

The Tribal Newsletter is issued free each month

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# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



United States Environmental Protection Agency

Vol. 25 #10  
November 2016

<http://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-newsletter>

## Top News

### Establishing Baseline Water Quality Standards for Indian Reservations

On September 19, the EPA Administrator signed an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. This ANPRM is intended to invite comments on whether to establish federal baseline Water Quality Standards for Indian reservation waters that do not currently have Clean Water Act-effective WQS in place, and if so, what those WQS should be, and how they should be implemented.

Currently, fewer than 50 of over 300 tribes with reservation lands have WQS effective under the CWA—leaving a gap in CWA protection of human health and the environment. Federal baseline WQS could include designated uses, narrative and numeric criteria, antidegradation requirements, and other WQS policies such as a mixing zone policy, a compliance schedule authorizing provision, and a WQS variance procedure that can provide an important tool for tribes and the EPA to use in making defensible, site-specific decisions that protect reservation waters.

The ANPRM was published in the Federal Register on September 29, and the EPA will receive public comments for 90 days after that date.

The EPA will hold two webinars for interested parties during the comment period. The agenda and resource material will be identical for both webinars. The first webinar will be on November 16, and the other will be on **December 15**— both at **12 p.m.** Pacific Time.

To register for the webinar on **November 16 at 12 p.m.** Pacific Time, go to <http://bit.ly/2eS8ZRh>.

To register for the webinar on **December 15 at 12p.m.** Pacific Time, go to <http://bit.ly/2fcfZfb>.

To learn more, please review the Baseline Water Quality Standards ANPRM Fact Sheet online at <http://go.usa.gov/xksvf>.

The docket for this rulemaking and link where you can submit comments is available online at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-HQ-OW-2016-0405>.



## EPA Region 10 FY18 GAP Notice of Funding Availability

Region 10's FY18 NOFA for Indian Environmental General Assistance Program grants was released in October. The purpose of GAP is for tribes and tribal consortia to build capacity for developing and administering environmental protection programs.

The NOFA describes everything you need to know to prepare and submit your GAP grant application. Before you draft your initial proposal, please carefully read the full NOFA. Initial proposals are due to your EPA GAP Project Officer no later than **January 17**.

All final application packages must be submitted through Grants.gov by a date that will be negotiated between your tribe and your EPA Project Officer (between **March 3** and **May 26**). The NOFA is available for review on the Region 10 tribal website at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>.

## Saving Energy with EPA's Energy Star® LED Light Bulbs



The EPA encourages Americans to buy Energy Star certified LED bulbs.

Every purchase of an Energy Star certified LED bulb saves you money and makes a difference for the planet. With prices dropping across the nation, LED lighting has become a real option for all Americans. Only products that have earned the Energy Star label are independently certified to deliver optimal efficiency and performance.

Energy Star certified LED bulbs use up to 90 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and last 15 to 25 times longer. A single bulb can save over \$55 in electricity costs over its lifetime and last over 12 years with typical use.

If every American replaced just one incandescent light bulb with one that has earned the Energy Star, that replacement would prevent nearly six billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions per year, equivalent to the emissions from 550,000 cars. It's simple: look for the Energy Star label for energy savings. To learn more about Energy Star light bulbs, go to [https://www.energystar.gov/products/lighting\\_fans/light\\_bulbs](https://www.energystar.gov/products/lighting_fans/light_bulbs).



When the lifetime of your LED or other light bulb ends, please check your local requirements for recycling and disposal options. While LEDs do not contain mercury, other light bulbs may contain mercury or other hazardous substances. To learn more about recycling and disposal of mercury-containing light bulbs, go to <https://www.epa.gov/cfl/recycling-and-disposal-cfls>.

## Plan for an Easy GAP Grant Closeout

With the end of the fiscal year behind us and a new one just beginning, it's a good time to ensure you are familiar with grant closeout requirements. A closeout is the process by which EPA determines that all required work under a grant or cooperative agreement has been completed and all administrative requirements are met. A successful closeout is important, as it is a performance criteria EPA considers when reviewing future funding requests.

Closeouts are due within 90 days after the last day of your grant's project and budget period. Generally GAP grants last for four years. If your four-year GAP grant's project/budget period began **10/1/12** (or FY2013), then it ended on **9/30/16**, and your closeout is due **90 days later** — by **12/29/16**.

It's important to be aware of when your closeout is due because sometimes grants end sooner than every four years. If you aren't sure if your multi-year GAP grant has ended, you should refer to your grant agreement document to determine the budget and project period expiration dates. A notification will be sent to you via email from the EPA's Las Vegas Finance Center 60 days prior to your grant's expiration date. If the Federal Financial Report is not received by the 90th day, an overdue notice will be sent.

As you prepare to close out a grant, it's generally a good practice to review past year's work plans, budgets, and quarterly progress reports a few months in advance of the end of the grant period to see if there is any project work remaining that needs to be accomplished. You may also want to get receipts, timesheets and deliverables organized and finish up any incomplete or missing progress reports. It's also helpful to review previous work plans and reports to take stock of any meaningful accomplishments, recall any obstacles your tribe may have encountered, and consider what may be done differently in the future.

