



NTWC Welcomes New Members: Brian Patterson (R2) and Jaclyn McCasland (R6)



Brian Patterson, Region 2
Representative

Brian Patterson is a Bear Clan Representative to the Oneida Indian Nation's Council, the tribe's governing body, responsible for directing policy for the Oneida Indian Nation. Dedicated to the cultural and historical revitalization of the Oneida people, Patterson has worked diligently over the past thirty years to ensure that his tribe provides means for the well-being of the seventh generation to come.

Under the leadership of the Nation Council, the Oneidas have created numerous new economic and social opportunities for its people, including comprehensive health and community programs. Among those programs are housing initiatives; recreational programs, and educational incentives, including an Oneida language program that will ensure the Oneida language will thrive for generations. These achievements have been made possible by the revenue earned from the Oneida Indian Nation's enterprises.

Patterson served five terms as President of United South and Eastern Tribes (USET), a national Indian organization that represents 26 tribes east of the Mississippi River. He has served as a Co-Chair, as well as Chairman, of USET's Culture and Heritage Committee since its inception. The committee is involved with influencing and advocating federal laws and policies regarding proper repatriation of remains and artifacts, the protection of sacred sites and the promotion and protection of American Indian cultural identity.

At the Oneida Indian Nation, Patterson has been active in efforts to revitalize Oneida culture and heritage to counter the effects of 200 years of poverty and displacement. In 2005, he was named Cultural Affairs Director of Indian Country Outreach. He served as the tribe's liaison to several local and national organizations, including the National Park Service, and has been dedicated to educating the community about the role the Oneidas played in the Revolutionary War and the founding of this country. Patterson maintained a relationship with and actively participated in events at National Historical Park sites, including Valley Forge, Saratoga Battlefield and Fort Stanwix National Monument – all locations where the Oneida Indian Nation played key roles in the Revolutionary War. Patterson also regularly leads a delegation of Oneidas in the annual Commemoration of the Battle of Oriskany, one



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▶ NTWC New Members for Region 2 and 6 (*continued*)

of the bloodiest battles of the Revolutionary War and one that was vital to the American victory.

Patterson has played an integral role in efforts to repatriate ancient Oneida artifacts, including wampum. The Oneida Indian Nation has been acquiring notable pieces of Oneida and other Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) artwork for the past several years. Part of that collection includes over 700 pieces of beadwork, believed to be one of the largest assemblages of Haudenosaunee beadwork in existence.

He also was the tribal liaison for issues related to the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. He has been active in government-to-government consultations on a variety of issues with local and state governments and federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Fort Drum Army Base.

Patterson is an authority on contemporary American Indian cultural issues and has spoken on the topic at several conferences, including the annual American Indian Law Symposium sponsored by the St. Thomas School of Law. He has completed several continuing education and certification programs, most notably the “Leadership for the 21st Century” and “Senior Executives in State and Local Government” programs at Harvard University.

Patterson served on several committees and commissions, including the Community Policing Committee, which he chaired. He was the Chairman of the Oneida Indian Nation Athletic Commission, which oversees professional boxing matches on Oneida Nation tribal lands. He has also served on Board of Trustees for the National Museum of the American Indian.

With the help of his hard work and dedication, Patterson has seen the “rebirth” of his tribe, assisting his people with overcoming 200 years of poverty and hardship. The Oneida Indian Nation is once again a thriving economic leader able to provide for its people, as well as the surrounding community, and remains dedicated to holding fast the silver covenant chain of friendship with the United States.



Jaclyn McCasland, Region 6 Representative

Jaclyn McCasland is the Environmental Director for the Delaware Nation Environmental Programs (DNEP). She oversees grant work such as GAP, CWA 106, and CAA 103. DNEP monitors surface water in their tribal jurisdiction in southwest Oklahoma that includes six counties. Jaclyn manages the emergency management aspect for Delaware Nation as well as the Lenape Gardens and Farmers Market. She began her time as Environmental Director in 2019 and since then, DNEP has recently acquired the honor of serving as Region 6 representative for the National Tribal Water Council, as Region 6 representative for the National EPA-Tribal Science Council, and as the secretary for the Tribal Environmental Coalition of Oklahoma.

