

# N E W S

EPA Homepage Website

<http://www.epa.gov/r10earth>

then click on *tribes*

# L E T T E R

# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. X No. XI  
December 1, 2002

## Work Shops and Conferences

**December 2-6, BIA Rural Service Providers Conference, Egan Center, Anchorage, AK. TBA**  
**February 8-13 2003, ATNI Winter Conference, Portland, OR.** Info 503/249-5779 or [www.atnitribes.org](http://www.atnitribes.org)  
**February 22-26 2003, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, DC.** 202/466-7767  
**April 21-25, Northwest Indian Youth Conference, Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac, WA.** Sherry Pardilla  
**May 22, Region 10 Operator Certification Training, Lucky Eagle Casino, WA.** 541/928-5211  
**July 13-15, Turning Science to Service of Native Communities, Fairbanks Alaska.** For information on this Conference look under ALASKA.

### **Region 10 Tribal Newsletter** is published monthly at no charge

To receive a copy call:

AK. Jean.....907/271-6558  
ID..Arlene.....208/378-5749  
OR..Don.....503/326-5015  
WA..Alison.....360/753-8185  
Tribal Office. Judi. 800/424-4372  
ext. 4011

### **Sec. 319 Grants**

Responding to nonpoint source control concerns raised during public meetings on the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process, on August 26 the EPA published *Supplemental Guidelines for the Award Sec. 319 Nonpoint Source Grants to States and Territories in FY 2003* (67 FR 54806-54810) The guidance: ✓ integrates Sec.319 program objectives with those set forth in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, ✓ Emphasizes the implementation of projects designed to improve waters

listed as impaired under CWA Sec. 303(d), and ✓ Strongly promotes states' use of 20% of both base and incremental funds to develop watershed-based plans.

For a copy of the guidelines:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/Section319/319guide03.html> .

### **StEPP**

StEPP Foundation (Strategic Environmental Project Pipeline) was established July 2001 as a 501(c)(3) organization whose primary mission is to increase the number of energy efficiency, renewable energy and pollution prevention projects implemented at the local, state and national levels across the country for the benefit of the public. Funding is provided to a limited number of projects, in one year to three year time frames. Projects must meet a minimum funding requirement. For information:

<http://www.steppfoundation.org>

Funding Criteria: Projects most likely to receive funding from the

StEPP Foundation are those offering the greatest potential environmental benefit for the dollars invested. Your project must incorporate quantifiable environmental benefits to air, land, water, waste and energy -- individually or in combination. Other general requirements include: ✓ Energy Efficiency, ✓ Renewable Energy or Pollution Prevention ✓ Initiated within 6 months to 1 year from grant award and completed within 3 years from award date ✓ Geographical area(s) identified (ie. projects must be defined in terms of where they can be implemented) - StEPP funds have specific criteria ✓ Commercial entities are encouraged to partner with a public or non-profit applicant

Types of Eligible Project Areas: Agriculture, Air Quality, Alternative Energy, Biological Waste Mgt., Building & Design, Eco-Friendly Products, Ecology, Ecotourism, Education-Training-

Communication, Energy Efficiency, Energy Sources, Environmental Health & Safety, Environmental Management Systems, Hazardous Waste Management, Land Conservancy, Natural Resource Management, Parks Management, Pollution Prevention, Process & Prevention Technology, Recycling, Remediation/Industrial Services, Renewable Energy, Residential, Resource Recovery, Site Assessment, Audits & Modeling, Solid Waste, Source Reductions, Sustainable Development, Transportation, Water & Waste Water Management, and more...

Application Process: To apply for funding from StEPP Foundation, applicants must first submit a project idea online at

[www.steppfoundation.org](http://www.steppfoundation.org). This officially logs the applicant's project idea into the Strategic Environmental Project Pipeline (StEPP) allowing it to be considered for current funding and future funding opportunities over a twelve-month period. Once a project is entered into the StEPP Project Pipeline, the applicant will periodically receive email updates on their project's status. If a match for funding becomes available, the applicant will be requested to submit a full proposal based upon specific project criteria such as geographic location, minimum grant requested, environmental benefit, target pollution, etc. To review a current listing of the StEPP Foundation's open Request For Proposals or to add your project idea to the Strategic Environmental Project Pipeline, check out the website at: [www.steppfoundation.org](http://www.steppfoundation.org)

### USGS Report

The U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) released a new report, *Concepts for National Assessment of*

*Water Availability and Use*, in response to a directive in the fiscal year 2002 appropriations report from the House Committee on Appropriations. The committee expressed concern about the future of water availability in the United States and asked USGS to "prepare a report describing the scope and magnitude of the efforts needed to provide periodic assessments of the status and trends in the availability and use of freshwater resources."

