



# Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribal Wellbeing for Seven Generations Program Newsletter

November 2025

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.



Photo credit: Sunset on Monument Valley in winter. Adobe.stock

## Meet the Team

**Nikki Cooley, Diné (Asdzáá/She/Her)**  
*Director*

[Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu](mailto:Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu)

**Karen Cozzetto (She/Her)**  
*TW7G Manager*

[Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu](mailto:Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu)

**Ashley Gries (She/Her)**  
*Assistant Manager*

[Ashley.Gries@nau.edu](mailto:Ashley.Gries@nau.edu)

**Laureen Lewis, Hopi/Havasupai, (She/Her)**  
*Financial Oversight Analyst*

[Laureen.Lewis@nau.edu](mailto:Laureen.Lewis@nau.edu)

**Kim Shaw (She/Her)**  
*Internship Coordinator*

[Kim.Shaw@nau.edu](mailto:Kim.Shaw@nau.edu)

**Taryn Bell (They/Them)**  
*Research Assistant*

[Taryn.Bell@nau.edu](mailto:Taryn.Bell@nau.edu)

**Cara Corbin (She/Her)**  
*Community Program Coordinator, Sr.*

[Cara.Corbin@nau.edu](mailto:Cara.Corbin@nau.edu)

**Kieren Daley Larsen (He/Him)**  
*Community Program Coordinator, Sr.*

[Kieren.Daley-Laursen@nau.edu](mailto:Kieren.Daley-Laursen@nau.edu)

**Zane Jacobs (Nádleehé/He/Him)**  
*Events Coordinator*

[Zane.Jacobs@nau.edu](mailto:Zane.Jacobs@nau.edu)

**Kelsey Jensen, Diné (She/Her)**  
*Program Assistant*

[Kelsey.Jensen@nau.edu](mailto:Kelsey.Jensen@nau.edu)

**Joan Chepngeno Langat**  
*Program Assistant*

[Joan.Langat@nau.edu](mailto:Joan.Langat@nau.edu)



Photo: Klamath River. Adobe.stock

**A**s we close out November, we want to take a moment to reflect on the deep gratitude we have for the communities, partners, and readers who make our work meaningful. To help shape this month's intro, we're inviting our team to share a brief reflection on what they're thankful for in the work we do and the people we serve.

**Nikki Cooley, Director**

I am grateful for my family's health and our ability to be together. I am thankful to know love and respect. Family and love.

**Karen Cozzetto, TW7G Manager**

"I'm grateful for our fabulous TW7G and ITEP teams and for our amazing larger community with whom we work and from whom we learn so much. I manage to go home inspired by someone pretty much every day. Thank you for all the work that you do to make our communities and environment safer, healthier, and more resilient."

**Kim Shaw, Internship Coordinator**

"My career has been devoted to student success, and it brings my heart so much joy to see passionate young leaders truly influencing the future of the environmental fields. I am immensely grateful to share a small part in each of their journeys."

**Cara Corbin, Community Program Coordinator, Sr.**

"I am very thankful for the opportunity to work with ITEP

staff, colleagues, and partners across Turtle Island to support Tribal sovereignty in the face of climate change. I am honored to learn from so many Tribal Knowledge Holders and support the work of Tribal Nations."

**Kieren Daley Larsen, Community Program Coordinator, Sr.**

I am very grateful for everyone that I have met and the relationships were forged through the work we have done this year. Both in person and online, we have loved to hear your stories and get to know you a little better. We are looking forward to another year and hope to see all the wonderful friends we have made.

**Zane Jacobs, Events Coordinator**

"This year has been tough for me personally, and I can't tell you how much it means to have a place like ITEP where I can leave those worries at the door and just enjoy the work we do and the amazing people I get to work with."

**Kelsey Jensen, Program Assistant**

"Every day, I'm reminded how lucky I am for the health and love of my family and friends, who hold me up in so many ways. I'm also thankful for the chance to keep learning and sharing knowledge with others, and for the work we do to restore the land and support resilient communities."