Though she is fairly new to the tribal environmental realm, she hopes to use her passion, education, and cultural background to support Delaware Nation’s environmental mission. She has a Bachelor’s of Chemistry and a Bachelor’s of

Biology with a minor in Mathematics. She was awarded the 2018 Gladys Anderson Emerson Undergraduate Research Award for her undergrad research endorsement: “Evaluation of Surface Water Resource Management Tools” and was recently published with her mentor and research partners in the Journal of Laboratory Chemical Education for their work at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, [*Dual Role of 2,4-Dinitrophenyl Acetic Acid as Analyte and Indicator in Conventional Acid-Base Titration*](#). With USAO’s great generosity, she hopes to continue to conduct research in the organic chemistry area for practical uses in the environmental sciences.



NTWC New Members for Region 2 and 6 (*continued*)

She is from Anadarko, Oklahoma and loves being involved in her community through her work at the Delaware Nation and volunteering for community events as an Executive Board member of the Anadarko Chamber of Commerce. She enjoys taking part in events with her tribe and looks forward to her daughter's time as Delaware Nation Princess 2022-2023. Much of their family time is spent outdoors and going to her son's basketball, baseball, and soccer games. She loves hiking, kayaking, and camping. She enjoys watching her kids grow and become individuals. She looks forward to serving this Council and learning the needs of the Region 6 Tribes and Pueblos.



Updates and Announcements

EPA's Webinar on Tribal Nonpoint Source Management: Leveraging Opportunities to Protect and Restore Waters; June 8, 2022 (12:00-1:30 PM EDT)

This webinar explores how your Tribe/Nation can take advantage of leveraging opportunities between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Clean Water Act Section 319 Program and resources available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and local conservation districts. It will feature EPA's new fact sheet, *Tribal Nonpoint Source Management: Leveraging Opportunities to Protect and Restore Waters – Focus: USDA NRCS*.

Key Topics

- Make connections with NRCS and conservation district staff
- Plan projects and coordinate conservation services
- Seek financial assistance and leverage resources
- Implement and maintain projects successfully
- Make your voice heard—advise NRCS on Tribal/Nation issues

To register, please visit: [Webinar \(microsoft.com\)](https://www.microsoft.com/webinar)

Water Resources Research Center 2022 Annual Conference on Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability July 12-14, 2022

Registration for the WRRRC 2022 Annual Conference is now open. The conference, [Arizona's Agricultural Outlook: Water, Climate, and Sustainability](#), will take place July 12-14. Day One will be held in person at the University of Arizona Student Union Grand Ballroom on Tuesday, July 12 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Arizona time. Two mornings of virtual programming, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, will follow the in-person event. The [agenda](#) reflects the diversity of Arizona agriculture, including large-scale irrigated operations, specialty agriculture, ranching, dairy farming, Tribal farms, and traditional practices.

The program will highlight innovations, sustainable practices, the impacts of drought and climate change, and the conditions that shape agricultural activities. The standard registration for the in-person day is \$60, and we are pleased to offer \$25 registration for students. For those who are unable to attend in person on July 12, we are offering non-interactive livestreaming at no charge. We are also offering free registration for the two partial days of virtual programming (July 13-14), which will be interactive.



NTWC Membership Recruitment for Region 8 and At-Large Representative

The National Tribal Water Council is a technical and scientific body established to advocate for the best interests of federally-recognized Indian and Alaska Native Tribes in matters pertaining to water. The Council is currently accepting applications from tribal water professionals.

Member duties include, but not limited, to:

- Participating in monthly conference calls;
- Attending bi-annual meetings;
- Participating in crafting response documents to policy and/or rule making actions.

Region 8 Representative

Deadline: May 31, 2022

This position is open to tribal water professionals employed by a federally recognized Tribe or tribally authorized organization from Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming).