The first step in processing your closeout is to make the final drawdown or payment. You can make drawdowns to pay any bills for work or charges that were made *before* the end of your project/budget period. You should also figure out final payroll costs, and include them in the final drawdown. But *no new charges should be made, even if there is unspent money remaining* (please do not order any new supplies or equipment using past years' money).

***Within 90 days of the end of the grant period, your tribe or organization must submit the following to the EPA as noted below:***

Las Vegas Finance Center, 4220 Maryland Parkway, Bldg. C, Room 503, Las Vegas, NV 89119.  
Email: [lvfc-grants@epa.gov](mailto:lvfc-grants@epa.gov).

- ✓ **Final Drawdown/Payment Request.** If using ASAP, use it to do the final drawdown. If using EFT, submit the request to EPA Las Vegas Finance Center
- ✓ **Federal Financial Report – SF425** (after the final drawdown). A blank form is available online at <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-grantee-forms>.

### **Tribal Coordinator/Project Officer**

- ✓ Any remaining deliverables from the grant period.
- ✓ **Final Performance and Technical Report.** Although the EPA does not require a specific format, we recommend that you describe all activities conducted over the multi-year grant in your final report. You may wish to organize your report by year or by topic (i.e. solid waste, water quality, environmental training, etc.).

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**GAP Grant Closeout — Report required within 90 days**

The report must also include a comparison of accomplishments against work plan commitments, an evaluation of the effectiveness of work performed, discussion of any existing or potential problems (staff turnover, flood events, etc.), and suggestions for improvement. You may wish to include your success story in the final performance report, but we'll also need a separate, stand-alone version of the success story.

To obtain example Final Performance and Technical Reports, or for a template you may use, please contact your Tribal Coordinator/Project Officer.

- ✓ **Success Story.** The success story should be a one-page summary focused on a particular task or project performed during the multi-year GAP grant. There is no required format, but consider including the following details:

- How the tribe planned and accomplished the activities.
- How the GAP funded activities resulted in a positive change in the environment or public health.
- Specific data (e.g. waste materials collected by weight, volume or category, etc.).
- Before and after pictures, if available.

**Grant Specialist,** EPA Region 10 Grants Administration Unit, OMP-173, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101; fax 206-553-4957.

- ✓ **Equipment Inventory Report.** For the purposes of the grant, equipment is defined as any one item that cost \$5000 or more, and has a useful life of one year or more (i.e. snow machine, truck, boat etc.). If your tribe or organization purchased any equipment meeting this description during the grant period - then you must submit a report that provides the following details:

- Description of each item of equipment.
- Original date of purchase.
- Original purchase cost.
- Its estimated value and condition today.
- The disposal method. The disposal method is typically written into your grant agreement under Equipment Disposition. Typically it is the following:

*The tribe will keep the equipment and continue to use it on the project originally funded through this assistance agreement or on other federally funded projects whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by Federal funds.*

Note that during the grant period, if your tribe or organization budgeted for over \$150,000 in procurement, then there is a condition in your grant that requires submission of a disadvantaged business enterprise report (aka DBE or MBE/WBE). If this applies to your grant, please refer to that condition for specific requirements. DBE reporting does not apply to most GAP grant recipients.

If you have questions about closeout, or want to learn more, please contact your EPA Tribal Coordinator/Project Officer, or go to

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/frequent-questions-about-closeouts>.

## C-FERST: New EPA Community Tool for Environmental Justice

The EPA Community-Focused Exposure Risk and Screening Tool or C-FERST is an online mapping tool that provides access to resources for helping communities and decision makers learn more about their local environmental issues, compare conditions in their community with their county and state averages, and explore exposure and risk reduction options.

Local maps are a key component of C-FERST, helping users gain both a lay of the land and a perspective for plotting out how environmental conditions and sources of pollution might change from one neighborhood to the next. In addition, the tool includes reports, fact sheets, links to other environmental and public health tools, citizen science resources, information about other community projects, and structured guides to help communities plan their projects to assess public and environmental health conditions. There's even a digital community forum where you can ask other users for help or participate in discussions.

Check out C-FERST at <http://www.epa.gov/c-ferst>.

## National Response Center Tribal Notifications

The National Response Center functions as the sole point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the U.S. and its territories. The NRC also takes maritime reports of suspicious activity, security breaches, and terrorist related activities for the U.S. Coast Guard and railroad incident reports for the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration.

The EPA is assisting with an outreach effort to encourage tribes to submit applications to the NRC in order to receive notifications when oil and hazardous materials incidents happen in Indian Country. Tribes are encouraged to apply to receive notifications directly from the federal NRC.

In order to be included in this process, you must complete an application agreement. To request the application document, email [nrc@uscg.mil](mailto:nrc@uscg.mil) or fax 202-267-1322. If you have specific questions about the application, or to discuss the process further please feel free to contact the NRC at [nrc@uscg.mil](mailto:nrc@uscg.mil).



