

## NEWS

*The Tribal Newsletter*  
is published free monthly.  
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## LETTER

# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues> Vol. 15, No. 9 — September 2006

### <> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

#### September

**11-15** Reminder: Tribal Air Quality Training, Level 1, Flagstaff, AZ  
**13-14** Native & Western Perspectives on Community Decision Making, UAA, Anchorage, AK  
**24-28** Tribal Science Conference, Quinault Beach Resort Casino, WA (See below)  
**26-29** Basic Source Assessment/Air Quality Computations Training, Level 2, Juneau, AK  
Information: Lydia Scheer, (928) 523-6887, [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu) Appl. deadline: 9/13.

#### October

**17-19** Enforcement, Compliance & FARR Workshop, Kiana Lodge Suquamish Reservation, WA. (Pg.2)  
**19-21** NIEA, Anchorage, AK [www.niea.org](http://www.niea.org)  
**25-26** Region 10/NWIFCA, 4<sup>th</sup> EPA/Washington Tribes Environmental Symposium, TBA  
Information: Fran Wilshusen (360) 438-1181 x 351, [fwilshus@nwifc.org](mailto:fwilshus@nwifc.org)  
**31-11/3** Air Quality and Community Health, Level 2, Umatilla Reservation, Pendleton, OR (Page 2 §)

#### November

**2-4** 2006 National Air Monitoring Conference, Las Vegas, NV. (Page 2 §§)  
**2-5** 28<sup>th</sup> Annual AISES Conference, Detroit, MI [www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org)  
**9-10** Native American Women's Conference, Radisson Ft. McDowell Resort, Scottsdale, AZ (Page 2)

#### December

**7-8** Northwest Environmental Conference, Red Lion, Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR  
Conference and Tradeshow (Improving the Environment) [www/mwec/org](http://www/mwec/org)

### <> EVENTS <>

#### National Estuary Day

September 30, 2006 is National Estuary Day. The featured event of this celebration is a free, interactive field trip of special estuaries on the Internet. It is hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Estuarine Research Reserves and EPA. To learn more visit: <http://estuaries.gov>

#### Tribal Environmental Science

Save the date! The National EPA-Tribal Science Council will sponsor the National Tribal Science Conference at the

Quinault Beach Resort and Casino on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington from September 24 to 28. The conference will provide a forum to conduct training, exchange information, and address selected issues on science topics to include traditional knowledge of importance in Indian country. EPA and tribal leaders and staff working on environmental science topics (those working with tribal organizations, tribal colleges, universities, and other federal agencies) are encouraged to attend.

The National forum on Tribal environmental Science website

has been launched! You can visit the website, register for training sessions and activities. Also, under the call for papers for presentation during the conference, you can submit abstracts and posters at: <http://www.scgcorp.com/TribalScience> .

Register for the conference, training courses, activities and field trips at: <http://www.scgcorp.com/TribalScience>. Visit the Tribal Science Council website at: <http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes/announce/event.htm> .

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**FARR Workshop**

The workshop will provide an overview of the Federal Air Rules for Reservations in Idaho, Oregon and Washington; what has happened since the rules were approved on June 7, 2005; EPA procedures for calling and communicating burn bans; overview of enforcement procedures and policies; and inspector training.

The Suquamish Tribe will provide a limited number of scholarships for travel to attend the conference. For information: Diana Boquist at (206) 553-1586 or Dee Williams at (360) 394-8502.

**Air Quality Training §**

Air Quality and Community Health Training is hosted by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals. This course will focus on identifying community health impacts and strategies for mitigating them. Prerequisite: *Introduction to Tribal Air Quality*. For more information: Lydia Scheer at (928) 523-6887.

**National Air Monitoring Conference §§**

This Conference is sponsored by the EPA in conjunction with STAPPA/ALAPCO. Designed for tribal, local, and state air quality staff involved with operating, planning, or managing air monitoring networks and reporting data to AQS, AIRNOW, and other users.

