

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project  
DRAFT Meeting Notes – Wednesday, October 21, 2015**

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**Call Participants:**

- Tiffany Allgood, Coeur d’Alene Tribe
- Dominique Bachelet, Conservation Biology Institute
- Lexi Brewer, Futurewise
- Kelly Coates, Cow Creek Tribe
- Rhonda Dasher, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Kathy Ferge, NRCS
- Meagen Flier, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Laura Gephart, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission
- Breanna Gervais, Portland State University
- Eliza Ghitis, NW Indians Fisheries Commission
- Oliver Grah, Nooksack Tribe
- Keith Hatch, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Scott Hauser, Upper Snakes River Tribes Foundation
- Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe
- Edna Jackson, Organized Village of Kake
- Aranzazu Lascurain, Southeast Climate Science Center
- Mei Lin, Willamette National Forest
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Mary Mahaffy, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Alicia Marrs, NOAA Regional Drought Information Coordinator
- Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Andrew Miller, Organized Village of Kasaan
- Gary Morishima, Technical Advisor to the Quinault Indian Nation
- Don Motanic, Intertribal Timber Council
- Rachel Novak, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Frederick Olsen, JR., Organized Village of Kasaan
- Sascha Peterson, Adaptation International
- Don Sampson, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
- Steven Spencer, Shoalwater Bay Tribe
- Carrie Sykes, Organized Village of Kasaan
- Shane Vatland, Nez Perce Tribe
- Carson Viles, University of Oregon
- Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe

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**Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates**

- November 18, 2015
  - December 16, 2015
  - January 20, 2016
  - February 17, 2016
  - March 16, 2016
  - April 20, 2016
  - May 18, 2016
  - June 15, 2016
- Call-in Information:*
- Call Time: 10:00 am Pacific
  - Call-in #: 1-888-844-9904
  - Pass code: 5064716

## Discussion Topics

### ATNI-USET Bi-Coastal Collaborative project

Don Sampson, Climate Change Coordinator for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), provided an update on an emerging partnership between ATNI and the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET). The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), Institute for Tribal Government (ITG), United South and Eastern Tribes (USET), the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Northwest Climate Science Center (NW CSC) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) [announced](#) a collaborative effort to host a Bi-Coastal Tribal Leaders Summit, Tribal natural and cultural resource manager trainings, and policy workshops to support Tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and Tribal program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop Tribal policy needed to address climate change impacts. The Department of Interior's BIA is supporting this collaborative project as part of BIA's FY 2015 Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program.

The ATNI and USET initiatives include three collaborative projects to be implemented over the next year:

1. **Two Collaborative Bi-Coastal Tribal Climate Change Workshops** (one on the east coast and one on the west coast)
2. **A Tribal Climate Change Boot Camp**: This boot camp will be convened in collaboration with the Northwest Climate Science Center. This event will focus on early career professionals and tribal employees. The University of Idaho will be the host location. 10 tribal representatives from Northwest, and 10 from East Coast will be invited.
3. **2nd Annual Tribal Leaders Summit on Climate Change**: This summit will be held in the spring of 2016. Organizers are currently organizing a steering committee and working to broaden participation to include USET tribes.

### ***ATNI Climate Change Internships***

Don also announced that ATNI will be hosting 6 tribal student interns with the support of the BIA funding through the Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program. These interns will be assigned to work with tribal organizations in the Northwest. There are 3 management intern positions and 3 research intern positions. ATNI will soon be recruiting tribal student for these positions. ATNI is also putting together an outreach video to raise awareness about climate impacts, and give youth an opportunity to interview elders, develop video skills, and learn about climate impacts.

### **Q&A**

Gary asked if the ATNI-USET collaborative is working with Paul Wagner, US Army Corps of Engineers in Paul's efforts to coordinate Climate Leadership trainings for Tribal Leaders. Don noted that the Bootcamp has an emphasis on early career professionals, although some tribal leadership may be involved. While the Tribal Leaders Summit has a policy focus, there are many education opportunities there, as well. Don said that he has been in touch with Paul and will continue to participate in the conference calls to find connectivity between these efforts.

