



Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

August 2024

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.



Grand Canyon waterfalls, Havasupai Reservation, amazing havasu falls in Arizona. Adobe.stock

Meet the Climate Change Team

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Colorful Cactus Blooms. Adobe.stock

If you follow and practice the old ways, they say if you use your index finger to point to a rainbow, then your finger will eventually fall off. That is why you point with your thumb or better yet, your lips. Aaayyyy! Is that why Natives point with their lips? Nevertheless, we practice traditions or maybe it's just habits. Does that mean it is harder to learn new ways and change direction? What are some things you have been doing since childhood that you find yourself still doing?

I will tell you what I find myself being very mindful of - harvesting plants, juniper berries and pinyons. As you read this, you may know this too. Pick only what you need and not what you want. Leave some for your relatives that also need them. I share this knowledge with those who may not know or need reminding. I was taught by my Elders and knowledge holders who were and are from different nations. I also heard it from some of my non-Indigenous colleagues who were botanists. One of those people was someone who came to be a good friend and relative, Kristen. She has since moved on to another world but her words and wisdom are forever imprinted.

She had a beautiful relationship with plants that I have witnessed in very few people. The deep respect she had for plants translated onto paper and would end up on someone's wall or in a mailbox. When we walked along the river or canyons of the Grand Canyon, she would spend a bit of time with each plant we came upon and to those who were willing to listen, she would tell the plant's story. If I wasn't too shy, she would give me a gentle wide smile and invite me to tell a part of the story. She encouraged me to share with the clients who were often from urban areas and unfamiliar with our cultures. One of the things I requested of everyone was not to take

because you wanted it for yourself, but to only take plants if you had use for them. I encouraged them to respect our plant relatives because they also had communities of their own. Leaving some for regrowth or other relatives was the respectful thing to do. I don't know if this advice or the stories stayed with them but at least Kristen and I tried. One time, I was on another trip with a super famous well-known individual and she and another woman were picking plants, and I gently said aloud to everyone that they should only pick what they need. Immediately, the famous individual snapped at me and said that they knew what they were doing because they were taught by a botanist. I didn't appreciate her tone especially when I was doing what I was taught to pass on.

My whole point of this is that when we are teaching each other, there has to be respect and patience. If you unknowingly or maybe intentionally shame someone, they may not want to continue learning or they may refrain from asking important questions that could help them learn the old ways. Now, I understand Natives like to tease each other but if it comes to shaming, then it's time to change course. Let's be kind, respectful, patient, and giving in our intentions.

As always, be in harmony.

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

[On the Swamp: Fighting for Indigenous Environmental Justice by Ryan Emanuel](#)

[For This Alaska Town, Whaling is a Way of Life](#)

[ITEP National Tribal Air Association Program Manager Position Open](#)

Advisory Committee Members:

Tribal Representatives:

Ann Marie Chischilly, Diné
Vice President of the Office of Native American Initiatives
Northern Arizona University

Jerry Cain
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian

Jamie Donatuto
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Federal Agency Representatives:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Alicia Bell-Sheetter
U.S. Forest Service

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Ashley Fortune Isham
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alyssa Morris
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John Mosley
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In The News

[Indigenous Leaders, Activists Protest Uranium Ore Hauling Through Navajo Nation](#)

Indigenous leaders and activists held protests over the weekend opposing the start of uranium ore transport from the state's only active uranium mine. On Friday, demonstrators and tribal officials marched along part of the haul route in Cameron as they waived signs in opposition to uranium mining and sang songs in Diné. Dozens of protesters walked along the northbound lanes of Highway 89 in near triple-digit temperatures as they were escorted by Navajo police. It was where, three days earlier, trucks hauled uranium ore from the Pinyon Plain Mine near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. © KNAU, 08/04/24

[Indigenous Youth Are At the Center of Major Climate Lawsuits. Here's Why They're Suing.](#)

On Aug. 8, 2023, 13-year-old Kaliko was getting ready for her hula class at her mother's house in West Maui. The power was out, and she heard there was a wildfire in Lāhainā, where her dad lived, but she didn't think much of it. Wildfires happened all the time in the summer. Within hours, Kaliko learned this wasn't a normal fire, and that her dad's house was gone. The Lāhainā fire consumed the town, killing 102 people and destroying more than 2,000 buildings, the flames fanned by a potent [combination of climate change](#) and colonialism. © Grist, 08/08/24

[Pacific Northwest Tribes are Battered by Climate Change but Fight to Get Money Meant to Help Them](#)

Coastal tribes in the Pacific Northwest experience some of the most severe [effects of climate change](#) — from rising seas to severe heat — but face an array of bureaucratic barriers to access government funds meant to help them adapt, a report released Monday found. The tribes are leaders in combatting climate change in their region, but as they seek money for specific projects to address its repercussions, such as relocating a village threatened by rising waters, they often can't provide the matching funds that many grants require or the necessary staff or struggle with stringent application requirements, according to the report by the Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative. If they do get funding, it's often a small amount that can only be used for very specific projects when this work is typically much more holistic, the report found. ©

