



Tribal Climate Change Newsletter

November 2016

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



Alaska. Photo credit: Nikki Cooley

We are hard at work planning the 2017 climate change training schedule for the following locations: Spokane, WA (Mar 7-9); Anchorage, AK (TBD); Albuquerque, NM (TBD); Northeast and Southeast regions (both TBD). We will list them on our website: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_cc.

We're also in the midst of some major updates to the ITEP Climate Change website, which will make the site more user-friendly and provide users with more resources. The updated website should go live in the next two months so stay tuned. Until then stay warm and safe!

-Nikki, Karen, Fletcher and Colleen

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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/

A Wrenching Choice for Alaska Towns in the Path of Climate Change

In the dream, a storm came and Betsy Bekoalok watched the river rise on one side of the village and the ocean on the other, the water swallowing up the brightly colored houses, the fishing boats and the four-wheelers, the school and the clinic. The Inupiat people who for centuries have hunted and fished on Alaska's western coast believe that some dreams are portents of things to come. But here in Shaktoolik, one need not be a prophet to predict flooding, especially during the fall storms. © 2016 The New York Times.

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/11/29/science/alaska-global-warming.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=second-column-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&_r=0

U.S. Native Groups Promised Input on Development as Pipeline Dispute Looms

The United States plans to gather more input from native people as officials contemplate projects like the Dakota Access Pipeline, according to a White House notice posted on Thursday that could delay the controversial plan. The Army Corps of Engineers plans to "revise its regulations" to ensure its consultations with sovereign tribes are "confirmed by the U.S. Constitution, treaties, statutes, executive orders, judicial decisions and presidential documents and policies." © 2016 Reuters. 11/18/2016.

<http://news.trust.org/item/20161117134134-zj3g/>

Environmentalists Get a Dose of Good News

Even though President Obama's historic Clean Power Plan was stayed by the Supreme Court and appears doomed in the Trump Administration, the electric sector is getting so green so fast that it has already met the plan's 2024 goal for slashing carbon emissions and its 2030 target for reducing coal use, new data show. © 2016 Politico. 11/18/2016.

<http://www.politico.com/agenda/story/2016/11/environmentalists-get-a-dose-of-good-news-000233>

The North Pole is an Insane 36 Degrees Warmer than Normal as Winter Descends

Political people in the United States are watching the chaos in Washington in the moment. But some people in the science community are watching the chaos somewhere else — the Arctic. It's polar night there now — the sun isn't rising in much of the Arctic. That's when the Arctic is supposed to get super-cold, when the sea ice that covers the vast Arctic Ocean is supposed to grow and thicken. © 2016 The Washington Post. 11/17/2016.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/11/17/the-north-pole-is-an-insane-36-degrees-warmer-than-normal-as-winter-descends/?utm_term=.fc0535e3a3ca

UN Denounces Abuse of Free Assembly Rights for Water Protectors Standing Against DAPL

The militarized response to water protectors' efforts to stop construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline through sacred burial grounds and underneath a key water source constitutes "excessive force" that is directly at odds with the right to assemble peacefully, a key United Nations expert has ruled. © 2016 Indian Country Today. 11/17/2016.

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2016/11/17/un-denounces-abuse-free-assembly-rights-water-protectors-standing-against-dapl-166499>

Judge Throws out Felony Charges Against Several North Camp Protesters

A judge has thrown out felony charges against several Dakota Access Pipeline protesters arrested during a raid of the northern camp on Oct. 27. After the raid, 139 people were charged with one felony count of conspiracy to endanger by fire or explosion and two misdemeanor counts. © 2016 The Bismarck Tribune. 11/17/2016.

http://m.bismarcktribune.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/judge-throws-out-felony-charges-against-north-camp-protesters/article_984cd132-60eb-5b80-a5d6-0455f1d75fe1.html?utm_content=buffer2e147&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=LEEDCC

Canadian First Nation Cleans Up Latest Fuel Spill Mess

On the morning of October 13, Tracy Robinson, a hunter and fisherwoman living in the Heiltsuk First Nation community of Bella Bella, British Columbia, was preparing to go out on to the ocean, when the news reached her: An American tugboat and oil barge transiting Canadian waters had driven into a reef in nearby Seaforth Channel. Although the 100-metre fuel barge it pushed was empty, the tug carried more than 200,000 litres of diesel and other industrial oils that were now leaking into the Pacific. © 2016 Al Jazeera. 11/16/2016.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/11/fuel-spill-great-bear-rainforest-british-columbia-161114120342856.html>

Obama Administration Cancels Oil and Gas Leases on Blackfoot Tribe's Sacred Grounds

