



Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter

■ **Two New Special Opportunities at the 2017 TLEF**

We are excited to announce that a **new training** and a **new field trip** have been added to Tuesday morning of this year's TLEF in Tulsa.

Professor James Grijalva, Director Northern Plains Indian Law Center's Tribal Environmental Law Project, University of North Dakota School of Law, will be joining us again this year. He will be giving a four hour training on Tuesday morning titled **Strengthening Tribal Self-Determination and Self-Governance by Administering Environmental Protection Programs: The Continuing Relevance of EPA's 1984 Indian Policy & 1992 GAP Statute.**

Our new field trip will also be taking place Tuesday morning. You will have the opportunity to tour the **Lower Bird Creek Wastewater plant** in northeast Tulsa. This special field trip is being conducted as part of the Water & Wastewater Utility Operations training that begins on Monday. This plant won a Platinum Peake Performance Award in 2015, and attendees will be able to see their operations and equipment, as well as talk with staff.

Spaces are filling up for all the field trips and trainings on offer this year. If you are interesting in signing up for any of them please email Julie Jurkowski at julie.jurkowski@nau.edu. Please remember that you must sign up in advance for all trainings and field trips, and they are first come, first served.

To see a detailed list of all the field trips and trainings, as well as descriptions of each one, please visit our website at http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef and click on the 'field trips/trainings' tab.

■ **We're Accepting Applications for Our Tribal Solid Waste Plan Training in Kansas**

This September we are conducting a special training on creating a Tribal Solid Waste Management Plan, that is specific to your community. We are working with our colleague at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation on this course. In addition to lectures, discussion, and small group work, we'll tour the Prairie Band's solid waste facilities and operations.

This course will be taking place **September 19-21, 2017** in Lawrence, Kansas. You can access the application for this course at http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste.

■ **Share Your Story at the Multi Media Meetup at the TLEF**

We've been getting an increasing number of requests for tables at this year's Multi Media

Meet Our Staff:

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■ **Full Circle Network**
Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Send an email to Todd Barnell to subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter. Archived issues can be found at: www4.nau.edu/itep/waste

Meetup at the TLEF, which is very exciting. But the best part is how many Tribes are signing up so they can share their stories through posters, informational handouts, and demonstrations. We've already had the Oneida Nation, Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, Pueblo of San Felipe, Chickaloon Native Village, and Pueblo of Santo Domingo sign up. In addition to these tribes there will be tables by the Tribal Alliance for Pollinators and the National Tribal Toxics Council. So if you have a story to share be sure to visit our website and click on the Multi Media Meetup tab where you can reserve your table via our online form. **The deadline to reserve your table is July 31!**

■ Upcoming Opportunities for Consultation and Comment

There are numerous opportunities that have been coming up lately for Tribes to provide comments to various federal agencies, as well as participate in consultation. Following is a list of some that may be of interest:

Public Comment Opportunity: EPA and Department of Army Propose First of Two Rulemakings to Define Scope of "Waters of the U.S." that Are Protected under the Clean Water Act

EPA and the Department of Army are proposing a rule that is the first of two rulemakings to define the scope of "waters of the United States" that are protected under the Clean Water Act. This proposed step 1 rule would rescind the Clean Water Rule and re-codify the regulatory text that existed prior to 2015 defining "waters of the United States" or WOTUS. For additional information and **to view a pre-publication Federal Register notice**, please visit EPA's Waters of the United States Rulemaking website at: <https://www.epa.gov/wotus-rule>.

Tribal Consultation Opportunity: New Authority under EPA's Clean Water Indian Set Aside Program

Recognizing that EPA has a technical assistance funding source specifically for tribal drinking water systems, but there is not a technical assistance funding source for tribal wastewater systems, on May 5, 2017 the FY17 Appropriations Act included a new authority that allows the Administrator to use up to \$2 million of Clean Water Indian Set Aside funds (which was funded at \$30 million) for training, technical assistance, and education related to the operation and maintenance of tribal wastewater utilities. EPA is currently evaluating the ways to distribute the funds. EPA anticipates that the tribal consultation and coordination period will extend until **July 28, 2017**. EPA has scheduled two national information and consultation calls with tribes, as noted below. The calls are scheduled as follows:

- July 19, 2017 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM eastern time. Conference call number: 1-866-299-3188; Access code: 2025642947#.
- July 20, 2017 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM eastern time. Conference call number: 1-866-299-3188; Access code: 2025642947#.

For additional information please visit EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) website at: www.tcots.epa.gov.

EPA Tribal Consultation: EPA's Guidance on Preparing for Waste and Debris Management for Major Disasters

EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management/ (OLEM) will consult with tribes from June 29, 2017 -July 28,2017 on three draft documents for Preparing for Waste and Debris Management for Major Disasters: 1) *Planning for Natural Disaster Debris* guidance (PNDD), 2) *Pre-incident All-hazards Waste Management Plan Guidelines: Four-step Waste Management Planning Process* (4-steps document), and 3) *All-hazards Waste Management Decision Diagram* (diagram). These documents, as well as the tribal consultation notification letter, are available to

review on EPA's Tribal Consultation website: <https://tcots.epa.gov>.

■ **Webinar on Waste Stream Characterizations: July 26**

Join Coyote Valley's Environmental Director Emily Luscombe, and Ak-Chin's Environmental Program Manager Lorinda Antone as they discuss their tribes' efforts in conducting a waste characterization for their communities. The webinar will showcase the steps taken to conduct a waste characterization, the barriers they faced, and how their successes influenced their work since. The webinar will take place **at 11:00 am Pacific on July 26**. To register please visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3511583236724134657>



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➔ **[Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program \(TWRAP\)](#)**

TWRAP is a program focused on assisting tribes with all waste management, brownfields, USTs, contaminated sites, and response programs. This program is funded by the USEPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

➔ **[Tribal Solid Waste Education and Assistance Program \(TSWEAP\)](#)**

TSWEAP's focus is providing training and assistance to tribes working on solid and hazardous waste management.