



# Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

December 2023

Welcome to our monthly newsletter which provides news items, resources, announcements about funding opportunities, conferences, and training, and other information relevant to tribal climate change issues.



*Polar Bear cleaning his coat in Kaktovik Alaska*

## Meet the Climate Change Team

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Alaska whale watching boat excursion. Inside passage mountain range landscape luxury travel cruise concept.

**D**ecember is my birthday month. At a recent family gathering, I was introducing myself in Diné and I got my age wrong. I aged myself 20 years younger than I am, and everyone in the room laughed and corrected me. To be honest, I do not keep track of how old I am but I do celebrate growing older. I read somewhere that it is a privilege to age and what a true statement. I acknowledge everyone has something going on and may be dealing with a lot, and I only wish for everyone to grow with love and in a supportive environment. Also, I once said “I’m old” in front of my uncle and he scolded 17 year old me, and said, you’re not old under you are six feet under so you better live. And 27 years later, I still am.

For high school, I went to Kinłani Bordertown Dormitory which is a dorm for Tribal high school students to stay at while attending Flagstaff High School. It was a great place to prep us for college, military or just life away from home. For one of my birthdays, my friends celebrated with me by singing happy birthday, and buying me small gifts. One of the gifts was a box double-wrapped in duct tape and I couldn’t use anything to open it except for my hands. Not surprisingly, that gift came from my male friends who were just the nicest and bestest friends you could ask for in high school. Oh and what was in that box? A really nice, soft sweater that I kept long after my high school days.

In closing, I truly wish you a happy birthday and I hope you are able to celebrate it as you wish. I was able to be with my family and my son and partner baked me a cake in the

shape of a dinosaur. Because you know, in my other life I hang out with dinosaurs, wyverns and dragons.

Stay tuned for next month as we will share a list of books that folks have recommended including my own. Please continue to share what you’ve been reading, have read, and maybe a favorite birthday memory.

We wish you the happiest of holidays and be safe and warm! Be and walk in beauty!

[NDN Collective Launches Second LandBack Magazine](#)

[Indigenous Weaver Naomi Glasses Is Ralph Lauren’s First Artist in Residence](#)

[How the history of Leech Lake and Red Lake went down totally different paths](#)

[Reviving Indigenous Language in the Classroom](#)

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With gratitude and respect, on behalf of the [climate warriors](#) at ITEP, Nikki Cooley

## Advisory Committee Members:

### Tribal Representatives:

**Jerry Cain**  
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian

**Jamie Donatuto**  
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

**Michael Durglo, Jr.**  
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

**Shasta Gaughen**  
Pala Band of Mission Indians

**Oxcenia O’Domin**  
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

### Federal Agency Representatives:

**Lisa Bacanskas**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Alicia Bell-Sheetter**  
U.S. Forest Service

**Erica Bollerud**  
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**Ashley Fortune Isham**  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**Alyssa Samoy**  
Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Crystal Keys**  
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### Tribal Resilience Liaisons:

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Northwest Climate Adaption Science Center & Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

**Sara Smith**  
Northeast Climate Adaption Science Center & College of Menominee Nation

**Sharon Hausam**  
South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center & the University of Oklahoma

**Stefan Tangen**  
North Central Climate Adaption Science Center & Great Plains Tribal Water Alliance

**Casey Thornburgh**  
Northeast/Southeast Climate Adaption Science Center & United Southeastern Tribes

# In The News

## Staff Spotlight



PHOTO: July 2022, whitewater rafting the Colorado River (Westwater Canyon)

Hello TCCP family! My name is Ashley Gries, and I'm happy to introduce myself as the new Sr. Program Coordinator for the team! I came to the Tribal Climate Change program from the [Tribal Exchange Network Group \(TXG\)](#), where I supported tribal environmental data sovereignty through advocacy and technical support alongside my ITEP, EPA, and Tribal colleagues. Prior to that, I earned my M.Sc. in Environmental Conservation from the University of Wisconsin, worked on Land Back and water policy research, advocated for improvements in the formation of a durable WOTUS definition, and for improvements in federal funding opportunities for Native-led watershed restoration projects. I'm passionate about water and water issues, and if I'm not working or spending time with my family or in my garden, you'll most likely find me out on the water paddling or swimming.

