

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project**  
**DRAFT Meeting Notes – March 29, 2012**

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**Call Participants**

- Marla Emery, USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station
- Michele Davis, EPA Region 10 - Alaska
- Jeff Dickison, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Josh Foster, Oregon State University, Northwest Climate Science Center
- Eric Giles, Indian Carbon Coalition
- Pat Gonzalez-Rogers, Fish and Wildlife Service
- Oliver Grah, Nooksack Tribe
- George Hart, Navy Region Northwest
- Jennie Hoffman, EcoAdapt
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Mary Mahaffy, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Gary Morishima, Technical Advisor to the Quinault Indian Nation and Intertribal Timber Council
- Claire Schary, EPA Region 10
- Patricia Tillman, National Wildlife Federation
- Steve Todd, Suquamish Tribe
- Carson Viles, University of Oregon

**Meeting Notes - Table of Contents**

**1. General Updates ..... 1**  
Request for Input – PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Call Schedule: ..... 1  
National Indian Carbon Coalition..... 2  
Incorporating climate change into marine use plans - Coastal First Nations in British Columbia ..... 2  
Climate Change Funding Guide for Tribes ..... 3

**2. Coordinating Tribal Engagement in PNW Climate Initiatives ..... 3**  
North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative ..... 3  
Pacific Northwest Federal Tribal Engagement Workgroup..... 3  
Identifying Tribal Challenges and Opportunities for Addressing Climate Change Impacts ..... 4

**3. Upcoming Tribal Climate Change Events (Selected) ..... 4**  
April 10 – 12, 2012. Training: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, Phoenix, AZ..... 4  
April 12, 2012. Great Basin Climate Forum: 2012 Outlook. Reno, NV..... 4  
April 23 – 24, 2012. American Indian/Alaska Native Climate Change Working Group. Tucson, AZ. .... 4  
April 30 - May 4, 2012. Conference: EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders' Summit. Grand Ronde, OR..... 5  
May 23 – 24, 2012. Conference: Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change Conference. Eugene, OR..... 5  
June 5 – 7, 2012. ITEP Training: Climate Change Adaptation Planning..... 5  
July 17 – 20, 2012 First Stewards Symposium. Washington, DC. .... 5

**4. Other Items ..... 5**  
Climate Science Center Boot Camp ..... 5  
Expert Workshop - North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative - Friday, April 20, 2012 ..... 6

**1. General Updates**

***Request for Input – PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Call Schedule:***

For the past year, the PNW Tribal Climate Change Network has held conference calls every 4 - 6 weeks. Each meeting has been scheduled by a Doodle poll and calls are generally scheduled 2-3 weeks in advance. Because of a growing membership and the recent need for more frequent calls, I would like to find out if Network participants would like to move to a regularly scheduled call each month. Please click on the following survey to indicate if you would like to establish a regular call time each month: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VC28B6V>.

### ***National Indian Carbon Coalition***

The National Indian Carbon Coalition (NICC) is a greenhouse gas management service providing project development resources and training for tribal nations and Indian landowner associations entering the carbon credit marketplace. NICC focuses exclusively on developing revenue from carbon credit projects on land owned by tribes and individual Indians. NICC was created from a partnership between Indian Land Tenure Foundation and Intertribal Agriculture Council to develop and maintain relationships among tribal leaders and Indian farmers, ranchers and foresters and other organizations and businesses that may assist with the development of carbon credit projects. Erick Giles, NICC Program Director spoke about initial efforts of the coalition, which include workshops that will be held this summer to present information on the program to tribes across the country. Erick mentioned that tribes currently engaging in carbon markets include the Yurok Tribe, Lummi Indian Nation, Nez Perce Tribe and Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

One concern discussed on the call about carbon credits is the 99-year lease term that some tribes have been reticent to commit to. Erick suggested that some tribes have expressed reluctance to commit large tracts of land to a particular use for such a long time. The Nez Perce Tribe worked with the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX), which structured their contracts to shorter lengths and paid annually to encourage participation and to avoid the issues associated with 100-year contracts. The CCX commitment period was from 2003 – 2010.