Associated Press, 08/12/24

[Washington solar project paused amid concern about Indigenous sites](#)

A company developing an industrial-scale solar panel array on Badger Mountain in Eastern Washington has paused permitting activities on the project amid concerns about impacts to Indigenous cultural sites. The decision comes on the heels of an investigation by [High Country News](#) and [ProPublica](#) this year, which found that a land survey funded by the developer, Avangrid Renewables, had omitted more than a dozen sites of archaeological or cultural significance on the public parcel included in the project area. This survey is required by the state before it can permit the project so construction can begin.

['Mercury bomb' Threatens Millions as Arctic Temperatures Rise](#)

The Yukon River flows west across Alaska toward the Bering Sea, eroding Arctic permafrost along its banks and transporting sediment downstream. Within that sediment lurks a toxic stowaway: mercury. As the Arctic warms with climate change, heating up to four times faster than the global average, mercury sequestered in the permafrost for millennia is being eroded by rivers and released into the environment. © USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences, 08/15/24

[We're In A Deadly Cycle Of Mega Fires. The Way Out Is To Burn More](#)

As a prescribed fire technician with the Karuk Tribe and the Mid Klamath Watershed Council based in Happy Camp, a small town in Northern California, Yamamoto sets controlled burns — smaller, deliberate fires that can help prevent bigger wildfires, reduce habitat for invasive species, and improve plant and soil health. Yamamoto has been setting a lot of fires in his ancestral homelands and lately, he's been traveling around the country to help set fires in other communities, too. The goal is to decolonize our relationship to wildfires, remove barriers to using good fire, and prepare us for a world more impacted by the effects of climate change. © Vox, 08/15/24

[Indigenous Content Creator Speaks Out Against Grand Canyon-Area Mining](#)

A Havasupai content creator is speaking out against mining operations near the Grand Canyon. Cree Watahomigie, also known as PlanetCree, made a TikTok in early

August about her concerns with mining operations and its impacts on her community, the land and water. Since then, her TikTok video has been shared more than 13,000 times with 200,000 views. Cree was surprised to learn that many people weren't aware of mining operations so close to the Grand Canyon. "You would think a place like the Grand Canyon wouldn't have any sort of dangers like that," she told ABC15. "People seem to really care whether it was because they cared for my tribe, because they want to visit someday, or they want to visit Havasupai someday, or just to care." © ABC 15 Arizona, 08/19/24

[On Cape Cod, the Wampanoag Assert Their Legal Right to Harvest the Waters](#)

On a recent spring afternoon, CheeNulKa Pocknett's truck rattled slowly across Monomoscoy Island, the engine roar swallowing the caw of seabirds. It caught the attention of a gray-haired woman working in her garden who popped up from behind a wall of red and yellow tulips, a scowl shading her face. "She knows me and doesn't like me," Pocknett said, casting a half-hearted wave in her direction. Pocknett, a member of the Wampanoag tribe, is a regular here on Mashpee's Little River, a stretch of Cape Cod ringed by multi-story homes, each with its own private dock. He knows all the good fishing spots—or at least, what were once good fishing spots—along the murky perimeter. © Civil Eats, 08/21/24

[Attorney General Urges Review of Grand Canyon Uranium Mine](#)

Canyon Mine (renamed Pinyon Plain Mine) faces questions and opposition on multiple fronts. Most recently, Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes [called](#) on the U.S. Forest Service to take a new look at the risks the controversial uranium mine poses to the Grand Canyon region. Additionally, the mine's [only approved haul routes](#) to the White Mesa Mill cross the Navajo Nation, which has [vowed](#) to stop uranium ore trucks. Revisiting a 2012 U.S. Department of Agriculture financial analysis indicates that altering the mine's haul route to bypass the Navajo Nation — which bans uranium transport on its lands — would significantly increase the company's costs. © Grand Canyon Trust, 08/21/24

Resources

[Call for Abstracts- Coastal GeoTools Conference 2025](#)

You are invited to submit one or more abstract(s) of 300 words or less for the Coastal GeoTools Conference 2025 being held in Wilmington, NC January 27-30, 2025. Whether you are new to Coastal GeoTools or a previous attendee, don't miss this opportunity to strengthen relationships and build new ones with a growing community effectively using data, tools, and training to address coastal issues and policy. Continuing This Year - An Emphasis on Tribal and Indigenous Applications. Our goal is to become an even more inclusive group and increase the knowledge being provided to conference attendees by tribal and Indigenous community members. Abstracts should profile the applied use of data, tools, partnerships, and training to enhance coastal resilience. Sessions will be organized within the following tracks:

