



Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

February 2025

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.



Lost Dutchman State Park, snow, Arizona. Adobe.stock

Meet the Climate Change Team

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Mom and baby Bald Eagle. Adobe.stock

The Diné (Navajo) reference to the Gregorian month of February, is Atsá Biyáázh and translates to “baby eagles.” It is a time of the year when baby eagles hatch and a sign of spring weather coming soon. For many of us, it is when we are already planning to plant and grow our crops. My mother has already asked my partner to help plow her field and asked us to help her plant corn, squash, melons, and beans.

In the Western, non-Indigenous society, the beginning of the Gregorian New Year is used as a time to renew, restart, set new goals, and refresh. In some way, this correlates with the Diné reference to February when baby eagles are hatched – a sign of new and good things coming our way. I do not think it matters which culture or faith we are a part of or follow, but that we should always strive to be better. That is the message I try to relay to our children as they are navigating how to interact with other kids that involve emotions and actions that they are not familiar with. The teachings my Elders imparted to me were just that – always try to be better than you were yesterday. It can be hard if you are reactive instead of responsive.

I often think of our plant relatives who work together so they can be supportive of one another to create strong and resilient communities. In turn, these communities support wildlife and humans who use them to survive. One of my favorite examples comes from the [Menominee Tribal Enterprises](#), who describe the diverse communities of trees that work with humans to maintain healthy ecosystems. That is precisely what we, you and me, are trying

to do with our work to ensure our ways of living is cared for using Traditional Knowledges and Western Knowledges. We have to continue working together, even though we may disagree, to build strong, resilient and supportive communities. I often tell people that we are unable to do our work solo. It is possible in some field but for the most part, we need each other. We need to support one another.

I leave you with words of encouragement to continue the strong and important work you do. I know I need to hear of your work on days I feel uninspired. I appreciate you and all that you are doing for our Mother Earth and our non-human relatives.

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

In The News

NEW SECTION: TCTAC TIDBIT

In late January, Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC) Coordinator, Kieren Daley-Laursen attended the America the Beautiful Challenge (ATBC) and NFWF National Programs Retreat Cohosted by the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and the Catawba Nation. This event included a grant writing workshop for large grants, peer-to-peer support sessions, and listening sessions with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Kieren shared TCTAC resources with participants, highlighting the TCTAC's ability to assist in large grant applications. In addition, participants took part in a site visit to the Catawba Nation where ecological restoration projects related to river cane, culvert restoration, and habitat restoration were underway. These projects are all funded by the America the Beautiful Challenge Grant program administered by the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society. The grant title is being changed to "Americas Ecosystem Restoration Initiative" and will likely open for the 2025 funding cycle next month. For more information visit: <https://grants.nafws.org/>

Native Organizations Fill Gaps in Federal Support for Tribal Renewable Energy, Healing Native Communities

Native-led renewable energy organizations and projects are blossoming across the United States with the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) serving as the game changing catalyst. The IRA provides Tribes with renewable energy tax credits for the first time (covering up to 70% of project cost) and increases funding for Tribal energy loans from \$2 to \$20 billion! ©j Resilience, 01/22/25

Javelina Just Became Portland's Only Indigenous Restaurant

Portland finally has an Indigenous restaurant. Javelina, which started as a pop-up in November 2023, opened as a permanent brick-and-mortar on January 23 at Lil' Dame. By day, Javelina is a counter-service restaurant serving contemporary Native American dishes like fry bread alongside traditional foods like someviki, a.k.a. Hopi corn tamales.

Starting February 8, Javelina will transform at night into Inísha, a multi-course dinner concept. Inísha will use only ingredients native to "Turtle Island". ©Eater, 01/28/25

Bringing Black Abalone Back From The Brink

On a cool October day, the wind whipped around Nathaniel Fletcher as he bear-crawled his way along a rocky reef in the Jack and Laura Dangermond Preserve, a protected area on California's central coast. He reached into cracks and peered into crevices with a flashlight, hoping to find an endangered marine snail whose shell recently has become California's state seashell: the black abalone. © High Country News, 02/01/25.

CSKT Climate Change Coordinator Mike Durglo Reflects on 'Groundbreaking' Effort to Integrate Indigenous Knowledge in Federal Actions

Mike Durglo, Climate Change Coordinator for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT), never expected to become part of a "groundbreaking" movement to integrate Indigenous Knowledge into federal policy. Yet, a couple years ago, Durglo, along with five others, were invited to West Virginia to help develop a landmark handbook aimed at ensuring Indigenous Knowledge is incorporated into the actions and scientific research of the Department of the Interior (DOI). © Char-Koosta News, 02/13/25