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**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Alaska Operations Office**  
**ALASKA NEWS**

**Input Requested on Alaska Spill Response Planning**

In an effort to be better prepared in the event of an oil spill or hazardous materials release, the Alaska Regional Response Team and the Alaska State and Federal On-Scene Coordinators (emergency responders) are working with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Coast Guard to create a regional contingency plan and four area contingency plans, to become consistent with the National Contingency Plan and the National Response Framework.

The ARRT is an advisory board that provides federal, state, and local governments a way to respond to pollution incidents. The NCP is the federal government’s blueprint for responding to oil spills and hazardous substance releases. The National Response Framework describes how the federal government organizes itself to respond to natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and other catastrophic events - including the importance of the whole community in assisting with response efforts.

Currently, state and federal agencies operate under two plan volumes. The first volume is the unified plan, which contains statewide guidance, policy and response procedures. The second volume is the applicable subarea contingency plan.

The proposed changes include developing an Alaska regional plan and four area plans. The four area plans will combine several of the current subareas under a nationally recognized planning structure. The information included in the current subarea format will be transferred to geographic annexes within the area plans. Management of the regional plans will be by the ARRT, while the area plans will be managed by the state and federal On-Scene Coordinators.

The ADEC has created a website to provide more information about the changes and the proposed timeline. To learn more, go to:

[http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/PPR/plans/regional\\_plan.htm](http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/PPR/plans/regional_plan.htm).

If you have input or concerns on this spill response planning proposal, you are encouraged to submit your comments via email by **November 15** to [decsparplanning@alaska.gov](mailto:decsparplanning@alaska.gov).



*ADEC Spill Response Training Class of 2016 in a rural Alaska community environmental job training- See article on Page 14.*

## Alaska DEC Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup Service Grant Opportunity

**DUE DATE: January 31**

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation assists communities by conducting environmental site assessments and cleanups at qualifying brownfield sites. The DEC Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup request period is now open for project work beginning in July 2017.

DBAC objectives are to:

- Clarify whether an environmental problem is limiting a site's use or intended reuse or redevelopment.
- Identify the nature and extent of contamination.
- Provide recommendations and estimate costs for additional assessment, if needed.
- Propose cleanup options and provide a general estimate of cleanup costs, if indicated.
- When funding permits, conduct cleanup activities designed to enable reuse of a site.

In selecting projects, ADEC looks for solid reuse or redevelopment plans and strong community support and commitment. Contact **Amy Rodman** at 907-465-5368 or [amy.rodman@alaska.gov](mailto:amy.rodman@alaska.gov) for assistance or additional information.

To learn more go to <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/bf-dbac.htm>.

## Two ITEP Air Quality Training Courses for Alaska

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is accepting applications for two separate air quality courses planned for tribes in Alaska.

### ***Air Quality & Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages***

**December 6 – 9** in Kotzebue

ITEP offers this entry-level course for Alaska tribal environmental staff interested in air quality issues. The content is basic and assumes the participant has no background in science or air quality management.

The course provides an understanding of the importance of clean air (outdoors and indoors) for the protection of human health and the environment. Instructors and participants will explore ways in which Alaska Native Villages can take action to solve air quality problems, protect human health, and preserve cultural values. This course consists of lectures, demonstrations, small-group activities, and a building walk-through. There will be hands-on practice with a comprehensive assessment checklist used to identify IAQ problems.

CONTACT: **Lydia Scheer** • 928-523-6887 • [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu)

### ***Air Quality Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska***

**December 13 – 16** in Anchorage

This ITEP course is designed for environmental professionals who are responsible for managing air quality projects in Alaska Native Villages. This will be a highly interactive training. There will be presentations, small-group work, and roundtable discussion. As this is a Level 2 course, applicants should have completed one of ITEP's Level 1 courses, such as "Introduction to Tribal Air Quality" or "Air Quality & Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages." CONTACT: **Pat Ellsworth** • 928-523-6721 • [Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu)

**For a full list of all ITEP trainings offered:** <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training>.

## RTOC News



### 2017 Tribal Leaders Summit Come raise your environmental issues!

March 29 – 31

Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, Suquamish, WA

The summit includes three days of discussions with tribal council members and staff from Region 10. The goal of the summit is to provide tribal council members and staff the opportunity to meet and share environmental concerns with other tribes in Region 10 and EPA. Topics for discussion could include climate change, environmental justice, and fish consumption rates.

### NEW RTOC Communications Specialist!

Last month, **Randi Madison** replaced Christy Finn as the RTOC Communications Specialist. Randi is Inupiaq, and her extended family lives in Point Hope, AK. She currently lives in Spokane, WA with her husband and two children. Randi was the RTOC Communications Specialist from 2009-2013. The RTOC is excited to have the opportunity to work with Randi again! She's very familiar with the RTOC's important work, and is enthusiastic about improving the level of involvement between tribes and the RTOC.