For information contact Kevin Cavender at: [cavender.kevin@epa.gov](mailto:cavender.kevin@epa.gov) or Pete Babich at: [pete.babich@po.state.ct.us](mailto:pete.babich@po.state.ct.us)

**319 Tribal Training**

The 319 tribal training is planned for **October 2-4, 2006**, in **Olympia** at the **NWIFC offices**. The training will start on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon for tribes that do not have TAS yet. The training for tribes that already have 319 TAS will start on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. For additional information contact Krista Mendelman at (206) 553-1571.

**Native American Women’s Conference**

Just a reminder to sign up now for the conference **November 9 & 10** at the Radisson Ft. McDowell Resort and Casino in Scottsdale, AZ. Registration at: [www.arizonaiwia.org](http://www.arizonaiwia.org).

**ABOUT OUR NEW LOOK**

With this issue, the *Tribal Newsletter* is adding more of the color and style visible on the Web.

**Nominations Open for Watershed Grants**

The Environmental Protection Agency invites proposals for the fourth year of its national watershed grants program: “Targeted Watershed Grants.” This program focuses on restoring and protecting our national waterways.

For this cycle, up to \$16 million will be made available to watershed-based restoration and protection projects aimed at improving water quality throughout the country. Proposals selected will be awarded up to \$900,000 each over a three to five year period. EPA requires a 25% non-federal match, and will use a competitive process to select watersheds. Governor and Tribal Leader nominations are required. Nominations are due **November 15, 2006**.

For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/implementation.html>

EPA will also award \$3.2 million in capacity-building grants to up to seven leading training organizations to help local watershed groups develop the skills needed to improve watershed health. Organizations with expertise in watershed training and local capacity building can submit proposals up to **October 16, 2006**.

For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/capacity.html>

If you have questions, please contact Bevin Reid at (800) 424-4372, x1566, or [reid.bevin@epa.gov](mailto:reid.bevin@epa.gov). For information about the program, go to [www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/)

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**Electronic Grants**

EPA invites you to submit competitive and state mandatory grant applications electronically at: <http://www.grants.gov> . Grants.gov is a single, authoritative source for finding information on and applying for competitive grant opportunities.

EPA receives applications/proposals from [grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) electronically. That website includes more than \$350 billion in annual grants from 26 federal agencies. State, local, and tribal governments, colleges and universities, non-profits and other organizations have the access they need through [grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) to efficiently find grant opportunities in just one convenient online location saving both grantors and grant community time and money.

Once you've registered, be sure to let everyone know so they can take advantage of this great new program. For assistance, you may contact [grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) support services directly at (800) 518-4726.

The complete registration process can take up to four weeks, so don't delay! Sign up now and enjoy the benefits.

**AIEO Update**

The American Indian Environmental Office Spring/Summer Information Update is now posted on the AIEO website at <http://www.epa.gov/indian/1up.htm>

**CARE**

Community Action for a Renewed Environment or CARE is an initiative designed to establish a series of multi-media, community-based and community-driven projects to reduce toxic pollution. In 2005 and 2006, EPA solicited proposals for two levels of competitive grants from tribal and local governments and various local organizations, including non-profits, citizens, businesses, schools and community organizations, to create collaborative partnerships to address toxics in their local environment.

The CARE program will have a **National Training Workshop November 15-17, 2006** in Seattle, Washington. The training workshop is for representatives from the 29 selected CARE community partnerships, EPA staff in headquarters and the Regions working on CARE, state representatives, and selected speakers and trainers. For information: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/care>

**Environmental Justice Small Grants**

Tribal representatives of a nonprofit organization may apply for a grant to address local environmental hazards through community partnerships. The Environmental Justice Small Grants program is a multi-statute program designed to help communities understand and address their exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks.

