



Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

July 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.



Monsoon on Mollogon Rim, AZ. Photo Credit: Kelsey Jensen

Meet the Climate Change Team

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Orangle Sneezeweed (*Hymenoxys hoopesii*). Photo Credit: Kelsey Jensen

Do you ever have reoccurring memories that come and go? You are hit with a specific memory based on a familiar smell, sight, sound or you're just lost in a swirl of memories. In the last few weeks, on our daily evening walks we have been seeing and sometimes smelling a certain beetle. I am pretty certain it is the pinacate beetle or a stink beetle. You know the black, shiny beetle that raises its behind when you go near it and if it feels threatened enough, a smelly secretion is emitted. To most people this smell is repulsive and to be avoided which is exactly this species purpose. To me, a Diné, the sight and smell of a stink bug always brings vivid flashbacks to my childhood. It brings me back to the days spent with my twin cousins herding sheep and goats. It reminds me of playing outdoors near our grandmother's home and the sound of my family making food and each other laugh. I distinctly recall my brother and I gathering up stink bugs and placing them into a tall glass pickle jar. After we decided that we had enough, we proceeded to shake the jar and then dared one another to open it and inhale deeply. I don't remember who went first because I can only recall the overwhelming smell. One time my grandmother dared me to eat a stink bug which I apparently did when I was even younger. She also reminded us that the smell would keep us from getting sick. To this day, I do not really mind the smell of stink bugs and try to respect their whole being.

In previous newsletters, I have discussed the need to relearn or continue the practice of respecting our relatives. All of the relatives, human and non-human. We were brought onto this earth for many reasons, including caring for our relatives. It seems that the five-fingered beings, humans, have become desensitized to how often our non-human relatives are dying without much thought from humans. As I drive each day, I see more animals on the road that have been hit by vehicles, and there are often no attempts to remove

them. I understand that it is not possible at times or it's on the freeway, but when I do have time, I put my gloves on or get my shovel, and take them off the road. Recently, I've removed several ravens and squirrels off the road and offered a short prayer. One time, my husband stopped and took a raven's body off the road, and as he was getting back in the car, a raven in the tree croaked loudly. It made me so sad because most ravens mate for life, and that particular one most likely lost their life partner.

When I worked as a wildland firefighter, I accidentally stepped on some grasshoppers, and my Apache relative/colleague reminded me that the grasshopper helped the Diné between the worlds in their creation story. My point is that all of our non-human relatives have an important role in this world and universe. E.O. Wilson's fascination with ants went beyond his deep knowledge of their intricate communication methods through their pheromones. He is quoted as saying ants are the "little things that run the world." That is knowledge—Traditional/Indigenous knowledges.

I remind you to think more about our non-human relatives, including the small or unseen ones. I often think of the spiders and how spider woman taught the humans how to weave. I understand it's not always realistic to expect everyone to overcome their phobias and discomfort. I encourage everyone to continue to treat all of our relatives with respect because we all depend on each other to survive.

What are your thoughts?

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

[Smoke-Ready Toolbox for Wildfires](#)

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

[National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference Sponsorship](#)

Advisory Committee Members:

Tribal Representatives:

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Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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John Mosley
Bureau of Indian Affairs

In The News

[Indian Affairs Seeks Input On Updated Tribal Self-Governance Regulations](#)

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs today announced proposed amendments to regulations that implement the Tribal Self-Governance program. The proposed changes seek to increase transparency in nation-to-nation consultations and heighten standards for Tribal management. The proposed updates are required by the Practical Reforms & Other Goals to Reinforce the Effectiveness of Self Governance & Self Determination for Indian Tribes Act, known as the PROGRESS Act. The Department of the Interior will initiate nation-to-nation consultation on the proposed changes. These efforts further the Biden-Harris administration's historic progress to empower Tribal sovereignty, self-determination and prosperity as well as complement the transformational investments in Indian Country made possible by President Biden's Investing in America agenda. These goals also align with President Biden's 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, which requires agencies across the federal government to ensure federal funding for Tribes is accessible, flexible and equitable. © DOI Press Release, 07/02/24

