

# \* NEWS

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# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



# LETTER

Vol. XIV No. 1  
January, 2005

## Work Shops and Conferences

**January 25-27 2005**, Tribal Science Council, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Reno, NV. See second article.  
**April 4-8 2005**, Sustainability and Restoration: A Practical Partnership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle, WA.. <http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/ser>  
**April 18-22 2005**, Tribal Leaders Summit 05, Sitka, Alaska. Info: Nathan Spees 907/271-6334  
**June 7 - 10 2005**, 7<sup>th</sup> National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management in Traverse City, Michigan. See first article.

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### **7<sup>th</sup> National Tribal Conference**

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB) is pleased to invite you to participate in the 7<sup>th</sup> National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (NTCEM) in Traverse city, Michigan June 7-10, 2005. The NTCEM is being held at the Grant Traverse Resort Spa, owned by GTB.

The NTCEM is one of the premier environmental events in Indian Country. With approximately 1000 people

expected, the conference provides an opportunity for tribal leaders, Tribal environmental managers, tribal scientists, tribal organizations, federal agencies, and other interested entities to share information about tribal environmental programs, and discuss issues of vital interest to Indian country.

The National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management has generally been on a bi-annual basis since 1992.

The GTB is actively seeking agenda suggestions on environmental issues of importance in Indian Country and will use selected ideas to shape the conference agenda. You are invited to submit your ideas on environmental activities, issues, and opportunities for participation in the event. In addition, GTB will have significant room for interested vendors at the conference.

For more information: Andy Knott, GTB Environmental Stewardship Director at 231/271-

7363 or [aknott@gtbindians.com](mailto:aknott@gtbindians.com) or Suzanne McSawby, GTB Natural Resource Director at 231/271-7104 or [smcsawby@gtbindians.com](mailto:smcsawby@gtbindians.com).

### **Tribal Consultation**

Government-to-government consultation is a well-worn topic. It shows up everywhere that the relationship between EPA and Tribal governments is discussed - National Environmental Justice Action Committee reports, Working Effectively with Tribal Governments training modules, national workshops, Agency policies and procedures, and even Executive Orders. So why also make it the theme of the next Tribal Leaders' Summit?

The topic will be central to the Summit in April 2005 for the same reason it appears so frequently elsewhere: consultation is not merely a legal requirement, but is in fact fundamental to the work we do together. Conducting government to government consultation demonstrates a respect for Tribal sovereignty and creates a

stronger partnership between the Agency and Tribes. Early input by Tribes in decisions affecting them promotes better approaches to environmental problems faced by Tribal communities. And continued collaboration on the development of new rules, policies and programs often leads to cooperative strategies that make implementing changes smoother and more successful. In its best cases, the consultation process fulfills EPA's trust responsibility by using the government to government relationship as a tool to achieve our shared goal of better health and natural resource protection in Indian Country.

But achieving a 'best-case' consultation process, even when everyone agrees on the importance and makes a real effort, is difficult. Why? Because, even when resources are in good supply, consultation competes with other needs within the Region's and Tribes' programs. A good communication process demands valuable time from Agency and Tribal staff and leaders alike (with additional time and expense for travel). In addition, it is tempting to take shortcuts, knowing that a truly inclusive process will delay the final outcome and prolong the uncertainty for all involved.

These practical challenges mean that EPA staff must develop real skill at designing and conducting consultation processes that save everyone time, effort, and expense without short-changing either the opportunity for Tribes to participate fully or the potential to reach the best possible outcome through cooperative thought and action. As

a foundation, most Regional staff have a firm grip on the basics, as expressed in the "Region 10 Working Definition of Tribal Consultation," and its accompanying "Guiding Principles". (Available in full on the Region 10 website.) But even for experienced staff, lessons learned from one consultation process can't be directly applied to another. Each issue that triggers consultation must lead to a process fitting the needs of the program and the Tribes involved. Staff and managers must decide when consultation is required, how early to start the process, how best to communicate the opportunity and gauge the level of interest from the Tribe(s) affected, how to organize calls and meetings to maximize participation while minimizing the burden on all parties, and finally, how to know when the process is complete.