Leonard Peltier Released From 49 Years of Wrongful Incarceration

This morning, Leonard Peltier was released from over 49 years of wrongful incarceration. Mr. Peltier is an enrolled citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and will reside on his tribal homelands in North Dakota. Upon Peltier's request, NDN Collective is bringing him home to the Turtle Mountain community. NDN Collective and partners built upon five decades of organizing and led the advocacy that secured Peltier's release. Tomorrow, the organization is hosting a celebratory event and community feed to welcome Peltier back to his homelands. © NDN Collective, 02/18/25

Over 200 Native Programs And Grants Feel Chill Of Federal Funding Freeze

The following is a non-exhaustive list of federal grants and programs applicable for Federally Recognized Tribes, State Recognized Tribes, American Indian communities, and Tribal Colleges. On Jan 27, the White House Office of Budget Management issued a memo freezing all federal grants and programs. . ©MVSKE Media, 02/18/25

Michael Kotutwa Johnson-Arizona Highways

Coming up through the Painted Desert from Flagstaff, we pull into the Kykotsmobi Village convenience store, where Michael Kotutwa Johnson greets us. He's a faculty member at the University of Arizona's School of Natural Resources and the Environment and a core faculty member of the UA's Indigenous Resilience Center. Today, he wears a shirt with broad, faded stripes and a pair of loose-fitting pants. He's dressed for a day of farming. Johnson climbs into his copper-colored 1974 Ford F-250, dinged in a few spots and spattered with dried sandstone mud, and leads us up a dusty road to the farm. He pulls over at a Hopi-style dwelling with irregular stonework and a ladder jutting above the roofline. © Arizona Highways, February 2025

Bia Launches Operation Spirit Return To Help Solve Indian Country Missing And Unidentified Person Cases

The Bureau of Indian Affairs announced today that the Office of Justice Services has launched Operation Spirit Return, an initiative to help solve missing and unidentified person cases involving American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States. The initiative is being conducted by the BIA's Missing and Murdered Unit to identify unknown human remains located within or close to Indian Country and are believed to belong to either American Indian or Alaska Native persons. The operation will focus on reuniting remains with family members and returning them to their tribal communities. The unit is actively investigating 15 unidentified persons cases from its regions, including Alaska. © BIA Press Release, 02/20/25

Resources

Advisory Opportunity: [California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment Requests Nominations for Tribal Advisory Group](#)

The California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) is opening a request for nominations to expand the California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment's (Fifth Assessment) Tribal Advisory Group. We are seeking Tribal participation from the Los Angeles, Inland Deserts, Central Coast, and San Francisco Bay regions. The Tribal Advisory Group is a critical component of the Fifth Assessment that will help ensure Tribal expertise and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) are respectfully and intentionally integrated into what has typically been a Western science dominated process. The Tribal Advisory Group will achieve this, by providing guidance and feedback on key pieces of the Fifth Assessment process, products, and Tribal Research Grant Program.

[Recognizing Indigenous Rights in Environmental Data](#)

Every day across the globe, environmental scientists are collecting approximately 274 terabytes of data, a number that is growing thanks to advancements in science and technology. The data, which ranges from soil composition to streamflows, is often collected or sampled from ecosystems that are stewarded by Indigenous peoples. In a new [Perspectives piece in Nature Communications](#), a group of researchers called the Earth Data Relations Working Group provide recommendations for how research practices can improve the governance of Indigenous data.

[Procedures for the Inclusion and Application of Indigenous Knowledge in the Actions of the Department](#)

A new handbook from the Department of the Interior describes "practices and guidance" for the Department to elevate and amplify Indigenous Knowledge in their research, policy development, and decision making. (Issued: January 17, 2025)

[A Path To Us Tribal Energy Sovereignty](#)

Native American Tribal lands are extraordinarily rich with energy and mineral resources. A rapidly changing energy system, increasing energy demand, and energy-related national security imperatives present Tribes with a generational economic opportunity. If the federal government respects Tribal sovereignty, resource extraction and related projects such as natural gas development, power plants, and data centers on Tribal lands can help create economic prosperity. Tribes could benefit from choosing to become better networked and integrated into domestic and global supply chains.

[Reconciliation and Climate Adaption: Indigenous Solutions for a Sustainable Future with James Rattling Leaf](#)

In this keynote, James Rattling Leaf, a respected advocate and expert in Indigenous Knowledge and environmental stewardship, will explore the intersection of reconciliation and climate adaptation. He will discuss how Traditional Ecological Knowledge and indigenous practices offer valuable insights and solutions for addressing the pressing challenges of climate change. Through the lens of reconciliation, James will highlight the importance of respecting indigenous sovereignty, honoring sacred relationships with the land, and incorporating indigenous wisdom into modern climate strategies. This presentation will emphasize the need for collaboration and dialogue, fostering a deeper understanding of how indigenous communities are adapting to climate impacts and leading innovative, sustainable solutions. Attendees will leave with a renewed commitment to allyship and actionable steps to support indigenous-led climate initiatives, paving the way for a more resilient and just future for all.