# In The News

## [The Nature Conservancy will buy 4 dams so they can blow them up](#)

The Kennebec River in Maine used to be filled with spawning Atlantic Salmon and other fish. But twenty dams have prevented them from moving upstream. In September, The Nature Conservancy finalized an agreement to buy four of the low-producing streams closest to the ocean. Over the coming years, they will restore the flows to 800 miles of river, the largest project of its kind in the US, dwarfing the project on the Elwa which restored around 400 miles. © 11/03/25

## [‘It’s a story of hope’: Reflections on undamming the Klamath](#)

One year after the largest dam removal project in history, salmon have reached the headwaters of the Klamath River, an area they hadn’t been seen in for some 115 years. In her new book out this week, *The Water Remembers*, Amy Bowers Cordalis recounts the intergenerational struggle to protect the Klamath and Yurok way of life. Through a mix of memoir, historical narrative nonfiction, deeply researched legal analysis and Yurok storytelling, Cordalis reflects on her own journey and role in the dam removal, from witnessing the historic 2002 fish kill as a tribal fisheries intern to becoming general counsel for the Yurok Tribe. © High Country News, 11/04/25

## [After Trump cuts, seeds sit in the warehouse](#)

On Sept. 23, Emily Rees was planting thousands of seedlings of New Mexico vervain, a purple wildflower beloved by pollinators, on the plateau above the Rio Grande Gorge near Taos when she received a phone call telling her to stop. Two hundred miles south, Tino Mendieta was collecting coneflower seeds on Bureau of Land Management land near Roswell when his phone lit up with the same news. His field crew packed up and headed back to the office to process as much data as they could on the seeds they’d been able to gather, knowing they wouldn’t be allowed to return the following day.

## [U of A, NYU and Harvard experts lead process to codify world’s first global standard on Indigenous Peoples’ data](#)

A new standard – developed in partnership with leading Indigenous

data sovereignty experts at the University of Arizona, New York University, Harvard University and multiple international universities – outlines how scientists and technology professionals across an array of fields should record the provenance – or origin and history of use – for data about and relating to Indigenous Peoples. The [Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers](#) – known as IEEE and dubbed the “world’s largest technical professional organization” – voted and approved the first-ever international standard regarding the “appropriate disclosure of Indigenous peoples’ relationships and/or links to all data,” which was published this month. © Native Nation Institute (U of A), 11/17/25

## [Guest Column: What Personhood Status for the Colorado River means to me](#)

The Colorado River is in jeopardy. We have all seen the stories of how the climate is hotter and drier, and under the Post-2026 Process that Arizona will have to take additional reductions beyond the already significant reductions in its allocation of Colorado River water. It is also clear that the Basin States and federal government are having trouble in agreeing on the management of this resource. Yet these public discussions only tell part of the story. They focus on how much water society can take from this resource. What is seldom heard in the press, nor in the briefings we are allowed to attend, is addressing the needs of the river itself, so that it can provide for the next generation, and those generations to follow. At the Colorado River Indian Tribes, we are changing this narrative. © Navajo-Hopi Observer, 11/18/25

## [Indigenous leaders take center stage at event on funding sustainability projects](#)

The inaugural Economic Futures Summit created space for connection, Indigenous innovation, and collective investment in environmental sustainability efforts. With a growing appreciation for the value of Indigenous voices and perspectives in the development of sustainability solutions, and financing them, hundreds of investors, academics, and policymakers gathered in San Francisco earlier this month to share ideas for building a sustainable

economy in the face of climate change.

## [Klamath Tribes challenge orders based on secret agreement between irrigator group and state](#)

On November 19, 2025, the Klamath Tribes filed a motion to amend their petition in the Circuit Court of Klamath County. The amended petition seeks to reverse recent illegal orders that replaced a long-time administrative law judge in the Klamath Basin Adjudication (KBA) on the heels of a secret deal cut between the Oregon State Office of Administrative Hearings and certain water users in the Upper Klamath Basin. © Native American Rights Fund, 12/01/25

## [A Lakota Matriarch Offers Perspective on the Long Struggle for LandBack](#)

During uncertain times, people often turn to history to glean lessons that can guide us in challenging moments. This is why I wanted to revisit our first LANDBACK for the People podcast episode, initially broadcast in April 2023. In “Madonna Thunder Hawk: A Matriarch of the Movement,” NDN’s CEO and founder Nick Tilsen sat down with Thunder Hawk to discuss the intergenerational, decades-long resistance efforts to defend our land, water, and people. © NP, 12/02/25

## [Northern Chumash leader named to TIME100 Climate list](#)

Violet Sage Walker, chairwoman of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council, earned a spot on TIME magazine’s prestigious TIME100 Climate list, which recognizes 100 highly influential leaders driving business climate action worldwide. The 2025 list includes Pope Leo XIV, King Charles III, actor Samuel L. Jackson, President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of the European Central Bank Christine Lagarde and California Gov. Gavin Newsom. Walker’s recognition follows years of advocacy to establish the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, a campaign she began with her father, Chief Fred Collins, in 2015, according to prior reporting by Tribal Business News. © Tribal Business News, 12/03/25

