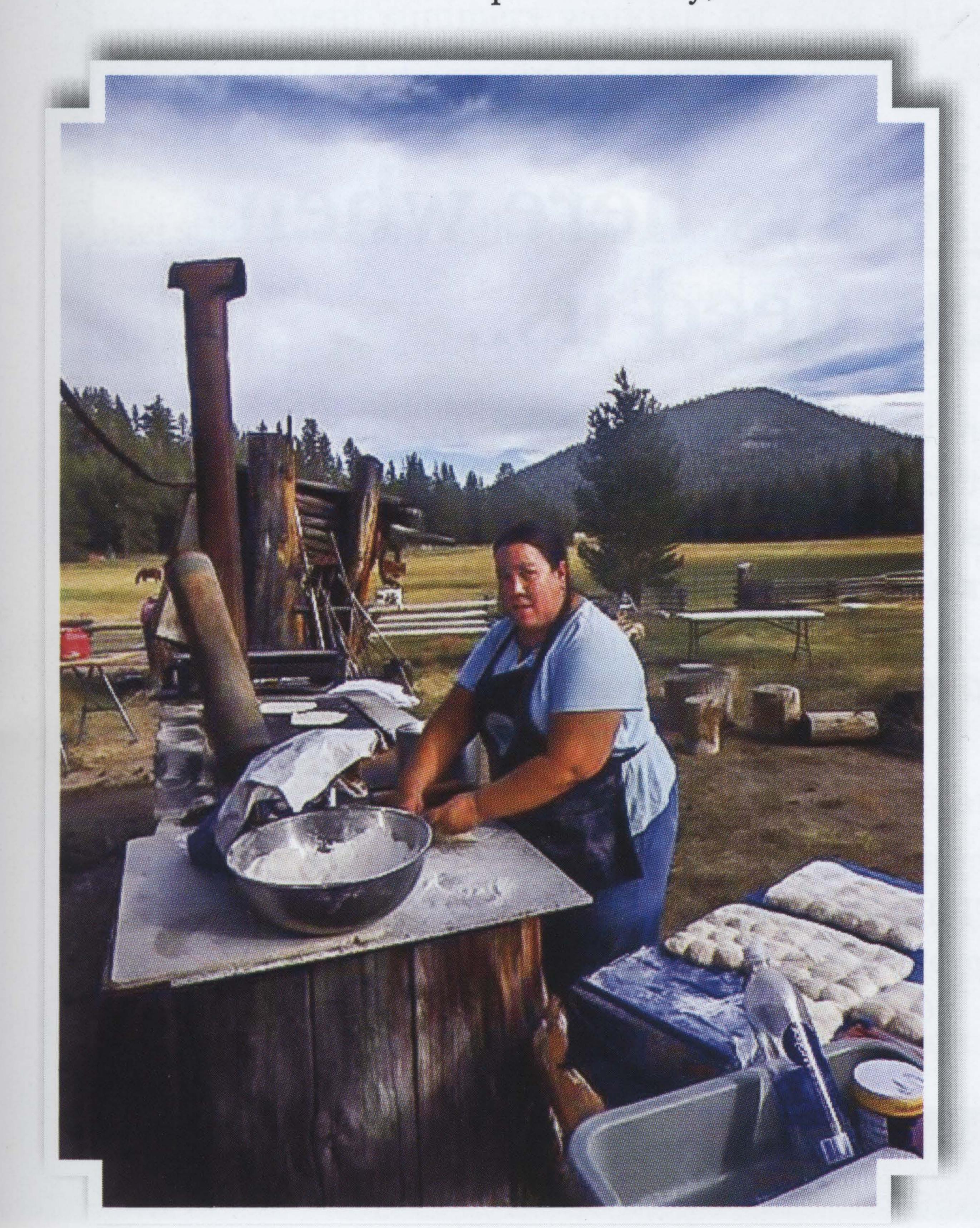


2018 Favorite Backcountry Cook

SUSAN JEFFERSON BOBB

usan Jefferson Bobb, selected as the 2018 Favorite Whitney Pack Station's permits Backcountry Cook, comes from a packing heritage were sold because access to Mt. of several generations. As a young child, she lived at Whitney was closed to livestock. the pack station at Whitney Portal, where her parents, Tom Tom went to work for Art Schober and Barbara Jefferson, worked for Ike Livermore before the as a packer out of North Lake in the Mt. Whitney Trail was closed to livestock. She recalls that Bishop area and Susan continued the Portal was a wonderful place to be, learning to cook to accompany him. Narrow trails from her mother and watching the packers and their mules. and high passes never made her At an early age she rode along with her dad, experiencing the beauty of the Sierra backcountry.

Life changed dramatically for Susan between the ages of nine and eleven. Her mother passed away, and then the Mt.





nervous, because she knew that her dad was competent to deal with any challenge.

As her mother had before her, Susan grew accustomed to cooking for large groups of packers and guests. She was the cook for many large base camps and always prided herself on making everything from scratch. She remembers being chastised for packing in over 100 pounds of flour so that she could bake bread. Dinners usually centered around roasts, ribs or stew, always with plenty of fresh vegetables and her Dutch oven bread. With a smile Susan says, "Packers like to eat, and I like to cook."

In more recent years Susan has cooked for tribal trading encampments in both Hutchinson and Monache Meadows, for groups which vary in number from 80 to 150 people on any given day. It was a challenge, but one which she enjoyed. Today she still caters for tribal events.

Susan's outlook on life is focused on honoring her heritage as a Native American and honoring both her parents and her extended family. She appreciates all the life skills her family has given her, especially the many opportunities she has enjoyed in her ability to be a backcountry cook in the beautiful Sierra Nevada. As she states, "I'll never stop cooking."