

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

March 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.



Wide open glacial valley near Eagle River

Meet the Climate Change Team

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Yá'at'ééh! Gumyu! Loloma! Hello!



Hundreds of birds seen on their migration during the spring time in Yukon Territory. Adobe stock

K'é! To my people, this is our word for family, relations, partnerships, and relatives. It not only describes our relationships with people but also with our non-human relatives and the universe. It is a feeling and some may say that it's a spiritual journey as we age and grow into the people who we want to be and relationships that feed our whole being.

During certain months of the university academic school year, I provide my time to speak to and with graduate and undergraduate students. More often, these students are non-Indigenous and from the greater Phoenix area and other states. Sometimes, there will be Indigenous students and half the time, the Diné students are related to me by clan or from my communities. During these talks, I always introduce myself in the Diné way by explaining my clans in Diné and English, and their significance. In turn, I ask them to introduce themselves including saying their ethnicity. Most of the time, students know, but those who don't know their background seem okay with not knowing (if they don't state that they are searching). The reason I say this is because our culture and clans are an innate, intimate, and important part of who we are. I urge students to know or choose a place to call home which may help them feel grounded and balanced in their health.

For many Indigenous cultures, I have learned their clans also relate them to the environment and our non-human relatives. For example, my father's matriarchs are from the Reed People and are known to be basket

weavers and connect them to water and plants. My maternal grandfathers are from the Water that Flows Together People and one reason I became a commercial river guide and am an advocate for the Colorado and Little Colorado Rivers and the San Juan River. This is just one example of k'é and how Indigenous people, my people view the natural environment; as a relative.

In our climate and environmental work, I often speak about the importance of recognizing our non-human relatives whether we are in prayer, in school, or working. My Elders have often reminded us that non-human beings can hear us acknowledge them. I truly believe this practice will continue to guide us in our difficult work of addressing the many different impacts of the ever-changing climate. I urge you to find or nourish your practice of trying to be spiritually and physically present and healthy so you can do your work as healthy as possible. If you have any good tips, will you share them with me? Or point me to a website or book that you feel has been helpful.

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

[ITEP National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference \(NTICC\) Proposals](#)

[A True Vision for Alaskan Native Representation](#)

Advisory Committee Members:

Tribal Representatives:

Jerry Cain
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian

Jamie Donatuto
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Michael Durglo, Jr.
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Federal Agency Representatives:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ashley Fortune Isham
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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In The News

[Diplomacy Required: Women, Water, and Peace](#)

The theme of this year's World Water Day is "Water for Peace". With over 2 billion people around the world lacking clean water access, tensions can arise within communities and between countries. Further complicating the issue, around 40 percent of the global population lives in a transboundary river basin, making transboundary water cooperation essential to effective water resource management. This episode explores how the Women in Water Diplomacy Network is empowering global women water decision-makers and experts to strengthen transboundary water cooperation. Host Sarah Backer is joined by Elizabeth Koch, Senior Manager for International Programs at ELI, and Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, the Co-Chair of the Indigenous Women's Leadership Network and former Tribal Chairwoman for the White Mountain Apache Tribe. © Environmental Law Institute, 03/2024

[More Than \\$32M Coming to WA Tribes to Adapt to Climate Change](#)

More than \$32 million is coming to tribal nations and organizations for projects intended to combat the disproportionate effects of climate change on Indigenous communities in Washington. The funding will reach projects across the region, from the outer coast to the Salish Sea and North Cascades. It's intended to help Indigenous communities mitigate the impacts of climate change on people and critters and inform everyone with research. © The Seattle Times, 03/15/24

[Trekking Through Tribal Lands As The Penobscot Nation Plans To Reacquire 30,000 Acres](#)

The transfer near Mount Katahdin is part of a growing movement to return lands to Native tribes, highlighting traditional approaches to resource management. Wearing an orange beanie and a camo jacket, Charles "Chuck" Loring Jr. trekked through the forest just north of Howland, a compact layer of snow crunching beneath his feet. Logging machinery hummed in the distance. He paused and looked around with a hunter's eyes, then said, almost in a whisper, "Yeah, this smells moosey." It was late February, well past the Penobscot Nation's fall moose hunting season. But as he navigated the topographical maps on his phone, searching for a boundary line, he was also keeping an eye out for a dropped antler or two. © The Maine Monitor, 03/17/24