Randi's recently updated the region 10 RTOC website at <http://rtocregion10.org>, and efforts are underway to redesign it to better meet the needs of tribes. Please check out the Region 10 RTOC Facebook page to keep up-to-date with the most current news. Find, like, and tag us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Region10RTOC>!

The RTOC wishes Christy Finn the best as she moves forward with new opportunities!

**Next R10 RTOC Conference Call:** November 17 • 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time

**Next R10 RTOC In-Person Meeting:** EPA Office in Seattle, WA • December 13 – 15

CONTACT **Randi Madison** if you wish to join our monthly teleconference and/or have environmental topics to raise. We look forward to hearing from all the tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

### RTOC R10 Special Election for Oregon

Regional Tribal Operation Committee will hold a Special Election for a new Oregon primary. If you wish to apply, please email **JR Herbst** at [Herbst.John@epa.gov](mailto:Herbst.John@epa.gov).

### Save the Date!

2018 Tribal Leaders Summit • March 2018 • Seattle, WA area

**Randi Madison**, RTOC R10 Communications Specialist • 509-703-4219 •

EMAIL: [communications@region10rtoc.net](mailto:communications@region10rtoc.net) • WEB PAGE: <http://rtocregion10.org>



## EPA Tribal Consultation Opportunities

The following tribal consultation opportunity may be of interest to Region 10 Tribes. A full list of consultation opportunities is available at <https://yosemite.epa.gov/oita/TConsultation.nsf>.

### Office of International and Tribal Affairs FY18-19 National Program Manager Guidance

The EPA's Office International and Tribal Affairs is continuing its consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes on the OITA Fiscal Year 2018-2019 NPM Guidance.

As part of EPA's two-year NPM Guidance process, the Agency has adopted an early engagement approach with tribes and states to seek their input on NPM Guidances before they are drafted. During the early engagement period, EPA NPMs will hold in-person meetings and conference calls with tribes to discuss priorities and other important issues regarding the development of each NPM Guidance.

OITA invites you and/or your designated consultation representative to participate in early engagement on OITA's FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance to discuss EPA tribal program priorities.

The current FY 2016-2017 OITA NPM Guidance is available on our website at <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/national-program-manager-guidances>.

If you have any questions, please contact **Jeff Besougloff** at 202-564-0292 or [besougloff.jeff@epa.gov](mailto:besougloff.jeff@epa.gov).

### Tribal Consultation on the FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager Guidance

END DATE: **June 30.**

The NPM Guidances provide direction to EPA Regions on where the EPA will focus its work with tribal and state governments to ensure implementation of and compliance with environmental laws and regulations. The NPM Guidances are not budget decision-making documents though they do provide a roadmap for the activities that support the priorities identified in the President's Budget.

The NPM Guidances are developed in three stages: (1) NPMs receive input from tribes and states during the early engagement stage, which is now underway; (2) NPMs prepare draft guidances for review and comment; and (3) NPMs issue final NPM Guidances.

CONTACT: **Emily Heller** • 202-564-0000 • [heller.emily@epa.gov](mailto:heller.emily@epa.gov)  
Or **Joseph Greenblott** • 202-564-4250 • [greenblott.joseph@epa.gov](mailto:greenblott.joseph@epa.gov)



## Grants

### G R A N T S

#### EPA FY17 Exchange Network Grant

**DUE DATE: November 18.**

The Exchange Network Grant program provides funding to states, territories and federally recognized tribes to support the development of the Environmental Information Exchange Network. The primary outcome expected from Exchange Network assistance agreements is improved access to, and exchange of high-quality environmental data from public and private sector sources. Applications should demonstrate support for and results toward EIEN program priorities.

In FY 2017, the EPA expects to award about \$9 million for 30-40 assistance agreements for Exchange Network projects. Most awards will be in the range of \$50,000 to \$300,000. Awards to a single applicant cannot exceed \$300,000. EPA may make a limited number of awards to collaborative, partnership assistance agreements. Budgets for these projects cannot exceed \$500,000.

The exact number of assistance agreements will depend on the final amount of EPA's appropriation for the EN grant program, the number of applications submitted to EPA by the application deadline, the amounts of proposed budgets, and the outcome of application reviews. The FY 2017 National Environmental Information Exchange Network grant program solicitation notice is available at

<https://www.epa.gov/exchangenetwork/exchange-network-grant-program>.

**CONTACT: Salena Reynolds • 202-566-0466 • [reynolds.salena@epa.gov](mailto:reynolds.salena@epa.gov)**

#### USDA Solid Waste Management Grants

**DUE DATE: December 31.**

USDA Solid Waste Management grants help reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources through funding for organizations that provide technical assistance or training to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites. The funds may be used to:

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources.
- Provide technical assistance or training to enhance the operation and maintenance of active landfills.
- Provide technical assistance or training to help communities reduce the amount of solid waste coming into a landfill.
- Provide technical assistance or training to prepare for closure and future use of a landfill site.