One of the most valuable tools for "tuning-up" our ability to better meet this responsibility is the willingness of our partner Tribes in Region 10 to share with us what consultation experiences have been like for them, and how we can adapt our practices to improve the experience and outcomes for everyone. The Tribal Leaders Summit will provide a number of ways to offer insights, feedback and suggestions, and for Tribal and EPA leaders to discuss these issues directly with one another.

*The first of a three part series by Mary Bell Austin, a Region 10 Tribal Coordinator. Look for articles in the February and*

*March newsletters, as well as more details on the Tribal Leaders Summit.*

### **Air Quality Grants**

The EPA Office of Air, Waste and Toxics is pleased to announce the availability of FY 2005 Clean Air Act (CAA) grant funding for supporting tribal air quality projects in Region 10. These grants will range in size from \$50,000 to \$125. Preference will be given to proposals that show the greatest prospect of addressing serious air quality needs and producing clear environmental results, and where past grant performance has been successful.

The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding for tribal air pollution control programs, or projects that support air quality assessment and development of needed tribal air program capacity. Activities conducted under these grants often include: Identification and investigation of air pollution sources, ambient air quality monitoring, development of air pollution control regulations and ordinances, and community education and outreach. All activities must be related to air pollution assessment, prevention and/or control.

Stage 1 - *Initial Proposal by February 9, 2005.* Stage 2 - *Final proposal by May 18, 2005.* Final awards will be made by September 30, 2005.

For further information please contact: Diana Boquist 206/553-1586, Mary Manous 206/553-1059, or Doug Cole 208/378-5764.

### **Internship Announcement**

In 2005, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Forest Service will sponsor 60-80 paid summer internships with a primary focus on recruiting and exposing freshman and sophomore Hispanic, African-American, Asian and Native American students to the conservation field. The Conservation Careers Diversity Intern Program is a collaboration between FWS, FS, and the Environmental Careers Organization.

Each summer internship offers: a \$4,800 stipend (\$400/week for 12 weeks); \$1,000 housing allowance or free housing; \$300 minimum to help with relocation expenses.

Students who are currently majoring in or have an interest in the following or other related academic fields are urged to apply: Biology, Botany, GIS, Ecology, Plant Science, Cartography, Wildlife Science, Hydrology, Forestry, Fishery Science, Geology, Soil Science, Natural Resources, Chemistry, Parks and Recreation, Range Conservation, Physical Science, Environmental Education

For more information, please contact: Josephine Xiong Program Manager 617/426-4783 x.142

[jxiong@eco.org](mailto:jxiong@eco.org) or [www.eco.org/conservation](http://www.eco.org/conservation).

### **EPA Land Preservation**

EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) has established the Innovation Pilot Initiative to encourage innovative thinking and "can do" approaches about environmental challenges. The initiative's primary goals are to

pilot and test new ideas that support land preservation and restoration. Deadline Jan.14, 2005. <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/iwg/announcement.htm>.

### **Teaching Course**

There is a 6 - week e-Learning course available, "E-Teaching: Preparing successful online instructors." Classes begin January 31st and space is limited. January too soon? There will be another that will begin in March. For more: <http://www.creative-conservation.com/eteaching.htm>.

### **EMS Help**

EPA's Office of Water has announced the selection of four new Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Local Resource Centers to help local governments learn more about and adopt EMSs for their operations. These Centers are part of the Office of Water's ongoing Public Entity EMS Resource (PEER) Initiative. The new Centers are located at the University of Missouri-Rolla, Kansas State University, the University of Colorado, and EcoVenture in Oakland, California. For more:

<http://www.peercenter.net>

An EMS is a set of problem identification and problem solving tools that local governments can use, organization-wide or in a specific department, to save money and protect environmental resources by reducing waste, improving efficiency, and integrating environmental stewardship into everyday operations. An EMS provides a

systems-based approach patterned after the Shewart & Deming model of plan/do/check/act. A EMS helps organizations address their regulatory demands in a systematic and cost-effective manner. This proactive approach can help reduce the risk of non-compliance or environmental liability and improve health and safety practices for employees and the public.

Benefits from implementing an EMS can include improved ability to meet compliance requirements; increased efficiency; reduce cost and greater operation consistency; improved environmental awareness, involvement and competency throughout the organization; better communication about environmental issues inside and outside the organization; and better relationship with regulators.