Erick mentioned another issue related to the lack of regulatory structure to facilitate tribes engaging in credit market. Erick talked about the potential for developing tribal protocols for carbon registries to help address tribal concerns related to carbon markets. Erick is interested in connecting with tribes interested in engaging in the NICC. Erick can be contacted at [egiles@iltf.org](mailto:egiles@iltf.org). For more information, visit: [www.indiancarbon.org](http://www.indiancarbon.org).

### ***Incorporating climate change into marine use plans - Coastal First Nations in British Columbia***

Jennie Hoffman reported that EcoAdapt is working with Coastal First Nations in British Columbia to incorporate climate change into their marine use plans. These plans are written at the community level, then rolled up to the regional level, and then will be coordinated with Provincial marine use planning. Although the specific focus is on the marine use plans, the discussions and workshops will also address treaty negotiations (most BC tribes do not yet have treaties and are in various stages of negotiation) and inform broader planning efforts.

The people Jennie has been working with have expressed a strong interest in hearing from Tribes who have taken actions relative to climate change adaptation, for example tribal adaptation plans, land or resource use decisions that incorporated some element of climate change, assessing the vulnerability of cultural resources to climate change, etc. EcoAdapt has funding that could support a range of activities, e.g. visits to individual Nations, a meeting in Vancouver to address multiple Nations, webinars, or other engagement types. Please contact Jennie if you have questions or are interested in sharing your experience and knowledge with BC First Nations: [jennie@ecoadapt.org](mailto:jennie@ecoadapt.org). While the focus (and initial funding) is on marine issues, there is potential to expand and include information on both marine and upland-related climate issues.

### ***National Climate Assessment***

Kathy gave a brief update on the National Climate Assessment. Technical inputs have been formally submitted and the tribal chapter is under development. Kathy will inform the Network once the draft chapter is available for review. The Southwest Climate Alliance released a review draft of the

*Assessment of Climate Change in the Southwest United States.* It is the first regional climate assessment of the Southwest in over a decade during which evidence of climate change and its impacts have rapidly emerged in the region. The Southwest region covers six states—Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah. The SW report can be reviewed at: <http://swcarr.arizona.edu/>. The chapter on challenges facing tribes is at: [http://swcarr.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Ch17\\_OR\\_25Mar2012.pdf](http://swcarr.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Ch17_OR_25Mar2012.pdf). Comments will be received through April 11, 2012. Jennie mentioned that while there is a chapter, she would like to see tribal issues more evenly represented throughout the report. She reviewed chapter 18, Climate Choices for a Sustainable Southwest, which had only a few references to tribes.

### ***Climate Change Funding Guide for Tribes***

Michelle Davis, EPA Region 10 has been working on compiling information for a tribal climate change funding guide. Kathy and Michelle will work together to develop a draft of the guide in April, and will also link it directly to the Guide for Tribal Leaders on U.S. Climate Change Program. Please email potential submission to Michelle at: [Davis.MichelleV@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Davis.MichelleV@epamail.epa.gov). We will send it out to the Network once it is in draft form and hope that some of you will be willing to serve as reviewers. Michelle will also send out a guide one of her interns recently completed on federal and state erosion programs.

## **2. Coordinating Tribal Engagement in PNW Climate Initiatives**

This week, a national workshop on Landscape Conservation Cooperatives was held in Denver, CO. Information on the program schedule is available at: <http://nationalcc2012.com/schedule/>. Mary Mahaffy will share a link to any workshop proceedings when it becomes available.

### ***North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative***

Mary provided an update on the North Pacific LCC. In December, the NPLCC moved to a full steering committee, which includes five tribal/First Nation representatives. Steering committee members have been identified for Alaska (Leilani Knight-McQueen, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska), Washington (Terry Williams), and Northern California (Kathleen Sloan). The NPLCC is still working to identify steering committee representatives from British Columbia and Oregon.