- Climate Adaptation
- Coastal Hazards
- Coastal Management and Policy
- Emerging Technologies
- Habitat Conservation
- Ocean Planning

This conference provides a unique opportunity to learn from all sectors and Tribal nations engaged in improving our coastal resilience. [Abstracts Due September 30, 2024](#)

[Strengthening Indigenous America: Building Resilience through Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Recording](#)

The [Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and Emergencies](#) hosted a public workshop on July 8-9, 2024 to explore opportunities to support the capacity of Indigenous American and Tribal communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and public health emergencies. Workshop participants shared stories of strength and resilience, highlighted tools and best practices, and identified priorities and gaps where partners can strengthen and support the capacities and capabilities of Indigenous American and Tribal communities.

[BIA - Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience Technical Assistance for FY24 Annual Awards Program](#)

Staff are available virtually each Tuesday at 12pm Pacific (July 17 - October 18) to provide technical assistance for the BIA-TCR FY24 Annual Awards Program. If you have questions regarding the BIA-TCR climate resilience funding opportunity or application process, [please join the virtual weekly Team meetings here](#).

[Climate-Adapted Conservation Strategy for Southern California Montane Forests](#)

This initiative aims to bolster the resilience of montane - or higher-elevation forests - with climate-informed actions. This strategy offers land managers a comprehensive guide to enhancing forest and community health with collaborations across different landscapes.

[From Access to Action: How Tribal Governments can Utilize the Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Webinar Recording](#)

This community conversation introduces entities/resources including the Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (EJ TCTAC) program, one of the national TCTACs, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), the Region 9 TCTACs (CCEEJ and the West EJ Center), and share how this program can support Tribal governments. The program provides free technical assistance to help communities realize their environmental justice goals. First, participants will hear from both Region 9 TCTACs and the National Indian Health Board to learn more about the services available to them.

[Climate Science Alliance - Mastering the Art of Grant Writing Workshop Recording](#)

This webinar was part of the Stewardship Pathways Program, hosted by the Climate Science Alliance in partnership with Pala Band of Mission Indians, Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples, Great Basin Tribal Alliance, Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ) and the Collaborative of Native Nations for Climate Transformation and Stewardship (CNNCTS).

[Funding Handbook for Access to Clean Drinking Water in Tribal Communities](#)

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act - Funding Handbook for Access to Clean Drinking Water in Tribal Communities is a reference guide for Tribes seeking to access and utilize funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to increase, improve, and maintain access to clean drinking water. While substantial and unprecedented levels of funding have been made available through the BIL and IRA, moving funds from the agencies into the hands of Tribes is proving to be challenging. This handbook provides a road map with the intention of helping Tribes successfully navigate the progression from identifying water access project needs to obtaining the funds necessary for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining essential projects.

[Climate Adaptation Barriers & Needs Experienced by Northwest Coastal Tribes](#)

The [Climate Adaptation Barriers and Unmet Needs report](#) for the Tribal Coastal Resilience Portfolio was led by the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, and Washington Sea Grant. The report compiles the experiences of Washington and Oregon coastal Tribes as they prepare for climate change and aims to build on successes and identify common barriers to progress. This report describes the climate adaptation barriers and unmet needs identified by participants in listening sessions with government staff, citizens, and elected officials from Northwest coastal Tribes in Washington and Oregon. For the purposes of this report, "Northwest coastal Tribes" refers to Tribes along the Pacific coast of Oregon and Washington, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound.

[The Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\): Facilitation Guide & Resources](#)

This facilitation guide is meant to highlight the positive environmental impacts that the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) can have in our homes, neighborhoods, cities, and states. Together, we will envision what a flourishing community looks like with IRA benefits implemented, and what our roles may be in ensuring that access to resources are redistributed and invested in the needs and priorities of our very own local communities.

[Landscape of Tribal Communities: Context for Working in Rural Alaska](#)

Article and the associated graphics developed by Adelheid Herrmann to inform people planning work in rural Alaska about the current landscape of Tribal communities. It is meant to help researchers, academics, federal and state agencies — especially those doing climate work — understand the complexities in villages and regions. Tribes, Tribal members, and Tribal regional organizations can also use it to educate the outside world.

[Blackfeet Documentary Wins Climate Justice Award at BlackStar Festival](#)

At the [BlackStar Film Festival](#) in Philadelphia last weekend, a new feature documentary directed by Blackfeet (Niitsitapi/Siksikaititapi) siblings Ivan and Ivy MacDonald alongside filmmaker Daniel Glick won the Center for Cultural Power's Climate Justice Award for the Best Director of Climate Storytelling. The 86-minute film, [Bring Them Home](#) (2024), chronicles the Blackfeet Nation's uphill battle to rekindle the traditional practice of stewarding wild buffalo after generations of separation due to forced assimilation and oppressive legislature.