In my new role with the Tribal Climate Change team, I'll be working to support Tribal climate change adaptation planning and implementation in the US and abroad, with a focus on expanding TCCP's programming internationally. It's an exciting role, but one that comes with a large learning curve for both myself and the TCCP team. From my vantage point, at the core of TCCP's work is community, building of trust, and a commitment to ensuring Tribes and Indigenous people have the resources they need to be responsive in ways that are meaningful to them in the face of a changing climate. It's something I'm passionate about too – building trust, building community, and ensuring we're (the greater 'we') responsive to the needs of those not only in the US, but further afield. And so, as I'm looking forward to taking on this new role, to meeting new friends and colleagues, and to expanding access to tools and resources for our Indigenous neighbors abroad, I hope you'll support me in this work too. Reach out, introduce yourself, write an email, call, stop me if we're at a conference together, say hello, and share your ideas. I'm already looking forward to the work we're going to do together.

-Ashley

## [Native Nations in the Energy Transition](#)

In most of the popular discourse over energy policy, Native Americans feature prominently as voices of opposition to energy development. Whether it's the Dakota Access Pipeline, Line 3 Pipeline, Line 5 Pipeline, uranium mining near the Grand Canyon, lithium mining in Nevada, or offshore wind development, Native voices have been strong messengers that have helped sway governments and public opinion on important questions around energy development, infrastructure siting, and more. © Resources, 11/28/23

## [Executive Order on Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations to Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination](#)

Section 1. Policy. My Administration is committed to protecting and supporting Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, and to honoring our trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations. We recognize the right of Tribal Nations to self-determination, and that Federal support for Tribal self-determination has been the most effective policy for the economic growth of Tribal Nations and the economic well-being of Tribal citizens. Federal policies of past eras, including termination, relocation, and assimilation, collectively represented attacks on Tribal sovereignty and did lasting damage to Tribal communities, Tribal economies, and the institutions of Tribal governance. © The White House, 12/06/23

## [Biden-Harris Administration Takes Steps to Increase Co-Stewardship Opportunities, Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge, Protect Sacred Sites](#)

The Department of the Interior today announced new steps to strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship with Tribal Nations, including new efforts to increase Tribal co-stewardship of lands and waters, incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into the Department's work, and preserve and protect sacred sites around the country. "Since time immemorial, the Earth's lands and waters have been central to the social, cultural, spiritual, mental, and physical wellbeing of Indigenous peoples. It is essential that we do everything we can to ensure that Indigenous Knowledge helps guide our ongoing work as stewards of public lands and waters," said Secretary Deb Haaland. "By acknowledging and empowering Tribes as partners in co-stewardship of our country's lands and waters, every American will benefit from strengthened management of our federal land and resources." © DOI Press Release, 12/06/23

## [Soil Builds Prosperity From the Ground Up](#)

Respecting the humanity and history of soil can help us grow a more resilient future for all. In October 2023, Kotutwa Johnson hosted a group of scientists and educators from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and he said the

number one problem they wanted to address was not pollution or agricultural runoff—it was diabetes. He believes the spread of this disease is a direct result of the U.S. exporting its ideas of food and food policy. "We need to rethink our policies, our agricultural policies, in the United States to focus more on quality, not quantity and efficiency," he says. © Yes! Magazine, 12/07/23

## [USBR Announces a Total of 18 Colorado River Conservation Agreements with Arizona Entities](#)

Representatives of major Arizona water users, including cities and tribes, gathered with the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation and Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs at Phoenix City Hall on Nov. 3 to celebrate the execution of new Colorado River system conservation agreements in Arizona. At the Phoenix event, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton announced the execution of seven new system conservation agreements in Arizona, which will conserve up to 162,710-acre feet of water in Lake Mead through 2026. © Arizona Department of Water Resources, 12/08/23