# Resources

---

## [Tribal Water Issues in Oklahoma](#)

Tribal Nations in Oklahoma face many water quality and quantity issues. Not only is the state coming off a five-year drought, but flooding is also frequent. Surface water quality is poor because of agricultural runoff and algal blooms. Hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) is a massive issue in Oklahoma, and it has impacted every stage of the water cycle because it requires large quantities of water and contaminates ground and surface water. (10/27/25)

## [Blog: About Tribal Nations, Tribal Citizens, and the United States](#)

Tribal Nations are sovereign governments with inherent authority over their lands and citizens. This is a political status that predates the establishment of the United States and continues to be recognized by the United States. Historically, the federal government has used terms like “Tribes,” to refer to Tribal Nations and “Tribal member” to describe Tribal citizenship. Similarly, the United States has used terms like “Indian” or “American Indian” to refer to Tribal citizens. These terms continue to be used in different settings, especially because they are ingrained in the body of law known as Federal Indian Law. (Native American Rights Fund, 11/12/25)

## [Radio Story Series: Still Here: Native American Resilience in New England](#)

2026 marks a milestone in America’s history – 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Our founding document put forward aspirations that have shaped America and inspired the world. But the Declaration may surprise you. It calls the Native peoples of America “merciless Indian Savages.” For generations, stories of Native America have been kept separate and apart from the American story. Take a fresh look at the history of our region — and hear today’s Indigenous voices. It’s part of Still Here: Native American Resilience in New England — a special series from Connecticut Public, featuring radio storytelling, in-depth videos, digital stories, pictures and a community conversation. (11/14/25)

## [The Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement](#)

This updated publication outlines a landmark water rights settlement involving the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe. The agreement addresses claims to the Colorado and Little Colorado Rivers and groundwater across northeastern Arizona, while establishing a reservation for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and authorizing over \$5 billion in water infrastructure funding. With provisions for off-reservation water leasing, system conservation in Lake Powell, and enhanced water access for tens of thousands of Tribal and non-tribal residents, NAIWRS represents a historic step toward equitable water management and legal certainty in the Colorado River Basin. (November 2025)

## [Hoh Tribe’s Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment](#)

While there have been broad assessments that included portions of the Hoh usual and accustomed area (U&A) or focused on combined coastal Treaty Tribe concerns, there has not yet been a report produced solely by the Hoh Tribe. Seeing this gap, this is the Tribe’s first climate change assessment, focused on their specific experiences, concerns, and needs. The goal of this document is to share the changes Tribal members are

experiencing, the future changes the Tribe can expect, and the impacts on ecosystems, species, and well-being. It was created through interviews with Tribal members and a synthesis of scientific literature and reports. (2025)

## [Call for Abstracts: Native American Fish & Wildlife Society 2026 Annual National Conference](#)

The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society is now accepting abstracts for presentations at the 2026 National Conference, taking place May 4–7, 2026, at the Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, NY. Hosted by the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, this annual gathering brings together Tribal natural resource professionals from across the country for four days of learning, collaboration, and connection. We’re sharing the call early so you can plan ahead—submit your presentation ideas, secure travel, and get ready to join us for this important national event.

**Deadline: March 6, 2026**

## [The government shutdown shows the need to reform how the federal government funds Native American Tribes and communities](#)

While the effects of the federal government’s ongoing shutdown will be widespread, it will have a particularly damaging impact on Native American Tribes and people. The federal government maintains trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations, citizens, and communities that are distinct from its relationships with other groups in the United States. In exchange for the lands and natural resources that now encompass the United States, the federal government entered into treaties and passed numerous laws, which court decisions have affirmed, that obligate it to provide certain funding and services to Tribal Nations, citizens, and communities. These obligations include supporting Native Americans’ health, education, land rights, natural resources, and economic well-being, among other areas. (10/28/25)

## [Historic Preservation & Cultural Resources Mutual Aid Network](#)

The Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources Mutual Aid Network was created by preservation advocates to offer a simple way for people in our community to ask others for assistance with historic preservation and cultural resources employment, emotional, and financial needs. Whether you’re currently employed anticipating a layoff or reduction in force, underemployed due to decreasing workloads, a student facing a tough job market, or others facing similar challenges, please feel free to share your story and ask for whatever help you need. This platform connects people needing networking, job searching, and financial assistance with those who can help.