[Advancing Equity in Land Reuse: A Practical Guide to Engaging and Activating Community Voices](#)

Are you a non-profit, community group, or local government interested in transforming brownfield sites and promoting environmental justice? This practical guide by Groundwork USA and the Center for Creative Land Recycling offers comprehensive strategies, tools, and resources to help you advance equity through land reuse projects and maximize the impact of projects on your community!

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Forestry and Natural Resources Area Advisor- UC ANR - Davis](#)

We are looking for new member of our team with experience working with regional and Tribal communities to promote forest health and fire resilience. The ideal candidate will have a demonstrated commitment to building partnerships and uphold a commitment to meaningful engagement and advancing efforts that reflect the needs and priorities of our community partners. UC ANR operates a statewide network of researchers and educators dedicated to the development and application of knowledge to address local agricultural, environmental and health issues. **Application deadline: August 26, 2024**

[Indigenous Food Sovereignty Outreach Specialist - University of Wisconsin-Madison](#)

Based at the Extension Community Food Systems Program, the Indigenous Food Sovereignty Outreach Specialist will lead the strategic development of direct education and programming, foster and maintain key external partnerships, and work with Extension colleagues to identify and adapt existing agricultural and food systems development resources for Tribal audiences. With initial funding from the Wisconsin Rural Partnership Initiative and a USDA grant, this position will also involve project-specific outreach in support of two projects: Connecting Cultural Values and Indigenous Research Towards Food System Resilience Project and Wisconsin's Tribal Sugaring Network (Maple Syrup Program). **Application deadline: August 28, 2024**

[Operations Manager- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium- Climate Initiatives](#)

Performs complex program planning, development and implementation; program monitoring and evaluation; budget planning and monitoring; contract and grant coordination and administration. Researches or directs the research of opportunities for grants, contracts, and other funding to sustain and grow programs in direct support of ANTHC's mission and vision. Draft, edit and develop all or select portions of grant applications; coordinate the completion of all components of grant applications including narrative selections, budget and contractual agreements as required; review, revise and edit grant applications to assure accuracy and compliance with grant guidelines. Job ID: 2185. **Application deadline: August 30, 2024**

[Puget Sound Recovery Strategist](#)

As the Puget Sound Recovery Strategist (PSRS), you will represent the agency externally, influencing partners at various levels and gathering input on priorities, policies, and programs for regional ecosystem recovery. You will identify actions and allocate resources to accelerate implementation, promote local recovery partners, and support process improvements. You will have the opportunity to work with local, tribal, and regional partners to plan and implement ecosystem recovery priorities in line with the Action Agenda, salmon recovery plan, and environmental justice strategies. **Application deadline: September 6, 2024**

[State Revolving Fund State Advocates Forum - National Cohort](#)

The SRF State Advocates Forum is seeking individuals from community-based organizations to participate in a 9-month (November 2024 – July 2025) national cohort to strategically engage in water infrastructure advocacy related to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) programs. We are recruiting community-based organizations to collectively advocate for more equitable implementation of SRF programs across the country. **Application deadline: September 9, 2024**

[Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center - NPS Climate Change Coordinator & Adaptation Fellow](#)

The University of California, Davis, in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), is seeking a postdoctoral scholar for a role in climate adaptation. As the Climate Change Coordinator,

you'll work closely with NPS staff to design resilient ecosystems and facilities across the Pacific West region. This is your chance to lead the crafting of climate adaptation strategies for iconic parks like Yosemite. Location: Pacific West (CA, OR, WA, ID, NV, HI & Pacific Territories). **Application deadline: September 9, 2024**

[UW Climate Impacts Group Director](#)

Having recently published our 2024-2029 strategic plan, this role will focus on implementing that ambitious plan by: 1) providing strategic leadership; 2) driving fundraising and financial stewardship; 3) building relationships and maintaining an engagement plan focused on enhancing impact; and 4) providing internal management by promoting a positive work culture and supervising and mentoring key staff members. **Application deadline: October 14, 2024**

[The Nature of Our Times - Call for Writing Submissions](#)

We are looking for poems that speak to the immense value of nature—for our children and future generations, for our own and the planet's well-being, and the resilience and survival of our communities. We are looking for poems that query our current practices and what needs to change in our consideration of the natural world, and that show new understandings of what it means to co-exist in it. **Application deadline: January 15, 2025**

[Wildlife Biologist- Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife Department](#)

Responsible for overseeing and managing the Climate Change Program (CCP). Coordinates with CCP personnel in developing and implementing annual work plans and master plans; monitors program performance to ensure goals and objectives are achieved; coordinates with CCP personnel in carrying out CCP projects and initiatives; assists in planning and implementing land and/or watershed restoration projects; provides supervisory guidance to CCP personnel in CCP initiatives and coordinates CCP participation and assistance with other fish and wildlife management projects. Position #244426 **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Grants Manager- Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance](#)

The Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance (NAFSA) is a national network of Indigenous leaders dedicated to restoring food systems that support tribal self-determination and community wellness. NAFSA's mission is to support Native communities nationally with advocacy, education, and networking as they revitalize their Indigenous food systems. The Grants Manager is responsible for writing grant proposals and reports and contributes to NAFSA's overall grant management process. While primarily managing grant writing and reporting, this position will also be responsible for supporting funder communications and fundraising campaigns. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Clean Energy Group - Project Manager for Fossil Fuel Replacement Initiatives](#)

This position will engage with efforts to phase out fossil fuel peaker plants and educate the public about Hydrogen. Pay ranges from \$54,000 to \$60,000 a year. Applications remain open but are entering review. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[New Mexico Tribal Liaison - The University of Oklahoma](#)

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. Job Number: 241659 **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

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

[WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II](#)

Reclamation began providing funding for watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design (Phase I). Submit proposals for the second application period for Phase I activities to develop a watershed group, complete watershed restoration planning activities, and design watershed management projects. Reclamation will award a successful applicant up to \$100,000 per year for a period of up to three years, with no non-Federal cost-share required. **Application deadline: September 4, 2024**

[The Arbor Day Foundation's Community Roots Program](#)

The Arbor Day Foundation (ADF) is pleased to be a recipient of grant funding from the USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Program, under the Inflation Reduction Act. The Arbor Day Foundation will prioritize proposals that

seek to increase tree canopy and address challenges such as nature deprivation, access to green jobs, food insecurity, and urban heat. Individual subawards will range from a minimum of \$100,000 to a maximum of \$1,000,000 total, over a 3-year period, depending on the scope of work, unique needs, and capabilities of the applicant. A minimum of \$8,000,000 in total funding is available. Cost share or match is NOT a requirement for your subaward agreement. **Application deadline: September 30, 2024**

[The WEST Environmental Justice Center Community Champions Program](#)

The program will provide capacity building, leadership training, peer learning and support through a cohort approach tailored to participants' interests with a focus on shared learning. Cohort members will be drawn from Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands, including Native American Tribes and Indigenous communities in these areas. **Application deadline: October 4, 2024**

[NOAA Notice of Funding Opportunity for Marine Debris Removal and Interception Technologies](#)

Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, NOAA will award up to \$54 million for projects across two competitive funding opportunities. The Marine Debris Removal funding opportunity prioritizes the development of large scale marine debris removal projects. These removal projects should focus on large marine debris, including abandoned and derelict vessels, derelict fishing gear, and other debris that is generally unable to be collected by hand. **Letters of Interest deadline: September 27, 2024** The second funding opportunity for Marine Debris Interception Technologies focuses on the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of proven marine debris interception technologies that will capture marine debris at or close to known marine debris sources or pathways. **Letters of Interest deadline: October 9, 2024**

[BIA TCR 2024 Annual Awards Program Request for Proposals](#)

The 2024 Annual Awards Program request for proposals (RFP) is open to Federally-recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations

as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 5304(l) (other entities may participate as sub-grantees). This program will provide approximately \$120 million (M) in funding in FY24 support for Tribal climate resiliency. Since 2020, TCR has funded 568 Tribal projects totaling \$194.3M – peaking in FY23 at \$120.8M (150 awards). FY24 marks the final year of increased available funding made possible through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act. **Application deadline: October 18, 2024**

[WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants \(round two\)](#)

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) provides funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings and wider sustainability goals. These projects will need to conserve and use water more efficiently, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States. These grants are available to local and regional governments, Federally recognized Native American Tribal Governments, and irrigation or water districts. **Application deadline: October 30, 2024**

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\): Tribal Engagement in Regional Ocean Partnership Priorities](#)

NOAA announced a funding opportunity support tribal activities aligned with ROP (i.e. West Coast Ocean Alliance) priorities, including identification of ocean and coastal priorities. Up to \$400K over 2 years is available. **Application deadline: October 31, 2024**

[NDN Collective Community Action Fund](#)

Community Action Fund (CAF) grants support direct actions and organizing efforts that are often urgent and time sensitive. CAF prioritizes frontline, grassroots and community-based efforts that defend Indigenous peoples rights, communities and nations, including responses to climate disasters. The average grant is \$15,000 but can range up to \$40,000. **Application deadline: Open on a monthly basis until October 31, 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>

August

Conference: August 25 - 29, 2024 - Stockholm, Sweden & Online World Water Week

World Water Week is centered on water cooperation, for peace and security in its broadest sense. The theme, Bridging Borders: Water for a Peaceful and Sustainable Future, asks us to recognize the regional and global interconnectivity of communities and nations, and underscores the collaborative effort needed to achieve a peaceful and sustainable future.

