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### Pyramid Lake

- Pyramid Lake is located 35 miles north of Reno, Nevada
- It is a high desert lake with an elevation of 3,800 feet

<https://pyramidlakefisheries.org/>

## Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Fisheries

Daniel Mosley

Executive Director, Pyramid Lake Fisheries | NTWC Member

Pyramid Lake is located within the Pyramid Lake Paiute Indian Reservation in northwest Nevada. Pyramid Lake is home to two endemic fish, the endangered Cui-ui (*Chasmistes Cujus*) and threatened Lahontan Cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*), and other native aquatic species important to this waterbody. Cui-ui was one of the first fish placed on the federal endangered species list in 1967 and remains endangered due to a number of reasons, including decreasing water quantity and water quality. Indigenous only to Pyramid Lake, Cui-ui are the namesake of the Pyramid Lake Paiute people known as the Cui-ui eaters (Kuyuidokado). The Kuyuidokado have been dependent upon Cui-ui and Lahontan Cutthroat trout for thousands of years, utilizing these fish populations as the foundation of their diet, economy, and culture.

### Mission

The mission of Pyramid Lake Fisheries is to operate and maintain fishery facilities at Pyramid Lake and the lower Truckee River for the purpose of enhancing Cui-ui and Lahontan Cutthroat Trout populations, while creating a balance within natural resources management actions, which reflects the social, cultural, economic, and natural resource values of the Pyramid Lake Paiute people.

The goal of Pyramid Lake Fisheries is to maintain both a recreational and trophy fishery for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, while working



#### CONTACT INFO:

Elaine H. Wilson  
NTWC Project Manager  
(480) 340-2306  
[Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu](mailto:Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu)

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Photos: Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (left), Satellite image of Pyramid Lake (middle), and Pyramid Lake (right)

collaboratively with partners to protect, conserve, and restore aquatic resources, fish habitats, and water quality within the Pyramid Lake - Truckee River watershed. This can be achieved if a balance can be found to maintain the Tribe's goals, while meeting the demand of upstream users of the Truckee River. This provides a unique opportunity to add a significant education feature to the general public.

### Fishery Departments

Pyramid Lake Fisheries is comprised of Administration, Maintenance, Hatchery, and Resource department staff. The Executive Director manages the overall operations of Pyramid Lake Fisheries and meets monthly with the Board of Directors to give a report on finance and significant activities. The finance, maintenance, and production managers give monthly reports as well.

The production manager oversees hatchery supervisors, staff and coordinates egg take (spawning events), fish rearing, feeding, and overall hatchery operations for both the Cui-ui and Lahontan Cutthroat trout. The Fisheries Biologist oversees gillnetting, creel surveys, fish health, tag monitoring program, aquatic invasive species monitoring, water quality monitoring of hatcheries, and conducts analysis of water samples in the laboratory.

### Programs

**Water Quality (WQ) Monitoring** - Water samples from Pyramid Lake are collected monthly at discrete depths from the surface to 5 meters off the bottom. Phyto/zooplankton samples are collected as well. A SeaCAT WQ monitoring instrument is used to obtain lake profile data on temperature, specific conductivity, salinity, TDS, and dissolved oxygen. Water samples are analyzed in the Fisheries WQ laboratory using commonly known techniques found in the *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*. Pyramid Lake has EPA approved Water Quality Standards.

**School Tours** - Pyramid Lake Fisheries conducts tours for local schools, to educate youth about the historical and cultural importance of Pyramid Lake fish to Paiute people. They can observe fish in the spawning channel and participate in the taking of eggs from spawning fish (April/May). Tours of the hatcheries are conducted by staff throughout the year.

**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** - Pyramid Lake Fisheries conducts summer sampling for AIS such as quagga mussels, with no positive hits to date, and assists the Tribe with the AIS watercraft inspections as needed.

# Updates and Announcements

## **NEW! Steam Electric Reconsideration Final Rule**

The EPA has finalized the Steam Electric Reconsideration Rule, which revises specific effluent guidelines and standards for “steam electric” power plants. The final rule revises requirements for two waste streams from steam electric power plants: flue gas desulfurization wastewater and bottom ash transport water.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/eg/2020-steam-electric-reconsideration-rule>

## **Navigable Waters Protection Rule Implementation Memos**

The EPA and the Army have developed several implementation memos to ensure consistent and effective implementation of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule. The memos may be found on EPA’s website at : <https://www.epa.gov/nwpr/training-and-implementation-materials#ImplementationMemos>.