[Community Navigators Initiative- U.S. Forest Service](#)

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) provides funding and technical assistance to support rural communities, Tribes, forest landowners, businesses, and others. However, many face barriers to accessing these resources. Through the Community Navigators initiative, the Forest Service partners with local organizations, assigns staff to guide communities, and collaborates with federal agencies to share best practices. To date, there are many non-profit organizations that have signed agreements to work with communities to help build capacity and share information about USFS services, programs, and funding opportunities. For more information on how Community Navigators can help you, connect with our partners or email [Forest Service Community Navigator](#).

[Tribal Water and Natural Resources Conservation Guide](#)

This guide offers Tribal environmental programs resources on federal assistance for protecting waters, air quality, wildlife, habitats, and lands, addressing climate change, and engaging Tribal communities. The 75-page guide includes an introduction for new Tribal staff, quick reference tables, Tribal case studies, and federal planning tools. A supplemental Excel inventory lists 150+ federal funding programs for Tribal conservation. Input was provided by 10 federal agencies.

[Call for Abstracts | Oral Presentations, Lightning Talks & Poster Presentations](#)

The Scientific Program Committee invites abstracts for the 11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration (SER2025). This conference focuses on turning global restoration commitments into action as part of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. SER2025 brings together experts across science, practice, policy, finance, and culture to advance efforts in sustaining biodiversity, building climate resilience, and reconnecting nature and culture. Submissions should align with one of the eight conference themes, with practitioners especially encouraged to share their work.

[Session One: Enhancing the Preparedness and Resilience of Communities before Disasters Strike: the Case of Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico.](#)

In this session, the panelists will discuss different preparedness and resilience efforts that were rooted in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and have expanded to other regions of the USA including Florida and Texas. We will explore insights on how to place communities at the heart of preparedness planning, with representatives from the Community Resilience Research Innovation and Advocacy Center (CCRIA), the Latino Resilience Hub Network, and community-based research groups in Puerto Rico.

Job & Internship Opportunities

2025 Native Youth Community Adaptation Leadership Congress

Join students from across the country to discuss community adaptation and related environmental issues impacting Native peoples. The mission of the Native Youth Community Adaptation Leadership Congress (NYCALC) is to develop future conservation leaders with the skills, knowledge, and tools to address environmental change and conservation challenges to better serve their schools and home communities. In order to apply, students must be from Federally Recognized Tribes. **Application deadline: February 28, 2025**

NOAA Coastal Resilience Fellowship

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is pleased to announce the [Coastal Resilience Fellowship](#), which will place 33 fellows with [Climate Resilience Regional Challenge](#) projects and will be funded through the Inflation Reduction Act. This fellowship is a two-year opportunity (June 2025 to June 2027), offering a competitive salary of \$42,000 to \$56,000, depending on the cost of living in the fellowship location, plus medical benefits and travel and relocation expense reimbursement. **Application deadline: February 28, 2025**

Sustainability Senior Program Manager (Climate Resilient Landscapes)

Under limited supervision, the Sustainability Senior Program Manager provides support and coordination for all aspects of the design and implementation that advance the city's Nature-based solutions (NBS) efforts associated with Boulder's climate action plan and climate-related goals. Responsibilities include budgets, policy analysis, project and program management, effectiveness monitoring, and community and city engagements. This position will work independently to manage large projects or processes that include a variety of factors including economic, social, environmental and equity requirements and will track and incorporate regulatory, policy and technological developments to advise the city organization in adapting to and managing the climate crisis — particularly in the development of climate resilience in urban, natural and working landscapes. This work will include convening and managing multi-party collaborations, both within the city organization and with external stakeholders. The position requires specific subject matter expertise in the design, assessment, monitoring, and implementation of natural systems made to enhance carbon sequestration and climate change resilience benefits. This work will frequently require in-depth analysis of complex situations utilizing judgment in selecting methods, techniques, and evaluation criteria for obtaining results. The position may serve as a city representative to local, regional, state, and national committees. **Application deadline: March 7, 2025**

Director of the State Land Board- State of Colorado

The position serves as the Land Board Director. The director is the head of the division and has general supervisory control of and authority over all activities, functions, and employees of the division. The Director plans, organizes, directs and manages the operations of the Land Board. The position is responsible for interpretation and implementation of statutes, policies and directives issued by the Colorado Legislature, the office of the Governor, the DNR Executive Director, and members of the Colorado State Land Board of Commissioners. The Director's main job responsibilities are leadership, planning, policy development, operations management, and personnel management. **Application deadline March 24, 2025**

We Swim Together Scholarship Program

A \$2,500 scholarship is available to empower and support our Native students on their educational journey. Let's rise together and honor our heritage through knowledge and opportunity. **Application deadline: May 14, 2025**