[The Massive Copper Mine that Could Test the Limits of Religious Freedom](#)

Earlier this month, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals declined to stop the construction of a copper mine in Arizona on land sacred to the San Carlos Apache Tribe as well as other Indigenous nations. Ch'chil Bildagoteel, also known as Oak Flat, sits atop the third largest copper deposit on the planet and is essential to green energy projects. The operation, which will be run by Resolution Copper, a subsidiary of mining companies Rio Tinto and BHP, will leave a crater nearly 1,000 feet deep and 2 miles wide. © Grist, 03/19/24

[Save the Redwoods League, the Yurok Tribe, and Park Partners Sign Historic Agreement to Return Tribal Land](#)

Today the Yurok Tribe, Save the Redwoods League, National Park Service and California State Parks signed a landmark memorandum of understanding, a historic first step toward transferring 'O Rew, a 125-acre ecologically and culturally important property, from Save the Redwoods League back to its original steward, the Yurok Tribe. In addition, the agreement describes the four partners' shared vision for long-term co-management of the site as a gateway for the visiting public to the adjacent Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP). This would be a first-ever cooperative arrangement for the National Park Service and California State Parks on tribe-owned land. The partners envision building a new visitor and cultural center and trails at 'O Rew that will highlight the distinct histories and cultures of local tribes. © The Yurok Tribe, 03/19/24

[A New Look At Grand Canyon Springs And Possible Threats From Uranium Mining](#)

A new research paper published recently in Annual Reviews of Earth and Planetary Sciences, coordinated by scientists from The University of New Mexico and collaborating institutions, addresses the complex nature and societal importance of Grand Canyon's springs and groundwater. The paper, Hydrotectonics of Grand Canyon Groundwater, recommends sustainable groundwater management and uranium mining threats that require better monitoring and application of hydrotectonic concepts. The data suggest an interconnectivity of the groundwater systems such that uranium mining and other contaminants pose risks to people, aquifers, and ecosystems.

The conclusion based on multiple datasets is that groundwater systems involve significant mixing. © UNM Newsroom, 03/25/24

[Native Youth Learn to Heal Their Communities Through Mycelium](#)

At [Spirit of the Sun](#), Native American youth are not only learning about [traditional ecological knowledge](#), they're also empowered to do the teaching. The opportunity to absorb Indigenous wisdom and share that knowledge with the community is what attracted 20-year-old Nyomi Oliver (Navajo/Chicana) to the Denver nonprofit, which offers a wide variety of cultural, culinary, and wellness [programming](#). "I am a reconnecting Native and had lost my ways," she says. "But Spirit of the Sun has shown me how important our Indigenous perspectives are and how our history has laid out a blueprint for us to follow in order to align with Mother Nature." © Civil Eats, 03/25/24

[Diné hydrologist Karletta Chief gets Environmental Leader Award](#)

Eight individuals from across the nation have been recognized by the second annual Environmental Leader Award, including Dr. Karletta Chief, Diné. Chief, of Tucson, Arizona, is a distinguished outreach faculty and professor and extension specialist in environmental science at the University of Arizona. She works to bring relevant water science to Native American communities in a culturally sensitive manner. As director of the Indigenous Resilience Center, she aims to facilitate efforts of UArizona climate/environment researchers, faculty, staff, and students working with Native Nations to build resilience to climate impacts and environmental challenges. © Navajo-Hopi Observer, 03/25/24



NATIONAL TRIBAL & INDIGENOUS CLIMATE CONFERENCE
September 9-12, 2024
Anchorage, Alaska

CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPEN!

NTICC is now accepting proposals for the 2024 conference!

Proposal Types Include:

- Presentations
- Trainings
- Working Groups
- Climate Conversations

Applications due by April 17, 2024

Questions? Email NTICC@nau.edu



Resources

[US Department of Energy - New Tribal Nations and Native Communities Resource Guide](#)

The Department of Energy has announced a new resource guide for Tribal nations and native communities. This resource is designed to help navigate the wide range of funding opportunities being made available for Tribal energy projects.

[US Department of Housing and Urban Development: Build for the Future Funding Navigator](#)

The Funding Navigator, on HUD Exchange, helps users explore funding and technical assistance opportunities made available under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and other federal programs to support efforts to enhance climate resiliency, energy efficiency, renewable energy integration, healthy housing, workforce development, and environmental justice.

[Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)

A new tool from the Council on Environmental Quality offers an interactive map that uses datasets to identify indicators of burdens that communities experience across the United States. These burdens are based on eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.

[Climate Engine Launches New Website to Facilitate Drought and Vegetation Monitoring](#)

ClimateEngine.org is an innovative tool that provides satellite and climate data in a user-friendly manner to facilitate water conservation, wildfire risk management, agricultural productivity monitoring, and ecological restoration. Climate Engine allows users to create maps and time series plots for visualizing complex climate data. Now, the team is launching a new publicly accessible platform designed to produce comprehensive and detailed reports for all Bureau of Land Management–managed lands in the contiguous United States.

[Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Resource Guide](#)

This is a companion piece to the Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Fair held August 7-11, 2023 in support of EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program. The purpose of the guide is to offer resources for locating federal funding opportunities to states, metropolitan statistical areas, Tribes and territories—eligible entities of EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants—for development of climate action plans under the program.

[A River's Rebirth: Klamath Dam Removals Offer New Life for Salmon as well as California and Oregon Tribes](#)

This past August, about 15 miles upstream from the Pacific Ocean in California, the rocky shoreline of the Klamath River was sheathed in a haze of smoke drifting in from wildfires burning to the north and east. A pair of black bears in search of fish, berries and other food wandered onto the far bank. Minutes later, Yurok Tribe Vice Chair Frankie Myers launched a redwood canoe that he had carved from the nearshore. His young sons, Sre-gon and Re-wah, were onboard with him, and when they reached midriver, the boys leaped from the canoe into the water.

[State of the Global Climate 2023](#)

The WMO report confirmed that 2023 was the warmest year on record, with the global average near-surface temperature at 1.45 C above the pre-industrial baseline.

[Six Divine Matriarchs Who Are Living Our Indigenous Dreams](#)

Indigenous women have long held up our communities and brought us into the future. And yet, due to colonization, the value and contributions of our Indigenous matriarchs have also gone vastly unacknowledged though our excellence and necessity to our people and our nations is undeniable. Women are protectors. Women are creatives. Women are leaders. We always have been. Today, we have the honor of being in the presence of incredible matriarchs who are making enormous strides for our communities, while carrying with them the generational strength of countless Indigenous women whose knowledge and tenacity keep us all moving forward.

[Women Ending the Era of Fossil Fuels & Building a Just Transition](#)

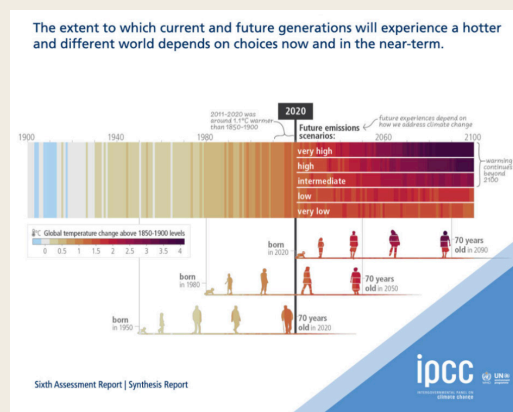
On International Women's Day 2024 we are releasing a new WECAN video that highlights the advocacy of global women leaders fighting to end the era of fossil fuels while advancing a Just Transition and advocating for climate solutions, Indigenous and human rights, rights of nature, and thriving communities and planet.

[For our future: Indigenous resilience report \(CANADA\)](#)

This Indigenous-led report draws on Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and experiences and explores the multidimensional and intersecting aspects of climate change impacts and adaptation. The report is structured around five key messages that were identified and developed collaboratively to find commonality across experiences. The five messages include: *Indigenous Peoples have unique strengths for responding to environmental and climate changes; Climate change is one of many crises that First Nations, Inuit and Métis face; Indigenous Knowledge Systems and lived experiences are essential components of climate action; The food, water and energy nexus is central to First Nation, Inuit and Métis climate leadership; and Self-determination is critical to Indigenous-led climate action.*

[AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023](#)

The IPCC finalized the Synthesis Report for the Sixth Assessment Report during the Panel's 58th Session held in Interlaken, Switzerland from March 13-19, 2023. The image below shows the extent to which current and future generations will experience a hotter and different world depends on choices now and in the near term. One key take-away from the report is that prioritizing equity, climate justice, social justice, inclusion and just transition processes can enable adaptation and ambitious mitigation actions and climate resilient development, and that adaptation outcomes are enhanced by increased support to regions and people with the highest vulnerability to climatic hazards.