At-Large Representative

Deadline: July 15, 2022

Open to tribal water professionals employed by a federally recognized Tribe or tribally-authorized organization in the United States (Regions 1 through 10).

We are seeking an individual that is passionate and vocal about tribal water issues. Interested candidates must submit the following: application form, letter of interest, and professional resumé. The Council's membership application information packet may be accessed at [NTWC Home - National Tribal Water Council \(nau.edu\)](https://www.nau.edu/NTWC).

To express your interest or obtain more information, please contact Elaine Wilson at elaine.wilson@nau.edu or (480) 452-6774.





Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Opportunities

All consultation materials may be found at: <https://tcots.epa.gov>

Implementation of EPA ORD Research - Safe & Sustainable Water Resources (SSWR) National Research Program

Deadline: May 31, 2022

EPA's Office of Research and Development is conducting a consultation and coordination process with federally recognized tribes on its Safe and Sustainable Water Resources (SSWR) National Research Program, one of ORD's six National Research Programs.

ORD provides the data, tools, and information that form the scientific foundation for EPA's work to protect the environment and safeguard public health. The Scoping Document is provided as background to give an overview of the draft planned research areas that will comprise the SSWR Strategic Research Action Plan (StRAP) for fiscal years 2023-2026. This provides our current view of what will be in the forthcoming SSWR StRAP and may be updated based on input through this consultation and additional input from EPA partner offices and regions. The StRAP serves as a planning guide for ORD's Research Centers as they design research products that address the needs of EPA program and regional offices, states, tribes, and external stakeholders.

The deadline to submit comments is May 31, 2022. For more information, please visit: <https://tcots.epa.gov/ords/tcotspub/f?p=106:5::1446>

EPA's Draft National Recommended Aquatic Life Criteria for PFOA and PFAS

Deadline: June 2, 2022

As part of EPA's commitment to safeguard the environment from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), the agency has published draft national recommended aquatic life criteria for Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) in surface waters for a 30-day public comment period. These draft recommended criteria, identified as a priority action in the EPA PFAS Strategic Roadmap, reflect the latest scientific knowledge regarding the effects of PFOA and PFOS on freshwater organisms. When these draft Clean Water Act recommended criteria are finalized, they will provide information that states and tribes may consider when adopting water quality standards.

Important documents:

- [PFOA draft criteria document and supporting information](#)
- [PFOS draft criteria document and supporting information](#)

The draft criteria documents provide a review of PFOA and PFOS aquatic toxicity data, quantify the toxicity of PFOA and PFOS to aquatic life, and provide recommended criteria to protect aquatic life from the acute and chronic toxic effects of PFOA and PFOS (individually, not in mixture). These draft criteria were derived using the best available data on the toxicity of PFOA and PFOS on aquatic life and were developed following the general approach outlined in the EPA's "Guidelines for Deriving Numerical Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Organisms and Their Uses" (U.S. EPA 1985).

The deadline to submit comments is June 2, 2022. Please submit comments through [Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0365](#) online using <https://www.regulations.gov>. For further information please contact Kathryn Gallagher at gallagher.kathryn@epa.gov



Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Opportunities (*continued*)

All consultation materials may be found at: <https://tcots.epa.gov>

EPA's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule Revision

Deadline: June 14, 2022

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Indian tribes to obtain input on the agency's forthcoming proposed Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule Revision. CCRs, also known as annual drinking water quality reports, provide consumers of community water systems information about their local drinking water quality. EPA is developing a proposal to revise CCR regulations to:

- Improve readability and accuracy of CCRs;
- Require biannual delivery of CCRs for large systems; and
- Allow electronic delivery of CCRs to consumers.

