Tribal Climate Change Newsletter
March 2017

Welcome to ITEP's Tribal Climate Change Newsletter. This monthly newsletter provides news items, resources, announcements about funding opportunities, conferences, and training, and other information relevant to tribal climate change issues.

ITEP's Climate Change Program News

Spokane Tribal Fish Hatchery & Training Group Photo. Photo credit: Fletcher Wilkinson

Happy Spring!

We have two climate adaptation trainings under our belt with the most recent one in Spokane, WA where we had 36 participants with representatives from 4 federal agencies and 14 tribes. A huge thank you to our collaborators, Colville Tribe and Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) in helping us make this a successful training! Also we are grateful to the Kalispel Tribe and Northern Quest Resort & Casino for a great training location, and to Tim Peone for giving us a passionate and informative tour of the Spokane Tribe’s fish hatchery.

A reminder that early bird and standard registration for the National Adaptation Forum is open until Sunday, April 09 and Monday, May 08, respectively. To register or for more information please visit: https://www.nationaladaptationforum.org/registration.

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Newsletter
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Tribes & Climate Change website
For more on tribes and climate change issues, visit ITEP’s Tribes & Climate Change website at www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/
Open registration for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality coming up May 01-04 in Tucson, AZ, and hosted by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Please visit website for more information: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_ntf.

The annual Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF) is taking place in Tulsa, OK, August 14-17. Please visit website for more information regarding registration and presentations: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef

-Nikki, Karen, Fletcher and Colleen

**In The News**

**The Long Way Home**
It had been centuries since the Huna made the 30-mile journey by canoe from their current village, Hoonah, to their ancestral homeland in Glacier Bay National park. They were ceremoniously returning to celebrate the dedication of a new Tribal House, the first to be built on these lands in hundreds of years. Spring 2017. [https://www.npca.org/articles/1490-the-long-way-home#sm.0001u2sh50uy9eu2r6105a2w7t0w](https://www.npca.org/articles/1490-the-long-way-home#sm.0001u2sh50uy9eu2r6105a2w7t0w)

**Environmentalists, Tribe File Lawsuit Over Trump Climate Order**
Environmental groups that vowed to fight President Trump’s efforts to roll back his predecessor’s plans to curb global warming made good on their promise Wednesday, teaming up with an American Indian tribe to ask a federal court to block an order that lifts restrictions on coal sales from federal sales. © 1996-2017 The Register-Guard, 03/30/2017. [http://registerguard.com/rg/business/35430445-63/environmentalists-tribe-file-lawsuit-over-trump-climate-order.html.csp](http://registerguard.com/rg/business/35430445-63/environmentalists-tribe-file-lawsuit-over-trump-climate-order.html.csp)

**Tapping Traditional Wisdom to Cope with Climate Change**

**With Change the Rapper By His Side, This 16-Year-Old Activist & Rapper is Setting Out to Change the Climate Game: Exclusive**
At only 6 years old, indigenous environmentalist, activist and hip-hop artist Xiuhtezcatl Martinez began speaking out against climate change. To date, the Boulder-based activist has addressed the U.N. five times, made a guest appearance on Real Time with Bill Maher, and is currently a plaintiff in a youth-led lawsuit against the federal government for their failure to protect future generations from the effects of climate change. © 2017 Billboard, 03/27/2017. [http://www.billboard.com/articles/news/lifestyle/7736585/xiuhtezcatl-martinez-activist-interview-climate-change-change-the-rapper](http://www.billboard.com/articles/news/lifestyle/7736585/xiuhtezcatl-martinez-activist-interview-climate-change-change-the-rapper)

**We Are the Ocean: An Indigenous Response to Climate Change**

**Indigenous People Best Custodians of Threatened Forests, Studies Show**
Local communities are best equipped to safeguard valuable forests, and those with strong land rights are the most effective, said a raft of studies presented this week at the World Bank’s annual Land and Poverty Conference. © Associated Newspapers Ltd., 03/21/2017. [http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4336514/Indigenous-people-best-custodians-threatened-forests-studies-show.html](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4336514/Indigenous-people-best-custodians-threatened-forests-studies-show.html)

