

NEWS

is published free monthly

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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Vol. 25 #4
April 2016

<http://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-newsletter>

Conferences and Workshops

April

- 4 – 8** **Monitoring Ecological Restoration**, Portland, OR. <http://bit.ly/1UkRlzy>
- 12** **National Watershed & Stormwater Conference**. Registrants can either participate on-line or attend in person in one of six hub locations around the U.S. For details, go to <http://bit.ly/1MQ2V4A>
- 19 – 21** **ITEP Climate Change Adaptation Training**, Anchorage, AK. <http://bit.ly/1RZpBoV>
- 19 – 22** **National Wetland Condition Assessment Training**, Olympia, WA
Contact **Mary Anne Thiesing** • 206-553-6114 • thiesing.mary@epa.gov
- 21** **Region 10 RTOC Conference Call** (1–3 p.m. Pacific time). Contact **JR Herbst**, 206-553-2116
- 26 – 28** **Free Tribal UST Inspector Training**, Oneida, WI. Contact **Inez Douglas** • idouglas@oneidanation.org
- 26 – 28** **ITEP Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Training**, Fort Hall, ID. <http://bit.ly/1RZpBoV>
- 27 – 28** **EPA 319/106 Training**, Mill Hotel and Casino, North Bend, OR. Hosted by the Coquille Indian Tribe. Contact **Bryan Duggan** • 541-756-0904 • bryanduggan@coquilletribe.org

May

- 16 – 17** **2016 Oregon Brownfields Conference**, Sunriver Resort Conference Center, Sunriver, OR. <http://ymfp.com/z4dCaE>
- 16 – 20** **Water Quality Standards Academy**, Washington DC. Contact **Erin Cabral** • 508-833-6600
- 17 – 19** **National Tribal Forum on Air Quality**, Niagara Falls, NY. Hosted by the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe.
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_ntf
- 17 – 20** **Geomorphic Road Assessment and Inventory Package: Road Inventory Procedure and GIS Model Training**, Boise ID. To register, contact **Tom Black** • 208-373-4363 • tblack@fs.fed.us. More info at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/GRAIP>
- 23 – 26** **ATNI Mid-Year Convention**, Grand Ronde, OR. Hosted by The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde at the Spirit Mountain Casino. <http://www.atnitribes.org>
- 24 – 26** **Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site Course**, Spokane, WA
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits
- 24 – 26** **Columbia River Estuary Conference**, Liberty Theater, Astoria, OR.
<http://www.estuarypartnership.org/CREC2016>

⇒ Continued

Conferences and Workshops

June

- 6 – 10** **International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology 2016**, Houston, TX. Sponsored by the American Academy of Sciences.
<http://www.AASci.org/conference/env/2016/index.html>
- 19 – 25** **The Tribal Climate Camp**, University of Idaho, McCall Field Campus, ID.
<https://www.tribalclimatecamp.org>

August

- 15 – 18** **ITEP'S Tribal Lands and Environment Forum**, Mohegan Sun Resort, CT
ITEP is currently accepting proposals for trainings and sessions. Go to
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef
- 23 – 25** **22nd National Nonpoint Source Monitoring Workshop**, Salt Lake City, UT
<https://water-meetings.tetrattech.com/NPSTest/index.htm>

September

- 26 – 29** **West Coast Salmon Summit**, Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort in Canyonville, OR. <http://www.salmonsummit.org> • 541-888-5591 • 707-972-4851

November

- 2 – 3** **SAVE THE DATE! The Mining Lifecycle: Tribal Engagement and Environmental Responsibility**, Phoenix, AZ. <http://www.ntmw.org>

For more information on EPA Tribal trainings, webinars, grants and opportunities for Tribal consultation, visit <http://www2.epa.gov/tribal>

Climate Change Webinars, Conferences and Trainings: For a calendar of water-related climate change trainings, conferences, and webinars, go to
<http://water.epa.gov/scitech/climatechange/Calendar-of-Events.cfm>

EPA Office of Water, Clean Water Act Tribal Training: For a consolidated, centralized listing of training courses offered by EPA that will help Indian tribes develop and implement water quality programs consistent with the Clean Water Act, go to
<http://water.epa.gov/learn/training/tribaltraining>

EPA National Enforcement Training Institute or NETI: Go to EPA's online training resource site for access to NETI course registration, training products, online classrooms, and e-mail updates. Several recorded webinars are available. <http://go.usa.gov/39HwW>

Tribal Energy Calendar of Events: This calendar lists upcoming events in Indian Country sponsored by DOE and a variety of government agencies, associations, and organizations.
<http://energy.gov/indianenergy/office-indian-energy-policy-and-programs>

Top News

April 22 is Earth Day!