The report is available at: <http://pubs.water.usgs.gov/circ1233>

Free copies may be obtained by writing to USGS, Branch of Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225-0286.

### Notification Templates

EPA provides ready-to-use public notification templates/forms to help water suppliers provide timely public notices to their customers. Templates are available in Word Perfect or Microsoft Word. A special section contains translated phrases in Spanish, French, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Korean. See the following website:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/pws/pn/templates.html>

Note: *You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the Adobe PDF files shown on this EPA site. The site give you instruction on how to download the Acrobat Reader at no charge.*

### Wastewater Technology

Pipeline, a free publication of the National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC) is written for a general audience, and each issue explains a wastewater technology or theme of interest to local officials and community residents. The articles are presented in an easy-to-read, non-technical

style and each issue includes a list of contacts and resources. The three most recent issues are:

"Soil Characteristics: Demystifying Dirt" (Spring 2002, Item # SFPLNL29): This issue reviews the characteristics of soil that affect the efficiency of-or choice of-dispersal methods. A glossary of soil related terms is included.

"How To Keep Your Water 'Well'" (Summer 2002, Item #SFPLNL30): This issue presents the possible effects and special considerations that are mandatory to prevent the contamination of drinking water wells in areas where onsite treatment is employed.

"Alternative Dispersal Options" (Fall 2002, Item # SFPLNL30): This issue provides clear descriptions and diagrams of the various approved subsurface dispersal methods, including trenches, contour systems, drip irrigation, gravelless and chamber systems, mound systems, evapotranspiration systems, and pressure/low pressure pipe systems.

For more information, or to order a copy of this Pipeline issue (Item #SFPLNL29, #SFPLNL30, #SFPLNL30), call the NSFC at 800/624-8301 or 304/293-4191. To order by e-mail, send the name, address, phone number, and the quantity you wish to order to:

[nsfc\\_orders@mail.nesc.wvu.edu](mailto:nsfc_orders@mail.nesc.wvu.edu)

The Pipeline newsletter may also be downloaded from NSFC's Web site, which is located at: [www.nsfsc.wvu.edu](http://www.nsfsc.wvu.edu).

### Appliance Choices

Thinking of upgrading your

appliances? The EPA wants you to know that you can save money and reduce pollution and energy use when you buy a new appliance - or a TV, computer, stereo or lightbulb. Look for products with the Energy Star label, a government certification of energy efficiency. Last year, EPA estimates these products saved \$5 billion in energy bills and reduced air pollution be the equivalent of 10 million cars. To learn more about cutting energy costs at home and at work visit: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

### **Wetland/Watershed Grants**

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Five Star Restoration Challenge Grant project partners are currently accepting applications for the 2003 Five Star Restoration Challenge Grants. The grant program awards and aids community-led initiatives that focus on wetland and watershed restoration. Project sites can be public land, such as parks, streams, and school campuses, or private land, such as corporate facilities. Applications are due March 3, 2003. For more: <http://www.naco.org/programs/environment/water/grants.cfm>

### **Oil Storage Rule**

New and improved EPA Oil Pollution Prevention regulations affecting every oil storage facility in the U.S., went into effect on **August 16, 2002**. The SPCC rules are not only easier to understand, but are expected to reduce regulatory burden by approximately 40 percent.

An EPA Oil Program insert is included with this December, 2002 Region 10 Tribal Newsletter.

Readers are also encouraged to visit the EPA's Oil web site for more details:

<http://epa.gov/oilspill/spccrule.htm>

### **Coastal Resource Awards**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is now accepting nominations for its Walter B. Jones Memorial award. The award honors innovation, resourcefulness, leadership, and a commitment to balancing the human use of America's coastal and ocean resources with the needs of the resources themselves. Applications are due January 3, 2003. For more: [http://www.nos.noaa.gov/jones\\_award\\_announcemtn.html](http://www.nos.noaa.gov/jones_award_announcemtn.html)

### **Water Quality Funding**

The EPA is soliciting initial proposals applying for Water Quality Cooperative Agreement (WQCA) grant funding. EPA intends to award an estimated \$3.1 million to eligible applicants for projects that address the requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) program with emphasis on wet weather activities and concentrated animal feeding operations, as well as projects that enhance the ability of the regulated community to deal with non-traditional pollution problems in priority watersheds. Applications are due December 30, 2002. For more information contact Barry Benroth at 202/564-0672 or [benroth.barry@epa.gov](mailto:benroth.barry@epa.gov)

### **Renewable Energy Resources**

The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Network (EREN) has produced a Renewable Energy Atlas of the West, an 80-page, full-color presentation of the renewable energy resources in the West. This online Atlas profiles wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass power resources in the West using high-resolution maps.

