

# *Climate Change Impact on Eastern Tribes*

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*Chair, Natural Resource Committee, USET  
Chair, TAMS Steering Committee  
National Tribal Water Council Member  
National Tribal Council Member*

# United South and Eastern Tribes

## Federally Unrecognized Tribal Entities

#	Tribal Entity	State	Culture Affiliation
1	Alghquhny Nation (Ohio Band)	OH	Algonquian
2	Caddo-Adai Indians, Inc.	LA	Caddo
3	Cane Break Band of Eastern Cherokee	GA	Cherokee
4	Cherokee-Powhatan Indian Association	NC	Cherokee
5	Cherokee Indians of Georgia	GA	Cherokee
6	Cherokee Indians of Idaho County	NC	Cherokee
7	Cherokee Indians of Robeson	NC	Cherokee
8	and Adjoining Counties		
9	Cherokee of Jackson County, Alabama	AL	Cherokee
10	Cherokee of Southeast Alabama	AL	Cherokee
11	Cherokee-Waccamaw Indian People	AL	Cherokee
12	Cherokee	AL	Cherokee
13	Chocoma-Apache Tribal Council	LA	Chocoma
14	Chillicothe-Cherokee Indians	LA	Cherokee
15	Chillicothe-Choctaw Tribal Council	LA	Choctaw
16	Choctaw East of the Mississippi	MS	Choctaw
17	Choctaw of Eastern Georgia	GA	Choctaw
18	Four Mile Indian Organization	GA	Cherokee
19	Georgia Tribe of Eastern Cherokee	GA	Cherokee
20	Halwa-Sopon Indian Tribe	MS	Choctaw
21	Hattiesburg	MS	Choctaw
22	Kewahaw Indian Nation	MS	Choctaw
23	Lanoka Hill	NC	Cherokee
24	Lumbee Regional Development Assn.	NC	Lumbee
25	MAChis Linear Alabama Creek Tribe	AL	Cherokee
26	Maitape Wampanoag	MA	Wampanoag
27	Mohican Indian Tribe	NC	Cherokee
28	Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana	IN	Miami
29	Nantuxo Tribe of Delaware	DE	Nantuxo
30	Nantuxo Lem-Lempe Indians	VA	Nantuxo
31	Nipmuc Tribal Council of Massachusetts	MA	Nipmuc
32	Chauchoyogungwah Band	OH	Cherokee
33	North Eastern U.S. Miami Inter-Tribal Association	OH	Miami
34	Oklevina Band of Seminole Indians	FL	Seminole
35	Piqua Sepa of Ohio Shawnee Indians	OH	Shawnee
36	Piscataway-Croato Confederacy and Sub-Tribes	MD	Piscataway
37	Principal Creek Indian Nation East of Mississippi	MS	Creek
38	Rampough Miamian Indians, Inc.	MD	Miamian
39	Red Clay Inter-Tribal Indian Band	NC	Cherokee
40	Santee Tribe, White Oak Indian Community	SC	Santee
41	Seminole Nation of Florida	FL	Seminole
42	Shawnee Nation United Remnant Band	OH	Shawnee
43	Southern Indian Nation	GA	Cherokee
44	St. Francis/Sokoki Band of Abenakis of Vermont	VT	Abenaki
45	Tama Tribal Town	GA	Cherokee
46	Tarasca Nation of North Carolina	NC	Tarasca
47	Tasika-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana	LA	Chitimacha
48	United Hoama Nation, Inc.	LA	Hoama
49	United Nipmuck Tribe	MA	Nipmuck
50	Upper Kuskopie Band of Shawnee Indians	VA	Shawnee
51	Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribal Assn.	VA	Shawnee
52	Waccamaw-Siccan Indian Association	SC	Waccamaw
53	Waccamaw-Siccan Development Assn.	SC	Waccamaw