September

Conference: September 9-12, Anchorage, AK National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference

This event will convene our relatives, partners, and colleagues from across Mother Earth to share their knowledge about their efforts to address the climate impacts on their communities, natural environment, and non-human relatives. This includes the sharing and honoring of Traditional and Indigenous Knowledges while ensuring that these knowledges belong to the Indigenous communities and people from where and who they came from.

Conference: September 18-19, Royal River Casino & Hotel, Flandreau, SD Great Plains Tribal Water Alliance's Water and Climate Conference

This gathering will bring together Tribal leaders, experts, and community members to explore Indigenous perspectives on the interconnected challenges of climate change and water topics. Keynote speakers and workshops will focus on land-based adaptations, decolonizing climate change knowledge, and forging paths for resilient futures rooted in traditional wisdom. Engage in a decolonial learning journey that honors our connection to the land and water, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Webinar: September 26, Online Partnering with Fire: Learning from Tribal Nations and Indigenous Practices

Join the South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center, the Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, and the U.S. Forest Service for our upcoming virtual workshop "Partnering

with Fire: Learning from Tribal Nations and Indigenous Practices". This virtual webinar is open to natural and cultural resource managers, especially from Tribal Nations in the southern United States, and others who want to learn more about the how Tribes are using fire to adapt to a changing climate.

Conference: September 22-29, 2024, New York City, NY New York Climate Week (NYCW)

Climate Week NYC is the largest annual climate event of its kind, bringing together over 600 events and activities across the city. The event takes place every year in partnership with the United Nations General Assembly and is run in coordination with the United Nations.

Summit: September 30-October 4, Keshena, WI

Shifting Seasons Summit #4

This 4th installment of the Shifting Seasons Summit is a gathering that will focus on climate resilience and implementation within Tribal Nations, across Tribal ceded territories, and across borders in and outside of the Midwest Region. This summit will include network-building opportunities, experiential learning, and much more!

October

Summit, October 8-10, 2024, Geneva, Switzerland

Just Transition: Indigenous Peoples' Perspectives, Knowledge and Lived Experiences Summit

The goal of the summit is to challenge mainstream interpretations and implementations of what the Just Transition to a "green economy" is being defined as, which often does not represent a full transition from harmful impacts or real justice for Indigenous Peoples. The summit will affirm a rights-based approach related to any potential extractive projects proposed on Indigenous lands, with criteria and safeguards for projects and actions aligned with the Just Transition. This framework is based on the inherent collective rights articulated in UNDRIP. Over 150 representatives of Indigenous Peoples from the seven socio-cultural regions of the world will gather to collectively define a Just Transition and the "green economy" from Indigenous perspectives.

Conference: October 16, Anchorage, AK Native American Fish & Wildlife Society Alaska Regional Conference

NAFWS is providing travel scholarships available to attend the 2024 Alaska Regional Conference. Scholarship are up to \$2000 reimbursable for travel, hotel, and per diem. Registration is not included. Priority given to Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Tribal students with a focus on Alaska Natives and Alaska residents. Recipients must attend the entire conference. Call for abstracts is currently open!

Conference: October 16-17, Spokane, WA 2024 Tribal Exchange Network Conference

The Tribal Exchange Network Group (TXG) and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) host this FREE event for Tribal staff and other partners working with environmental data, particularly those seeking to leverage information technology solutions to streamline their work and enhance data management capacity. Others who may benefit from attending include those serving in Tribal leadership roles, Tribal staff developing and/or supporting information technology (IT) tools or systems, and other collaborators.

November 2024

Summit: November 6-7, 2024, Pala Casino, Spa & Resort 2024 Tribal Climate & Health Adaptation Summit

Guided by the theme "Taking Action to Protect Health from Wildfire, Drought, and Heat Disasters," the Summit will focus on arming Tribal-serving professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to act on the unique climate and health vulnerabilities of the Tribes they serve. Throughout this two-day training, Tribal-serving professionals working at the intersection of climate change, health, and community wellbeing will participate in interactive instruction and peer-to-peer learning activities that will build knowledge and about developing, implementing, and evaluating adaptation plan strategies that safeguard Tribal health and are rooted in traditional knowledge and values.

