



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** EPA Region 10 Action Plan from 2010 Tribal Leaders Summit

Region 10 EPA would like to express sincere thanks to the Tribal Leaders who participated in the leadership sessions at the 2010 Tribal Leader's Summit hosted by the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. The theme "*Working to Protect our Resources for Future Generations*" expressed the true spirit of the event. The featured speakers and conference participants helped us learn more about the important tribal cultures and traditions of our region.

We appreciated the time and thought that was given to the leadership meetings and the opportunity to really work together on issues that matter so much to all of us. The Tribal Leader's perspectives will help guide us as EPA Region 10 moves forward in partnership with tribes and other federal agencies to address the impacts of climate change.

Attached is the work plan that includes steps EPA Region 10 will take in follow up to the climate change discussions at the Summit. It builds on the action planning session, and contains, where appropriate, both milestones and projected completion dates for accountability.

EPA will provide a status report on these actions at the next Tribal Leader's Summit, to be hosted in the spring of 2012 by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde in Oregon.

If you have questions about this action plan, please contact Michelle Davis, EPA Tribal Coordinator at 907-271-3434, [davis.michelle@epa.gov](mailto:davis.michelle@epa.gov); or Sally Thomas, Tribal Unit Manager, at 206-553-2102, [thomas.sally@epa.gov](mailto:thomas.sally@epa.gov).

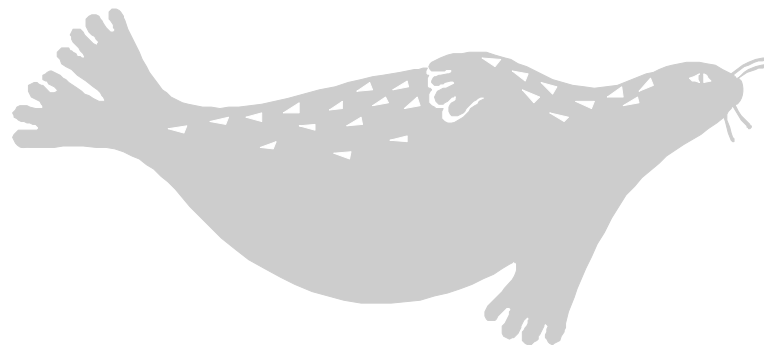
**EPA Region 10 Action Plan  
from 2010 Tribal Leaders Summit  
August 30 – September 3, 2010  
Juneau, Alaska**

At the 2010 Tribal Leaders Summit (TLS) held in Juneau, Tribal Leaders and EPA Executives worked together in an Action Planning Process to develop climate change “*Visions for Action*”. The purpose of this document is to identify specific action items from the TLS for which Region 10 EPA has a lead responsibility, and to ensure that we meet the commitments that were developed with Tribal Leaders. This document also creates a tool to report progress at the next TLS.

Each office within EPA Region 10 has shared commitments to the fulfillment of this workplan. To successfully address the Regions’ commitments on climate change, we have organized the action items identified at the TLS into three categories:

- Education and Communication
- Tribal Leadership / Consultation / Co-Management and Policy Development / Regulations
- Inter-Agency Tribal Coordination / Equitable Funding / Funding Research

A plan of action for the agency outlining specific commitments is presented on the following pages. The wording of the commitment is verbatim from the 2010 Tribal Leaders Summit in Juneau, Alaska. This workplan will be shared in the Region to support cooperative work.



**Region 10 TLS Goal 1. Education and Communication:** Supports EPA National Goal 1. “Taking action on climate change. Educating the public about climate change and actions people can take to reduce Green House Gas emissions “ and implements National Strategy to Expand the Conversation on Environmentalism by building stronger working relationships particularly with tribes, communities of color, economically-distressed cities and towns, young people, and others.

Regarding this goal, TLS participants proposed climate change education, informed by traditional ecological knowledge and science, targeted to schools, communities, and political leadership.