Job & Internship Opportunities

[NAFWS Tribal Mapping Analyst \(remote\)](#)

The Tribal Mapping Analyst will focus on several key issues in collaboration with Tribes and the US Geological Survey (USGS). Applicants must have a specialized knowledge of ArcGIS, R Programming, Python with demonstrated ability in applying statistical methods to animal movement data. The Tribal Mapping Analyst 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 of NAFWS. **Application deadline: April 5, 2024**

[National Tribal Air Association - Program Coordinator Intermediate](#)

The NTAA project team works with, U.S. EPA, program partners, and federally recognized Tribes throughout the U.S. to advance air quality management policies and programs. The team's work includes supporting the NTAA Executive Committee and member Tribes, Policy analysis on air quality and climate change related issues, facilitating calls and meetings with our workgroups, communication, and coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), annual creation and dissemination of the Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR), and assisting with the planning and facilitation of an annual conference, the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality. Job ID: 607736 **Application deadline: April 8, 2024**

[Traditional Trades Advancement Program Individual Placement- Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps](#)

The interns will function as a member of the Cultural Resources team and the Facility Maintenance Division. As part of these teams, they will gain experience in archeological field activities (preservation maintenance and archeological site condition assessments) as well as site record management and report writing. They will also gain experience in trade skills associated with trails, roads, and historic structure maintenance. As a result of working on these teams, the interns will be a part of preserving deteriorating archeological sites, and ensuring visitors have access to experiencing these resources. The interns will assist in maintaining several miles of trails, including increasing accessible access to sites and overlooks. They will also be helping with invasive species management and maintaining native landscapes. The archeological sites they will be preserving are at increased risk to deterioration due to climate change. These are opportunities to visit different National Parks and Monuments and gain hands on experience to start building a career path within Historic Preservation. **Application deadline: April 12, 2024**

[Chitimacha Demonstration Project Planner- Request for Qualifications](#)

The Chitimacha Tribe issues this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from qualified consultants to provide comprehensive project planning assistance to the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana's Voluntary Community-Driven Relocation, Managed Retreat, and Protect-in-Place Demonstration Project. The consultants will develop the overall spending plan for the available funds, based on Tribal priorities, and additional resources to execute construction identified in the 2020 Unmet Infrastructure Needs Report. A copy of this report is available upon request. The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana seeks a consultant/team of consultants to develop an implementation action plan that addresses two response/adaptation strategies: a short- to medium-term Protect-in-Place strategy and a long-term climate impact resilience strategy. **Application deadline: April 17, 2024**

[2024 Indigenous Communities Fellowship](#)

MIT Solve seeks exceptional innovators supporting community-based solutions by and for Indigenous communities across the United States and Canada. While we are excited to select and support innovators with any focal area, we have a particular interest for 2024 in solutions that:

- Strengthen sustainable energy sovereignty and support climate resilience initiatives by and for Indigenous peoples.

- Drive positive outcomes for Indigenous learners of any age and context through culturally grounded educational opportunities.
- Promote culturally informed mental and physical health and wellness services for Indigenous community members.
- Advance community-driven digital sovereignty initiatives in Indigenous communities, including the ethical use of AI, machine learning, and data technologies:

Application deadline: April 18, 2024

[Tribal Relations Specialist Outreach Hiawatha National Forest](#)

The Hiawatha National Forest is seeking candidates to fill a Temp Promotion NTE/Detail/Permanent GS-0301-11/12 Tribal Relations Specialist position in Gladstone, Michigan. The incumbent will provide leadership, coordination and program direction, consultation guidance, advice, and procedural requirements to line officers and program staff. The incumbent will address challenges relating to implementation of Forest Service programs and services, be responsible for the management of interdisciplinary programs involving partnerships with an Indian Tribe(s) and identify partnership opportunities. To express interest in this position, please send a resume and the Outreach Response Form to Chelsea Kallery at chelsea.kallery@usda.gov. **Application deadline: April 19, 2024**

[ITEP Tribal Waste & Response Steering Committee](#)