International Indigenous News & Resources

In the News

[Communities fend off attacks as officials study Brazil's anti-Indigenous land rights bill](#)

The Brazilian Supreme Court is once again studying a new law that only recognizes territorial rights for Indigenous people if they occupied the land as of October 5, 1988, when the country's current constitution was ratified. Critics of the law say many Indigenous communities were forcibly displaced from their land before that date and didn't always have the legal means of challenging land taken from them. Violence against Indigenous communities is on the rise across numerous states as farmers, ranchers, and private developers see new opportunities to expand into land stuck in legal limbo. ©Mongabay, 08/13/2024

[Climate change could return a stolen lake to Indigenous people, a century later](#)

Semá:th Xhotsa, or Sumas Lake, in Canada was the center of First Nations' food system and culture, before European colonists drained it in 1924 to create farmland. Almost 100 years later, catastrophic flooding threatens to refill the lake and displace the farmers. First Nations people and university researchers have proposed restoring the lake ecosystem to adapt to climate change driven flooding, as a method of reparation, but the local government is pushing back. ©Mongabay, 08/07/2024

[The African Commission sets a significant precedent for Indigenous Peoples' land rights in the context of conservation](#)

Following a decades long legal battle, the Commission found that the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) government violated multiple human rights protected by the African Charter of Human and Peoples Rights, in a land rights case that dates back to the 1970's. The case relates to the Kahuzi-Biega National Park in DRC, where the Batwa were expelled from their ancestral land in the 1970's without compensation or other land to live on in order to create the park. The Commission's decision is an important victory for the Batwa people of the DRC, as well as a step towards more inclusive conservation practices in the region. ©Forest Peoples Programme, 08/05/2024

[New Indigenous reserve in the Amazon among first steps to protect peoples in isolation](#)

The Sierra del Divisor Occidental Indigenous Reserve, created in May 2024, spans over half a million hectares (over 1.2 million acres) in the Peruvian departments of Ucayali and Loreto. The Indigenous People's Regional Organization of the Eastern Amazon (ORPIO) described the creation of the reserve as a victory — not only for the Indigenous people who call it home, but also for those who defend human rights and the environment in Peru. ©Mongabay, 07/31/2024

[Conservation Racism in Ngorongoro: A tragic loss of common sense and leadership](#)

The displacement of the Maasai in Ngorongoro is primarily attributed to the desire to protect wildlife and ecology from the very people who have been its natural environmental conservators for centuries. Despite being praised by world-renowned ecologists for their contribution to preserving wildlife, the Maasai community is being forced out of a land built on solemn pledges and promises that no one would be evicted in the future. The eviction began to escalate under the sixth regime, with President Samia Hassan leading the charge and the state apparatus executing the plan. The government, conservation departments, parliamentarians and media used xenophobic narratives as a means of justifying the eviction of the Maasai from Ngorongoro. ©Mwanzo TV, 08/14/2024

[What are the Legally Binding Obligations of \(UN\) States in Respect of Climate Change?](#)

While advisory proceedings are not a solution to climate change, they are an important piece of a larger puzzle. Small Island States have been requesting advisory opinions from the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea since 2022, born out of long-standing frustrations with the lack of progress on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage under the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2015 Paris Agreement. ©International Institute for Sustainable Development, 08/14/2024

[To avoid perpetuating harm and rights violations, ICMM \(International Council on Mining and Metals\) must correct its "critically weak" Indigenous Peoples' policy](#)

A statement from the Securing Indigenous Peoples Rights in the Green Economy (SIRGE) Coalition about the International Council on Mining and Metals' (ICMM) Position Statement on Indigenous Peoples. On August 8, the ICMM, which represents 1/3 of the global mining industry, released a new position statement on Indigenous Peoples. The SIRGE Coalition urges ICMM to revise, correct and strengthen that statement to address critical gaps that threaten perpetuating the mining industry's historical harms to Indigenous Peoples. ©SIRGE Coalition, 08/19/2024

Call for Input

[Call for input: UNESCO Global Survey UNESCO Global Survey on Indigenous Peoples and the Media](#)

As part of UNESCO's collective efforts to promote the rights of Indigenous Peoples to freedom of expression and information, UNESCO is launching a global survey aimed at understanding how media organizations, including Indigenous and non-Indigenous media, operate and serve their communities. **Response Deadline: September 30, 2024.**

[Call for authors: IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities](#)

The U.S. Department of State, in cooperation with the U.S. Global Change Research Program, seeks nominations for U.S. scientists with requisite expertise to serve as Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors, or Review Editors on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities to be undertaken by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) during the Seventh Assessment Report (AR7) cycle. **Nominations open until: 09/16/2024**

Job & Internship Opportunities

[The Nature Conservancy - Global Director of Indigenous Sciences \(Worldwide\)](#)

The Global Director of Indigenous Sciences is a new position that will elevate diverse expertise and knowledge aligned with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in TNC's work. They invite Indigenous scholars and scientists with a diverse range of understandings of Indigeneity in conservation to apply for this critical leadership role, which will braid the strengths of Indigenous sciences and Western science to envision a new path for conservation. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to Nichole Barger (Nichole.Barger@tnc.org) with any questions about the position before applying. **Application deadline: open until filled.**

[COP \(Conference of the Parties\) 29 - COP29 Youth Delegates \(Baku, Azerbaijan\)](#)

Are you between the ages of 18-30 and want to be a Youth Delegate at COP29? The Global Centre for Climate Mobility (GCCM) is hosting the Climate Mobility Pavilion (CMP) at

