



# Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

January 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.



Frozen Kachina Wetlands Preserve Flagstaff

## Meet the Climate Change Team

**Nikki Cooley, Diné (Asdzáá/She/Her)**  
Co-Manager & ITEP Interim Assistant Director  
[Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu](mailto:Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu)

**Karen Cozzetto (She/Her)**  
Co-Manager  
[Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu](mailto:Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu)

**Kelsey Morales (She/Her)**  
Assistant Manager  
[Kelsey.Morales@nau.edu](mailto:Kelsey.Morales@nau.edu)

**Laureen Lewis, Hopi/Havasupai, (She/Her)**  
Administrative Assistant  
[Laureen.Lewis@nau.edu](mailto:Laureen.Lewis@nau.edu)

**McKenzie Jones (She/Her)**  
Program Associate  
[Mckenzie.Jones@nau.edu](mailto:Mckenzie.Jones@nau.edu)

**Kelsey Jensen, Diné (She/Her)**  
Research Associate  
[Kelsey.Jensen@nau.edu](mailto:Kelsey.Jensen@nau.edu)

**Taryn Bell (They/Them)**  
Student Intern  
Graduate Student - Climate Science and Solutions  
Program

**Brooke Damon (She/Her)**  
Student Intern  
Undergraduate Student - Environmental Science with a  
minor in Indigenous Health Studies



Erithacus rubecula sitting, perching in snowy winter, spruce with the snow in the

*A note from Nikki: So many of our gatherings, whether at the national, regional or global level, youth are often mentioned as future stewards of our Mother Earth. In doing so, we place a huge amount of trust and perhaps, burden, upon their shoulders. I often wonder about this responsibility we are putting onto them and I can only encourage us to leave them with as much knowledge, tools, and love so they are prepared and confident. At the 2022, National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference, our contingent of youth preferred to be called Young Leaders because that is what we are helping them prepare to be. Here at ITEP, we are walking the talk by investing in our Young Leaders and giving them as much time and space to speak, to do and to be. In this month's narrative, we introduce the strong voice of one of our academic year interns and future matriarch, Brooke. We thank the Bay and Paul Foundations for allowing us the opportunity to work with this amazing Young Leader who is walking and talking in beauty.*

Like many others, the pandemic drastically changed my outlook on life. I was a high school senior at the time, trying to choose a college major that would ultimately determine my future and it was one of the most stressful times of my life. Not to mention, I changed the university I was planning on attending multiple times. As the pandemic hit, I was no longer able to finish out the typical high school movie ending. I cried about not going to prom or walking at graduation but all that didn't matter once I knew my mom was going to be a front-line healthcare worker on the Navajo Nation. Despite being a dental hygienist, my mom worked as a nurse and completed COVID-19 screenings along with wellness check-ins for those who had tested positive. I saw the toll these long days caring for covid patients had on her, especially one of the patients she checked on frequently. Not only was this person alone in their fight against covid, but they resided on a part of the reservation that lacked running water and electricity. Unfortunately, this person

lost the fight and it really hurt my mom. Seeing that disheartened look, along with knowing that my mom used to live in similar conditions during her childhood, I knew that I wanted to make a difference so that other people no longer had to live this reality.

Ultimately, I decided on the environmental science program at Northern Arizona University. After completing my first year online, I feared that I had no experience whatsoever in the environmental field. Later in the semester, I saw the application for ITEP's Summer Land and Water Internship. There were numerous host sites for the internship and fortunately I was able to interview with a couple of the sites. Though scary having to pitch an elevator speech all about you to numerous people, I was selected to work with USGS Grand Canyon Research and Monitoring Center. For the internship, I created an annotated bibliography about tribal interests and the involvement of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program. It wasn't the most glorious summer break as it involved reading numerous documents dating back to the 1990's and learning how to cite the sources through the USGS format. Even still, I had a wonderful experience learning how tribes interact through environmental programs.

Following this internship experience, I am thankful that I was able to return for a second internship with ITEP's Tribes and Climate Program. Working with the great staff of ITEP, I began updating different tribal hazard mitigation and adaptation planning documents. Through this work, I was able to learn about these planning documents and how each tribe shapes their knowledge and history into these management plans. I am proud to say that the experiences that I have gained so far have made me feel prepared rather than fearful for future career opportunities. Looking toward the spring semester, I am excited to work with educational partners to create science lessons that inform students of climate change from indigenous perspectives.

