



## National Tribal Water Council Seeking New Representatives for Region 6 and At-Large

The National Tribal Water Council (NTWC) was established to advocate for the best interests of federally-recognized Indian and Alaska Native Tribes in matters pertaining to water. It is the intent of the NTWC to advocate for the health and sustainability of clean water, and for the productive use of water for the health and well-being of Indian Country, Indian communities, Alaska Native Tribes, and Alaska Native Villages.

The NTWC is seeking vocal and passionate tribal water professionals to apply for two (2) open membership positions: Region 6 and At-Large (new position).

- **Region 6**  
The position is open to tribal water professionals employed by a federally recognized Tribe or tribally authorized organization from Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas).
- **New At-Large**  
The position is open to tribal water professionals employed by a federally recognized Tribe or tribally authorized organization from the United States (Regions 1 through 10).

The NTWC consisted of 15 members, but this year we are adding two more members for a total of 17 members as outlined in our updated [Bylaws](#). The added new positions are one tribal representative from Region 3, and another At-large representative.

Members participate in monthly virtual calls, attend semi-annual in-person meetings, and create and participate in crafting response documents to federal policy rulemaking actions or tribal consultation requests. NTWC members serve a three-year term. Applicants may learn more about the Council by viewing NTWC's video "[Protecting Our Scared Waters: An Introduction to the NTWC](#)."

Interested applicants must submit an application, letter of interest, and a professional résumé. A recruitment packet is available on the NTWC website at <https://nau.edu/ntwc>. The NTWC will be accepting applications until each position is filled.

If you have any questions regarding the membership positions, please contact Elaine Wilson, NTWC Project Manager, at [Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu](mailto:Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu), or Elaina Doral, NTWC Project Coordinator, at [Elaina.Doral@nau.edu](mailto:Elaina.Doral@nau.edu).



### CONTACT INFO:

Elaine H. Wilson  
NTWC Manager  
[Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu](mailto:Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu)

Elaina Doral  
NTWC Program Coordinator  
[Elaina.Doral@nau.edu](mailto:Elaina.Doral@nau.edu)

### NEWSLETTER

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, please click [here](#) where you can manage your NTWC Listserv and other ITEP Listserv subscriptions.



VISIT US AT:  
<https://nau.edu/ntwc>

# UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ITEP is Requesting Host Sites for the Summer 2025 Water Resources and Land Management Internships

**Application Deadline: December 2, 2024**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is seeking host sites for the Summer 2025 Water Resources and Land Management Internships. The sites must be relevant to tribal communities in one of the Colorado River Basin States to host 15 interns. Project proposals must focus on addressing water, or integrated water and land management, and policy issues. For more information, please visit: <https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/internships/>

## EPA Virtual Water Quality Standards Academy, December 2-6 and 9, 2024

The EPA will be holding a six-day session of its virtual Water Quality Standards (WQS) Academy on December 2-6 and December 9 from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM (EST). The WQS Academy provides WQS development and implementation information to WQS professionals associated with the federal, state, tribal, and local agencies. Registration is free and open to the public. Registration will close on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, or when capacity is reached. To register: [https://events.zoom.us/j/AvvP2CnrKdmJwVtbp4Ov4xNPRn7GeckEnJR-1rFdNgREDW4HYeW9~Aj9XzvbeGmQTaq\\_hla7b2BN923RdMrEEz0SWIN4Bq9LNf3julpVARE8Aig](https://events.zoom.us/j/AvvP2CnrKdmJwVtbp4Ov4xNPRn7GeckEnJR-1rFdNgREDW4HYeW9~Aj9XzvbeGmQTaq_hla7b2BN923RdMrEEz0SWIN4Bq9LNf3julpVARE8Aig)

## EPA Releases “A Compendium of Tools and Methods to Estimate Environmental Benefits for Nature-Based Solutions”

The EPA released [\*A Compendium of Tools and Methods to Estimate Environmental Benefits for Nature-Based Solutions\*](#). The EPA defines nature-based solutions as actions that protect, conserve, restore and sustainably manage natural or modified ecosystems. They use natural features or processes to address public health and environmental challenges while providing multiple benefits to people and nature. The compendium identifies open-source tools and methods that can be used to estimate and communicate environmental benefits related to water quantity, climate mitigation, air quality, ambient air temperature reduction and habitat management. Grantees and sub-grantees of the *Clean Water Act* Section 319 Grant Program and the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* Gulf Hypoxia Program and others can use this resource to estimate and communicate environmental benefits for planning level activities.