Most state and local governmental entities, non-profits, federally recognized tribes, and academic institutions may apply. All applicants must have proven ability, background or experience to, or have successfully completed a project similar to the one proposed, have legal authority and capacity to provide technical assistance or training, be from rural areas and towns with 10,000 or fewer people. Special consideration may be given for projects serving an area with fewer than 5,500, or fewer than 2,500 people; regional, multi-state or national areas; or lower-income populations. To contact the Solid Waste Grant Manager at USDA's Rural Development National Office, call 202-720-9589. For more information, go to <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/solid-waste-management-grants>.

## EPA FY17 Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup Grants

DUE DATE: **December 20.**

The EPA's brownfields program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. A brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

Grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). Two separate EPA brownfields funding opportunities are available.

Even though the federally recognized tribes of Alaska are not eligible for the competitive brownfields funding (with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community), there is the opportunity to work with other eligible entities in the application process. In addition to local governments, land clearance authorities, regional councils, etc. – the Alaska Native Village and Regional Corporations are eligible entities to apply for the following competitive brownfields opportunities.

### 1. Assessment Grants (funded over three years)

- **Community-wide or Site-Specific Applicants:** Applicants may apply for up to \$200,000 in hazardous substances funding or up to \$200,000 in petroleum funding.
- **Community-wide Applicants:** Applicants seeking **both** hazardous substances funding and petroleum funding may request a combined total up to \$300,000, however the request for hazardous substances funding or petroleum funding cannot exceed \$200,000 for any one individual type of grant funding. For example, an applicant may apply for \$200,000 in hazardous substances funding and \$100,000 in petroleum funding.
- **Assessment Coalition Applicants:** Applicants may request up to \$600,000 in hazardous substances funding and/or petroleum funding.

### 2. Cleanup Grants (funded over three years)

Applicants can apply for up to \$200,000 per brownfield site and can submit up to three separate, site-specific cleanup proposals.

To learn more about these opportunities, go to

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/apply-brownfields-grant-funding>.



## Training & Scholarships

### EPA Rural Advantage Technical Assistance

DUE DATE: **November 6.**

The EPA invites rural communities (including tribes) to apply for planning assistance to develop strategies that help grow the economy and revitalize downtown neighborhoods.

Communities may apply for assistance through the following programs:

- **Local Foods, Local Places** – which helps communities leverage local food enterprise to diversify their economy and renew their downtowns.
- **Cool & Connected** – which helps communities use broadband service to create walkable, connected, economically successful neighborhoods.
- **Healthy Places for Healthy People** – a new program that will help communities partner with health care facilities to catalyze downtown revitalization and to improve options for healthy living and economic opportunity.

Rural Advantage is part of the Obama Administration's commitment to place-based strategies to help communities develop competitive advantages. In these places, federal experts are working side by side with residents and local leaders to create customized solutions, bolstering coordination across agencies and improving how we interact with and serve community partners.

Communities selected for assistance will work with an EPA-supported team of experts - including a two-day workshop, to develop strategies and action plans that enable them to realize their local revitalization goals. The team will include people with expertise in community development, and representatives of the federal agencies that sponsor the three programs so communities can build connections and take better advantage of federal programs and resources.

EPA's Rural Advantage federal partners include the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Transportation, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority and the Economic Development Administration. Working with these federal partners, EPA will select thirty or more communities for assistance through a competitive process.

For more information, go to <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>.

### HUD Office of Native American Programs Technical Assistance

DUE DATE: **Ongoing**

HUD ONAP offers free specialized training and technical assistance for Tribal and Tribally Designated Housing Entity grant recipients in areas related to Indian housing programs, administration and management, development, and financing.

Tribes or TDHE's are encouraged to formally request training and technical assistance on a particular need by contacting **Lisa Stewart** • [lisa.stewart@hud.gov](mailto:lisa.stewart@hud.gov) • 206-220-6166.

## EPA Webinars on Final Rule Enabling Tribes to Obtain Authority to Identify Impaired Waters and Establish TMDLs

Two webinars are planned on the final EPA rule that establishes procedures for eligible Indian tribes to obtain the authority under the Clean Water Act section 303(d) to identify impaired waters on reservations, and to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads, which serve as plans to attain applicable water quality standards.

The webinars will provide an overview of the CWA section 303(d) program and the responsibilities tribes with 303(d) TAS will have in implementing the program, including steps involved in developing lists of impaired waters and TMDLs. The webinars will also provide an overview of the final rule, including procedures for tribes to apply for TAS, and EPA's procedures for reviewing a tribe's TAS application.

Please register online, at the links provided below (there is a separate registration for each webinar). You will receive an email confirmation after you submit your registration.

### November 21

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time

REGISTRATION: <http://bit.ly/2fchGt6>

### December 13

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time

REGISTRATION: <http://bit.ly/2eShqwa>

## The Clean Air Act and Permitting (a Level 2 course)

**November 29 - December 2**, Las Vegas, Nevada

This course provides an understanding of the Clean Air Act and tribal authority as the foundations for air quality permitting on tribal lands. There will also be discussion of tribal involvement in permitting off-reservation sources. There will be a pre-course module to prepare participants for the content. Instructions for the module will be sent with notice of selection for this training.

