

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project  
Draft Meeting Notes – Wednesday, July 24, 2013**

---

**Call Participants**

- Alicia Bell Sheeter, USDA Forest Service
- Michael Cox, Environmental Protection Agency Region 10
- Kathy Ferge, Natural Resources Conservation Service - Oregon
- Dave Fuller, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Laura Gephart, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission
- Eliza Ghitis, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- Larry Gilbertson, Quinault Indian Nation
- Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe
- Linda Kruger, USDA Forest Service PNWRS – Juneau Forestry Lab
- Carolyn Kelly, Quinault Indian Nation
- Marissa Knodel, Vermont Law School and Yale School of Forestry
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- John Mankowski, North Pacific LCC
- Melissa Poe, Northwest Fisheries Science Center
- Patricia Tillman, National Wildlife Federation
- Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe
- Kirsten Vinyeta, University of Oregon
- Kyle Powys Whyte, Michigan State University
- Ann Wyatt, Klawock Tribe

**Table of Contents**

**Discussion Topics**

Invasive Species and Tribal Lands ..... 2

National Tribal Climate Change Policy Issues - Working Teams ..... 2

Northwest Coal Exports ..... 3

**General Updates..... 3**

Bureau of Indian Affairs Climate Adaptation Grants ..... 3

2014 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference..... 3

Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science ..... 4

FY 2014 Tribal Wildlife Grant proposals ..... 4

NOAA's Climate Adaptation/Community Resilience Tools..... 4

Tribal Climate Change Funding and Program Guide..... 5

New PNW Tribal Climate Change Profile..... 5

Our Children's Trust ..... 5

**Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates**

- August 28, 2013
  - September 25, 2013
  - October 23, 2013
  - November 20, 2013
- Call-in Information:*  
**Call Time: 10:00 am Pacific**  
**Call-in #: 1-888-858-2144**  
**Pass code: 5064716**

## Discussion Topics

---

### **Invasive Species and Tribal Lands** (*Kyle Powys Whyte, Michigan State University*)

Invasive species pose threats to ecosystems, economies and cultures around the globe. A significant body of research exists exploring the biology, ecology and economics of invasive species; comparatively little has been done to understand their socio-cultural implications or how indigenous peoples are responding to species invasions. We are surveying representatives from American Indian tribes in the U.S. **to estimate how tribes are preparing for and responding to invasive species.** This baseline information will help us identify unique tribal innovations, gaps in current tribal approaches and opportunities for linking tribal and non-tribal governments in regional invasive species management. We would greatly appreciate your input on this topic. To learn more about the study and **to take the online survey, please use the following web link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R9PRBTC>

We contacted you because you are an **active harvester, artist who uses plant and animal materials in your work and/or a tribal staff member of a natural resource, environmental, cultural or related office.** Please forward this email to other individuals who meet these criteria. We greatly appreciate your help sharing this survey with other relevant contacts. **We hope to have all surveys completed by September 1, 2013.** We will disseminate the results of this study widely once it is completed in order to help inform your work. The PNW Climate Change Network will notify call participants once the results are available. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns about this study. Chi Miigwech,

Dr. Nicholas Reo (Ojibwe), Dartmouth College

Dr. Darren Ranco (Penobscot), University of Maine

Dr. Kyle Whyte (Potawatomi), Michigan State University ([kwhyte@msu.edu](mailto:kwhyte@msu.edu))

#### *Discussion Notes:*

Alicia asked Kyle about whether or not he is involved with the Tribal Nursery Project. Linda Kruger expressed interest in conducting an invasive species survey specific to Alaska native tribes. Kyle Whyte will be following up with Alicia and Linda to discuss these issues further.

### **National Tribal Climate Change Policy Issues - Working Teams**

In July, three conference calls were held to discuss national-level policy and issues related to climate adaptation, mitigation and traditional ecological knowledge. The three primary actions these groups are taking on are:

1. Develop talking points/white papers that are responsive to administrative and legislative climate policies and programs that address adaptation, mitigation and TEK. (*All working teams*)
2. Review federal natural resource funding programs that exclude tribes; develop a document cataloging these. (*Adaptation working team*)
3. Develop a white paper with tribes, tribal organizations, and supporters to respond with tribal needs, priorities, and perspectives on the Obama Climate Plan. (*Adaptation and Mitigation working teams*)

If you are interested in participating directly in these actions, please email [kathy@uoregon.edu](mailto:kathy@uoregon.edu).