Scott asked if there is funding to bring more people to the Climate Change Bootcamp. Don responded that they are limited by funding, but if there are people/organizations with resources to contribute, that there may be room to expand the Bootcamp.

### **Tribal Climate Change Policy Principles**

Don provided an update on the resolution that ATNI passed earlier this year regarding the Tribal Climate Change Policy Principles, which sets forth eight principles to guide the federal government in the

development and implementation of administrative and legislative actions related to Indigenous Peoples and climate change. ATNI adopted a [resolution](#) on the Tribal Climate Change Policy Principles earlier this year, and put forward a resolution at the National Congress of American Indians annual conference taking place this week in Seattle. Don said that there is a lot of interest in the principles at NCAI and the resolution is being considered for approval. In December, a number of tribal leaders and representatives from tribal organizations will be conducting meetings in Washington D.C. with administrative and legislative officials. For information on the NCAI resolution under consideration, visit: [http://www.ncai.org/SD-15-024\\_draft.pdf](http://www.ncai.org/SD-15-024_draft.pdf).

### **Yale-Intertribal Timber Council Forestry Summit**

Don Motanic with the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC) provided a recap of the Summit, which was convened by Phil Rigdon, the current ITC President and John Gordon. The Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies joined the ITC to convene federal and tribal representatives along with academia at the tribal forestry summit to address two issues, which include the challenges of the federal trust relationship on Indian forests and also the workforce development needed to help manage the forests. The summit included panels about the state of the forest and forest management workforce and roundtables to discuss the issues and possible solutions. One ongoing issue was a discussion about revising grant processes so that tribes don't have to manage multiple grants from federal agencies—finding a way to increase coordination amongst federal agencies. Also at the Summit, tribal students talked about benefit of having strong mentors. He is hoping leadership programs like this will continue in the future. Don said that there will be a write-up about the event in a forthcoming ITC newsletter.

### **Tribal Climate Change Webinars: BIA's Climate Change Competitive Award Process Overview**

These webinars for tribes and 638 eligible tribal organizations (including tribal colleges) will highlight the funding process for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) award categories: climate adaptation, ocean and coastal planning, and youth internships. The webinars are being offered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University. The next webinar is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am Pacific. Speakers are Sean Hart, BIA Climate Change Coordinator and Rachael Novak, BIA Climate Science Coordinator. BIA expects that the Notification of Available Funding announcement will be out prior to this webinar, and due to restrictions of competitive funding, the speakers will only be able to take written questions which will be posted on the BIA website. Please register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/128151748752017409>. For more information about the webinars, please contact: Sue Wotkyns at [Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu) and Nikki Cooley, [Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu](mailto:Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu).

### **Tribal Climate Change Guide Expanding**

The PNW Tribal Climate Change Project is expanding the online funding guide to include information about funding, existing adaptation plans, climate planning resources, climate programs, scientists, climate literature, and events. Kathy will send out a release when the new Tribal Climate Change Guide is live. Several call participants offered suggestions. Gary suggested adding a tab for media and current events, as well as one for educational resources and curriculum. Sascha noted a website <http://climatevoices.org/> that has an existing climate scientists database, and suggested that Kathy and Carson cross-reference with their own database. Eliza also suggested visiting <http://morethanscientists.org/>, a website that features interviews with scientists about what drives them. This link might be a good resource for the educational resources tab.

## General Updates

### Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals – Tribes and Climate Change Trainings

Sue is in the process of planning and scheduling trainings for 2016. Probable locations include Fort Hall, ID Spokane, WA, Anchorage, AK and in Southern California in Pala, CA, and Billings, MT. Anyone in these areas interested in participating in these trainings can contact Sue at: [Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu).

### Conversations about Environmental Change in Southeast Alaska

In "Conversations about Environmental Change in SE Alaska: residents of Yakutat, Angoon and four communities on Prince of Wales share the changes they are experiencing, how they are adapting and how they think their communities will be in the future. A research project on perceptions of environmental change done in collaboration between the US Forest Service, University of Alaska Fairbanks and other organizations involving over ninety local residents. This project is also featured here: Climate change and glacial uplift in Southeast's rural communities.