## Federally Recognized Tribes

#	Tribal Entity	State	Culture Affiliation
1	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	TX	Algonquian
2	Arconkoc Band of Miami Indians	MI	Algonquian
3	Big Cypress (Seminole Tribe)	FL	Seminole
4	Brighton (Seminole Tribe)	FL	Seminole
5	Catawba Indian Nation	SC	Catawba
6	Catawba Indian Reservation	NC	Catawba
7	Cayuga Nation	NY	Cayuga
8	Choctaw Reservation	MS	Choctaw
9	Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana	LA	Chitimacha
10	Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	LA	Coushatta
11	Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	NC	Cherokee
12	Holly Wood (Seminole Tribe)	FL	Seminole
13	Hoosien Band of Maliseet Indians	ME	Maliseet
14	Indian Territory	OK	Choctaw
15	Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	LA	Choctaw
16	Manhasset Pequot Tribe	CT	Pequot
17	Miccosukee Tribe of Florida	FL	Miccosukee
18	Mohican Tribe of Connecticut	CT	Mohican
19	Narragansett Indian Tribe	RI	Narragansett
20	Old Springs Reservation	MS	Choctaw
21	Ojibwa Nation	NY	Ojibwa
22	Ojibwa Territory	MI	Ojibwa
23	Piqua Point	MI	Piqua
24	Perebonwe Indian Nation	MS	Perebonwe
25	Poarch Band of Creek Indians	AL	Creek
26	Seacaucan Nation of Indiana	IN	Seacaucan
27	St. Regis Band of Mohawk Indians	NY	Mohawk
28	Tobowanda Reservation	NY	Tobowanda
29	Tuscarora Tribe of Louisiana	LA	Tuscarora
30	Tuscarora Reservation	NY	Tuscarora
31	Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head	MA	Wampanoag



**Federally Recognized**  
Native American Tribal entities that are currently recognized by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

**Federally Unrecognized**  
Native American Tribes, groups, and bands that represent the interests of their members. They are generally landless. Some are recognized by the state, but are not yet federally recognized.

**UNET Tribes**  
Native American Tribal entities that are members of the United South and Eastern Tribes.

**Native American Land**

**Major Cities**

**State Capitals**

**National Capital**

**Major Highways**

**State Lines**



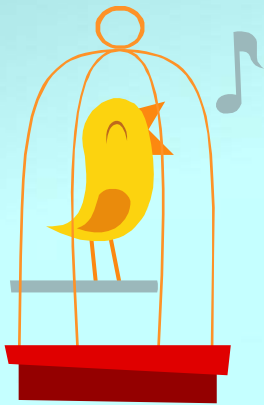
The Contemporary Native America Series  
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Phone (615) 872-7900 • Fax (615) 872-7417  
<http://use-web.org/omenda/USE/Tuset.htm>



# *USET Tribes*

- *25 Tribes, from Maine to SE Texas*
  - *538,000 acres (841 sq. mi, a bit less than RI)*
    - *<0.2% of eastern area (603,500 sq mi)*
  - *51,000 tribal members*
    - *0.04% of eastern population (121 million)*



*Canary in the gold mine*

# ***Tribal Vulnerability***

- ***Economically Challenged***
- ***Immobile***
- ***Poor Health***
- ***Spiritually/Culturally Invested in Specific Areas***
- ***High dependence on subsistence gathering***

# *Basic Observations*

- **Mitigation not a Choice:**
- **Adaptation only viable option:**
- **Limited actions available:**
  - Determine the changes
  - Identify the impacts
  - Determine adaptations that must be made
  - Develop strategic plan

# ***Water Resource Impacts***

- ***Warming***
- ***Increased Storm Intensity***
  - ***NPS impacts***
  - ***Erosion***
- ***Change in Location of ppt Events***
- ***Sea Level Rise***

# *Atmospheric Impacts*

- *Increased frequency/intensity of storm events*
- *Heat wave impacts*
- *Increased level of pollutants*
  - *HAPs*
  - *Ozone*
  - *SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>*
- *Wind pattern changes*

# *Impacts on Mercury*

- *Fish Consumption Advisories*
  - *No Freshwater fish except Trout*
- *“Reservoir Effect”*
  - *Enhanced Dry Periods Followed by Flooding*
  - *Everglades as Well as Northeast*



# *Maine Tribes*

- *Passamaquoddy Tribe Pleasant Point*
  - *140,000 acres, 2,100 pop.*
- *Passamaquoddy Township*
  - *1,400 pop. Shares trust land with PP*
- *Penobscot Tribe*
  - *67,000 acres, 2,200 pop.*
- *Aroostock Band of Micmacs*
  - *1,300 acres, 1.800 pop.*
- *Houlton Band of Maliseets*
  - *860 acres, 830 pop*

# *Maine Tribes*

- *Moose: ticks, range change due to spruce/fir*
- *Deer: loss of deer yards*
- *Forestry impacts*
- *Sugar maple*
- *Forest pests/insects*
- *<Ice skating*
- *Wood is harder to split*

# *Climate Change impacts on Forests*

***Spruce/fir***



***Hardwoods***



# *Maine Tribes*

- *Water*
  - *Salmon; lethal/chronic- behavior vulnerability*
  - *DO decrease*
  - *Algae blooms*
  - *Increased storms – nps pollution, turbidity*
  - *Lower pH – fresh and salt water*