## [With Bison Herds and Ancestral Seeds, Indigenous Communities Embrace Food Sovereignty](#)

Behind American Indian Hall on the Montana State University campus, ancient life is growing. Six-foot-tall corn plants tower over large green squash and black-and-yellow sunflowers. Around the perimeter, stalks of sweetgrass grow. The seeds for some of these plants grew for millennia in Native Americans' gardens along the upper Missouri River. It's one of several Native American ancestral gardens growing in the Bozeman area, totaling about an acre. Though small, the garden is part of a larger, multifaceted effort around the country to promote "food sovereignty" for reservations and tribal members off reservation, and to reclaim aspects of Native American food and culture that flourished in North America for thousands of years before the arrival of European settlers. © NPR, 12/09/23

## [President Biden's Investing in America Agenda Provides \\$16.5 Million to Support Tribes Impacted by Drought](#)

The Department of the Interior today announced the availability of \$16.5 million through the Bureau of Reclamation to expand access to clean, reliable water supplies for Tribes confronted by drought conditions that threaten Tribal homelands, food sources, and cultural resources. Two funding opportunities are now available through Reclamation's Native American Affairs Program: a \$12.5 million investment from President Biden's Investing in America agenda — funded through the Inflation Reduction Act — and \$4 million in annual funding for technical assistance and cooperative agreements. © US DOI, 12/12/23

# Resources

## [America Adapts Podcast: Transformational Adaptation with the Climate Science Alliance: The 2023 San Diego Climate Summit](#)

In episode 196 America Adapts, we partnered with the Climate Science Alliance to cover their Climate Summit at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Experts, speakers and participants from the Summit are highlighted in this episode. We kick things off with Dr. Amber Pairis of the Alliance setting the stage for the Alliance's approach to transformational adaptation, emphasizing community-centered approaches, resilience, and relationship building. The episode highlights the power of collective action and offers insights for organizations on a similar adaptation journey.

## [New Report on Drought Assessment in a Changing Climate](#)

This report, Drought Assessment in a Changing Climate: Priority Actions and Research Needs, was developed as part of a technical workshop that NIDIS and the USDA Climate Hubs co-hosted on February 28–March 1, 2023. Additional support for the workshop and report was provided by the University of Colorado Boulder's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). The report captures the ideas and feedback of more than 100 subject matter experts from over 44 institutions across the drought research and practitioner communities. It offers a rich collection of ideas for action and further research that federal, tribal, state, local agencies and academic institutions can support.

## [Covenant of The Salmon People- KBTC Documentaries](#)

Covenant of the Salmon People features a portrait of the Nez Perce Tribe as they continue to carry out their ancient promise to protect the Chinook salmon. The film explores the intertwined fate of the Nimiipuu (Nez Perce), salmon, and the landscape from which both evolved. The Nez Perce people are the oldest documented civilization in North America, with archaeological sites along Idaho's Salmon.

## [Drought Assessment in a Changing Climate: Priority Actions and Research Needs](#)

On November 29, 2023, NIDIS and the USDA Climate Hubs released a NOAA Technical Memorandum, which highlights priority actions and research questions across fifteen research focus areas to advance the knowledge and understanding of drought assessment into the future. This report captures the ideas and feedback of more than 100 subject matter experts from over 44 institutions across the drought research and practitioner communities. It offers a rich collection of ideas for action and further research that federal, tribal, state, and local agencies and academic institutions can support.

## [Being a Good Relative: A Guide for Individuals and Organizations to Support Native-Led and -Controlled Initiatives](#)

These recommendations were initially developed for individual donors who are starting or increasing investments in Native communities through donor advised funds, but led to important conversations about how institutional funders can support the Native nonprofit sector as well. Thus, these recommendations are for various types of funders. The project team included additional resources and actions to take on your journey to being a Good Relative.

## [Climate Innovation Challenge](#)

A free STEAM curriculum for grades 3-12 that guides students through the creation of climate change solutions and develops storytelling and video production skills. At the culmination of

the Challenge, CIC showcases outstanding student videos and awards scholarships and cash prizes for top entries. CIC aspires to give students a sense of agency and possibility as they move into their educational and professional futures in a climate-challenged world.