# Job & Internship Opportunities

## Post Doctoral Fellow Native American Studies

The Department of Native American Studies at the University of New Mexico invites applications for a Postdoctoral Fellow to begin in August 2026. This is a full-time position with specialization in Indigenous leadership, self-determination, sustainability, pedagogy, and/or Indigenous community/Native Nation building. Applicants must have a PhD in Native American Studies, American Indian Studies, Indigenous Studies, or a related field by start date of appointment. **Application deadline: January 12, 2026**

## EMERGE Alaska Fellowship

The EMERGE Alaska Program strengthens graduate education and marine ecosystem research while helping build a skilled marine science workforce. Centered on academic training, research, professional development, and student support, the program is housed within UAF's College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. EMERGE Alaska is housed in the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (CFOS), which has three departments: Fisheries, Marine Biology, and Oceanography. It offers three years of full financial support to applicants who received an NSF GRFP Honorable Mention in Spring 2022 or later. Twelve PhD fellowships will begin in Summer or Fall 2026. Applicants must apply through the NSF ETAP portal before applying to UAF graduate school. **Application deadline: January 15, 2026**

## 2026 Truman D. Picard Scholarship Application

Sponsored by the Intertribal Timber Council. Dedicated to the support of Native American students pursuing a higher education in Natural Resources, Forestry, and Fire. The Truman D. Picard Scholarship Program is dedicated to supporting Native American students pursuing higher education in Natural Resources. Preference will be given to students whose degree or area of study directly involves management of Forest Resources or Fire. **Application deadline: March 20, 2026**

## TCU Student Internship - Očhéthi Šakówiŋ Climate Resilience Internship 2026

Engage in a year of learning, connection, and discovery—where data meets story, land, and community. Become part of the next generation of leaders strengthening Tribal sovereignty, protecting homelands, and building resilience for generations to come. The Očhéthi Šakówiŋ Climate Data for Resilience Initiative brings together Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Tribal Nations, climate scientists, and local knowledge-holders to better understand how changing weather, water, and climate conditions affect our lands and communities. This internship supports TCU students in exploring climate resilience through community values, local data, and Indigenous knowledge systems. Interns collaborate with mentors from TCUs, Tribal resource programs, and university partners to create a project rooted in their own interests. **Applications open through March 2026**

## Development Director - Grand Canyon Trust

The Grand Canyon Trust is seeking a mission-driven, experienced, and collaborative leader to serve as our next development director. Candidates must have an understanding of conservation issues — ideally those affecting the Colorado Plateau — as well as a high level of development expertise. The development director is

responsible for furthering our strategic and comprehensive fundraising program and will supervise, lead, and collaborate with a small but high-performing team of individuals to ensure that the annual fundraising goals and long-term financial sustainability of the Trust's priorities are achieved. **Application deadline: ASAP**

## Managing Director -Stanford Center for Just Environmental Futures

The Stanford Center for Just Environmental Futures, housed within SSI, will be a hub for interdisciplinary work on equitable and sustainable futures. The Center will drive this mission through research, education, and initiatives that address environmental harm, climate impacts, inequitable access to biodiversity benefits, and historic marginalization. The Managing Director will oversee Center strategy, operations, and evaluation; hire and manage staff; and build partnerships across and beyond Stanford. This role reports to the Faculty Director, with a dotted line to SSI's staff lead. **Application deadline: ASAP**

## Alaska State Director - The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

TNC in Alaska works in deep partnership with Tribes, Alaska Native corporations, government agencies, and local communities to advance conservation work centered primarily in Southeast Alaska and Bristol Bay, where we work on issues like climate resilience, sustainable fisheries, forest stewardship and thriving communities. Our work is rooted in science, equity and collaboration, and respect for Indigenous Rights and Sovereignty. TNC is seeking a dynamic and strategic Alaska State Director to lead the Alaska Business Unit and serve as a partner with colleagues in TNC's Western US and Canada Division as we execute on our ambitious conservation goals. With a team of approximately 20 staff across Alaska and the Lower 48, a \$6 million operating budget, a 16-member advisory Board of Trustees, and deep collaboration with colleagues across TNC, the Alaska Business Unit (BU) is at the forefront of climate resilience, Indigenous-led conservation and ecosystem protection. **Application deadline: ASAP**

