

**Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project
DRAFT Meeting Notes – Wednesday, February 19, 2014**

Call Participants

- Rae Benson, Oregon Institute of Technology
- Monika Bilka, Arizona State University
- Laura Gephart, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
- Eliza Ghitis, NWIFC
- Larry Gilbertson, Quinault Indian Nation
- Oliver Grah, Nooksack Indian Tribe
- Jennifer Hanlon, Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Preston Hardison, Tulalip Tribes
- Jeff Hetrick, Chugach Resources Commission
- Ida Hildebrand, Chugach Resources Commission
- Linda Kruger, USFS PNW Research Station
- Frank Lake, USFS PSW Research Station
- Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Patricia Tillmann
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- Christopher Moreno, HDR
- Mariel Murray, USFS Office of Tribal Relations
- Nikos Pastos, Alaska Intertribal Council
- Clay Penhollow, Confederated Tribe of Warm Springs
- Melissa Poe, NOAA WA Sea Grant
- Steven Rondeau, Klamath Tribe
- Kirsten Vinyeta, University of Oregon
- Ann Wyatt, Klawock Cooperative Association

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Upcoming PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates

- **March 19, 2014 (9 am Pacific)**
 - April 16, 2014 (10 am Pacific)
 - May 21, 2014 (10 am Pacific)
 - June 18, 2014 (10 am Pacific)
 - July 16, 2014 (10 am Pacific)
- Call-in Information:*
- Call-in #: 1-888-858-2144**
- Pass code: 5064716**

Upcoming PNW and National Tribal Climate Change Training and Webinars

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University, the University of Oregon (UO) Environmental Studies Program, and the US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station are collaborating on a classroom training as well as webinars for Pacific Northwest tribes in 2014 and 2015. This collaboration aims to expand tribal capacity for climate change adaptation planning and implementation. The collaborating partners sought input from the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Network to refine the focus and content of the training and webinars through an online survey. Based on the results of the survey, we have identified four topics for the first PNW webinar series. In addition, ITEP will be hosting a national webinar series that also address many of the top priorities identified in the survey. Below we list the issues that will be addressed in the PNW and National webinar series this spring.

PNW Webinar Series (dates/speakers TBA)

Marine issues: ocean acidification and sea level rise
Impacts on Forestry
Impacts on Fisheries
Invasive Species and Pests

National Webinar Series (dates/speakers TBA)

Climate Change Communication
Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources
Climate Change Impacts on Traditional Foods
The Role of Traditional Knowledge in Climate Change Initiatives

During the Network call, Frank Lake mentioned that he will be presenting on the “Impacts on Forestry” webinar, and encouraged Network participants with content suggestions to contact him at franklake@fs.fed.us. Kathy Lynn will provide more details to the Network regarding webinar dates and speakers as they become available. In the meantime, if you have questions or suggestions for topics or speakers, please contact Sue Wotkyns with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu or Kathy Lynn at kathy@uoregon.edu.

The Klamath Tribal Leadership Development for Integrative Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge Program

Raefield Benson is a senior in the Environmental Science Program at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, OR, and an enrolled Colville member. During the Network call, Rae described his experience as one of the handful of students that participated in the Klamath Tribal Leadership Development for Integrative Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge Program. The program in which Rae participated resulted from a unique collaboration between a Klamath youth leadership development program and U.S. government researchers, and won the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Partners in Conservation award for its use of traditional knowledge in conjunction with modern science. The Klamath Tribal Leadership Development for Integrative Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge Program, operating in northern California and southern Oregon, was one of just four recipients working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The cornerstone was the Klamath tribal youth program, started last summer to connect scientists and college students to Klamath Basin restoration projects. Juxtaposing traditional knowledge and modern

science, youths from the Yurok Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribe, Karuk Tribe, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation and Klamath Tribes worked with scientists from NASA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Forest Service for 10 weeks in the Klamath Tribal Leadership Development Program for Integrative Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Together the partners restored habitat, developed models and collected data from two Klamath watershed tributaries, the Sycan River in Oregon and Shasta Big Springs Creek in California, that support tribal fisheries, the Klamath said in the statement.

Students worked first with tribal elders to gather ancestral knowledge of the region's lands and waterways, then applied that knowledge to programs whose goal is to restore and manage native fish populations in the Klamath Basin. At the same time, the program gave tribal youth job skills, setting them up as future conservation leaders even as they contributed to present-day management of fish species that are important to indigenous culture and the ecology.

