




OPPT Tribal News

Working together

Environmental News for
Indian Tribes from the
**Office of Pollution
Prevention and Toxics**

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A New EPA Strategy to Tackle Priority PBTs

EPA has developed a draft strategy to reduce risks from persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) pollutants. PBTs are highly toxic, long-lasting pollutants that can build up in the food chain to levels that are harmful to human and ecosystem health. PBTs are associated with a range of adverse human health effects, including effects on the nervous system, reproduction, and fetal and child development. PBTs have also been linked to cancer and genetic impacts. The challenge in reducing risks from PBTs stems from their ability to travel long distances, to transfer easily among air, water, and land, and to linger for generations. PBTs are of particular concern to tribal communities because of the exposure of tribal populations to PBTs present in fish and from other sources.

The main element of EPA's strategy is to develop and implement national action plans to reduce risks from selected PBTs. These plans will make use of a range of tools -- voluntary, regulatory, enforcement and compliance, research, and international -- across all media. The first national action plans will be developed for 12 priority PBTs named in the Canada-U.S. Binational Toxics Strategy -- aldrin-dieldrin, benzo(a)pyrene, chlordane, DDT (+DDD+DDE), mercury, mirex, hexachlorobenzene, alkyl-lead, octachlorostyrene, PCBs, dioxins and furans, and toxaphene. (EPA has already developed a draft action plan for mercury. See article on this page.)

The second element of the strategy is to select the next
Continued on page 7



NCAI Meeting Includes Environmental Issues

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) held its 55th Session on October 17-23 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Some 225 tribes have membership in NCAI, which represents 1.6 million Native Americans and serves as a prominent voice of Native American concerns. Hosted by the Catawba Tribe in South Carolina, the theme of the conference was "Many Nations - One Family."

On environmental topics, several EPA representatives were heard. Peter Robertson, the new Deputy Administrator of EPA, addressed the full Congress and focused on EPA's efforts to strengthen government-to-government relationships in working with tribes. He asked the tribes to place a high priority on their environmental programs. Philip Robinson, Chief of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics' (OPPT) Liaison Branch, provided a brief overview of OPPT and its tribal program at the opening sessions of both the Natural Resources Committee and the Environmental Protection and Land Use Subcommittee meetings. The presentations were aimed at introducing the programs of OPPT to participants, gaining feedback on the current and future directions of the Office's tribal program, and determining how best to work with the Congress in a mutually beneficial manner to address toxics and pollution prevention issues of Native Americans.

Jerry Pardia of the National Tribal Environmental Council served as co-chair of the Natural Resources Committee and as chair of the Environmental Protection and Land Use Subcommittee. Many issues were raised during the Subcommittee's deliberations, including NCAI positions on a proposal to support the Vermont Law School, a request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide more resources to its Indian Desk, a resolution relating to the Indian Land Consolidation Act, and a proposal for continued of EPA support of the Agency's Tribal Operations Committee.

From the Editor... The Latest on OPPT's FY 1999 Tribal Program

OPPT's fiscal year (FY) 1999 tribal program is under development by the OPPT Committee on Tribal Issues. The Committee is comprised of a representative from each OPPT division, a representative from EPA Region 8, and an advisory representative from EPA's American Indian Office.

An FY 1999 proposal for the tribal program describes a variety of options as well as high priority projects aimed at maintaining on-going, effective communication with Native Americans and providing technical information to tribes on our environmental programs. The likelihood is that only the high priority projects will receive consideration for funding. They include: developing tribal TRI reports similar to state reports, continuing publication of OPPT Tribal News, developing a tribal TRI educational brochure, continuation of the OPPTS tribal training program, providing Internet access to OPPT programs, and planning for an FY 2000 tribal initiative on "Increasing Tribal Capacity for Environmental Assessment and Pollution Prevention." We'll keep you posted as the program develops...