## 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

#### **Desirae Mack**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

### Federal Agency Representatives:

#### **Lisa Bacanskas**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### **Alicia Bell-Sheeter**

U.S. Forest Service

#### **Erica Bollerud**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### **Ashley Fortune Isham**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

#### **Alyssa Samoy**

Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### **Crystal Keys**

Bureau of Indian Affairs

### Tribal Resilience Liaisons:

#### **Malinda Chase**

Tribal Resilience Learning Network. Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center

#### **Amelia Marchand**

Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center & Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

#### **Sara Smith**

Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center & College of Menominee Nation

#### **Stefan Tangen**

North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center & Great Plains Tribal Water Alliance

#### **April Taylor**

South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center & Chickasaw Nation

#### **Casey Thornburgh**

Northeast/Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center & United Southeastern Tribes

#### **Justin Leon**

Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center

# In The News

## [A Great Day: President Signs Karuk Land Back Bill Into Law](#)

Under The Katimiñ and Aamekyáaraam Sacred Lands Act, 1,200 acres of U.S. Forest Service land will be transferred to the tribe, including a mountain known as áuuyich to the Karuk people, for whom it is the center of the world, which sits at the confluence of the Klamath and Salmon rivers as well as the nearby historic village of Katimiñ, where the tribe's annual world renewal ceremony to restore balance to the universe takes place, and Aamekyáaraam, site of the Jump Dance and First Salmon Ceremony. © North Coast Journal, 01/06/23

## [How Far Can \\$25 Million Go To Relocate A Community That's Disappearing Into Alaska's Melting Permafrost?](#)

A recent Interior Department grant aims to help residents in Newtok move to higher ground, but it's just a sliver of what's needed. From a distance, not much seems amiss, but a stroll through the community, almost 500 miles west of Anchorage, reveals a myriad of health and safety problems. Climate warming has severely degraded the permafrost, so buildings are sinking into the tundra. The Ninglick River, which flows past the village, is rapidly devouring large swaths of land, taking with it buildings and homes during periods of high water. © High Country News, 01/18/23

## [Indigenous People On The 'front Lines' Of Climate Solutions](#)

Connecting the dots: Sacred lands, resilience and better business practices. Indigenous issues took center stage Wednesday at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. National Congress of American Indians President Fawn Sharp told world leaders that Indigenous knowledge and lands are key elements in a global climate change strategy. "The very place where my ancestors signed our treaty is now underwater, and we are not alone," she said. "Indigenous peoples all across the

planet are on the front lines." ©ICT, 01/21/23

## [Arizona is Wetter Than Usual. but the Drought Isn't Over Yet](#)

Amid an unusually wet winter, Arizona may be better off than other Southwest states as it continues to battle a 23-year drought. Data gathered by the National Drought Mitigation Center shows Arizona's drought conditions have improved since last year, but those improvements need to remain steady to make a difference. "Arizona really is, in a lot of areas, without measures of drought or just abnormally dry," said Arizona state climatologist Erinanne Saffell. © Courthouse News Service, 01/24/22

## [Responding to the Climate and Nature Emergency with Indigenous Knowledge](#)

James Rattling Leaf, Sr., a member of the South Dakota Rosebud Sioux Tribe, recently participated in two White House events on climate action to convey how traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) can best be used, along with science, to address the impacts of our changing climate. Rattling Leaf, a founding member of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Indigenous Alliance, has long used geographic information system (GIS) technology and earth observation technology to examine climate impacts and convey the tribal cultural values. © esri, 01/26/23

## [How Native Americans Will Shape the Future of Water in the West](#)

Tribal nations hold the rights to significant portion of the Colorado River. In the increasing drought, some are showing the way to sustainability. As a child, Stephen Lewis heard stories about a river that, for the most part, no longer flowed. "How I grew up was that it was a theft, that it was stolen from us," he told me late last year. "There was what we used to call the Mighty Gila River, and not it

was just pretty much dry. There was no water." © The New Yorker, 01/27/23

## [A Copper Mine Could Advance Green Energy but Scar Sacred Land](#)

Tribal groups are fighting an Arizona project whose backers say increasing the supply of copper, crucial to batteries, would reduce fossil fuel use. As Wendsler Nosie finished his evening prayers sitting before a mesquite fire, a ceremonial yucca staff festooned with eagle feathers by his side, he gazed sternly toward a distant mesa where mining companies hope to extract more than a billion tons of copper. That mine could help address climate change by helping the United States replace fossil fuels and combustion engines with renewable energy and electric cars. But to Mr. Nosie, a former chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, it's the latest insult in a bitter history. © The New York Times, 01/27/23