This Atlas is for anyone interested in renewable energy in the West, including advocates, developers, landowners, and policy makers. For more: <http://www.energyatlas.org>

### **Metropolitan Sprawl Study**

Much as Justic Potter Stewart said of pornography, most people would be hard pressed to define urban sprawl, but they know it when they see it. Smart Growth America has released a report, "Measuring Sprawl and its Impact: The Character & Consequences of Metropolitan Expansion," which is an effort to measure and evaluate metropolitan sprawl and its impacts. According to the report, metropolitan areas that sprawl more have higher traffic fatality rates, more traffic, and poorer air quality than less sprawling areas. For more: <http://www.sprawllindex.com/sprawllindex.html>

### **Drinking Water Toolkit**

The Maryland Center for Environmental Training (MCET) at the College of Southern Maryland has developed a self-evaluation toolkit for small drinking water systems titled "Staying Ahead of the Curve: How well do you know your water system?". It is designed to provide the administrators of small local governments and the managers of small public drinking water systems with the tools necessary to learn about the water systems for which they are responsible.

The toolkit is the result of intensive work with more than 30 small drinking water systems in a six-state region. MCET's work

with these facilities to identify and overcome technical, managerial, and financial challenges showed that small systems benefit greatly from periodic, concentrated evaluations of their operations. For more: <http://www.mcet.org/news/TACtoolkit.htm>.

### **Energy/Climate Web Site**

Interested in exploring new ways to conserve energy, reduce costs and meet tighter budgets. ICMA's new Web site, [www.USAenergy.org](http://www.USAenergy.org), helps local governments cope with its interactive encyclopedia of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change information.

### **Chemical Information**

EPA's Agriculture Center has recently redesigned its Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) Web site. Materials on the Web site have been organized to make it easier to find information about CEPPO programs and information resources. The site contains a searchable database of chemicals found in individual communities, as well as ways to prevent chemical accidents. For more: [http://www.oaspub.epa.gov/webi/meta\\_first\\_new2.try\\_fhese\\_first](http://www.oaspub.epa.gov/webi/meta_first_new2.try_fhese_first)

### **Conference on Stormwater**

EPA Region 5 and the Chicago Botanic Garden are sponsoring "Urban Stormwater: Enhancing Programs at the Local Level," a conference on state-of-the-art technologies and implementation programs that have proven successful in local communities. The conference will take place from February 17-20, 2003 at the Westin Michigan Avenue in Chicago, IL. To submit an abstract,

or be placed on the distribution list for future conference announcements, and program mailings, contact the conference coordinator Bob Kirschmer at: [bkirschn@chicagobotanci.org](mailto:bkirschn@chicagobotanci.org)

### **Wastewater Training**

The Office of wastewater Management's Municipal Assistance Branch and Northern Arizona University have established a pilot Tribal Wastewater Training and Technical Assistance Center.

The primary objective of the center is to provide information and no-cost, direct on-site training and technical assistance to Indian tribes on their wastewater treatment facilities. It will function as a resource center or clearinghouse for tribes to access information via publications, databases and as a contact point for other organizations able to provide other tribal services and assistance.

The center is a joint project of EPA and Northern Arizona University and will be located at NAU. For further information on the project, contact Virgil Masayeva at NAU 928/523-9651, or Curt Baranowski of EPA at 202/260-5806.

### **Clean Air**

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) has awarded a contract to a Native American-owned company to provide assistance and support to Indian tribes as they begin to implement the Clean Air Act on their lands. The Company, Portage environmental, Inc., is located in Idaho Falls, Idaho and has provided engineering and consulting services to Indian tribes and agencies of the

federal government since 1992. In this contract the company will provide technical, analytical and administrative support activities to assess, protect and improve air quality in Indian Country. EPA's regional offices will work with Indian tribes and/or tribally authorized consortia on projects that will be developed through this contract for information: Darrel Harmon at EPA 202/564-7416.

### **Security Training**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF), through a cooperative agreement with the EPA, is conducting a new series of training seminars to provide publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) with the necessary tools to initiate a vulnerability assessment and develop a security plan designed for each utility's specific needs.

A training session will be held May 14-16, 2003 in Seattle, Washington. For more information on the entire program contact WEF at 703/684-2400, ext. 709 or send e-mail to [jsullivan@wef.org](mailto:jsullivan@wef.org).