Community water systems are required by the 1996 SDWA amendment "Right to Know" rules to provide consumers with a summary of their water quality related information through a CCR. CCRs help to raise consumer awareness of where their water comes from, inform consumers of the process by which their water is delivered, and educate consumers on the importance of water safety measures (e.g., source water protection). Ideally, CCRs should start a dialogue between consumers and their community water system and increase consumer participation in decisions impacting their drinking water. CCRs allow consumers, to make more informed decisions regarding their drinking water. EPA is requesting your input on considerations to inform the development of the forthcoming proposed revisions to the CCR rule and requirements. The deadline to submit comments is June 14, 2022. For more information, please visit: <https://tcots.epa.gov/ords/tcotspub/f?p=106:5::1374>.

EPA's Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans

Deadline: June 30, 2022

EPA has initiated consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes to receive input on draft Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans (CAIPs) developed by EPA National Program and Regional offices. When final, the CAIPs will be used to inform EPA's progress toward addressing Agency-wide climate vulnerabilities, strengthening adaptation efforts, and increasing resiliency to the impacts of climate change.

Important documents:

- [EPA National Program and Regional Offices Draft Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans](#)
- [Office of Water Draft CAIP Overview Document](#)

Feedback is being sought on the nine National Program and ten Region draft CAIPs. In addition to this national process to streamline engagement on the large number of EPA CAIPs, tribes may request government-to-government consultation with any National Program/Region. Some Regions are providing additional consultation opportunities; these opportunities are noted in the consultation plan.

EPA will host a national webinar for tribes to receive information, ask questions, and provide comments, if desired, on this action.

- June 1, 2022 (3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ET) [TEAMS webinar link](#) Conference Number: 202-991-0477, Code: 713 329 582#

The deadline to submit comments is June 30, 2022. Tribes may submit written comments by email to Lisa Berrios (EPA, OITA/AIEO) at berrios.lisa@epa.gov Consultation materials may be accessed at: <https://tcots.epa.gov/ords/tcotspub/f?p=106:5::1535>



Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Opportunities (*continued*)

All consultation materials may be found at: <https://tcots.epa.gov>

Proposed Changes to the National Allocation of GAP

Deadline: August 2, 2022

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Tribes to receive input on proposed changes to the national allocation of Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) funds to tribal and intertribal consortia recipients. The proposed changes to the funding allocation formula, if adopted, will take effect for all GAP awards made with FY 2023 funds.

EPA has scheduled upcoming webinars and facilitated discussions. Here is the schedule of upcoming events:

- Informational Webinar for Intertribal Consortia: June 16, 2022 (2:00-3:30 EDT)
To access meeting: [Join conversation \(microsoft.com\)](#)
- Facilitated Discussion with Tribes: July 13, 2022 (3:00-4:30 EDT)
To access meeting: [Join conversation \(microsoft.com\)](#)

The deadline to submit comments is August 2, 2022. For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/indian-environmental-general-assistance-program-gap#consultation-gap-guidance>

Draft 2022 GAP Guidance

Deadline: August 2, 2022

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes to receive input on the draft 2022 Guidance on the Award and Management of Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Assistance Agreements for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia (2022 GAP Guidance). When final, the 2022 GAP Guidance will replace the 2013 Guidance and will be effective for negotiating and awarding GAP financial assistance agreements.

EPA has scheduled upcoming webinars and facilitated discussions. Here is the schedule of upcoming events:

- Facilitated Discussion with Tribes on the Performance Management, ETEPs, and Indicators: May 26, 2022 (2:00-3:30 EDT) To access meeting: [Join conversation \(microsoft.com\)](#)
- Facilitated Discussion with Tribes on Gap Flexibilities: June 15, 2022 (3:30-5:00 EDT) To access meeting: [Join conversation \(microsoft.com\)](#)

The deadline to submit comments is August 2, 2022. For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/indian-environmental-general-assistance-program-gap#consultation-gap-guidance>

Potential EPA Actions to Increase Tribal Capacity to Maintain and Expand Nonpoint Source Management

Deadline: September 30, 2022

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Indian tribes to inform potential EPA actions the Clean Water Act section (§) 319 national Nonpoint Source (NPS) program could take to better support §319-eligible tribes in their efforts to manage NPS pollution.