## [E.P.A. Blocks Long-Disputed Mine Project in Alaska](#)

The Biden administration on Tuesday moved to protect one of the world's most valuable wild salmon fisheries, at Bristol Bay in Alaska, by effectively blocking the development of a gold and copper mine there. The Environmental Protection Agency issued a final determination under the Clean Water Act that bans the disposal of mine waste in part of the bay's watershed, about 200 miles southwest of Anchorage. Streams in the watershed are crucial breeding grounds for salmon, but the area also contains deposits of precious-metal ores thought to be worth several hundred billion dollars. © The New York Times, 01/31/23



# Resources

---

## **Wind Erosion Risk on the Navajo Nation Lands of the Colorado Plateau Community Survey**

Yá'á't'ééh! Greetings from the University of Arizona, the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Geological Survey Southwest Biological Science Center. You are being invited to take part in a research study being conducted by the University of Arizona. The purpose of this study is to understand wind erosion risk to Navajo natural and cultural resources, infrastructure, and human health among residents and community members on the Navajo Nation. Wind erosion is a natural process by which wind moves soil from one location to another, generating dust and sandstorms that can cause damage to humans and the environment. Click [here](#) to participate.

## **Restoring Native Plants to Navajo Nation Lands - Handbook**

Ecological restoration in the arid Southwest region can be expensive and challenging. Methods to improve dryland restoration success have been developed over time and are continually being expanded; however, this information rarely makes it to Navajo land users. The goal of this document is to improve restoration success here on the Navajo Nation by providing Navajo land users an introduction to current seeding and planting techniques, and a tool to select the appropriate native plant species for their unique areas. This handbook serves as a general resource to guide native plant decision-making for anyone to use on the Navajo Nation. In this handbook covers

1. Descriptions of the various ecoregions across the Navajo Nation.
2. Descriptions of diverse native plants for various uses.
3. Information on acquiring native seed.
4. Tips for planting and seeding success.

Click [here](#) to view the tool.

## **Building A Clean Energy Economy: A Guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act's Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action**

The guidebook provides an overview of the clean energy, climate mitigation and resilience, agriculture, and conservation-related tax incentives and investment programs in President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), including who is eligible to apply for funding and for what activities. The guide states that the IRA provides \$75 million to help guarantee up to \$20 billion in loans to support Tribal investment in energy-related projects and \$150 million to electrify Tribal homes with clean energy. The IRA also appropriates \$225 million for Tribal climate resilience, which can include support for community-driven relocation for Tribes threatened by the impacts of climate change. Tribes are eligible for most of the clean energy tax incentives in the law and many of the other funding programs described in the guide and will benefit from the Justice40 Initiative. Click [here](#) to view.

## **NDN Collective - The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022: Investments for Tribal and Indigenous Communities**

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) directs over \$722 million specifically to Tribal and Indigenous communities and includes another \$46 billion that Tribal and Indigenous communities are eligible to apply for. For electrification, the IRA makes available over \$35 million in resources to Tribal and Indigenous communities. This brief outlines the IRA provisions designated to help Tribal and Indigenous

communities lower their energy costs, transform their energy systems and reduce pollution through efficient, beneficial electrification. For more information, click [here](#).

## **Karuk Tribe and Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center Fellows Release Intentional Fire Podcast Series**

The [Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources](#) recently released a podcast series in collaboration with the 2020-2021 cohort of the SW CASC Natural Resources Workforce Development (NRWD) Fellowship. [Intentional Fire](#) discusses cultural and prescribed burning, the barriers to intentional fire, and possible solutions. Through interviews with traditional practitioners, the podcast seeks to amplify the practitioners' connection to, and advocacy for, intentional fire. The creators hope that the podcast "gives a voice to those impacted by fire suppression and fire exclusion and is an opportunity to learn from Karuk People about their relationship to fire." Click [here](#) to listen.