## SE CASC Assistant Consortium Director

The Department of Applied Ecology performs teaching, research, and extension in the biological and ecological sciences. The Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center focuses on climate and other global change sciences to help fish, wildlife, ecosystems, and people adapt to a changing climate. The SE CASC Assistant Consortium Director provides support for the mission of the Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (SE CASC) through high-level program management and coordination. In addition to working closely with the University Director of the consortium, you will support other members of the consortium which includes approximately over 170 faculty affiliates, 10 Consortium Institutions, and 12 Global Change Research Fellows (graduate students) per year. You'll also have opportunities to collaborate nationally with other Assistant University Directors, University Directors, Federal Directors, and Deputies through regular conference calls, workshops, and trainings. **Application deadline: open until filled**



# Funding Opportunities



## Additional Sources for More Opportunities:

1) More Funding Opportunities can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website: <https://itep.nau.edu/>

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

3) Searchable database of all discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies. <https://www.grants.gov/applicants/>

4) Tribal Funding Registry Presented by: The Hozhonigo Institute <https://www.tribalfunding.org/>

### Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia

The Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant program will assist local waste management authorities by supporting improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs, and assisting local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems. Consistent with the authorizing statute in Section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act, SWIFR will support an economy that uses a systems-focused approach and involves industrial processes and economic activities that are restorative or regenerative by design, enables resources used in such processes and activities to maintain their highest value for as long as possible, and aims for the elimination of waste through the superior design of materials, products, and systems (including business models). **Application deadline: December 12, 2025**

### Senate Bill 1 Sea Level Rise (SLR) Tribal Cultural Resources Funding Program

The purpose of the SLR Tribal Cultural Resources Funding Program is to provide funding for tribes to assess and plan for

the impacts of SLR on their ancestral lands, cultural sites, lifeways, and resources in a manner that is beneficial to the tribe. This program is an alternative and more flexible funding pathway within OPC's broader SB 1 Grant Program. Eligible project types include both pre-planning activities (community visioning, education and outreach, data collection, and vulnerability assessments) and planning activities (setting adaptation priorities and developing culturally appropriate strategies to preserve and protect tribal cultural resources threatened by existing coastal hazards or future impacts of SLR). **Next round due: January 6, 2026**

### Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Program (IHBG-COMP) for FY2025

The Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Program (IHBG-COMP) provides competitive grant opportunities to eligible IHBG formula recipients under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) to carry out eligible affordable housing activities for the benefit of low-income Tribal families. **Application deadline: January 15, 2026**

### Fiscal Year 2024 Flood Mitigation Assistance Swift Current

Fiscal Year 2024 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Swift Current aims to better align the delivery of FMA flood mitigation funding to the disaster survivor experience. The purpose of FMA Swift Current is to reduce or eliminate the flood risk to NFIP-participating communities and repetitive flood damage to structures and buildings insured by the NFIP following a flood-related disaster event, and to enhance community flood resilience within NFIP-participating communities. It does so by providing funding for mitigation opportunities immediately after a flood disaster event with the aim of delivering mitigation outcomes. **Application deadline: January 15, 2025**

### National Forest Foundation 2026 Matching Awards Program Nationwide Grant Opportunity

Through the Matching Awards Program (MAP), the NFF is soliciting proposals to provide funds for projects that directly benefit America's National Forests and Grasslands. MAP pairs federal funds provided through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service with non-federal dollars raised by award recipients,

multiplying the resources available to benefit the National Forest System. **Application deadline: January 22, 2026**

### Fire Science Innovations through Research and Education

Focus area 2: Enhancing Capacity for Fire Resilience in the Wildland-Urban Interface (FIRE-WUI); Considering impacts of wildland fire at the WUI in the context of global change, including demographics, ecosystems, land use and development, FIRE-WUI awards will support research that may for example: Inform community adaptation and governance relevant to wildland fire. **Application deadline: February 10, 2026**

### The Climate Smart Communities Initiative - 2026 Grant Cycle

CSCI awards provide funding and technical assistance to advance community-based climate resilience in US communities or regions that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The total grants budget is \$1.5-2 million, and grants typically range from \$75,000 to \$115,000 based on the scope of work proposed in the application. CSCI anticipates awarding between 16-20 grants for the 2026 cycle. The program prioritizes funding for communities that include historically disinvested populations at increased risk to climate-related impacts. It is open to US-based project teams composed of a climate adaptation practitioner and representatives from a local or regional government entity and a community-based organization. **Application deadline: March 12, 2025**

### Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects (Small Storage Program)

The Secretary of the Interior gives priority to proposals that meet one or more of the following criteria: Projects that will provide a more reliable water supply for States, Indian Tribes, and local governments. Projects that will increase water management flexibility and reduce impacts on environmental resources from projects operated by Federal and State agencies. Projects that are regional in nature. Projects with multiple stakeholders. Projects that will provide multiple benefits, including water supply reliability, ecosystem benefits, groundwater management and enhancements, and water quality improvements. **Application deadline: April 17, 2026**