The Interior Department on Wednesday announced a settlement with Devon Energy for the cancellation of leases in Montana for oil and gas drilling on lands considered sacred by the Blackfoot Tribe. "This is the right action to take on behalf of current and future generations," Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said on the department's Web site. She said it would

protect the region's "rich cultural and natural resources and recognizes the irreparable impacts that oil and gas development would have on them." © 2016 The Washington Post. 11/16/2016.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/11/16/obama-administration-reaches-deal-to-cancel-oil-leases-on-lands-tied-to-tribe/?postshare=8211479384972306&tid=ss_tw&utm_term=.1bdee3f948f8

This is Where Obama's Hugely Ambitious Climate Policies were Headed — Before Trump Came Along

The White House Wednesday unleashed a detailed 111-page document outlining a "mid century strategy" to massively slash U.S. carbon emissions by the year 2050, reducing them 80 percent "or more" below their 2005 levels. Just to give some sense of scale, the long-term impact of the plan would be larger than the effect of instantly taking all cars off U.S. roads. © 2016 The Washington Post. 11/16/2016.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/11/16/this-is-where-obamas-hugely-ambitious-climate-policies-were-headed-before-trump/?postshare=9091479322346640&tid=ss_tw&utm_term=.873ffdcfa1b4

Obama to Block New Arctic Drilling

President Obama is planning in the coming days to release an offshore oil and natural gas plan that blocks new drilling leases in the Arctic Ocean through 2022, people familiar with the plan said. There will be no drilling rights sales between 2017 and 2022 in the Beaufort or Chukchi seas, which comprise the United States' share of the Arctic Ocean, north of Alaska, according to two sources. © 2016 The Hill. 11/16/2016.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/306346-obama-to-block-arctic-drilling>

Salmon, Climate Change Cast Doubt on Future of Dams

A major federal court decision requires reassessment of four dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington, and may set a precedent for others. The dams block access to some 5,500 miles of historic salmon spawning. Almost from the moment they were completed in 1975, four hydroelectric dams on the Lower Snake River in eastern Washington State have been a key focus of dam removal advocates, including environmental groups, commercial fishermen and Native American tribes. A recent court decision might be their biggest victory yet. © 2016 News Deeply, 11/11/2016.

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/water/articles/2016/11/11/salmon-climate-change-cast-doubt-on-future-of-dams>

Arctic Agriculture: High Tunnels Bring Warm-Weather Veggies to Alaska

Most Alaska residents don't realize that less than 5 percent of their food is produced locally. Today, Alaska's farmers are growing more and more of their own produce in a type of greenhouse called a "high tunnel," with the help of a federal program that offsets its cost. The high tunnels are boosting food security in some communities, including Tyonek, a village of 200 people, roughly 80km (50 miles) by air from Anchorage. "Sometimes [daily] flights can't come in due to weather," said Christy Cincotta, executive director of the Tyonek Tribal Conservation District. "Our top goal was to make sure elders had fresh vegetables and youth had education opportunities," said Cincotta. Tyonek's inhabitants also eat moose and berries, but the food from the high tunnels – tomatoes, corn and carrots – adds to food security, she said. © 2016 News Deeply, 11/9/2016.

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/arctic/articles/2016/11/09/arctic-agriculture-high-tunnels-bring-warm-weather-veggies-to-alaska>

Arctic Makes Ice at Record Slow Pace

The Arctic Ocean is freezing up at a slower pace than ever before, with the extent of sea ice at a lower level this fall than in all previous years, the National Snow and Ice Data Center reported this week. Julienne Stroeve, senior research scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center, said ice formation slowed this year because of warmer-than-usual air and surface water temperatures north of Alaska and Russia, caused in part by this summer's low sea ice levels. © 2016 Scientific American, 11/4/2016.

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/arctic-makes-ice-at-record-slow-pace/>

Resources

Report: Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples: A Synthesis of Current Impacts and Experiences

growing body of literature examines the vulnerability, risk, resilience, and adaptation of indigenous peoples to climate change. This synthesis of literature brings together research pertaining to the impacts of climate change on sovereignty, culture, health, and economies that are currently being experienced by Alaska Native and American Indian tribes and other indigenous communities in the United States. 2016.

<http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/53156>

Website: Climate Change Adaptation Resource Center (ARC-X)

EPA's Adaptation Resource Center (ARC-X) is an interactive resource to help local governments effectively deliver services to their communities even as the climate changes. Decision makers can create an integrated package of information tailored specifically to their needs. Once users select areas of interest, they will find information about: the risks posed by climate

change to the issues of concern; relevant adaptation strategies; case studies illustrating how other communities have successfully adapted to those risks and tools to replicate their successes; and EPA funding opportunities. 2016.

<https://www.epa.gov/arc-x>

Other Items of Interest

AmeriCorps VISTA & Tribal Resilience (AIHEC)

American Indian High Education Consortium is seeking Tribal Colleges & Universities to host full-time, college-educated, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTAs) through the TCU VISTA Program. VISTAs can help provide capacity for community-driven projects that address pressing local climate change concerns.

