

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

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**Call Participants**

- Chris Farley, USDA Forest Service
- Sean Finn, Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Josh Foster, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute
- Dave Fuller, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Larry Gilbertson, Quinault Indian Nation
- Laura Gephart, Columba River Intertribal Fish Commission
- George Hart, US Navy Region Northwest
- Scott Hauser, Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation
- Jennie Hoffman, EcoAdapt
- Joe Hostler, Yurok Tribe
- Aiden Irish, EPA Region 10
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Julie Maldonado, US Global Research and Change Program
- John Mankowski, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Claire Schary, EPA Region 10
- Steve Todd, Suquamish
- Garrit Voggesser, National Wildlife Federation
- Stacy Vynne, Puget Sound Partnership
- Elmer Ward, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Indian Reservation
- Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe
- Sue Wotkyns, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

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

- 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

## **Tribal Renewable Energy Guide - Aiden Irish, EPA Region 10**

Aiden Irish shared information on the draft Tribal Renewable Energy Guide that he has developed for Alaska Native Communities. The purpose of the guide is to provide information on renewable energy practices used to reduce the need for diesel fuel, including energy efficiency, biomass and waste-to-energy, wind, solar, geothermal, and hydrokinetic energy. As stated in the draft guide:

*“The various practices are organized from easiest and most cost effective projects first to least developed and least cost effective last. The negative and positive aspects of each option will be discussed and the regions within Alaska to which each is best suited will be indicated. Also, examples of projects, where they exist, are given as a framework for cost-effective implementation. Most importantly, each section includes contact information for further research if the renewable energy seems like a fit for the particular conditions of the village that is looking to adopt it. The costs and energy productivity of each type of project are discussed as part of the description of the provided examples.”*

The guide includes numerous case studies of Alaska Native communities engaged in renewable energy projects. There are some national and international case studies provided, but the majority of information provided is specific to Alaska Native communities. Garrit asked if there is any connection to the Department of Energy’s Tribal Energy Program or other information on funding resources. Aiden said that there are some links to resources and potential funding programs, but the list isn’t extensive. Aiden is very interested in feedback on the current draft of the guide. To request a draft of the Tribal Renewable Energy Guide, contact Aiden Irish, Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit Intern, US EPA Region 10 - Alaska Operations Office (907) 271-1215, [Irish.Aiden@EPA.gov](mailto:Irish.Aiden@EPA.gov).

## **First Stewards Symposium - <http://firststewards.org/>**

The First Stewards Symposium brought together panels 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/panels/>). Videos from each day of the conference are available online at: <http://firststewards.org/videos/>. In addition, Julie Maldonado shared her notes from the Symposium, which are attached to the email along with the 7/25/2012 PNW Tribal Climate Change Network meeting minutes.

Julie Maldonado, Garrit Voggesser and Laura Gephardt shared their perspectives and thoughts from the Symposium. Julie noted that speakers used storytelling to described their perceptions of climate change and found ways to bring traditional knowledge into the conversation. She remarked that Ann Marie Chischilly, Director of the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, gave a resounding talk about the need for revolutionary change and continuing process to move forward.

There will be discussion about potential for holding another symposium in the future, and potential including both interior and coastal tribes. There will also be a resolution forthcoming as an outcome from the symposium. This should be made available on the First Stewards website and Kathy will forward the link once it is available.

Garrit suggested that the storytelling approach was very beneficial and helped to understand the issues, and that he hoped the resolution would be brought to bare and could help in getting federal agencies to

move forward. He also stated that whether or not Congress acts, tribes can be a leader in showing the nation in how we should move forward to adapt to climate change. Tribes can provide real leadership to the nation and the world.

Laura mentioned that five witnesses took notes throughout the whole Symposium. They will draft a white paper and identify 60-70 main points from the conference. She also mentioned that during the First Stewards Symposium, there was also a Congressional Hearing on environmental change and its impacts on tribes taking place. The oversight hearing took place on July 19 and was focused on Impacts of Environmental Changes on Treaty Rights, Traditional Lifestyles, and Tribal Homelands. Information on the hearing, as well as a link to the webcast and links to testimony provided is available at:

<http://www.indian.senate.gov/hearings/hearing.cfm?hearingID=ed1ca187907141debc619b3e0e11e923>

Garrit mentioned that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs will accept written testimony for two weeks. The email address listed on the Committee website is: [comments@indian.senate.gov](mailto:comments@indian.senate.gov).

### **Practitioner's Network for Large Landscape Conservation -**

**<http://largelandscapenetwork.org/>**

The Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation is an alliance of professionals and citizens engaged in leading, managing, researching, advocating, funding, educating or setting policy to advance large landscape conservation initiatives. Large landscape conservation initiatives are those efforts which are focused on large areas of recognized conservation value, sensitivity and/or threat and require a broad-based, multi-jurisdictional, multi-sectoral, multi-purpose (economic, social and environmental) approach with specific, measurable conservation objectives. Specific objectives of the network include:

1. Build capacity for large landscape conservation at various scales and across sectors.
2. Link existing and emerging large landscape conservation initiatives.
3. Promote and support large landscape conservation initiatives.