**Trump’s War on the Climate**
First, in a sign of things to come, the new administration removed the climate change page on the White House website. Then it greenlit the controversial Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipeline projects, showing disdain for environmental concerns and for Native American sovereignty, which activists, which activists spent years documenting. © 2017 U.S. News & World Report, L.P., 03/13/2017.
Food Forests Are Helping These Native American Reservations Eat Healthier
Centuries ago, Native American and First Nation tribes ranged far and wide across the continent, hunting animals such as bison, deer, buffalo, fish, and gathering crops like sweet potatoes and maize. © The Plaid Zebra, 03/10/2017. http://www.theplaidzebra.com/these-native-american-reservations-are-fighting-for-healthy-food/

Executive Summary for March 10th
In this weekly roundup, we analyze key water developments in California, including a landmark decision on Native American water rights, new conservation numbers for the state and a climate change resolution. © 2017 News Deeply, 03/10/2017. https://www.newshour.com/water/executivesummaries/2017/03/10

Cherokee Playwright Tackles love, Climate Change at Autry

Dakota Pipeline Protests Come to Wall Street: Native American Activists Hope to Pressure Big Banks to Back Off
In less than 60 days in office, [the] President has set back the nation and the entire planet at least 30 years when it comes to the looming environmental challenges we face from climate change and increasing fresh water scarcity. © 2017 Salon Media Group, Inc., 03/08/2017. http://www.salon.com/2017/03/08/dakota-pipeline-protests-come-to-wall-street-native-activists-hope-to-pressure-big-banks/

The EPA Has Started to Remove Obama-era Information
The Environmental Protection Agency’s website has begun to transform under the Trump administration. Federal climate plans created under former President Obama, tribal assistance programs, and references to international cooperative have been stricken from the site. © 2017, Everett Herald and Sound Publishing, Inc., 03/07/2017. http://www.heraldnet.com/news/the-epa-has-started-to-remove-obama-era-information-2/

Audio: The Right to be Cold is the Key to Addressing Climate Change Says Nobel Nominee
However now, as temperatures continue to rise, the nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize for her work on climate change and indigenous rights, believes it is time everyone started taking action because “what’s happening in the Arctic doesn’t just stay in the Arctic, it connects every one of us, no matter where we live,” she said. 9min 37sec. © 2017 CBC/Radio-Canada, 02/28/17. http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/thunder-bay-climate-change-watt-cloutier-1.4001855

Native Americans Brace for Impact as EPA Undergoes Changes
The water in Owns Valley, CA – between the Sierra and Death Valley national parks – is usually clean. The tribe’s groundwater was dangerously contaminated with a cancer-causing chemical called Perchloroethylene (PCE) so the tribe turned to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. © 1996-2017 NewsHour Productions, LLC., 02/21/17. http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/native-americans-brace-impact-epa-undergoes-changes/

Resources

Computer Model Predicts the Likelihood of Crossing Several Dangerous Climate Change Thresholds
A new computer model of accumulated carbon emissions predicts the likelihood of crossing several dangerous climate change thresholds. These include global temperature rise sufficient to lose the Greenland Ice Sheet and generate seven meters of long-term sea level rise, or tropical region warming to a level that is deadly to humans and other mammals. © Phys.org 2003-2017, Science X network. 02/22/2017. https://phys.org/news/2017-02-likelihood-dangerous-climate-thresholds.html

Report: Mental Health and Our Changing Climate: Impacts, Implications, and Guidance
A report the American Psychological Association released yesterday (March 29), in partnership with Climate for Health and ecoAmerica, lays out how the change in weather, agriculture and livability patterns – all steadily increasing due to climate change – negatively impact the mental health of those experiencing and harboring the trauma of such changes. 03/292017. http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2017/03/mental-health-climate.pdf

Article: Estimating Wildfire Response Costs in Alaska’s Changing Climate
Climate change is altering wildfire activity across Alaska, with increased area burned projected for the future. Changes in wildfire are expected to affect the need for management and suppression resources; however, the potential economic implications of these needs have not been evaluated. 02/24/2017. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10584-017-1923-2?wt_mc=Affiliate.CommissionJunction.3.EPR1089.DeepLink&utm_medium=affiliate&utm_source=commission_junction&utm_campaign=3_rsn6445_deeplink&utm_content=deeplink