Horticulturist - Native Seed Bank Development

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe is seeking a horticulturist to lead the establishment of a native seed bank for the expansion of its ecological restoration efforts. The incumbent will be responsible for identifying sources of native plant seed on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation, with initial focus around the Tribe's remnant Palouse prairielands in the area known as "Liberty Butte," and will monitor, harvest, dry, clean, and store native seed. This position requires a significant amount of time in the field, and the ability to work independently. **Application deadline: position open until filled.**

Community Program Coordinator

The team at Hopi Tutskwa seeks an energetic, self-motivated, and friendly individual to join our crew. The ideal candidate will demonstrate the ability to exercise consistent good judgment, discretion, sensitivity, leadership, creativity, follow through and attention to detail. We are seeking a creative individual who thrives in self-directed autonomous work, brings innovation to an established shared leadership team, is capable of building good relationships with our community, and has integrity and passion to strengthen and commit to Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture's mission and vision. The Coordinator will collaborate with community leaders, stakeholders, and partners to develop, promote, and evaluate high-quality programs that support the Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture's mission and vision. **Application deadline: positions open until filled**

Kurt Grinnell Aquaculture Scholarship Foundation (KGASF)

The Kurt Grinnell Aquaculture Scholarship Foundation (KGASF) is actively soliciting scholarship applications at this time. To qualify, students or prospective students must be: 1) an enrolled Member of a Tribe or First Nation, or a Member of a Metis, Inuit, Alaska or Hawaiian Native group; and 2) be enrolled to study at a university, community college or a technical or trade institution. In addition, students should be pursuing or planning to pursue a degree or certificate focused on: aquaculture; fisheries; natural resource management; or a field closely related to the above subjects, and must have a demonstrated interest in aquaculture. **Application deadline: accepted anytime of the year**

Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin Program Coordinator

CCMI and Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (FDL) have partnered to support a program dedicated to FDL resource management division projects called the Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin (Starting out in Earth Conservation) field crew program. This AmeriCorps program seeks to provide stewardship, environmental education, and workforce development opportunities for Indigenous young adults. **Application deadline: positions open until filled**

Communications Director- Native American Fish and Wildlife Society

The Communication Director (CD) of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) serves under the guidance and direction of the Executive Director. The CD will be responsible for implementing a creative comprehensive communication strategy or network to enhance the visibility of Native American Tribal Natural Resource Programs and Native peoples. This will include promoting the exchange of information related to Tribal fish and wildlife management techniques and policy initiatives in a way that meets the organization's mission and goals through media relations and public outreach initiatives. The CD will assist the Executive Director in the promotion and outreach of events and trainings for the NAFWS. **Application deadline: positions open until filled**

Center for Native Peoples and the Environment - Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership

The Center for Native Peoples and the Environment at the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science & Forestry is recruiting students for graduate study in diverse environmental science fields, including ecology, sustainability, conservation biology, restoration, environmental engineering, and more. Thanks to support from funders, positions include tuition, stipend, and professional development for Indigenous and Native students pursuing MS, MPS, and PhD degrees. **Application deadline: positions 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. <https://www.grants.gov/applicants/>
- 4) Conservation Innovation Grants (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>

Climate Smart Communities Initiative

The grants can help communities at any step in the planning process, and include funding, as well as training and technical support. The funding, anticipated at \$100,000 per award, can be used over a twelve-month period to advance activities ranging from risk assessments and community engagement to project prioritization and initial implementation. To be eligible for consideration, the community must be located in the United States and facing significant climate-related challenges, based on environmental as well as socioeconomic considerations. The application and the work must also be done as a collaboration between a community-based organization; a local, regional or Tribal government partner; and a climate adaptation professional. **Application deadline: March 3, 2025**

Earth Action: Ecological Conservation

The NASA Earth Science Division (ESD) seeks proposals for projects that apply Earth observations to improve or develop decision-making activities in ecological conservation and management. Any area of ecological conservation is welcome (e.g., invasive species, protected area management, fisheries or wildlife management, habitat restoration, ecosystem services, rewilding, biodiversity protection). Projects must not only facilitate the transition of project products to public-and/or private-sector organization(s) but also ensure that these products are adopted for sustained use in their decision-making

process(es). **Application deadline: March 14th, 2025**

Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants

Projects selected through this funding opportunity will have a transformative impact for coastal communities and tribes across the country. They will help sustain our nation's fisheries, make significant strides in the recovery of threatened and endangered species, and help protect coastal communities and ecosystems from the impacts of climate change. They will support efforts such as reconnecting rivers to their historic floodplains, outplanting corals to rebuild reefs, building living shorelines that protect coasts from erosion and sea level rise, and more **Application deadline: April 16, 2025**