## [The 5th National Climate Assessment in 15 Maps](#)

The NCA5 is accompanied by the NCA Atlas, which provides interactive, online access to the climate projections used in the Assessment. The NCA Atlas allows users to explore localized climate projections to inform resilience, adaptation, and mitigation efforts. This Store bring together these two resources, merging maps from the NCA Atlas with findings from NCA5.

## [#NarrativeBack: Trauma-informed Media Toolkit Offers a New Model for Wildfire Coverage](#)

The resource kit, titled #NarrativeBack, gives a community agency and power over how — and if — they want such stories to be told in the media. It consists of templates that communities can use if they want to reach out to media for coverage, and also features a guide for reporters on how to conduct themselves when covering a wildfire in an Indigenous community.

## [Come Rain or Shine Podcast: Indigenous Agriculture and Climate Resilience](#)

This month's podcast features Dr. Michael Kotutwa Johnson (Hopi Tribe of Arizona) who discusses Indigenous agricultural knowledge, traditional farming, Indigenous participation in conservation programs, climate change, and more.

## [Native American Agriculture Fund - Food Access Survey](#)

In February 2021, the Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) launched a survey on food access gaps within Native American communities during COVID-19. Results showed that 49% of American Indian and Alaska Natives experienced food insecurity during COVID-19 and one in four experienced very low food security. This survey showed that food insecurity is higher among AI/AN households with children, employment disruption during COVID-19, or self-reported poor or fair health status. The report "Reimagining Hunger Responses in Times of Crisis" illuminates the challenges of food security in Indian Country and the Tribally-driven solutions needed to address those challenges. The continuation of this survey will share the depth of the issues of hunger and food access in Native American households. It is crucial to have access to accurate data to combat food insecurity in Native communities.

## [SW CASC Researchers collaborate with the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council to develop project-specific knowledge co-production protocols](#)

Authors from the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center are behind a new publication in the open access journal Community Science. This publication titled "[The Arctic Rivers Project: Using an Equitable Co-Production Framework for Integrating Meaningful Community Engagement and Science to Understand Climate Impacts](#)" is an effort by multiple CASC scientists, university researchers, and Indigenous communities and scientists to increase collective understanding of climate change impacts on rivers, fish, and communities and co-produce this understanding with Indigenous communities. In this publication, the authors discuss the efforts undertaken by the Arctic River Project to conduct ethical and equitable research with Indigenous communities and generate science that is useful to those communities.

# Job & Internship Opportunities

## [Climate Adaptation Scientists of Tomorrow Program](#)

To advance climate adaptation science and increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in STEM fields, the Climate Adaptation Scientists of Tomorrow Undergraduate Research Experience brings undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty together with CASC partners to cultivate the next generation of climate scientists. Build your climate science skills, training, and development for two years. Join a cohort of 20 undergraduate students with common interests across the U.S. **Application deadline: December 31, 2023**

## [National Tribal Water Council- Membership Recruitment for Region 4 Representative](#)

The National Tribal Water Council is a technical and scientific body established to advocate for the best interest of federally recognized tribes in water pertaining to water. The council is currently accepting application from tribal water professionals for one open position. The position is open to tribal water professionals employed by a federally recognized Tribe or tribally authorized organization from Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee). Member duties include, but not limited to: Participating in monthly conference calls, attending bi-annual meetings, and creating a participating in crafting response documents to policy and/or rulemaking actions. To express your interest or obtain more information, please contact Elaine Wilson at [elaine.wilson@nau.edu](mailto:elaine.wilson@nau.edu). **Application deadline: December 31, 2023**