Other Items of Interest

New Study Provides a Blueprint for Engaging Indigenous Peoples in REDD+ Forest Monitoring
It is widely believed that only experts can properly measure forest biomass, but a new study found that well-trained indigenous technicians are just as effective at collecting the necessary data to monitor forest carbon viability. © 2015 Mongabay.com, 03/28/2017. http://www.newswise.com/articles/unh-researcher-finds-limited-sign-of-soil-adaptation-to-climate-warming

Climate Change Can Take a Toll on Mental Health, New Report Says
Severe weather events and natural disasters linked to climate change have the most dramatic impact on mental health, according to the report by the American Psychological Association and EcoAmerica: Natural disasters cause intense negative emotions in people who are exposed to them, primarily fear and grief. © The Washington Post, 03/29/17. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2017/03/29/climate-change-can-take-a-toll-on-mental-health-new-report-says/?utm_term=.e25c6c5cb30d

AmeriCorps VISTAs & Tribal Resilience
AIHEC is seeking TCUs, Tribal governmental agencies and Tribally-based non-profit organizations to host full-time, college educated, VISTAs through the AIHEC tribal VISTA program. These volunteers can help provide capacity for community-driven projects that address pressing local climate change concerns. Contact John Phillips at jphillips@aihec.org, 2017. https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/americorps-initiatives/resilience-americorps

Funding Opportunities

NOTE: More Funding Opportunities can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Resources/funding. Also, see the Tribal Climate Change Guide maintained by the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project at the Univ. of Oregon: http://tribalclimateguide.uoregon.edu/

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Colorado Plateau CESU (USGS)
This FOA is for a CESU partner for research to support analysis of multi-temporal climate and vegetation monitoring data in mountain meadows of the Sierra Nevada ecoregion. Eligibility must be a CESU partner. Funding opportunity number #: G17AS00053. Deadline: 04/14/17. https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html

Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program Spring 2017 Request for Proposals
This RFP is aimed at projects that provide on-the-ground wetland and/or waters restoration (re-establishment or rehabilitation), establishment (creation), and/or enhancement. Qualifying projects may be stand-alone or be a part of a larger restoration project. Eligibility includes Indian tribal entities. Deadline: 04/21/17. http://www.nfwf.org/llf/Pages/February2017_RFP.aspx

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, Rocky Mountain CESU (USGS)
This FOA is to review and research a broad scope of current environmental impacts on biological and natural resources, assessment of status and trends in plant and animal resources, effects of environmental stressors on natural resources, effects of climatic variability on the condition of natural resources on public lands, and the development of techniques for assessing long-term changes in the condition of natural resources. Eligibility must be a Rocky Mountain CESU partner. Funding opportunity number #: G17AS00056. Deadline: 04/21/17. https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html

Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP) (USDA)
The purpose of this program is to establish an Extension presence and outreach support on Federally Recognized Indian Reservations and Tribal jurisdictions of Federally-Recognized Tribes. This program seeks to continue the Land Grants mission of inclusion – providing education and research-based knowledge to those who might not otherwise receive it. Eligibility includes 1862 Land-Grant Institutions, 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Funding opportunity #: USDA-NIFA-SLBCD-006265. Deadline: 04/26/17.
Environmental Grants and Support (Patagonia)
Patagonia funds environmental work by small, grassroots, activist organizations with provocative direct-action agendas, working on multi-prolonged campaigns to preserve and protect the environment. Deadline: 04/30/17.
http://www.patagonia.com/grant-guidelines.html

Colorado Conservation Innovation Grants – Fiscal Year 2017 (USDA)
The NRCS is announcing availability of conservation innovation grants to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Proposals will be accepted from eligible entities for projects located in Colorado. Eligibility includes federally recognized Native American tribal governments. Funding opportunity #: USDA-NRCS-CO-CIG-17-01. Deadline: 06/02/17.
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Partners for Fish and Wildlife 2017 (USFW)
The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, USFWS and PFW anticipates funding wetland and associated upland habitat restoration and enhancement projects for conservation of native Great Lakes fish and wildlife populations, particularly migratory birds. Eligibility includes federally recognized Native American tribal governments and organizations. Funding opportunity #: F17AS00067. Deadline: 06/30/17.
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html

Coastal Program (FWS)
This funding opportunity is to provide direct technical assistance and financial assistance to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. Projects should specify benefits for species and habitats considering the expected effects of climate change. Eligibility includes federally recognized tribal governments. Funding opportunity #: F17AS00014. Deadline: 08/30/17.
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=289863