[Tens Of Thousands 'overwhelmingly Support' Using Indigenous Knowledge To Manage Bears Ears](#)

Five Native American tribes, including two in New Mexico, are joining the federal government in looking over tens of thousands of public comments on the future of the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah. The three-month public comment period ended on June 11, and more than 20,000 people submitted responses, according to the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition. The public comments "overwhelmingly supported the use of Traditional Indigenous Knowledge in the management of the Monument," the Coalition said in a news release on Wednesday. The tribally informed co-management plan for the national monument is the first of its kind in U.S. history. ©Source NM, 07/11/24

[The largest radioactive disaster in U.S. history happened on the Navajo Nation 45 years ago](#)

On July 16, 1979, the largest radioactive spill in U.S. history happened on the Navajo Nation, and those most harmed by it are thinking about the risk that new uranium mining poses near the Grand Canyon. Larry King worked as an underground surveyor at the Northeast Church Rock Mine. It's located less than 20 miles northeast of Gallup, New Mexico. Its nearby mill could process up to 4,000 tons of ore each day, using conventional crushing, grinding and acid-leach solvent extraction methods. "There's a problem that's still lingering in our community," said King. "We're still being exposed to radiation on a daily basis." Church Rock extracted approximately 3.5 million tons of uranium ore between 1967 and 1982, becoming the second-highest producing mine on the Navajo Nation. But on July 16, 1979, a dam containing uranium tailings failed. © KJZZ Phoenix, 07/16/24

[Will the Northwest Forest Plan finally respect tribal rights?](#)

The Northwest Forest Plan — the 30-year-old set of management policies that governs 24 million acres of national forests in Oregon, Washington and Northern California — is about to get a major update. Since its implementation under President Bill Clinton, the plan has dramatically reduced deforestation and protected some of the region's oldest trees. But the U.S. Forest Service failed to consult with tribes during the plan's development, and it does not address the growing threat of climate change. Earlier this year, the Forest Service appointed a group of forestry scientists, lawyers, environmentalists, logging industry representatives, and tribal representatives to offer input on an update to the plan. On July 16, after months of meetings, the Forest Service published the committee's recommendations. High Country News, 07/19/24

[Tribal Lands In Oklahoma Are 5 Times More Likely To Flood Than Rest Of State](#)

In Oklahoma, Indigenous communities are the most likely to be at risk of flooding, with [one recent study](#) showing the danger increases by more than five times when compared to surrounding areas. The reason for the risk: location. "We get stuck in places where nobody else wants to live," said Theresa Tsoodle, who is Pawnee from Andarko, a small community in central Oklahoma and who led the new analysis. A researcher

for the University of Oklahoma, Tsoodle said that the study suggests future flooding can be mitigated by federal and state agencies working with tribes to better understand the ecology of the area. © Grist, 07/22/24

[The Green Transition Will Make Things Worse for the Indigenous World](#)

The green transition will deepen entrenched socioeconomic barriers for Indigenous peoples — unless Western forms of science and ongoing settler colonialism are addressed by researchers. That's according to a new study out this month focused on the use, and abuse, of Indigenous knowledge to solve climate change. Despite disenfranchisement, researchers added, Indigenous nations remain the best stewards of the land. Focused on environmental oral histories of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware, the study examined how the nation strengthened tribal sovereignty by revitalizing connections to land. © Grist 07/26/24

[Navajo Nation Plans To Test Limit Of Tribal Law Preventing Transportation Of Uranium On Its Land](#)

The Navajo Nation planned Tuesday to test a tribal law that bans uranium from being transported on its land by ordering tribal police to stop trucks carrying the mineral and return to the mine where it was extracted in northern Arizona. But before tribal police could catch up with two semi-trucks on federal highways, they learned the vehicles under contract with Energy Fuels Inc. no longer were on the reservation. Navajo President Buu Nygren vowed to carry out the plan to enact roadblocks while the tribe develops regulations over the first major shipments of uranium ore through the reservation in years. © ABC News, 07/30/24

Resources

[FEATURE Basic Info: Traditional Knowledge- First Foods of the Southwest](#)

This is a common saying in Southwest Indigenous Communities, as families prepare year-round for planting season that follows the first thunder and when Dilyéhé (Sparkling Seeds) constellation goes out of sight in the night sky. Navajo Communities rely on dry farming practices passed down for generations to adapt their food systems to the arid climate of the Colorado Plateau. These practices are seen as Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) which are teachings passed down from generations to generations. These dry farming methods rely on water harvesting to capture as much rain during the monsoon season as possible for these desert crops.

