



Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

January 2020

Welcome to our monthly newsletter which provides news items, resources, announcements about funding opportunities, conferences, and training, and other information relevant to tribal climate change issues.



La Jolla Beach, CA Photo copyright N.Cooley

Meet the Climate Change Team

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Happy New Year! We hope everyone is doing great and having a good start to the new year! Here at ITEP we are rolling with our calendar and have it filled with opportunities for trainings, workshops, webinars and conferences including those offered by our tribal, federal and academic partners.

In addition, we are excited to introduce a new look to our monthly newsletter. We hope you like it as we try the new look out and we will definitely be making adjustments to ensure you have the best material to work off of. [Click here](#) to view our current and past newsletters.

Our upcoming calendar includes our partnership with the Quapaw Nation who we are working with on the *Northeast Tribal Resilience Workshop* scheduled for February 4-5 in Quapaw, OK. We will be facilitating the workshop with tribal managers from Ottawa County and focusing on the emergency planning. Our guest speakers include April Taylor from the [South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center](#), Philip Manes from the Cherokee Nation and FEMA and BIA representatives.

Other events include two workshops in collaboration with the [Blue Lake Rancheria](#) with a focus on inserting climate change into hazard mitigation plans and see our [training page](#) for details (registration TBA soon). introductory climate change adaptation planning workshop with the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the [North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center](#) (dates TBD).

We will be offering many webinars but we usually do not release dates until we have definite confirmation from our amazing partners. As a reminder, the last webinar we hosted on January 9 was on BIA's Tribal Resiliency Program (TRP) funding opportunity and the webinar recording and supporting material is now posted on our [2020 webinar archive page](#). Supporting materials include *Frequently Asked Questions*. Remember the deadline to submit your proposal is Monday, March 02, 2020.

Student Internship Opportunity: ITEP is offering an 8-week summer internship. Deadline: Friday, February 28. For more details & to register, please [click here](#).

Stay tuned to our newsletter, website and listserv for information on our first [National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference](#) scheduled for August 31 - September 4, 2020. We are still working on the location and will announce soon! For questions please email: NTICC@nau.edu.

Until next time, we wish you well. Contact us if there is anything you'd like to share in our newsletter!

Sincerely, The Climate Team

Advisory Committee Members:

Tribal Representatives:

Jerry Cain:
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

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College of Menominee Nation

Jamie Donatuto
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Tribal Resilience Liaisons:

Malinda Chase
Alaska Climate Adaptation Science Center & Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association

Maurcie Cruz
South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center

Chas Jones
Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Center & Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians

Sara Smith
Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center & College of Menominee Nation

Stefan Tangen
North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center & Great Plains Water Alliance

April Taylor
South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center & Chickasaw Nation

Casey Thornburgh
Northeast/Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center & United Southeastern Tribes

Althea Walker-Ortiz
Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center & American Indian Higher Education Consortium

In The News

[CSKT Looks At Past, Present And Future To Address Climate Change](#)

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Climate Change Strategic Plan coordinator, and the folks and groups proactively involved in the climate change effort as well as concerned community members came together at the KwaTaqNuk Resort to assess where they've been, where they are, and where they'll go with the effort to put the skids on the rampant change that the world is experiencing with its climate. © Char-Koosta News, 12/26/19.

[Pride Of The PNW: Tribe's Perspective On Saving The Salish Sea](#)

Climate change is threatening to take the Salish Sea away from the Coastal Salish People that need it most. Many of us tend to take advantage of the beautiful natural wonders of our world. The Salish Sea is one of those beauties that surrounds western Washington. It's home to creatures above and below, creates jobs and thrives as a cultural center among Native American communities. © King 5 News, 12/31/19.

[Renewables Embraced By American Indian Tribes](#)

At the peak of protests against the Dakota Access pipeline in 2016 and 2017, when speakers needed help to be heard by the hundreds of demonstrators who had gathered near the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, they grabbed a microphone powered by a mobile solar unit. © Finance & Commerce, 12/31/19.

[Amid Shut-Off Woes, A Beacon Of Energy](#)

The Blue Lake Rancheria tribe has insulated itself from California's blackouts by creating a microgrid utility on its 100-acre reservation. The microgrid includes a complex of solar panels, storage batteries and distribution lines that operates as part of the broader utility network or completely independent of it. © The Washington Post, 01/01/20.

[The Navajo, Circled By Coal. See Jobs Vanish As CO2 Fails](#)

For almost a half-century,

the giant coal plant here was the economic heartbeat of the Navajo Nation. Today, it looms silently over the desert with three smokestacks towering 775 feet in the air. Its 500-person workforce scattered in November after its great boilers were extinguished for the last time. ©

Climate Wire, 01/02/20.