Applications are being accepted from Tribal professionals who are interested in serving on the Tribal Waste & Response Steering Committee. The TWAR SC is composed of people working on the front lines for Tribes, Nations, and Alaska Native Villages in the fields of Superfund, emergency response, solid waste, USTs, and brownfields. They produce a bi-annual Priorities Document that is used by senior management in EPA, the National Tribal Caucus, and even other Tribal Partnership Groups. They serve as mentors to their colleagues at other Nations and Tribes, assist us at ITEP with the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum and other special projects, and meet with federal staff throughout the year to advance Tribal concerns and challenges. **Application deadline: May 31, 2024**

[Association on American Indian Affairs Scholarship](#)

Calling all Native students in STEM and Native Studies! We are awarding fifteen \$2,000 scholarships in partnership with CBIKS at UMass Amherst. Connect with Indigenous Knowledges to tackle climate challenges and more! **Application deadline: May 31, 2024**

[Native Climate - Climate Reporter Internships \(Remote\)](#)

The Native Climate project, led by the Desert Research Institute, seeks four high school, college, graduate, or recently graduated students from across the US for a 10-week summer internship in multimedia storytelling. Interns will report on climate change impacts and resilience actions among Indigenous peoples in their regions, telling stories that build connections between traditional knowledge, Indigenous practices, and Western scientific understanding of climate change. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Tohono O'odham Nation - Environmental Specialist](#)

Under general supervision, this position protects the land, natural resources, and eco-system conditions of the Tohono O'odham Nation by assessing environmental impacts of past, present and future operations. Conducts tests and field investigations to obtain data for use in determining sources and methods of controlling pollutants in air, water, and land. **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/itep/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/>

[Sea Grant FY 2024 National Aquaculture Initiative: Enhancing Production of Coastal, Marine, and Great Lakes Aquaculture Species](#)

Sea Grant anticipates \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 will be available for research projects and programs that will develop and refine methods, protocols, techniques, and/or strategies to enhance the production of one or more life stages of aquaculture species (described below) with the overall goal of improving the efficiency, output, and profitability of commercial coastal, marine, or Great Lakes region aquaculture businesses. Proposals are sought that will support broad, non-proprietary research to address issues and/or barriers to aquaculture production; make that information available to aquaculture businesses; and preferably include participation and involvement of Sea Grant extension personnel and industry stakeholders.

Application deadline: April 3, 2024

[America's Ecosystem Restoration Initiative: America the Beautiful Challenge 2024 Request for Proposals](#)

The America the Beautiful Challenge vision is

to streamline grant funding opportunities for new voluntary conservation and restoration projects throughout the United States. This RFP consolidates funding from multiple federal agencies and the private sector to enable applicants to conceive and develop large-scale, locally led projects that address shared funder priorities spanning public, Tribal, and private lands. **Application deadline: April 4, 2024**

[Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program - Emergency Drought Relief for Tribes](#)

Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Native American Affairs and International Affairs Office (NAIAO) is authorized to distribute funds for near-term drought relief actions to mitigate the impact of drought on Native American communities impacted by the operation of BOR water projects, including direct financial assistance to address drinking water shortages and to mitigate the loss of Tribal resources. There will be no cost sharing requirements imposed on applicants. Awards for applications are limited to \$500,000. **Application deadline: April 11, 2024**

[First Nations Development Institute: Grant Support for Tribal Co-Management and Co-Stewardship](#)

This grant will provide Tribes with resources to build necessary capacity to negotiate, implement, and monitor co-management and co-stewardship agreements with a federal agency. This includes legal expertise to support development of relevant agreements. The ultimate goal is to restore tribal stewardship, allowing Tribes to serve as anchors promoting greater ecological connectivity across the landscapes. First Nations is now accepting applications under our Stewarding Native Lands program to support Tribal co-management and co-stewardship planning and related capacity building. First Nations expects to award **5 grants up to \$75,000 each** to eligible Tribes. **Application deadline: April 18, 2024**

[Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants Competition for Tribes & Territories](#)

This notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) announces the availability of up to \$300 million for competitive grants to eligible applicants to implement GHG reduction programs, policies, projects, and measures identified in a PCAP developed under a CPRG planning grant. This competition is exclusively for tribes and territories. Lead organizations for tribes and territories must submit their PCAPs to EPA by the deadline of April 1, 2024, in order for lead organizations and other eligible applicants under

this announcement to submit grant applications to fund measures contained in those plans. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 25 to 100 grants ranging between \$1 million and \$25 million under this tribes and territories competition. **Application deadline: May 1, 2024**

