

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project
DRAFT Meeting Notes – April 25, 2012**

Call Participants

- Jamie Barbour, USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station
- Gustavo Bisbal, Northwest Climate Science Center
- Michele Davis, EPA Region 10 - Alaska
- Jeff Dickson, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Aleta Erickson, Jamestown Tribe
- David Fuller, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Laura Gephart, Columba River Intertribal Fish Commission
- Oliver Grah, Nooksack Tribe
- Eric Grossman, USGS
- Scott Hauser, Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation
- Preston Hardison, Tulalip Tribes
- Lief Horwitz, USGS
- Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Mary Mahaffy, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Ian Miller, Washington Sea Grant
- Gary Morishima, Technical Advisor to the Quinault Indian Nation and Intertribal Timber Council
- Don Motanic, Intertribal Timber Council
- Nancy Reichley, OALACT
- Steve Robinson, OALACT
- Claire Schary, EPA Region 10
- Patricia Tillman, National Wildlife Federation
- Carson Viles, University of Oregon
- Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe

Meeting Notes - Table of Contents

Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates..... 2

Discussion Topics 2

 North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative – Science and TEK Request for Proposals 2

 Northwest Climate Science Center 3

 Coordinating Tribal Engagement in PNW Climate Initiatives..... 3

 Ocean Awareness and Literacy Action Coordination Team (Nancy Reichley and Steve Robinson)..... 5

General Updates 5

 March 2012 National Landscape Conservation Cooperative Meeting 5

 National Climate Assessment Update..... 5

 Climate Change Funding Guide for Tribes 6

 May 15-17, 2012 AFS-SER Restoration 2012: Beyond Borders Conference 6

 North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative/National Wildlife Federation Science Priorities..... 6

 First Stewards Program and Climate Change Symposium 6

 Third Annual PNW Climate Science Conference 6

Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates:

- May 23, 2012
 - *(Please note, this is the first day as the Indigenous Communities and Climate Change Conference at the UO. For anyone attending the conference, I will have a room reserved and call-in line set up during this time as it will not conflict with any conference events.)*
- June 27, 2012
- July 25, 2012
- August 22, 2012
- September 26, 2012
- October 24, 2012
- November 28, 2012

Call-in Information:

Call Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 Pacific

Call-in #: 1-888-858-2144

Pass code: 5064716

North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative – Science and TEK Request for Proposals

Mary Mahaffy shared information on the North Pacific LCC request for proposals, which is available at:

http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Climatechange/nplcc/pdf/NPLCC_fy12_funding_guidance_final.pdf

A total estimated amount of \$50,000 to \$200,000 will be available for 2 to 5 projects. The maximum amount that will be awarded to a project is \$50,000. Projects must address one or both of the following eligible activities:

- 1) Explore where, when, and how traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) can be integrated into research, landscape level conservation, sustainable resource management as well as NPLCC priorities and goals.
- 2) Identify Tribal and First Nations information needs related to conservation and management of natural and cultural resources potentially affected by climate change.

Applicants will be informed of the status of their proposal by June 4th, and completed packages for those accepted are due by June 18th. Mary noted that non-tribal applicants must show extensive involvement with tribal organizations in their proposal. There is no matching requirement to be awarded a grant, however, matching resources and partnerships are included within the evaluation criteria.

Joe Hostler shared his understanding as a representative on the North Pacific LCC steering committee, that there is a strong push to gain tribal involvement in this RFP. Tribes are land managers, and the steering committee is trying to get more involvement from tribal and non-tribal land managers. Preston noted a concern that discussions about TEK integration into management remain balanced and go beyond a simple representation of the role TEK plays. TEK should dialogue meaningfully with management practices. Preston also noted that the issue of knowledge sharing and how it interacts with ideas of intellectual property rights is an ongoing challenge in equitably dialoging between TEK and management.

Don Motanic asked if other LCCs were issuing similar RFPs or approaching issues related to traditional knowledge and climate change. Mary suggested that most other LCCs have focused on science priorities and projects, and that the focus of the NPLCC on traditional knowledge is different than some of the

other LCCs. Lief asked if there were ways for the PNW Tribal Climate Change Network to coordinate with the North Pacific LCC on the potential outcomes from these grants. Kathy suggested that an important function of the network is to share information on these types of efforts and to dialogue about relevant policy issues.

Northwest Climate Science Center

Gustavo Bisbal, Director of the Northwest Climate Science Center (NW CSC), provided a brief overview of the Climate Science Centers and their relationship to the Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. The mission of the NW CSC is to provide scientific information, tools, and techniques to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change. The Northwest Climate Science Center (NW CSC) was established in 2010 by the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to address the challenges presented by climate change and climate variability in the northwestern United States. The center is a federally led research collaboration hosted by three major universities: Oregon State University, University of Washington, and University of Idaho. The Northwest CSC brings together federal and university scientists to address climate change priority needs of federal, state, and tribal resource managers. Its purpose is to provide scientific information, tools, and techniques that managers and other parties interested in land, water, wildlife and cultural resources can use to anticipate, monitor, and adapt to climate change.

