

## 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. 18, No. 2 — February 2009

### ◁ CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS ▷

#### February

- 11-15 Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference, Seattle, WA.**  
For more information, see the first article below or go to  
<http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/psgb/>

#### March

- 9-11 Sustainable Communities Training Conference Connecting Municipal Governments, Dallas, Texas.** For a preliminary agenda and registration information, see the second item below or visit <http://www.epa.gov/sustainableskylines/>
- 16-18 ATNI Tribal Energy Conference 2009, Tulalip, WA.**  
For more information or to register, see the third article below or go to  
<http://www.atntribes.org>

### **Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference- Future of the Salish Sea**

The biennial Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystem Conference--the 2009 conference theme is *The Future of the Salish Sea: A Call to Action*--is the largest, most comprehensive scientific research and policy conference in the Salish Sea region. The 2009 conference, hosted by the Puget Sound Partnership and Environment Canada, will further the experiences of previous conferences by connecting scientific research and management techniques to priorities for meaningful action. The 2009 conference will emphasize the importance of working collaboratively to solve some of the complex issues that cross political borders.

For more information, go to <http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/psgb/>

### **Sustainable Communities Training Conference**

The EPA Sustainable Skylines Initiative (SSI), in partnership with the Texas Aggregates & Concrete Association (TACA), the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and the City of Dallas, is presenting the Sustainable Communities Training Conference to be held on March 9 - 11, 2009 in Dallas, Texas. This informative meeting will address the issues and discuss the challenges of urban/suburban sustainability planning and management in America.

For a preliminary agenda and registration information, go to <http://www.epa.gov/sustainableskylines/>

### **ATNI Tribal Energy Conference and Trade Fair**

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians will host the 2009 Tribal Energy Conference and Energy Trade Fair on February 16-19, 2009 in Tulalip, Washington. Day One will provide introductions to many Tribal Energy Issues. Day Two will feature breakout sessions on Tribes as Consumers; Tribes as Developers and Owners of Energy Businesses; Rights of Ways on Tribal Lands and Climate Change Implications for Tribes. Day Three will focus on Financial Strategies, Legislation and Policy. A trade fair will be held concurrently every day.

For more information or to register, go to <http://www.atntribes.org>

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**Loan Guarantee Program for Native Americans & Alaska Natives**

The Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program is a mortgage program only available to Native Americans and Alaska Natives. Highlights of the program are: Eligible borrowers include American Indians, Alaska Natives, Tribes, Indian Housing Authorities and Regional or Village Corporations formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; Available every where in Alaska including tribal trust, individual allotted trust or fee simple land; 100% guarantee to the lender in the event of a foreclosure and claim; Low down payment of 2.25% based on the lower of the appraised value or cost to acquire the home. Down payment of 1.25% for loans less than \$50,000.

For more information, see <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/homeownership/184>

**Consuelo W. Gosnell Memorial MSW Scholarship**

Up to ten scholarships in amounts ranging from \$1000-\$4000 will be awarded for the 2009-2010 academic year. Gosnell Memorial MSW Scholarships are awarded for one academic year to masters degree candidates in social work who have demonstrated a commitment to working with, or who have a special affinity with American Indian/Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino populations, or in public and voluntary nonprofit agency settings. The sponsor will support up to ten scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year.

The application deadline is **March 13, 2009**. For further information, see [http://www.naswfoundation.org/gosnell\\_guidelines.asp](http://www.naswfoundation.org/gosnell_guidelines.asp)

**Native American Scholarships**

The American Indian Education Foundation supports Native American students by giving them the tools and opportunities to learn. This is done by supporting primary and secondary students with supplies, infrastructure, and incentive programs, and offer scholarships and mentoring programs to Native American students in college. The 2009 AIEF Scholarship Applications are due by **April 4, 2009**.

For application forms and more information, see [http://www.nrcprograms.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aief\\_prog\\_sf\\_scholarshipfund](http://www.nrcprograms.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aief_prog_sf_scholarshipfund)

**Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) Grants**

**March 16, 2009** is the deadline for community groups to submit proposals for Community Action for Renewed Environment (CARE) awards that range from \$75,000 - \$295,000. EPA is planning to award approximately \$3 million to all EPA regions. CARE grants are to help grantees form partnerships, identify and understand varied sources of risk from toxic pollutant and then prioritize and work to reduce risks through collaborative action. For more information, see <http://www.epa.gov/CARE>

In Alaska, the Nunakauyarmiut Tribe, Toksook Bay, was a 2006 CARE recipient. Project goals include identifying and addressing pollution concerns related to subsistence lifestyles and reducing toxics through increased community participation in existing or planned programs.

Eligible groups include: public non-profit institutions/ organizations, federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, Native American organizations, private non-profit institutions/organizations, quasi-public nonprofit institutions/organizations both interstate and intrastate, local governments (not state), colleges, and universities.

In Region 10, CARE co-leads are Sally Hanft at 206-553-1207 and Davis Zhen at 206-553-7660.

