

# TCU Missouri River Watershed Consortium Project

FALCON Faculty/Staff Presentations  
October 21, 2021

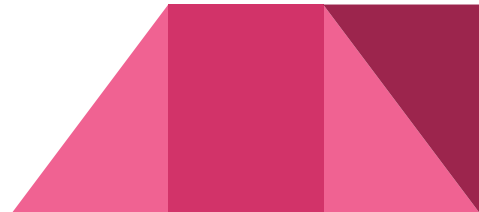
Ruth Plenty Sweetgrass-She Kills & Amber Finley

Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College

USDA NIFA Award Number: 2021-38424-34953

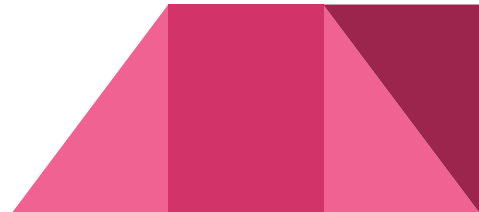
# The Missouri River Watershed

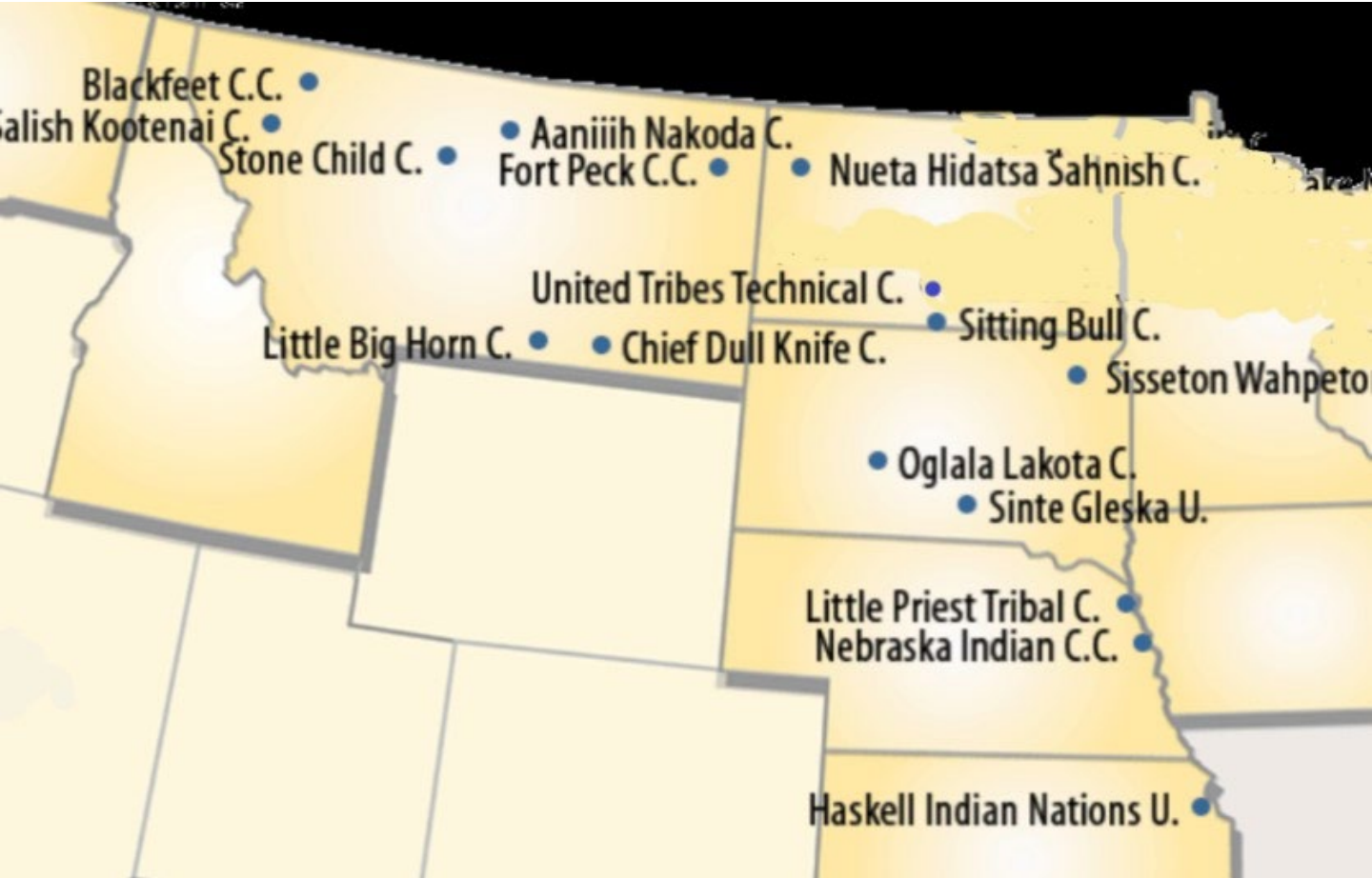
The Missouri River Watershed comprises the ancestral land of many Native communities with deep ties to the river. Our people, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara have a historic and distinct relationship with the Missouri River in which the river is referred to as our Grandfather. TCUs are uniquely positioned to assist their communities understand and appreciate present-day conditions and issues in the MRW.



# TCUs and the Missouri River

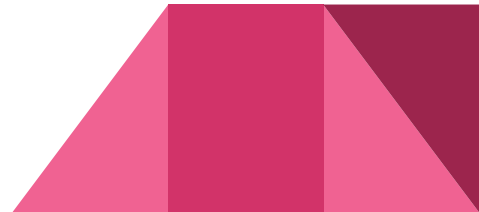
There are 15 TCU's located in the Missouri River Watershed. They are distributed throughout the basin from Montana to Kansas. To date these institutions have not had an opportunity to share their knowledge and experiences of the Missouri River with each other.





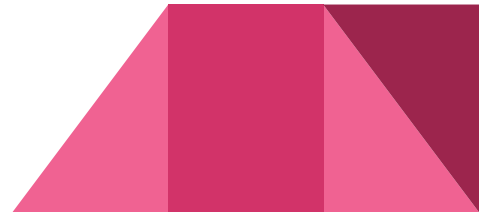
# Missouri River Consortium

This two-year project will initiate a TCU-led Missouri River Consortium dedicated to identifying and addressing tribal water resource issues and information needs in the basin. The project will prototype community-based research on the importance of the Missouri river to Tribal communities, provide research and mentoring opportunities for students, and build the framework to expand relationships between Native Nations and environmental information providers



# NHSC Special Topics course

NHSC will develop and offer a course that prepares students for the multidisciplinary that will focus on research, data collection, global climate change and water, and the cultural significance of water with our tribe. It is anticipated that a minimum of 8 students will complete the course.



# Internship opportunity & research mentoring

Eight students will be selected as Research Interns to expand upon classroom learning and the stated goals of this project. These interns will work with NHSC's project team to further develop and test methods for acquiring and summarizing existing information on Missouri River resources and issues in the Fort Berthold area/community, specifically the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara tribal membership. In addition, the interns will prepare poster or oral presentations suitable for audiences at a Missouri River Consortium conference.