The Fall 2012 workshop of the Practitioners' Network for Large Landscape Conservation will examine the past, present, and future of large landscape conservation in the Rocky Mountain West. Participants will examine how large landscape conservation is an increasingly effective approach to address the region's most compelling issues related to water, energy, land use and urban growth, and public land management. This workshop will also highlight recent developments within the Practitioners' Network, as well as trends in large landscape policy, practice, and performance throughout North America. More information on their fall meeting is available at:

<http://largelandscapenetwork.org/janda/inner.php?PageID=99>

Sean Finn with the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative mentioned the report on Large Landscape Conservation: A Strategic Framework for Policy and Action as a good resource on large landscape conservation. This report is available at:

[http://cnrep.org/documents/montana\\_policy\\_reports/LLC\\_Strategic\\_Framework\\_Final.pdf](http://cnrep.org/documents/montana_policy_reports/LLC_Strategic_Framework_Final.pdf)

### **2013 Session of Climate Solutions University: Forest and Water Strategies**

This program helps communities to plan for climate change adaptation by offering support and technical assistance in developing adaptation plans. Each year they fund trainings to help communities develop strong responses to climate risks. For 2013, they have funding for 8 communities to do planning process, and 8 to do implementation process. If your tribe is actively looking for a way to create an assessment/adaptation plan this is a great resource. However, it does not provide funds for tribal communities to hire someone to create this plan, instead acts as a consultation. They are accepting

applications now. For more information, please contact Jeff Morris, Community Coordinator at [jeff@mfpp.org](mailto:jeff@mfpp.org), or (530) 355-9880. Visit: <http://www.mfpp.org/>

## **Discussion Items**

### **Tribal Climate Change Funding Guide - <http://envs.uoregon.edu/tribal-climate/>**

Several people suggested creating drop-down menus with regular search terms to help people navigate between categories. Jennie Hoffman had suggestions on how to do this in the current format and will work with Kathy at [kathy@uoregon.edu](mailto:kathy@uoregon.edu) to try to make that happen. Please contact Kathy if you have additional suggestions for format or content.

### **Advisory Committee on Water Information**

Dave Fuller shared information on the Advisory Committee on Water Information (<http://acwi.gov/>). As described on their website, ACWI's purpose is to improve water information for decision making about natural resources management and environmental protection. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum No. 92-01 designates the Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), as the lead agency. Other Federal organizations that fund, collect, or use water resources information work together with the USGS to implement program recommendations.

Dave shared that ACWI has proposed a sub-committee on water resources and climate change. A link to the proposed sub-committee is: [http://acwi.gov/acwi-minutes/acwi2012/approval/01\\_ACWI\\_WRCCA\\_Workgroup\\_TOR\\_06\\_29\\_12.pdf](http://acwi.gov/acwi-minutes/acwi2012/approval/01_ACWI_WRCCA_Workgroup_TOR_06_29_12.pdf). Dave will continue to share information on this sub-committee with Kathy and on future calls. Later in the call, it was suggested that the Network have more in-depth conversation on tribal representation on these types of national and regional committees so that it can be well coordinated.

### **Ocean Acidification and Suquamish Tribe**

Paul Williams provided an update on the Suquamish Tribe's efforts to address ocean acidification impacts on marine species and their outreach to tribal members. As part of the 2012 Canoe Journey, Paul talked with tribal members last week about their understanding of ocean acidification and climate change impacts. Paul reported that very few people had heard about ocean acidification, but once they heard about it, they were very concerned about cultural implications. Paul emphasized the importance of sharing perspectives of tribal members with tribal leadership as a way to catalyze action. John Mankowski commented that this is also very important in thinking about how best to engage tribes and tribal leaders and climate change information and science.

Paul is very interested in education and outreach tools, and strategies to communicate climate change information with tribal members. Sue Wotkyns mentioned the education and outreach resources available on the ITEP Tribes and Climate Change website (<http://www4.nau.edu/tribalclimatechange/resources/outreach.asp>). Jennie Hoffman with EcoAdapt suggested that she could come to Suquamish and do lectures and presentations to schools and tribal members. Sue Wotkyns, also suggested that ITEP's education and outreach coordinator could also potentially come to the tribe and work with schools on doing outreach on climate change issues.