[Facing Wildfire Insurance Challenges: Five Lessons from the National Flood Insurance Program](#)

In this report, we look at the long experience of insuring flood losses in the United States to find solutions to address the insurability of wildfires. The federal government created the government-backed National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) in 1968, and since then, the NFIP has provided almost all flood loss coverage. Over time, this single-peril program has faced numerous challenges, including difficulty maintaining widespread participation, financial instability, inadequate pricing with respect to risk, and problems related to flood risk mapping and communication. Floods and wildfires each present insurers with correlated risks that have grown over time as a result of climate change and increasing development in hazardous areas. Because of these similarities, an analysis of the NFIP's experience with insuring flood risk can offer insights for policy directions to address the rising challenges of insuring wildfires.

[Introduction to an "Indigenous Just Transition" \(IJT\)](#)

An Indigenous Just Transition (IJT) means respecting and weaving Indigenous knowledge and leadership into the process of creating a sustainable future. IJT recognizes our inherent rights, sovereignty, and assertion of self determination over our ancestral waters, land and territories, and all natural landscapes, inclusive within our own laws, values, customs and traditions.

[Green Fire Times- Indigenous Solutions: A Tribal-Led Regenerative Energy Future \(July-August 2024\)](#)

An inspiring bimonthly publication that provides multicultural perspectives that link green, cutting-edge innovations with time-honored traditions. Green Fire Times is a platform for regional, community-based voices—useful information for residents, businesspeople, students and visitors—anyone interested in the history and spirit of New Mexico and the Southwest.

[Recordings Now Available- Webinar Series: Incorporating Climate and Environmental Justice into Research and Resource Management](#)

The National CASC hosted a webinar series from February 29 to May 9, 2024 (3-4 PM ET) on how to integrate principles of climate and environmental justice into research and resource management. Speakers shared research and best practices around environmental and climate justice and engaged audiences in facilitated "coffee hours" for participants to learn from one another. In this webinar series, speakers explored the ethics around engaging with the populations most vulnerable to the impacts of environmental and climate change, which are often low-income communities, communities

of color, Indigenous and Tribal communities, and people facing disenfranchisement. We hope the series will be of particular value to researchers looking to apply justice principles to their own work and communities seeking to lay out clear expectations for the researchers they collaborate with.

[Free Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance from EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities Initiative](#)

Drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater (water sector) utilities, along with other water sector stakeholders, are eligible to receive free climate change risk assessment technical assistance from EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU) initiative. Through this technical assistance process, CRWU will assist approximately 75 water sector utilities / communities in identifying long-term climate change adaptation strategies, as well as potential funding options to implement adaptive measures. If you are, or know of, a water sector utility that would like to receive this free technical assistance opportunity, please indicate your interest via email to Aliza Furneaux (furneaux.aliza@epa.gov) no later than Friday, August 15, 2024

[Community Change Grants Technical Assistance](#)

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights is committed to providing robust technical assistance (TA) and resources to eligible entities. This TA is in direct response to feedback from communities and environmental justice leaders who have long called for technical assistance and capacity building support for communities and their partners as they work to access critical federal resources. There are two TA programs dedicated for the Community Change Grants, which are detailed below. Last Day to Request Technical Assistance: August 16, 2024

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act Funding Handbook for Access to Clean Drinking Water in Tribal Communities](#)

This handbook was produced by the Initiative on Universal Access to Clean Water for Tribal Communities (UACW), which aims to advance the cause of access to clean drinking water for Native Americans. This handbook is intended to be 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. There are multiple agency funding sources, differing application and awarding processes, and varying types of projects and activities eligible for funding. In addition, most of this money is strictly time limited. 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 and includes four main sections: Water Access Requirements, Funding Landscape, Funding Pathways, and Funding Summaries

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Assistant Director-LiKEN Knowledge](#)

Come join the team at LiKEN! Livihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN) is a non-profit organization that works to build a more just and equitable world by supporting the work of at-risk and overburdened communities. We seek a caring and creative leader to support and guide the high-impact work of our dedicated and passionate LiKEN team. We are looking for a detail-oriented Assistant Director to assist with strategic planning and implementation, monitor progress towards objectives, and manage grants and federal accounts. The Assistant Director helps establish objectives, policies, budgets, and procedures and compiles, communicates, and files administrative reports. Application deadline: August 2, 2024, or until the position is filled.

