

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project Meeting Notes
January 5, 2012**

Participants

- Sandra Clark, Quinault Indian Nation
- Jamie Barbour, USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station
- Michelle Davis, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
- Marla Emery, USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station
- Sean Finn, Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Larry Gilbertson, Quinault Indian Nation
- Jenny Hoffman, EcoAdapt
- Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe
- Mary Kennedy, Craig Tribal Association
- Frank Lake, PNW Research
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Julie Maldonado, Global Research Climate Change Program
- John Mankowski, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Gary Morishima
- Don Motanic, Intertribal Timber Council
- Mary Mahaffy, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Georgene Nelson, Klamath Tribes
- Raymond Paddock,
- Roy Sampsel, Institute for Tribal Governments, Portland State University
- Julie Teel Simmonds, University of Colorado
- Patricia Tillman, National Wildlife Federation
- Carson Viles, University of Oregon
- Sue Wotkyns, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

Table of Contents:

Landscape Conservation Councils – Presentations and Discussion 2

 Tribal Engagement Strategy for the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative 2

 Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative 3

 National Landscape Conservation Cooperative Council 3

 NPLCC region web-based focus groups - Jan. 17-27 3

Partner Updates 4

 Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Training 4

 National Climate Assessment 4

 Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals Updates 4

 Climate Change Adaptation Planning Courses 4

 Tribes and Climate Change Newsletter 5

 Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Plan Template 5

 ITEP Environmental Education Outreach Program 5

PNW Tribal Climate Change Project 5

 May 23 - 24, 2012 conference on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change 5

 Project Profiles 6

 Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Project Publications for Review 6

 A Synthesis of Literature on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change 6

 Tribal Consultation in a Changing Climate: A review of federal consultation policies 6

Appendix A. Organizational Chart for the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative 7

Appendix B. National Climate Assessment – Tribal Technical Input Team – Request for Information 8

Appendix C. Call for Abstracts/Scholarship Requests – Indigenous People and Climate Change Conference 9

MEETING NOTES

Welcome and Introductions

We had many new participants on the Network call, and for the first time, reached capacity on our phone lines! We apologize to anyone who was unable to join for that reason. Kathy will research other tele-conference (and/or webinar) opportunities for future calls so that everyone is able to join.

LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COUNCILS – PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Tribal Engagement Strategy for the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative

John Mankowski provided a brief description of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) as well as the function and scope of the North Pacific LCC (NPLCC). In 2009, the Secretary of the Interior created Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. LCCs are self-directed partnerships between federal agencies, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations, universities, and other entities to collaboratively define science needs and jointly address broad-scale conservation issues, such as climate change in a defined geographic area. They are designed to assist partners and USFWS in identifying immediate time-critical needs for managing fish and wildlife resources.

John described the mission and goals of the North Pacific LCC and emphasized that making information available and easily accessible is a major priority of the NPLCC. See [Appendix A](#) of this document to view the organization chart that John used to describe the overall structure of the NPLCC.

The mission of the NPLCC is to *promote development, coordination and dissemination of science to inform landscape level conservation in the face of a changing climate and related stressors.*

A steering committee will guide the direction of the NPLCC, and provide opportunities for tribal engagement in the NPLCC. The steering committee will be comprised of representatives from approximately twenty organizations, including federal and state agencies, Canadian federal agencies and five tribal representatives. The role of the steering committee is to direct the objectives and goals of the LCC, as well as provide direction for subcommittees.

The NPLCC subcommittees include: Partnership/Liaison, Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and Communications and Outreach. The Partnership/Liaison subcommittee functions to consolidate information and work of other conservation organizations working on a smaller scale, and to facilitate the work of the other two subcommittees. The Science/TEK subcommittee functions to guide research and set research priorities. Currently, the NPLCC is looking for volunteers in tribal communities to work with the Science/TEK subcommittee.

Discussion questions focused on whether or not there is financial support for tribal involvement in the LCC. John mentioned that some LCCs have made reimbursements available to tribes for participation in meetings, and that the NPLCC is open to that. However, because of the recent formation of the NPLCC, there is no current financial support for tribal involvement. John also expressed interest in working with the other federal agencies such as the EPA and BIA to fund grants for tribal organizations to participate in LCC meetings.