Within the strategic plan, there is also a long-term science agenda created through guidance of the executive stakeholder advisory committee (ESAC). The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission and the Northwest Fisheries Commission are all part of the ESAC. The next ESAC meeting in May 2nd in Portland. Gustavo suggested that if an individual tribe wishes to be represented at ESAC, they should contact him with their interest.

The Northwest Climate Science Center issued an RFP in March. There were 92 pre-proposals and requests for funding totaling \$19 million. The CSC invited 18 applicants to submit full proposals. About 10% of the 92 applicants included a tribal partner. Gustavo suggested that coordinating with the network was helpful in inviting tribal participation not only in regards to the actual applications, but also in providing tribal opportunities to give input to CSC, which is something the CSC is eager to receive. As a final note, Gustavo also mentioned his interest in first foods, and how that might be incorporated into the proposals submitted for the TEK and climate change RFP from the North Pacific LCC. Specifically, he is interested in exploring how to leverage academic resources to collaborate between the NPLCC, tribes and the CSC.

For more information about the Northwest Climate Science Center, visit: <http://www.doi.gov/csc/northwest/about.cfm> or contact Gustavo directly at 541-737-2525 or gbisbal@usgs.gov.

Coordinating Tribal Engagement in PNW Climate Initiatives

Kathy presented a brief overview of the proposal for the PNW Tribal Climate Change Project to coordinate a series of web-based focus group to identify tribal climate science priorities, as well as opportunities for increasing tribal voices and strengthening coordination in climate policies and programs. With a growing number of climate change assessments, plans and studies underway throughout the Northwest, there is a need for and opportunity to better coordinate requests for information from tribes related to climate change science and research. NWF recently conducted a survey, and a series of focus groups and expert workshops to engage a broad range of stakeholders, including tribes, to discuss climate change issues and to help identify climate-related science needs within the NP LCC.

The PNW Tribal Climate Change Project proposes to conduct outreach to identify climate-related science needs among tribes in the Pacific Northwest, as well as strategies for increasing effective communication about climate change initiatives to tribes. We also seek to explore key issues related to understanding how climate change may impact tribal culture, sovereignty, and economy. We propose to conduct outreach within the geographic scope of the CSC and LCCs in the region. There was a robust discussion about the content, format and scope of these focus groups. Comments included the following:

- There was concern that the format of the focus group, i.e. web-based, would not allow equal participation from tribal groups without computer access. Kathy addressed these concerns by noting that there is a conference call capacity in addition to the webinar software that allows for potential focus group participants to call-in by phone. We could also explore sending out materials for the focus group by mail or fax for any participants that don't have access to the Internet.
- Preston expressed concern about these discussions being primarily among staff, and not among tribal leadership. The focus group format needs to be sensitive to the need for direct leadership engagement.
- Format was another concern, with leadership possibly not being receptive to the focus group format, although Kathy did mention the possibility of creating surveys/focus groups for different groups within the tribe, e.g. leadership, staff etc. The major concern was that staff might sidestep tribal government or leadership in decision-making by providing feedback for the focus group without proper representation by tribal leadership. Also identified as a concern were the difficulties of getting tribal leaders involved, notably how busy they are.
- Scale was also identified as a potential issue. Gary noted that the proposal framework centers on processes and opportunities here in the Northwest, and yet there is also a need for information about what is going on at a more national scale, and clarification about the best opportunities for tribes to participate and engage in.
- Jeff noted the growing dialogue in tribal country about research associated with genetic and medical concerns of tribes. Dialogues are about whether tribes are subjects of studies, or whether tribes are conducting studies themselves. For example, tribes have been conducted fish consumption surveys, but are uncomfortable having outside parties do the same. It would be wise to look at this dialogue to develop an understanding of how to engage tribes on research priorities of climate change.
- A final issue to be considered is with regards to TEK. Preston identified that tribes are often looking for negotiated outcomes, not for sharing traditional knowledge per se. There is some knowledge, which tribes will share, if it is helpful to do so. There is other knowledge that is culturally not appropriate to share and could even be a threat to sovereignty. There is a need for more nuance in how science and TEK relate. Government-to-government negotiation should occur, but preference is often for tribes to undertake these actions themselves.
- At the close of the discussion, Jamie stated that this exchange was very helpful to him in thinking about forming effective and non-intrusive way to engage with tribes

Participants suggested that another call is needed to refine the proposal put forth. Some issues left on the table were: short-term needs in ongoing efforts and ensuring that tribes are aware of opportunities locally and larger scale, trying to identify where the most significant opportunities for engagement are, issue of engaging tribal leadership in dialogue about how tribal policy is developed. A final consideration to be carried forward was considering how to best gather this information in a way that is meaningful and engages with scale of the NW region while also operating within national/governmental expectations. Kathy will revise the proposal overview based on the comments and feedback from the call today and resend it to the network. Kathy will then organize a call dedicated to discussing this effort.