On the first Earth Day in 1970, 22 million Americans celebrated clean air, land, and water. A decade later, Senator Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis), who proposed Earth Day 1970, described the first Earth Day in the EPA Journal (April 1980):



"In the 1970s, a sufficiently large and dispersed group of people recognized the fragility and finite nature of the Earth's ecosystem, understood that everything is connected to everything else, and accepted the responsibility not only to set straight the mistakes of the past but to avoid repeating them in the future.

So long as the human species inhabits the Earth, proper management of its resources will be the most fundamental issue we face. Our very survival will depend upon whether or not we are able to preserve, protect and defend our environment. We are not free to decide about whether or not our environment matters. It does matter, apart from any political exigencies. We disregard the needs of our ecosystem at our mortal peril.

That was the great lesson of Earth Day. It must never be forgotten."

Now, every year on April 22, more than one billion people take part in Earth Day. Across the globe, individuals, communities, organizations, and governments acknowledge the amazing planet we call home and take action to protect it.

For a calendar of EPA Earth Day events, go to <https://www.epa.gov/earthday/earth-day-events>. For a link to find Earth Day activities happening near you, go to <http://www.serve.gov> and type 'Earth Day' and your zip code in the search boxes.

RTOC News



SAVE THE DATE :

2017 Tribal Leaders Summit

DATE: **March 29–31, 2017** LOCATION: **Seattle, WA**

DETAILS: The summit will be three days of plenary sessions, technical information, and policy breakout sessions for Tribal Council Members and tribal staff from EPA Region 10, consisting of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. The goal of the summit is to provide tribal leaders the opportunity to meet and share environmental concerns in their geographic areas with other tribes in Region 10 and with EPA. Examples of issues are climate change, environmental justice, and fish consumption rates.

Upcoming RTOC Meetings

The Regional Tribal Operations Committee for Region 10 will be holding our June 2016 In-Person meeting with the Nez Perce Tribe in Idaho. We welcome all tribes of Region 10 to send in topics they wish for discussion.

Our next conference calls will be held Thursdays, on April 21 and May 19. If you wish to request a topics form or have any questions, please feel free to contact **Christy Finn** at cs@rtocregion10.org

Climate Change

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Quinault Indian Nation Plans for Village Relocation

As the threats of tsunamis and sea level rise are joined by real and potential climate impacts, the Quinault community looks to move the lower village of Taholah to higher ground. For more information, go to <http://go.usa.gov/csarj>

BIA Site for Finding Federal Climate Change Funding Resources

<http://bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/climatechange/Resources/Funding/index.htm>

Arctic Council: Responding to a Fast-Warming Arctic

The US is challenging the leaders of the world's Arctic nations to consider new ways of responding to climate change at a time when scientific studies indicate that the Far North is warming significantly faster than the rest of the world.

At a recent meeting of the Arctic Council's senior officials, representatives of the eight circumpolar nations discussed the need for a long-term approach to help Arctic communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The pact by the United Nations, reached in December by 195 countries, included an agreement to limit greenhouse gas emissions to "well below" 2 degrees Celsius over preindustrial levels -- in line with what scientists say is needed to avoid dangerous climate change. But average temperatures in the Arctic have already increased by almost that much and are continuing to warm.

Climate change is the Obama administration's top priority for the United States' two-year Arctic Council chairmanship, which ends in May 2017. The international panel is made up of the world's Arctic nations: the United States, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia and Sweden. The council also includes six permanent participant organizations representing the indigenous peoples of the Arctic.

Meanwhile, the council is moving forward on developing a binding agreement to promote and facilitate scientific research throughout the Arctic region. The United States and Russia are heading up a task force on the issue, with a final agreement expected to go to the leaders of the eight Arctic nations at the council's May 2017 ministerial meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska.

<http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en>

USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program

PRE-PROPOSALS DUE DATE: **May 10:** The US Department of Agriculture has announced the availability of up to \$260 million for partner proposals to combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat and protect agricultural viability, and improve the nation's water quality. The funding is being made available through USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's innovative Regional Conservation Partnership Program, and applicants must be able to match the federal award with private or local funds. Go to <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/rcpp>

Climate Science Digest

Seas Are Rising at Fastest Rate in Last 28 Centuries

<http://nyti.ms/1qeGGk1>

The heat goes on: Earth sets 9th straight monthly record

<http://go.usa.gov/csab4>

Study warns that some misguided climate change adaptation efforts could do more harm than good <http://bit.ly/1USWSE9>

Arctic amplification: Scientists are floored by what's happening in the Arctic right now