[National Endowment for the Humanities - Cultural and Community Resilience](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access is accepting applications for the Cultural and Community Resilience program. This program supports community-based efforts to address the impacts of climate change and COVID-19 by safeguarding cultural resources and fostering cultural resilience through identifying, documenting, and/or collecting cultural heritage and community experiences. The program prioritizes projects from disadvantaged communities in the United States or its jurisdictions, and NEH encourages applications that employ inclusive methodologies. **Application deadline: May 21, 2024**

[First Nations Development Institute: Advancing Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Grant](#)

To support climate action that addresses adaptation and disaster preparation First Nations established the second project under its newly created Climate Initiative, Advancing Tribal Nature-Based Solutions. This project is designed to provide tribes and Native nonprofits with resources to support climate action that addresses adaptation and disaster preparation (e.g., wildfires, flooding, drought) through the application of nature-based solutions based on Native knowledge. **Application deadline: May 22, 2024**

[2024 Community Marine Debris Removal Program](#)

The University of Alaska - Fairbanks expects to award up to \$200,000 per project, and the projects will be administered by Alaska Sea Grant. The projects will conduct onshore or boat-based removal of marine debris, such as derelict fishing gear or consumer debris. Removal locations may include bays, marshes, and beaches, as well as upstream sources such as coastal adjacent streams, rivers, ponds, and shorelines. Eligible applicants include Alaska-based municipal and borough governments, Tribal governments and organizations, non-profit organizations, K-12 educational institutions, private businesses, and individuals. Regional entities may apply on behalf of multiple communities. **Application deadline: May 28, 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>

April 2024

Conference: April 2-4, Tucson, Arizona

[Confluence 2024- Western Collaborative Conservation Network](#)

Confluence 2024 will address the interests and needs of collaborative conservation groups and capitalize on the collective wisdom, creativity, and inspiration that draws all of us to the practice of collaborative conservation. We will focus on several key collaborative conservation topics including climate hope, achieving collaborative conservation success, leveraging funding to secure capacity and sustainability, and bridging divides. Confluence 2024 is perfect for conservation practitioners, academics, students, and volunteers from across the Western US and beyond who are experienced or interested in collaboration as a key element of their work.

Summit: April 15-17, 2024, Muckleshoot Casino Resort
[2024 National Tribal Leaders Climate Summit](#)

The Summit will engage Tribal leaders, citizens, staff, youth and collaborators in conversation about navigating the cultural, economic, and social challenges of climate change. The goal of the summit is to hear from Tribal communities on the front-lines of climate change; explore what a just transition looks like for diverse Tribal Nations; and discuss how Tribal sovereignty and co-management can advance climate action.

Training: April 29-May 3, Bethel, AK
[Alaska Tribal Climate Resilience Learning Network - Land and Climate Work Session](#)

The Alaska Tribal Climate Resilience Learning Network (AK TRLN) invites you to participate in a training initiative focused on addressing the pressing challenges faced by Alaska Indigenous communities due to climate change and its impact on land planning decisions. The AK TRLN will be hosting a Land and Climate Work Session (April 29-May 3) in Bethel to explore essential training that addresses climate change and its impact on land planning decisions and land stewardship within Alaska Native Tribes and communities. **Deadline to apply is April 5, 2024**

May 2024

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

[12th Annual Rising Voices Workshop](#)

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

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

[Nation Tribal Forum of Air Quality](#)

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

SAVE THE DATE! Symposium: May-6, 2024, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
[12th Annual "Living Breath of wələbʔaltxw" Indigenous Foods Symposium](#)

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

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

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

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

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

[National Adaptation Forum](#)

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

Workshop: May 20-22, 2024, Sulphur, OK

[Climate Change Adaptation for Tribes and Tribal Partners Workshop](#)

This workshop is co-sponsored by the South Central CASC and will be held May 20 – 22 at the Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center in Sulphur, OK. Participants are encouraged to register with teams (3-5 people) of relevant collaboration. (e.g. Tribal staff and partners on a project). Participants will work with these teams to conduct group work to integrate climate adaptation into an existing project. **The registration deadline is April 22.**