Gary Morishima asked if other LCCs are organized similarly to the NPLCC. John noted that because of the rich cultural resources available in the area of the NPLCC, their focus is on scientific research and its application to conservation in the area, while some LCCs have a greater focus in cultural conservation. Gary also asked if the steering committee is a FACA committee. John said that the Department of Justice

determined that LCC steering committees are exempt from FACA because the LCC is a coordinating body, but not implementing activities as a group; each participating agency/organization will still pursue individual assessments and actions. When asked how membership of the initial steering committee was determined, John stated that it was limited to selected states, federal agency and tribes, largely as a function of size so that the core group could be limited to 20-25 people. New members can be added, and other people and organizations can be involved via the partnership community and the subcommittees. (See Appendix A.)

John can be reached at: (360) 753-9330 or by email: john_mankowski@fws.gov. More information on the NPLCC can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/nplcc/>.

Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Sean Finn shared information on the Great Northern LCC (GNLCC). The steering committee for the GNLCC is made up of approximately 25 members, which includes founding members the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Additionally, there are currently representatives of the Nez Perce and Yakama tribes serving on the steering committee. The GNLCC anticipates finalizing its 10-year strategic framework this spring. This framework will set scientific priorities for the GNLCC for the next 10-year cycle. Sean also noted that a series of partner forums will be underway in the coming year. These will be field level communication forums working on coordinated conservation efforts, inventorying and monitoring, and refining and enacting science programs. The forums are designed to note which conservation efforts are effective and to promote them. Any individuals or organizations interested in participating in these forums (or seeking more information on the GNLCC in general) should contact Sean Finn at 208.426.2697 or at Sean_Finn@fws.gov. More information on the GNLCC can be found at: <http://greatnorthernlcc.org/>.

National Landscape Conservation Cooperative Council

Don Motanic provided a brief overview of a recent assessment of the potential for a National Landscape Conservation Council, which is being proposed to provide guidance to the LCCs and provide a mechanism to maintain consistency and coordination at both regional and national scales. The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution recently released a report on the assessment findings and recommendations. The report and a PowerPoint presentation are attached to the email with these meeting minutes. Don will be attending a meeting next week that is schedule to discuss the assessment and the formation of LCC national council. Gary Morishima mentioned that he had attended a meeting related to the Council last month and suggested that it is unclear as to how outreach is occurring, and how people are being informed of opportunities to participate on various levels of leadership on the LCCs. The group discussed the need for a more formal strategy (and consultation process) for tribes to be involved.

Invitation for Tribes and First Nations in the NPLCC region to participate in web-based focus groups on climate change, resource impacts, and information needs, Jan. 17-27

National Wildlife Federation (NWF), in collaboration with the NPLCC and University of Washington Climate Impacts Group (CIG), would like to invite you to participate in one or more expert focus groups to examine the challenges and information needs associated with managing species, habitats, and ecosystems in light of current and projected climate change impacts. Results will be used to inform the NPLCC as it considers how to best deliver applied science in support of conservation and climate adaptation. These are the same focus groups described by Patricia Tillmann on previous Network calls. There will be ten focus groups, all scheduled for January 17-27, 2012 (see attached: NPLCC Focus Groups Schedule_1.6.2012). If you have not yet received an invitation, please contact Patricia Tillmann (NWF) at

tillmannp@nwf.org or (206) 577-7824 by January 11 to be added to a focus group or anytime to learn more about the project.

PARTNER UPDATES

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Training

The National Conservation training Center is hosting a climate change vulnerability assessment training January 24-26 at the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest in Eatonville, WA. The course is based on January 2011 publication "Scanning the Conservation Horizon - A Guide to Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment" (www.nwf.org/vulnerabilityguide). The guidance document is a product of an expert workgroup on climate change vulnerability assessment convened by the National Wildlife Federation in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and the Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program. This course is designed to guide conservation and resource management practitioners in two essential elements in the design of climate adaptation plans. Specifically, it will provide guidance in identifying which species or habitats are likely to be most strongly affected by projected changes; and understanding why these resources are likely to be vulnerable. There is no cost for attendance at the class, just travel, food and lodging. Contact Karen Myers (karen_myers@fws.gov or 360-753-9098) with questions or for more information on registration.