# Tribal Consultation and Public Comment Opportunities

## **Tribal Consultation Opportunity: 2022 NPDES Construction General Permit**

**Ends: October 27, 2020**

On August 13, 2020, the EPA released its proposed renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit issued pursuant to the Clean Water Act. This permit is renewed every five years. The permit authorizes stormwater discharges from construction activities. For more information on the construction general permit, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes>

The consultation period will end on October 27, 2020. Information on this consultation opportunity can be found at <https://tcots.epa.gov/>.

## **Tribal Consultation Opportunity: FY 22-25 FIFRA Cooperative Agreement Guidance**

**Ends: November 2, 2020**

EPA’s Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance are updating the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Cooperative Agreement Guidance for application to federal fiscal years 2022-2025. The EPA uses the guidance to establish and identify pesticide program and enforcement program areas that must be addressed in tribal, state, and territory FIFRA funded cooperative agreements.

The consultation period will end on November 2, 2020. The EPA is hosting two online consultation sessions. The conference line is 866-299-3188 and conference code is 202-566-0603.

- September 30, 2020 (1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST)
- October 7, 2020 (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST)

Information on this consultation opportunity can be found at <https://tcots.epa.gov/>.

## Public Comment Opportunity: Army Corp of Engineers' Proposal to Reissue and Modify Nationwide Permits

**Ends: November 16, 2020**

On September 15, 2020, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) announced its proposal to renew and revise 52 nationwide permits for work in wetlands and other waters that are regulated by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. The ACOE is requesting comments on all aspects of the proposed nationwide permits.

The comment period ends on November 16, 2020. For more information and to submit comments, please visit: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/09/15/2020-17116/proposal-to-reissue-and-modify-nationwide-permits>.

## Funding Opportunities

### EPA's Funding for Water Infrastructure Projects

**Deadline: October 15, 2020**

On July 14, 2020, the EPA announced the availability of funding for \$5 billion under its Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. The program accelerates investment in critical water infrastructure through innovative and flexible financing for diverse projects.

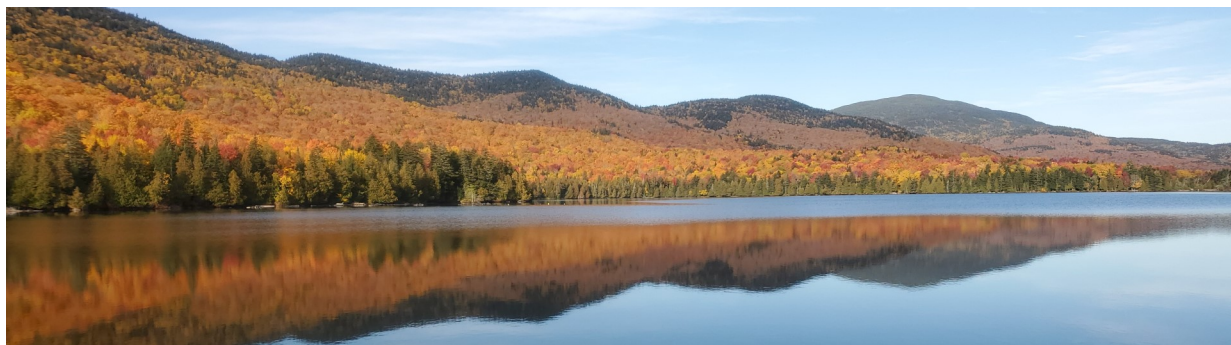
Interested parties should submit a letter of interest by October 15, 2020. For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>.

### NOAA's Species Recovery Grant for Tribes

**Deadline: October 29, 2020**

Species Recovery Grants to Tribes support tribally-led management, research, monitoring, and outreach activities that have direct conservation benefits for listed species under the Endangered Species Act. Recently delisted species, proposed, and candidate species are also eligible.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/species-recovery-grants-tribes>



*Photo: Penobscot Nation*



## Upcoming Events

### National Tribal Leadership Climate Change Virtual Summit

**Registration Deadline: October 10, 2020**

The Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians (ATNI), National Congress of American Indians (ATNI), United South and Eastern Tribes (USET), and Pacific Northwest Tribes will host the National Tribal Leadership Climate Change Summit from October 2020 to May 2021. Regional and national Tribal leaders and citizens will gather virtually to build on the knowledge and experiences related to climate change impacts on traditional knowledge, develop approaches that promote Tribal adaptation, mitigation and resilience, and influence climate policy.