[Who is manoomin?](#)

Wild rice, called manoomin in Ojibwe, meaning good berry, is a culturally-significant plant and food to the Ojibwe, but commission scientists say it is one of many species already beginning to struggle as a result of climate change. While tribal members and biologists may feel helpless in some areas, traditional ecological knowledge might be able to inform future decisions on manoomin maintenance in the wake of climate change and the many problems it brings. © Indian Country Today, 01/06/20.

[How Tribal Wisdom Can Help Climate Science](#)

Native peoples have been studying the climate for generations, and much of that knowledge is highly valuable. When Shanondora Billiot, a member of the United Houma Nation, decided to study the impacts of climate change on her own tribe, she knew that any mistakes would get back to her family. © The Hill, 01/06/20.

[Inhabitants: An Indigenous Perspective](#)

Kickstarter Campaign but it's an interesting effort they should be known. A collaborative documentary about tribal land management practices and their resilience in a changing climate. This is a feature-length documentary that follows five North American tribes restoring their ancient relationships with the land while adapting to today's climate crisis. This film is a collaborative project between the tribes, a Tribal Advisory Board, The Kalliopeia Foundation, The Namaste Foundation, The Social Good Fund, and Inhabit Films Productions. Includes a team familiar to most of us, Michael Kotutwa Johnson (Hopi), Kalani Souze (Native Hawai'i) and Chris Caldwell (Menominee Tribe).

[Researching Fire with the Navajo Nation \(video\)](#)

Connecting with the land and nature plays a large role in many Indigenous cultures. Northern Arizona University's School of Forestry is partnering with Diné College and Navajo Forestry in researching the effects of fire on the Navajo Nation. Through working together, these organizations hope to educate students from all different backgrounds by combining western science and traditional knowledge to learn how fires have shaped the land to be what it is today and how proper resource management could foster healthy growth in the future. "There were a lot of talks with tribes here in Arizona and New Mexico of getting joint projects going to study the landscape," said Lionel Whitehair, a wildland firefighter who earned his master's degree at NAU. © NAU News, 01/16/20.

[Court Quashes Youth Climate Change Case Against Government](#)

A federal appeals court has thrown out the landmark climate change lawsuit brought on behalf of young people against the federal government. While the young plaintiffs "have made a compelling case that action is needed," wrote Judge Andrew D. Hurwitz in a 32-page opinion, climate change is not an issue for the courts. "Reluctantly, we conclude that such relief is beyond our constitutional power. Rather, the plaintiffs' impressive case for redress must be presented to the political branches of government." The two members in the majority of the three-judge panel thus agreed with the Trump administration that the issues brought up in the case, *Juliana v. United States* did not belong before the courts. © The New York Times, 01/17/20.

Resources

[Makah Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Resource Assessment: A preliminary framework to utilize traditional knowledge in climate change planning](#)

Chang, Michael, Haley Kennard, Laura Nelson, Katie Wrubel, Seraphina Gagnon, Rebekah Monette, and Janine Ledford. 2020. Makah Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Resource Assessment: A preliminary framework to utilize traditional knowledge in climate change planning. Parks Stewardship Forum 36(1): 31–40.

[Graduate Study Opportunity: Integrating Indigenous and Scientific Knowledges for Environmental Sustainability](#)

The Center for Native Peoples and the Environment at the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science & Forestry is recruiting students for graduate study in diverse environmental sciences from ecology, sustainability, conservation biology to restoration and environmental engineering. As a member of the Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership, the program provides funding for full tuition and stipends for Native American students pursuing MS and PhD degrees. Applications are open so please join us in this exciting initiative. For more information contact [Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer](#)

[Two-Year Post-Doctoral Researcher at Oregon State University – Cascades, Bend, Oregon](#)

Dr. Elizabeth Marino and OSU-Cascades invites applications for a two year post-doctoral fellowship to begin Fall 2020; as part of a research project funded by the National Science Foundation. The project itself will examine adaptation possibilities for individuals, neighborhoods, and communities who are faced with repetitive flooding. We are especially interested in policy options for communities who wish to relocate together. The ideal candidate would have policy-relevant academic research and teaching interests in the anthropology or social science of climate change, disasters, and adaptation planning.