Section 319 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes EPA to provide financial assistance to states, territories, and eligible tribes and intertribal consortia to implement EPA-approved nonpoint source (NPS) management programs to prevent or reduce the water quality impacts of NPS pollution. Tribes have communicated to EPA the challenges they face in their efforts to manage NPS pollution.

The deadline to submit comments is September 30, 2022. For comment submission form:

<https://www.epa.gov/nps/forms/tribal-nonpoint-source-program-consultation>. For more information, please visit: <https://tcots.epa.gov/ords/tcotspub/f?p=106:5::1457:::>



Events and Webinars

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. – National Tribal Water & Wastewater Operator Training & Certification Program

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. National Tribal Water and Wastewater Operator Training and Certification Program is providing live online training. Each course consists of sequential lessons that are provided in a series of live online classes that are 3-hours in length.

Upcoming courses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Wastewater Regulations: June 14 - June 22
- Wastewater Treatment Level 2 (Region 9 Priority): June 22 – July 29
- Wastewater Treatment Level 2: July 6 - August 12

To register, or to view the 2022 training schedule, please visit: <https://itcaonline.com/programs/environmental-quality-programs/tws-tmap/tws-training-events/>

EPA Technical Assistance Webinar Series – Improving CWA-NPDES Permit Compliance

To register: <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/technical-assistance-webinar-series-improving-cwa-npdes-permit-compliance>

- May 25, 2022: NPDES Permits for Small POTWs - What to Expect and How to Prepare.

EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series

To register: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/small-drinking-water-systems-webinar-series>

- May 24, 2022: Lead Service Lines
- June 28, 2022: Water Security

EPA Water Research Webinar Series

To register, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/water-research-webinar-series>

- August 31, 2022: Integrated Approaches in Community Nonpoint Source Nutrient Management.

Tribal Lands and Environment Forum August 8-11, 2022

Registration is now open for the upcoming Tribal Lands and Environment Forum. For those wanting to attend in-person, registration is \$125. For those preferring to attend virtually the cost is \$25. You can also apply for a scholarship if you are attending in-person, to help cover some of your travel costs if necessary. All the details are on our website at: <http://www.nau.edu/tlef2022>

National Association of Wetland Managers: Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting August 15-19, 2022

The National Association of Wetland Managers' (formerly ASWM) Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting will be held at the National Conservation Training Center (Shepherdstown, WV) from August 15-19, 2022. The purpose of this annual meeting is to support state and tribal wetland program managers, and other wetland professionals as they respond to challenges in the coming year. If circumstances require it, the meeting may be changed to a fully virtual format.

The registration fee is \$396 (for members and early rate) and the deadline to register is August 5, 2022. For information on travel scholarships and registration, please visit: <https://www.aswm.org/2022-annual-state-tribal-federal-coordination-meeting>

Grant Opportunities

BIA's Tribal Climate Resilience and Ocean and Coastal Management Planning for Federally Recognized Tribes and Authorized Tribal Organizations

Deadline: July 6, 2022

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience (TCR or Branch) solicits proposals from Federally recognized Tribes and authorized Tribal organizations to receive awards to support 1) Tribal climate resilience planning and strategy implementation and 2) ocean and coastal management planning. The Branch's Annual Awards Program will provide funding for projects that support Tribal climate resilience as Tribes incorporate science, including Indigenous and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK), Indigenous languages, and technical information.

The deadline to submit a proposal is July 6, 2022. An informational webinar may be found at: [Webinars 2022 - Tribes & Climate Change \(nau.edu\)](https://www.nau.edu/webinars/2022-tribes-climate-change) More information on the solicitation may be accessed at: [Fiscal Year 2022 Bureau of Indian Affairs Branch of Tribal Climate Resilience Solicitation \(bia.gov\)](https://www.bia.gov/fiscal-year-2022-bureau-of-indian-affairs-branch-of-tribal-climate-resilience-solicitation)

NTWC Members: For more information, visit [Meet the Council](#)

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