### U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit - Arctic and Tribal Nations Resources

As part of the [Obama Administration's Climate Data Initiative](#), U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell announced a new set of online climate data resources to help Arctic communities with climate change planning, adaptation and management. The new data sets, introduced today as part of an online Climate Resilience Toolkit, comprise more than 250 Arctic-related datasets and more than 40 maps, tools, and other resources designed to support climate-resilience efforts in the Arctic. The [U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) is a website developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and other Federal agencies that will enable decision-makers to take action. For more information: <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/obama-administration-unveils-new-climate-resilience-tools>

### Job Announcement: Point No Point Treaty Council Climate Change Action Analyst Position

**Position Open Until Filled.** The Point No Point Treaty Council, an intertribal natural resource management agency serving two Western Washington Treaty Tribes, is seeking qualified applicants to fill the position of Climate Change Action Analyst at the Central Office located in Poulsbo, Washington. For more information, click here: <http://www.pnptc.org/Climate%20Change%20Action%20Analyst%20Announcement%2009-2015.pdf>

### Research Assistantships Available for Native Americans

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS), through partnership with The Wildlife Society, is sponsoring a research assistantship program for Native American students. This is the second year of the program, which will facilitate mentoring opportunities for USFS Research & Development scientists with the students and promote student advancement and training for careers in natural resource and conservation-related fields. **Application deadline is October 26, 2015.**

### USDA Climate Hubs Fellows Program Opportunity

**Deadline for Applications: November 20, 2015.** The CHFP program will hire fellows as temporary federal employees to work with the regional Hubs and Sub-Hubs to accomplish their mission. Fellows from this program will obtain experience developing on-the-ground solutions for vulnerabilities faced by operational land managers and learn to work with established research and outreach communities. Applications to the program (see announcement for details), should be sent

to [ClimateHubs@oce.usda.gov](mailto:ClimateHubs@oce.usda.gov). The USDA Climate Hubs were established by USDA in February 2014 to develop and deliver science-based, region-specific information and technologies, with USDA agencies and partners, to agricultural and natural resource managers that enable climate-informed decision-making, and to provide access to assistance to implement those decisions. Fellows should identify their climate hub regional preference, or if they are willing to be placed where there is the greatest need. Regions can be found on the hubs website [www.usda.gov/climatehubs](http://www.usda.gov/climatehubs). Application information is available here: <http://nifa.usda.gov/event/usda-climate-hubs-fellows-program-cfhp-opportunity>. The complete announcement can be downloaded [here](#).

### **[Forest Service Interactive Tribal Connections Map](#)**

The U.S. Forest Service today released [Tribal Connections](#), a new online interactive mapping tool that shows how lands managed by the agency connect or overlap with current tribal trust lands and lands tribes exchanged with the federal government prior to 1900. This reference tool will help Forest Service employees and the public better understand historical treaties and the role they play in making current land management decisions. Tribal Connections contains multiple layers that include information on forests and grasslands managed by the agency, lands owned by tribes and historical data on lands ceded by treaties. Nearly 4,000 miles of shared boundaries between tribal lands and Forest Service-administered/owned land are identified. <http://usfs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=fe311f69cb1d43558227d73bc34f3a32>

### **[Klamath Basin Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change Science Internship](#)**

The Quartz Valley Indian Reservation partnered with tribes, federal agencies and higher education institutions in the Klamath Basin on a tribal youth intern program for the summer of 2014. This program built on current efforts to integrate western science and TEK for climate change planning and adaptation in the Klamath Basin. Report documents are available here: <http://www.northpacificlcc.org/klamath-basin-traditional-ecological-knowledge-and-climate-change-science-internship>

### **Upcoming Events**

**October 22, 2015. 11 am Pacific. [Moving toward the deliberate coproduction of climate science knowledge](#).** This presentation will discuss the ways in which more deliberate approaches to building the relationships and communication channels between scientists and stakeholders can yield better outcomes. Speakers will present five approaches to collaborative research that can be used to structure a coproduction process and that each suit different types of research or management questions, decision-making contexts, and resources and skills available to contribute to the process of engagement. Register here: <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/webinar/513>.