[SOARS Summer Research Internship Program](#)

The SOARS Program is a multi-year, paid research internship aimed at increasing diversity in the atmospheric and related sciences; based at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colorado. The Program includes cutting-edge research opportunities, a nationally recognized mentoring model, a supportive community spanning two decades, and conference and tuition funding. Deadline: February 1, 2020. For questions, contact: [SOARS@ucar.edu](#)

[Proposed bill - Recovering America's Wildlife Act \(RAWA\) of 2019](#)

RAWA is an amendment to the Pittman-Robertson Act that has potential to bring \$97.5 million annually to tribal wildlife management programs. To learn more, visit: <https://nafws.org/the-recovering-america-s-wildlife-act>, or contact the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (Elveda Martinez, President, at elvedamartinez@yahoo.com; Julie Thorstenson, Executive Director, at JThor@nafws.org; or Garrit Voggeser, Tribal Partnerships Director, at voggeser@nwf.org)

[U.S. Forest Service ArcGIS Story Map of The Northwest Huckleberry, Shrubs, Nuts, and Berries](#)

Fruit-producing shrubs such as huckleberries, salal, Oregon grape, and beaked hazelnut are an important component of social history and traditional tribal diets in the Pacific Northwest. The fruits of these shrubs are also an important food source for foraging wildlife and pollinators, and serve as the basis for both non-tribal harvesting and small-scale commercial operations. Land managers have a strong interest in preserving and restoring these culturally important plant species across the Pacific Northwest. To aid monitoring, management, and restoration plans, we created this story map to showcase information on the ranges and phenologies (timing of flowering, fruiting, and other periodic life cycle events) of these species. For more information or questions, contact U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station at: SM.FS.huckleberry@usda.gov

[Tribal Climate & Health Adaptation Regional Cohort Training Series](#)

This FREE interactive training is offered through a series of eight live webinars scheduled on the third Tuesday of the month (9:00-10:30am PT) from January 21, 2020 through August 18, 2020. The training will provide steps tools, templates, case studies, and other resources that seek to streamline the adaptation planning process and make it easier for tribal health and environmental professional to understand and address human health exposures and impacts within tribal communities.

[Natural Hazards Center](#)

We are the National Science Foundation-designed information clearinghouse for the societal dimensions of hazards and disasters. We are dedicated to reducing disaster harm through: (1) translating and sharing hazards and disaster research and information; (2) building connections between researchers, non-profit and private sector professionals, the media, policy makers, and local, state, and federal officials; (3) advancing social science and interdisciplinary knowledge, with a special emphasis on the most vulnerable populations and places; and (4) training and mentoring the diverse next generation of hazards and disaster professionals.

[Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Fellowship at School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University](#)

The Human Dimensions of Forestry program at the School of Forestry, Mountain Campus, Northern Arizona University (NAU), Flagstaff, AZ is inviting applications for One (1) fully funded four (4)-year Graduate Fellowship to work on an interdisciplinary research focused on role of forest landscapes in the resilience of Navajo (Dine) Nation. The Fellowship is expected to start August 2020. Interested candidates should contact Dr. Alark Saxena at alark.saxena@nau.edu. Application should include the following items: 1) A one-page letter describing your interests, qualifications and relevant experience 2) Two writing samples 3) An up-to-date resume 4) Contact details of three references (at least one academic reference).

Funding Opportunities



Additional Sources for More Opportunities:

1) More Funding Opportunities can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website: <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Resources/funding>.

2) Tribal Climate Change Guide maintained by the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project at the Univ. of Oregon: <http://tribalclimateguide.uoregon.edu/>

3) Searchable database of all discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies. www.grants.gov/applicants/find_grant_opportunities.jsp

4) Conservation Innovation Grants (*USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service*) <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>

Department of Homeland Security Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program Funding

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program makes available Federal funds to State, Local and Tribal Governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from future disasters. **Applications due: January 31, 2020.**

EPA Environmental Justice Grant

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, and academia) as they develop and implement community-driven solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities. **Proposal deadline: February 7, 2020.**

Request for Proposals: BIA Tribal Resilience Program

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Tribal Resilience Program. The solicitation is for federally-recognized tribes and tribal organizations. This program supports tribes preparing for extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and safety. The Program will provide funding for projects that support tribal resilience and ocean and

coastal management planning as tribes incorporate science (including Traditional Knowledge) and technical information to prepare for the impacts of extreme events and harmful environmental trends. **Proposal deadline: March 2, 2020 by 5:00pm Alaska/9:00pm Eastern Time.** Send completed proposals to funding@bia.gov

Paleo Perspectives on Climate Change (NSF)

The goal of research funded under the interdisciplinary P2C2 solicitation is to utilize key geological, chemical, atmospheric (gas in ice cores), and biological records of climate system variability to provide insights into the mechanisms and rate of change that characterized Earth's past climate variability, the sensitivity of Earth's climate system to changes in forcing, and the response of key components of the Earth system to these changes. Important scientific objectives of P2C2 are to: 1) provide comprehensive paleoclimate data sets that can serve as model test data sets analogous to instrumental observations; and 2) enable transformative syntheses of paleoclimate data and modeling outcomes to understand the response of the longer-term and higher magnitude variability of the climate system that is observed in the geological and cryospheric records. Funding opportunity #: 17-582. **Deadline: 10/20/2020** Eligible applicants unrestricted.