### **Trading Water Quality**

EPA has published "Water Quality Trading Assessment Handbook," which is designed to help determine if trading can be used to make cost-effective pollutant reductions and determine if trading may be the appropriate tool. Using a hypothetical river basin, the handbook illustrates a framework that may be used as a model in any watershed to evaluate problems and determine if trading could effectively address those local conditions. <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/trading.htm>

### **Tribal Response Grants**

Section 128(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and

Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended authorizes a noncompetitive \$50 million grant program to establish and enhance state and tribal response programs. Generally, these response programs address the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields sites and other sites with actual or perceived contamination. Section 128(a) grants are awarded and administered by the EPA regional offices. This document provides guidance that will enable states and tribes to apply for the use Section 128(a) funds in Fiscal Year 2005.

Requests for funding will be accepted until January 31, 2005.

### **Watershed Guidebook**

The EPA has released a set of new resource guides designed to assist local governments, watershed groups, watershed management agencies, and others in planning and conducting effective watershed outreach to improve water quality.

The guidebook, *Getting in Step: A Guide for Conducting Watershed Outreach Campaigns*, pulls together principles, techniques, and information for effective watershed outreach into a single user-friendly source. A 35-minute video reinforces the six-step process outlined in the guidebook and showcases four successful outreach programs around the U.S.

To obtain a free copy of the guidebook and video, contact the National Service Center for Environmental Publications at: 800/490-9198 or [www.epa.gov/ncepihom](http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom) and ask for Publication #EPA841-B-03-002 and #EPA841-V-03-001. The book

may also be downloaded at: [www.epa.gov/nps/outreach.html](http://www.epa.gov/nps/outreach.html). For more information: Don Wayne at: 202/566-1170.

### **Superfund**

EPA estimates as many as 350,000 contaminated sites nationwide will require cleanup over the next 30 years, costing property owners and parties responsible for the damage as much as \$250 billion, according to a new EPA report that estimates future market and technology trends. <http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/Backissues/120304/120304gw.htm#1>

### **Toxic Substances**

Industry Support for HPV Program Detailed; EPA Report Says Final Test Rule Set for 2005. More than 400 chemical manufacturers, some of them working in coordination with industry groups and other consortia, have agreed to make available human health and environmental data on more than 2,200 chemicals toward completion of a public database on high-production volume chemicals, the Environmental Protection Agency said in a report released Dec. 2.

<http://pubs.bna.com/ip/BNA/den.nsf/is/a0b0c8r0n9>.

### **Someone Poisoned**

The first thing to do is call the national Poison Control Center **800/222-1222** a toll-free hotline that will connect you to a center near you. More than 75% of calls to a poison centers can be

managed over the phone.

Do not induce vomiting unless you are instructed to do so. It can be dangerous.

### **Fish and Wildlife Assistance**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is offering grants for its Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. This program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners, including local governments, for habitat restoration on their lands. A variety of habitats can be restored to benefit Federal trust species. Normally the cost share is 50 percent (the Service and the landowner each pay half of the project costs), but the percentage is flexible. There is no specific deadline for these grants. For more: <http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOI/FWS/FHC/Partners-05/Grant.html>

### **Energy Saver**

A typical household spends about \$100 a year, or more than seven percent of its energy bill on lighting. Replacing the five highest use lights in the home with ENERGY STAR-qualified models will help the typical homeowner save more than \$60 every year in energy costs. Generally, the most frequently used light fixtures are the kitchen overhead light, living room table and floor lamps, bathroom vanity, and outdoor porch light.

ENERGY STAR fixtures and bulbs last six to 10 times longer than standard models and provide the same amount of light while running on two-thirds less energy.

In addition, qualified lighting generates about 70 percent less heat than standard incandescent lighting, which means it's cooler to the touch and can help reduce energy costs associated with cooling the home. In the last year alone, the availability and variety of ENERGY STAR qualified light fixtures have increased dramatically and the market share has risen to four percent of all fixture sales.

Changing five lights is one of five simple actions that EPA is encouraging to make homes more energy-efficient and help the environment.