Ocean Awareness and Literacy Action Coordination Team (Nancy Reichley and Steve Robinson)

In September 2006, Oregon, Washington and California's governors formed the West Coast Governor's Alliance on Ocean Health (WCGA). There are several subcommittees, including the Ocean Awareness and Literacy Action Team. They are trying to involve tribes at a government-to-government level in their work. The OALACT shared their agenda, including tasks they are currently taking to fulfill the agenda.

Priority actions include:

- ACTION 5.1: Integrate ocean science and conservation into expanded environmental education curricula by encouraging changes to education content standards enhancing ocean literacy.
- ACTION 5.2: Support ocean awareness efforts for the public and for decision-makers at all levels and encourage improvement and expansion of self-directed learning institutions and volunteer programs.

For more details about OALACT, see the attached PowerPoint presentation. OALACT is working to continue to expand the audience of their work and reach a more diverse constituency. OALACT is hopeful that tribes will give them guidance, and are openly seeking suggestions for how to receive consultation from tribes. Additionally, Steve worked as Education manager for NW Indian Fishing Committee, and has continued contact with tribal representatives through this. OALACT is looking for as much input and participation as possible by tribes. For example, organization distributed evaluations to tribal educators as well as public at-large to make sure tribal voices are heard and also account for climate change in indigenous communities.

Joe Hostler noted that Northwest Indian College did a series of videos and interviews with elders. OALACT could consider reaching out to tribal colleges. Through the NASA funded program, Where Words Touch the Earth, students from American Indian Tribal Colleges interview Elders, other students, and community members to provide a Native American perspective on climate change and its effects on their communities. Information on this program can be found at:

<http://www.teachersdomain.org/special/nasawords/> and
<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/climate-oral-history.html>

Other key links include:

- West Coast Governor's Alliance - <http://www.westcoastoceans.org/>.
- OALACT - <http://www.westcoastoceans.org/index.cfm?content.display&pageID=83>

General Updates

March 2012 National Landscape Conservation Cooperative Meeting

- Link to National LCC Workshop Presentations: <http://nationallcc2012.com/documents/>
- A link to Gary Morishima's presentation on LCC and Indian Tribes:
http://nationallccworkshop.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/lccsandindiantribes_garymorishima.pdf

National Climate Assessment Update

Kathy gave a brief update on the National Climate Assessment. Technical inputs have been formally submitted and the tribal chapter is under development and will be available for review after May 4, 2012. Kiksapa Consulting and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals will host two webinars to discuss tribal comments and feedback on the chapter. Kathy will share information about these webinars with the PNW Network as soon as it is available.

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

The University of Oregon Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change Conference will be held May 23-24, 2012 — University of Oregon — Many Nations Longhouse and Erb Memorial Union. <http://uoclimateconference.wordpress.com>. There will be a reception for the keynote speakers and visiting tribal college students on May 23rd at 5 pm at the Many Nations Longhouse. If you plan to attend, please email kathy@uoregon.edu.

EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders Summit

The EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders Summit will be held April 30 - May 4, 2012. Hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. On April 30 and May 1, agency and tribal leaders are invited to discuss the topic “Balancing Traditional Knowledge and Western Science.” On May 1 through May 4, tribal and federal environmental staff are invited to join the Summit in order to learn and share information through technical sessions. For more information, visit: <http://www.grandronde.org/tls/>.

Climate Change Funding Guide for Tribes

Michelle Davis, EPA Region 10 and the PNW Tribal Climate Change Project are working on compiling information for a tribal climate change funding guide. A draft of this will be available for review in May.

May 15-17, 2012 AFS-SER Restoration 2012: Beyond Borders Conference

Eric Grossman with USGS shared information about a session that will be held during this conference on indigenous knowledge and transboundary science to address ecosystem restoration and climate change. The session is focused on describing gradient of cultural teachings/TEK that is acceptable for scientists to work with, and how it should be stored and protected. The conference seeks to answer the question how can we respectfully and appropriately work with TEK in this region at a watershed level? The conference seeks to apply these lessons, to help inform the Climate Science Center and LCC and people who might be less sensitive to the issues surrounding TEK. Speakers on the session will include Dennis Martinez and Mary Mahaffy. Information on the conference is available at: <http://restoration2012.org/>.

North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative/National Wildlife Federation Science Priorities

Patricia Tillman with National Wildlife Federation shared an update on the preliminary findings from the eleven Focus Groups held in the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative Region, as well as a list of project participants as of April 13, 2012 (see attached documents).

First Stewards Program and Climate Change Symposium

The **First Stewards: Coastal Peoples Address Climate Change symposium will be held** July 17-20, 2012 in Washington, D.C at the National Museum of the American Indian. The symposium will be hosted by the four Coastal Treaty Tribes (Hoh, Makah, Quileute, and Quinalt) 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. Download the brochure: [FirstStewards Brochure](#) and the Introduction Letter: [First Stewards Intro](#) or visit the website at: <http://firststewards.org/>.

Third Annual PNW Climate Science Conference

- General Info on Conference (**Oct 1-2 in Boise**): <http://www.pnwclimateconference.org/index.html>
- Specific Info on Special Sessions (**Due May 15**): <http://www.pnwclimateconference.org/call-for-special-sessions.html>