### **Northwest Coal Exports**

There have been several recent discussions on Network calls about the impacts of coal exports on northwest tribes. Kathy sought to share information on efforts related to coal exports developed by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF):

- <http://www.nwf.org/What-We-Do/Energy-and-Climate/Drilling-and-Mining/Getting-Off-Coal/Coal-Export.aspx>
- <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/Media-Center/Reports/Archive/2012/07-31-12-True-Cost-of-Coal.aspx>

If anyone is interested in more information or discussing opportunities to be involved, contact Garrit Voggeser, Director of the NWF Tribal Lands Program at [Voggeser@nwf.org](mailto:Voggeser@nwf.org).

### **General Updates**

---

#### **Bureau of Indian Affairs Climate Adaptation Grants**

Sean Hart informed the network that the BIA has received \$600k for climate adaptation grants, training and technical support. Sean will be working with the Regional Points of Contact to develop strong criteria for the grants. He expects that higher priority will be given to applications that deliver to programs or multiple tribes. For example:

- High level tribal government wide adaptation plans (thereby engaging multiple programs in a tribe)
- Ecosystem or wide scope vulnerability assessments that cover multiple tribes, partners, or programs
- Funding from multiple sources (leverage other people's grant money) making our grant money go farther
- Data downscaling projects that deliver data for multiple tribes
- Participation at technical sessions and training where the attendee is the tribal adaptation plan coordinator or bring back information for multiple programs

Kathy Lynn will forward any information that becomes available to the Network. For now, please contact Sean Hart ([sean.hart@bia.gov](mailto:sean.hart@bia.gov)) for more information.

#### **2014 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference**

The call for proposals is available at: <http://www.wvu.edu/salishseaconference/call-for-proposals.shtml>. Papers, posters and pre-organized sessions focusing on the following general themes are particularly welcome:

- Conservation Biology (Including Conservation Management, Birds and mammals, Orcas, Estuaries, Shoreline, Nearshore, Food web, Restoration, Salmon, Water Quality, Forage fish, Non-indigenous species, Modeling and Shellfish)
- Policy Planning
- Toxicology (including storm water)
- Communication
- Social Science
- Climate Change

### Submission Deadlines:

- Pre-formed sessions – September 1
- Posters – October 1
- Papers – October 1

The conference, which occurs every other year, seeks to include one or two sessions that are specific to tribes. Eliza and Mary expressed interest in assembling a transboundary session. If you are considering submit an abstract related to tribal climate change issues in the Salish Sea ecosystem and would like to discuss ideas, feel free to contact Kathy Lynn ([kathy@uoregon.edu](mailto:kathy@uoregon.edu)) or Jamie Donatuto ([jdonatuto@swinomish.nsn.us](mailto:jdonatuto@swinomish.nsn.us).)

### **Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science**

The USGS notified Gary Morishima that he can designate an alternate to serve on the Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science ([ACCCNRS](#)). If someone is interested in serving as Gary's alternate, please contact him at [morikog@aol.com](mailto:morikog@aol.com). He will need to designate an alternate by mid August, and will need to provide full name, bio of experience and credentials, business and home address, phone and email contact information, and DOB.

### **FY 2014 Tribal Wildlife Grant proposals**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service FY 2014 Tribal Wildlife Grant proposals are due September 3, 2013. See Link for Application Kit: [Tribal Wildlife Grant Program](#). Goal of the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program is to provide a competitive funding opportunity for **Federally recognized Tribal governments** to develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance. Individual grants up to \$200,000. Tribes in CA, NV, and the Klamath Basin in OR should send one hard copy and a digital copy of their proposals to: Damion Ciotti, Tribal Partnerships Specialist, Habitat Restoration Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 11641 Blocker Drive, Suite 110, Auburn, CA 95603. For more information, contact Damion at: [damion\\_ciotti@fws.gov](mailto:damion_ciotti@fws.gov).