## **Newly Launched Colorado River Science Wiki Provides Information Hub for Water Resource Management**

The newly launched [Colorado River Science Wiki](#), created by SW CASC researchers, is now available for use by managers and other decision-makers, researchers, the media, and the broader public! The Wiki is a web-based platform with many goals, including helping to inform discussions about the next Interim Guidelines on the Colorado River. The site summarizes and shares the most recent Colorado River research, increases visibility of the activities of the research community, and makes accessible important datasets and tools. Additionally, it is a space where contributions can be made by the community and ownership is shared, and where advances in science are given context so they have more value to non-specialists (e.g., agency staff, congressional staffers, 1st year grad students, journalists). Click [here](#) to view.

## **The Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR)**

The National Tribal Air Association's STAR is an annual publication intended to provide an understanding of the importance and impact of Tribal air programs. Nationally vetted Tribal needs, priorities, and recommendations are all outlined, and the successes and challenges experienced by the environmental professionals are highlighted by way of personal narratives submitted by the Tribes themselves. A budget analysis appendix is included in each edition of the STAR, and over the years a variety of other appendices have served to underscore important and relevant topics. Click [here](#) to view.

## **The State of Native Youth Report 2022 - Native Youth Are Medicine**

The Center for Native American Youth (CNAY) is proud to release Center Us: The State of Native Youth. This report celebrates and honors Native youth and the issues they care about. Center Us serves as a space for Native youth truths, and stories. From Native youth authors to Native youth artists, the 2022 State of Native Youth Report is a reflection of the work of CNAY, and the future we desire to build collectively. Click [here](#) to view.

# Job & Internship Opportunities

## [Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals \(ITEP\) Summer Internships](#)

Spend your summer working with tribal organizations to address tribal environmental issues. The internships have a research, technical, educational or policy focus. We are offering at least 8 positions in air quality. You can apply for up to 8 positions with one application. The internship program provides each student intern with a \$5,120 stipend. We also have travel and housing stipends for those that relocate for the internship. Host sites are selected from tribal environmental organizations, government offices, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and others. **Application deadline: February 1, 2023**

## [Senior Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison – Alaska Region, Native American Fish and Wildlife Society \(NAFWS\)](#)

The Senior Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison for the U.S. Geological Survey's Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center (AK CASC) serves as the lead on Alaska tribal climate adaptation science needs under the guidance and direction of the Executive Director of the NAFWS. The Sr. TCRL is responsible for providing technical assistance and working with tribal communities across Alaska to improve their capacity to prepare for and respond to climate-related environmental impacts. This full-time position is located in Anchorage or Fairbanks, AK. Learn more and read the position description here. **Application Deadline: February 3, 2023.**

## [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(USFWS\) - Indigenous Knowledge Liaison](#)

The USFWS, Alaska Region is looking for an Indigenous Knowledge Liaison. The new position is GS-11/12 with a preferred duty location of Anchorage, Alaska. The position will work as a part of the Science Applications program which is a part of the shared leadership for the science applications, international and migratory birds - Alaska (SIMBA) team. The program provides an opportunity to engage and collaborate on cross-cutting international conservation issues, identify information tools to support diverse conservation initiatives, and facilitate partnerships to address conservation needs. **Application deadline: February 13, 2023**

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

This is an eight-week paid internship designed to introduce Indigenous/ Native participants to climate research centering Indigenous knowledges of place, as well as Indigenous methods and methodologies. Participants will meet Indigenous and non-Indigenous climate scientists from multiple disciplines who are all doing climate-related work. Participants will spend four weeks in Lawrence Kansas at Haskell Indian Nations University; ten days in Hawaii, Alaska, Louisiana, or Puerto Rico; two days at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO; and then return home to complete their summer research project with faculty online. Participants will be paid \$3,840 over eight weeks. For a fillable PDF application, or questions, contact Paulette Blanchard, PhD at [p.l.blanchard@outlook.com](mailto:p.l.blanchard@outlook.com). **Application deadline: February 24, 2023**