The CARE program will conduct three national information sessions for cooperative agreement applicants via national Internet seminars, or Webcasts, **February 3, 24 and 27, 2009**.

To register for the upcoming CARE Internet Seminar for any of the above dates, go to: <http://www.cluin.org/studio/seminar.cfm>

The request for proposal IS AT [http://www.epa.gov/air/grants\\_funding.html#0902](http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#0902)

**Gems Online**

Educators, parents, youth leaders, and students can find many environmental education resources on EPA's web pages. Here are just a few of the many gems for teaching and learning:

- Office of Environmental Education: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed>
- Teaching Center: <http://www.epa.gov/teachers>
- Student Center: <http://www.epa.gov/students>
- Environmental Kids Club: <http://www.epa.gov/kids>
- IGAP Grant Information: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Grants/IGAP-FY09>

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### The National Park Service Invites Proposals for NAGPRA Grants

NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) grants are awarded to museums, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations for the purposes of assisting in the consultation, documentation, and repatriation of Native American "cultural items," including human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.

For Consultation/Documentation Grants, the final deadline is **March 2, 2009**, with award amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$90,000.

For Repatriation Grants, the deadline is **June 30, 2009** with an award amount up to \$15,000.

For more information contact: Sangita Chari, Grants Coordinator at 202-354-2203 or [Nagpra\\_grants@nps.gov](mailto:Nagpra_grants@nps.gov)

Grants Guidelines and Applications: <http://www.nps.gov/history/nagpra/grants>

### Tribal Energy Funding Opportunity Announcement

DOE's Tribal Energy Program expects to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement for the development or construction of renewable energy or implementation of energy efficiency improvements in Indian Country. Issuance planned for the end of January or early February. More information is to come once the announcement is issued.

For more information on the Program and *The Guide to Tribal Energy Development*, see <http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy>

### Tribal Air Contacts

For contact information on EPA's regional tribal air staff, visit <http://www.epa.gov/air/tribal/coordinators.html>

### Draft Handbook for Developing Watershed TMDLs

EPA's Office of Water has issued a draft "Handbook for Developing Watershed TMDLs" available for public comment at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/techsupp.html> The public comment period closes on **February 18, 2009**.

### Protecting the Salish Sea

Do you know of a threat to water quality in the Salish Sea? EPA will be investigating tips from around the Puget Sound in 2009 to make sure that the Clean Water Act is being followed. If you have a concern, please let us know.

Margaret McCauley,  
Puget Sound Initiative  
Office of Compliance & Enforcement,  
NPDES Compliance Unit,  
EPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue,

### Methane Research Grants

The EPA is offering \$7 million in grants for methane research.

Through the Methane to Markets partnership, the EPA is offering up to \$7 million in grants for international projects and activities. The agency said it hopes to award 40 grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$700,000.

The EPA is requesting proposals for projects including technology transfers and demonstrations, feasibility studies, training and capacity building, information clearinghouses and improved methane emissions estimates. Proposals are due by **March 5, 2009** and the estimated project period for awards is September 2009 through September 2012.

For more information, go to [http://www.upi.com/Energy\\_Resources/2008/12/24/EPA\\_offers\\_methane\\_grants/UPI-18731230131135](http://www.upi.com/Energy_Resources/2008/12/24/EPA_offers_methane_grants/UPI-18731230131135)

### Know Your USDA Watersheds

For the first time, information collected over the past 40 years from instruments on large watersheds across the country is available online, thanks to an Agricultural Research Service (ARS) web site. The web site, called STEWARDS (Sustaining the Earth's Watersheds, Agricultural Research Data System), has interactive maps of watersheds. The site allows users to see the topography of the watersheds and the instrument locations, as well as download data. For more information go to <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

### Polluted Water

EPA and the Centers for Disease Control issued a joint policy statement that bringing water to a rolling boil for 1 minute will kill all known waterborne pathogens, including *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*. Note: If you live at high altitudes (above 6,000 feet), you should boil water for 3 minutes because water boils at a lower temperature at high elevations.

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**New Widget Helps “Find Your Watershed”**

A new *Find Your Watershed* widget connects to EPA’s Surf Your Watershed database. Now, anyone with a website, including their own blog, can post the widget on their own site. The widget -- found at <http://epa.gov/widgets/#watershed> -- supports watershed education and outreach.

With this widget, partners can help direct users to EPA’s Surf Your Watershed database. The database helps people find their watershed, learn about its health, and connects them with organizations at work in their watershed. EPA’s first widget, the “environmental tip of the day,” released last spring, was seen 363,000 times in June after it was posted, which is more than any single page on EPA’s website other than the home page.

**Native Groups Partner to Promote Green Careers**

Native Workplace, Navajo Green Economy Coalition and Honor the Earth are joining forces to invite tribal members around the nation to start a green information group in their own communities. The purpose of this alliance is to ensure that green career education will reach everyone in Indian country and so that all tribal members feel included and that their voice is represented.

The National Native Green Alliance will be an informal network, designed to support emerging groups and promote green business development by sharing information and connections. The talking circle will have no regular meetings, no fees and no “Roberts rules.” Events will be promoted throughout the network.

