

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
is published free monthly.

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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues> Vol. 17, No. 2 — February 2008

◁ CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS ▷

February

11-15 2008 Alaska Forum on the Environment/IGAP Training, Egan Convention Center, Anchorage, AK. For more information, agenda and registration go to <http://www.akforum.com> or call 888-301-0185.

21-22 Alaska Collaborative Problem Solving, UAA, Anchorage, AK. For information, email Jane Oakley at anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu or call her at 907-786-6374. Additional information and registration forms are at: <http://resourcesolutions.uaa.alaska.edu> Please fax completed registrations to 907-786-1700.

26-27 Western Oregon Lamprey Workshop, Seven Feathers Casino, Canyonville, OR
Registration materials are located at:
http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Fisheries/sp_habcon/lamprey/index.html (See below)

March

4-7 Air Pollution and Ecosystems (ECOSYS) (Level 2), Las Vegas, Nevada.
Pre-Registration Date (for priority consideration) is January 14, 2008. Contact Lydia Scheer at 928-523-1266 or for additional information. Applications can be found at <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/>

25-28 Management of Tribal Air Programs (Level 2), Lawrence, KS
Pre-Registration Date (for priority consideration) is January 14, 2008. Contact Lydia Scheer at 928-523-1266 or for additional information. Applications can be found at <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/>

April

21-24 EPA Region Tribal Leaders Summit, Little Creek Resort and Casino, Kamilche, WA
For information visit: <http://www.squaxiniland.org/tls/index.html>

June

23-27 8th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, Billings, MT
Hosted by the Montana/Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council and co-sponsored by EPA. See article below. For information visit: <http://www.ntcem8.org>

Lamprey Workshop

The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians is hosting a lamprey workshop on February 26 and 27, 2008. While the majority of speakers are from the Oregon area, participants will be presented with valuable information on lamprey conservation that may be useful in their homelands as well.

Registration materials are located at: http://www.fws.gov/pacific/Fisheries/sp_habcon/lamprey/index.html

Drinking Water Training Opportunities for Tribes

A new website is available that provides a consolidated list of drinking water training opportunities that may be of interest to tribes and tribal operators during the upcoming months. This list organizes courses from many training providers by region, and also includes a list of trainings that are available online. This list will be updated quarterly, so if you would like to highlight an upcoming training course on this list please send an email to betanzo.elin@epa.gov. The website can be accessed at:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal/training.html>

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FY 2008 Clean Water Act Section 106 Funds

Region 10 is accepting proposals for FY 2008 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 funds. These funds are intended to provide continuing support for the prevention and abatement of surface and ground water pollution from point and nonpoint sources. Types of water quality management program activities funded include water quality planning and standards development; monitoring and assessments; inspections and enforcement; permitting; training; advice and assistance to local agencies; and public information. Region 10 anticipates awarding approximately \$3.4 to \$3.6 million to up to thirty-eight tribal governments that are eligible for this program. Draft work plan proposals are due no later than **February 8, 2008**.

Contact your Project Officer for additional information. You can also Alan Moomaw at (360)753-8071, moomaw.alan@epa.gov or Janette Rau at (206)553-0483, rau.janette@epa.gov for information on the information on the Tribal CWA Section 106 program.

Tribal Colleges Research Grants Programs

USDA requests proposals from 1994 Land-Grant Institutions for the Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program. Eligible institutions may propose projects in any discipline of the food and agricultural sciences. Examples include, but are not limited to: research on alternative energy sources, biotechnology, sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry and waste management. \$1 million is expected to be available. Individual awards are not to exceed \$150,000. The closing date of the announcement is **February 19, 2008**.

For more information, contact Salei'a Afele-Fa'amuli at sfaamuli@csrees.usda.gov or go to: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/tribal_research.html

Tribal Colleges Extension Program Grant Solicitation

USDA requests capacity building proposals from 1994 Land-Grant Institutions for the Tribal Colleges Extension Program. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Projects that increase knowledge of bioenergy and biomass conversion that assist farmers and ranchers to increase efficiency of agricultural production systems, and/or improve management of forest and rangelands, including land, air and water. \$945,000 is expected to be available. Applicants may request up to \$85,000 for each year of funding. The deadline for proposals is **February 22, 2008**. For more info, contact Joan Gill at serdegrants@csrees.usda.gov or go to: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/tribal_extension.html.

CARE Grants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that around \$3 million will be available in 2008 to support community-based partnerships to reduce pollution at the local level through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. Applications for CARE grants are due **March 17, 2008**. Eligible applicants include county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. EPA will conduct three conference calls for prospective applicants to ask questions about the application process. The first call was held on January 18 and the remaining two calls will be held on February 11 and 27. For more information visit: <http://www.epa.gov/CARE/>

AIO Recruiting Candidates for Ambassadors Program

This program is open to Native Americans from the United States (including Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians, federally and non-federally recognized tribes, and urban and reservation residents) between the ages of 25- and 35. Ambassadors remain in their communities and come together for four group meetings in and outside the U.S. Interested emerging leaders must submit an official application, including two nominations and a proposal outlining a plan for a community-based project. For more information please contact Ron Martinez Looking Elk, Ambassador Program Recruitment Coordinator at 505-842-8677 or rmlookingelk@aio.org.