Traditional Knowledges Guidelines and Principles

A draft of guidelines for considering traditional knowledges in climate change initiatives is under development for the DOI Advisory Committee on Natural Resources and Climate Change Science. This document seeks to provide a set of guidelines and principles for both agencies and tribes who are considering the incorporation of traditional knowledges in climate change initiatives. Its purpose is to serve as a resource that informs tribes and agencies of the potential benefits, as well as the potential risks involved in bringing traditional knowledges into these initiatives. Frank Lake mentioned that national entities and policy-makers are developing materials and incorporating provisions in an effort to enhance TEK protections. The NCAI has developed a Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Climate Change resolution that can be accessed here: <http://www.ncai.org/resources/resolutions/traditional-ecological-knowledge-and-climate-change>. Frank also mentioned that the 2014 Farm Bill includes provisions protecting tribal knowledge. Preston Hardison suggested that protection means different things to different people, and that tribes may be seeking different types of protection depending on their objectives. He stated that the reality under current policy is that when TEK is shared it becomes public domain. Preston highlighted the value of co-protection strategies that seek to protect both traditional knowledge and the cultural resources that are critical to that knowledge. This document is a work-in-progress and we will be seeking comments and input in the coming months. If you are interested in reviewing the document, please contact Kathy Lynn (kathy@uoregon.edu).

Northwest Forest Plan - 20-Year Monitoring Report on the Effectiveness of Federal-Tribal Relations

Under the Northwest Forest Plan, there is a requirement to monitor the state of Federal-Tribal relationships as exercised during the implementation of Plan actions and initiatives. Monitoring takes place every five years and culminates in a report, the last of which took place at the 15-year mark (1994-2008) and was published in 2011. The 20-year monitoring effort is scheduled to occur in 2014, and is relevant to federally recognized tribes with lands, tribal headquarters, and/or treaty rights falling within Northwest Forest Plan boundaries in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. Kathy Lynn and Kirsten Vinyeta will be carrying out the 20-year monitoring effort, and Kathy will be providing regular updates on this effort during Network calls. If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming monitoring, please contact Kathy (kathy@uoregon.edu). To find out more about the Northwest Forest Plan's tribal effectiveness monitoring, or to download the 15-year monitoring report, please visit the following link: <http://www.reo.gov/monitoring/reports/15yr-report/tribal/index.shtml>

General Updates

[USDA Climate Hubs](#)

On Feb 5, USDA announced that the Pacific Northwest Hub will be located at the Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Service, Corvallis, Ore. covering AK, ID, OR and WA. USDA's regional hubs will deliver information to farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to help them adapt to climate change and weather variability. The Hubs will build capacity within USDA to provide information and guidance on technologies and risk management practices at regional and local scales. USDA hosted a webinar on 2/14 to explain the purpose, structure and background of the USDA Regional Climate Hubs and to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions following last week's announcement of the Hub locations. More information about the USDA Climate Hubs is available at: http://www.usda.gov/oce/climate_change/regional_hubs.htm.

Last Call: Incorporating your stream temperature data for Oregon Coast/Lower Columbia into the [NorWeST regional archive & temperature model](#)

The NorWeST regional stream temperature database & modeling project funded by the NPLCC & GNLC is rotating into the Oregon Coast & Lower Columbia (Southwest Washington area/Cowlitz River). The database team has started the process of organizing stream temperature data into one comprehensive, interagency database that will be distributed through the NorWeST website as a community resource, and also used to fit a stream geostatistical model to create high-resolution stream temperature climate scenarios. The more unique temperature sites in the database, the more accurate the overall predictions will be from the model and the better it can represent historical and future climate scenarios for streams in this area. If you have data you'd like to contribute, there are several database people working on this full time and there is an easy process established for transferring your data. The project developers need copies of the raw data files & site locations, sent via email ("zipped"), or using an FTP site, such as Utah State University's Big File Transfer site (<https://bft.usu.edu/>).

To use the site, go to the website and upload the data files (we suggest that you "zip" them first so that you only have to upload one file). Enter a short message describing the data and/or source, fill out the rest of the form, and "Submit Email." The project developers will receive an email and a link, and can then download your data. Please contact Sherry Wollrab (sherrywollrab@fs.fed.us; 208.373.4371) or Gwynne Chandler (glchandler@fs.fed.us; 208.373.4372) if you have any questions. The payoff at the end of the process is that everyone will have open access to a massive stream temperature database derived from everyone's contributions (the project developers can also filter out your data if you don't want it distributed) and a regionally consistent set of high resolution stream temperature scenarios usable as GIS layers. The project's developers anticipate having those products available for the coast by late May. The NorWeST website has additional details and hosts data products already completed for earlier river basins (<http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/NorWeST.html>).