National Climate Assessment – Request for Information

Kathy is participating on the Tribal Technical Input team for the National Climate Assessment and compiling relevant data and information related to tribes and climate change including literature reviews, discussion papers, case studies, data and modeling results for the Pacific Northwest, and for the forestry sector nationally. There will be a chapter on the impacts of climate change on tribal/indigenous and native lands and resources. Tribal issues will also be incorporated into regional chapters and sector-specific chapters. Please contact Kathy at kathy@uoregon.edu with relevant information on tribal efforts to address climate change for sectors and cross-sectoral chapters that will be addressed in the NCA. See Appendix B for a listing of the information we are hoping to gather for the tribal technical input team. You can fill this form out and send it to kathy@uoregon.edu if you have information that you would like to submit.

If you are seeking more information on the National Climate Assessment, Sue Wotkyns and Bull Bennett organized a webinar on Tribes and the National Climate Assessment in December. This webinar can be downloaded at: http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/tcc_webinars.asp.

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals Updates

Climate Change Adaptation Planning Courses

Itep is starting to plan the next two Climate Change Adaptation Planning courses for tribal environmental and natural resources professionals. These courses will be in 1) Green Bay, WI, June 5-7, 2012 hosted by the Oneida Tribe (focus on Great Lakes and eastern US); 2) Plains/Rockies area, late summer 2012 (location and date TBD). If you are interested in hosting the second workshop please contact Sue Wotkyns. More information is available at: www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/.

Tribes and Climate Change Newsletter

ITEP distributes a monthly newsletter on issues related to tribes and climate change. Send an email to Sue Wotkyns at Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu to subscribe to the newsletter. Archived issues can be found at: www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange

Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Plan Template

The Institute of Tribal Professionals has released a tribal climate change adaptation plan template that serves as a resource for Tribes as they develop climate change adaptation plans. The template provides guidelines and suggestions for writing plans and includes key terms and additional resources. The template is intended to be used for organizing and presenting information but is not meant to create a "one-size fits-all" plan, as each Tribe will have unique needs and approaches to planning for climate change. Please contact Sue Wotkyns (Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu) to request the template. Sue also mentioned that ITEP is working on a template for tribal resolutions on climate change.

ITEP Environmental Education Outreach Program

ITEP Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona is seeking air quality and climate change focused offices and programs to host a summer intern for 10 weeks. Tribal environmental offices, regional EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply. The interns will be undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. The host site provides a work place and supervision for the intern. PLEASE NOTE that the projects must be focused on addressing air quality and/or climate change issues in tribal communities. Submit an application online at http://www4.nau.edu/eeop/internships/ssi_host.asp Deadline: Apply by January 6, 2012. Interns must apply by February 15, 2012. For detailed information on the requirements and internship, visit our site at http://www4.nau.edu/eeop/internships/ssi_host.asp. Please contact Graylynn Hudson at Graylynn.Hudson@nau.edu or 928-523-8864 if you have questions about submitting an application.

PNW TRIBAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT

A Guide For Tribal Leaders on U.S. Climate Change Programs

In June 2011, the Tribal Climate Change Project released the first iteration of a Guide For Tribal Leaders on U.S. Climate Change Programs. This guide summarizes key U.S. government programs addressing climate change, opportunities for tribal engagement and contacts for each agency. In addition to its immediate value to tribes and their partners, this information will provide important groundwork for research on understanding and improving the tribal consultation processes in the context of climate change. We are currently in the process of updating the Guide. Gary Morishima suggested including recent publications on climate change and traditional knowledge. Kathy will give some thought to the best way to include a list of recommended publications in the guide. To download a PDF of the Guide, click here: [tribal leaders CC guide 1-4-2012](#) or go to the project website: <http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/publications/>. If you have updates for the guide, thoughts on including recent publications, or other ideas, please contact Kathy at kathy@uoregon.edu or call 541-346-5777.

May 23 - 24, 2012 conference on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

On Thursday, May 24, 2012, the [University of Oregon](#) and its [Robert D. Clark Honors College](#) will host a student-focused conference on "Indigenous People, Climate Change, and Environmental Knowledge." Students from a diversity of disciplines will present research related to climate and culture in the Americas alongside faculty and graduate students. Keynote speakers include Daniel Wildcat and Larry Mercurieff. More information on the conference is available at:

<http://uoclimateconference.wordpress.com>. The Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Network will also host an in-person meeting on Wednesday, May 23rd from 3:30 – 5:30 pm. We will provide an opportunity for people to tele-conference in that are not able to be there in person. The PNW Tribal Climate Change Project will be supporting three tribal college students to present at the conference. See [Appendix C](#) for the call for abstracts, or email kathy@uoregon.edu.