<http://www.gobridgenet.org/>

Call for Student Climate Justice Abstracts (Environmental Justice: Interagency Working Group)

The *Educate, Motivate and Motivate (EMI) Climate Justice Initiative* is seeking abstracts that address resiliency, adaptation, and mitigation. Students should emphasize the relationships between climate change and the following: public health, cultural and traditional practices, economic development, and environmental justice communities. **Deadline: 12/31/16.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liHpESIFOqE>

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/>

FY17 Farm to School Grant Program (USDA)

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) amended Section 18 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) to establish a Farm to School Program in order to assist eligible entities, through grants and technical assistance, in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. To fulfill the farm to school mandate in the HHFKA, \$5 million is provided to the USDA on an annual basis to support grants, technical assistance, and the Federal administrative costs related to USDA's Farm to School Program. Eligibility includes Indian tribal organizations and schools. Funding opportunity #USDA-FNS-F2S-2017. **Deadline: 12/08/16.**

<http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=288870>

2017 Saltonstall-Kennedy Competitive Research Program (Dept. of Commerce)

The objective of the S-K Grant Program is to address the needs of the fisheries and fishing communities in optimizing economic benefits by building and maintaining sustainable fisheries and practices, dealing with the impacts of conservation and management measures, and increasing other opportunities to use existing infrastructure to support keeping working waterfronts viable. Proposals submitted to this competition must address at least one of the following priorities: Marine Aquaculture; Fisheries Data Collection; Techniques for Reducing Bycatch and other Adverse Impacts; Adapting to Climate Change and Other Long Term Ecosystem Change; Promotion, Development and Marketing; Socio-Economic Research; and Territorial Science. Eligibility includes Indian tribes. Funding opportunity # NOAA-NMFS-FHQ-2017-2004980. **Deadline: 12/09/16.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

FY17 Guidelines for Brownfields Cleanup Grants (EPA)

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under these guidelines, EPA is seeking proposals for Cleanup Grants only. Eligibility includes Indian tribe other than in Alaska (per CERCLA104 (k) (1)). **Deadline: 12/20/16.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

WaterSMART: Development of Feasibility Studies under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program (FY) 2017 (BOR)

The objective of this FOA is to invite applicants to cost share the development of new water reuse feasibility studies. Water reclamation and reuse projects provide growing communities with new sources of clean water while promoting water and energy efficiency and environmental stewardship. Eligibility includes Indian tribes or tribal organizations. Funding opportunity #BOR-DO-17-F003. **Deadline: 01/05/16.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

FY17 Coral Reef Conservation Program, Domestic Coral Reef Conservation Grants (NOS, NOAA, Dept. of Commerce)

This funding opportunity is soliciting applications intended to support coral reef conservation projects in shallow water coral reef ecosystems, including reefs at mesophotic depths, in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and coral-dominated banks in the U.S. portions of the Gulf of Mexico. Eligibility includes federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Funding opportunity # NOAA-NOS-OCM-2017-2005011. **Deadline: 01/11/17.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

FY 2017 National Climate Change & Wildlife Center Program (Geological Survey)

This program was created to ensure that the National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center is responsive to the research and management needs of Federal and State agencies to provide science and technical support regarding the impacts of climate change in fish, wildlife, plants and ecological processes. National coordination of research and modeling at regional centers will ensure uniformity of downscaling and forecasting models and standardized information to support management of fish and wildlife resources and regional partnership collaborations. The CSC's will provide access to the expertise at cooperating universities and supports the mission of the program. Eligibility: Unrestricted. Funding opportunity # G16AS00129. **Deadline: 01/12/17.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

NOAA Climate Program Office FY2017 - Understanding Climate Impacts on Fish Stocks and Fisheries to Inform Sustainable Management (Dept. of Commerce)

The goal is to inform sustainable fisheries management and promote resilience of the nation's fish stocks and fisheries in a changing climate. For FY17, this OAR/NMFS partnership, through the Coastal and Ocean Climate Applications (COCA) Program, will continue to take a regional approach to improving the resilience and adaptation of fisheries in a changing climate by soliciting proposals under two competitions. Eligibility includes Indian tribal governments. Funding opportunity # OAA-OAR-CPO-2017-2004998. **Deadline: 01/30/17.**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

BOR Drought Response Program FY2017

The objective of the Drought Contingency Planning FOA is to invite eligible applicants to leverage their resources by cost sharing Drought Contingency Planning with Reclamation to build resilience to drought in advance of a crisis. Applicants under this FOA may request funding to develop a new drought plan or to update an existing drought plan. Applicants may also request technical assistance from Reclamation for the development of elements of the Drought Contingency Plan.

Deadline 2/14/2017.

