nation put a structure in place which allows the tribe to govern itself. The Consolidated Tribal Government Program and total contracting of the Agency facilitated the transition into self-governance.
- The Sac and Fox Nation did not totally go through the planning process. Self-governance was just another step. It was not a big change for the tribe.
- The funding process was the biggest obstacle. Tribes did not receive the amount of funds which were available to them.
- In the negotiations, the Area Director counted the BIA as a tribe.
- The Sac and Fox Nation has its own manual. It used BIA policy as a guideline.
- The Sac and Fox Nation is enjoying the benefits of redesigning its programs. It is reallocating its funds to where they are needed.
- All of the funding has not come down.

**Kawerak**

Loretta Bullard represented Kawerak. The following is a summary of her major points:
The Kawerak compact was entered into by a consortia of 19 out of 20 Tribes in the Bering Straits region. P.L. 93-638 contract dollars were rolled into the compact.

- Dollars were funneled through to Gambell IRA.
- Kawerak did not have problem drawing down contract dollars. Money was available.
- Kawerak will be negotiating for its share of BIA Agency, Area, Central Offices.
- Kawerak is still involved in planning. It is updating its long range planning documents and examining how to consolidate its programs.
- Kawerak has experienced a reduction in paperwork.
- Kawerak has established a Tribal Employment Rights Office program.
- Kawerak has observed a change in the attitude of its staff. Treats to programs are no longer seen. Instead, program opportunities are seen. A strong team approach has developed.
- IRA and Traditional Councils are not pursuing compacting under IHS.
- Kawerak has been able to get new dollars into its compact.
- Access to general assistance and other small pots of dollars is a problem. Assistance in grant application processes is needed.
- Tribes are managing the dollars themselves. There is now a need for accounting and bookkeeping at the community level. Direct access to dollars is warranted.
- Kawerak is looking to extend compact to other DOI programs.
- The potential exists to change the way services are being delivered in Alaska. They are being brought down to the tribal level and will be overseen by tribes themselves.

Port Gamble

Rick Lakota represented the Port Gamble-S’Klallam Tribe. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Port Gamble-S’Klallam Tribe took the time to inform its communities about self-governance. As a result, the compact had widespread support within the tribe.
o The Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe compacted existing P.L. 93-638 programs and a few others. It left general assistance, enrollment, and realty programs with the Agency Office.

o A meeting was called with Agency staff to clarify expectations. This meeting headed off many problems.

o Law enforcement was not operating at capacity. The Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe brought on additional staff. The tribe hired a tribal attorney.

o Education is a priority for the Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe. Funds were diverted into various education programs. The tribe now has a better handle on its education needs. Available funds were stretched further.

o The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project has resulted in greater communication in the community. A newsletter was sent to tribal members living on and off the reservation.

o Shortfall funding has not been received. In early March, the Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe got some funds. The late arrival of funds has not allowed the tribe to do what it wanted to do.

o It is getting more difficult for the Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe to cover the cost of travel to the various workshops and conferences. Direct services could be affected.

o The Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe is uncertainty as to how funding for the last three months of calendar year 1992 will be covered.

o The direction of self-governance is still uncertain. The direction of the Port Gamble–S’Klallam Tribe is also uncertain.

Panel D: Representatives from the BIA

Juneau Area Office

Niles Cesar represented the BIA Juneau Area Office. The following is a summary of his major points:

o The BIA Juneau Area Office got money out in sixty days and still got sued.

o There are 37 tribes in Alaska operating under two compacts.

o The BIA Juneau Area Office generated good numbers in the negotiation process. It did right by not holding money back.
o The compact in Southeast Alaska resulted in the closing of the BIA Southeast Agency.

o The Kawerak compact led to a field representative being stationed in Nome.

o The BIA Juneau Area agrees with what tribes can do with the money under the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project.

o The BIA has Indian people who care about Indian people.

Sacramento Area Office

Joanne Burcell represented the BIA Sacramento Area Office. The following is a summary of her major points:

o The Sacramento Area Office and Hoopa Valley Tribe jointly established baseline measures for each program to be operated by the tribe and retained by the Bureau.

o Savings from P.L. 93-638 contracts were rolled in to the compact.

o Under self-governance, there has been a shift in the flow of information. The information now comes from the tribe. As an example, the tribe is aware of funding availability before the Area Director.

o The Sacramento Area Office has spent a considerable amount of time on the compact (1,205 man hours).