## [Tribal Climate Adaptation and Resilience Extension Educator- University of Minnesota](#)

We are looking for a dedicated individual to join our team at the University of Minnesota who possesses expertise and hands-on experience working at the intersection of climate change adaptation and Tribal food systems, water, and natural resource management. If you have a genuine passion for collaborating with people to encourage climate adaptation and resilience, this position is for you. We are seeking an individual who can connect and engage with Tribal water and natural resource managers, growers, gatherers and other community members from across Minnesota and the greater Midwest. **Application deadline: January 1, 2024**

## [Restoration Ecologist- Institute for Applied Ecology](#)

The Institute for Applied Ecology is seeking to hire a Restoration Ecologist with a diverse skillset to lead several enhancement and restoration projects as part of the Habitat Restoration team. Projects are primarily focused in the Willamette Valley, Oregon and southwestern Washington, but may also include the Coast Range and other Oregon ecoregions. The Habitat Restoration Program conducts ecological restoration in the Pacific Northwest through on-the-ground restoration, cultivation of partnerships that promote regional conservation, and the advancement of restoration science techniques. **Application deadline: January 2, 2024**

## [NCAR Earth System Science Internship \(NESSI\)](#)

The NESSI program is hosted by NCAR Education, Engagement & Early-Career Development and offers students interested in the Earth system sciences an opportunity to conduct research with NCAR scientists from across all labs on a wide range of topics including but not limited to atmospheric science, computational science, engineering, and solar & space physics. Our program is designed to support and promote Earth system science through research, mentoring, and community building. **Application deadline: January 6, 2023**

## [Tribal Partnership & Resource Stewardship Manager - Sustainable Northwest](#)

Sustainable Northwest is recruiting a Tribal Partnership and resource Stewardship Manager to enhance ongoing work with Tribal partners and land managers to restore forest ecosystems throughout Oregon and Washington. The Tribal Partnership & Resource Stewardship Manager is responsible for advancing Sustainable Northwest's mission and vision by supporting our programs and working with Tribes in the Pacific Northwest. The position provides technical assistance, support, and strategic engagement with our partners, including Tribal governments, the U.S. Forest Service, and state and other federal agencies. **Application deadline: January 10, 2024**

## [Truman D. Picard Scholarship](#)

The Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program is dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing a higher education in Natural Resources. Preference will be given to students whose degree or area of study directly involves management of Forest Resources. Scholarships are available to graduating senior high school students, undergraduate college students, undergraduate seniors that are applying/accepted to grad school, and graduate students. **Application deadline: January 26, 2024**

## [Climate Adaptation Specialist New Mexico](#)

The South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) is seeking a Climate Adaptation Specialist to synthesize climate adaptation research and combine the information with our CASC climate projections, tools, or other relevant products for resource managers in New Mexico and West Texas. This is a remote position based in New Mexico. You will be an employee of the University of Oklahoma. Moderate travel is required. **Application deadline: January 31, 2024**

## [ITEP Tribes and Climate Change Program 2024 Summer Indigenous Climate Change Internships](#)

Apply for a paid 8-week summer internship through the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals Indigenous Climate Change Program. Spend your summer working with Tribal organizations to address Indigenous environmental issues. The internships have a research, technical, educational or policy focus. We are offering up to 8 positions focused on climate change. The internship program provides each student intern with a \$6,400 stipend. There are travel and housing stipends for those who relocate for the internship. **Application deadline: February 1, 2024**

## [National Forest Foundation - Conservation Connect Fellowship Program](#)

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) invites graduate students (pursuing a master's or doctoral degree) to apply to the 2024 Conservation Connect Fellowship Program. The fellowship includes a summer 2024 and/or academic year 2024-25 practicum associated with a National Forest Foundation program of work. Location and opportunity to work remotely varies by practicum project. Conservation Connect fellowships aim to build experience, knowledge, and skills within the next generation of collaborative and conservation leaders to support each other and advance the field. **Application deadline: February 4, 2024**