2025 Indigenous Communities Fellowship

Indigenous innovation is as diverse and expansive as Indigenous communities, with entrepreneurs harnessing traditional knowledge systems, values, and teachings to reimagine and renew what is possible in their communities and beyond. Across the past seven years of the Fellowship, Indigenous innovators spanning the United States and Canada have demonstrated a long legacy of ingenuity, self-determination, and community-first organizing. Whether working in the fields to deploy food sovereignty programming, or behind a computer developing algorithms for community benefit—at the core of the Fellows' work is the intersection of tech-enabled and culturally grounded solutions. **Application deadline: April 17, 2025**

Fiscal Year 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

The BRIC grant program provides federal funds to states, territories, tribal governments, and local governments for hazard mitigation activities to address climate change risks. It focuses on building resilience to extreme weather events and chronic stressors, which are increasing in intensity and frequency. Key principles include capacity-building, fostering innovation such as multi-hazard resilience and nature-based solutions, promoting partnerships, enabling large-scale projects, and maintaining flexibility. These efforts help communities understand disaster risks, plan for resilience, and design and implement transformational hazard mitigation projects and programs. **Application deadline: April 18, 2025**

Fiscal Year 2024 Flood Mitigation Assistance

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments,¹ and local governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program

(NFIP), and within NFIP-participating communities. It does so with a recognition of the growing flood hazards associated with climate change,² and of the need for flood hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation, equity, and resilience with respect to flooding. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in intensity and frequency in the future. **Application deadline: April 18, 2025**

Lorraine Loomis Memorial Scholarship

Lorraine, an elder in the Swinomish Tribe, passed away in August 2021, ending a decades-long career advocating for Indigenous fishing rights at their intersection with salmon conservation. She served on the PSC Fraser River Panel since its inception in 1985, with several terms as Panel Chair and Vice Chair. Lorraine was also one of the first women to play an active role in fisheries policy and management, rising to prominence at the tribal, state, national, and international level. Her achievements and consensus building led to her replacing the esteemed Billy Frank Jr. as chair of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission upon his passing, receiving the inaugural PSC Larry Rutter Award for Pacific Salmon Conservation, and other accolades. The new PSC scholarship seeks to honor Lorraine's legacy and her many contributions to the fisheries community, with a view to inspiring and enabling future leaders like her. **Application deadline: April 30, 2025**

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities

Through this funding, NOAA will help support community-driven habitat restoration and build the capacity of tribes and underserved communities to more fully participate in restoration activities. Tribes, applicants that can demonstrate status as a tribal entity, an underserved community, or entities that partner with tribes, tribal entities, and/or underserved communities such as institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, commercial (for profit) organizations, U.S. territories, and state, local, and Native American and Alaska Native tribal governments. As part of their applications, applicants must demonstrate their status as, or connection to, a tribe, tribal entity, and/or an underserved community. **Application deadline: May 12, 2025**

U.S. Department of Transportation: Tribal Transportation Bridge Program

The TTP Bridge Program is focused on improving the number of TTP bridges in poor condition. This information has been created to assist our partners working to improve the condition of BIA/Tribally owned bridges and non-BIA/Tribally owned bridges. **Application accepted on a rolling basis**

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>

March 2025

Virtual Symposium: March 11-12, Online

[2025 Northeast Invasive Species and Climate Change Symposium](#)

Registration link coming soon

April 2025

Conference: April 28-29, New Orleans, LA
[Native American Finance Officers Association Conference](#)

The NAFOA Conference gathers semiannually in the Spring for our Annual Conference and the Fall for the Fall Finance & Tribal Economies Conference to discuss the current trends in tribal economic development and share resources with tribal financial professionals.

Conference: April 21-24, 2025, Reno, NV
[Tribal Drinking Water Conference](#)

The Rural Community Assistance Corporation and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are hosting the 2025 Tribal Drinking Water Conference on April 21-25, 2025, in Reno, Nevada. Ensuring both the quality and ample supply of drinking water is a multifaceted duty. Tribal Utilities must possess financial stability, managerial competence, and technical expertise to meet immediate water needs while safeguarding community health sustainably. Join the EPA and RCAC to expand your skills, gain insights, earn contact hours, network, and enjoy engaging activities.

Conference: April 28-29, New Orleans, LA
[Native American Finance Officers Association Conference](#)

The NAFOA Conference gathers semiannually in the Spring for our Annual Conference and the Fall for the Fall Finance & Tribal Economies Conference to discuss the current trends in tribal economic development and share resources with tribal financial professionals.

May 2025

***SAVE THE DATE!* Conference: May 6-8, Ventura, CA**
[2025 SW Tribal Climate Change Summit](#)

Save the date for the 2025 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit! More information coming soon. Subscribe to our Newsletter to receive updates as they are announced.