[Training: May 12, 2014 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality and National Tribal Forum on Air Quality](#)

ITEP will be offering a 1-day Climate Change Adaptation Planning training on Monday, May 12, in conjunction with the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTF) in Anacortes, WA. This training provides an introduction to planning for climate change impacts and is intended for tribal environmental and natural resource professionals who expect to be involved in climate change adaptation planning. Registration for the training will be through the NTF web page. For more information about the training, please contact susan.wotkyns@nau.edu. Also, in addition to air quality plenary and breakout sessions, NTF will include climate change sessions. Registration is not yet open, but will soon be available and

more information is available at the NTF web page:
http://www4.nau.edu/itep/conferences/confr_ntf.asp.

[Fifth Annual Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference, Sept 9-10, 2014, Seattle, WA](#)

The PNW Climate Science Conference annually brings together more than 250 researchers and practitioners from around the region to discuss scientific results, challenges, and solutions related to the impacts of climate on people, natural resources, and infrastructure in the Pacific Northwest. It is the region's premier opportunity for a cross-disciplinary exchange of knowledge and ideas about regional climate, climate impacts, and climate adaptation science and practice. The conference also provides a forum for presenting emerging policy and management goals, objectives, and information needs related to regional climate impacts and adaptation. Conference participants include policy- and decision-makers, resource managers, and scientists from academia, public agencies, sovereign tribal nations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Emphasis is on talks that are comprehensible to a wide audience on topics of broad interest. Please contact Lara Whitely Binder (lwb123@uw.edu) with any questions about the conference. <http://pnwclimateconference.org/>

[NPLCC Monthly Climate Digest](#)

The [NPLCC's](#) Monthly Climate Digest is a useful source to find out about upcoming climate change trainings, webinars, and events, as well as a place to find climate change-related resources and publications. This monthly digest is NPLCC's way of increasing access to climate change information important to natural and cultural resource managers throughout the North Pacific LCC region. To access the digest, please visit the following link:

<http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?u=145bdf3c2e41f0d6cbce9a374&id=3a67545563>

[ITEP Tribes and Climate Change website and newsletter \(sign up here\)](#)

Updates to the [Tribal Climate Change Profiles](#) and [funding guide](#)

We are frequently adding new tribal profiles and updating the tribal funding guide. To access the funding guide, please visit <http://envs.uoregon.edu/tribal-climate/>. Tribal profiles can be accessed on either of the following two links:

- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals: <http://www4.nau.edu/tribalclimatechange/tribes/index.asp>
- PNW Tribal Climate Change Project: <http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/tribal-profiles>

Forest Service Tribal Engagement Road Map

The U.S. Forest Service Tribal Engagement Roadmap (Roadmap) outlines an agenda for USDA's Forest Service Research and Development deputy area regarding services to and engagement with American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Pacific Islanders, and other indigenous peoples.

Below are the six R&D specific objectives (associated actions are detailed in the Roadmap document) that R&D will strive to advance in support of the agency's Tribal Relations goals. In the detailed Roadmap, accompanying each Objective, are indicative examples of actions already being undertaken by R&D, which will serve as examples and models for advancing similar work in the future. Taken as whole, the breadth of USFS R&D engagement with Tribes should provide both Tribal and USFS leaders and staff access to the best available science and other knowledge in order to sustain the health and productivity of our nations' forests and grasslands for this and future generations.

1. Build new and enhance existing partnerships with Tribes, Indigenous and Native Groups, Tribal colleges, Tribal communities and Intertribal Organizations.
2. Institutionalization of Tribal Trust responsibilities and engagement within USFS Research and Development.

3. Increase and advance Tribal and indigenous values, knowledge and perspectives within USFS Research and Development, including both operational and research activities.
4. Network and coordinate within R&D and across Deputy Areas to increase Agency and R&D program efficacy.
5. Through a collaborative and participatory approach with tribes and tribal organizations, advance research on topics of joint interest.
6. Develop and deploy research and technologies to support tribal decision-making on natural resources issues.

Forest Service R&D would like to hear from the Tribes and learn what is important about our research efforts to them. For more information on the roadmap, visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/tribal-engagement/roadmap.php>. The tribal consultation period for the Roadmap is January 10-May 11. For more information, please contact Linda Kruger, the tribal liaison in Oregon Washington and Alaska. She can be contacted by phone (907-586-7814) or email lkruger@fs.fed.us.

White Paper on Drought with a National Focus

Linda Kruger with the USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station mentioned that she is working on a white paper focusing on drought at a national level. Linda encouraged any Network participants that might be interested in contributing information to this paper to e-mail her at lkruger@fs.fed.us.