Mary Lauterbach

OPPT's Mission

Promote pollution prevention

Promote the use of less toxic chemicals

Promote the reduction of risks

Promote public understanding of the risks of chemicals

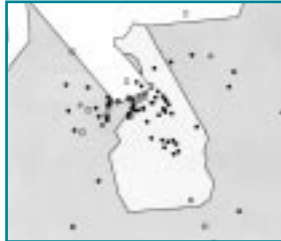
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News & Events

TRI and Native Americans: Evaluating TRI Data for Tribes

In December 1998, OPPT completed a preliminary analysis of the utility of Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) data for evaluating conditions on selected tribal reservations. Data from Geographic Information Systems and other sources were used to identify TRI releases on or near these tribal lands. The goal of the project is to assist Native Americans in building their capacity to address environmental problems and to provide guidance to OPPT on how best to develop tribe-specific TRI reports. The study focused on the reservations as well as facilities within a radius of five kilometers. For further information, call Mary Lauterbach, 202-260-9563.



*TRI data
evaluation study*

OPPT Tribal Literature Review Group



Tribal representatives Loretta Russette (Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation), Flore Lekanof (Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association), and Eugenia Quintana (Navajo Nation), met with OPPT's Tribal Coordinator on October 26-27 to review existing OPPT literature, brochures, and documents and recommend ways to improve OPPT's materials and make them more culturally relevant to tribes and tribal governments. Written recommendations will be provided to all OPPT managers and staff and to the tribes for review. For more information, contact Mary Lauterbach, OPPT Tribal Coordinator, at 202-260-9563.

Tribal Operations Committee Examines Environmental Issues

The Tribal Operations Committee (TOC) provides input into EPA's decision-making affecting Indian country. TOC is comprised of EPA senior managers, EPA's American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO), and tribal leaders who serve as EPA environmental co-regulators. Since its first meeting in February 1994, led by EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner, TOC has presented several initiatives and program objectives to strengthen and improve communications and build stronger partnerships among the tribes, EPA, and other federal agencies.

At several meetings with our senior managers during the past year, TOC discussed a range of environmental and health issues, including:

- TOC-EPA interaction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (e.g., the Forest Service), as well as the Indian Health Service (IHS) and other appropriate federal agencies or departments, to discuss subsistence issues and pest control, and to review methods of testing for lead toxicity in children.

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WHO DOES WHAT IN LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

In addition to EPA's lead programs, several other government agencies offer educational, technical, and financial support to tribal lands to assist in lead-related issues, including training, health screenings, and blood tests for young children, and grants supporting research and lead poisoning prevention efforts. Here is a quick round-up of who is doing what in lead poisoning prevention.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (F42)
National Center for Environmental Health
4770 Buford Highway, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30341
Phone: 770-488-7330
Fax: 770-488-7335
NCEH Health Line: 888-232-6789
E-mail: ncehinfo@cdc.gov
Web site: www.cdc.gov/nceh/ncehhome.htm

National Lead Training and Resource Center (NLTRC)
400 East Gray Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-1704
Phone: 502-574-8226
Fax: 502-574-6657

The Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) manages the CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, which has as its goal the elimination of childhood lead poisoning as a major public health problem.

In addition to its outreach and educational efforts, CDC funds state and local health departments to initiate lead poisoning prevention programs supporting communities with a minimum of 500,000 residents. Native American reservations, having assessed their areas as high-risk in terms of susceptibility to lead poisoning, may also receive CDC funds from state and local health agencies. For more information, contact CDC and ask for a list of "Lead Program Key Contacts" who can provide information on lead poisoning prevention and funding in your state.

CDC also co-sponsors free Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Workshops, managed by the National Lead Training and Resource Center (NLTRC). These workshops provide training and education on the fundamentals of prevention programs and management practices.

Environmental Health Center (EHC)

Environmental Health Center
1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW,
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-293-2270
Fax: 202-293-0032
Web site: www.nsc.org/ehc.htm

A division of the National Safety Council, EHC focuses on communicating information on environmental issues to the public through education and outreach, emergency planning and management, environmental journalism, and national and international communications programs that target minority and underserved populations.

Indian Health Services (IHS)

Indian Health Service Headquarters
Parklawn Building, Room 6-35
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
Phone: 301-443-3593
Fax: 301-443-0507

Office of Engineering and Environmental Health
Twinbrook Metro Plaza (TMP)
12300 Twinbrook Parkway
Rockville, MD 20852
Phone: 301-443-1054
Web site: www.ihs.gov

Indian Health Services (IHS) assists American Indian and Alaska Native people in developing their own health programs by providing health management training, technical assistance, and human resource development.