Minnesota Agency

Joel Smith represented the BIA Minnesota Agency. The following is a summary of his major points:

o Given that seven percent of the Minnesota Agency’s tribe-agency budget is affected by the Mille Lacs compact, the Minnesota Agency has not experienced a reduction in force.

o Under self-governance, the Minnesota Agency has a better opportunity to serve the non-compact tribes.

o The Minnesota Agency and Mille Lacs designated official met to determine how to coordinate activities. The Minnesota Agency is continuing to provide executive direction and administrative services to Mille Lacs.

o There have been some problems in rolling over P.L. 93-638 contract funds into the Mille Lacs compact. The Minnesota Agency has been able to close out the contracts.
The Minnesota Agency is totally in support of the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project.

**Muskogee Area Office**

Dennis Wickliffe represented the BIA Muskogee Area Office. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The Cherokee Nation assumed functions of the Tahlequah Agency. The Agency was shut down and a coordinator position was set up in the Area Office.

- The coordinator spends two days a week at the Cherokee Nation mostly working on land transactions and certificate of Indian blood activities.

- The transition to self-governance by the Cherokee Nation went well. This in large part is due to the very capable Cherokee staff.

- The Muskogee Area Office has a good working relationship with the Cherokee Nation. The Area Director is most supportive.

- The Cherokee Nation has redesigned and restructured the credit and finance program.

- The law enforcement and court systems developed by the Cherokee Nation are model systems.

- The Cherokee Nation draws down funds quarterly. Money has been available to the Cherokee Nation when it was needed. Financial documentation is also available when it is needed.

- Baseline measurements were established. They are being used and are found to be valuable.

- A trust evaluation was completed. The Cherokee Nation was found to be efficiently and effectively operating its trust programs.

- The Cherokee Nation’s tribal council is supported by strong leadership, administrative systems, and a tribal employment rights office.

**Portland Area Office**

Wayne Bartley represented the Portland Area Office. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The BIA Portland Area Office has been significantly impacted by the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project (with
three first tier tribes, three second tier tribes, and possibly three more tribes).

- While the BIA Portland Area Office cannot say all that it would like to say about its self-governance efforts, it is trying to be supportive.

- The BIA Portland Area Office has had some accomplishments. It has developed an area strategic plan which will impact the way the Area does business.

- The BIA Portland Area Office is attempting to obtain access for the compact tribes to the federal financial system.

- The BIA Portland Area Office is the lead Area in implementing the Tribal Budget System.

- The BIA Portland Area Office has established the following criteria to guide its activities:

  (1) Embracing the concept of self-governance;

  (2) Providing complete, accurate, and timely disclosure;

  (3) Meeting all tribal expectations and requests;

  (4) Communicating with Bureau employees to keep them informed and to dispel rumors;

  (5) Meeting all reporting requirements;

  (6) Supporting all tribal initiatives, waiver requests, etc.;

  (7) Removing Roadblocks;

  (8) Restructuring the Bureau in response to self-governance;

  (9) Expediting the flow of funds; and

  (10) Being able to share success stories.

A questionnaire containing these criteria for measuring the success of the BIA Portland Area Office has been developed.

- A BIA total quality management group on self-governance is being established by the Bureau.
BIA Puget Sound Agency

Bill Black represented the BIA Puget Sound Agency. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The BIA Puget Sound Agency supports the concept of self-governance.
- Self-governance is a new way of doing business and the BIA Puget Sound Agency has attempted to make the transition smooth.
- Program transfers have been smooth. The problems are financial. There is insufficient funding at the Agency. Given the economies of scale, there is not enough money available for the tribes to run programs.
- The BIA Puget Sound Agency has had to use creative management to provide adequate services to other tribes.
- There has been a reorganization of the BIA Puget Sound Agency, including consolidation and restructuring. Every program was affected.

Eastern Nevada Agency

Bill Sandoval represented the BIA Eastern Nevada Agency. The following is a summary of his major points:

- The BIA Eastern Nevada Agency has become involved with three compact tribes.
- There has been a problem with the distribution of funds. The problem had been going on for years. One problem got worked out.
- There are a multitude of problems. The BIA Eastern Nevada Agency and compact tribes are not talking from the same book.
- There is uncertainty and a lack of knowledge as to what self-governance is all about. New roles and responsibilities are being defined and assumed.
- There is uncertainty as to where the funding to establish baseline measurements will come from.
- There is uncertainty as to how the BIA Eastern Nevada Agency will be restructured. Non-compact tribes are getting involved as well.
- The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project is getting to the point where it will work well.