International Indigenous News and Events

In the News

[Looking Ahead: Indigenous Peoples' Rights at COP16 CBD in Cali, Colombia](#)

The 16th meeting of the [Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity \(CBD COP16\)](#) will be held in Cali, Colombia from October 21-November 1, 2024. This is the first meeting of the Parties of the Convention since the adoption of the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#), which aims to eliminate key drivers of biodiversity loss, the implementation of which will be a key issue connecting issues of biodiversity conservation and human rights. These issues include access to justice and protection of environmental human rights defenders, rights of Indigenous Peoples to lands, territories, and resources, and recognition of the values, knowledge, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples to biodiversity conservation. Parties will present updated Action Plans and Strategies, and countries where Indigenous Peoples live will have to demonstrate how they have included their rights and interests. ([Cultural Survival, 03/19/2024](#))

[The Peruvian Court of Nauta recognizes the rights of the Marañón River and the Indigenous communities as its guardians](#)

In a historic milestone for the protection of the Marañón River, led by Indigenous Kukama women of Peru, the Peruvian Mixed Court in Nauta ruled to protect the rights of the Marañón River, one of the country's most significant rivers and water sources and the first source of the Amazon. The ruling stated that the river has intrinsic value and recognized it as a Subject of Rights, codifying a series of inherent rights. Since 2021, the Huaynakana Kamatahuara Kana Federation have been spearheading a battle against State and Peruvian authorities, demanding protection for the river from the constant oil spills of the Norperuvian oil pipeline. ([International Rivers, 03/19/2024](#))

[Science must be inclusive and not exclusive says UN expert](#)

UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights, Ms. Alexandra Xanthaki of Greece, reported to the Human Rights Council that the right to participate in science must be recognized for everyone, and not restricted to a few. She went on to state that "The meaning of science must be inclusive and not exclusive, giving full consideration to scientific diversity," and calling for a decolonized understanding of science that was inclusive of the plurality of science, traditions, and cultural diversities

[Thai Cabinet Unanimously Approves Protection and Promotion of Ways of Life of Ethnic Groups Act](#)

On February 28th, 2024, the Thai cabinet unanimously approved the principles outlined in the Protection and Promotion of Ways of Life of Ethnic Groups Act. The Act aims to address key points, including prohibiting discrimination and integrating ethnic groups into political and social processes at all levels. The aim was to ensure that individuals can live in society according to their cultures, traditions, and original ways of life without disruption. ([The Pattaya News, 03/01/2024](#))

Resources

[ART's Controversial Certification of Carbon Credits to the Government of Guyana: A Case Study on Challenges for "High-Integrity" Labels in Carbon Markets \(GUYANA\)](#)

The voluntary carbon market has come under intense scrutiny over concerns around the environmental and social integrity of the carbon credits being sold. Even certification bodies are seemingly incapable of delivering on their promise to certify "high-integrity" credits. The certification of jurisdictional REDD+ carbon credits by the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions to the Government of Guyana provides an important case study on the challenges facing the high-integrity carbon market. ([Forest Peoples Programme, 02/29/2024](#))

[The importance of worldwide linguistic and cultural diversity for climate change resilience](#)

Local minority languages and dialects, through the local knowledge and expertise associated with them, can play major roles in analyzing climate change and biodiversity loss, in facilitating community awareness of environmental crises and in setting up locally-adapted resilience and sustainability strategies. While the situation and contribution of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples are of emblematic importance, the issue of the relationships between cultural and linguistic diversity and environmental awareness and protection does not solely concern peripheral highly-specialized communities in specific ecosystems of the Global South, but constitutes a worldwide challenge regardless of geographic location, economic development, or political status. ([Ecology Letters, 03/22/2024](#))

Call for Input

[JISD Call for Papers: Special Issue on Indigenous Resurgence amidst Climate Disruption](#)

The Journal of Indigenous Social Development (JISD) is calling for papers for a special issue that examines the resurgence of Indigenous thought and action amidst climate disruption. The JISD Board is seeking manuscripts examining Indigenous resilience and response reflecting the intent of the journal to support the push back on colonialism and the centering of Indigenous philosophies, values, perspectives, and practices for Indigenous peoples. Manuscripts are invited which examine how Indigenous communities in different parts of the world are leading their own climate responses and 'just transitions', grounded in their connections to territory, ancestral knowledges, and responsibilities to current and future generations. **Submission deadline: April 30, 2024**

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Climate Change Associate - Center for Indigenous Environmental Resources \(CIER\), CANADA](#)

The successful candidate will be keen to join our team to support project implementation in the areas of climate change, energy conservation, and community communication. The role is best suited for an individual that is able to work closely and collaboratively in a team setting. CIER personnel work in a virtual office setting and

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offer flex work arrangements. This position will include traveling to remote communities and urban centers on a regular basis.