### **NOAA's Climate Adaptation/Community Resilience Tools**

Available on NOAA's Digital Coast: <http://csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/>

1. CanVis – (NOAA Coastal Services Center, USDA National Agroforestry Center)  
Enables users to add objects to images in order to visualize impacts of future management decisions
1. Port Resilience Planning Tool – (NOAA Coastal Services Center)  
Shows port communities what to look for when planning for resilient freight transportation infrastructure
2. Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model – (Environmental Protection Agency, Warren Pinnacle Consulting) Simulates potential impacts of long-term sea level rise on wetlands and shorelines
3. Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding Impacts Viewer – (NOAA Coastal Services Center)  
Creates maps of potential impacts of sea level rise along the coast and provides related information and data for community officials

4. Habitat Priority Planner – (NOAA Coastal Services Center) Helps to identify priority locations for conservation, restoration, and planning (extension to ArcGIS with Spatial Analyst)
5. Climate Wizard – (The Nature Conservancy) Uses state-of-the-art climate models and statistical analysis to view, generate, and download climate change maps and tables
6. Coastal Resilience Decision-Support Framework – (The Nature Conservancy) Provides a framework that supports decisions to reduce the ecological and socioeconomic risks of coastal hazards
7. Integrated Valuation of Environmental Services and Tradeoffs (InVEST) – (Natural Capital Project) Allows decision makers to map and value goods and services from nature
8. NatureServe Vista – (NatureServe) Supports complex assessments by helping users integrate conservation data with land use planning and resource management information

### **Tribal Climate Change Funding and Program Guide**

Carson Viles is updating the Tribal Climate Change Funding Guide as new funding opportunities arise. Please visit the Guide to find out about new funding opportunities. Please don't hesitate to contact Kathy Lynn ([kathy@uoregon.edu](mailto:kathy@uoregon.edu)) or Carson Viles ([cviles@uoregon.edu](mailto:cviles@uoregon.edu)) with questions, or to suggest funding opportunities that should be added to the guide.

### **New PNW Tribal Climate Change Profile**

#### **[Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians: Climate Change and Environmental Management Programs](#)**

The PNW Tribal Climate Change project has posted a new profile at: <http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/tribal-profiles/>. Concerned about the effects of climate change on their homeland and surrounding environment, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians have taken numerous steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the impacts of climate change on tribal peoples, land, and resources. This profile describes the climate change programs implemented by the Santa Ynez Chumash Environmental Office and the Chumash Casino Resort to address climate change adaptation and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Our Children's Trust (Information shared by Marissa Knodel)**

The global TRUST Campaign has empowered youth from every single U.S. state to protect the environment for future generations by filing legal claims based on the Public Trust Doctrine and state and U.S. constitutional provisions. The Public Trust Doctrine requires sovereign governments to manage and protect vital natural resources, such as air and water, essential for the common survival, benefit, and prosperity of all citizens, and embodies the human rights principles of intergenerational justice and the right to a healthy environment.

In the national U.S. Atmospheric Trust Litigation (ATL) case, five youth plaintiffs and two non-profit organizations sought immediate court intervention to compel U.S. government action on

climate change. The lawsuit against six U.S. agency defendants demands development of comprehensive Climate Recovery Plans to reduce U.S. CO2 emissions consistent with what the best science deems necessary to halt catastrophic climate change. After the trial court dismissed their case, the youth plaintiffs are appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Joining an amicus curiae (“friend of the court”) brief allows those who join to offer information and help explain how the negative impacts of climate change threaten the physical and cultural survival of indigenous communities in the U.S. and around the world. Joining the brief does not make you a party to the lawsuit and costs nothing.

To learn more about Our Children’s Trust, the federal case, and the youth plaintiffs, visit <http://ourchildrenstrust.org/US/Federal-Lawsuit>. To sign onto an amicus curiae brief in support of the federal appeal, please contact:

- Elizabeth Brown: [EBrown@ourchildrenstrust.org](mailto:EBrown@ourchildrenstrust.org); 512. 712.0068
- Marissa Knodel: [MarissaK04@gmail.com](mailto:MarissaK04@gmail.com); 763.355.4763