Washington Internships for Native Students

Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) offers Native American students the opportunity to build leadership skills while living, studying and interning in Washington, D.C. Developed in response to the White House Initiative on American Indians and Alaska Natives, the program offers qualified students full scholarships funded by American University and sponsoring organizations. Participating students will gain professional work experience through interning at a federal agency or private firm; take courses focusing on Native American public policy concerns; and enjoy engaging social and cultural extra-curricular activities. The summer 2008 internship runs 8 weeks from June 2 to July 26. For further details, visit the program's website: <http://www.american.edu/wins/>

Moses Lake Proposed Cleanup Plan

EPA is accepting comments on the proposed cleanup plan for the Moses Lake wellfield contamination site. The site is located just north of the city of Moses Lake in eastern Washington and includes the Grant County Airport and the former Larson Air Force Base. The groundwater and soils at the site were contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE) and other hazardous substances by operations of the former base and industrial activities associated with the aircraft industry. Approximately 1000 acres of groundwater are contaminated with TCE and there are several contaminated soil waste areas scattered throughout the site.

Comments on the cleanup plan are due by **March 17, 2008**. Comments may be submitted by mail to Dennis Faulk at U.S. EPA, 309 Bradley Blvd., Suite 115, Richland, Washington 99352 or by e-mail at faulk.dennis@epa.gov. You can also comment at the public meeting being held on February 13, 2008 at the Big Bend Community College.

For more information visit: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/moses>

EPA Announces Regulatory Priorities

EPA has released its Regulatory Plan, which describes 30 of the most significant regulations it plans to issue by next October.

EPA also released its Semiannual Regulatory Agenda, which describes over 300 actions under development or review, as well as those completed or withdrawn since the Spring 2007 agenda was published. For the first time, the bulk of EPA's agenda is available exclusively online rather than on paper in the Federal Register. Moving to an online agenda saves resources and provides users with a more useful, searchable mechanism for accessing regulatory information. It also helps meet E-Government objectives while saving taxpayers money by significantly reducing printing costs. (E-Government is President Bush's goal of utilizing technology to improve federal government services to citizens).

EPA recognizes that not everyone has access to the internet, so printed copies of the agenda are available upon request. These hardcopies can be obtained by calling 800490-9198 or by e-mailing: nscep@bps-lmit.com. E-mail requests should include the requestor's name and address and display "Regulatory Agenda Hard Copy" in the subject line.

EPA's Regulatory Plan is available in the Federal Register at: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-GENERAL/2007/December/Day-10/g04839.htm>

For more information about EPA's Regulatory Plan and Semiannual Regulatory Agenda: <http://www.epa.gov/opei/orpm.html#agenda> or contact Dave Ryan at 202/564-4355 or ryan.dave@epa.gov

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Magic School Bus

EPA's Clean School Bus USA program has partnered with Scholastic to write, illustrate, and publish a new book in the popular "Magic School Bus" children's series. In this acclaimed educational series of books and videos for children from kindergarten through fourth grade, a teacher named Ms. Frizzle takes her class on several science-oriented field trips, riding in their magical school bus.

In "The Magic School Bus Gets Cleaned Up," the children and Ms. Frizzle explore the pollution emitted from their own diesel school bus and learn how to reduce the emissions as they find themselves traveling through a diesel engine. The children learn about idle reduction and ways the community can help reduce the health risks from diesel exhaust. At the end of the book, the "Magic School Bus" gets its own pollution control device, a diesel particulate-matter filter.

This special-edition book is intended to be used by libraries, schools, state and local air programs, non-profit education and outreach campaigns, and for other targeted opportunities to increase awareness of the importance of reducing diesel emissions.

The books are free and can be ordered from the National Service Center for Environmental Publications, EPA's publication warehouse, at: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/schoolbus/outreach.htm#order_pubs

The books may not be sold.

The Story of Stuff

Free Range Studios and environmental health expert Annie Leonard have produced *The Story of Stuff*, a twenty-minute film documenting the reality behind the "materials economy." From resource exploitation and environmental degradation to planned and perceived obsolescence, we are not running the materials economy — it's running us.

This video is full of facts and concepts, many of which you'll already know, put together in such a way that it's both a revelation and easy to grasp. To see *The Story of Stuff* visit: <http://storyofstuff.com>

Greenhouse Gas Letter to Tribal Leaders

A letter was recently sent to tribal leaders from OAR's Office of Transportation Air Quality. The letter explains recent events related to greenhouse gas emissions and a new regulatory action being developed to address vehicles and fuels contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The letter is followed by an attachment that provides an overview of the proposed rulemaking. Please distribute this letter and attachment as widely as possible to tribal air professionals.