Topics include:

- Tribal Sovereignty
- National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Attainment, Non-Attainment
- NSR – Prevention of Significant Deterioration
- NSR – Non-Attainment Area New Source Review
- NSR – Minor New Source Review
- Class I Re-designation
- Air Toxics and MACT
- Title V – Operating Permits

Prerequisite: This is a Level 2 course. Applicants should have completed pre-requisite course or have equivalent background or experience. If you have questions regarding the pre-requisite or your eligibility for this course please contact **Pat Ellsworth** ● 928-523-6721 ● [Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu). For more information, go to <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tams/Training>.



## Rural Alaska Community Environmental Job Training 2017

**DUE DATE: November 22.**

Zender Environmental Health and Research Group is operating the 6th year of their Job Training Program for unemployed rural residents. Accepted applicants will receive 4 weeks of training to qualify them to work as Rural Environmental Technicians. This training includes:

- 40 Hr HAZWOPER
- Confined Space
- Spill Response
- Fuel Tank Inspection and Maintenance
- Solid and Hazardous Waste Management
- Leaking Underground Storage Tank Awareness
- 10 Hr Construction Safety
- CPR/First Aid
- Rural Alaska Landfill Operation
- Freon Removal
- Forklift Operation



*Freon recovery — Class of 2016*

- GPS/GIS and Basic Mapping, Short Course
- Alaska Certified Erosion & Sediment Control Lead
- Soil and Water Quality Sampling
- Workforce Development Skills

**When and Where:** There are two, 2-week

semesters required, with a two-week “Spring Break” in between.

### Tentative Timeline

SEMESTER 1: **March 21 – April 5** in Anchorage • SEMESTER 2: **April 18 – 30** in Anchorage

**Cost:** Thanks to the EPA and the State of Alaska Department of Labor, full scholarships are available, so the four-week training program is **free to most applicants!**

**Occupational Endorsement:** Graduates will receive 10 UAF college credits and will complete requirements for the University’s Occupational Endorsement as a Rural Solid Waste Management and Spill Response Technician.

**Eligibility:** RACEJT is open to all rural community members that are **unemployed**. Persons with less than 20 hours per week employment may apply as well. There are no other exceptions. You must be unemployed or underemployed to qualify.

**Priority:** Priority is given to applicants who already have a potential employer that would like to hire them if they complete the training. This includes those who can be hired under GAP or other grant workplans.

RACEJT is funded by the EPA and State of Alaska Department of Labor, and its many training partners include the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and the University of Washington.

For More Information visit: <http://www.zendergroup.org/racejt.html>.

CONTACT: **April Reed McCoy** • 907-717-4754 • [areed@zendergroup.org](mailto:areed@zendergroup.org).

## Alaska Marine Science Symposium

January 23 – 29 in Anchorage, AK

Alaska Marine Science Symposium, Alaska's premier marine research conference, brings together scientists, educators, resource managers, students, and interested public to discuss the latest and greatest marine research being conducted in Alaskan waters. Research will be presented by geographic theme, including the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and the Arctic. Topic areas will include ocean physics, fishes and invertebrates, seabirds, marine mammals, local traditional knowledge and more.

Early online registration closes **December 20** and online registration closes **January 18**. For more information and/or to register, go to <http://amss.nprb.org>.

## EPA Tribal Solid Waste Peer Matching Program

The EPA has developed a new tribal solid waste management peer matching program. The program aims to strengthen tribal capacity building and develop sustainable waste management programs. The program identifies peer matches for tribes through the use of peer mentors who are working on similar issues to exchange experiences and share practical knowledge with each other.

Peer mentors are tribal environmental personnel who can provide expertise and experience. Mentors volunteer to participate in the program. Please note that the peer matching program does not have funding available to cover any associated costs (i.e. travel to meet with a mentor). However, funding for travel for peer matches may be available through the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program or other programs. For details, click on the fact sheet link at <http://go.usa.gov/xDwz4>.

CONTACT: **Tonya Hawkins** • 703-308-8278 • [Hawkins.tonya@epa.gov](mailto:Hawkins.tonya@epa.gov)

## Climate Change

### Alaska Ocean Acidification Network "State of the Science"

November 30-December 1 in Anchorage, AK

The Alaska Ocean Acidification Network is hosting a 2-day workshop inviting a broad audience across the state interested in ocean acidification issues.

Workshop goals include educating the broader Alaska community on the processes and consequences of OA, creating connections between researchers and stakeholders, and developing new ideas and partnerships to enhance monitoring and community engagement. A report on the state of the science in Alaska will be produced after the workshop, as well as a set of recommendations to help guide the Alaska OA Network.

There will be opportunities for remote participation at satellite viewing sites and via personal computer. A full list of sites will be posted soon. This workshop is free and open to the public. Please register by **November 7**. To register go to <http://bit.ly/2dLDDyU>.