IHS also provides information regarding lead hazards and prevention practices, IHS assessments, fact sheets, and other educational materials. Information on free lead screenings available for children, expectant mothers, and at-risk workers may be obtained from IHS area offices. IHS, along with CDC, may also provide grant funds and information to establish lead poisoning prevention and blood screening programs in tribal communities.

Lead News

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Lead Hazard Control
451 7th Street, SW Room B-133
Washington, DC 20410
Phone: 202-755-1785
Fax: 202-755-1000
Web site: www.hud.gov

Community Connection
Clearinghouse:
800-998-9999 or 800-245-2691

HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control is charged with providing lead-safe housing to the nation's children while preserving affordable housing. This office operates the HUD Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program, a grant program for state and local governments to develop and implement cost-effective methods for the inspection and reduction of lead-based paint hazards in housing of low-to-moderate income families. The Office of Lead Hazard Control develops lead-based paint regulations, fact sheets, guidelines, and policies that provide information on protecting children from lead-based paint hazards and reducing lead-based paint hazards in federally-assisted and federally-owned housing. HUD also helps build capacity at state, local, and private-sector levels to inspect and abate lead-based paint hazards. OLHC operates a clearinghouse, Community Connection, for publications, regulations, and other lead-related information (800-998-9999 or 800-245-2691).

National Lead Information Center (NLIC)

National Lead Information Center
8601 Georgia Avenue Suite 503
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Hotline: (800) LEAD-FYI or (800) 532-3394
Clearinghouse: (800) 424-LEAD or (800) 424-5323
E-mail: hotline.lead@epa.gov
WebSite:
www.epa.gov/lead/nlic.htm

NLIC provides information about lead hazards and lead prevention practices to the general public and environmental and health professionals. Fact sheets, publications, contacts, and referrals are available with valuable information on lead poisoning and prevention. The Center operates a toll-free hotline and clearinghouse as well as a nationwide Lead Poisoning Speakers Bureau. Speakers are available to come to conferences, meetings, schools, daycare centers, and other forums.

Seven Tribes Apply for Section 404 Approval

Since April 1998, seven tribes have submitted applications to EPA to develop their own lead-based paint training and certification programs. Under TSCA section 404, EPA is required to assist states and Indian tribes in creating lead-based paint training and certification programs that would operate in place of the federal program.

The training and certification programs apply to lead-based paint professionals working in residential housing, public and commercial buildings, and steel structures. EPA issued a final rule in August 1996 covering residential housing and daycare centers, and is currently developing regulations for steel structures, and public and commercial buildings. The regulations include requirements for the training and certification of lead-based paint inspectors, risk assessors, abatement workers and supervisors, and project designers. The rules also include accreditation requirements for training providers and work practice standards for the conduct of inspections, risk assessments, and abatements.

So far, all applications are currently under review. Applications received by EPA are as follows:

- ▶ Aroostok Band of Micmac, Maine
- ▶ Colville Confederated Tribes, Oregon
- ▶ Houlton Band of Malisette Indians, Maine
- ▶ Lower Sioux, North Dakota
- ▶ Passamaquoddy Indian Township, Maine
- ▶ Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point, Maine
- ▶ Upper Sioux, North Dakota

OPPT Programs

TRI Reporting Required of Mining Sites

Tribal communities that have mining operations on their reservations will be interested in knowing about the new Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting requirements that take effect on July 1, 1999. TRI is a database of annual reports from industry on more than 600 chemicals released into the environment. This public information database lets communities know what toxic chemicals are present in their neighborhoods and lets industry managers identify opportunities for source reduction and compare their progress to other facilities around the country.

TRI has undergone a series of expansions in both the number of chemicals and the types of facilities required to report. In 1997, approximately 6,100 facilities in seven new industries were required to report releases to TRI. The new industries added are:

- ▶ Metal mining
- ▶ Coal mining
- ▶ Coal and oil-fired electric generating facilities
- ▶ Commercial hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities
- ▶ Chemical wholesale distribution facilities
- ▶ Petroleum bulk terminals and bulk plants
- ▶ Solvent recovery facilities.