## [Apply for the Native Youth Climate Adaptation Leadership Congress](#)

The 2023 Native Youth Climate Adaptation Leadership Congress (NYCALC) seeks to build student confidence in their cultural identity as they learn about Indigenous traditions and climate concerns across the United States and territories. Students will develop conservation leadership skills and build on their knowledge and abilities to address climate challenges in their communities in this week long Congress. **Applications** will be open December 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 for groups of 3 to 5 Indigenous rising high-school seniors, accompanied by a mentor, from federally recognized tribes in the United States and territories. 2023 NYCALC will be held at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia

from June 25 - 30, 2023. For more information, contact the New Mexico Wildlife Federation at [nycalc@nmwildlife.org](mailto:nycalc@nmwildlife.org) or call (505) 299-5404. **Application deadline: February 28, 2023**

## [National Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum](#)

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is accepting applications for the [National Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum \(SYP\)](#), designed to provide Native American students (incoming 10th - 12th grade) an opportunity to gain hands-on and in-lecture experience in the interdisciplinary components of natural resource management and Indigenous knowledge. This free, week-long practicum will take place from July 15 - July 22, 2023 at Colorado State University Mountain Campus, Colorado. Questions and requests for additional information can be directed to Ashley Mueller, Education Coordinator, at [amueller@nafws.org](mailto:amueller@nafws.org) or call 303-466-1725 ext. 4. **Application deadline: May 5, 2023**

## [New Mexico Tribal Liaison](#)

This position manages relationships between the South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) and its Tribal partners in New Mexico. The liaison will be responsible for working closely with partners from a variety of Tribes, Pueblos, and inter-tribal organizations in New Mexico to develop and deliver trainings on climate adaptation and related topics, provide support to communities seeking or engaged in adaptation activities, and work to identify and reduce barriers to implementing Tribal adaptation activities. **Application deadline: open until filled**

## [Staff Research Scientist, Indigenous Climate Stewardship Lead](#)

The Desert Research Institute's (DRI) Division of Atmospheric Sciences, the Climate Science Alliance (CSA) and the Climate Center Group at DRI is seeking an exceptional and resourceful individual to join our team as the Indigenous Climate Stewardship Lead. The Indigenous Climate Stewardship Lead will have the primary function of facilitating engagement activities focused on sustained and meaningful engagement with Indigenous community partners, with particular focus on building pathways for engagement, support, and partnership between Tribes and scientists, stakeholders, and non-tribal partners in Nevada. **Application deadline: open until filled**

## [Director of Tribal Affairs \(Tumwater\)](#)

Washington State Parks is seeking an experienced leader to serve as our Tribal Affairs Director. This position is new for the agency and is a meaningful opportunity to help State Parks communicate and work more effectively with tribal governments. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is currently seeking a full-time permanent Director of Tribal Affairs, located at Headquarters, in Tumwater, WA. This position is a Washington Management Service Band 3 (WMS 3). **Application deadline: open until filled**

## [Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison - Alaska - Native American Fish & Wildlife Society](#)

The Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison (Asst. TCRL) for the Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center (AK CASC) serves as support on Alaska Tribal climate adaptation science needs under the guidance and direction of the Senior Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison (Sr. TCRL) of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS). The Asst. TCRL is responsible for working with the Sr. TCRL to provide technical assistance and to work with tribal communities across Alaska to improve their capacity to prepare for and respond to climate-related environmental impacts. To apply, submit a resume, official transcripts, cover letter, 3 professional references, and completed BIA Form 4432 (if claiming Indian Preference) to Justin Leon at [jeon@nafws.org](mailto:jeon@nafws.org). **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/>

### [Department of Energy \(DOE\) Clean Energy Technology Deployment on Tribal Lands - 2022](#)

The DOE Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from Tribes to install clean energy generating system(s) and energy efficiency measure(s) for Tribal buildings; deploy community-scale clean energy generating system(s) or energy storage on Tribal lands; or install integrated energy system(s) for autonomous operation to power essential Tribal facilities during emergency situations or for Tribal community resilience. Individual awards vary depending on type of project with a range from \$100,000 to \$4,000,000. **Application deadline: February 9, 2023**

### [2023 Call for Proposals for the Indigenous Community Media Fund](#)

The Indigenous Community Media Fund at Cultural Survival provides opportunities for Indigenous community radio stations and media outlets to strengthen their broadcast infrastructure and systems while providing training opportunities to their community journalists through a participatory and dynamic grants program. The initiative enhances community efforts

to establish and ensure sustainability of Indigenous community-controlled media. Indigenous community radio stations and other community media outlets and groups may apply for a grant of up to \$6,000. Radio network proposals presented by three or more Indigenous radio stations can apply for funding up to \$12,000. **Application deadline: February 15, 2023**