[Center for Native American Youth - 7th Annual Creative Native Call for Art](#)

The 2024 Creative Native Call for Art is focused on the theme Who or what is the Moon? What does the Moon mean to you? Do you or your community have a special relationship with or stories that can be told about the Moon? All interpretations are welcome!

All artwork and submissions must be original works and be inspired by this year's prompt. **Application deadline: August 15, 2024**

[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**

[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**

[Fish and Wildlife Biologist-Threatened and Endangered Species](#)

The Fish and Wildlife Biologist of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) serves as the fish and wildlife technical assistant under the guidance and direction of the Director of Programs. The Biologist is responsible for providing technical services to the NAFWS members and member Tribes with an emphasis on threatened or endangered species. This is a remote, full-time position not to exceed 2 years. The biologist will be responsible for conducting business in a manner that coincides with the Articles of Incorporation, Strategic Plan, Code of Ethics, and other regulations, policies, and procedures. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience Liaisons- Alaska Region](#)

The Assistant Tribal Climate Resilience Liaison for the Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center (AK CASC) serves as support on the 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.

Duties include but are not limited to outreach and extension programming on tribal climate impacts, concerns and adaptation strategies; support efforts to enhance information exchange; assist communities to identify and prioritize resilience and adaptation projects; and work with another Asst. TCRL and a seasonal Alaska Nation Student Intern. **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. The liaison will primarily develop these tribal engagement efforts in New Mexico based on their own experience but with guidance from the South Central CASC Tribal Engagement Program team. Job Number: 241659 **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Indigenous Engagement Coordinator, Bay Area Environmental Research Institute](#)

The Bay Area Environmental Research (BAER) Institute with NASA's Indigenous Peoples Initiative (IPI) is seeking an Indigenous Engagement Coordinator (IEC) for supporting, building, and maintaining relationships between Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities with NASA's Earth Science Division (ESD). The IEC will primarily work to engage Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities on behalf of and alongside the IPI and NASA ESD programs, explicitly with FireSense and the Geological Earth Mapping Experiment (GEMx) research project, and with other elements such as Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) and Missions Applications Teams, as the need arises. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Fish and Wildlife Department Director, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho](#)

The Fish and Wildlife Department Director provides the planning, organization, coordination, monitoring, and direction necessary to ensure effective operation of the Tribe's Fish and Wildlife Department. The Fish and Wildlife Director guides implementation of projects that address fish and wildlife restoration, habitat improvement, and biological monitoring. This position promotes effective operations and programs based on existing Tribal goals, strategies, and objectives, within compliance with all applicable Tribal and Federal policies, regulations, and procedures. Contact: kdavid@kootenai.org for more information and application. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[First Nations Development Institute - Several Job Openings](#)

Join First Nations in advancing our mission to uplift and sustain the lifeways and economies of Native communities through advocacy, financial support, and knowledge sharing. We're excited to share the following career opportunities. **Application deadline: open until filled**

- Director of Human Resources – New!
- Communications Associate – New!
- Program Officer, Stewarding Native Lands
- Development Officer (Technical)
- Lead Grants Development Officer

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/>

Tribal Domestic Water Infrastructure

On April 2, The Department of the Interior announced that up to \$320 million is available under President Biden's Investing in America agenda through the Bureau of Reclamation to assist federally recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations as they plan and construct domestic water infrastructure. This funding opportunity is open to Tribes in the 17 western U.S. states served by Reclamation, which will implement the program in two phases: phase one funding will be for planning, design or construction in fiscal year 2024; and phase two funding will be for construction in fiscal years 2027 and 2028. **Application deadline: August 4, 2024**