A copy of the signed letter available at: http://www.epa.gov/oar/tribal/announce/pdfs/20071206_tribal_letter.pdf

Detergents

The EPA intends to officially launch the Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative (SDSI) in spring 2008. Kathleen Vokes, one of the agency's lead staff members on the project, stated "the program is designed to encourage development and use of detergents that break down quickly to nonpolluting compounds. These detergents would not contain nonylphenol ethoxylates, commonly referred to as NPEs, because those chemicals and their breakdown products, such as nonylphenol, are toxic to aquatic life."

SDSI seeks partners from businesses engaged in the production or use of surfactants, as well as from those involved in the purchasing or distribution of products containing surfactants. Others entities may also qualify through active encouragement of the use of safer surfactants. For more information on the initiative visit: <http://www.epa.gov/dfepubs/projects/formulat/sdsi.htm>

Energy Law Pulls Plug on Light Bulb

The light bulb Thomas Edison invented 125 years ago is getting more than a make-over. The government is pulling the plug on it. The landmark energy bill President George W. Bush signed into law last December will require lighting to use up to 30 percent less energy, which will basically phase out the traditional light bulb because it won't be able to meet the new efficiency standards.

For the full article visit: <http://www.enn.com/energy/article/27822>

GreenChill

E Major supermarkets joined with EPA to show that protecting the stratospheric ozone layer is cool — literally. EPA and the
N supermarket, refrigeration equipment and chemical refrigerant industries launched the new GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration
V Partnership – a voluntary program to promote green technologies, strategies, and practices that protect the stratospheric
I ozone layer, reduce greenhouse gases, and save money.

R “As Americans make greener choices, we look for companies that support a greener lifestyle,” said Robert J. Meyers, Principal
O Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation. “The GreenChill logo is a clear sign of a supermarket’s environmental commitment. It shows that GreenChill members are doing their utmost to save the ozone layer.”

I The ten GreenChill founding partners are: Whole Foods Market; Food Lion, LLC; Giant Eagle Inc.; Hannaford Bros. Co.; Harris Teeter; Hill PHOENIX; Honeywell
S International; Kysor//Warren; Publix Super Markets Inc.; and DuPont.

S These partners, as well as those in the future, must pledge to go above and beyond regulatory requirements by establishing an inventory of current refrigerant
U emissions that may affect climate change and the stratospheric ozone layer, and then setting reduction targets for these emissions. Partners will also participate in an industry/government research initiative to assess the performance of cutting edge
E “green” technologies in terms of energy efficiency, reduction of ozone-depleting refrigerant charges, and minimization of refrigerant leaks.
S

As an example of GreenChill Partnership initiatives that decrease the impact of supermarkets on climate change, EPA estimates that widespread adoption of advanced refrigeration technologies, best practices, and improved equipment design and service could reduce refrigerant emissions by one million metric tons of carbon equivalent per year, the equivalent of taking 800,000 automobiles off the road every year.

To counteract the depletion of stratospheric ozone, which protects earth’s population from the sun’s ultraviolet radiation, partners guarantee to use only ozone-friendly alternatives and advanced refrigeration technologies in all new and remodeled stores.

EPA believes that GreenChill partners’ adoption of advanced refrigeration technologies will lead to increased energy efficiency and reduce operating expenses to the industry by over \$12 million annually.

More information is online at: <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/partnerships/greenchill>

2008 Renewable Fuels Standard

EPA is setting a new renewable fuels standard (RFS) of 4.66 percent to meet the 2005 Energy Policy Act’s mandate that at least 5.4 billion gallons of renewable fuels be blended into transportation gasoline in 2008. Based on the standard, each party determines the minimum volume of renewable fuel that it must ensure is used in its motor vehicle fuel. The standard for 2007 was 4.02 percent, equating to roughly 4.7 billion gallons. The overall volume target increases every year, reaching 7.5 billion gallons in 2012.

The RFS program, which formally began last September, creates new markets for farm products, increases energy security, and promotes the development of advanced technologies that would greatly expand renewable and alternative fuels. It also serves as one of the many pieces to help inform the greenhouse gas regulation that EPA and federal partners are developing under an Executive Order issued by President Bush in May.

More information visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels>

First Native Woman Sworn in as U.S. Attorney

Diane Humetewa, a member of the Hopi Tribe, made history in December when she was sworn in as the U.S. Attorney for Arizona. Humetewa is the first Native American woman to serve as U.S. Attorney. She was confirmed by the Senate on December 13, having been nominated to the post by President Bush on November 15.



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Got News?

The Region 10 Tribal Newsletter invites you, our readers, to submit ideas and articles for consideration and to share your successes and challenges. Photographs are also welcome. Please submit articles to: Don Creek, EPA, 811 S.W. 6th Ave., Portland, OR 97204 or e-mail creek.don@epa.gov

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To Report Spills and Accidents

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8301
Oregon	800-452-0311		