<http://wapo.st/1Sug3ke>

Sea level research says only a 'brief window' to cut emissions

<http://bit.ly/1Rlfn7y>

Study: NASA satellites show areas growing drier, wetter

<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/growth-shift.html>

Measuring ocean heating is key to tracking global warming

<http://bit.ly/1MQj5uB>

Algae-produced neurotoxins could explain all those strange happenings in Alaska's waters:

<http://wapo.st/1XZWUIr>

Agriculture/Food Supply

Organic Farming Better Suited To Climate Change, Study Finds

<http://bit.ly/1Sui28d>

Decline of Pollinators Poses Threat to World Food Supply, Report Says

<http://nyti.ms/1USYbD9>

Ecosystems/Water/Coastal Resources

Climate change driving species to the Earth's poles faster than predicted, scientists say

<http://ab.co/1WV6jkj>

How climate change will affect western groundwater

<http://phys.org/news/2016-02-climate-affect-western-groundwater.html>

Up to four-fifths of wetlands worldwide could be at risk from sea level rise

<http://phys.org/news/2016-02-four-fifths-wetlands-worldwide-sea.html>

Mussel power: how ocean acidification is changing shells

<http://bit.ly/1UCvZVA>

Global warming threatens coastal communities

<http://bit.ly/1VROnsw>

Links to websites outside of the EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. We cannot attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites, nor does EPA endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.

Funding

BIA Tribal Climate Funding Opportunity

DUE DATE: May 23 by 6 p.m. Pacific time

The Fiscal Year 2016 Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Climate Resilience Program Notice of Funding is available at

<http://bia.gov/cs/groups/webteam/documents/document/idc1-033625.pdf>.

The funding will support various tribal projects including:

- Climate change adaptation (planning, workshops, and travel support).
- Ocean and coastal management planning (and travel support).
- Capacity building (new!).
- Youth internships (research, management, or youth engagement).

In FY 2016, a new Category — **capacity building** — has been created to support tribes that have limited technical or staffing capacity to identify how the tribe or tribal organization can start addressing climate change adaptation.

Contract proposals must contain the information required by 25 CFR 900.8 and all proposals must have tribal resolution(s) supporting their requests in order to receive funding.

Send completed proposals to climate.funding@bia.gov or hard copy by mail per the instructions in the announcement.

If you have questions, please contact your Regional Climate Change Point of Contact at <http://bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/climatechange/Resources/Regions/index.htm> or

Sean J. Hart • climate.funding@bia.gov • 202-513-0337

FY 2016 AmeriCorps Indian Tribes Grants

DUE DATE: May 4

The FY 2016 AmeriCorps funding opportunity is designed to target resources on a core set of challenges: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is announcing the availability of AmeriCorps Indian Tribes grant funding that will place AmeriCorps members on the ground to help tackle the unique challenges facing Native American communities.

The AmeriCorps funding opportunity for federally-recognized Indian Tribes is designed to target resources on a core set of challenges: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

Visit <http://go.usa.gov/csa6J> to access the full Notice of Funding, technical assistance information and a schedule of the agency's upcoming topical calls to support potential applicants.

Additionally, CNCS will hold a Tribal Applicant Training in Albuquerque, NM, **April 5–7** to provide training and assistance to interested grant applicants. For questions about the funding opportunity or to receive additional information about the April training, please email AmeriCorpsGrants@cns.gov.

EPA Funding to Support Pollution Prevention Projects

DUE DATE: May 9

The EPA announces that \$8 million in federal grant funding will be available during 2016 and 2017 to support pollution prevention (P2) projects that aim to significantly reduce or eliminate the use of hazardous materials, water and energy and/or realize cost savings through preventing pollution at the source.

The EPA solicits proposals nationwide for grant projects that provide P2 technical assistance and/or training to businesses to measurably reduce the environmental footprint of local and regional businesses. Achievements in this regard will involve adopting new or expanding existing P2 strategies or solutions that specifically support the P2 Program National Emphasis Areas of:

1. Climate Change Mitigation/Prevention of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
2. More Sustainable Food Manufacturing and Processing.
3. State or Community Approaches to Hazardous Materials Source Reduction.

Grant proposals must cover a two-year funding period to support two-year grant agreements. Because this solicitation covers a two-year period, the EPA will not issue a request for proposals for P2 projects in federal fiscal year 2017.

Eligible applicants include state agencies, colleges and universities (serving as instrumentalities of the states), **federally-recognized tribes** and **intertribal consortia**.

Proposals are due to the EPA Regional Pollution Prevention Program contact, **Carolyn Gangmark** • gangmark.carolyn@epa.gov.

Under this competition, the EPA anticipates awarding up to 40 grant agreements.