Mary also informed the network that the NPLCC will be releasing a notification of funding for projects investigating where/when/how TEK can be integrated into sustainable resource management and to identify tribal and First Nations climate change science needs. Applications will be due within 5-6 weeks of when the notice is sent out. Kathy will be sure to send the request for proposals to the Network as soon as it is issued. Tribes are eligible to apply. Non-tribal entities that apply must show a direct partnership with tribes in their work. For more information on the NPLCC, visit:

<http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/nplcc/>.

### ***Pacific Northwest Federal Tribal Engagement Workgroup***

*(Northwest Climate Science Center, C3, the Great Northern, Great Basin and North Pacific LCCs, and the NW Climate Impacts Research Consortium)*

Claire Schary provided information on this tribal engagement workgroup, which is in the process of being formed. The work group seeks to develop an effective and coordinated approach to engage Tribes in participating in processes to help set the climate change adaptation science agenda for the Pacific Northwest, as well as to respond to their climate change adaptation science needs. This approach involves the federal agencies working on climate change adaptation science in the PNW, as well as the three federally funded Landscape Conservation Cooperatives in the region, the PNW Climate Science

Center, and the PNW Climate Change Impacts Research Consortium. We will include a standing agenda item on the PNW Tribal Climate Change Network call agendas.

Jennie Hoffman mentioned the Coral Triangle Initiative Marketplace as an example that may be worth looking into. The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security is a multilateral partnership of six countries formed in 2009 to address the urgent threats facing the coastal and marine resources of one of the most biologically diverse and ecologically rich regions on earth. (<http://www.coraltriangleinitiative.org/>). The marketplace provides an opportunity to match donors to grant-seekers engaged in the initiative.

### ***Identifying Tribal Challenges and Opportunities for Addressing Climate Change Impacts***

The PNW Tribal Climate Change Project is developing a strategy to conduct our outreach to tribes within the Northwest Climate Science Center and the North Pacific, Great Basin and Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to identify climate-related science needs among tribes in the Pacific Northwest. This effort would be in partnership with the National Wildlife Federation and based on their model identifying climate-science needs with a broad range of stakeholders in the North Pacific LCC. Kathy will send more information about this proposed project in early April.

### **3. Upcoming Tribal Climate Change Events**

*For a comprehensive list of events related to tribes and climate change around the country, visit:* <http://www4.nau.edu/tribalclimatechange/events.asp>.

#### ***April 10 – 12, 2012 - Training: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, Phoenix, AZ.***

This US Fish and Wildlife Service course is based on the publication "Scanning the Conservation Horizon- A Guide to Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment" and is designed to guide conservation and resource management practitioners in two essential elements in the design of climate adaptation plans. 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. Registration is open to all applicants through the FWS's National Conservation Training Center.

[http://training.fws.gov/CSP/Resources/climate\\_change/ccva\\_course\\_announcement.html](http://training.fws.gov/CSP/Resources/climate_change/ccva_course_announcement.html)

#### ***April 12, 2012. Great Basin Climate Forum: 2012 Outlook. Reno, NV.***

Olin Anderson with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe shared information about the 2012 Great Basin Climate Forum, a pilot one-day forum on April 12, 2012 from 9am-4pm at the Desert Research Institute in Reno, NV. The forum will focus on providing information about current climate conditions to public and private resource managers in the Great Basin region. Olin is hoping that a few tribes within the Great Basin will be interested in participating (in person or via webinar.) *For more information, visit:*

<http://meteora.ucsd.edu/cap/pdffiles/2012GreatBasinClimateForum.pdf>.