**Deadline for applications: October 23, 2006.** For more information: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=10091>

**NISA Scholarships**

Northwest Indian Storytellers Association is offering travel scholarships for 20 tribal storyteller apprentices and their mentors to attend the **Apprenticeship Workshop and Story-telling Festival, Portland, Oregon, January 5-7, 2007**. If you are a native high school youth, grades 9-12, living in Washington, Oregon or Idaho or a youth mentor (tribal storyteller, cultural leader or elder), you are welcome to apply. For application forms and guidelines, contact Elaine Lanegan: (503) 777-7140 or [liaison@wisdomoftheelders.org](mailto:liaison@wisdomoftheelders.org)

**Captain Planet Foundation**

The Captain Planet Foundation provides \$500 to \$2,500 grants to help children and youth around the world, working individually or collectively, to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. There are four grant cycles a year, and the **next deadline is September 30, 2006**. For information, visit: <http://www.captainplanetfdn.org>

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**Community Reinvestment**

The Community Reinvestment Fund (CRF) is a national nonprofit organization established to provide capital through a secondary market to community development leaders in low-income communities. Lenders are typically nonprofit organizations or government agencies. Clients include cities, towns, states, Indian tribes, and nonprofit community development organizations. The site provides information about loan services for community development leaders, investors, and the public. For more information: [www.crfusa.com](http://www.crfusa.com)

**Washington Internship for Native Students**

AIEO is currently developing two 3-year grant packages of \$450,000 each for scholarships and internship: Washington [DC] Internship for Native Students (WINS).

The Request for Proposals will be published in the fall. Each grant package can then be used as a vehicle for EPA offices to provide funding support for American Indians. The program will include several internships within tribal communities where tribes have advanced environmental programs.

Part of the scholarship program is for the students to earn college or university credits

**Water Infrastructure Funding**

USDA Rural Development has water infrastructure funding available for tribes under the Native American Grants program. This year, \$16.3 million is available nationwide. Eligible tribes must have a per capita income of no more than \$15,110, an unemployment rate of at least 6.25%, and a documented public health or environmental need. For more information: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/2006funding.htm>

for their work. This agreement can be with TCU's or local colleges or universities. For information: Caren Robinson at (202) 564-0544 or: [robinosn.caren@epa.gov](mailto:robinosn.caren@epa.gov).

**Washington State**

The Nisqually Indian Tribe will receive \$550,000 from Northwest Pipeline Corporation to establish and manage a fund to buy wetlands to preserve the natural environment of the Nisqually Watershed. The fund is a form of environmental mitigation used to minimize potential harm to aquatic resources when projects disturb the environment.

**Land-Use Planning Tool**

The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN), with Purdue University and the EPA, has created an online tool to help local government planners measure the water quality impacts of land-use changes. Local governments provide information about their location, the proposed land-use change, and the area soil type.

Based on community-specific climate data, the Long-Term Hydrologic Impact Assessment (L-THIA) model estimates changes in recharge, runoff, and nonpoint source pollution resulting from

the proposed development. These results can be used to generate community awareness of potential problems and to support planning aimed at minimizing disturbances in critical areas. L-THIA is also a useful tool to identify the best location for a particular land use so as to have the least impact on the environment.

L-THIA is available free on the LGEAN website. A GIS extension is also available for use with ArcView software. To download L-THIA, visit LGEAN's resources: [www.lgea.org/html/exchange.cfm](http://www.lgea.org/html/exchange.cfm) and select the "Land Use Impacts on Water Quality Model."



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### Groundwater Source Guide

Looking for an educational guide about the importance of source water protection? The Groundwater Foundation's *Source Water, Assessment and Protection Workshop Guide* may be what you are looking for.

The guide provides local leaders and community members with the necessary tools to educate and motivate their communities to get involved with source water assessment and protection.

The new additions to this year's guide include: •detailed information about source water protection strategies; • new insight into areas where the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act intersect; and • a section of techniques to evaluate the workshop activities.