USDA Forest Service Inflation Reduction Act Forest Landowner Support: Tribal Access to Emerging Private Markets for Climate Mitigation and Forest Resilience

The Forest Service is providing at least \$20 million in competitive funds to federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations and villages to support tribal participation in emerging private

markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience. Examples of emerging markets may include markets for water quality and quantity, carbon, biodiversity, and wetland restoration. Proposed activities must benefit nonindustrial private forest land, which includes land that is rural, forested or able to grow trees, and owned by a tribe, tribal member(s), or non-Tribal private forest landowner(s). **Application deadline: August 21, 2024**

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**

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**

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**

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**

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**

Community Change Grants Program

EPA's new Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for approximately \$2 billion dollars in Inflation Reduction Act funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. These place-based investments will be focused on community-driven initiatives to be responsive to community and stakeholder input. **Application deadline: November 21, 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 1-4, Cherokee, NC

[18th Protecting Mother Earth Conference](#)

Protecting Mother Earth (PME) Conferences are all-outdoor events, and this year, the theme will be Indigenous Just Transition. The PME is Indigenous-initiated, organized, and led to elevate the critical voices of those fighting the frontline battles against the violation of our treaty rights, self-determination, environmental injustice, and climate change. We welcome Indigenous Peoples, frontline grassroots groups, and tribal nation representatives – allies and CJ/EJ advocates across Turtle Island.

Conference, August 9th, 2024, Online

[Global Indigenous Youth Summit on Climate Change \(GIYSCC\) 2024](#)

The Global Summit provides a platform to accelerate global engagement with Indigenous youth communities, cultures, languages, ethnicities, countries, and continents across the world. Rapidly changing climatic conditions have increased levels of uncertainty and anxiety among the youth on Earth, nonetheless, the mobilization of youth around the world shows the massive power they possess as essential contributors. Youth, and especially Indigenous youth have key roles to enhance multilateral cooperation on climate action.

Summit: August 11-16, North Bend, Oregon

[2024 Changing Currents Tribal Water Summit](#)

Changing Current Water summits are inter-tribal convenings designed to bring together staff and leadership from Northwest Tribes and Native communities to foster dialogue & collaboration around common water interests and work toward a shared agenda. Changing Currents: Tribal Water Summit began as an idea and concept of a few tribal water leaders that were inspired by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs leadership with the Deschutes River Conservancy.

Forum: August 12-15, Eugene, Oregon

[ITEP Tribal Lands & Environment Forum](#)

This is the fourteenth annual forum for environmental professionals from Tribes, US EPA, State/Local/Federal agencies, community organizations, and other interested parties to meet, share knowledge and learn from one another how to improve management, protection and restoration of Tribal lands for us and

all our relations.

Webinar: August 13, 2024, Virtual **[Mastering the Art of Grant Writing: Strategic Success and Purposeful Funding](#)**

Due to popular demand, we are excited to introduce an online training session focused on effective tips for finding and writing grants. This comprehensive program is designed to provide a thorough and interactive learning experience, empowering participants with the skills and confidence needed to write successful grant proposals.

Conference: August 13-15, Lemoore, California

SAVE THE DATE!

[36th Annual Southwest Regional Conference- Native American Fish & Wildlife Society](#)

More information coming soon!

Showcase: August 15-18, Santa Fe, New Mexico

[Native Cinema Showcase 2024- Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian](#)

The museum's 24th annual celebration of the best in Indigenous film includes 38 films this year. The showcase provides an unparalleled forum for engagement with Native filmmakers from Indigenous communities throughout the Western Hemisphere and Arctic. All screenings and events will take place at the New Mexico History Museum. All events associated with National Museum of the American Indian's Native Cinema Showcase are free and open to the public

Climate Camp: August 25-30, Corbett, Oregon

[ATNI Tribal Climate Camp](#)

Native communities are among the most climate-sensitive groups within the Northwest, Southern and Eastern regions of the United States. Increasing the resilience of tribal governments and native communities is critical to prepare for future climate change scenarios. Learning objectives will focus on building a common knowledge base in climate science and on building individual and team capacity to lead and manage for change and adaptation across departments within a tribe and between the tribe and partner agencies and organizations.