Upcoming Events

NOTE: More events can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website:

<http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Home/Events>

January 2020

Workshop:

Emergency Preparedness for Outbreaks of Insect & Arthropod Vectors & Communicable Pests

January 29-30, 8:00-4:00pm (Mountain). Offered by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. Tribal Air Quality Program. ITC of AZ is pleased to present a two-day workshop, Emergency Preparedness for Outbreaks of Insect and Arthropod Vectors and Communicable Pests, provided by the Arizona Pest Management Center, University of Arizona, College of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences & Cooperative Extension, in collaboration with StopPests in Housing. Click here for registration.

Any questions, please contact Shundene Key at Shundene.Key@itcaonline.com or 602.258.4822

February 2020

Workshop:

Northeast Oklahoma Tribal Resilience Workshop

February 4-5, Downstream Casino Resort: Quapaw, Oklahoma. The workshop aims to provide tribal leaders, program coordinators, planners, and managers who work in Northeast Oklahoma to develop the skills necessary to address extreme events and harmful environmental trends coming to the region. This course will employ a variety of harmful environmental trends coming to the region. This course will employ a variety of instructional methods such as presentations on tribal case studies, regional science, Traditional/Indigenous Knowledges (TK/IKs) and large and small-group discussions and activities. For questions, contact Nikki.Cookey@nau.edu

Honor the Earth Presents: It Takes A Village Concert with Indigo Girls

February 6, 5:30pm, Scottish Rite Theater, Sante Fe, NM. Honor the Earth and Traditional Native American Farmers Association, two non-profit organizations invite you to, It Takes A Village! A live event – featuring The Indigo Girls with Winona LaDuke and Lyla June Johnston. It Takes A Village

is a collaboration formed to raise awareness, expand outreach and engage the community in programs that support healthy families, sustainable traditional farming, seed saving and respectful relationship with each other and Earth. For more information and to reserve tickets, visit click on the title above.

Annual Forum:

Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE).

February 10-14, 2020, Anchorage, Alaska.

This forum will offer six keynote events, over 100 presentations, panel discussions, special events and workshops.

March 2020

Workshop:

Wildfire Ecosystem & Indigenous Well-being, March 03, 8:30am - 3:30pm (mtn). Flagstaff, AZ - Northern Arizona University.

Offered by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) Tribal Air Quality Program. ITCA is pleased to collaborate with ITEP's Tribes and Climate Change Program on a 1-day workshop. Details will be announced soon. Any questions, please contact Shundene Key at Shundene.Key@itcaonline.com or 602.258.4822

Annual Conference:

17th Annual Great Lakes Indigenous Farming Conference

March 5-8, Callaway, MN.

Living the Good Life through Knowledge and Community. Join us and learn about a wide array of topics and discussions such as: land revitalization and food sovereignty initiatives, tribal food and farm policy, native agricultural techniques, tribal college extension programs, food preservation, native pollinators and much, much more! Native herbalists, gardeners, horticulturists, agronomers, community leaders, professors, students, extension educators and farmers from all four directions will share their knowledge with us. Come learn how Native people all across Turtle Island are restoring traditional foods, implementing sustainable practices, and collaborating with neighboring Native nations. For questions, email:

ifc@welrp.org or Ph#: 218-375-2600.

Annual Summit:

11th Annual National Tribal Public Health Summit

March 17-19, CHI Health Center Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska.

The National Tribal Public Health Summit is a premiere Indian public health event that attracts over 500 Tribal public health professionals, elected leaders, advocates, researchers, and community-based service providers. This year's Summit will feature dynamic national speakers, interactive workshops and roundtable discussions, a welcome reception, a morning fitness event, as well as the presentation of the 2020 Native Public Health Innovation awards. **Registration deadline:** March 8, 2020.

April 2020

Annual Workshop:

8th Annual Rising Voices Workshop, April 29-May 01, 2020.