Conference: May 20-21, Tucson, Arizona
[WRRC 2025 Annual Conference - Shared Borders. Shared Waters: Working Together in Times of Scarcity](#)

The conference program will focus on the challenges and successes of collaborations across borders, with a primary focus on Arizona and the Colorado River Basin. Discussions will cover collaboration on waters shared by the United States and Mexico, as well as cooperation across borders shared with sovereign Tribal Nations, interstate borders, and borders within Arizona.

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.

June 2025

June 21-26, 2025, Shepherdstown, West Virginia

[Native Youth Community Adaptation Leadership Congress](#)

Join students from across the country to discuss climate adaptation and related environmental issues impacting Native peoples. The mission of the Native Youth Community Adaptation Leadership

Congress (NYCALC) is to develop future conservation leaders with the skills, knowledge, and tools to address environmental change and conservation challenges to better serve their schools and home communities. This annual gathering is held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

September 2025

Conference: September 30-October 4, Denver, CO
[The 11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration \(SER2025\)](#)

SER's World Conference is an exciting and inspiring biennial gathering of global experts in ecological restoration, making the 11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration (SER2025) the premier venue for those interested in being active members of the global restoration community.

October 2025

Conference: October 20-22, Milwaukee, WI
[2025 Midwest Climate Resilience Conference](#)

The [University of Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership \(MCAP\)](#) offers critical resources and training to help communities respond to changing climate conditions and prepare for the years to come. Affiliated with both University of Minnesota Extension and the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, we perform foundational climate research while also offering hands-on support to individuals and organizations across a range of backgrounds and industries in Minnesota, the Midwest region and beyond.

International Indigenous News & Resources

In the News

[Can communities living side by side with wildlife beat Africa's national parks at conservation?](#)

Across the continent, millions of hectares of land are being used and run by local people coexisting with wildlife in spaces where both can thrive. ©The Guardian, 01/28/2025.

[How Tanzania's Maasai are being forced off their ancestral land](#)

In recent years, the Maasai in Ngorongoro district - a region renowned for abundant wildlife - have been the target of evictions. The government claims the evictions are necessary to protect the environment from a large Maasai population. The reality, however, is that the right of the Maasai to use that land is being taken away by the government, then the land is leased to lucrative wildlife tourism and elite hunting grounds. Tourism, mostly driven by wildlife, constitutes over 17% of the country's GDP. ©Nation, 01/19/2025.

[Reindeer herders fight the power in Norway's frozen north](#)

Indigenous Sami are facing an increasingly tough battle to maintain their way of life as land is pinched in a relentless green infrastructure drive. As an example, Norway already has 64 wind farms, but the issue has become increasingly contentious as reindeer-herding land is pinched between the effects of climate change and the effects of development. Compounding concerns, plans are underway for 11 more potential new wind plants and four power grids across the country's northernmost region. ©The Times, 01/21/2025.

[How a Nagaland activist is reviving traditional practices to combat climate change](#)

Seno Tsuhah, an activist from Nagaland's Chakhesang tribe, has been leading initiatives to revive millet cultivation and ecological farming, helping communities adapt to climate change while preserving traditional knowledge. Growing up amid the Indo-Naga conflict, Tsuhah dedicated her life to community development, advocating for indigenous knowledge, social justice, and environmental sustainability. ©Mongabay, 02/10/2025.

[Barriers keeping women from top tables at UN climate talks](#)

The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) surveyed and conducted interviews with people close to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) to find out how and why women are outnumbered by men within the process, particularly in senior roles. ©IIED, 02/2025.

Call for Input & Nominations

[Call for Inputs: "Water and Energy Nexus: the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and access to energy for all"](#) (United Nations)

For his upcoming report, the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur on Human Rights to Water and Sanitation is calling for insights on the connection between water and energy, specifically how access to energy, for various uses, impacts the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. Deadline: February 28, 2025

[Call for Submissions: "Gender & Climate Change Technical Workshop"](#) (United Nations)

The development of the new Gender Action Plan will begin at SB 62 (62nd session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation) with a view to recommending a draft decision for consideration and adoption at COP 30 (November 2025). At SB 62, Parties and observers will come together to discuss the design, including the structure and content of the activities in the new gender action plan at an in-session workshop. Call for submissions related to the workshop closes: March 31, 2025. (Tip: search "Gender" on the submission portal site to find the submission page.)