### [Renewable Energy Scholarship Foundation - Renewable Energy Scholarship](#)

The Renewable Energy Scholarship Foundation is now accepting applications for their 2023 scholarships. Scholarships of up to \$2000 are available to eligible Oregon and Washington students pursuing advanced studies in renewable energy. One specific scholarship, the Jeff Morris Scholarship, is designated for any Native American or Alaskan Native undergraduate or graduate student anywhere in the US that is studying an aspect of renewable energy. **Application deadline: February 15, 2023**

### [U.S. Department of Energy Building Technologies Office: Buildings Upgrade Prize](#)

Buildings UP offers over \$22 million in prize funds and technical assistance to winning teams and is designed to build capacity for accelerating equitable, widespread energy efficiency and electrification upgrades in existing buildings across the country. Upgrades may include transitioning to efficient electric equipment, such as heat pumps and heat pump hot water heaters and improving building efficiency through measures such as insulation and air sealing. **Application deadline: February 18, 2023**

### [Department of Energy Powering Unelectrified Tribal Building\(s\)](#)

The DOE Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from Tribes to provide electric power to Tribal buildings that would otherwise be electrified by deploying integrated energy system(s) or energy infrastructure. Individual awards vary depending on type of project with a range from \$250,000 to \$4,000,000. **Application deadline: February 23, 2023**

### [2023 Truman D. Picard Scholarship. Intertribal Timber Council](#)

The Intertribal Timber Council is accepting applications for the 2023 Truman D. Picard Scholarship. The Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program is dedicated to supporting Native American students pursuing a higher education in Natural Resources. The scholarship is open to Native graduating senior high school students, undergraduate college students,

and graduate students pursuing studies in natural resources. Awards vary depending on education level, but range from \$2,000 to \$2,500. **Application deadline: March 10, 2023**

### [Grid Resilience State/Tribal Formula Grant Program](#)

As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed last year, the Department of Energy has launched a new program that enables federally recognized Tribes to apply for electric grid resilience formula grants. As outlined in Sec. 40101(d), this program provides approximately \$85M per year in non-competitive, formula grants available to Tribes for the next 5 years. Grant funding can be applied to a wide array of resilience measures, including: weatherization technologies; equipment hardening or undergrounding; vegetation management; and energy storage. **Application deadline: March 31, 2023**

### [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Grants and Guaranteed Loans](#)

USDA Rural Development provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. **Application Deadline: March 31, 2023**

### [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Grants and Guaranteed Loans](#)

USDA Rural Development provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. **Application Deadline: March 31, 2023**

### [2023 State and Nation Native Nation Grant and Planning Competition. AmeriCorps](#)

Through the 2023 notice of funding opportunity, AmeriCorps seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources into disaster services like COVID-19 response, economic opportunities, education, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Indigenous language, civic and social engagement, healthy futures and veterans and military families. Opportunities include three-year operating grants which engage AmeriCorps members in time-limited-service commitments and one-year planning grants to develop programs that implement evidence-based solutions to community needs. **Application deadline: April 5, 2023**



# 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>

## February 2023

**Information Webinar: February 2, 11am MST**

### [Tribal Grid Resilience Formula Grant Applications](#)

ITEP's Tribes & Climate Change Program is pleased to host this webinar in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office (GDO). Homari Aoki with the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office (GDO) will share information on the non-competitive Grid Resilience Formula Grant Program, ahead of the March 31st deadline for Tribes to "reserve" the first 2 years of funding. Under this program, funding is available for all Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, which include Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations. The webinar will provide an overview of the funding opportunity along with tips to complete the application. [REGISTER HERE](#)

**Conference: February 6-9, Charleston, South Carolina**

### [Coastal GeoTools Conference](#)

The 2023 conference will include a focus on tribal and Indigenous communities with a pre-conference training, a keynote plenary, and several sessions and tool demonstrations. These sessions will explore tribal needs, the use of geospatial technology to address coastal issues, and engagement strategies for working with tribal communities.