## EPA's Climate Change Considerations when Prioritizing, Developing, and Implementing TMDLs

The EPA released the document titled [\*Climate Change Considerations When Prioritizing, Developing, and Implementing Total Maximum Daily Loads\*](#) to support states, territories and Tribes as they work to protect and restore their waters. The document provides examples and a selection of approaches for incorporating climate change considerations into TMDL processes that can be used individually or in combination, depending on each TMDL's circumstances.

This document does not impose any new requirements and does not constitute a prescriptive checklist, but identifies potential approaches for incorporating climate change considerations into TMDL prioritization, development and implementation that can be used individually or in combination, depending on each TMDL's circumstances. While no Tribes have yet received Treatment in a Similar Manner as a State to administer the CWA 303(d) program, the information in the document may be of interest to Tribes that are considering, or may decide, to pursue TAS for CWA 303(d) and develop TMDLs for their waters, or to Tribes that are interested in state development of TMDLs. For more information, see [EPA's website for Section 303\(d\) Lists and TMDLs](#).

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## EPA FY 2025 Tribal Nonpoint Source Management Grants

**Deadline for Applications: December 11, 2024**

On September 23, 2024, the EPA issued the [FY2025 Funding Opportunity for Indian Tribes and Intertribal Consortia for Nonpoint Source Management Grants Under Clean Water Act Section 319](#). Federally recognized Tribes with treatment-as-a-state approval under Clean Water Act Section 319 are eligible to apply; eligibility information and additional information on this competition is available on the [EPA Tribal NPS website](#). As in past years, the funding available through this funding opportunity is to support Tribal projects focused on implementing on-the-ground best management practices that will help protect or restore waters from nonpoint sources of pollution. Applicants may request up to \$125,000 in federal 319 funds through this solicitation. As part of the EPA's effort to increase equity within the NPS program, a portion of competitive grant funding will be reserved for Tribal competitive grant applicants that have not been awarded a competitive grant under this solicitation in the past five (5) years. Applications are due December 11, 2024.

Prospective tribal applications may submit questions to [tribal319grants@epa.gov](mailto:tribal319grants@epa.gov) by November 26, 2024. The deadline to submit an application is **December 11, 2024** through [Grants.gov](https://www.epa.gov/grants) by 11:59pm EST in order to be considered for funding. Late applications will not be considered for funding. Answers to [frequency asked questions](#) for this grant are available on the [EPA's Tribal NPS website](#); additional questions may be submitted to [tribal319grants@epa.gov](mailto:tribal319grants@epa.gov).

# TRIBAL CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES

## Proposed Revisions to the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Microbial and Disinfection Byproducts

**Deadline: December 31, 2024**

The U.S. EPA initiated consultation with federally recognized Indian Tribes to obtain input on the agency's forthcoming Proposed Revisions to National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Microbial and Disinfection Byproducts, in accordance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and other applicable statutes. The EPA is developing proposed revisions to these National Primary Drinking Water Regulations to improve public health protection by reducing drinking water exposure to microbial contaminants and disinfection byproducts.

Under this action, the EPA intends to propose and as appropriate, take final action on revisions to one or more of the Microbial and Disinfection Byproducts rules to further improve public health protection from contaminants relevant to the Microbial and Disinfection Byproducts rules in drinking water and, where possible, to reduce the regulatory burden while maintaining or improving public health protection.

The deadline to submit feedback and comments is December 31, 2024. Submit comment letters to [MDBPRevisions@epa.gov](mailto:MDBPRevisions@epa.gov). For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/dwsixyearreview/potential-revisions-microbial-and-disinfection-byproducts-rules>



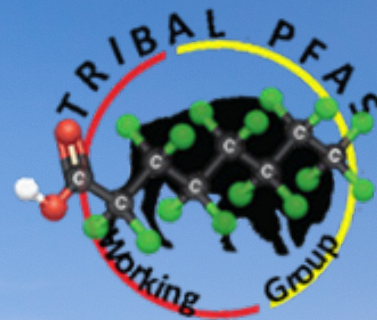
Have a story, idea, or update to share?

Email us at [elaina.doral@nau.edu](mailto:elaina.doral@nau.edu).