For more information and to access the Request for Proposals, visit: <http://go.usa.gov/csa6J>.

Department of Energy Funding to Establish Internal Energy Experts

DUE DATE: April 14

On February 15, DOE Secretary Ernest Moniz announced the availability of up to \$7 million to establish an inter-tribal technical assistance energy providers' network to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native communities regionally. Under this initial pilot, the DOE Office of Indian Energy is seeking applications from Inter-tribal Organizations and Alaska Native Regional Corporations interested in establishing internal energy experts to provide technical energy assistance and informational resources to their member Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages. Go to <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>.

Pacific Power Blue Sky Renewable Energy Funding

DUE DATE: May 31 at 5 p.m. Pacific time

Pacific Power is seeking proposals for the 2016 Blue Sky funding awards, which cover up to 100 percent of the capital costs to install qualifying, new renewable energy systems at non-residential sites within the Pacific Power service area. Eligible technologies include wind, solar, low-emissions biomass, wave, landfill gas, certified low-impact hydro, pipeline or irrigation canal hydropower and geothermal. Projects must be operational by December 31, 2017. Find information at: <https://www.pacificpower.net/env/bsre/cpf/aff.html>.

Training

Understanding Climate Change Impacts on Water (EPA Training)

This training module is designed to increase your understanding of the causes of climate change, its potential impacts on water resources, and the challenges water resource managers are facing. The course contains three parts which will take about 45 minutes to complete. Optional supplementary information on climate change impacts in the United States is included at the end of the course if you are interested in more details. This module is one of the core modules for the Watershed Academy. For more information, go to <http://go.usa.gov/csYQm>.

ITEP Air Program Training

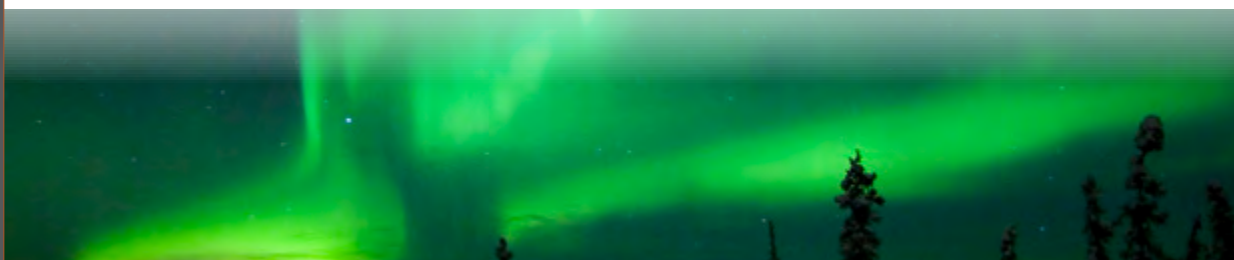
ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program provides training and educational outreach for tribal environmental staff all over the United States, including Alaska. Upcoming air trainings include:

2016 AIAQTP Course Schedule (April - June 2016)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	April 5–7	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
GIS for Air Quality	April 26–28	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Diagnostic Tools for Alaska	April 26–28	Palmer, AK	2
Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska	TBD	AK	2
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality	May 17–19	Niagara Falls, NY	n/a
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	Jun 7–10	Flagstaff, AZ	2

Note: This schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications please visit http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air.

For more information please contact **Lydia Scheer**, Program Coordinator • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu



ITEP 2016 Solid Waste Trainings

Are you looking to create or update an existing Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan for your tribe? Are you interested in creating and implementing tribal solid waste codes? ITEP will be offering three special courses this spring and summer:

Course Title	Dates	Location
Developing Tribal ISWMPs	April 12-14	Palm Springs, CA
Developing Tribal Solid Waste Codes	May 10-12	Albuquerque, NM
Developing Tribal ISWMPs	June 14-16	Alexandria, VA
Greening Tribal Operations & Facilities	Sept 13-15	TBD

For information, contact Roberta.tohannie@nau.edu.

Or go to http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste.

Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site Course

From **May 24 – 26**, the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is offering a day and a half of classroom instruction in Spokane, Washington, as well as an all-day trip to multiple areas of the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site led by staff from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

ITEP is accepting up to 30 participants for this course. The **deadline for applications is May 2**, but the sooner you submit your application, the greater your chances of being accepted. Attendees from federally-recognized tribes are eligible for a travel scholarship that will pay for lodging expenses and reimburse travel and per diem costs.

If you are interested in applying for this course, please submit an application to ITEP via email or fax.