The newly added industries will be subject to TRI reporting requirements beginning on January 1, 1998 and their first

TRI reports will be due on or before July 1, 1999. Some tribes may need to begin reporting then. Over the last year OPPT focused significant resources towards developing guidance and conducting about 20 training sessions for these new industries so they will be prepared to comply with these new reporting obligations. OPPT also updated reporting guidance for the “old” industries and conducted over 20 general industry training sessions around the country in Spring 1998. For more information about training and available guidance documents, contact Tim Crawford at 202-260-1715.

The first TRI reports for the newly added industries will be due on July 1, 1999.

OPPT has recently proposed adding certain persistent bioaccumulative toxic chemicals (PBTs) to TRI (see article on page 1) and lowering reporting thresholds for PBTs, as part of EPA’s new Chemical Right-to-Know program.

The TRI program has been a huge success since its inception, serving as a model for countries around the world. EPA has developed numerous resources for easy access to TRI data. For more information, consult the TRI site on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/tri>, or call the TRI Hotline at 1-800-490-9198.

Tribal Operations Committee *Continued from p. 3*

- ▶ Follow-up with EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (OECA) on tribal pesticides and toxic enforcement issues, such as access to inspector credentials, spray drift incidences, and case management.
- ▶ The Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances (OPPTS) will investigate better ways to allow for the tribes to conduct their own assessments of environmental problems in order to build tribal capacity and protect tribal environments and people.
- ▶ OPPT will provide tribes with information on affordable, easy-to-use, new technology for testing blood lead levels.
- ▶ OPPT will look into the development of culturally relevant curricula for Indian schools and tribal environmental career professionals, such as courses in pollution prevention, right-to-know, and lead prevention.

The Tribal Operations Committee is an important and effective vehicle for enhancing communication between EPA and its tribal co-regulators. More information regarding TOC, its members, and tribal contacts can be found on the AIEO Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/indian/tcont.htm>.



OPPT Programs

Draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury

Mercury is a well-known and long-established neurotoxin that slows fetal and child development and causes irreversible deficits in brain function. The Draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury is the first of a series of national action plans under EPA's draft Multimedia Strategy for Priority Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic (PBT) Pollutants. The Plan proposes the following actions, in consultation with other federal agencies, and with the involvement of states, regions, tribes, and other stakeholders:

- Control emissions from air point sources.
- Revise the water quality criterion, and improve measurement of mercury in water.
- Seek reductions in uses of mercury and improve information and citizen "right to know."
- Develop an environmentally acceptable disposal method for mercury wastes designated as hazardous wastes.
- Seek reduction in exposure to highly exposed populations.
- Decrease further environmental contamination from illegal use/disposal of mercury through focused compliance monitoring and enforcement of mercury restrictions and requirements.
- Continue international efforts to reduce mercury releases.
- Perform and support further research on all aspects of the mercury problem.
- Support regional, state, tribal, and local actions to reduce mercury.

A naturally occurring metal, mercury moves between the water, the air, and soil as a result of natural and human activities. It enters the environment from sources like coal-fired power plants, mining and smelting of various ores, and the disposal of consumer products manufactured with mercury. In its organic form, methylmercury bioaccumulates in fish and becomes more concentrated as it moves up the food chain to humans and other animals that eat the fish. Mercury accounts for 60 percent of all fish consumption advisories in fresh water bodies in the U.S. To date, 40 states have issued advisories for mercury in one or more water bodies, and 11 states have issued them on a state-wide basis.

For copies of the Draft EPA Action Plan for Mercury and other related documents, contact the Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse at 202-260-1023 or check EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/pbt/strategy.htm.

EPA Strategy *Continued from p. 1*

round of priority PBTs for future national action plans. The third element is to stop the flow of new PBTs into commerce. The fourth and final element of the strategy is to develop improved right-to-know measures so that the public can track our progress towards achieving national goals and commitments.