# Upcoming Events

NOTE: Updated info on events can be found at the Tribal Wellbeing for Seven Generations Website:  
<https://itep.nau.edu/tw7g/>

## December

**Webinar: December 4, Virtual**  
**[STACC Webinar Series - Good Fire Chapter](#)**

Join the Status of Tribes and Climate Change (STACC) Report authors of the Good Fire chapter for a lively discussion guided by Tribal Knowledge Holders. The panel of authors will share presentations on aspects of Good Fire and take questions from the audience.

**Conference: December 9-10, Virtual**  
**[Invasive Species and Climate Change](#)**

The second International Invasive Species and Climate Change Conference is being organized by the Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change (RISCC) Network and hosted by the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA). The 1st IISCCC (January 2024) was a smashing success with nearly 1300 attendees from >20 countries and 6 continents. This conference is VIRTUAL allowing for more international attendance while reducing our carbon footprint.

**Webinar: December 10, Virtual**  
**[Tribal Green Transportation Training Series Session](#)**

Join our Tribal Green Transportation Training Series on Change Management and Transportation Electrification (TE) Planning! This 4-part webinar series will help Tribes explore the economic and environmental benefits of electric vehicles and EV infrastructure. Learn about the latest trends, gain technical support, and connect with other Tribes across the PNW advancing TE planning and economic development.

## March

**Workshop: March 4-6,**  
**Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA**

**[Fire Adaptation Workshop- Oregon State University](#)**

Join Oregon State University, the Fire Adapted Communities Network and partners for an engaging workshop to transform how we adapt and coexist with wildfire in light of dynamic ecological, social and economic challenges. As new fire policies and adaptation strategies have grown across the Northwest, it is essential that we work together to learn, share and craft actionable visions. The workshop will be a space that honors wildfire adaptation as a collective and long-term journey involving diverse voices, generations, roles and experiences.

## April

**Summit: April 11-12, Tucson, AZ**  
**[U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty & Governance Summit 2026](#)**

The U.S. Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network invites Tribal and Indigenous leaders, Indigenous community programs, Indigenous data-focused scholars, policy experts, and other data actors and practitioners to submit a proposal for the 2026 Summit, "Coming Home: Indigenous Data Governance By Us For Us."

**Forum: April 15-17, San Antonio, TX**  
**[2026 South Central Climate Resilience Forum](#)**

The Forum will bring together representatives from non-profit organizations, all levels of government, community groups, the private sector, and academia from Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The goals of the event are to improve understanding of the climate-related challenges facing the region and increase awareness of work that is being done to enhance resilience in

the region. The program will include presentations, symposiums, and workshops on resources, research, tools, knowledge, and experiences, and will provide opportunities for information exchange and network-building.

## May

**Forum: May 12-14, Pittsburgh, PA**  
**[7th National Adaptation Forum](#)**

The National Adaptation Forum is a biennial convening for adaptation professionals to innovate, network, and focus on established and emerging climate adaptation issues of the day. The Forum provides opportunities for professional development through training sessions, facilitated presentations and panels, and formal and informal networking sessions. At its core, the Forum is cross-disciplinary, bringing together practitioners from a variety of sectors, spanning natural, built, and social systems. Participants include representatives from governments (local, state, federal and tribal), nonprofit organizations, corporate sector and universities.

**Conference: May 21-22,**  
**University of Redlands, CA**  
**[Second Annual California Native American Tribal GIS Summit 2026](#)**

The second Annual California Native American Tribal GIS Summit 2026 will take place in Redlands, CA. It is a gathering space for Tribal GIS practitioners - CA Native American Tribes, Tribal Partners and Organization who have an interest in the Tribal uses, needs, and solutions of GIS based technology. Virtual option for plenary sessions; workshops in person. Contact Donna Miranda-Begay if you have any questions about the summit at [donnabegay@yahoo.com](mailto:donnabegay@yahoo.com).

