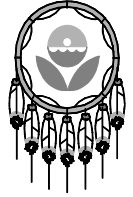


# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



## LETTER

Vol. XV No. VII  
July 1, 2006

### Work Shops and Conferences

**July 31-August 1, Multi-Stakeholders' Public Meeting on Designated Uses and Use Attainability Analyses, Sheraton Seattle Hotel, 1400 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA. See page 1. Ω**

**August 1-3, Pacific Northwest Tribal Air Network Workshop, Seattle, WA. See page 2 ‡**

**August 21-25, Tribal Leaders Summit, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Pendleton, OR.. See page 1.★**

**August 28-31, SAIGE, Anchorage, AK. [www.saige.org](http://www.saige.org)**

**September, 24-28, Tribal Science Conference, Quinault Beach Resort Casino WA. See page 2 ‡**

**October 19-21, NIEA, Anchorage, AK. [www.niea.org](http://www.niea.org)**

**October 25-26, Region 10/NWIFCA, 4<sup>th</sup> EPA/Washington Tribes Environmental Symposium, TBA**

For information: Fran Wilshusen 360/438-1181 x 351, [fwilshus@nwifc.org](mailto:fwilshus@nwifc.org)

**November 2-5, 28<sup>th</sup> Annual AISES Conference, Detroit, MI. [www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org)**

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AK..Rob.....907/271-6323

ID..Arlene.....208/378-5749

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### **R10 Tribal Leaders' Summit★**

Join us in Pendleton, Oregon at the Wildhorse Resort and Casino August 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>. Experience the culture of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians as you discuss critical environmental issues with leaders from the EPA and

tribes from Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Registration forms are ready for the 2006 EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders' Summit. The Web page is available at: <http://www.umatilla.nsn.us/2006EPASummit.html>.

### **Multi-Stakeholders' Ω**

The Water Environment Federation and the EPA have entered into a co-sponsorship agreement to host a public meeting on designated uses and use attainability analyses (UAAs). This meeting is the last in a series of three planned on these topics.

The goals: 1-to help educate the public on current Water Quality Standards regulations, policy, and practice related to designated uses and use attainability analysis, 2-to provide the public with an opportunity to join in discussions, ask questions, and provide feedback, and 3-to complement and inform as a series of discussions, EPA is holding with its Clean Water Act Co-Regulators.

Attendance at the meeting is free of charge; however, you must pre-register to attend. Please complete the online registration form at:

<http://www.tetratech-ffx.com/stakeholders/registration.cfm>.

### **PNTAN ‡**

The Pacific Northwest Tribal Air Network (PNTAN) workshop (August 1-3) is recommended for all tribal air quality professionals and their supervisors. Tribal housing administrators are invited to attend also. There will be several topics of interest including the health effects associated with improper woodstove maintenance and usage, woodstove changeout program and other related material.

Travel and hotel expenses will be reimbursed for all positions at the conclusion of the workshop. To receive the reimbursement full attendance is required. Room Reservations can be made at the Crown Plaza Hotel across from the EPA Region 10 Offices. A block of rooms have been set aside. When reserving your room, mention the Pacific Northwest Tribal Air Network (PNTAN) to receive the discounted price of \$149.00. To reserve a room, please call: 800/521-2762 or 206/464-1980. Info: Kristin 208/267-3519 x567 or [kristin@kootenai.org](mailto:kristin@kootenai.org).

### **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 on September 24-28, 2006. 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, such as those working with tribal organizations, tribal colleges, universities, and other federal agencies, are encouraged to attend.

The National forum on Tribal environmental Science Web site has been launched! You can visit the Web site, register for training sessions and activities, and submit abstracts and posters under the call for papers for presentation during the conference at: <http://www.scgcorp.com/TribalScience>.

The Deadline for the “Call for Papers” has been extended! Because the National-EPA Tribal Science Council desires to see as many tribal environmental professionals and scientists share their work with other tribes, federal agencies and tribal colleges and universities, they have extended the deadline for submitting abstracts, posters and exhibits for the National Forum Tribal Environmental Science. The deadline has been extended to **Friday, July 7, 2006**. Please see the “Call for Papers” and conference announcement (*above and on the website below*) for details. You are encouraged to submit your scientific environmental work

that falls into any of the four conference themes: Air, Water, Earth, and Community Health.