#### ***April 23 – 24, 2012. American Indian/Alaska Native Climate Change Working Group. Tucson, AZ.***

Hosted by Tohono O'odham Community College. The Working Group is a TCU-centered network of tribal colleges & universities, tribal and intertribal organizations, federal agencies, scientific research organizations and NGOs that address the impacts of climate change on humankind, but especially on Indigenous peoples. The purpose of our meeting is to bring together our Working Group community to address the current state of the science regarding climate change and the progress the Working Group has made toward our goals. [www.climas.arizona.edu/workshops/2382](http://www.climas.arizona.edu/workshops/2382)

**April 30 - May 4, 2012. Conference: EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders' Summit. Grand Ronde, OR.**  
Hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. The Summit will bring together federal and tribal governments to explore opportunities to partner and leverage shared resources. [www.grandronde.org/tls/](http://www.grandronde.org/tls/)

**May 23 – 24, 2012. Conference: Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change Conference. Eugene, OR.**  
Students from a diversity of disciplines will present research related to climate and culture in the Americas alongside faculty and graduate students. Keynote lectures will feature indigenous leaders involved in climate change issues from Alaska to the continental United States.  
<http://uoclimateconference.wordpress.com>

**June 5 – 7, 2012. ITEP Training: Climate Change Adaptation Planning. Hosted by Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin.**  
This course provides an introduction to planning for climate change impacts, highlighting efforts of a local tribe. The course is intended for tribal environmental and natural resource professionals who expect to be involved in climate change adaptation planning. Since the course will focus on climate change impacts in the Great Lakes and eastern US, we especially encourage people from the region to attend. Registration is now open. For more information or questions, contact [Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu).  
[www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/](http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/)

**July 17 – 20, 2012 First Stewards Symposium. Washington, DC. National Museum of the American Indian.** The symposium will be hosted by the four Coastal Treaty Tribes (Hoh, Makah, Quileute, and Quinault) in conjunction with the US Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and the Nature Conservancy. The symposium will bring together four regional panels; one each for the West Coast states; Alaska; the U.S. Pacific states and territories; and the Great Lakes, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, and Gulf of Mexico states.  
<http://firststewards.org/gs/>

#### **4. Additional Items**

##### ***Climate Science Center Boot Camp***

Josh Foster from Oregon State University and the Northwest Climate Change Science Center shared information on the 2012 Climate Change Boot Camp. Last year, the boot camp brought together students at different universities to focus on interdisciplinary climate change work. One of the goals is to help new professionals apply climate science and learn to communicate key findings with decision-makers. In general, Masters and PhD level students are eligible to attend the boot camp. They are eager to identify tribal students for this year. Josh also suggested that early-career professional staff with tribes that have an interest in the boot camp should also consider applying. Josh said that the boot camp is likely to be held in August. Kathy will send out the announcement when it is available.

##### ***ITEP Climate Change Adaptation Planning Course***

Pre-registration forms for the Climate Change Adaptation Planning course (June 5-7, Oneida WI) are available on the ITEP website: [www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/](http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/). Since the course will focus on climate change impacts and adaptation in the Great Lakes and eastern US, we especially encourage tribal environmental and natural resource professionals from the region to attend. Please register by April 10, and our thanks to the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin for hosting the course. Another training is

being planned for September (dates TBD) in Missoula, MT, and will be hosted by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

***ITEP Template for Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives***

ITEP has developed a Template for a Tribal Resolution: Climate Change Adaptation Initiative to serve as a model on which tribes can base their own resolution for a tribal climate change initiative. The template is not a "one-size-fits-all" solution, and users are encouraged to modify the template to better represent the needs and priorities of their tribe. Our thanks to the tribes and tribal organizations that reviewed drafts of the template and provided valuable feedback and suggestions. The template is available by request at [Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu).

***Expert Workshop to Inform Climate Change Science Priorities in the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative - Friday, April 20, 2012, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM - Juneau, Alaska.***

*Forwarded by Patricia Tillman – National Wildlife Federation:*

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC), National Wildlife Federation (NWF), and University of Washington Climate Impacts Group (CIG) invite you to attend an Expert Workshop to Inform Climate Change Science Priorities in the NPLCC. **Please RSVP by April 4** to Patricia Tillmann ([tillmannp@nwf.org](mailto:tillmannp@nwf.org) or 206.577.7824). We encourage you to forward this invitation to colleagues working on climate change and ecosystem responses in the NPLCC region. Please copy Patricia if you choose to do so.