## [Rising Voices Changing Coasts Summer Internship](#)

RVCC is recruiting Native students for a 8-week summer internship opportunity in which undergraduates and graduate students participate in understanding and addressing climate impacts in one of RVCC hub sites; Hawaii, Alaska, Louisiana, or Puerto Rico. Interns will receive stipends totaling \$3,840.00 and runs from May 19 - July 2024. It involves four weeks at Haskell Indian Nations University, week and a half on site in ALASKA, and two weeks at home finishing writing projects. For questions contact Paulette Blanchard, PhD at [pblanchard@haskellfoundation.org](mailto:pblanchard@haskellfoundation.org). **Application deadline: February 16, 2024**

## [AIHECTCU Climate Resilience Student Research Program](#)

AIHEC is recruiting students for the TCU Climate Resilience Summer Research Program, a 12-week summer experiential learning opportunity through which undergraduate students participate in identifying and addressing climate change and energy issues in their respective American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The program is designed for TCU Indigenous students who are passionate about taking action to address climate change affecting Tribal lands and supporting Tribal leadership in all areas of Nation-building affected by climate challenges. Students will receive a monthly stipend, for a total of \$6,000. The program dates are May 28 to August 16, 2024. For more information, contact Frank Brannon at [fbrannon@aihec.org](mailto:fbrannon@aihec.org). **Priority Application Deadline: February 23, 2024**

## [Native Youth Climate Adaptation Leadership Congress \(NYCALC\)](#)

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), through a partnership between the Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), collaborates with multiple federal, Tribal, and non-governmental organizations to offer an experiential, youth-driven conservation leadership training for Native high school and college-aged youth known as NYCALC. **Application deadline: March 1, 2024**

## [Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps Individual Placement Program Manager](#)

The ALCC Individual Placement Program Manager interacts primarily with ALCC Individual Placements (members), ALCC IP Program Coordinators, the ALCC Individual Placement Program Director, other ALCC staff, and partners. The Program Manager works with tribal, federal, state, local, and non-profit partners to develop impactful IP projects, ensures all assigned positions are successfully recruited and onboarded before their term starts, and refines and implements efficient tracking systems. The Program Manager will help design and implement a programmatic recruitment strategy, regularly engaging in recruitment and outreach activities to local communities including Indigenous and other underrepresented groups. **Application deadline: open until filled**

# Funding Opportunities



## Additional Sources for More Opportunities:

1) More Funding Opportunities can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website: <http://www7.nau.edu/itcp/main/tcc/Resources/funding>

2) Tribal Climate Change Guide maintained by the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project at the University of Oregon: <http://tribalclimateguide.uoregon.edu/>

3) Searchable database of all discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies. [www.grants.gov/applicants/find\\_grant\\_opportunities.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/find_grant_opportunities.jsp)

4) Conservation Innovation Grants (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

### Young Tribal Leaders Art Contest

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Environmental Services and Cultural Resource Management (DESCRM) announced the 2023 Young Tribal Leaders Art Contest to highlight the perspectives and creativity of Native youth and young professionals across the nation. Tribal citizens ages 14-30 may submit artwork on the themes of the environment, culture, or climate for a chance to win travel expenses to the 2024 National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference and have their work exhibited online and at Washington, D.C. Submitted artwork can be in any medium, including photography, digital art, drawings and paintings, basketry, pottery, beadwork, and quillwork. **Application deadline: January 6, 2024**

### Young Farmer Grant Program

For the last four years, the National Young Farmers Coalition (Young Farmers) has partnered with Chipotle to support young and beginning farmers and ranchers start up and grow their businesses with a flexible funding opportunity each spring. The program provided 50 farmers and ranchers with \$5,000 each in the spring of 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. Grant

recipients also received a one-year membership to the National Young Farmers Coalition. **Application deadline: January 15, 2024**

### National Forest Foundation - Matching Awards Program (MAP)

MAP: Connecting People to Forests, focuses primarily on in-person community engagement and completion of appropriate stewardship activities. Program goals are to create lasting change that will allow all communities, especially underserved communities, opportunities to benefit from activities on National Forest System lands or adjacent public lands. **Application deadline: January 16, 2024**

