

Washington State Patrol Tribal Liaison Program

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) Tribal Liaison Program was established in 2019 through RCW 43.43.874 to address the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People (MMIWP) crisis in Washington state. The program created two Tribal Liaison positions within WSP—one serving Eastern Washington and the other serving Western Washington—to strengthen relationships between tribal communities, law enforcement, and key stakeholders in the effort to reduce victimization and improve response efforts.

Tribal Liaisons Emily Main and Anna Olson work in collaboration with tribal governments, law enforcement agencies, state and federal partners, and community organizations. Their work is centered on building trust, addressing systemic barriers, and ensuring that tribal perspectives are integrated into policy discussions and investigative practices.

The program's key goals include:

- Enhancing communication and coordination between law enforcement and tribal communities.
- Supporting MMIWP initiatives by advocating for culturally responsive policies and practices.
- Educating law enforcement agencies on the Missing Indigenous Persons Alert (MIPA) process and improving response times.
- Addressing historical bias and barriers that have contributed to the lack of justice for Indigenous victims and their families.
- Listening to and amplifying the voices of MMIWP family members, ensuring their experiences, concerns, and needs inform policies and responses.

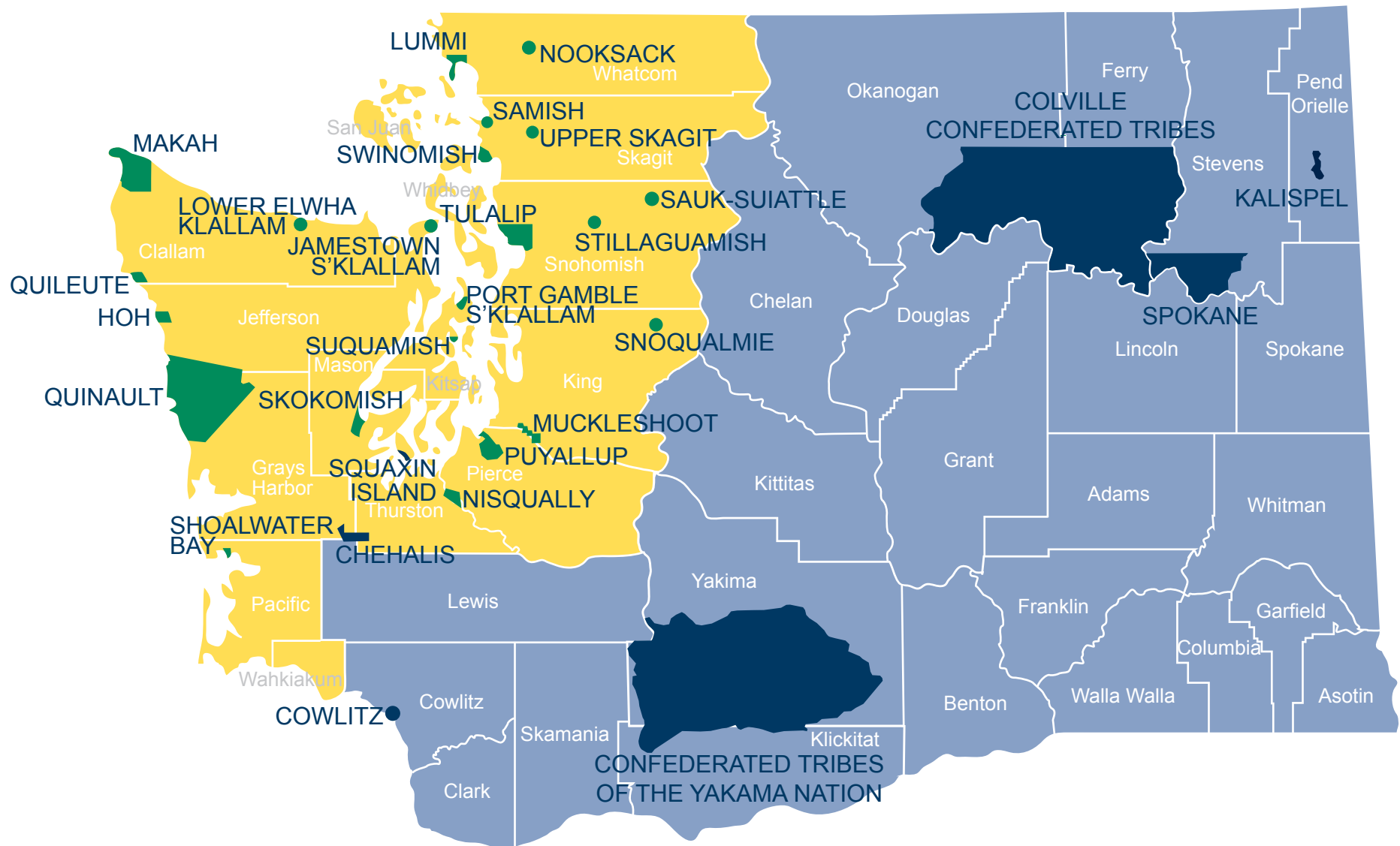
These goals are achieved through community engagement, law enforcement training, policy advocacy, and direct collaboration with tribal nations to ensure that cases involving missing and murdered Indigenous people receive the attention and urgency they deserve.

While Emily and Anna are new to their roles at WSP, both bring extensive experience working with and for tribal communities. Anna's background includes years of community-based and system-based victim advocacy, focusing on human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Emily's work in tribal child welfare and social services has centered on supporting Indigenous families and ensuring culturally appropriate services for Native children. Their combined experience allows them to bridge the gap between law enforcement and Indigenous communities, ensuring a collaborative and informed approach to addressing MMIWP cases.

At the heart of their work is a commitment to listening to families, acknowledging their lived experiences, and ensuring their voices are heard in every conversation about justice, prevention, and systemic change. They serve with humility, empathy, and a focus on meaningful action.

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**WASHINGTON STATE PATROL DISTRICT MAP &
FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES OF WASHINGTON STATE**
SIZE AND LOCATION ARE APPROXIMATE

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