Here is the schedule of upcoming sessions:

- October 13, 2020: Tribal Climate Change Policy (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PST)
- Nov. 2020: Promoting Tribal Climate Resiliency
- Feb. 2021: Empowering Youth

For more information, please visit: <http://atnitribes.org/climatechange/ts/>

## Upcoming Webinars

### First Nations Native Lands Stewardship Webinar Series

- September 29, 2020 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM MST): GIS Mapping for Indigenous Communities – Part 2

To register, please visit: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4192312901569576460>

### EPA Water Resilience Training

- October 7, 2020 (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MST): Building Security and Resilience to Cyber Threats, Disinformation, and other Hazards in the Water and Wastewater Sector

To register, please visit: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3911834082279759374>

### EPA Small Systems Monthly Webinar Series

- September 29, 2020 ([12:00 PM - 1:30 PM MST](#)): Wildfires and Resulting Impacts to Water Bodies Used as Drinking Water Sources
- October 27, 2020: Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts

To register and access recorded webinars, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/small-systems-monthly-webinar-series>

### EPA Water Research Webinar Series

- September 30, 2020 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM MST): SARS CoV-2 in Wastewater Monitoring: Linking Research and Application to Meet Immediate Needs
- October 28, 2020: Health Effects Associated with Harmful Algal Blooms and Algal Toxins

For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/water-research-webinar-series>

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

**Ken Norton**

*Hoopa Valley Tribe  
Region 9 (NTWC Chair)*  
[kenpnorton@gmail.com](mailto:kenpnorton@gmail.com)

**Rene Rickard**

*Tuscarora Nation  
Region 2*  
[rickard@hetf.org](mailto:rickard@hetf.org)

**Nancy Schuldt**

*Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa, Region 5*  
[nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com](mailto:nancyschuldt@fdlrez.com)

**Colin Larrick**

*Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
Region 8*  
[clarrick@utemountain.org](mailto:clarrick@utemountain.org)

**Eric Morrison**

*Salamatof Tribe  
Region 10*  
[emorrison@salamatoftribe.org](mailto:emorrison@salamatoftribe.org)

**Michael Bolt**

*Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Region 4 (NTWC Vice Chair)*  
[michbolt@nc-chokeee.com](mailto:michbolt@nc-chokeee.com)

**Shaun Livermore**

*Poarch Band of Creek Indians  
Region 4*  
[slivermore@pci-nsn.gov](mailto:slivermore@pci-nsn.gov)

**Stephen Wolfe**

*Seneca-Cayuga Nation  
Region 6*  
[swolfe@sctribe.com](mailto:swolfe@sctribe.com)

**Lee Anna Martinez-Silversmith**

*Navajo Nation  
Region 9*  
[leeanna.martinez09@yahoo.com](mailto:leeanna.martinez09@yahoo.com)

**Ann Wyatt**

*Klawock Cooperative Association, Tribe  
Region 10 – Alaska*  
[annwyatt@klawocktribe.org](mailto:annwyatt@klawocktribe.org)

**Daniel Kusnierz**

*Penobscot Indian Nation  
Region 1*  
[dan.kusnierz@penobscotnation.org](mailto:dan.kusnierz@penobscotnation.org)

**Kathleen Brosemer**

*Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa  
Region 5*  
[kbrosemer@saulttribe.net](mailto:kbrosemer@saulttribe.net)

**Denise Jensen**

*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
Region 7*  
[denise.jensen@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:denise.jensen@winnebagotribe.com)

**Phillip Cernera**

*Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
Region 10*  
[philc@cdatribe-nsn.gov](mailto:philc@cdatribe-nsn.gov)

**Dan Mosley**

*Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
Region 9*  
[dmosley@plpt.nsn.us](mailto:dmosley@plpt.nsn.us)

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email: [itep@nau.edu](mailto:itep@nau.edu)