Project Profiles

The University of Oregon recently released a new profile on First Foods and Climate Change. This profile explores the challenges that indigenous peoples face in maintaining their historically important relationships with first foods in the context of climate change. The profile also outlines the impacts that climate change may have on many first foods, describes challenges facing indigenous peoples in continuing their relationship with first foods, and explore ways in which they have adapted or responded to these challenges. <http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/tribal-profiles/>

Other profiles under development (at the University of Oregon and ITEP) include profiles of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Climate Energy Program, the Nisqually Delta Restoration Project, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the Grand Portage Band of Chippewa in MN. If you have suggestions for profiles of tribes doing innovative work on climate change issues, please email kathy@uoregon.edu.

Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Project Publications for Review

In mid-January, we will be sending out two draft papers that have been under development through the PNW Tribal Climate Change project. A brief description of each paper is below. Kathy will send drafts to the full Network, but please email me at kathy@uoregon.edu if you would be willing to review either (or both) documents and provide comments in January.

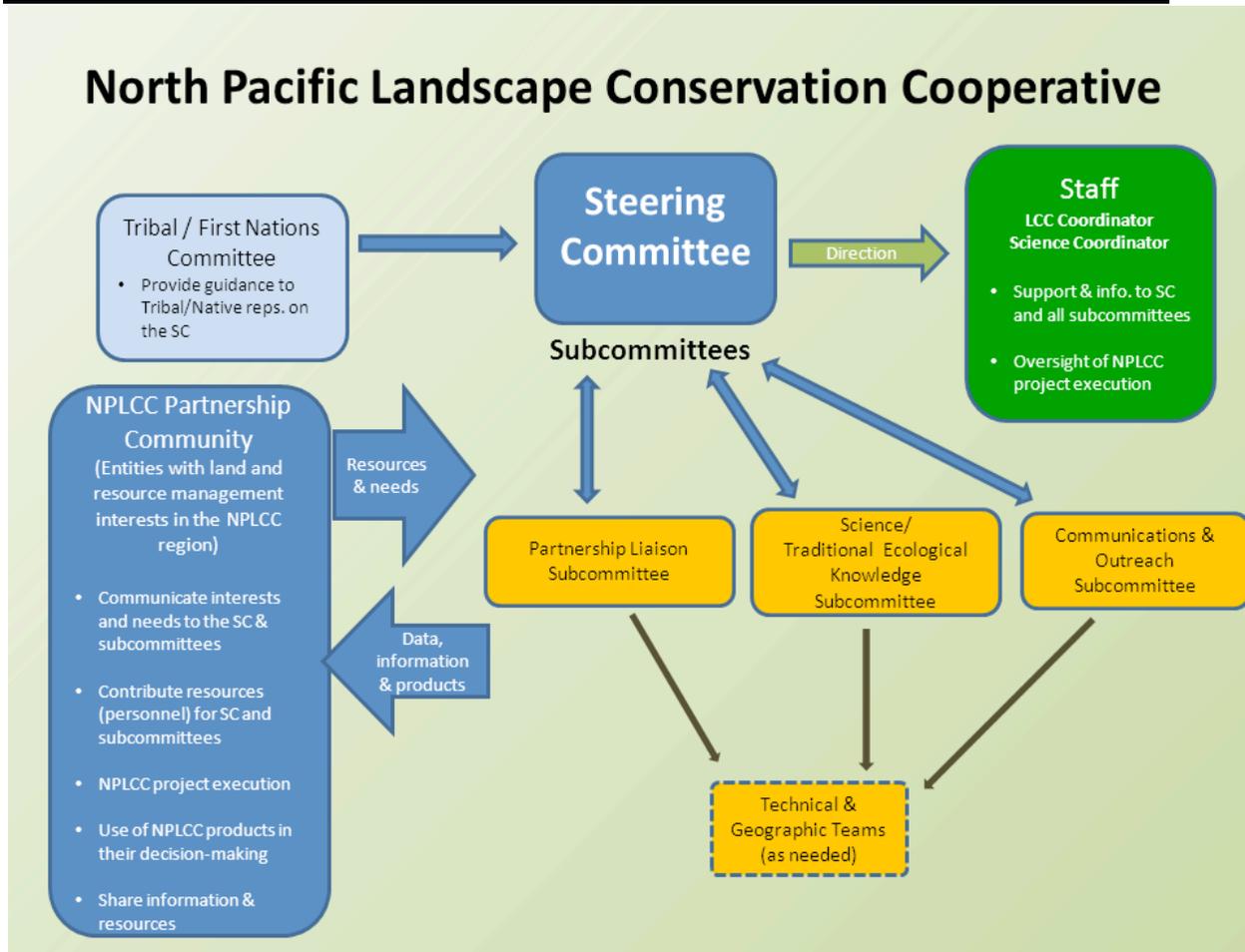
A Synthesis of Literature on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change

