

## Tribal Climate Change Steering Committee Call – Meeting Minutes

Date: October 7, 2010

Participants: Gary Harris, Don Motanic, Kathy Lynn, Sue Wotkyns, Howie Arnett

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### Action Items:

Issue	Task	Timeline	Lead
Project Coordination	Kathy will build a project website to post information about our efforts, project publications (such as the profiles), and meeting agendas and minutes.	October 2010	Kathy
	Kathy and Ellen will work to foster ongoing communication with the Forest Service Rocky Mountain and Northern Research Stations to stay appraised of their ongoing efforts and coordinate where appropriate.	Ongoing	Kathy & Ellen
	Identify other regional climate change working groups and work to foster cross-pollination of efforts.	Ongoing	All
Profiles	Develop press release and post profiles to ITEP's Tribal Climate Change Website; send to Forest Service Tribal Relations Officers, ITC members, and participants from 2009 tribal policy training and forum.	October 2010	Kathy
	Kathy will contact Faline Haven to talk about possible dissemination at the 16 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.	October 2010	Kathy
U of Oregon Rennard Strickland Lecture	<b><u>Let Kathy know if you would be interested in attending an in person steering committee meeting in Eugene on November 17, 2010. The meeting would be held from 2 pm – 4 pm and be followed by the Rennard Strickland Lecture. Larry Echohawk has been tentatively confirmed as the speaker.</u></b>	<b>Oct. 15, 2010</b>	<b>All</b>
Upcoming events	Find a member of our steering committee to participate in the November 8 – 9 American Indian and Alaska Native Climate Change Working Group meeting in Bellingham, WA. Kathy will prepare a PowerPoint presentation and/or a 1-page summary of the efforts of our committee.	Oct. 2010	Don or Gary?

### Meeting Notes

#### **Welcome and General Notes**

Kathy mentioned that Steve Robinson is no longer with the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, but is interested in continuing to participate with the committee. Kathy has also contacted Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission to identify a new representative for our committee.

The group had a very brief conversation about our name: Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Committee. Kathy said that upon reflection, it seemed important to have geographic identifying information. The rest of the group said that they liked the name. Kathy proposed dropping the word "steering" to make it slightly shorter.

In order to provide more information about our group, Kathy suggested that she build a project website to post information about our efforts, project publications (such as the profiles), and meeting agendas and minutes. The group agreed that this would be very helpful.

### **University of Oregon/Forest Service Research - Understanding Tribal Climate Change Initiatives**

Kathy gave a brief review of the summary document. This document will be used to outreach to potential students interested in working on the project at the University of Oregon, as well as with external partners.

Don asked if the Rocky Mountain Research Station and Northern Research Station are using similar approaches in regards to their tribal climate change grants. The Rocky Mountain Research Station is contracting with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at NAU. ITEP is in the process of forming a steering committee and will work that group to identify the focus of a summer 2011 workshop. Kathy is unsure of the steps that the Northern Research Station is currently taking. Kathy and Ellen will work to foster ongoing communication with the Forest Service Rocky Mountain and Northern Research Stations to stay apprised of their ongoing efforts and coordinate where appropriate.

The group talked generally about the need to identify other regional climate change working groups and work to foster cross-pollination of efforts. It was suggested that we invite representatives from other regional tribal climate change working groups to join our conference calls, and vice versa.

### **Project Profiles (Swinomish, Nez Perce, Coquille)**

Kathy is working with the University of Oregon Design and Editing Services to finalize layout for the profiles. We are planning to add images where available and locator maps to each of the case studies. The dissemination strategy will include the following:

- Profiles posted to the ITEP Tribal Climate Change Website and the UO project website (under development)
- A press release sent out via ITEP's monthly newsletter
- Press release forwarded to participants in the 2009 tribal policy training and forum, as well as to organizations including the Forest Service Tribal Relations Office, ITC, and others.
- The goal is to have the press release sent out by the end of October.
- Kathy also noted that we are working towards publishing the legal briefing as a Forest Service General Technical Report. This will include one more round of peer review.

### **Resource Inventories**

Kathy shared the EPA resource inventory as well as the spreadsheet we have been working on at the University of Oregon. The goal of the spreadsheet is to maintain an up-to-date list of tribal climate change activities and serve as selection criteria for the in-depth case studies on tribal climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts. ,

Sue mentioned that at a meeting held in Colorado last week, there was discussion about the need to gather tribal climate change stories and that there will be opportunities in the future to coordinate profiles and share stories being documented more broadly. Don noted that the resource inventories serve as an important clearinghouse of information.

### **Upcoming events and grant opportunities**

November 17, 2010: University of Oregon Rennard Strickland Lecture, Eugene, Oregon.

Larry Echohawk, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, has been tentatively confirmed as the speaker. *Let Kathy know if you would be interested in attending an in-person steering committee meeting in Eugene on November 17, 2010.* The goal of the meeting would be to discuss the direction of the new UO research (case studies and Forest Inventory and Analysis projects). We would also invite tribal members attending the Lecture to join us and learn about the publications developed over the last year (including the project profiles and the legal briefing.)

The meeting would be held from 2 pm – 4 pm at the University of Oregon in the Many Nations Longhouse and be followed by the Rennard Strickland Lecture. Kathy will be in touch as soon as we have confirmation that Larry Echohawk will be speaking. Heather is also going to find out if he might be able to participate in our meeting. For steering committee members that can't make it to Eugene, we would plan on having conference call capabilities set up (and potentially video-conference.)

October 25, 2010: Regional Approaches to Climate Change in Western Conifers, Vancouver, WA

Oregon State University is working with John Laurence from the Pacific Northwest Research Station on this effort. Don Motanic will be attending this meeting and will give an update during our next conference call.

December 6, 2010: 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Cancun, Mexico - <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>.

Don mentioned that the USDA Forest Service Tribal Partnerships on Climate Change (Fred Clark and Faline Haven) have organized a panel to be held during the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Cancun, Mexico. The conference is being organized by the Department of the State November 29 – December 10<sup>th</sup>. Phil Rigdon with the Yakama Indian Nation and Jonathan Brooks from the White Mountain Apache Tribe are tentatively slated to speak on the panel. This may also be a possible dissemination opportunity for the profiles. Kathy will contact Faline to follow-up.

Nov. 8-9, 2010: American Indian Alaskan Native Climate Change Group Meeting: Bellingham, WA

Rita Asgeirsson and Steve Pavlik with the Northwest Indian College sent information on the November 8 – 9 American Indian and Alaska Native Climate Change Working Group meeting in Bellingham, WA. Rita suggested that they would like to have someone from our steering committee attend this meeting. Don or Gary may be able to attend and represent the PNW tribal climate change committee. Kathy offered to prepare a PowerPoint presentation and/or a 1-page summary of our efforts to share with the AI/AN climate change working group.

American Indian Alaskan Native Climate Change Study Grants (*Full Announcement Attached*)

The American Indian Alaskan Native Climate Change Working Group, through support from the NASA Tribal Colleges & Universities Program, has mini-grant funds available for faculty and students at Tribal Colleges and Universities to further climate change education and research activities at their schools and with their tribal communities.

Climate Change Study Grant funds are designated for projects that are related to climate change science, social or environmental impacts, and adaptation or mitigation. Proposals should emphasize student research and/or educational activities. A total of 7 grants are available in the amount of \$15,000.00. Proposals will be accepted fall and spring during the 2010/2011 academic year. Due dates are October 24th 2010 and February 15th 2011. Proposals submitted in October will be given a response by the first week of November, and those submitted in February will be given a response by the first week of March.