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COP29 in Baku from November 11-22. The CMP will be a central space dedicated to bringing urgent global attention to climate-forced migration and displacement, pressing forward the need for people-centered climate action. The CMP Youth Programme will bring together a group of young people to advance climate action focusing on the most climate-vulnerable regions in the world. Delegates selected to participate in the Programme will be offered capacity building, speaking opportunities, and to take part in bilateral meetings with leading policymakers as well as climate action champions. **Application deadline: 09/01/2024**

[United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights - Indigenous Fellowship Program](#)

The aim of this program is to provide Indigenous Peoples with the opportunity to learn about the work of UN institutions and mechanisms that deal with human rights in general, and Indigenous Peoples' issues in particular. Participants who complete the internship will be able to better assist their organizations and communities in protecting and promoting their rights. Fellowship will take place summer 2025, and will be available in English, Spanish, French, Russian, and Portuguese. **Application deadline: 08/31/2024**

[Global Alliance of Territorial Communities \(GATC\) - Regional Consultancies](#)

The Global Alliance of Territorial Communities is a political platform that brings together Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities with the aim of defending Mother Earth for the present and future benefit of all humanity. As part of a global project, GATC is seeking regional consultants to conduct literature reviews and identify case studies on traditional food and forest management with Indigenous Peoples and Local communities across its five regions: Mesóamerica, the Amazon Basin, Brazil, the Congo Basin, and Indonesia. Findings will be highlighted as part of policy proposals during key climate and diversity fora. **Application deadline: ASAP**

Resources & Funding Opportunities

RESOURCE: [61st Session of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#)

After seven days of deliberations, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded its 61st session. Among other outcomes, the Panel successfully reached consensus on the outlines for the methodology report on short-lived climate forces and the Special Report on Cities and Climate Change. Summary Report. ©IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin, 08/02/2024

Funding Opportunity: [Indigenous Youth Wellness Honorarium](#) (Canada)

Indigenous Climate Action (ICA) is committed to lifting up young Indigenous Peoples who are doing the hard work of climate justice organizing and engaging with frontlines that oppose extractive industries in order to protect our homelands. This honorarium is intended to help relieve some of the financial stress that can often be a barrier to seeking help in maintaining a healthy balance when doing organizing work. Open to youth in Canada; No application date set.

International Events

Conference: September 4-7, 2024, Kenya [4th CIGOFA, International Youth and Land Conference in Africa](#)

This year's theme, "Acceleration of Youth Land Rights," aims to address the critical role of youth in land governance and the urgent need to secure land rights for young people. CIGOFA 4 provides a unique platform for young leaders, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners from around

the world to discuss and develop innovative solutions to land governance challenges.

Conference: September 5-6, 2024 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[Fifth Global Climate and SDG Synergy Conference](#)

The Fifth Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will bring together representatives of UN Member States, UN agencies, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders to assess progress made on a set of key recommendations from the previous global conferences. The Conference is expected to contribute to the 2024 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 29) in November 2024 and the 2025 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 30), which will convene in November 2025 in Brazil.

Session: September 9 - October 9, 2024 Geneva, Switzerland

[UN 57th Session of the Human Rights Council](#)

The 57th HRC session will include a panel discussion on promoting and protecting economic, social and cultural rights within the context of addressing inequalities, an annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms, and an annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Summit: October 8-10, 2024, Geneva, Switzerland [Just Transition: Indigenous Peoples' Perspectives, Knowledge and Lived Experiences Summit](#)

The goal of the summit is to challenge mainstream interpretations and implementations of what the Just Transition to a "green economy" is being defined as, which often does not represent a full transition from harmful impacts or real justice for Indigenous Peoples. The summit will affirm a rights-based approach related to any potential extractive projects proposed on Indigenous lands, with criteria and safeguards for projects and actions aligned with the Just Transition. This framework is based on the inherent collective rights articulated in UNDRIP. Over 150 representatives of Indigenous Peoples from the seven socio-cultural regions of the world will gather to collectively define a Just Transition and the "green economy" from Indigenous perspectives.

Meeting, October 21 - November 1, 2024, Cali, Columbia [UN Convention on Biological Diversity \(COP 16\)](#)

The Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16) will work to develop the monitoring framework and advance resource mobilization for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (adopted at COP 15, December 2022 in Montreal, Canada). COP 16 will also aim to finalize and operationalize the multilateral mechanism on fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources.

Conference, May 26-28, 2025 - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

[Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects \(ICCE\) National Conference](#)

This year's conference theme is "Honouring All Our Relations: Embracing Indigenous Perspectives on Cumulative Effects", and will feature speakers on interconnectedness and interdependence, Indigenous Knowledge and western science, environmental stewardship, cultural resilience, valuable partnerships and more. **The call for proposals is open until September 16, 2024.**