CONTACT: **Darcy Dugan** • 907-644-6718 • [dugan@aoos.org](mailto:dugan@aoos.org).

## Developing a Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Alaska Workshop

**December 8-9** in Anchorage, AK

This two-day workshop, co-sponsored by Alaska Sea Grant and the Alaska Ocean Observing System, has the goal of developing an action plan for harmful algal bloom monitoring, event response, outreach and research in Alaska.

The first day is intended to engage a broad audience, including resource managers, shellfish growers, researchers, and anyone affected or interested in HABs. This first day will include presentations to provide an overview and summary of HAB-related activities around Alaska as well as breakout groups to develop an action plan related to monitoring and event response. The second day will engage a targeted audience that is interested in developing an action plan for HAB research, data sharing, outreach and education.

Participants may register for the first day only or for both days. Registration is free. To learn more go to <http://bit.ly/2eX96JF>.

CONTACT: **Ginny Eckert** • 907-796-5450 • [gleckert@alaska.edu](mailto:gleckert@alaska.edu)

## New EPA Web-Based Climate Change Resiliency Tool: Adaptation Resource Center

The EPA launched a new online portal that provides communities in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska with information and tools to increase resilience to climate change. Using a self-guided format, the Adaptation Resource Center, or ARC-X, gives you information tailored specifically to your needs, based on where you live and your particular issues of concern.

To search by region and area of interest, go to <https://www.epa.gov/arc-x/tailor-your-climate-adaptation-search>.

Recent statistics from the Office of Management and Budget show the federal government has incurred more than \$357 billion in direct costs due to extreme weather and fire alone over the last 10 years. Climate change is also expected to pose significant financial and infrastructural challenges to communities in coming decades. The EPA designed ARC-X to help all local government officials address these challenges — from those with extensive experience and expertise dealing with the impacts of climate change, to those working in communities who are just beginning to meet those challenges. To learn how communities in the Northwest and AK are adapting, go to <http://go.usa.gov/xkswZ>.

Building on the climate adaptation training for local governments EPA launched last year, ARC-X provides another important resource for building climate resiliency. The system guides you through all the steps of an adaptation process. It provides information on the implications of climate change for particular regions and issues of concern with adaptation strategies that can be implemented to address the risks. It also includes case studies that illustrate how other communities with similar concerns have already successfully adapted — along with instructions on how to replicate their efforts, potential EPA tools to help implement the adaptation strategies, and sources of funding and technical assistance from EPA and other federal agencies. The EPA is currently enhancing the information available to tribes with case studies featuring tribal adaptation strategies.

To access ARC-X, go to <http://www.epa.gov/ARC-X>.





## Climate Science Digest

### Climate Science and Observations

USGS glacier research shows ‘tangible evidence’ of warming

<http://bit.ly/2eVJLRF>

Oceans are absorbing almost all of the globe’s excess heat

<http://nyti.ms/2egBaYs>

### At the Poles & in Alaska

Speed of Arctic changes defies scientists

<http://climatenewsnetwork.net/speed-of-arctic-changes-defies-scientists>

The Arctic is being utterly transformed — and we’re just starting to grasp the consequences

<http://wapo.st/2fkZahq>

Terns follow record warm temperatures in ‘shock’ migration to north of Alaska

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/23/terns-migration-alaska>

### Impacts

The Pacific blob caused an ‘unprecedented’ toxic algal bloom — and there’s more to come

<http://wapo.st/2eX8tQv>

Threat of wildfires growing in the Northwest amid climate change

<http://mynorthwest.com/394423/climate-change-wildfires-in-nw>

Global Warming Trend Warms the U.S. West, Leaves East Shivering

<http://bit.ly/2eVKMcn>

### Adaptation/Mitigation

How fast will we need to adapt to climate change?

<http://bit.ly/2eL2CP5>

Scientists find better way to make hydrogen for clean fuels

<http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2016/09/07/stories/1060042398>

### Climate Change Webinars, Conferences and Trainings

For a calendar of climate change and water-related trainings, conferences, and webinars, visit <http://go.usa.gov/xg84F>

*Links to websites outside of the EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. We cannot attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites, nor does EPA endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.*