Education & communication Commitment	Activity	Lead EPA Office (Support)	Milestones	Completion date
<p>1a. EPA will initiate opportunities to present at national and regional meetings Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE), and appropriate State functions</p>	<p>EPA Programs identify climate change speakers, topics and materials</p> <p>EPA will contact the following events: AFE, ATNI, Oregon Tribal Environmental Forum (OTEF), Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) and other tribal organizations as appropriate.</p> <p>Track presentations, dates, locations and audience and EPA representatives.</p>	<p>EPA program offices R10 office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs (ETPA) (R10 Tribal Specialists)</p> <p>Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA)</p> <p>All EPA program offices Tribal Trust &amp; Assistance Unit (TTAU)</p>	<p>Speaker &amp; topic list</p> <p>AFE &amp; OTEF climate change tracks</p>	<p>Report out at next Tribal Leader’s Summit (TLS).</p>

Education (cont) Commitment	Activity	Lead Office (Support)	Milestones	Completion date
<p>1b. Tribes and EPA will share information for climate change curricula and will set up a pilot climate change educational template.</p>	<p>Follow up with OITA and the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) Climate Change Division on funding climate change curriculum development.</p> <p>Evaluate materials and resources to use in curricula.</p> <p>Opportunity for funding for curricula development through IGAP included in 2011 RFP.</p>	<p>Lead Region Coordinator and OITA.</p> <p>TTAU</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Will track and report out at TLS</p>
<p>1c. Tribal Program staff will regularly submit articles on climate change to Tribal newsletters. Target is 8 articles</p>	<p>Coordinate with other programs on climate change info and resources to include in the EPA Tribal newsletter</p>	<p>Tribal Unit and Air Program staff</p>	<p>Climate change page added to Tribal newsletter</p>	<p>Feb. 2011</p>
<p>1d. EPA leadership will participate in a minimum of five tribal community and regional events over the next year.</p>	<p>Attend and participate in Tribal events.</p> <p>Track meeting dates, locations, attendees, EPA representative</p>	<p>ETPA, all programs track and report quarterly. (Tribal Specialists)</p>	<p>Report to Regional Tribal Operations Council (RTOC) and Executive Team (ET).</p>	<p>Report out at next TLS</p>

**Region 10 TLS Goal 2. Tribal Leadership, Consultation, Co-Management, Policy Development and Regulations:** Supports EPA National Goal 3: “Cleaning Up Communities and Advancing Sustainable Development. Objective: Strengthen Human Health and Environmental Protection in Indian Country. Support federally-recognized tribes to build environmental management capacity, assess environmental conditions and measure results, and implement environmental programs” and implements national strategy of Advancing Science, Research, and Technological Innovation. This meets the objective of working to transcend traditional scientific disciplines: A broad perspective—one that integrates knowledge from a wide variety of sources—is key to developing sustainable solutions. In all aspects of our work, from problem identification, to research design and conduct, to implementation and adoption of solutions, EPA must rely on diverse disciplines.

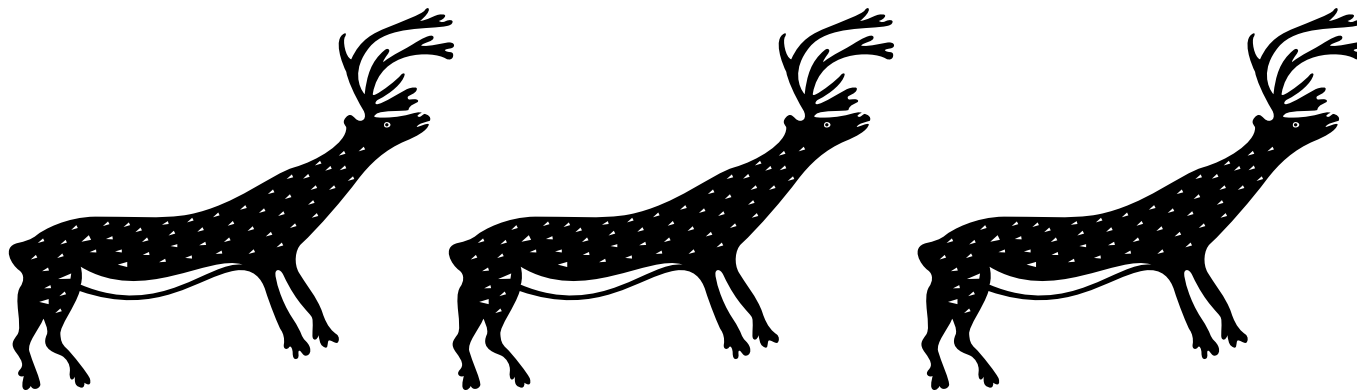
Regarding this goal, TLS participants proposed to elevate tribal visibility through collaboration between Tribes, federal agencies, and states.