What is new in EPA's PBT Strategy is its multi-media approach to break the cycle of pollutant transfer from one place or medium to another. Near-term actions under the PBT Strategy are underway to prevent the introduction of new PBTs in commerce, encourage voluntary reduction of PBTs in hazardous waste, increase the public's right-to-know about local sources of PBT emissions and mercury emissions from utilities, and evaluate fish in U.S. water bodies for PBT contamination.

EPA will work closely with its regulatory partners and engage in partnerships with industry, environmental groups, and the public to get the PBT job done. Public comments are welcome on the Strategy available on EPA's Web site (www.epa.gov/pbt) and on a recently proposed rule to increase reporting of PBTs (published on Jan. 5, 1999 in the *Federal Register* and available at www.epa.gov/fedregstr). Write to: U.S. EPA (7101), 401 M St. SW, Washington, DC 20460.

Update on the Tribal Affairs Workgroup

by Pat Curran

Chair of FOSTTA Coordinating Committee

The Tribal Affairs Workgroup was initiated in 1997 to better coordinate tribal initiatives within OPPT's Forum on State and Tribal Toxics Action (FOSTTA). While tribal representatives participate in various FOSTTA projects, there had not been a forum for tribal representatives to come together and collectively discuss toxics-related issues of concern to tribal communities.

The workgroup's recently completed mission statement reads: "A forum in which Tribal, State and EPA officials meet to promote, plan, and evaluate actions for protecting human health and the environment in Indian country from pollution threats addressed by the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) Strategic Agenda in a manner consistent with EPA's Indian policy and Tribal policies for working with US EPA and cooperating states."

The Tribal Affairs Workgroup is composed of tribal representatives who participate in FOSTTA projects and representatives from OPPT, EPA's American Indian Environmental Office, EPA Regional Tribal Coordinators, and cooperating states.

Toxics issues affecting tribes recently raised by the workgroup include methods for effectively implementing lead poisoning prevention programs and the Toxics Release Inventory. To address the issues related to lead poisoning, OPPT has brought together staff from various federal agencies (CDC, BIA, IHS, HUD, EPA) with responsibilities for lead-based paint and childhood blood lead screening to determine how better to coordinate programs. Currently, the Tribal Affairs Workgroup is providing input to OPPT on how well tribal needs and concerns are addressed in OPPT's draft Strategic Agenda (see article in sidebar) and the form and function of OPPT's newly established tribal program.

If you have an interest in participating in the Tribal Affairs Workgroup, please contact Sharri Venno, Chairperson of the Tribal Affairs Workgroup at 207-532-4273 or at env.planning@ainop.com.

Tribal Input into OPPT's Strategic Agenda

OPPT has developed a draft Strategic Agenda that sets forth its major programmatic objectives over the next six years. This agenda was developed in large part to respond to the Governmental Performance and Results Act of 1993, which requires federal agencies to prepare comprehensive strategic plans, annual performance plans, and reports. OPPT's Strategic Agenda describes how OPPT will approach the specific goals set forth in EPA's overall strategic plan. As part of our efforts to collaborate with tribes in setting mutual environmental goals and targets, OPPT has been actively looking for input by interested tribal organizations.

This fall, copies of the draft Strategic Agenda were sent out for review and comment to interested tribal environmental organizations along with other major stakeholder groups. OPPT's Committee on Tribal Issues has already offered comments relating to incorporating specific tribal issues and concerns. Tribal representatives from FOSTTA's Tribal Affairs Workgroup have articulated that OPPT's tribal program needs to have a separate strategy that is also incorporated into OPPT's overall Strategic Agenda.

Compilation of comments from all interested parties will assist OPPT in creating an overall strategy designed to protect the public health and environment in Indian country. For more information or to obtain a copy of OPPT's draft Strategic Agenda, please contact Hugh Gibson, 202-260-2717, or Gibson.Hugh@epa.gov.