## Calendar of Conferences & Events

### November

- 2** **Alaska Tribal Climate Change Webinar.** Webinar at 11 a.m. Pacific Time. To join use this link and enter the room as a guest. For more information, go to <http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/akclimatechange>. For audio, dial 1- 866-299-3188, and enter code 907-271-1272.
- 2 – 4** **The Mining Lifecycle: Tribal Engagement and Environmental Responsibility,** Phoenix, AZ. <http://www.ntmw.org>
- 7** **Brownfields 128(a) Tribal Response Program Training: Four Elements of a TRP, TRP Record Requirement, Identifying TRP Activities.** Webinar at **12:00 p.m.** Pacific Time. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2dQTO8I>
- 14 – 16** **Northwest Climate Conference,** Stevenson, WA. **Kathie Dello** • [kdello@coas.oregonstate.edu](mailto:kdello@coas.oregonstate.edu) • <http://pnwclimateconference.org>
- 16** **EPA Clean Water Act ANPRM to Establish Federal Baseline Water Quality Standards for Indian Reservations.** Webinar at **12:00 p.m.** Pacific Time. <http://bit.ly/2eS8ZRh>
- 21** **EPA Clean Water Act section 303(d) Final Rule Enabling Tribes to Obtain Authority to Identify Impaired Waters and Establish TMDLs.** Webinar at **10 a.m.** Pacific Time. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2fchGt6>
- 29 – Dec. 2** **BIA's 26th Annual Tribal Provider Conference,** Anchorage, AK <http://biaprovidersconference.com>
- 29 – Dec. 2** **The Clean Air Act and Permitting,** Las Vegas, NV. **Pat Ellsworth** • 928-523-6721 • [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/training/training\\_aq\\_caap](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/training/training_aq_caap)
- 30 – Dec. 1** **Alaska Ocean Acidification Network "State of the Science" Workshop,** Anchorage, AK. **Darcy Dugan** • 907-644-6718 • [dugan@aos.org](mailto:dugan@aos.org) • <http://bit.ly/2dLDDyU>

### December

- 6 – 9** **Air Quality & Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages (Level 1 course),** Kotzebue, Alaska. This is an entry-level hosted by ITEP course for Native Alaskan environmental staff interested in air quality issues. CONTACT: **Lydia Scheer** • 928-523-6887 • [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu) • [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training\\_air](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air)

⇒ Continued **December 2016**

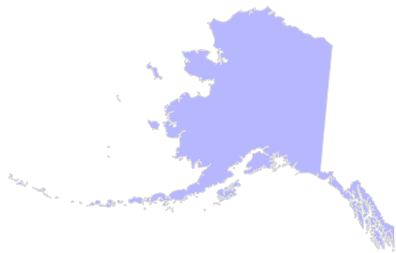
- 8 – 9**     **Developing a Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Alaska Workshop**, Anchorage, AK • **Ginny Eckert** • 907-796-5450 • [gleckert@alaska.edu](mailto:gleckert@alaska.edu) • <http://bit.ly/2eX96JF>
- 12 – 16**   **Water Quality Standards Academy**, Washington D.C. For more information, go to <http://www.epa.gov/wqs-tech/water-quality-standards-academy>
- 13**        **EPA Clean Water Act section 303(d) Final Rule Enabling Tribes to Obtain Authority to Identify Impaired Waters and Establish TMDLs**. Webinar at **10 a.m.** Pacific Time. <http://bit.ly/2eShqwa>
- 13 – 16**   **Air Quality Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska (Level 2 course)** Anchorage, Alaska. This course is designed for environmental professionals who are responsible for managing air quality projects in Alaska Native Villages. **Pat Ellsworth** • 928-523-6721 • [Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu) • [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training\\_air](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air)
- 15**        **EPA Clean Water Act ANPRM to Establish Federal Baseline Water Quality Standards for Indian Reservations**. Webinar at **12:00 p.m.** Pacific Time. <http://bit.ly/2fcfZfb>

## **January 2017**

- 23 – 29**   **Alaska Marine Science Symposium**. Anchorage, AK. To register, go to <https://amss.nprb.org/register>

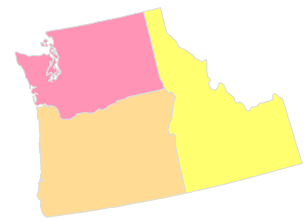
**For more information** on EPA tribal trainings, webinars, grants and opportunities for tribal consultation, visit <http://www2.epa.gov/tribal>





# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

Vol. 25 No.10 – November 2016



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

## REGION 10 TRIBAL PROGRAM

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, RAD-202  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

### 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 as separate files in jpeg or other graphic format. Please submit articles and pictures to:

#### Don Creek

EPA, 805 SW Broadway, Suite 500  
Portland, Oregon 97205

☎ 503-326-5015

✉ email [creek.don@epa.gov](mailto:creek.don@epa.gov)

### Helpful Links

#### R10 Tribal Programs:

<http://go.usa.gov/xkdMv>

#### EPA on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EPARegion10>

#### Follow us @EPAnorthwest on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest>



To report environmental violation tips and complaints to the EPA: [www.epa.gov/tips](http://www.epa.gov/tips).

## EPA Region 10

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Don Creek, SEE ..... 503-326-5015

#### NORTHWEST WASHINGTON

Westley Foster, Tribal Coordinator ..... 206-553-1604

Alan Moomaw, Tribal Coordinator ..... 360-753-8071

### REPORT SPILLS AND ACCIDENTS

NOTE THESE EMERGENCY NUMBERS TO CALL IN THE EVENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILLS OR ACCIDENTS.

ALASKA ..... 800-478-9300

IDAHO ..... 800-632-8000

OREGON ..... 800-452-0311

WASHINGTON ..... 800-258-5990

NATIONAL (EPA) ..... 800-424-8802