**October 26-29, 2015. Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment.** Santa Fe, NM. Offered by the USFWS National Conservation Training Center and sponsored in collaboration with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. This course is designed to guide conservation and resource management practitioners in two essential elements in the design of climate adaptation plans: (1) identifying which species or habitats are likely to be most strongly affected by projected changes; and (2) understanding why these resources are likely to be vulnerable. For more information, contact [April.Taylor@chickasaw.net](mailto:April.Taylor@chickasaw.net)

**October 26-30, 2015. Conference: [Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, Anchorage, AK.](#)** ATCEM, organized by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, is an

annual gathering that brings together Tribes, Non-profits, and State and Federal organizations, for a week of environmental conversations. The discussions focus on finding and implementing solutions to address the unique environmental concerns facing Alaskan communities. <http://www.atcemak.com/>

**October 27-29, 2015. 23rd Annual Tribal/EPA Region 9 Conference. Reno, NV.** For the past 23 years, the annual conference has been an important opportunity for partnership and ongoing collaboration between Tribes, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other federal, state, and local agencies. The annual conference provides the Tribes with valuable training, networking opportunities, and resource-sharing. Will include a climate change plenary session. <http://region9tribal-epaconference.com/>

**November 2-3, 2015. Southwest Climate Summit: Bridging the Gap: Collaborative Science for Adaptive Management.** Join the Southwest Climate Science Center (SW CSC) for a 2-day conference, November 2-3, 2015, that brings together scientists and managers to share emerging climate science, Climate-Smart Conservation results, management and policy responses, and lessons learned across the Southwest. The conference, held in Sacramento, California, will feature presentations by leading thinkers, oral and poster sessions, and workshops designed to engage participants in building collaborative partnerships for resilient southwestern landscapes. For more information: <http://www.swcsc.arizona.edu/content/2015-southwest-climate-summit>

**November 4-5, 2015. Sixth Annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference,** Coeur d'Alene, ID. The PNW Climate Science Conference annually brings together more than 250 researchers and practitioners from around the region to discuss scientific results, challenges, and solutions related to the impacts of climate on people, natural resources, and infrastructure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the region's premier opportunity for a cross-disciplinary exchange of knowledge and ideas about regional climate, climate impacts, and climate adaptation science and practice.

**November 5, 2015. Department of Energy Minorities in Energy Regional Climate Change Impacts Webinars - Hawai'i and Pacific Islands.** DOE will host a series of webinars highlighting the impacts and opportunities of climate change and responses for minority communities, using information from Quadrennial Energy Review and the National Climate Assessment. Participants may [register at anytime](#) for the webinars, and the webinars will be recorded for those interested who aren't able to attend. The presenters for the Hawai'i and Pacific Islands webinar are Jo-Ann Leong & Victoria Keener. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.energy.gov/diversity/mie-webinar>.

**November 5-6, 2015. Native Waters on Arid Lands.** Las Vegas, NV. Native Waters on Arid Lands project seeks to build capacity among tribal communities in the Great Basin and American Southwest to enhance climate resiliency of water resources and agriculture. <http://nativewaters-aridlands.com/>

**November 6, 2015. NCTC ClimateSmart Conservation. Sacramento, CA.** This is five day class is based on two guides: Climate-Smart Conservation: Putting Adaptation Principles into Practice and Considering Multiple Futures and Scenario Planning to Address Uncertainty in Natural Resource Conservation.

**November 9 - December 3, 2015. Online training: Climate Change Policy and Public Health.** Offered by University of Wisconsin-Madison through Coursera. 4-8 hours/week. Explore current evidence linking climate change and public health while learning the fundamental co-benefits of climate change mitigation. Evaluate policies and interventions while gaining hands on experience communicating climate science and health to policy makers and the general public.

**November 10, 2015. 10 am PST. Overview of BIA's Tribal Climate Adaptation Awards Process.** This webinar is being offered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals. These webinars for tribes and 638 eligible tribal organizations (including tribal colleges) will highlight the funding process for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) award categories: climate adaptation, ocean and coastal planning, and youth internships. For more information, contact: Sue Wotkyns, Program Manager, Climate Change Program, ITEP, [Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu) and Nikki Cooley, Program Coordinator, Climate Change Program, ITEP, [Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu](mailto:Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu).