Funding Opportunity #: BOR-DO-17-F010 - <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=290104>

Funding Opportunity #: BOR-DO-17-F009 - <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=290122>

Upcoming Events

NOTE: More Upcoming Events can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website:

<http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Home/Events>

December 2016

Webinar: Policies and Adaptive Actions for Great Lakes Water Level Variability – Climate Change, Water Levels, Tribal Fisheries and Culturally Important Sites

December 1, 12:00-1:00 p.m. EST. Organized by NOAA, Michigan Department of Environment Quality, & the University of Michigan.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8098279547599979777>

Webinar: Climate Ready Webinar

December 2, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Offered by the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture. This webinar will highlight three case studies including: San Mateo County (Hilary Papendick, San Mateo County) Monterey Bay (Kelly Leo, The Nature Conservancy) Los Angeles (Alyssa Newton Mann, USC Sea Grant) Representatives from these adaptation projects will share information about their planning efforts and key lessons learned through the process. This webinar is aimed for those involved or interested in adaptation planning in California.

<http://www.sfbayjv.org/event->

[details.php?event_id=1698&utm_source=Newsletter+10.26.16&utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email](http://www.sfbayjv.org/event-?event_id=1698&utm_source=Newsletter+10.26.16&utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email)

Webinar: The times they are a changing: Shifting phenology in Northeast coastal ecosystems

December 7, 3:30-4:30 p.m. EST. Offered by the Northeast Climate Science Center. Climate change is causing species to shift their phenology, or the timing of recurring life events, in variable and complex ways. If these shifts differ among

species, the result would be mismatches or asynchronies in food and habitat resources that impact individual fitness, population dynamics, and ecosystem function. This presentation will provide an overview of the current state of knowledge of climate-induced shifts in marine and coastal phenology, with a focus on U.S. Northeast Atlantic ecosystems.
<http://necsc.umass.edu/webinars/times-they-are-changing-shifting-phenology-northeast-coastal-ecosystems>

Workshop: Developing a Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Alaska

December 8-9, Anchorage, AK. Cosponsored by Alaska Sea Grant and the Alaska Ocean Observing System (AOOS). The goal of this workshop is to develop an action plan for harmful algal bloom (HAB) monitoring, event response, outreach and research in Alaska.

<https://seagrant.uaf.edu/conferences/2016/harmful-algal-blooms/>

Conference: Symposium on Climate Displacement, Migration, and Relocation

December 13-14, Honolulu, HI. Hosted by the Council on Environmental Quality, in collaboration with the Hawaii and Alaska Sea Grant College Programs, and the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. This symposium will provide an opportunity for stakeholders, researchers, policy experts, indigenous leaders, and government officials to explore legal and policy opportunities and challenges arising from climate displacement. This includes questions about how to plan for and implement voluntary migration and community-led relocation as adaptation strategies to the impacts of climate change, both domestically and in the context of the Pacific Islands.

<https://seagrant.uaf.edu/conferences/2016/climate-migration/>

Conference: 8th National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration

December 10-15, New Orleans, LA. Offered by the Restore America's Estuaries and The Coast Society. This annual summit brings together the restoration and coastal management communities for robust discussions that explore critical issues, solutions and lessons learned that face our nation's coasts and estuaries.

<https://www.estuaries.org/Summit>

Webinar: North Central U.S. Climate Summary and Outlook Webinar

December 15, 1:00-2:00 p.m. CDT. Offered by the High Plains Regional Climate Center. The focus of these presentations is the north central portion of the U.S. that generally stretches from the Great Lakes/Ohio River Basin to the Rockies. There will be time at the end of the presentation for questions.

<https://www.drought.gov/drought/calendar/events/north-central-us-climate-summary-and-outlook-webinar-sept-15>

January 2016

Conference: California Climate Change Symposium

January 25-26, Sacramento, CA. Offered by the CalEPA, CANRA and Governor's Office of Planning & Research. This symposium is the premier forum for the sharing of cutting-edge research addressing the impacts of climate change on the state. This research informs the state's strategies and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to develop programs to safeguard California from a changing climate.

http://www.californiascience.org/?utm_source=Newsletter%2010.26.16&utm_campaign=Newsletter&utm_medium=email

February 2016

Conference: Alaska Forum on Environment

February 6-10, Anchorage, AK. The Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) is a statewide gathering of environmental professionals from government agencies, non-profit and for-profit businesses, community leaders, Alaskan youth, conservationists, biologists and community elders.

<http://www.akforum.org/>

Conference: Tribal Water in Arizona

February 9-10, Phoenix, AZ. Offered by Law Seminars International. This Conference will present a comprehensive and current overview of the legal and practical issues impacting Tribal water rights and the development of Tribal water projects. It is particularly timely as we transition to a Trump administration with the attendant uncertainty at the federal level.

<http://www.lawseminars.com/seminars/2017/17TRIBWAZ.php>

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