# *Southern New England Tribes*

- *Wampanoag Tribe at Gay Head*
  - *285 acres, 1,000 pop.*
- *Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe*
- *Narragansett Tribe*
  - *1,950 acres, 2,620 pop.*
- *Mashantucket Pequot Tribe*
  - *1,400 acres, 315 pop.*
- *Mohegan Tribe*
  - *406 acres, 1,640 pop.*

# *Southern New England Tribes*

- *Increased fish and shellfish diseases*
- *Increased mosquitoes and ticks*
- *Decreased ice fishing*
- *Increased forest diseases*
- *Decreased water quality*
- *Decreased sustenance gathering*

# ***Southern New England Tribes***

- ***Wampanoag's of Gay head (Martha's Vinyard)***
  - ***Tularemia***
  - ***Spotted tick disease***
  - ***Rising sea water***
  - ***Changing sea water chemistry and lobster impacts***
- ***Mashpee Wampanoag's***
  - ***Ocean commercial fishing impacts***

# *New York Tribes*

- *St. Regis Band of Mohawks*
  - *14,760 acres, 2,700 pop.*
- *Oneida Indian Nation*
  - *17,000 acres, 1,000 pop*
- *Seneca Band of Indians*
  - *Approx. 20,000 acres, 7,300 pop.*
  
- *( a number of NY tribes have no land base)*



# *New York Tribes*

- *Chronic wasting disease in deer*
- *Brown ash impact*
- *Sugar maples impact*
- *Water quality deterioration*
- *Emerald borer impact on forests*
- *Increased storm events*
- *Positive impact on wind farm development?*

# *Cherokee-North Carolina*

- *56,750 acres, 8,100 pop.*
- *Positives:*
  - *Increased forest productivity*
  - *Alteration in medicinal food gathering*
  - *More tourists seeking cooler temps*

# *Cherokee- North Carolina*

- *Negatives:*
  - *Increased flooding/erosion*
  - *Increased fire hazards*
  - *Potential loss of spruce/fir and Carolina flying squirrel*
- *Freshwater Trout hatchery Impacts*
  - *Increased cost, mortality, and perhaps not feasible*
  - *Elimination of Appalachian Brook Trout*
  - *Major economic implications to Tribe*

# *Florida*

- *Miccosuki Tribe*
  - *79,712 acres, 550 pop.*
- *Seminole Tribe*
  - *89,000 acres, 2,760 pop.*

# Florida

- *Everglades impacts*
- *Rising sea water levels*
- *Increased mercury*
- *Decreased water quality/quantity*
- *Fires*
- *Invasive species*
- *Increased storm events*

# *Gulf Coast Tribes:*

- *Poarch Creek, Alabama*
  - *230 acres, 2,230 pop.*
- *Mississippi Band of Choctaw*
  - *37,000 acres, 8,825 pop.*
- *Tunica-Biloxi*
  - *1,462 acres, 920 pop.*

- *Chitmacha*
  - *445 acres, 1,070 pop.*
- *, Coushatta Band, Louisiana*
  - *3,581 acres, 835 pop.*
- *Alabama-Coushatta, Texas*
  - *4,600 acres, 1,001 pop.*

# *Gulf Coast Tribes*

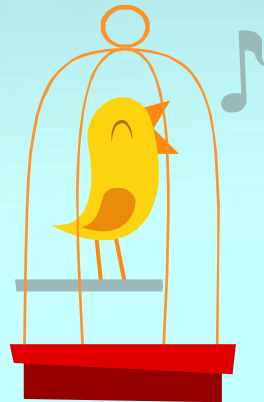
- *Increased storm events*
- *Drought/fires*
- *Long-leafed pine distress*
  - *Acid rain*
  - *Nitrogen deposition*



# *Agencies With Tribal Climate Change Programs*

- *EPA*
- *DOI*
- *USGS*
- *NASA*
- *NCAR*
- *AIHEC*
- *IIIRM*

- Dinè College*
- Haskell U.*
- ITEP*
- NTAA*
- BLM*
- NTSC*
- DOE*



# *Actions (1)*

- *Framework for Coordinated response*
- *One=stop Website at ITEP*
- *Mentoring*
- *Internships*
- *Forums*
- *Workshops*
- *Budburst.org/ National Phrenology Network*

# *Actions (2)*

- *Conferences:*
  - *National Tribal Forum , June 3-5, 2008, Las Vegas*
  - *National Tribal Conference of Environmental Management, June 23-27, Billings, MT*

# *Actions (3)*

- *Congressional*
  - *Lieberman-Warner. 0.5% Set-Aside, =\$ 577 mil/yr 2012, for Disruption/Dislocation*
  - *Secure Water Act*
    - *Safe Drinking Water*



THE END