Application Deadline: April 5, 2024

[Climate Change Project Manager - Center for Indigenous Environmental Resources \(CIER\), CANADA](#)

CIER's mission is to work in partnership with Indigenous Governments to support and build sustainable Indigenous communities and a healthy environment. Their work focuses on the many aspects of building sustainable communities and protecting lands and waters. The role of Climate Change Project Manager is best suited for an individual that is able to work closely and collaboratively in a team setting but is also a motivated self-starter and leader in accomplishing project work. We love people with ideas and the willingness and commitment to try and solve problems. Although the majority of your time will be supporting green energy and community retrofit projects (80%), you will support other CIER initiatives (20%) as well. Application Deadline: April 5, 2024

Funding and Fellowship Opportunities

[Scholarship for the Diploma in Climate Fund Monitoring for the Empowerment of Indigenous Youth \(1st Edition, 2024\) \(Due April 9, 2024\)](#)

[Scholarship for Expert Degree in Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights, and International Cooperation \(Due April 21, 2024\)](#)

[2024 Indigenous Communities Fellowship](#)

[Solve](#) continues to hear from Indigenous leaders about the essential role culture and traditional knowledge systems must play in any business, nonprofit, or social enterprise designed by and for their communities. Moreover, there is an ever-increasing call from Indigenous peoples to generate, modify, and control their own technologies for the sake of their communities. Whether working with data banks, financial institutions, agriculture, energy, and more, the time is past due for local control of the services and technologies serving Indigenous peoples. MIT Solve seeks exceptional innovators supporting community-based solutions by and for Indigenous communities across the United States and Canada. While we are excited to select and support innovators with any focal area, we have a particular interest for 2024 in solutions that:

- Strengthen sustainable energy sovereignty and support climate resilience initiatives by and for Indigenous peoples.
- Drive positive outcomes for Indigenous learners of any age and context through culturally grounded educational opportunities.
- Promote culturally informed mental and physical health and wellness services for Indigenous community members.
- Advance community-driven digital sovereignty initiatives in Indigenous communities, including the ethical use of AI, machine learning, and data technologies.

Application deadline: April 18, 2024

Events

UN Forum: April 15-26, 2024, UN Headquarters, New York City, New York (in-person only)

[United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues \(UNFP/II\) Twenty-Third Session](#)

This year's theme is "Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP): emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth". The agenda will include a discussion on the primary theme, as well as a discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to UNDRIP and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Conference: May 6-9, 2024, Gran Melia Arusha, Arusha, Tanzania (in-person only)

[CBA18: Local Solutions Inspiring Global Action](#)

CBA18 brings together practitioners, grassroots representatives, local and national government planners, policymakers and donors working at all levels and scales to discuss how we can drive ambition for a climate resilient future. CBA is a space for the adaptation community to share learning on community-based and locally led adaptation systems, and to explore how to put the principles for locally led adaptation (LLA) into practice, recognising the complexities, innovations and challenges that must be overcome.

Conference: May 15-16, 2024, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway (in-person only)

[Conference on Human Geographies of Climate Change Adaptation](#)

The Centre for Climate and Energy Transformation brings together climate change practitioners from across the globe working on research through a human geography lens. Themes include Adaptation in the Arctic, Adaptation limits, Political economies of adaptation, Methodologies for adaptation, Adaptation metrics and assessments, and Adaptation practice.

Congress: May 29-June 3, 2024, Bodø, Norway (in-person only)

[Arctic Congress](#)

The Arctic Congress combines three conferences together: the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, UArctic Congress, and the High North Dialogue. The congress includes high-level plenary sessions and parallel sessions with opportunities for researchers, policymakers, businesses, and students to increase connectivity and knowledge exchange on Arctic issues.