Leadership Commitment	Activity	Lead Office (Support)	Milestones	Completion date(s)
2 a. Sponsor interagency Forums and Conferences on Climate Change, (eg C-E Forum, Alaska Forum on the Environment, 2011) with strong tribal presence/delegation, followed by regular dialogues, via technology or at other conferences/meetings/venues.	Provide EPA staff support to develop sessions that respond to Tribal concerns on Climate change.		List of presenters, resources and presentation materials	Feb. 2011
2 b. Respond to tribal input on consultation policy and procedures.	Region 10 will respond to Tribal Comments on the Consultation Procedures.	TTAU – Consultation Coordinator.	Second draft of R10 Tribal consultation procedures out for Tribal review.	Third Quarter 2011

**Region 10 TLS Goal 3. INTER-AGENCY-TRIBAL COORDINATION/EQUITABLE FUNDING/FUNDING RESEARCH GROUP:**

Supports EPA National Goal 1: “Taking Action on Climate Change and Improving Air Quality. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and develop adaptation strategies to address climate change and protect and improve air quality “and implements the national strategy of Strengthening State, Tribal, and International Partnerships through collaboration and focus on increasing tribal capacity to establish and implement environmental programs while ensuring that our national programs are as effective in Indian country as they are throughout the rest of the nation.

Coordination Commitment	Activity	Lead Office (Support)	Milestone	Completion date(s)
3 a. 2012 IGAP Announcement state opportunity to use IGAP for climate change assessment and planning work.	Draft, finalize and distribute by October 2010.	TTAU	October 2010	October 2010
3 b. Use RTOC to elevate and disseminate the need to prioritize climate change assessments & funding needs	Regular Presentations to RTOC re: Climate Change activities in R10.	ETPA		



Coordination (cont.) Commitment	Activity	Lead Office (Support)	Milestone	Completion date(s)
<p>3 c. Within the next year, the federal agencies in collaboration with tribes in Region 10, will sponsor a workshop to explore the connections between indigenous knowledge, citizen science and western science</p>	<p>Investigate whether an existing workgroup can take on this responsibility.</p> <p>Will coordinate with other federal agencies.</p>			
<p>3 d. Obtain commitment from other federal agencies to work together with tribes to address climate changes in Region 10 with effective and meaningful initiatives.</p>	<p>EPA/R10 leadership contacts Pacific Northwest Climate Change Collaboration &amp; Alaska Executive Roundtable in R10</p> <p>Identify and contact other individuals, agencies, and organizations involved in addressing Climate change in R10</p> <p>EPA will share information about its tribal coordination with other federal agencies</p>	<p>OITA</p> <p>June 2011</p>	<p>Presentation at AFE.</p>	<p>Feb. 2011</p>

**Long Term Objectives identified at 2010 Tribal Leader's Summit. These are in the words of the participants, so the intent is not lost.**

**EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION GROUP**

- Climate change school curriculum with input from Tribal Science Council
- Multi-media outreach (e.g. radio, newspapers, electronic)
- Coordinate site visits by senior personnel, state and federal
- Include TEK in communications, conferences, meetings

**GROUP ON TRIBAL LEADERSHIP, CONSULTATION, Co-MANAGEMENT AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT, REGULATIONS**

- Sponsor local, national, and international forums on CC
- Agreements b/w federal, state, and tribal governments
- Increase number of tribal liaisons (coordinators)
- Collaborate in educating state agencies and officials
- Support tribal capacity (information, travel, consultation)
- Be respectful and responsible to tribal input, follow through
- Provide training to ensure equality in knowledge
- Research, collect data, and share information (incl. TEK)
- Develop agreement on dispute resolution

**INTER-AGENCY-TRIBAL COORDINATION/EQUITABLE FUNDING/FUNDING RESEARCH GROUP**

- Develop inter-agency CC statement of cooperation
- Coordinate intra and inter-agency tribal CC programs
- Develop relevant and accessible CC funding sources for tribes
- Establish Tribal Task Force for CC policy and priorities
- Fix immediate problems "on the ground" where they exist
- Create EPA R10 Climate Change Sector