CONTACT **Todd Barnell** • Todd.Barnell@nau.edu • 928-523-3840 or
Julie Jurkowski • Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu • 928-523-9404

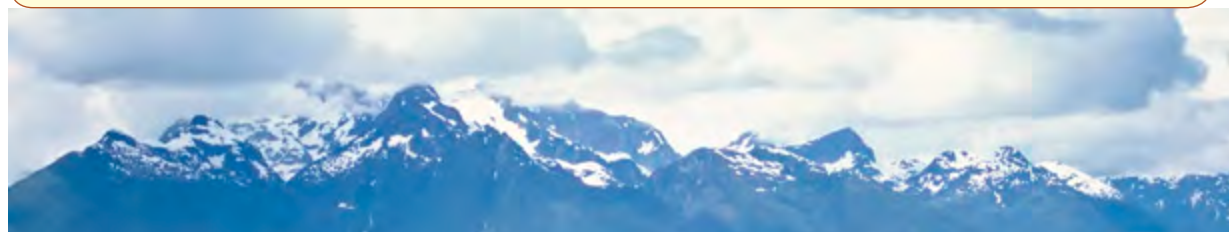
WEBSITE: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits

National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program

The EPA established a National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program for Tribes and Tribal Consortia to provide technical and financial assistance to tribes in developing and implementing tribal waste management programs.

Peer matching can be an effective mechanism for tribes to promote best waste management practices, as well as to build sustainable waste management programs.

Additional information on the National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program can be found at <http://go.usa.gov/csYAW> or call **Tonya Hawkins** • 703-308-8278



EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities

The following tribal consultation opportunities may be of interest to Region 10 Tribes. A full list of consultation opportunities is available at

<http://tcots.epa.gov/oita/tconsultation.nsf/TC?OpenView>

Proposed EPA-DOD Joint Rulemaking on Phase II Standards for Marine Pollution Control Devices under the Uniform National Discharge Standards (UNDS) for Vessels of the Armed Forces

END DATE: **April 22** LINK: <http://go.usa.gov/csYTR>

CONTACT: **Katherine Weiler** • weiler.katherine@epa.gov • 202-566-1280

or **Felicia Wright** • wright.felicia@epa.gov • 202-566-1886

Risk Management Program (RMP) Modernization Notice of Proposed Rule Making

END DATE: **May 13** LINK: <http://go.usa.gov/csYDx>

CONTACT: **Nick Nichols** • nichols.nick@epa.gov • 202-564-1970

or **Patricia Gioffre** • gioffre.patricia@epa.gov • 202-564-1972

Draft Governance Charter for E-Enterprise for the Environment

END DATE: **April 14** LINK: <http://go.usa.gov/csYKY>

CONTACT: **Andrew Battin** • battin.andrew@epa.gov • 202-566-2140

or **Shana Harbour** • harbor.shana@epa.gov • 202-566 2959

News

ITEP Seeks Applicants for Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is now accepting applications for the national Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee. This Steering Committee is composed of ten tribal professionals, working in the fields of solid waste, brownfields, USTs, Superfund, and emergency response. Eligible applicants must work for a federally-recognized tribe or Alaska Native Village, and must be willing to serve at least one two-year term (running from November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2018).

ITEP will be accepting up to five individuals to serve on the steering committee. Members of the Steering Committee serve as an official Tribal Partnership Group, providing two-way communication with the EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management, as well as other federal agencies and tribal entities, communicating the needs and priorities of tribes.

As part of their work, the Steering Committee members have two in-person meetings a year (one in Washington DC, where they meet with staff from US EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management and once at another location of their choosing), two meetings via conference calls, and attend the annual Tribal Lands and Environment Forum. (Steering Committee members are reimbursed all their travel costs for the in-person meetings and attendance at the forum.)

Applications are due **May 27**. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact **Todd Barnell** at todd.barnell@nau.edu.

EPA Releases Online Mapping Tool

The EPA has released DWMAPS – the Drinking Water Mapping Application to Protect Source Waters. This robust, online mapping tool provides the public, water system operators, state programs, and federal agencies with critical information to help them safeguard the sources of America’s drinking water.

DWMAPS allows users to learn about their watershed and understand more about their water supplier. DWMAPS also lets users see if sources of their drinking water are polluted and if there are possible sources of pollution that could affect their communities’ water supply. DWMAPS can even guide users to ways they can get involved in protecting drinking water sources in their community.

DWMAPS can provide users with information to update source water assessments and prioritize source water protection in any location or watershed in the country. Go to <http://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/dwmaps>



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alaska Operations Office
ALASKA NEWS**

Help is Needed to Fill Out a Two-Page Rural Alaska Dust Survey

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Air Quality Division would like to get an understanding of how prevalent the dust problem is in rural Alaska, what kinds of approaches communities are taking to address the issue, and resource needs.