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.

Summit: September 30-October 4, Keshena, WI **SAVE THE DATE Shifting Seasons Summit #4**

Registration coming in June

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 16-17, 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.

International Indigenous News & Resources

In the News

[WATCH: United Nations' 1st Meeting, 17th Session Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(EMRIP\)](#)

17th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides the UN Human Rights Council with expertise and advise on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. It assists Member States in achieving the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

[Loss of water means loss of culture for Mexico's Indigenous Yaqui](#)

The Sacred waters of the Yaqui tribe in the northwestern Mexican state of Sonora have dried up after decades of overexploitation, unequal water distribution and drought. This poses serious threats to Yaqui culture, which previously used certain sections of the Yaqui River for traditional ceremonies. It has also led to the decline of plant and tree species, such as the alamo (*Ficus cotinifolia*) and the giant reed (*Arundo donax*), which are used to build traditional structures in Yaqui villages. Important features of the Yaqui ritual dance, known as the pascola and deer, rely on the cocoons of the four mirror butterfly, an endemic species that depends on the Yaqui River for its survival and is in decline. @Mongabay, 07/16/2024

[Shaping the next generation of Indigenous rangers: Interview with Manni Edwards](#)

Aboriginal elders in the far north of Australia's Queensland state are preparing the next generation of junior rangers to conserve endangered southern cassowaries, take care of their traditional land, safeguard their culture, and hold on to millenia of acquired knowledge. Along with declining southern cassowary numbers, Traditional Knowledge and values are diminishing in youth. Young rangers of the program not only spend time learning in classrooms, but also go into the traditional country with elders who shape their character and identity as caretakers of their people, land, Mother Earth and themselves. @Mongabay 7/18/2024

[NATO's role in the Arctic Indigenous talk](#)

Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic are concerned about rising tensions between international powers. The war in Ukraine has opened up many questions for national and Indigenous leaders on how to respond to rising tensions in the Arctic. Meanwhile, Arctic sea ice is melting at an alarming rate, spurring an increase in military and commercial activities, and sparking concerns of greater instability. Indigenous Peoples and nations are assessing collaborative efforts with each other and national governments to secure the region as they face climate change and a changing political climate. @ICT, 7/19/2024

[First-person perspectives from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC\) and the Facilitative Working Group in Bonn, Germany](#)

IEN's Climate Justice Program staff attended UNFCCC's 60th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). UNFCCC SBSTA 60 is an annual intersessional meeting of the UNFCCC's Convention of Parties (COP) that generally brings together countries for negotiating key agenda items to be further discussed at the end of the year, during the COP29. This year's Bonn intercessional meeting included key discussion areas of New Collective Quantum Goal (NCQG) on Finance, Global goal on Adaptation, Just Transition World Program, the Paris Agreement, Agriculture Work Program, and follow-up on the Global Stocktake, Loss and Damage Fund, and Ocean Dialogue. @IEN, n.d. (2024)

[Escazú Agreement: A Landmark for Environmental Rights](#)

The Escazú Agreement, officially titled the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, is a historic milestone in regional environmental governance. To date, 15 countries have ratified the treaty, which is deeply rooted in international environmental law, particularly Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Article outlines recommendations to address challenges for meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples, and advance the objectives of the Agreement. Escazú Agreement. @Cultural Survival, 06/18/2024

[The Wixárika community's thirteen-year legal battle to stop mining in their sacred territory](#)

Wirikuta is the most important sacred place for the Indigenous Wixárika people in the state of San Luis Potosí, Mexico. In 2010, the communities discovered that mining companies were threatening this place of great importance for biodiversity and culture. Since then, they have been fighting a legal battle to expel the 78 contracts threatening the site's existence. Although mining activity is currently suspended thanks to a protection order obtained by the Indigenous community, there is still no definitive resolution. In 2024, they hope this will finally change, and that the Mexican judicial system will rule in their favor. @Mongabay, 07/02/2024

Call for Input

[Call for Input: United Nations Indigenous Peoples Impacted by Conservation Projects - International Indian Treaty Council \(IITC\)](#)

The International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) invites and encourages Indigenous Peoples' representatives whose lands, territories or ways of life have been impacted by "Conservation projects" to complete an online questionnaire focused on the impacts of these projects and proposing human rights responsibilities for conservation funders and intermediaries. Results will be compiled and shared by IITC in coordination with the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) in preparation for the 16th Conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16) which will take place in Columbia this October. Response Deadline: July 30, 2024.