Interview — Gillian Mittelstaedt



With the support of an Environmental Justice Pollution Prevention (EJP2) Grant award, Gillian Mittelstaedt

manages the Model Tribal Environmental Policy Act (TEPA) Project of the Tulalip Tribes of Washington. Mittelstaedt, who initiated the project, is working with the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), tribal attorney Dean Suagee, and the Harvard Native American program to help tribal communities, including Alaska Native villages, protect their cultural resources through environmental impact assessment. Environmental impact assessment is a key focus of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Model TEPA, both of which promote the use of a systematic process to provide environmental impact information to federal, state, local, and Indian Nation officials, as well as citizens, before implementing major projects or actions that may significantly affect the environment.

Q: What products are you creating for tribal communities with this project?

A: We are developing a “Tribal Environmental Policy Act,” or a model code, that tribes can use directly or as a reference for regulatory language when designing an environmental impact assessment process that meets their unique needs. The TEPA component of the project applies to most on-reservation, land-use projects. In addition, we are developing guidance on NEPA to provide tribes with information on how to work with federal agencies and exercise sovereignty. We are also developing a pollution prevention (P2)

handbook and poster to be used in the TEPA review.

Q: What triggered the need for this project?

A: In 1993, I participated in a NEPA “effectiveness study” conducted by the Council on Environmental Quality. Through phone interviews with tribes throughout the country, it became evident that the NEPA process was not effective for tribes since there was minimal communication between tribes and federal agencies and limited knowledge among tribes of the NEPA process. Providing tribal-specific training and guidance on the NEPA process could improve effectiveness and help tribes protect their natural resources.

Q: How do the components of your project address this problem?

A: The NEPA Guidance explains the NEPA process in detail and provides tribes with specific tools they can use to strengthen their role in the federal process. The model TEPA gives tribes another tool that they can use to exercise jurisdiction over their own lands and protect their environment. A major part of environmental impact assessment is to identify and prevent ecological damage. The P2 handbook and poster address this and include a checklist and manual describing a range of land uses and their associated P2 methodologies and technologies.

Q: What steps will you take to implement these products?

A: Results of our effectiveness study, as well as additional tribal surveys, have been presented at numerous conferences and summarized in publications. The P2 handbook and poster will be distributed at conferences and other forums, many of which are sponsored by NTEC.

Once completed, the model TEPA and guidance manual will be distributed to tribes as well.

Q: What support did you receive in pursuing this project?

A: I received significant support from EPA officials, NTEC, and other tribal communities. EPA Region 10 provided input throughout the entire process. NTEC provided guidance, disseminated our materials at conferences, and supplied a match contribution for the grant. I also worked very closely with Dean Suagee, who served as our legal advisor, and Libby Halpin-Nelson, who is helping to develop the Alaska-specific component of the project. We were also able to use a pollution prevention checklist, supplied by EPA’s Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, to help develop the P2 handbook and poster.

Q: Why is this project so important to tribal communities?

A: Environmental impact assessment provides an avenue for tribes to autonomously manage their own lands while cooperatively working with state or local governments. Because of the complex and often contentious issues encountered when issuing environmental regulations after development, along with the limited effectiveness of post-development regulation, there is a distinct need for a preventive approach. Both NEPA and TEPA, when used effectively, can help tribes exercise their sovereignty, protect their valued resources, and allow for balanced development of their community and economy.

Natural Resources Management and Environmental Technology Curriculum

In the Summer of 1998, the Northwest Center for Sustainable Resources (NCSR) held a forum to investigate challenges and share successes in bringing tribal perspectives to environmental technology curricula. The forum was sponsored by the OPPT Design for the Environment (DfE) Program in alliance with the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE). Promoting environmental education, developing technical capacity, and building skills at the tribal college level will expand the capabilities of tribes to deal with environmental issues.

The results of the forum formed the beginning of a solid environmental curriculum component for tribally controlled and non-tribal community colleges.

The goal is to deliver sound environmental information from the perspective and cultural values of Native American tribes. The module will incorporate tribal beliefs and values into existing natural resources management and environmental technology curricula. By doing so, the module will encourage students to consider a holistic, ecosystem approach to solving today's environmental problems.