This Rural Dust Survey will help the Air Quality Division to identify community-specific and statewide needs, coordinate responses with other communities, and provide resources for improving rural dust problems. The survey data will be shared with a statewide workgroup of partners and funders to inform collaboration on dust management solutions.

Please choose any of these options to fill out the survey:

- Go to http://dec.alaska.gov/air/anp.m.s/comm/docs/Alaska_Dust_Survey-2016.pdf, fill out the PDF and press ‘**submit**’ in the upper right hand corner of the document. OR:
- Print a copy of the PDF and mail to:
John Clark, Program Manager
DEC, Air Non-Point and Mobile Sources
619 E. Ship Creek Ave., Ste. 249
Anchorage, AK 99501
- Call John Clark at 907-269-4913 or e-mail at John.Clark2@alaska.gov and he will mail you a hard copy to fill out and send back.

Who should fill out the survey?

Tribal/city/local roads and transportation departments, environmental departments or IGAP funded programs, and other community organizations. Collaboration is encouraged, as ADEC prefers to receive one survey per community.

Please complete surveys by May 2.

Draft EIS Released for Proposed Donlin Gold Project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Donlin Gold Project.

The project proponent, Donlin Gold, LLC, plans to develop an open pit gold mine in the Kuskokwim River region of Alaska, 10 miles upriver from the Village of Crooked Creek. The project also includes transportation facilities, such as a new port at Jungjuk on the Kuskokwim River, connected to a 30-mile gravel road to the mine site, and a 315-mile natural gas pipeline from the west side of Cook Inlet to the mine site.

The Corps is holding public meetings across the region and is requesting public comment through April 30. Federally-recognized tribal governments may also request tribal consultation.

The Bureau of Land Management is also conducting subsistence impact hearings to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed project on subsistence resources and users.

For more information please refer to <http://www.DonlinGoldEIS.com> or contact USACE's EIS Project Manager, **Keith Gordon** • 907-753-5710 • keith.q.gordon@usace.army.mil or **Amanda Andraschko**, Tribal Liaison • 907-753-5674 • amanda.m.adraschko@usace.army.mil

List Server for Alaska Environmental Public Health Program

This list aims to share information on contaminants, pollutants, and health that is relevant to Alaskans. Topics include contaminants, pollution, health, healthy homes and schools, traditional foods, fish consumption and hair mercury testing, lead surveillance, and others.

Please go to the link <http://list.state.ak.us> and subscribe to the listserv "EnvironmentalPublicHealth" if you would like to receive this kind of information.





GIS expansion helps Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians' environmental projects



Indian Environmental General Assistance Program

Success Story

The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians used their GAP grant in 2011 to fund a full-time staff person to expand GIS (Geographic Information Systems) applications into their programs. The use of GIS allows them to create and analyze computerized maps essential to their strategic growth.

Enhanced GIS capabilities have been an asset to all their environmental and natural resources programs such as pinpointing water quality monitoring sites, identifying locations of noxious weeds, characterizing riparian buffer zones in forestry, and by sharing data in collaborative projects with federal agencies.

Location of Cow Creek Band's ancestral territory



Huckleberry Patch Management Area

1939 – 28 acres
2011 – 4 acres

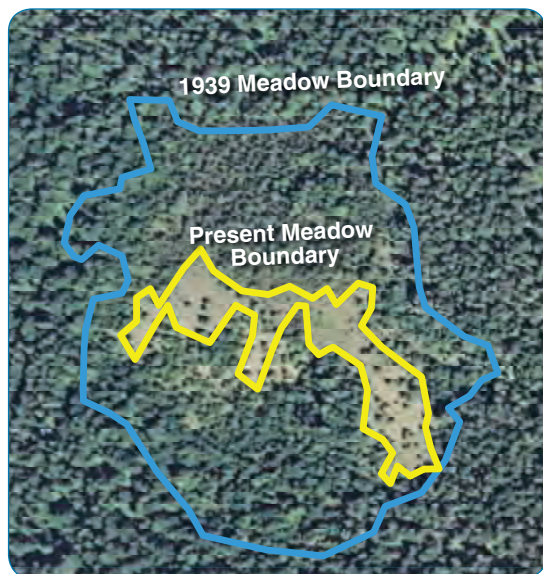


Image: courtesy of Brian Mladenich – Cow Creek GIS Operations Manager

One such collaboration is to preserve the tribe's huckleberry patch management area. This traditional gathering area used since time immemorial received a special interest area designation by the Umpqua and Rogue River National Forests.

Berry sorting



Traditionally, huckleberries were the most significant of all berries. Today, they are used to make pies, jams, or freeze for later use.