[Call for Input: UN Secretary General UN Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals](#)

The UN Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals welcomes written submissions as an important way of sharing information, building understanding and helping advance its work to finalize a set of common and voluntary principles in an open, transparent and inclusive manner. The purpose of the call for submissions is to help the Panel develop stronger and clearer principles and actionable recommendations for guidance to stakeholders up and down the critical energy transition minerals value chains – and speed up their implementation. [Submit your input for the Panel's consideration here](#). Response Deadline: July 30, 2024.

International Indigenous Resources & Events

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Indigenous Climate Action - Operations Coordinator \(Canada\)](#)

Reporting to the Operations Manager, the Operations Coordinator will support and assist with operational and technical duties, including coordination of staff and administrative and logistical processes. Qualified persons of Indigenous Ancestry will be given preference in accordance with s.16(1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act. **Application deadline: open until filled.**

Resources & Funding Opportunities

RESOURCE: [Grounding Our Work In What Has Come Before: A Review of Indigenous-led Climate Declarations and Reports](#)

Indigenous Climate Action's research project and overview of climate declarations, reports, and resolutions written by Indigenous people around the world over the last 4 decades.

RESOURCE: [Global database on conservation by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities](#)

Information on hundreds of ICCAs ("territories of life" governed, managed, and conserved by custodian Indigenous Peoples and local communities) is now publicly available on the ICCA Registry website, a global database showcasing these territories and their critical contribution to conserving biocultural diversity. The registry, developed in 2008, is also a reporting platform that strengthens the evidence on the conservation importance of ICCAs, and enhances global understanding of these areas and their custodians.

RESOURCE: [From Agreements to Actions - A Guide to applying a human rights-based approach to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#)

The adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF, or the 'Biodiversity Plan') under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2022 marked a significant advance in integrating human rights into environmental policy and actions. Parties have agreed that the "implementation of the Framework should follow a human rights-based approach, respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights". This guide is compiled with a specific purpose: to provide additional support and concrete examples for Parties and decision-makers, non-state actors, and for rights holders, on how to meet this commitment to embed a human rights based approach (HRBA) in the implementation and monitoring of the GBF at national and sub-national levels. It prioritizes clear information on relevant human rights standards and norms, and practical steps for how these norms can be translated into national and sub-national decision-making, taking into account the diversity of cultural, social, political and economic circumstances.

FUNDING: [Indigenous Youth Roots Creation Grants](#)

Creation is a multi-level funding program that supports strengths-based, community-focused and youth-led projects taking place in communities across Canada. Grassroots youth groups/collectives are eligible to apply for funding to support community programs and projects while receiving innovative mentorship, training and capacity-building opportunities. Funding will be

provided to projects/groups that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth. **Applications due: July 31**

International Events

Meeting, July 15 - August 2, 2024 - Kingston, Jamaica **2nd Part of the 29th Annual Session of the** **[International Seabed Authority](#)**

As well as talks that may shape the negotiations on deep-sea mining, some ISA members have suggested an additional agenda item on a general policy of the ISA for the protection and preservation of the marine environment. The Assembly is also expected to hold elections for the position of ISA Secretary-General.

Conference, August 9th, 2024, Online **[Global Indigenous Youth Summit on Climate Change \(GIYSCC\) 2024](#)**

The Global Summit provides a platform to accelerate global engagement with Indigenous youth communities, cultures, languages, ethnicities, countries, and continents across the world. Rapidly changing climatic conditions have increased levels of uncertainty and anxiety among the youth on Earth, nonetheless, the mobilization of youth around the world shows the massive power they possess as essential contributors. Youth, and especially Indigenous youth have key roles to enhance multilateral cooperation on climate action.

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.

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

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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.**