### The North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action - Call for Proposals

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) is calling for applications by January 18, 2024, for the new cycle of the North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) grant program. This year's call for proposals is aimed at organizations supporting environmental initiatives that will involve and empower Indigenous Peoples and communities and enhance climate adaptation by respectfully applying and protecting Indigenous Knowledge systems. **Application deadline: January 18, 2024**

### My Electric Ride: An EV Transportation Video Challenge

EPA recently announced their first Electric Vehicle Video Prize Challenge! You can win up to \$3,000 while sharing your positive experience with electric transportation, whether it's a car, bus, or ebike/scooter. **Application deadline: January 23, 2024**

### Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

The United States Department of Energy has made over \$400 million in formula funding available for Tribal Nations, states, and local governments for projects that reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, or reduce energy use. Whether your goal is to save residents money by funding energy efficiency upgrades, or reducing carbon emissions by pursuing green energy projects, EECBG is an exciting opportunity to look into. EECBG applications for Tribes are due on January 31st, so interested Tribes are recommended to begin applications as soon as possible! **Application deadline: January 31, 2024**

### EPA's 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate

EPA's 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program will award at least \$500 million to subsidize the purchase of a zero-emission or clean school

busses, eligible infrastructure, and other costs, including workforce training. **Application deadline: January 31, 2024**

### Tribal Capacity Building Pilot Program

California Strategic Growth Council has released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Application for SGC's newest grant program, the Tribal Capacity Building Pilot Program. The pilot program provides funding and technical assistance to California Native American tribes to build staff capacity to advance tribes' climate-related work. Eligible applicants include California Native American tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Contact List, including federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes. A non-federally recognized tribe is eligible to apply if they are registered as a nonprofit, a for-profit corporation, or a limited liability company. SGC will award between \$150,000 and \$250,000 to each tribe selected for the pilot two-year grant term. The pilot program will fund staff salaries and activities that advance the tribe's climate-related work. Activities may include planning, securing funding for, and implementing projects related to climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience. **Application deadline: February 5, 2023**

### 2024 Indigenous Food Systems Community of Practice

We are thrilled to be opening the second cohort of the Indigenous Food Systems Community of Practice for funders. In 2021, in response to growing interest in a substantive engagement at the intersection of Indigenous food systems and sustainable agriculture and food systems, we convened our first cohort of the Indigenous Food Systems Community of Practice. In this second cohort, funders will gather to:

- Interact, learn, and build relationships with Native American practitioners, organizations, and communities offering food systems solutions;
- Share and sharpen their skills and strategies for investing in Indigenous partners who are leading sustainable agriculture and food systems work in Indian Country;
- Build awareness of and respond to the historic, structural, current, and philanthropic barriers that Native communities and Tribal governments face in obtaining funding; and
- Enjoy the fellowship and support of other funders committed to investing in Indigenous communities.

**Application deadline: February 12, 2024**

# Upcoming Events

NOTE: Updated info on events can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website:

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

## January 2024

### **Meeting: January 28 - February 1, 2024, Portland, Oregon** **[ATNI 2024 Winter Convention](#)**

ATNI Conventions serve as important gatherings where members come together to engage in productive discussions, informative presentations, and committee activities related to policy, legislation, and the future of Indian Country in the Northwest.

## February 2024

### **Forum: February 27-29, 2024, Tucson, AZ**

#### **[Southwest Adaptation Forum](#)**

The Southwest Adaptation Forum (SWAF) is the biennial gathering of practitioners, professionals, community members, and researchers working in diverse ways to address the effects of climate change. We work collectively to accelerate effective climate adaptation to reduce the impacts of climate change in communities and landscapes across the Southwest.

### **Summit: February 27-28, 2024, Temecula, CA**

#### **[2024 Tribal Clean Energy Summit](#)**

Approximately every two years, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy along with other DOE offices convenes tribal leaders and energy stakeholders to exchange ideas promoting energy infrastructure development for tribes and tribal communities. Tribal leaders and their subject matter experts—together with the DOE, the administration, federal agency partners, state governments, private industry, utilities, and academia—attend to build networks, exchange ideas, explore cross-cutting and cost-effective solutions to national energy interests, and support tribal sovereignty.