You may also obtain the “Call for Papers” from the Web site and register for the conference, training courses, activities and field trips at: <http://www.scgcorp.com/TribalScience>. To visit the Tribal Science Council’s website: <http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes/announce/event.htm>.

### **Region 10 Administrator**

Region 10 Administrator, Michael Bogert, will resign as of July 8, 2006. Ron Kreizenbeck will serve as Acting Regional Administrator starting July 10, 2006.

### **Tribal Draft Guidance**

The EPA is seeking public comment on its draft *Guidance, executive order 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* (“Guidance”). This draft Guidance addresses the provision of Executive Order 13175 (“EO 13175”) and how EPA generally intends to implement EO 13175 in connection with the relevant EPA activities. EPA is seeking public comment on this draft Guidance in order to provide EPA with a broad range of experiences and perspective as the draft Guidance is finalized.

Comments must be submitted on or before July 18, 2006. Submit your comments identified by Docket ID no. EPA-HQ-OA-2006-0248 by one of the following methods:

- <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- **E-mail: [OEI.Docket@epa.gov](mailto:OEI.Docket@epa.gov)**

• *Mail*: OEI Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 2822T, 12 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460. *Direct your comments to*: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OA-2006-0248. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and is made available online at:

<http://www.regulations.gov>.

To view the document go to: <http://epa.gov/fedrgstr>, then "search" *EPA-HQ-OA-2006-0248*.

### LGR

The **Local Governments Reimbursements (LGR)** program provides federal funds to local governments for costs related to temporary emergency measures conducted in response to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances. The program serves as a "safety net" to provide supplemental funding (up to \$25,000 per incident) to local governments that do not have funds available to pay for these response actions. Eligible local governments include cities, towns, townships, counties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes, among others. Typical incidents include transportation accidents, abandoned drums, former methamphetamine labs, chemical spills and accidents, as well as threats that any hazardous substance may be released. If local hazardous material responders incurred expenses to an incident on tribal lands or within their

jurisdiction, tribes may seek cost reimbursement from the EPA within one year of the response.

Further information on the program can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/er/lgr/index.htm>.

### NRC

The **National Response Center (NRC)** is the sole federal point of contact for reporting oil and chemical spills. To report a spill, contact 800/424-8802 or 202/267-2675 or visit their Web page: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil> and click on services and web reports. The NRC operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

### New Wetlands Rules

EPA and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers are proposing a new rule to ensure more effective wetlands restoration and preservation nation wide. The agencies' rule, being published for public comment, proposes improved science and results-oriented standards to increase the quality and effectiveness of wetlands conservation practices under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

"We are accelerating the pace of wetlands restoration and conservation," said Benjamin H. Grumbles, EPA assistant administrator for Water.

"We are focusing on a watershed approach for improving wetlands conservation in this proposed rule," said John Paul Woodley Jr., assistant secretary of the Army (Civil Works). "This

approach helps us fulfill the promise President Bush has made "to protect, improve and create new wetlands and other aquatic resources."

The proposed rule:

- Responds to recommendation of the National Research Council to improve the success of wetland restoration and replacement projects;
- Sets clear science-based and results-oriented standards nation wide while allowing for regional variations;
- Increases and expands public participation;
- Encourages watershed-based decisions; and
- Affirms the "wetlands mitigation sequence" requiring that proposed projects fully avoid and minimize potential wetland impacts.

Wetlands provide important environmental functions including protecting and improving water quality and providing habitat to fish and wildlife. Wetlands are also critically important areas for storing flood-waters and can reduce damage from storm surges caused by hurricanes.

For additional information regarding compensatory mitigation and how to provide comments on the proposed standards, see: <http://www.epa.gov/wetlandsmitigation>.

(WaterWorld May)

### Building Green

July 11-13 Building Green: Sustainable & Innovative Design for the Tribes of the Northwest. Little Creek Casino, Little Shelton, WA. For more information contact NwONAP

Grants Management Division  
at: 206/220-5270.