**Conference: February 6-10, Anchorage, Alaska & Hybrid**  
[Alaska Forum on the Environment](#)

This year's conference will feature a hybrid event at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage, Alaska and online in AFE's Virtual Attendee Hub. With in-person and virtual attendance options for both attendees and exhibitors, AFE will be better than ever! Registration is now open. Early bird discount available until October 31, 2022

**Webinar, February 16, 2023**

### [NAWM Tribal Wetland Programs Webinar: Developing Your Tribal Wetland Program](#)

NAWM and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have worked with Tribes to develop a series of webinars focused on developing effective Tribal wetland programs that accommodate and account for the unique ways in which Tribes manage their wetland and cultural resources. The webinar will feature presentations from Rick Gitar (Fond du Lac Reservation - Office of Water Protection) and Blair Libby (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes).

**Summit: February 21-23, St. Louis, Missouri**

### [Midwest Climate Summit](#)

The Midwest Climate Summit expands climate knowledge, accelerates climate action, and catalyzes new partnerships across the region that deepen expertise and develop equitable responses to the climate crisis. The 2023 summit is scheduled to be an in-person event in St. Louis with a virtual option.

**Webinar Series: February-March, 2023**

### [2023 IAIA Tribal Beekeeping Program](#)

The Institute of American Indian Arts Land-Grant Program is organizing an introductory beekeeping course for Indigenous stewards interested in learning about what and how to keep honey bees. The free course includes 8 hours of instruction and discussion with slideshows, videos, and engaging conversation covering everything from bee biology to diverse habitat, forage needs, and biodynamic management. Additional programming will be offered in the spring and summer months to help those interested in launching their bee stewardship journey. Please sign up below to receive more info. For more info, email: [landgrantprograms@iaia.edu](mailto:landgrantprograms@iaia.edu).

## March 2023

**Symposium: March 2-4, 2023.**

### [Albuquerque, NM Native Women in Agriculture & Natural Resources Symposia](#)

This symposium, organized by the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, will provide a space for Native Women to focus on professional development, workplace wellness and inspiration within the agricultural and natural resource fields. More details to come.

**ITEP Training: March 9-11, Ocala, FL**

### [Southeast Indigenous Climate Action Planning Workshop](#)

This workshop will be hosted by ITEP's [Tribes & Climate Change Program](#) (TCCP) and the Seminole Tribe of Florida's [Heritage and Environmental Resiliency Office](#) (HERO) and Climate Resiliency Program. This workshop is an introduction that introduces planning for climate change impacts, with examples of how Tribes have approached the adaptation planning process. Since the course will focus on climate change impacts in the Southeast, we especially encourage Tribal environmental staff from this region to attend. Contact: [Nikki Cooley@nau.edu](mailto:Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu)

**Conference: March 12-18, Ghost Ranch, New Mexico**

### [Southwest Tribal Climate Camp](#)

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Navajo Technical University, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, and the Northwest, Southwest, and Southcentral Climate Adaptation Science Centers have announced that they are accepting applications for the 2023 Tribal Climate Camp. The Camp will support teams of Tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop Tribal plans and policies needed to address climate change impacts. Applications will be prioritized from delegations of 3-4 individuals from each Tribe and/or organization and will be considered from all geographies. Application deadline: January 12, 2023

**Conference: March 22-25, Tucson, Arizona**

### [2023 Native Food Energy Water Systems \(FEWS\) Annual Gathering](#)

The Native FEWS Alliance has annual gatherings in March each year, with the 2023 Gathering hosted in Tucson, Arizona, by the University of Arizona, March 22-25. The FEWS Alliance vision is to build a diverse workforce at the nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems, and design curricula and mentoring that combine Indigenous ways of learning with physical sciences and engineering methodologies. The 2024 Gathering will be hosted by AIHEC.

## May 2023

**Conference: May 1-4, Phoenix, Arizona**

### [National Tribal Forum on Air Quality](#)

Join the National conversation on how Tribes are implementing the Clean Air Act in partnership with the U.S. EPA to improve air quality in our communities. [Call for proposals](#) are now open and available until January 27, 2023.

## June 2023

**Conference: June 25-30, Shepherdstown, West Virginia**

### [2023 Native Youth Climate Adaptation Leadership Congress \(NYCALC\)](#)

The [2023 Native Youth Climate Adaptation Leadership Congress](#) (NYCALC) seeks to build student confidence in their cultural identity as they learn about Indigenous traditions and climate concerns across the United States and territories. Students will develop conservation leadership skills and build on their knowledge and abilities to address climate challenges in their communities in this week long Congress.