Upcoming Events

NOTE: More Upcoming Events can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website:
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Home/Events

April 2016

Webinar: Putting Aquatic Species on the Map: The eDNAAtlas and Archive for Aquatic Taxa in Western North America
April 04, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Pacific. Offered by GNLCC. Presenters from the USFS and Rocky Mountain Research Station will speak about the ease, efficiency, and sensitivity of environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling of species in aquatic environments that is leading to an explosion in its use across North America.
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4718931664603772931?mc_cid=32b0cf1e2c&mc_eid=404a699b4c

Training: Preparing for Climate Change in Forested Watersheds
April 04-05, Antioch University New England, Keene, NH. Offered by the USDA, Northern Forests Climate Hub. Natural resource managers face the tremendous challenge of developing and implementing management actions that help ecosystems respond to climate change. Sessions will help with adaptation concepts and strategies, climate change impacts, identify actions, resources and tools, and the testing and continued development of adaptation strategies and approaches. This is the Northeast workshop.

Conference: TEK: Braiding Story, Skills and Sustenance with Hope for a Sustainable Future
April 06-08, Amherst, MA. Offered by co-sponsors including College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute. This third annual symposium will build bridges among cultural heritage, ecology, economics and ethics by exploring Indigenous ecological knowledge and how to adapt to environmental change.
https://www.fivecolleges.edu/natam/events

Conference: 2017 NCR Water Resources Symposium
April 07, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Eastern. Offered by the American Water Resources Association. This one-day symposium will bring together experts from governmental agencies, academia, the private sector, and non-profits to present and discuss innovations in water research, technology, policy and management to respect and reflect the true value of water.
Training: Climate Science Tools & Training for Native American Tribes
April 13-14, Baton Rouge, LA. Offered by the South-Central Climate Science Center. For registration information or questions, contact April Taylor - April.Taylor@chickasaw.net

Conference: Rising Voices 5: Collaborative Science with Indigenous Knowledge for Climate Solutions
April 13-15, Boulder, CO. Offered by NCAR, IITC, LIKEN Knowledge, Cultural Survival. The theme of the 5th Rising Voices workshop is “Pathways from Science to Action.” Through collaborative research presentations and group discussions we will develop specific pathways to move from science to action for climate adaptation at local, national, and international levels. Rising Voices seeks to diversify scientific research and inform culturally appropriate solutions to weather and climate extremes with a focus on Indigenous science.
https://risingvoices.ucar.edu/events

Webinar: Introduction to the North Central CSC Liaison Team with the Great Northern LCC
April 19, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Mountain. Offered by GNLCC. The NC CSC facilitated the creation of a liaison team with the intent to increase communication among partners of the GNLC, USGS researchers and NC CSC.
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8538735113795504641?mc_cid=ae024ecf67&mc_eid=404a699b4c

Webinar: Spatial Data Products
April 19, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Mountain. Offered by GNLCC. This webinar will share several spatial data products developed by Conservation Science Partner and Northern Arizona University, and to invite feedback and questions on the data products.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WBKNJKZ

Conference: “Environmental Justice in the Anthropocene”
April 24-25, Colorado State University. Offered by the CSU School of Global Environmental Sustainability. This symposium aims to bring together academics, independent researchers, community and movement activists, and regulatory and policy practitioners from across disciplines, research areas, perspectives, and different countries.
http://environmentaljustice.colostate.edu/conference/information

Training: Communicating Climate Change for Tribes Workshop
April 25-26, Norman, OK. Offered by SC CSC. This workshop will provide tribal members with tools and tactics they can use to discuss climate change with various audiences in their communities. Registration required.
http://www.southcentralclimate.org/index.php/pages/calendar

Training: Adapting to Climate Change: Actions, Implementations, and Outcomes
April 28-May 01, University of Notre Dame. Offered by the Northwest CSC. This workshop will showcase cutting edge social science research on climate change adaptation.
https://www.nwclimatescience.org/events/adapting-climate-change-actions-implementations-and-outcomes

May 2016

ITEP Conference: National Tribal Forum on Air Quality
May 01-04, Tucson, AZ. This is a cooperative endeavor co-sponsored by The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA), made possible by funding from US EPA and our generous sponsors. This forum provides environmental professionals from tribes, EPA, and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, technical topics in air quality.
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_ntf