**November 12 – 13, 2015. Tribal Leaders Summit on Climate Change: A Focus on Climate Adaptation Planning and Implementation. Tucson, AZ.** The University of Arizona's Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions (CCASS) / Haury Native Nations Climate Adaptation Program will bring together Tribal leaders, practitioners, researchers, and educators from across the country who are engaged in Tribal climate change adaptation work. The conference will highlight Tribal Nations that have existing climate adaptation plans. This is a great opportunity to learn from Tribes across the entire United States. For more information, email [Marchand](mailto:Marchand).

**November 12-14, 2015. 2015 Rising Seas Summit, Cambridge, MA.** The Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO) has announced the 2015 Rising Seas Summit, which will be held in collaboration with the City of Boston and the Boston Green Ribbon Commission. It brings together professionals from national and local government, industry, academic institutions and environmental NGOs to highlight the interrelationships between sea level rise, climate change and extreme events. <http://www.risingseassummit.org/index.html>

**November 17, 2015. 11 am Pacific. Working with local communities to design housing that is affordable, climate appropriate, & resilient: Newtok, Alaska.** The people of Newtok, Alaska may be North America's first climate change refugees, as the village rapidly loses ground to the unstoppable Ninglick River. The Bering Sea village is one of many threatened by coastal erosion as sea ice retreats, permafrost melts, and the earth beneath them washes away. This summer the Cold Climate Housing Research Center is working with Newtok to build a demonstration home that reflects the climate and culture of the Yup'ik Eskimo community. The home uses electrical and water/sewer systems that can operate with or without public utilities and will be built on skis so it can be relocated to the future site. Jack Hébert will talk about working with local communities to design housing that is affordable, climate appropriate, and resilient. **Available online or in-person in room 407 IARC/Akasofu on the UAF campus.** To register, click [here](#).

**December 3, 2015. Department of Energy Minorities in Energy Regional Climate Change Impacts Webinars - Great Plains.** DOE will host a series of webinars highlighting the impacts and opportunities of climate change and responses for minority communities, using information from Quadrennial Energy Review and the National Climate Assessment. Participants may [register at anytime](#) for the webinars, and the webinars will be recorded for those interested who aren't able to attend. The presenter for the Great Plains webinar is Bull Bennett. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.energy.gov/diversity/mie-webinar>.

**January 7, 2016. Department of Energy Minorities in Energy Regional Climate Change Impacts Webinars - Southwest.** DOE will host a series of webinars highlighting the impacts and opportunities of climate change and responses for minority communities, using information from Quadrennial Energy Review and the National Climate Assessment. Participants may [register at anytime](#) for the webinars, and the webinars will be recorded for those interested who aren't able to attend. The presenter for the

Southwest webinar is Hilda Blanco. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.energy.gov/diversity/mie-webinar>.

**February 4, 2016. Department of Energy Minorities in Energy Regional Climate Change Impacts Webinars - Northwest.** DOE will host a series of webinars highlighting the impacts and opportunities of climate change and responses for minority communities, using information from Quadrennial Energy Review and the National Climate Assessment. Participants may register at anytime for the webinars, and the webinars will be recorded for those interested who aren't able to attend. The presenter for the Northwest webinar is TBD. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.energy.gov/diversity/mie-webinar>.

#### **Regional and National Climate Change Resources, Newsletters and Calendars**

- [ITEP Tribes and Climate Change Newsletter](#)
- [PNW Tribal Climate Change Project](#) and [Funding Guide](#)
- Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE): events: <http://cakex.org/community/events>.
- [Northwest Climate Science Center](#) and [NPLCC Northwest Climate Digest](#); [NW CSC Calendar](#)
- Northwest Climate and Related Data  
Resources: [https://www.nwclimatescience.org/nw\\_data\\_resources](https://www.nwclimatescience.org/nw_data_resources)
- [USDA Climate Hubs](#)
- [EPA's Stormwater Calculator](#)
- [EPA's Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool](#)
- Climate Resilience Toolkit: <http://toolkit.climate.gov/tools>
- [Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission Climate Change Resources](#)
- [Climate Change Resource Center Education Modules](#): <http://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/climate-basics/education>.