### **December 2012 Conference on Conserving and Valuing Ecosystem Services**

(<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aces/index.html>)

On December 10-14, 2012, there will be an international conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to

discuss several aspects of conserving and valuing ecosystem services (water quality/quantity, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, sediment removal, etc.) associated with natural resource protection and decision making. There has been a Native American presence at past ACES conferences held in Naples (2008) and Phoenix (2010). The Planning Committee for the joint 2012 Conference would like to substantially increase Native American participation, including a plenary panel and for contributed oral presentations or posters. The ACES/EM/ESP Planning Committee would like to identify Native American potential panel speakers and paper/poster presenters to address the conference on their tribal views of the concept, valuation, and conservation of ecosystem services in the context of natural resource management on tribal lands. If you have ideas on how to increase tribal participation, contact Dr. Frank Casey, who is the Ecosystem Services Theme Leader in the Energy, Minerals and Environmental Health mission area of USGS. Dr. Casey's contact information is: 703-648-5739 or [ccasey@usgs.gov](mailto:ccasey@usgs.gov).

### **Upcoming Events and Opportunities**

#### **ITEP Climate Change Adaptation Planning course, Sept 11-13, 2012 in Missoula, MT**

Registration for this planning course has just closed, but Sue Wotkyns suggested that they may still have a few spaces available. Please submit the registration form as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. This will have a regional focus on the Plains and northern Rockies; we encourage tribal environmental and natural resource professionals from those regions to register. Registration forms are available at: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/>.

#### **Traditional Knowledge and Healthy Ecosystems Summit - August 29th-31, 2012 at Skamania Lodge**

This summit is designed to inspire tribal staff, consultants, administrators and their community to look to indigenous traditional knowledge to guide our decisions as we protect, enhance and restore our lands. The conference will be held in one of the most diverse ecosystems in our region at the crossroads of forest, sea, river, mountain and prairie, in a place which tribes from throughout the region have come together each summer for millennium. This conference will target tribal communities from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, British Columbia and Alaska. Speakers include Dr. Daniel Wildcat, Larry Mercurieff, and Dr. Rudolph Ryser. Hosted by the Snoqualmie Tribe with support from Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network (TSWAN) with funds from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). For more info go to: <http://www.Snoqualmiesummit2012.wordpress.com> and to register: <http://www.Snoqualmiesummit2012.eventbrite.com>.

#### **North American Climate Change Adaptation Planning Forum, Sept 18-20, 2012 in Akwesasne, Canada.**

The conference will have a focus on food security and traditional plant use. This is being planned by the Centre for Indigenous Environment Resources (CIER) and others. See email below and link [invitation and application](#) for more info. (<http://www.cier.ca/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=2146>)

#### **3rd annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference**

The third annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference will be held in Boise, Idaho on 1-2 October 2012. The Call for Abstracts can be found at: <http://pnwclimateconference.org/call-for-abstracts.html> and <http://pnwclimateconference.org/docs/PNWCS Call-for-Abstracts 2012.pdf>. The deadline for abstracts is Friday, 20 July 2012. Registration is also now open for the conference. The registration web site can be accessed at <http://pnwclimateconference.org/registration.html>. A special registration fee of \$100 is being offered for those who register before 31 August 2012, so please register early. Student registration is \$50.

### **2012 Native Student Professional Development Grants Program**

**The application DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO AUGUST 10, 2012.** The 2012 Native Student Professional Development Grants Program is a competitive program available to all Native American, Alaska Natives, First Nations, native Hawaiian or indigenous tribal students currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program studying natural resources or natural resource management. Grant funds will enable students to attend the 19th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, to be held in Portland, Oregon, October 13-18, 2012. Individuals selected for this program will receive grants to cover registration fees, lodging, meals and transportation to the conference. All indigenous students in a relevant academic discipline are strongly encouraged to apply. If you have questions or if you would like to apply, please, contact Nathan Svoboda ([nsvoboda@cfr.msstate.edu](mailto:nsvoboda@cfr.msstate.edu)).

### **The Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition Ecosystem Services Learning and Action Network**

This Network is a learning community focused on Payments for Ecosystem Services and tailored to practitioners including, but not limited to: community-based organizations, landowners and managers.

To sign up for this network,

visit: [http://www.sustainablenorthwest.org/programs/policy/ecosystem\\_services\\_sign-up/](http://www.sustainablenorthwest.org/programs/policy/ecosystem_services_sign-up/). The first call will be on Thursday, July 19th at 10 Pacific. For more information about the Network, you can also contact: [apomeroy@sustainablenorthwest.org](mailto:apomeroy@sustainablenorthwest.org).

### **Intertribal Timber Council Video Presentations**

Don Motanic shared the link to Streaming Video Presentations from the 2012 Annual Indian Timber Symposium at Warm Springs, Or. Several excellent presentations by the student panel. [http://www.ruraltech.org/video/2012/ITC\\_Timber\\_Symposium/](http://www.ruraltech.org/video/2012/ITC_Timber_Symposium/)

### **National Indian Carbon Coalition**

The National Indian Carbon Coalition has re-launched their website at: [www.indiancarbon.org](http://www.indiancarbon.org).