### **TAD**

In early September, For the Sake of the Salmon (4SOS) announced that the new Technical Assistance Directory (TAD) was accepting enrollment from Resource Participants, i.e., natural resource agency staff, volunteers, retirees, independent consultants and other who can provide technical assistance to watershed groups and landowners. With just under 90

Resource Participants enrolled and new ones coming online everyday, the TAD is now open to searching. Visit TAD at <http://www.4sos.org>.

4SOS website visitors can find almost 90 Resource Participants from Oregon and Washington, as well as a few from California, Idaho, Colorado and the Yukon Territory. We expect the number of Resource Participants to increase on a regular basis and hope you will check the TAD anytime you need technical assistance. Many Resource Participants offer a wide range of skills from facilitation and grant writing to fisheries biology and geomorphology, which makes it very easy to locate the right technical person for your watershed project. Whether you need to identify, implement or manage a project, facilitate a meeting or process, or write a grant, you can find help from the TAD. The online search process is easy and fast - instructions are provided every step of the way. A summary report of all the Resource Participants who match your search selections is provided, as well as the detailed information about each contact on the report.

Add yourself/organization as a TAD Resource Participant: 4SOS is asking independent consultants, retiree groups, natural resource agency representatives, watershed groups, soil and water conservation districts and anyone else with the technical background to work with local watershed groups on salmon and watershed restoration and protection projects to become a TAD Resource Participant. Adding yourself or your organization is very easy and it takes only a few minutes.

4SOS is very excited about this project and expect that it will be

extremely beneficial to salmon, watersheds and people. Please let us know what you think: Email: [tadadmin@4sos.org](mailto:tadadmin@4sos.org). Or Deb Merchant, Watershed Program Manager, For the Sake of the Salmon, 319 SW Washington, Suite 706, Portland, OR 97204 Phone 503/223-8511, ext. 6. Email [dmerchant@4sos.org](mailto:dmerchant@4sos.org) Web: <http://www.4sos.org>

~~>}}}}}}>

### Drainage Symposium

The Eighth International Drainage Symposium will be held from April 14 through 17, 2004, in Sacramento, California. The symposium is sponsored by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. It is a continuation of ASAE's commitment to provide important information on drainage and water management in a changing environment.

Professionals will share their research and discuss critical issues. The topic areas for this symposium are: ✓drainage system performance; ✓drainage system design, installation, and infrastructure; ✓drainage and the landscape; water table management and subirrigation; drainage of irrigated lands; and ✓economic, social, and institutional issues.

For more information please call 800/371-2723 or: [mcknight@asae.org](mailto:mcknight@asae.org) or visit [www.asae.org](http://www.asae.org)

### USGS Web Site

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has unveiled its new WaterWatch website that gives visitors an instantaneous picture of water conditions nationwide in near

real time. Through the use of USGS WaterWatch maps, the entire nation's current streamflow conditions, including high flood-flows and low drought-flows, are depicted on maps with color-coded dots that represent conditions at about 3,000 streamgages. The WaterWatch website is available at: [water.usgs.gov/waterwatch](http://water.usgs.gov/waterwatch).

WaterWatch features a point-and-click interface allowing users to retrieve maps and graphs of real-time stage and discharge data for individual stations. WaterWatch also serves as a geospatial front end to NWIS-Web, the USGS online National Water Information System that provides access via home or office computer to real-time and historical surface water, groundwater and water quality data. Access to data via NWIS-Web can be viewed at: [waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis).

### ALASKA

The focus of the conference "Turning Science to the Service of Native Communities" will be on integrating behavioral and hard/environmental science with the goals, needs, cultures and perspectives of Native communities. Emphasis will be on projects that are Native driven and include both behavioral-cultural and hard-science/technological components. Such integrations might involve education, research, or applied projects. Conference sessions will be in workshop format and oriented toward skill development and the

P 6 December 1, 2002

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

creation of agendas, plans, and teams for future action. Sessions will be led by a combination of Native community representatives, and Native and non-Native scientists from a variety of different fields of expertise.

To learn more visit the conference website: <http://lamar.colostate.edu/~natsci> or contact Sonya Le Febre, Department of Psychology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1876. Phone 970/491-3908.

#### OREGON

Oregon Legislation: A very important piece of legislation was passed in Oregon: SB 770, which put into state law (ORS 182.162 to 182.168)

Government-to-Government relations. Another important set of laws was adopted SB 488 & SJM 3, which is to change/replace all geographical and public properties, which contain the word "squaw." These changes are to be made by 12/2/05.

#### WASHINGTON

The Northwest Indian College was awarded the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) College Chapter of the Year Award at the 24th Annual AISES Conference held in Tulsa, OK in November 2002. Congratulations!