# International Indigenous News & Resources

## In the News

### [Indonesia must recognise Indigenous Peoples and consider them partners for national development: UN experts](#)

UN experts\* today expressed grave concern about Indonesia's persistent lack of recognition of Indigenous Peoples, and the systemic human rights violations they face. "We call on Indonesia to formally recognise Indigenous Peoples and be open to engaging them as vital partners in shaping an inclusive, sustainable and rights-based national development," the experts said. "Giving recognition to all groups, respecting their differences and allowing them all to flourish, in a truly democratic spirit, does not lead to conflict—it prevents conflict," they said. Although Indonesia voted in favour of the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the country continues to deny formal recognition to self-identifying Indigenous Peoples, undermining their rights to lands, to self-determination and their cultural rights, the experts said. ©UN Press Release, 11/4/25

### [Despite Record Indigenous Presence at Brazil COP30 Climate Summit Sparks Frustration Over Exclusion](#)

This year's major global climate meeting, the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was held in Belem, Brazil, the gateway to the Amazon. This year marked the largest-ever participation of Indigenous Peoples in COP history, with over 3,000 Indigenous Peoples' representatives. However, for Indigenous Peoples, this summit was one of the most frustrating and disappointing conferences as high Indigenous attendance did not translate into influence. ©Cultural Survival, 11/23/2025

### [Plans to dispose of mining waste in Norway's Arctic Ocean worries Sámi fishers, herders](#)

Mining company Blue Moon Metals plans to dispose of its mining waste in Repparfjord, a nationally protected salmon fjord in the Norwegian Arctic that Indigenous Sami fishers rely on. When operational, the Nussir ASA copper mine will deposit between 1 million and 2 million metric tons of tailings at the bottom of the fjord annually, according to the company's permit. ©Mongabay, 11/18/2025

## Call for Input & Nominations

### [Call for Case Studies: Global Indigenous Peoples' Climate Contributions](#)

ELATIA network and Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners (ILEPA), in partnership with the UN High-level Champion for COP28, Razan Al Mubarak, and with support from the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, are pleased to announce the call for case study submissions for the global data study on Indigenous Peoples and climate change. The Study emphasizes a rights- and responsibilities-based approach, highlighting Indigenous Peoples as agents of change in climate action at local, regional, national, and international levels. It will focus on case studies from the seven socio-cultural regions of Indigenous Peoples: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Arctic, North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Russian Federation, illustrating their contributions to climate

ambition, mitigation, adaptation, and trends in access to climate finance. **Deadline to Submit: ASAP**

### [Call for Inputs: OHCHR Report on climate financing and human rights](#)

The Human Rights Council, in its resolution 59/25 of 8 July 2025 entitled "Human rights and climate change" (para. 24), has requested the Secretary-General to consult Member States and other relevant stakeholders in order to prepare and submit to its sixty-third session a synthesis report on actionable pathways in mobilizing sufficient climate financing and associated challenges and opportunities in the pursuit of the full realization of human rights for all people. **Deadline: January 15, 2026**

## Job & Internship Opportunities

### [Fellowship: Applications Open for 2026-27 Global Change Research Fellows](#)

The Global Change Research Fellows program provides financial, scientific, and professional-development support for graduate students who are incoming to or currently enrolled at a Consortium University or a citizen of a USET member Tribal Nation in the Southeast attending any university. Recipients will join an interdisciplinary community of graduate students and faculty focused on global environmental change. Fellows will participate in a fully funded, week-long Climate Adaptation Science Field Intensive in August or December 2026, attend weekly virtual cohort meetings and workshops and contribute to a Team Science Synthesis Project, SE CASC Working Group, or Communications Project. During the 2026–27 academic year, fellows will also host at least two SE CASC-related convenings and create a Researcher Spotlight showcasing their work, along with taking part in additional professional development opportunities. **Application deadline: January 17, 2026**

### [Job: Conservation International: Director of Indigenous and Community-Based Ocean Governance](#)

The Director of Indigenous and Community-based Ocean Governance will lead the Community-based Conservation program in Hawai'i, serving as a key organizational leader responsible for achieving transformational conservation outcomes. Leveraging place-based learning emerging from Hawai'i, the Director will help lead strategy development, in collaboration with partners and colleagues, towards a global Indigenous Ocean Governance strategy, lending technical support and oversight across the organization. **Deadline: Until Filled.**

### [Call for Nominations: 3rd Biennial UN Global Indigenous Youth Forum](#)

The UN encourages Indigenous Youth who are working for the future of Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and climate change resilience to join us for the III Session of the UN Global Indigenous Youth Forum (UNGIYF). Co-hosted by the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC) and FAO, the UNGIYF is the only high-level forum in the UN dedicated to Indigenous Youth. It is a biennial forum, taking place every 2 years, and builds on the momentum of the positive changes that Indigenous Youth are advancing globally. **Deadline to Submit: ASAP**