To download a free copy of the *Source Water Assessment and Protection Workshop Guide (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)* go to:

[www.groundwater.org/gi/swap/swap.html](http://www.groundwater.org/gi/swap/swap.html)

Hard copies are available for \$49.95 by calling (402) 434-2740.

### Air Toxics Risk Assessment (ATRA)

EPA announced the publication of Volume 3 of its *Air Toxics Risk Assessment Reference Library*. This volume builds on information present in ATRA Volume 1 to describe how to evaluate and reduce cumulative air toxics risks at the local level.

The document also presents readily available information on additional multimedia risk factors that may affect communities and strategies to reduce those risks. The ATRA library, along with other EPA Office of Air risk resources can be accessed on the Fate, Exposure and Risk Analysis (FERA) website: [www.epa.gov/ttn/fera](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/fera)

### Total Coliform Rule

EPA is promoting a new handbook to help owners and operators of small drinking water systems better understand the *Total Coliform Rule* under the Safe Drinking Water Act. For information: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tcr/tcr.html>

### Educational Materials

If you are looking for environmental education materials and funding sources, EPA's *Environmental Education Clearinghouse* may be the answer. This clearinghouse is your online tool to located materials and funds available from hundreds of organizations in the Northwest. The resources have been sorted by audience, resource type, and subject.

Just type a keyword into the search field. For more specific results, check the keywords indicating the resources you are interested in, and click "Find." The list you receive tells where you can obtain the resources (most are free). To access the clearinghouse online, visit: [www.epa.gov/r10earth/clearinghouse](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/clearinghouse) . For more information, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at (206) 553-1200 or (800) 424-4372.

### School Drinking Water

Millions of children spend their days in schools and child care centers. Therefore, assuring good, safe drinking water in these facilities is extremely important. To aid in this effort, EPA has created a *Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities* Web page.

Lead in school drinking water is the current focus of this site. It features information about the sources of lead in drinking water, and about the laws and regulations concerning lead in drinking water. For more information: [www.epa.gov/OGWDW/schools/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/schools/index.html)

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**Scrap Tire Cleanup Guidebook**

In an effort to reduce scrap tire piles around the country, EPA and the State of Illinois have created the *Scrap Tire Cleanup Guidebook*, a resource for solid waste managers across the country. It is estimated that more than 290 million tires are scrapped each year in the U.S. While 80% are being reused, millions have been accumulating in stockpiles over the past several decades.

Large scrap tire stockpiles present a risk to human health and the environment. State, federal and local agencies have spent tens of millions of dollars in the past, responding to tire fires. The guidebook is rich with case studies highlighting many success stories. It can be found at: [www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/wptdiv/solidwaste/tires/](http://www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/wptdiv/solidwaste/tires/)

**Get Prepared**

*Get Prepared* is a Web portal from the American Red Cross that offers an expansive collection of resources. This collection includes a vast array of materials on natural disasters and includes materials for teachers, schools, home, and work.

To reach the *Get Prepared* site, go to: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) and click on “Get Prepared” in the menu column. Materials are available online or can be ordered through a local Red Cross chapter.

**Extreme Heat Events**

Extreme heat events can increase the number of deaths and nonfatal problems in vulnerable populations, including older adults, the very young, the homeless and persons with cognitive and physical impairments.

EPA has worked with federal, state, local, and academic partners to develop guidance to help communities prepare for and respond to excessive heat events. EPA developed a guidebook in collaboration with

NOAA, CDC, and FEMA, with input from a wide range of local officials and national experts on heat events.

The guidebook provides local health and public safety officials with information they need to develop criteria to forecast heat events and extreme heat notification and response actions. A copy of the guidebook can be downloaded at: [http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/epareports.htm#rjr\\_hw](http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/epareports.htm#rjr_hw)

**Wadeable Streams Survey**

EPA provides information about the health of local watersheds, based on its Wadeable Streams Assessment, conducted between 2000 and 2004. The study constitutes the first consistent evaluation of U.S. streams that feed rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. The report includes assessments of streams that are shallow enough to be sampled without a boat.