Tribal PFAS Working Group's  
Open House Webinar:



# PFAS in the Southern Plains

Dec 12th  
12PM (MST)



Featured Presenter:  
**Isabella Gandara**



Isabella is a senior at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) majoring in Biological Engineering with a focus on public health, genetics, and toxicology. This past summer, she worked as a THESIS Intern for the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board, where she pursued an independent research project to investigate what is known about PFAS on tribal lands, as well as risk factors for exposure that should be considered going forward. Concentrating on Oklahoma, her work involved analyzing trends in detection rates of public water systems, using machine learning models to predict PFAS levels in environmental samples, and identifying key risk factors for exposure and priorities for future testing.

To Join Webinar: [\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#)

Zoom Meeting ID: 876 6024 2446 Password: 996191

# EVENTS & WEBINARS

## EPA's The Clean Water Act Through an Environmental Justice Lens Module

On November 13, 2024, the EPA released a new learning module that looks at the [Clean Water Act through an environmental justice lens](#). Developed by the EPA's Watershed Academy, the module explores the CWA as a guiding framework to highlight water equity challenges and watershed management opportunities. It explains the basics of environmental justice, provides a brief overview of 10 cornerstone CWA programs that drive surface-water quality protection and outlines clear opportunities for the public to engage in the CWA process.

## EPA Environmental Justice Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

- November 20, 2024: Advancing EJ Through Storytelling

To register: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-tribes-and-indigenous-peoples#webinars>

## EPA Harmful Algal Blooms, Hypoxia, and Nutrients Research Webinar Series

- November 20, 2024: Health Effects and Ecology of Anatoxin-Producing Cyanobacteria

To register, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/harmful-algal-blooms-hypoxia-and-nutrients-research-webinar-series>

## USGS Friday's Findings Webinar Series

- November 22, 2024: Developing Resources for Tribal Partnership Science

To register: <https://www.usgs.gov/news/webinar-series-fridays-findings>

## EPA Tools and Research Webinar Series

- November 20, 2024: Fifth National Climate Assessment: Resources and Interactive Atlas
- December 11, 2024: Participatory Science

To register, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/research-states/epa-tools-and-resources-webinar-series>

## EPA Small Drinking Water Systems Webinar Series

- December 3, 2024: Lead Reduction Updates and Lead Service Line Identification and Replacement

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

## EPA Tools and Resources Training Webinar Series

- December 5, 2024: ECOTOX Knowledgebase and PFAS Updates

To register, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/research-states/epa-tools-and-resources-training-webinar-series>

## Events & Webinars *(continued)*

### Introduction to Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs) Webinar for Tribal Governments and Communities

Thursday, November 21, 2024 | 10am AK, 11am PT, 12pm MT, 1pm CT, 2pm ET

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) - Tribes and Climate Change Program will be providing an overview of the EPA and the DOE's Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs) and will explain the roles of NIHB and ITEP in the TCTAC program. The TCTAC programs intend to support tribal capacity by providing free technical assistance to Tribal communities and organizations. You will also hear from invited Tribal partners about their experience working with the TCTACs as well as get a chance to connect with your regional TCTAC.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## NTWC MEMBERS

For more information on our members, visit [Meet the Council](#).

**Ken Norton**

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

**Chauncey Means**

*Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes  
Region 8 (NTWC Vice Chair)*  
[chauncey.means@cstkt.org](mailto:chauncey.means@cstkt.org)

**Daniel Kusnierz**

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

**Brian Patterson**

*Oneida Nation  
Region 2*  
[bpatterson@oneida-nation.org](mailto:bpatterson@oneida-nation.org)

**Rainee Tetreault**

*Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Region 4*  
[raintetr@ebci-nsn.gov](mailto:raintetr@ebci-nsn.gov)

**Shaun Livermore**

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

**Nancy Schuldt**

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

**Celeste Hockings**

*Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians, Region 5 - At-Large*  
[chockings@ldftribe.com](mailto:chockings@ldftribe.com)

**Yolanda Barney**

*Navajo Nation  
Region 9*  
[ybarney@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:ybarney@navajo-nsn.gov)

**Eric Morrison**

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

**Ann Wyatt**

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

**Scott Hauser**

*Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation  
Region 10 - At-Large*  
[scott.hauser@usrtf.org](mailto:scott.hauser@usrtf.org)

**Mary Verner**

*Snoqualmie Tribe  
Region 10*  
[mary.verner@snoqualmietribe.us](mailto:mary.verner@snoqualmietribe.us)

To manage your ITEP/NTWC listserv subscriptions, go to [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/About/itep\\_Newsletters#ntwc](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/About/itep_Newsletters#ntwc)

©2024 Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at Northern Arizona University

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