Alliance members can be reached by contacting them through their websites, by email or phone. Student and Veteran groups are encouraged to join. A list of participating organizations will be posted on the Native Workplace website at <http://www.NativeWorkplace.com>

**Obama’s First Americans Public Liaison**

Wizipan Garriott, 28, has been appointed First Americans Public Liaison, a newly created position in President-elect Barack Obama’s transition team. The position is aimed at honoring a nation-to-nation relationship with tribes.

Amy Brundage, a spokeswoman for the team, confirmed Garriott’s role Dec. 10. Garriott, a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, could not offer comment on the development, as members of Obama’s transition team have been instructed not to talk about their specific contributions.

Garriott’s position on the transition group brings the total number of Native Americans serving on it to seven. Indian Country Today previously reported that John Echohawk, Keith Harper, Robert Anderson, Mary Smith, Mary McNeil and Yvette Robideaux all hold positions on the team.

**EPA’s 2008 Report on the Environment**

EPA’s 2008 Report on the Environment (ROE) asks important questions about the status of and trends in the quality of our nation’s air, water, land, human health and ecological condition. The ROE contains environmental indicators that are based on high-quality data that can be tracked over time. Click a tab below to drill deeper into the data and findings of the ROE. For more information, see <http://www.epa.gov/ncea/roe>

**GreenScapes**

The GreenScapes program, started by EPA’s Office of Solid Waste, was first set up to address the waste stream generated from large scale landscapers. It has evolved to become a diverse, inclusive information resource for large-scale landscapers and homeowners who want to “green” their landscaping practices and save money..

The GreenScapes website is “fertile” ground for learning about the what, why, where, and how’s of beneficial landscaping practices. It provides useful tools, such as the GreenScapes Seasonal Planner for homeowners, and cost calculating tools for large landscapers on landscape waste, resource conserving irrigation, erosion control, decking, and more. There is even a climate change tool for assessing waste reduction and energy benefits through recycling. Why wait? Go to <http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes> and learn more! For more information on this and other topics in Beneficial Landscaping, contact Elaine Somers at 206-553-2966, or at [somers.elaine@epa.gov](mailto:somers.elaine@epa.gov)

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**Road Salt Pollution**

More than 11 million tons of salt are applied to roads in the United States annually. As ice and snow melt, or rain falls, the salt is washed into the surrounding soil. Salt also enters ground water from improperly protected storage stockpiles.

For more information, see [http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet\\_results&view=specific&bmp=106](http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=factsheet_results&view=specific&bmp=106)

**Environmental Fugitives Most-Wanted List**

The government is starting a different kind of most-wanted list - for environmental fugitives accused of assaulting nature. These fugitives allegedly smuggled chemicals that eat away the Earth's protective ozone layer, dumped hazardous waste into oceans and rivers and trafficked in polluting cars. In its own version of the FBI most-wanted list, and the first to focus on environmental crimes, the EPA is unveiling a roster of 23 fugitives, complete with mug shots and descriptions of the charges on its Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/fugitives>

**Fish Games for Kids**

Kids can find the healthiest fish to eat using stories and playing games at <http://www.epa.gov/fishadvisories/kids/arcade.html>

**Public Service Safety Messages**

Public Service Safety Messages which can help during natural disaster preparation or recovery can be found at [epa.gov/naturalevents/psa.html](http://epa.gov/naturalevents/psa.html)

These are free for re-use and broadcast and can be listened to in English or Spanish. Topics include asbestos, protecting children from floodwater, mold, drinking water wells, and more.

**Wetlands Information**

In the 1980s, an estimated 170-200 million acres of wetland existed in Alaska - covering slightly more than half of the state. Next to Alaska, Florida (11 million), Louisiana (8.8 million), Minnesota (8.7 million), and Texas (7.6 million) have the largest wetland acreage. In the 1600s, over 220 million acres of wetlands are thought to have existed in the lower 48 states. Since then, extensive losses have occurred and over half of our original wetlands have been drained and converted to other uses.

**Water Efficiency Resource Library**

The Alliance for Water Efficiency, a non-profit organization that promotes the efficient and sustainable use of water, has announced the launch of a web-based Water Efficiency Resource Library. The EPA is a program partner and funder. The Resource Library is intended as a one-stop shop for water efficient product and program information.

Library sections cover residential plumbing and appliances, toilet testing, landscape and irrigation, commercial and industrial water conservation, water rates and rate structures, water loss control, codes and standards, drought planning, and more. Research reports, published documents, and case studies are included. Features being added to the site include state summaries and a discussion forum. See the Resource Library online at <http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org>.

EPA is working with other federal agencies to coordinate work on climate change and water. Recently, EPA issued a joint memorandum with the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, and Interior to describe cooperative efforts on climate change and water issues.

For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/water/climatechange>



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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. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97204 or e-mail [creek.don@epa.gov](mailto:creek.don@epa.gov)

## *Region 10 Tribal Newsletter February 2009*

### To Report Spills and Accidents

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

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



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