#### **Funding Watersheds/Airsheds**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is accepting proposals for the Conservation Partnership Initiative (CPI), a voluntary program established to foster partnerships that will focus technical and financial resources on conservation priorities in watersheds (8-digit HUC or smaller) or airsheds of special significance. Applications are due February 17, 2005. For more: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cpi>

#### **Salmon Neurotoxin**

According to a report from the Raincoast Conservation Society, based in British Columbia, Canadian farmers use a drug treatment known commercially as Slice to protect farmed salmon from getting infested with sea lice. Slice contains emamectin benzoate as its active ingredient, a chemical EPA lists as a neurotoxin because it is known to block neural transmitters in the brain.

The report states that documents from 2000 show the Canadian Food Inspection Agency began finding residues of Slice in farmed salmon. At the time, the agency had a zero tolerance for Slice consumption but later changed its policy to accept residue from Slice up to 50 ppb.

EPA allows only two parts per billion, but the Food and Drug Administration has jurisdiction over the import of farmed salmon from Canada and does not test the fish for Slice.

#### **Toxic Release Inventory**

To better inform communities, EPA today for the first time is releasing facility information about toxic chemical releases as reported to the agency. In the past, this data was received, quality-checked, analyzed and released in the annual Toxic's Release Inventory (TRI) report that resulted from the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986. The TRI program requires industrial facilities to publicly report quantities of toxic chemicals annually released into the air, water and land. TRI is an important tool that gives Americans public information on chemical releases for their community, so that they can make informed decisions about protecting their environment. The United States is an innovator in providing this level of openness in chemical reporting, and other nations are using TRI as a model. Many stakeholders have requested that the agency share TRI data sooner and in the basic format

received, without waiting for further analysis. In response to these stakeholder concerns, EPA has set up the following site: <http://www.epa.gov/tri-efdr>.

#### **Diazinon**

EPA has issued a notice to remind retailers of a Dec. 31, 2004, stop-sale date for all outdoor diazinon home, lawn and garden products. It will be unlawful to sell diazinon outdoor non-agricultural use products in the United States after the end of this year. This is part of an agreement between EPA and diazinon registrants to phase out and eliminate all residential uses of the insecticide diazinon.

Discontinuing diazinon use in home, lawn and garden care is part of EPA's ongoing effort under the 1996 Food Quality Protection Act to reduce the risk of pesticides, especially to children. Diazinon registrants are offering a "buy back" program to assist with removing these products from the market and preventing further sale. The registrants will repurchase any unopened, unused outdoor residential products from retailers or formulators.

Diazinon should not be disposed of in sinks, toilets, storm drains, or any body of water. The local government may recommend that consumers take diazinon products to a household hazardous waste collection site. The organophosphate pesticide, diazinon, has been one of the most widely used insecticides in the United States for household lawn and garden pest control, as well as for indoor residential treatments. All indoor use product registrations

have been cancelled and retail sale ended on Dec. 31, 02. <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/op/diazinon.htm>

### **Proposals for Waste**

The EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) is accepting proposals innovation pilots. OSWER has set aside at least \$500,000 to fund creative projects testing innovative approaches to one or more of the following priority areas: recovering energy or products from waste; increasing recycling; reducing waste; assessing, cleaning up, and restoring contaminated sites to sustainable and beneficial use; fostering "green" consumer and business decisions; properly managing waste and petroleum products; and enhancing homeland

security related to chemical emergency prevention preparedness and response. Proposals are due January 14, 2005. More: <http://www.epa.gov/swerrims/iwg/announcement.htm>

### **Lead Funding**

EPA is making funding available to prevent lead-based paint related poisoning in high-risk areas. Under a new competitive lead grant program, the agency will provide funding to communities having high rates of elevated blood-lead levels, as well as to communities where there are conditions associated with elevated blood-lead levels. The deadline for proposals is January 31, 2005. <http://www.epa.gov/lead>

## **OREGON**

### **Umatilla Wind Power**

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Columbia Energy Partners have joined force to build a 104 megawatt wind power project near the city of Arlington in northeastern Oregon, tribal officials said.

Under a partnership agreement being developed, the Confederated Tribes will invest in the project and participate in a development loan with the Oregon Department of Energy in exchange for an ownership stake in Columbia Energy Partners' proposed project according to a tribal news release.