GIS was used to map historic and present day meadows to examine past and present habitat, revealing decreases in size from tree growth. To preserve the meadows for traditional, recreational and other uses, a partnership formed between the tribe and US Forest Service to develop plans to improve habitat and protect the meadows.

Jason Robison, the tribe's Natural Resource Director said, "If we hadn't had the GIS technology, we may not be where we are today in regards to understanding the huckleberry management area. The data will be used in future planning with the US Forest Service."

GIS has also helped the tribe in its Pacific Lamprey restoration project. Pacific lamprey used to be a significant food source for tribal members. With funding from the US Fish & Wildlife Service, staff gathered data on the historical range and distribution of lamprey in the Umpqua Basin. The tribe's GIS proficiency was instrumental in developing a database integrating lamprey data from the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Game, and other state agencies and local landowners. That database is now used as a guide for agencies collecting fish count data during migration season.

Continued next page ➡

Cow Creek Success Story, continued

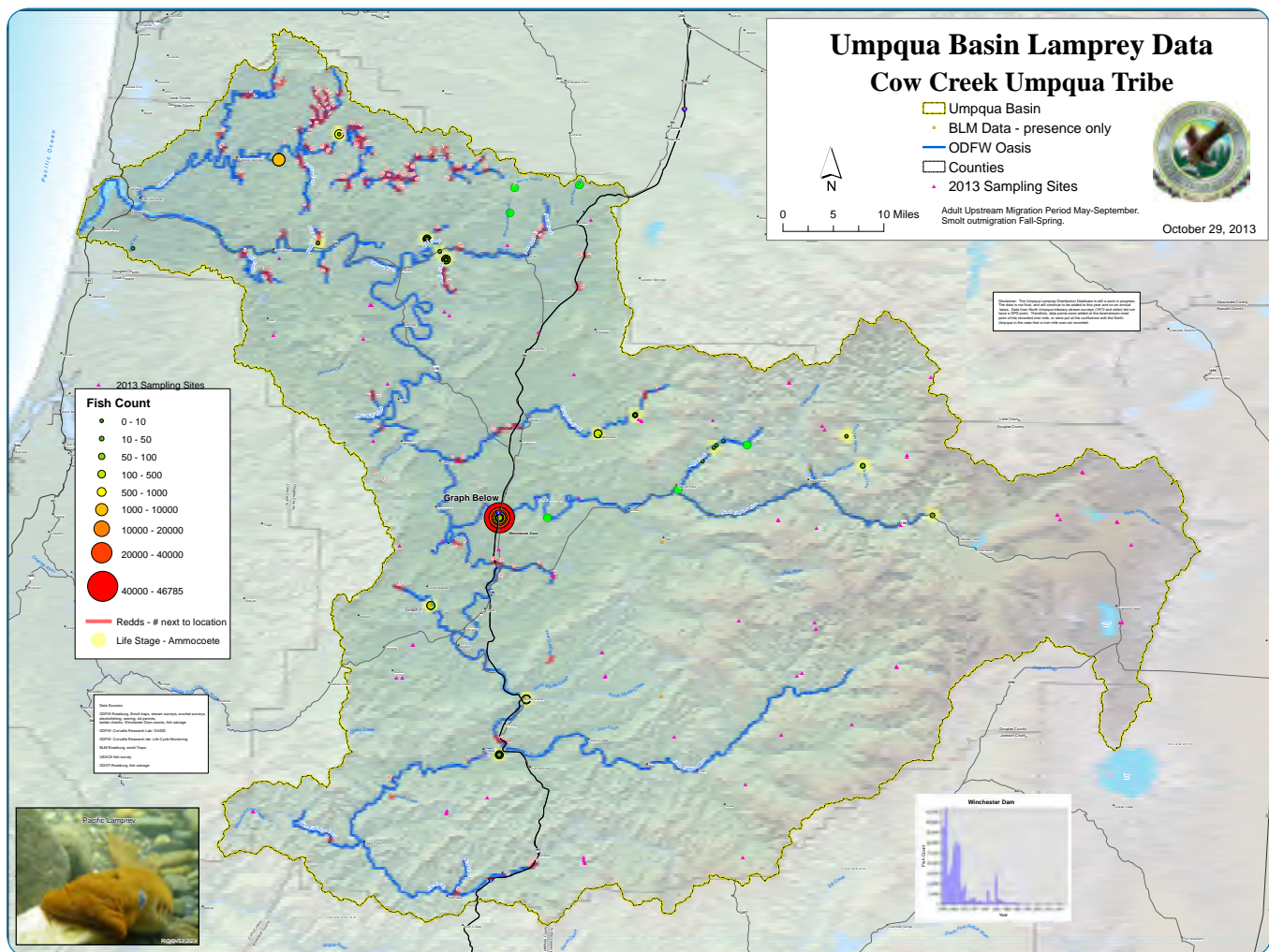
When asked what advice he has for other tribes, Jason Robison said “To take GIS to another level, you really need someone who is focused just on GIS, who can bring the full range of implementation and monitoring to the table.” He recommends tribes get an agreement with BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) for their basic GIS service and use GAP funds to keep staff trained on the latest software and analysis tools.