### **Drinking Water Tool**

The EPA has released a new tool to assist small water utilities trying to balance the demand for quality water with their financial ability to deliver. The document is one tool in a comprehensive program to protect public health, support small water systems, and keep costs of water manageable. The targeted systems serve 3,300 customers or fewer.

The document, "*Setting Small Drinking Water System Rates for a Sustainable Future*," will help owners and operators understand the full costs of providing a high-quality and adequate supply of drinking water to their customers and guide them in setting water rates that will support these costs. The document is available at:

[www.epa.gov/water/infrastructure/pdf/final\\_ratesetting\\_guide.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/water/infrastructure/pdf/final_ratesetting_guide.pdf).

### **UST Compliance**

On August 8, 2005, President Bush signed the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Title XV, Subtitle B of this act (entitled the Underground Storage Tank compliance Act of 2005) contains amendments to Subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the original legislation that created the underground storage tank (UST) program. This will require major changes to the programs, and is aimed at reducing underground storage

tank releases to our environment.

The UST provisions of the Energy Policy Act focus on preventing releases. Among other things, it expands eligible uses of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund, and includes provisions regarding inspections, operator training, delivery prohibition, secondary containment and financial responsibility, and cleanup of releases that contain oxygenated fuel additives.

Some of these provisions require implementation by August 2006; others will require implementation in subsequent years. To implement the new law, EPA and states will work closely with tribes, other federal agencies, tank owners and operators, and other stakeholders to bring about the mandated changes affecting underground storage tank facilities. More:

[http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/publ\\_109-058.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/publ_109-058.pdf).

### **UST in Indian Country**

EPA has released for public comment a draft document that contains a strategy for implementing the underground storage tanks program in Indian Country. EPA worked with tribes and other partners to develop the draft tribal strategy, which will serve as the foundation of future underground storage tank work and collaboration in Indian Country. The strategy was developed according to section 1529 of the Energy Policy Act

of 2005. EPA's Web site provides the public with the draft tribal strategy, as well as details about how and where to submit comments. Draft strategy:

[http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/epact\\_05.htm#Drafts](http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/epact_05.htm#Drafts).

### **Guthion**

On Tuesday June 13, EPA announced plans to ban zainphos methyl, one of the most widely used farm pesticides in Oregon and Washington, as a result of a Seattle law suit alleging risks to farm workers' health. The pesticide known by the trade name Guthion is used to kill codling moths, which lay eggs on or near the fruit. Once hatched, the offspring burrow into the fruit leaving wormy fruit.

### **Drinking Water Safety**

The EPA has released a new guidance document to help small water systems provide safe and affordable drinking water to their customers.

Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Options for Small Drinking Water systems provides operators and water officials with information about treatment devices that can be installed at a consumer's tap or on the water line to a consumer's home or building.

Point-of-Use devices, such as reverse-osmosis filters, are usually installed under a kitchen sink and can comply with drinking water standards for such contaminants as arsenic, lead and radium. Point-of-

Entry devices are installed outside the homes or businesses and can treat an even wider variety of contaminants. Depending on local conditions, the devices may reduce costs by more than 50 percent. Info: [epa.gov/safewater/smallsys/ssinfo.htm#two](http://epa.gov/safewater/smallsys/ssinfo.htm#two).

If every U.S. household replaced three 60-watt incandescent bulbs with three Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL) it would prevent enough pollution to equal removing 3.5 million cars from the road.

Environmental Defense

### Water Efficiency Program

*WaterSense* a new water efficiency program launched by EPA will educate American Consumers on making smart water choices that save money and maintain high environmental standards without compromising performance.

The *WaterSense* program aims to raise awareness about the importance of water efficiency, ensure the performance of water-efficient products and provide good consumer information. The *WaterSense* label will be easily identified on products and services that perform at least 20 percent more efficiently than their less efficient counterparts.

