

Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project
DRAFT Meeting Notes – Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Participants

- Olin Anderson, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
- Alicia Bell-Sheetter, USDA Forest Service
- Jeff Dickson, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Chris Farley, USDA Forest Service
- Mary Fauci, Nez Perce Tribe
- Laura Gephart, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission
- Oliver Grah, Nooksack
- George Hart, Navy Region Northwest
- Sean Hart, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Rose High Bear, Wisdom of the Elders
- Joe Hoestler, Yurok Tribe
- Frank Lake, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station
- Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon
- John Mankowski, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- David Redhorse, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Patricia Tillmann, National Wildlife Federation
- Steve Todd, Suquamish
- Marijke van Heeswijk, USGS and the Northwest Climate Science Center
- Carson Viles, University of Oregon
- Destiny Wellman, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
- Paul Williams, Suquamish Tribe
- Sue Wotkyns, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

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2013 PNW Tribal Climate Change Network Conference Call Dates

- March 27, 2013
 - April 24, 2013
 - May 22, 2013
 - June 26, 2013
 - July 24, 2013
 - August 28, 2013
 - September 25, 2013
 - October 23, 2013
 - November 20, 2013
- Call-in Information:
 Call Time: 10:00 am Pacific
 Call-in #: 1-888-858-2144
 Pass code: 5064716

Discussion Topics

Draft Third National Climate Assessment Report – Public Comment Period

The National Climate Assessment Development and Advisory Committee (NCADAC), the federal advisory committee for the National Climate Assessment, approved their draft of the Third National Climate Assessment Report for release for public comment on January 11, 2013. The draft report is available for download - both as a single document and by chapter - at <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov>. The public comment period for the report is from **January 14 - April 12, 2013**. All comments must be submitted via the online comment tool is available at <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov>. The draft is undergoing review by the National Research Council at the same time.

March 5th Webinar - Key Findings of the Northwest Region's draft National Climate Assessment report

Presenter: Amy Snover, PhD, Director of the Climate Impacts Group at the University of Washington's College of the Environment. Dr. Snover serves as a co-convening lead author of the [draft 2013 National Climate Assessment's](#) Northwest Chapter along with Philip Mote, PhD, Director, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute. This webinar will be posted to the [C3 YouTube Channel](#) (also, see this site for previous sessions): <http://www.youtube.com/user/C3PNW?feature=mhee>. This C3 webinar will provide an overview of 1,100+ page draft National Climate Assessment report with a focus on the findings of the Northwest region's draft chapter.

Date/Time: March 5, 10-11 a.m. (Pacific Time)

Conference Call Line: 1 (877) 952-8012, Access code: 520083#

WebEx link:

<https://mmancusa.webex.com/mmancusa/j.php?ED=201183042&UID=494717212&PW=NNDI3N2RhM2U5&RT=MiM0>

March 12, NORTHWEST TOWN HALL - Workshop on the Draft 3rd National Climate Assessment

REGISTRATION FOR THE MEETING IS FULL. INFORMATION ON HOW TO LIVESTREAM OR DOWNLOAD THE RECORDING OF THE MEETING WILL BE SENT OUT AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.

The meeting will bring together approximately 100 climate change experts and users of climate change information, including participants from academia; local, state, tribal, and federal governments; non-profit organizations; and business and industry. Participants will:

- Learn about the National Climate Assessment, the process leading to production of the Third National Climate Assessment Report, and the ways in which you can contribute to its review.
- Talk with report authors, members of the National Climate Assessment and Development Advisory Committee, and National Climate Assessment staff about how the information provided in National Climate Assessment products is and can be used in various decision making contexts.
- Share knowledge and information about local and regional efforts to study and respond to the impacts of climate change in the Northwest.
- Collaborate with other meeting participants to identify ways that you and your community can participate in the long-term National Climate Assessment process.

The town hall will consist of both plenary panels and small group discussions. During the plenary session, National Climate Assessment authors and staff will provide an overview of the National Climate Assessment process, present preliminary findings from the Draft Third National Climate Assessment Report, and explain how members of the public may comment on the Draft Report. Additional speakers will highlight local and regional efforts to assess and respond to climate change, and will explore the ways in which efforts in the Northwest are linked to the National Climate Assessment and vice versa. During the small group discussion time, you will have an opportunity share your own expertise and

insights related to climate, assessments, and decision making in the context of climate change, and to suggest and plan pathways to build sustained assessment capacity in the Northwest. Confirmed speakers for the National Climate Assessment Northwest Regional Town Hall include:

- Jennifer Allen, Director, Institute for Sustainable Solutions, Portland State University
- Philip Mote, College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University; Director, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI); Director, Oregon Climate Services; National Climate Assessment and Development Advisory Committee
- Amy Snover, Co-Director, Climate Impacts Group (CIG) and Center for Science in the Earth System (CSES), University of Washington; Convening Lead Author for NCA chapter on Northwest

Joe Hostler spoke from his experience working with the Yurok tribe and stated that the NCA has been receptive to tribal participants. He suggested that this town hall may be an opportunity to articulate tribal interests to an audience that doesn't typically have an opportunity to hear about tribal perspectives. Alicia noted that the first NCA report included meaningful tribal input. This report is available at: <http://www.usgcrp.gov/usgcrp/Library/nationalassessment/native.pdf>.