[Call for Inputs: Human Rights in the life cycle of Renewable Energy and Critical Minerals](#) (United Nations)

In her upcoming report to the UN General Assembly, the Special Rapporteur seeks to synthesise and analyse a varied body of evidence (from across the natural and social sciences, including Indigenous science and other knowledge systems) of the positive and negative human rights impacts of different sources, scales and stages to renewable energy development, throughout their full life cycle, including the extraction and re-use of critical minerals. On that basis, the report will seek to clarify States' international human rights obligations, individually and as part of international cooperation, as well as business responsibility, to support a just transition while enhancing the protection of everyone's human right to a healthy environment and the prevention of foreseeable negative human rights impacts of certain climate mitigation approaches. **Deadline: April 30, 2025**

[Call for Inputs: "Global trends in challenges affecting peasants and other people working in rural areas, as well as their right to equal participation"](#) (United Nations)

Despite important strides in recognizing their contributions, persistent and emerging risks - from insecure land tenure and restrictive seed policies to gender discrimination and inadequate social and labour protections - continue to undermine the stability and dignity of peasant and rural communities. In light of these challenges and pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 54/9, the Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas will prepare two thematic reports in 2025. The first report to be presented to the Human Rights Council, in September 2025, will offer an analytical overview of global trends and challenges affecting peasants. To inform the two thematic reports, the Working Group invites governments, peasants and other people working in rural areas, international and regional organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society, academics, companies and any other interested individuals and organizations to provide written inputs. **Deadline: March 21, 2025**

[Call for Inputs: "Study of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the impact of disinformation on the enjoyment and realization of human rights \(HRC resolution 55/10\)"](#) (United Nations)

Seeking the views of and inputs from and to take into account relevant work already done by stakeholders, including States, United Nations agencies, entities, funds and programmes within their respective mandates, international and regional organizations, the Office of the

International Indigenous Resources

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the treaty bodies, national human rights institutions, civil society, the private sector, academic institutions, multi-stakeholder initiatives and other relevant stakeholders, to conduct a study and to prepare a report on the impact of disinformation on the enjoyment and realization of human rights and to present it to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-first session. **Deadline: February 28, 2025.**

Call for Papers: [Advancing and Integrating Climate and Health Policies](#)

The Journal of Climate Change and Health is looking for original research articles that explore how health features in climate policymaking (and vice versa), how policies can benefit both climate and health goals, and what might be the most effective communication strategies to ensure the success of these policies for an upcoming special issue on climate change and health policies. **Deadline: June 20, 2025.**

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Job: Cultural Survival - Capacity Building Program Assistant](#)

Reporting to the Capacity Building Program Manager, this position ensures the smooth execution of program activities and contributes to the overall efficiency and impact of CS's global Capacity Building initiatives. Key responsibilities include facilitating internal and external communications, coordinating logistics, and managing administrative tasks to enhance the program's effectiveness. The assistant will support the planning and execution of site visits, workshops, and events, as well as oversee email correspondence, report compilation, meeting minutes, and the drafting, reviewing, and editing program-related documents. **Application deadline: February 24, 2025.**

[Job: Arctic Council - Executive Secretary of the Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat \(IPS\)](#)

The Arctic Council was established in 1996 as a high-level intergovernmental forum to promote cooperation, coordination, and interaction among the eight Arctic states (Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States) with the involvement of six international Indigenous peoples' organizations as Permanent Participants (Aleut International Association, Arctic Athabaskan Council, Inuit Circumpolar Council, Gwich'in Council International, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Saami Council). The Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat (IPS) was established in 1994 as an institution supporting the Indigenous Peoples' Organizations under the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy. The Executive Secretary of IPS is responsible for the daily management of the Secretariat, including the supervision of the IPS Advisor. **Application deadline: March 5, 2025.**

[Job: Indigenous Climate Action - Communications Manager](#)

ICA is seeking a Communications Manager to develop, organize and manage ICA communications and public relations internally and externally while maintaining online platforms. Reporting to the Director of Communications and Engagement and works closely with the Engagement Manager, as well as overseeing and supervising communications coordinators. In addition, the Communications Manager will be required to develop communications plans for initiatives from other areas of

ICA, including the Development and Funding team and the Programs and Education team. **Application deadline: Open until filled.**

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[Cohort: Indigenous Climate Action's Climate Leadership Program \(CLP\)](#)

The CLP is a transformative initiative built through community engagements and knowledge-sharing sessions from around so-called 'Canada'. Fundamentally, the CLP serves to facilitate capacity-building, information and resource exchanges, and advocacy among Indigenous leaders, communities, and beyond. Eligible participants must self-identify as Indigenous, be 18 years of age or older, be located on Turtle Island (North America). **Application deadline: ASAP**

[Youth Opportunity: International Water Resources Association Rapporteur for World Water Congress](#)

IWRA is looking for rapporteurs to help capture key insights and discussions at the XIX World Water Congress in Marrakech, Morocco (1-5 December, 2025) **Application deadline: March 13, 2025.**

Resources & Funding

[Funding: Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund - Food Sovereignty Bundles \(Canada\)](#)

The Food Sovereignty Bundles are made possible by the Walmart Foundation. Eligible organizations and groups can apply for \$5,000 to \$100,000 for projects centered on food sovereignty, food security, and nutritional health and wellness, while embedding Indigenous knowledge and practices to achieve community resilience. All project activities and organizations must be based in Canada. **Application deadline: March 28, 2025.**