Conference: 15th Annual Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop
May 02-04, Anchorage, AK. Offered by NOAA, ACCAP and others. The 2017 conference will have the theme “Understanding Extreme Events and Decision-Maker Needs in the Context of Climate Variability and Change”. The meeting format will include symposium-style sessions, panel sessions, discussions, and keynote speakers that address this theme.
http://nwbiclcc.org/?p=2107

Conference: National Adaptation Forum
May 09-11, St. Paul, MN. The National Adaptation Forum is the gathering of the adaptation minded. Since the Forum is created by and for the members of the adaptation community, the meeting focuses on issues of the day - established and emerging. This event affords attendees the opportunity to learn more about how to make their work climate smart, share what they have learned with others, and develop a stronger network to be climate savvy in all that they do.
https://www.nationaladaptationforum.org/
Conference: Impacts of a Changing Environment on the Dynamics of High-latitude Fish and Fisheries
May 09-12, Anchorage, AK. Offered by Sea Grant Alaska. This symposium examines the impacts of the environment, especially climate change and variability, on the dynamics of arctic and subarctic species of commercial, subsistence, and ecological importance. We will focus on the effects of warming, loss of sea ice, ocean acidification, and oceanographic variability on the distribution, phenology, life history, population dynamics, and interactions of these species and how a better understanding of these effects can inform the assessment and management of fish and invertebrate populations in a changing ocean for the benefit of affected communities.
https://seagrant.uaf.edu/conferences/2017/wakefield-fish-dynamics/

Conference: Northeast Climate Science Center’s Regional Science Meeting
May 15-17, Amherst, MA. Offered by the NECSC. Theme of the meeting is, “Incorporating Climate Science in the Management of Natural and Cultural Resources in the Midwest and Northwest. To share NE CSC research and discuss emerging themes for future work. To provide a forum for and build collaborations among resource management professionals applying climate-related information and researchers who are currently engaged in climate-related projects to discuss inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional research topics. To identify opportunities and improve directions in actionable science, science communication, and advancing adaptation plans for resource professionals.
https://necsc.umass.edu/ne-csc-regional-science-meeting-2017

Conference: Great Basin Bird Conference
May 17-21, Reno, NV. Offered by the GBLCC. In addition to showcasing birds and habitat conservation efforts in the region, the conference will be a wonderful celebration of Great Basin Bird Observatory’s 20-year anniversary and will have a lively keynote address by Ted Floyd.
http://greatbasinlcc.org/calendar/great-basin-bird-conference

Conference: Citizen Science Association Conference
May 17-20, Twin Cities, MN. This is a confluence of collective interests and struggles of a diverse group of researchers, practitioners, community organizations and participants of the citizen science movement.

June 2016

ITEP Training: Climate Change Adaptation Training
June 06-08, Albuquerque, NM. Offered by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP). The course provides an introduction to planning for climate change impacts, including identifying impacts, vulnerabilities, and adaptation strategies; and tools, resources, and partnerships. The course is intended for tribal environmental and natural resource professionals and other tribal staff who expect to be involved in climate change adaptation planning within the Southwest.
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_cc

Conference: 2017 Summer Specialty on Climate Change Solutions: Collaborative Science, Policy and Planning for Sustainable Water Management
June 25-28, Tysons Corner, VA. Offered by the AWRA. Responding to climate change is complicated by the scale, complexity and inherent uncertainty of the problem. Climate change adaptation must use the best available science while managing uncertainty. Challenges remain in developing the scientific information necessary to support water resources adaptation planning. Managers and policy makers also often struggle with translating information produced by the scientific community for use in decision-making. We particularly welcome proposals related to collaborative solutions involving scientists, managers and other stakeholders. Such collaborations are essential to ensure management and policy decisions are informed by the best available science, and that the scientific community in turn has a strong awareness of managers' and policy makers' highest priority needs.
http://www.awra.org/meetings/Tysons2017/

Conference: One Water Summit 2017
June 27-29, New Orleans, LA. Offered by the US Water Alliance. The summit will discuss the nation's most pressing water challenges and most promising solutions.
http://www.cvent.com/events/one-water-summit-2017/agenda-143e6507ae114e39b572c8c01eb1c0c.aspx

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