# International Indigenous Resources

## Resources & Funding

### **Funding:** [2026 Future Conservationist Awards](#)

CLP offers Future Conservationist Awards of up to US \$15,000 each to conduct scientific research, encourage and promote pro-conservation attitudes and deliver tangible results to better conserve and manage the natural world. Early-career conservationists in eligible countries can apply for project grants of up to USD 15,000, leadership training, and access to a global alumni network. Projects should focus on conserving globally threatened or data-deficient species and priority habitats, addressing themes such as climate adaptation, habitat restoration, Indigenous participation, wellbeing, and environmental policy. Teams (minimum 3 members) must be early-career and primarily national to the project country. **Application deadline: January 9, 2026**

### **Report:** [Rights Of Nature: An Indigenous-Led](#)

[Movement For Climate Resilience](#) (November 2025) Rooted in Indigenous leadership, the Rights of Nature movement is redefining our relationship with the Earth and protecting communities, rivers, and forests worldwide. Real climate solutions honor Nature's inherent rights, not its exploitation.

### **Publication:** [Implementing Indigenous rights through climate-health governance: advancing the Indigenous Determinants of Health framework within the UNFCCC](#) (November 6, 2025)

As the UNFCCC evolves, the urgency to advance Indigenous Peoples' Rights within global climate governance has never been greater. COP 30 offers a powerful starting point to embed reforms that center Indigenous leadership, rights and knowledge systems. This article proposes integrating the Indigenous Determinants of Health (IDH) Framework into UNFCCC processes to realize Indigenous Rights as affirmed by UNDRIP and the Paris Agreement. Drawing on CBD Decision 16/19, we highlight entry points in the Global Stocktake, the Gender Action Plan and the national adaptation planning, alongside five additional mechanisms on adaptation, finance, and loss and damage. We argue the IDH provides a rights-based structure for implementing Article 7.5 of the Paris Agreement and ensuring alignment with UNDRIP, FPIC and cultural safety.

### **Publication:** [Human rights in climate change adaptation: emerging trends in National Adaptation Plans](#) (November 19, 2025)

This briefing note considers 76 updated National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) that had been submitted by different countries to the UNFCCC by September 2025. We undertook a text mining analysis to look at the way the NAPs consider the general human rights obligations to ensure non-discrimination by analysing and addressing risks to different groups in society, and also how they consider the obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights. The analysis finds that human rights issues, like food security, adequate housing and access to water, are reflected in adaptation plans but not in depth, and that the human rights standards for the realisation of these rights are not well reflected. These findings are concerning given the relevant obligations placed on states, but also because of the opportunity that a human rights-based approach (HRBA) provides for enhancing the effectiveness of adaptation measures. In the briefing note, the Danish Institute for Human Rights proposes practical

recommendations that future adaptation plans should take into consideration to meaningfully embed a human rights-based approach.

### **Funding:** [Youth Wellness Honorarium \(Indigenous Climate Action\)](#)

Honorariums are intended for Indigenous Youth engaged in frontline activism and/or climate justice organizing. At ICA we know that financial and mental health barriers often impact Indigenous Peoples when engaging in climate justice work. By creating this fund, Indigenous Climate Action hopes to remove some of those barriers that come up when upholding our sacred responsibilities. The fund can be used to pay for counseling sessions, provide an honorarium to an elder for their teachings, pay for an art or yoga class, or for gas to get out on the land if you live elsewhere. **Deadline: ongoing.**

## Events

### **Meeting:** [December 1-3, Virtual Recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in the context of the climate crisis, biodiversity governance & territorial integrity: focusing on nomadic & semi-nomadic peoples, including pastoralists & shifting cultivators](#)

Every year, the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch within the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs organizes an international expert group meeting (EGM) on a theme recommended by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In its twenty-fourth session in 2025, the Permanent Forum recommended the theme of the EGM: "Recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in the context of the climate crisis, biodiversity governance and territorial integrity: focusing on nomadic and semi-nomadic peoples, including pastoralists and shifting cultivators".

### **Forum:** [April 20th -May 1st, 2026, UN Headquarters, New York](#)

#### [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#)

The twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) will be held from April 20 to May 1, 2026, with the theme "Ensuring Indigenous Peoples' Health, Including in the Context of Conflict." As a high-level advisory body to ECOSOC, the Forum addresses Indigenous issues related to development, culture, the environment, education, health, and human rights.

### **July 13-17, 2026, Geneva, Switzerland**

#### [UN 19th Session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)