Forum attendees shared curricula, knowledge, and work-based applications and participated in several field trips to local forest, fisheries, and wildlife areas. Several needs came to light during the forum such as training more instructors on the Native American environmental perspective, mentoring, and establishing and maintaining

Information on the proceedings of the tribal forum, "Native American Perspectives in Natural Resources and Environmental Technology," is available from the contacts in the article.

partnerships to promote learning in science and technology. The forum also provided participants with an opportunity to network and exchange ideas on enhancing their curricula with additional discussions and exercises.

The new curriculum module is being developed by NCSR with the cooperation of the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Environmental Programs, PETE, and the DfE Program. For more information, contact Donita Gray-Krueger (UNI) at 319-273-5814 or Marla Hendriksson (DfE) at 202-260-8301.



OPPT Regional Tribal Toxic and P2 Contacts

OPPT has established a network of tribal toxics and pollution prevention contacts. These contacts are located in EPA's Regional Offices and are knowledgeable in working with tribes and their toxic and pollution prevention issues and concerns. The contacts are:

Region 1

JFK Federal Building
One Congress Street
Boston, MA 02203

Toxics

Jim Bryson, 617-565-3836

Pollution Prevention

Joe DeCola, 617-565-3276

Region 2

290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Toxics & P2:

Christine Yost, 212-637-3564

Region 3

There are no federally-recognized tribes within this region.

Region 4

61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Toxics

Bernie Hayes, 404-562-9430

Pollution Prevention

Dan Ahern, 404-562-9028

Region 5

77 West Jackson Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Toxics

Emma Avant, 312-886-7899

Pollution Prevention

Dolly Tong, 312-886-1019

Region 6

1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202

Toxics and P2:

Lewis Robertson,
214-665-7582

Region 7

726 Minnesota Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66101

Toxics & P2:

Kim Olson, 913-551-7539

Region 8

999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, CO 80202

Toxics & P2:

Dave Combs, 303-312-6021

Region 9

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Toxics & P2:

Pat Maravilla, 415-744-1122

Region 10

Solid Waste and Toxics Unit
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Toxics & P2:

Fran Stefan, 206-553-6639

“Can you color this page?”



Lead Busters

Wash your hands with soap and water after you play and before you eat.

Little Moccasins: A Lead Poisoning Prevention Manual for Tribal Day Care and Families

Little Moccasins is an illustrated manual, published by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, that explains blood lead screening, healthful diet, and basic steps towards lead poisoning prevention. Funded by U.S. EPA Region 1, the manual lists regulations and resources on lead poisoning and includes input from tribal members, educators, and environmental staff. It contains songs, recipes, and a variety of other activities that can be used in a day care setting. To order the manual in hardcopy, video, or CD-ROM, contact Jim Bryson, U.S. EPA Region 1, One Congress Street, Suite 1100-CPJ, Boston, MA, 02114-2023, tel: 617-918-1524. The interactive CD-ROM is currently being field tested. For information on being a field tester, contact Jim Bryson at the number above.



Mark Your Calendars!

April 28-29, 1999

Native American "Train the Trainer" Course for Little Moccasins
University of Rhode Island, East Greenwich, RI
Hosted by Narragansett Indian Tribe
Free course, led by Dr. Mary-Margaret Gaudio, available to 30 individuals on first-come, first-serve basis.
Contact: Carla Monroe, 401-364-1100 x204

May 18-20

"Honor Thy Mother: Protect Her Future"
National Tribal Environmental Council 1999 National Conference
hosted by the Yurok Tribe
Eureka, California
For a registration form, contact the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), 2221 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104, phone: 505-242-2175, fax: 505-242-2654, e-mail: netc@ntec.org.

May 25-27

1999 National Community Involvement Conference
Theme: EPA's Role in Community Involvement
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri
Contact: Heidi Paulsen, Office of Pesticide Programs, 703-305-5251 paulsen.heidi@epa.gov

EPA Web Sites and Hot Lines

EPA	www.epa.gov
OPPT	www.epa.gov/opptintr
Pollution Prevention	www.epa.gov/opptintr/p2home
Act Locally	www.epa.gov/opptintr/cbep/actlocal
EnviroSense	es.epa.gov
Asbestos Ombudsman Hotline	1-800-368-5888
EPCRA Hotline	1-800-535-0202
Lead Hotline	1-800-532-3394

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