Department of Interior Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan – Climate Change Adaptation Plan

The Department of Interior Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan includes the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for FY13 as an appendix. There are several references in the mission of the plan in fulfilling trust responsibilities to Alaska Native and Tribal communities. It also discusses the priorities that the DOI has in dealing with Tribes and Alaska Natives. The plan can be downloaded at: http://www.doi.gov/greening/sustainability_plan/index.cfm.

- Public comments for this plan will be accepted through April 12, 2013.

National EPA-Tribal Science Council Traditional Ecological Knowledge Workshop

The National EPA Tribal Science Council has been actively investigating the opportunity to provide training for its members as we work to gain a better understanding of TEK and how to integrate it into environmental decision making through our current work. The Tribal Caucus of the Council has selected Syracuse, NY as the location for the training that will be held June 18-20, 2013. The workshop will be co-hosted by the Onondaga Nation and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. The Center for Native Peoples and the Environment will be working with us hand in hand to facilitate this exciting training event. The Call for Presenters is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes/tscworkshoptek13.htm>. John noted that some federally-funded conferences and events are being put on hold because of the current government sequestration.

National Adaptation Forum

The National Adaptation Forum (NAF) has released their conference schedule. There are at least 4 panels/workshops that have been organized around tribal climate change issues in conjunction with people affiliated with our network. The NAF is intended to provide a professional development opportunity for the adaptation inclined; contribute to the development of a community of practice around climate change adaptation; create a venue for practitioners to share information, progress, and strategies, in order to build the capacity of their community; and support on the ground implementation by providing managers and regional experts with a venue to exchange knowledge of and tools for incorporating climate change into their work. www.nationaladaptationforum.org/. Draft schedule: http://www.nationaladaptationforum.org/images/Final_Program_Agenda_National_Adaptation_Forum_2.22.13.pdf

Project Updates

NPLCC Science and TEK Project Profile

[Indigenous Peoples and Northwest Climate Initiatives: Exploring the Role of Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Resource Management](#)

In 2012, the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) and the Northwest Climate Science Center (NW CSC) awarded funds to seven projects that facilitate the use of traditional ecological knowledge to help inform natural and cultural resource management. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided funds to the NPLCC for these projects, with two of the projects co-sponsored by the Northwest Climate Science Center. This profile is the first step in an ongoing effort to share information about these tribally led projects. It provides information on each of the grants awarded to tribes and First Nations in the NPLCC, and includes an overview of the NPLCC and the NW CSC. The profile showcases projects and shares the diverse ways in which tribal, First Nations and Alaska Native communities are gathering TEK, integrating this knowledge into resource management, and addressing gaps in climate change information. http://www4.nau.edu/tribalclimatechange/tribes/tdk_nplcc.asp

New North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative Website <http://www.northpacificlcc.org/>

The new website is up and running. Below are several highlights:

- New calendar that we hope to make a regional calendar of events to cast a broad net, climate related natural and cultural resource events.
- A resource list has been created for tribal interests and is currently being updated and expanded.
- The mailing list for the NPLCC has also been expanded. There is a link to join mailing list that has targeting mailing options so that the NPLCC can send you pertinent information.

Tribal Climate Change Funding and Program Guide (<http://envs.uoregon.edu/tribal-climate/>)

In 2011, the Tribal Climate Change Project developed a Guide for Tribal Leaders on US Climate Change Programs (http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/files/2010/11/tribal_leaders_CC_guide_1-4-2012.pdf). We are incorporating the information within this guide into the online funding guide, which is available at: <http://envs.uoregon.edu/tribal-climate/>. Kathy noted that a new column (type) has been added to allow users to search for programs or grants and we will add a search bar to assist in reviewing information for projects or grants.

Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change Lecture at the University of Oregon <http://ccip.uoregon.edu/>

On April 10, 2013 the UO is hosting the 2nd annual Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change keynote address with Frank Lake and Kyle Powys Whyte as keynote speakers. More information is available at: <http://ccip.uoregon.edu/>. Wisdom of the Elders will record the event and make the recording available on their website. There will be a daylong climate change research symposium, including a panel on climate justice and traditional knowledge, as well as a reception and keynote address at the Many Nations Longhouse. Anyone who is interested in attending the event, please contact Kathy at kathy@uoregon.edu.

Frank mentioned that he has received positive feedback from the FS and others who have noted his upcoming participating in the seminar. This is a way for tribal issues to get broader recognition and good press. Joe Hostler noted that last year's conference was a strong showcase for students and he was also impressed with how many non-native faculty and staff showed up. This is a good way for students to expand their education to include climate change, and to strengthen relations with allies and potential allies for the native community.

Updates from Network Participants

EPA Region 10 Project on Nooksack River

Oliver Grah shared that the Nooksack tribe was invited by the EPA Region 10 to participate in a pilot total maximum daily load (TMDL) project on the South Fork of the Nooksack River. The EPA Office of Research and Development has piloted this research project to consider both fish health as well as water quality into account. Nooksack and EPA have sponsored two workshops for practitioners on this project so that they can better apply the project results to the Nooksack watershed. Additionally, these workshops show tribes in other areas how climate change can and should be considered in salmon habitat restoration plans. The proceedings from these workshops will soon be available. Oliver will share those reports with Kathy when they are available.

Port Gamble S'Klallam Climate Change Impact Assessment

Paul gave a brief update on the development of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Climate Change Impact Assessment. He mentioned they are working in collaboration with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and a working group that includes agency, academic, and non-governmental partners. Currently the outline for the project is being developed and individual chapters are beginning to take shape. They have received an EPA grant and are documenting their process to help others develop their approach. More information is available from Paul by request at paulm@pgst.nsn.us.

ITEP Climate Change Adaptation Planning Course in the Northwest

Sue Wotkyns shared that the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) is planning to offer a tribal climate change adaptation planning course in the Northwest. The timing of the event is anticipated for the fall of 2013 and will likely take place in Northern California or Oregon. Sue and Kathy will share information about the training with the Network as soon as it is available. For more information about ITEP courses, visit: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange/>

Suquamish Youth Create Video on Ocean Acidification

Paul Williams noted that a video on ocean acidification has been completed by Suquamish youth, and will be made available shortly.

Climate change Vulnerability Assessment for Pyramid Lake Paiute

Olin Anderson described the grant that the Pyramid Lake Paiute have received through collaboration with University of Arizona to develop a climate change vulnerability assessment. They will also be working with the USGS on downscaling a climate model in the next year. Olin also mentioned that the Tribe is initiating a study on algal populations in Pyramid Lake, as they are having problems with blue-green algae. The Tribe is planning to work with the Desert Research Institute.

→ Potential Topic for Further Discussion: Downscaling Climate Models

Frank Lake noted that downscaling models is a struggle. Knowing what resources are valuable to tribes, and how they will be affected while considering issues of scale (i.e. 50 km scale might not take into account individual patches) makes modeling these things difficult. Kathy thought this could be a really good topic to come back to. Is this something the FS or others are already investigating? It would be interesting to see what the outcomes of downscaling processes are, and how they relate to the issues Frank brought up. This is a potential topic for a later call.

Assisted Migration

A workshop on Assisted Migration was held on February 21, 2013 at the World Forestry Center in Portland. The one-day symposium was a primer to the terminology, schools of thought, and potential scenarios introduced by climate models across ecological and social scales. Information on the meeting can be found at: <http://www.westernforestry.org/Events/conference/assisted-migration-a-primer-for-reforestation-and-restoration-decision-makers/>. Jeremy Pinto will share outcomes from this workshop on an upcoming Network call.

Climate Protection Act of 2013 Introduced and Senate Briefing on the Climate Science

U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer and Bernie Sanders introduced new legislation to address climate disruptions, reduce carbon pollution, enhance the use of clean energy, and promote resilience in the infrastructure of the United States.

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Committee on Environment and Public Works, held a briefing Wednesday, February 13th, on the most recent climate change science. The briefing featured four of the nation's leading climate scientists who presented the latest trends and scientific evidence related to the growing impacts associated with climate change. Presenters included:

- Dr. Donald J. Wuebbles, Professor of Atmospheric Science, University of Illinois
- Dr. J. Marshall Shepherd, President of the American Meteorological Society and Director for Program in Atmospheric Sciences, University of Georgia
- Dr. John M. Balbus, Senior Advisor for Public Health, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- Dr. James J. McCarthy, Professor of Biological Oceanography, Harvard University

Testimony and video available at

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_id=cf67a715-fca1-8682-f7dd-13242e8035d1