This synthesis is intended to frame the applicability of TEK within a climate change context. The report includes various examples of indigenous groups, agencies and organizations incorporating TEK into various types of research, education and resource planning efforts. These examples can serve as ideas for tribes and public and private partners with an interest in exploring the role of TEK in addressing climate change.

Tribal Consultation in a Changing Climate: A review of federal consultation policies

The goal of this research is to examine government-to-government relationships in the context of climate change. This report is intended to provide information and tools to increase the effectiveness of federal-tribal consultation in addressing climate change impacts, and in the management of culturally important resources. The report examines the scope of federal consultation policies in the context of climate change and highlights specific policies that have the potential to strengthen federal-tribal efforts to address climate change.

APPENDIX A. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE NORTH PACIFIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE



APPENDIX B. NATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT – TRIBAL TECHNICAL INPUT TEAM – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Document title:

Citation:

Abstract/Summary:

Website URL:

Date:

Keywords:

Type of literature: *e.g., peer-reviewed article, Agency report, gray literature, traditional knowledge, etc.*

Regions addressed:

- Northeast
- Southeast and Caribbean
- Northwest
- Southwest
- Midwest
- Great Plains
- Alaska and Arctic
- Hawaii and the Pacific Islands
- National

Sectors/issues addressed:

- Water Resources
- Energy Supply and Use
- Transportation
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- Human Health

Bio-geographical Cross-Cuts

- Oceans and marine resources
- Coastal zone, development and ecosystems
- Drainage basins

Sectoral Cross-Cuts

- Water/Energy/Land Use (including agriculture, forestry)
- Urban/Infrastructure/Vulnerability
- Impacts of climate change on Tribal/Indigenous and Native Lands, and Resources
- Land use/land cover change
- Rural Communities, Agriculture, and Development
- Impacts on biogeochemical cycles, with implications for ecosystems and biodiversity

Other:

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- TEK

Additional Notes:

APPENDIX C. CALL FOR ABSTRACTS – INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE CONFERENCE

**Indigenous People, Climate Change, and Environmental Knowledge Conference
University of Oregon - May 23-24, 2012**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Students researching any aspect of climate change and indigenous peoples anywhere in the Americas are invited to submit proposals to present their work at a student-focused conference at the University of Oregon on May 24, 2012. Research from any discipline and any geographical region within the Americas is acceptable. Topics may range from public perceptions of climate change, policies, climate change impacts, adaptation, mitigation, history, or traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). The goals of this conference are to promote student research, provide professional experience for students, and generate dialogue about the critical issues facing indigenous peoples related to climate change.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRIBAL COLLEGE STUDENTS

Scholarships for at least three tribal college students will be awarded. These scholarships will include funding for travel, lodging and meals during the conference. Students awarded these scholarships will be invited to attend the full conference, give a 15-minute presentation during a panel, participate in one class session of the "**Climate and Culture in the Americas**" course, and sit in on a meeting of the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Network that will take place on May 23, 2012.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please send the following items:

- (1) An abstract of no more than 300 words explaining the research you plan to present.
- (2) A résumé including your full contact information and a valid email address.
- (3) A brief cover letter expressing your interest in participating in the conference and your experience through classes, research, or otherwise working on climate change issues with indigenous populations.
- (4) Name and contact information of your faculty advisor.

Send applications that include a request for scholarships by email to Kathy Lynn: kathy@uoregon.edu.

Application deadline for scholarships: February 15, 2012

Conference Website: <http://uoclimateconference.wordpress.com/>

Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project: <http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/>