[Funding: Re:wild Fonseca Species Conservation Fund \(FSCF\) - Americas & Caribbean](#)

The Fonseca Species Conservation Fund (FSCF) is for early career conservationists 35 years of age and younger in GEF-recipient countries to either start or progress their careers. The fund provides grants of up to \$25,000 to support conservation efforts for five threatened species groups — amphibians, freshwater fish, primates, small mammals, tortoises and freshwater turtles — in urgent need of intervention and conservation action. **Application deadline: March 30, 2025.**

[Resource: 4th Declaration for Health, Life and Defense of Our Lands, Rights and Future Generations, Adopted by the 4th International Indigenous Women's Symposium on Environmental Violence](#)

Organized and co-sponsored by the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), the International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI), the National Coordination of Widows of Guatemala (CONAVIGUA) and the Centre

International Indigenous Events

for the Indigenous Peoples' Autonomy and Development (CADPI).

Resource: [Advancing Indigenous Peoples' rights for inclusive and sustainable environmental governance in ASEAN](#)

ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is developing a regional policy instrument on environmental rights to advance and implement the human right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, however, the current policy draft doesn't recognize Indigenous Peoples and their rights. ASEAN countries largely lack comprehensive legal recognition for Indigenous Peoples, leading to the violations of rights enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other global frameworks. This report underscores the importance of defending environmental rights for ASEAN citizens and the importance of Indigenous Peoples to the environment in ASEAN.

Resource: [The 2024 small island developing states report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change](#)

The 2024 small island developing states (SIDS) report for the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change expands on the global Lancet Countdown 2023 and 2024 reports to explore the unique contexts, geographies, vulnerabilities, and needs that shape the evolving links between health and climate change in SIDS in the Pacific, Caribbean, and Atlantic, Indian Ocean, and South China Sea regions. SIDS were first recognised as a distinct grouping of island nations at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development; they share high vulnerability to extreme weather events, climate change, and global economic shocks. The message of the global Lancet Countdown is echoed in this Lancet Countdown report for SIDS: a health-centred response is essential to allay the severity of the encroaching impacts of global climate change on the health and wellbeing of populations.

Recording: [18th Protecting Mother Earth Conference \(Day 1\)](#); [\(Day 2\)](#); [\(Day 3\)](#) [videos]

Events

Training: March 10 - Virtual

[Virtual Training on the United Nations Human Rights Council's Third Universal Periodic Review of the United States](#)

Come learn about international human rights mechanisms, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and how they can aid in your advocacy efforts and put pressure on the U.S. government, both locally and nationally, to respect Indigenous Peoples' rights. Open to Tribal members and community advocates in preparation for the United Nations Human Rights Council's Third Universal Periodic Review of the United States in November 2025.

Conference, March 18-20 - Bodø, Norway
[Arctic Emergency Management Conference](#)

Join the international Arctic Emergency Management Conference & take part in discussions, networking & advancing emergency prevention, preparedness & response in the North.

Conference: March 31 - April 3 - Canberra, Australia
[Global Indigenous Data Sovereignty Conference](#)

The GIDSov Conference 2025 will bring together Indigenous Peoples from across the globe to reflect on the advances in IDSov and Indigenous Data Governance (IDGov) and map future pathways and aspirations for the next decade. The Conference will explore ways to move beyond principles and into practice. This internationally significant event will feature keynote speeches, presentations, workshops, and collaborative sessions, culminating with a Communique on the Conference resolutions.

Forum, April 21 - May 2, 2025 - UN Headquarters, New York, New York

[United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#)

2025's theme is "Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within United Nations Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges".

Conference, May 12-16, 2025 - Recife, Brazil
[19th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change \(CBA19\)](#)

The CBA conference series aims to bring together a community of practitioners that are collectively seeking to enable community-driven climate action. This year's theme is "How can we achieve just and equitable adaptation?"

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.

Conference: August 24-28, 2025 - Stockholm, Sweden
[World Water Week](#)

World Water Week remains as a unique meeting place that unites research, industry, and civil society, contributing to knowledge and policy development in the fields of water and climate. As before, the event is centred around a specific theme, providing diverse perspectives on the critical role of water in solving global challenges. The theme for 2025 is Water for Climate Action.

Conference, October 9-15, 2025 - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
[IUCN World Conservation Congress](#)

"IUCN's 1400+ government, civil society and Indigenous peoples' Member organisations vote on major issues to help guide humanity's relationship with our planet." Proposal/Abstract deadline: February 7, 2025.

Conference, October 13-16, 2025 - Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand
[Adaptation Futures 2025](#)

Adaptation Futures is the flagship event of the United Nations World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP). The premier international climate change adaptation conference series enables practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and academics from across the world to gather to network, collaborate, learn, and inspire.
Proposal/Abstract deadline: February 25, 2025.