Manufacturers can certify these products meet EPA criteria for water efficiency and performance by following testing protocols specific to each product category. In addition, products will be independently tested to ensure

EPA specifications are met. These products will be available to families and businesses early next year. Info:

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

### Watershed Handbook

A watershed plan is a strategy and a work plan for achieving water resource goals that provides assessment and management information for a geographically defined watershed. It includes the analyses, actions participants and resources related to development and implementation of the plan. The watershed planning process uses a series of cooperative, iterative steps to characterize existing conditions, identify and prioritize problems, define management objectives, and develop and implement protection or remediation strategies as necessary.

EPA is releasing a document to help communities, watershed organizations, and local, state, tribal, and federal environmental agencies develop and implement watershed plans to meet water quality standards and protect water resources. The *handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect Our Waters* is designed to help anyone undertaking a watershed planning effort, but should be particularly useful to persons working with impaired or threatened waters.

The document is structured so that it can be followed step by step through the watershed planning process or so that readers can go to individual

sections that highlight specific technical tools for use in the watershed planning effort.

Worksheets and checklists are provided throughout the handbook to help work through the watershed planning process. Each chapter includes information that addresses the key issues for each step, along with examples to illustrate how to apply these concepts to your own situation.

To order a free copy, contact the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) at 800/490-9198. When requesting a copy of the Handbook, refer to EPA document number: EPA 841-B-05-005.

### Fish Guide

These fish can be eaten once a week by adults, according to an assessment of contamination levels by The Environmental Defense. Those marked with **Wild:** can be eaten more than once a week.

**Wild:** Anchovies, Artic Char (*color added*), Atlantic Butterfish, Black Cod (*Sable, Butterfish on West coast*), <sup>4</sup> Black Sea Bass (*Younger children no more than four times a month*), Haddock, Hake (*white, silver and red*), Hake (Chilean, Cape and Argentine), Halibut (*Pacific only*) *Older children 3 times a month, younger children twice*), Herring, Mackerel (*Atlantic or Boston only*), Mahi-Mahi (*Younger children 3 times a month*), Pacific cod, Pacific Sand Dab (*yellow tail flounder*), Pacific Whiting, Plaice, Porgies, Salmon (*Pacific*), Sardines, Shad, Smelt, Sole (*gray, petrale*)

,*rex*, yellowfin), Sole(Dover; English or lemon, older children 3 times a month, younger children twice), White Fish.

**Farmed:** Carp, Catfish(domestic), Striped Bass(rockfish), Tilapia,

Trout(rainbow), Trout(steelhead).

**Shellfish:** Clams(northern quahogs), Clams(Atlantic surf, butter, Manila, ocean quahog, Pacific geoduck, Pacific littleneck and soft-shell), Crab(Dungeness, snow),

Dungeness:(Younger children once a week), Crab(Florida stone, Jonah, king),

Crayfish(United States),

Lobster(American, Children 2 to 4 times a month), Mussels(farmed blue; wild blue, children 2 to 3 times a month),

Mussels(New Zealand green,

Mediterranean), Oysters(farmed Eastern and Pacific), Scallops(bay; Northeast,

Canadian sea), Shrimp(wild American

pink, white, brown,), Shrimp(spot prawns

and northern shrimp), Squid, Spiny

Lobster(Caribbean, United States, and Australia).

### Air Fresheners

A new study suggests that household cleaners and air fresheners – particularly those with pine, orange and lemon scents – may emit harmful levels of toxic pollutants.

Exposure to some of these pollutants and their byproducts may exceed regulatory guidelines when used repeatedly or in small, poorly ventilated rooms, researchers at the University of California-Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory concluded.

Among the conclusions of the four year study: •A person who cleans a shower stall for 15 minutes with a product containing *glycol ethers* –

known toxic air contaminants – may be exposed to three times the recommended one-hour exposure limit. •Using air freshener in a child’s room along with an air purifier that creates ozone can result in formaldehyde levels 25% higher than the state of California recommends. Formaldehyde is a known carcinogen.

Terpenes (an unsaturated hydrocarbon from plants) widely used to give cleaning products and air fresheners a pleasant, fruity scent, raised concerns. The scientists found that terpenes mix with ozone in the air to create formaldehyde.