The tribe is working on developing GIS applications to allow staff and tribal members to access GIS data on computers and smartphones – giving them the ability to view land ownership and other information on mobile devices and capture data in the field.

In addition to GAP, The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians receives the following EPA grants:

- ▶ Clean Water Act Section 106 – Water Pollution Control grant
- ▶ Clean Water Act Section 319 – Nonpoint Source Management base grant
- ▶ Clean Water Act Section 319– Nonpoint Source Management competitive grant
- ▶ Wetland Program Development grant

GIS map of Pacific Lamprey



The above image received first prize in the 2013 National Tribal GIS Conference poster contest.

Courtesy of Brian Mladenich – GIS Operations Manager

Community Profile:**Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians**

Population: 1,400

Culture: Tribal members lived a subsistence lifestyle. Subsistence practices have persisted since the 1850's, but have been reduced due to limitations in land use.

Location: Tribal members live primarily in seven counties in southwest Oregon, with some others scattered across the Pacific Northwest. The Tribal government's main office located in Roseburg. The tribe owns over 10,000 acres used for commercial, agriculture, housing, utilities, and forestry.

Partners & Support**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

GIS software and training

<http://bia.gov/WhatWeDo/ServiceOverview/Geospatial>

National Tribal Geographic Information Support Center

National Tribal GIS Conference and training

<http://www.tribalgis.com>

Natural Resource Conservation Service

GIS funding

<http://go.usa.gov/cBC2T>

USDA – Rogue River National Forest

Huckleberry Patch Special Interest Area partner

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou>

USDA - Umpqua National Forest

Huckleberry Patch Special Interest Area partner

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/umpqua>

US Fish & Wildlife Service

Tribal Wildlife Grant and partnership in Pacific

Lamprey project • <http://go.usa.gov/cBfdx>

EPA Region 10's Commitment to Federally Recognized Tribes

EPA Region 10 is committed to helping tribes strengthen their abilities to manage environmental programs in Indian country, and to ensure that tribes have a voice in decisions that affect their land, air and water. Region 10 serves 271 federally recognized tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

The goal of the EPA IGAP grant program is to assist tribes and intertribal consortia in developing the capacity to manage their own environmental protection programs, and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.

For more information, visit:

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/indian-environmental-general-assistance-program-gap>

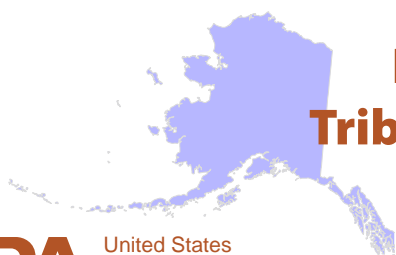
For More Information

Cow Creek Tribe Natural Resources Director: Jason Robison

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians ☎ 541-677-5516 ✉ jrobison@cowcreek.com

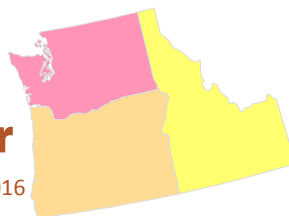
EPA Grant: Indian General Assistance Program (GAP)

EPA Project Officer: Kris Carre ☎ 503-326-7024 ✉ carre.kristine@epa.gov



Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

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Got News?

The Region 10 Tribal Newsletter invites you, our readers, to submit ideas and articles for consideration and to share your successes and challenges. Photographs are also welcome as separate files in jpeg or other graphic format. Please submit articles and pictures to:

Don Creek

 EPA, 805 SW Broadway, Suite 500
Portland, Oregon 97205

 503-326-5015

 email creek.don@epa.gov

Helpful Links

R10 Tribal Programs:

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>



EPA on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EPARegion10>



Follow us @EPAnorthwest
on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest>

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REPORT SPILLS AND ACCIDENTS

NOTE THESE EMERGENCY NUMBERS TO CALL IN THE EVENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILLS OR ACCIDENTS.

ALASKA 800-478-9300

IDAHO 800-632-8000

OREGON 800-452-0311

WASHINGTON 800-258-5990

NATIONAL (EPA) 800-424-8802