This Workshop will be a key input to the NPLCC's science planning and prioritization activities, and is the second of three such workshops being offered this year. The Workshop will build on the results from a similar workshop held on February 28 as well as ten recently conducted web-based focus groups that identified challenges and opportunities for addressing climate-related impacts to ecosystems across the NPLCC region. This Workshop will further define and refine unmet applied science needs in the NPLCC's marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems. Following this Workshop, a subsequent workshop in June, and several web-based expert focus groups on climate impacts in terrestrial ecosystems, we will report on emerging priorities for landscape-scale climate change adaptation and cross-boundary collaboration for the NPLCC.

NPLCC staff will be present to listen and learn from your experiences, and will use your input to inform their decisions about science priorities for the region. This Workshop will immediately follow the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center's symposium "*Coastal Temperate Rainforests: Integrating Science, Resource Management, and Communities*" (see link below). We hope you will consider attending the symposium as a foundation for our discussion of climate-related challenges and information needs across the NPLCC's marine, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems.

We will send a follow-up email with an agenda and notes from the Feb. 28 workshop and preceding web-based focus groups by April 9. In the meantime, please refer to the [project website](#) for a list of invitees (see "Juneau (April 20)" page), information on the project, and presentations from each of the web-based focus groups. This is a unique opportunity to collaborate with resource managers, conservation practitioners, researchers, and other ecosystem and climate change experts to identify priorities and opportunities for addressing climate impacts in the NPLCC region. We hope you are able to join us. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Patricia Tillman or Dan Siemann.

*In partnership with the [North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative](#) and University of Washington [Climate Impacts Group](#).*

Project Website: <http://sharepoint.nwf.org/sites/oc/prcs/nplcc/default.aspx>  
NPLCC Website: <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/nplcc/>  
CIG Website: <http://www.cses.washington.edu/cig/>  
Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center Symposium  
Information: [http://acrc.alaska.edu/acrc\\_sw/symposium/index.html](http://acrc.alaska.edu/acrc_sw/symposium/index.html)

Patricia Tillmann | Research Associate  
National Wildlife Federation | Pacific Regional Center  
6 Nickerson St. Suite 200, Seattle, WA 98109  
Office: (206) 577-7824 | Fax: (206) 285-8698  
[TillmannP@nwf.org](mailto:TillmannP@nwf.org) | [www.nwf.org/pacific](http://www.nwf.org/pacific)  
[Connect with us on Facebook](#) and [Follow us on Twitter](#)

Dan Siemann  
Senior Environmental Policy Specialist  
National Wildlife Federation, Pacific Region  
6 Nickerson St. Suite 200 Seattle, WA 98109  
206.577.7802 (Office); 206.402.1129 (Cell); 206.285.8698 (Fax);  
[siemannd@nwf.org](mailto:siemannd@nwf.org) / [www.nwf.org/pacific](http://www.nwf.org/pacific)  
/ [www.facebook.com/NWFPacific](http://www.facebook.com/NWFPacific) / [www.twitter.com/nwfpacific](http://www.twitter.com/nwfpacific)

John Mankowski, Coordinator  
North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative  
360 534-9330 - office  
360 791-7040 - cell  
E-mail: [John\\_Mankowski@fws.gov](mailto:John_Mankowski@fws.gov)  
Mailing Address:  
510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 102  
Lacey, WA 98503

Mary Mahaffy, Science Coordinator  
North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative  
510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 102 Lacey, WA 98503-1263  
360-753-7763 (desk)/360-878-0501 (cell)  
Email: [Mary\\_Mahaffy@fws.gov](mailto:Mary_Mahaffy@fws.gov)

Lara Whitely Binder  
Outreach and Adaptation Specialist, Climate Impacts Group  
Center for Science in the Earth System  
University of Washington, Box 355672  
Seattle, WA 98195-5672  
Phone: (206) 616-5349  
Email: [lwb123@uw.edu](mailto:lwb123@uw.edu)