## March 2024

### **Summit: March 6-9, 2024, Worley, Idaho**

#### **[Northwest Intertribal Food Sovereignty Summit](#)**

The first annual Northwest Intertribal Food Sovereignty Summit will bring together Tribal community leaders, youth, elders, Tribal food enterprises, Native food entrepreneurs, Native food producers, traditional food champions,

fundors, government agencies, and others to discuss, share and learn about Tribal food economies, small business development, climate resilience, and youth engagement in food systems and tradition. Youth will have a unique opportunity to learn from experts in the field and get hands-on skill-building experiences through workshops and presentations. Join us for sessions focused on topics such as:

- The role of Tribal governments in Food Sovereignty
- Tribal Food Enterprises
- Native Farm Bill
- Small business development
- Climate Resilience

## May 2024

### **Workshop: May 6-8, 2024, Boulder, Colorado**

#### **[12th Annual Rising Voices Workshop](#)**

Rising Voices is pleased to announce the 12th Annual Rising Voices Center for Indigenous and Earth Sciences Workshop, which will be a hybrid gathering, held both virtually and in-person at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado, from Monday, May 6 – Wednesday, May 8, 2023. This workshop will bring participants together to work on proposed pathways and guidelines for intercultural collaborations for co-created, place-based Earth systems science research, policy, practice and action. **Deadline to apply to attend is January 20, 2024**

### **Forum: May 6-9, 2024, Harrah Cherokee Casino & Resort, North Carolina**

#### **[Nation Tribal Forum of Air Quality](#)**

The National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) aims to support tribal programs by fostering information-sharing and networking opportunities that are focused on building tribal capacity in air quality management. The event's agenda is driven by tribal input and priorities, with a focus on increasing tribal engagement in air quality initiatives that are relevant to tribal communities across the nation. Forum organizers are actively seeking abstracts for presentations, trainings, and other informational sessions that support our goal of providing engaging opportunities for tribes to connect with others working to address air quality concerns. Our attendees seek usable information from real-world examples that discuss practical ideas and solutions, and provide insight into current trends, data, and research impacting tribes working to protect their lands and people.

Abstracts should be related to air quality topics relevant to tribal stakeholders. If you have any questions about the agenda, presentation, and training options, or other ways to participate in the event, please contact NTFAQ@nau.edu. **Request for Presentation or training abstracts due: Friday December 22, 2023**

### **SAVE THE DATE! Symposium: May-6, 2023, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington** **[12th Annual "Living Breath of wələb?altxw" Indigenous Foods Symposium](#)**

This symposium fosters dialogue and builds collaborative networks as we, Native peoples, strive to sustain our cultural food practices and preserve our healthy relationships with the land, water, and all living things. The 2024 theme is "Growing Food Sovereignty and Nourishing Seeds of Hope." Calling for presenters! All presentations, panels, and workshop abstracts that align with our larger themes of Indigenous food sovereignty/security; traditional/first foods, plants, & medicines; environmental & climate justice as they relate to Indigenous food sovereignty/security; and health & wellness will be considered. **Abstract submission deadline: January 29, 2024**

### **Conference: May-13-16, 2024, St. Paul, Minnesota**

#### **[Native American Fish & Wildlife Society National Conference](#)**

Natural resource professionals and college students are invited to submit abstracts focused on research or projects related to: natural resource management, fish/wildlife biology, forestry, ecology, Indigenous Traditional Knowledge / Traditional Ecological Knowledge, conservation biology, human-dimensions, environmental law, conservation law, watershed science and etc. Abstract submission components: 250 words or less abstract (any word after will not be considered), abstract title, abstract keywords.

### **Conference: May-14-16, 2024, St. Paul, Minnesota**

#### **[National Adaptation Forum](#)**

The National Adaptation Forum is a bi-annual convening for adaptation professionals to innovate, network, and focus on established and emerging climate adaptation issues of the day. The Forum provides opportunities for professional development through training sessions, facilitated presentations and panels, and formal and informal networking sessions.