EPA found that though stream conditions vary widely across the diverse ecological

regions of the country, streams in the West are in the best condition.

The Agency believes that when citizens have a clear idea of the health of their watersheds, they can protect them more effectively.

For information, visit: [www.epa.gov/owow/streamsurvey](http://www.epa.gov/owow/streamsurvey)

## Public Comment on Executive Order 13175

**E** Public comment on Executive Order 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* has been extended to **September 19, 2006**. For more information, contact Joan Crawford at (202) 564-6568 or [crawford.joan@epa.gov](mailto:crawford.joan@epa.gov) or Jose Aguto at (202) 564-0289 or [aguto.jose@epa.gov](mailto:aguto.jose@epa.gov).

### **V** Wastewater/Electricity

**I** Researchers at Washington University in St. Louis have been working on a microbial fuel cell that uses bacteria to treat wastewater and create electricity. The developer, engineering professor Lars Angenent, told the *Washington University Reporter*, "a bio-electricity generating wastewater treatment system in just one large food-processing plant could power as many as 900 American single-family homes."

**N** A full description of the process and research can be found at: <http://record.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/5454.html>

### Wind Power

According to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), Wind energy installations in the United States now exceed 10,000 megawatts in generating capacity and produce enough daily electricity to power the equivalent of more than 2.5 million homes.

"With its current performance, wind energy is demonstrating that it could rapidly become an important part of the nation's power portfolio," said AWEA executive director Randall Swisher when announcing the new numbers. <http://www.awea.org/>

### **W** EPA Regulations

**S** By the beginning of 2006, the EPA had implemented 87 primary drinking water standards and 15 secondary standards. Keeping up with all these regulations and rules can be mind boggling.

The site, [www.epa.gov/OGWDW/regs.html](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/regs.html) developed by EPA's Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water, lists all current regulations by the date they were issued and provides links to guidance manuals and fact sheets for them. It also has proposed rules, the *Code of Federal Regulations*, and drinking water standards, including the contaminants and maximum contaminant load (MCL) figures.

### Imported Engines

EPA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection have seized and prevented the import of over 11,000 items of illegal gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles and equipment this year. According to the U.S. General Services Administration, EPA also assessed over \$798,000 in civil penalties against the importers, plus Customs penalties and storage fees. The Substandard equipment, which included tractors, lawn and garden equipment, off-road motorcycles, ATVs and more, posed a significant risk to human health and the environment. Visit: <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/newsnotes/nn8645.htm>

### EPA Hydraulic Truck

On June 21<sup>st</sup>, EPA unveiled the world's most fuel-efficient and cost-effective delivery vehicle. EPA and UPS partnered to develop a UPS truck. The first of its kind, it uses EPA-patented hydraulic hybrid technology that can improve fuel efficiency by 60 to 70% in urban driving and lower greenhouse gas emissions by 40%. Laboratory tests show that this hybrid technology has the potential

to improve fuel economy for package delivery vehicles, shuttle and transit buses, and trash pickup. More than 1,000 gallons of fuel per vehicle could be saved each year. The net savings over the vehicle's lifespan could exceed \$50,000, assuming current fuel prices. Visit: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/technology/recentdevelopments.htm>



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 10 Tribal Program  
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*Region 10 Tribal Newsletter*  
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### **Wave Power**

One potential approach to reducing the cost of electricity involves harnessing the power of ocean waves. Reedsport, Oregon may become the site of the first utility-scale wave power generator in the country. Ocean Power Technologies of New Jersey has applied for a permit from the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish a 50-megawatt wave power facility in Reedsport. The company will “install its ocean-tested PowerBuoys,” at first creating a total of 2 megawatts, some “2.5 miles off the coast at a depth of 164 feet,” according to the July 24<sup>th</sup> *Portland Business Journal*.

If the project is successful, Ocean Power Technologies hopes to provide enough renewable wave power energy to electrify a large segment of the West Coast.