The workshop will build upon previous workshops to focus on exchanges between communities, generations, place-based knowledges, and different ways of knowing to learn from place-based climate resilience actions. In partnership with the Lummi Nation and the Northwest Indian College and will be on Coastal Salish Traditional Lands. Application deadline has passed. For more information contact [Heather](#) or [Julie](#).

Workshop:

18th Annual Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop

April 14-16, Arizona State University. This workshop will bring together a diverse community to share developments in research and application of weather and climate information for societal decision-making. Participants will include researchers, service producers, resource managers, planners, practitioners, social scientists, and others making weather and climate-sensitive decisions. Open to the public.

Upcoming Events Continued...

May 2020

Training:

[Climate Series #1: ITEP's Introduction to Climate Change Adaptation Planning-Climate 101](#)

May 19-21, Blue Lake, CA.

Tribal Only: This course is a collaboration between ITEP and the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe. The course will provide an introduction to planning for climate change impacts, with examples of tribes that have been going through the adaptation planning process. The course is intended for tribal environmental and natural resource professionals who expect to be involved in climate change adaptation planning. Since the course will focus on climate change impacts in the region, we especially encourage people from the region to attend. Others are welcome to attend but should realize that there will be a focus on that region. This course will feed into the second course offered in July. Registration to TBA soon.

Annual Forum:

[ITEP's National Tribal Forum on Air Quality \(NTFAQ\)](#)

May 27-29, 2020, Tulsa, OK.

Hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The NTFAQ provides environmental professionals from tribes, EPA, and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, and technical topics in air quality. The NTFAQ is a cooperative endeavor co-sponsored by The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA), made possible by funding from US EPA and our generous sponsors.

June 2020

Annual Conference:

[14th Annual Native American Economic Development Conference](#)

June 15-16, Pechanga Resort & Casino, Temecula, CA.

Through a variety of tracks, panels and interactive discussions, attendees will engage with top experts focusing on economic diversification. Discovering new ways to diversify your tribe's economic ventures helps to reduce risk and ensure the growth of your community. You'll hear success stories and case studies in addition to digging deeper into new ways to

generate revenue beyond gaming. By networking with other tribal leaders, decision makers and industry professionals you can exchange tangible ideas on how to maximize your respective economies.

July 2020

Training:

[Climate Series #2: Integrating Climate Change into FEMA Approved Mitigation Plans.](#)

July 14-15, Blue Lake, CA.

Tribal Only: This course is a collaboration between ITEP and the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe. This workshop will build upon the previous course "Climate Series #1: Climate Change 101, which provided an introduction to planning for climate change impacts using examples from tribes that have been going through the adaptation planning process.

This second course will provide information on how climate change considerations can be mainstreamed into FEMA multihazard mitigation plans while considering cultural values, priorities and indigenous knowledges. The course agenda will include tribal case studies and representatives from FEMA and ITEP to provide knowledge and guidance on the process. As with the previous course, this course is intended for tribal managers from this particular region. If tribal staff from outside the region would like to apply, please contact ITEP staff.

August 2020

Workshop:

Wildfire Ecosystem & Indigenous Well-being, March 03, 8:30am - 3:30pm (mtn). Flagstaff, AZ - Northern Arizona University.

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Conference:

[ITEP's Tribal Lands & Environment Forum \(TLEF\)](#)

August 17-20, 2020, Milwaukee, WI. This year's TLEF: A National Conversation on Waste and Response Strategies will be hosted by the Forest County Potawatomi

Tribe. Reignsration, session proposals forms, travel information, and field trip announcements will be coming soon. Join us for the 10th anniversary of the TLEF!

Meeting:

[Interfaith Climate Action Network of CCC](#)

August 20, 1:00-2:30pm,

Pleasant Hill, CA. Offered by the Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County. The mission is to inform and educate faith and non-faith communities and interested individuals about how to mitigate climate change, and represent and advocate on their behalf by contacting elected representatives, government agencies, industries and other organizations that need to hear our collective voices.

Conference:

[ITEP's National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference \(NTICC\)](#)

August 31-September 4, 2020.

Location TBA soon. First Biennial National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC) along with support from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Resilience Program. The NTICC is open to all US tribal nations and Indigenous Peoples from throughout the world, with an emphasis on including our Elders and Youth. The NTICC will convene experts on climate change and will include a balance of Traditional Indigenous Knowledges and Western Science. More info coming soon. Contact: NTICC@nau.edu

September 2020

Conference:

[International Conference on Global Climate Change \(ICGCC\)](#)

September 24-25, San

Francisco, CA. This gathering aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Global Climate Change.

October 2020

Summit:

[National Tribal Leadership Climate Change Summit](#)

October 12-14, Seattle, WA
More info coming soon.