



Developing a National Tribal Climate Change Strategy

Sunday, October 19, 2008

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Room 106 C

NCAI Annual Convention, Phoenix, AZ

The evidence is indisputable that climate change is occurring and tribes are disproportionately affected by it. Efforts in some sectors of society are moving swiftly to address climate change impacts. Indian Country would be well served by engaging in a collective and organized climate change strategy. This interactive session will discuss climate change science, tribal community impacts and efforts, work towards the development a national tribal climate change strategy, including a transition platform for the next Administration and the 111th Congress. The session also hopes to identify tribal leaders committed to representing tribal interests in climate change during this time of significant activity and opportunities.

DRAFT AGENDA

1:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

Invocation and Introduction

Mike Williams, Alaska Area Vice-President, NCAI; Vice Chairman, Akiak Native Community; Chairman, Alaska Intertribal Council

Session Goals and Format through the Communities of Practice Model
Sarah Hicks, Jose Aguto, and Erik Stegman (NCAI)

1:30 p.m. -- 2:10 p.m.

Panel 1 – Climate Change Science and Impacts

The Science of Climate Change

Dr. Nancy Maynard, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Climate Change Impacts on Native Communities

Cal Seciwa, Director, Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals

2:10 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Panel 2 –Tools for Tribal Leaders to Address Climate Change

Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation Plans for Tribal Governments

Charles O'Hara, Environmental Director, Swinomish Tribe

Assessing Impacts & Planning Adaptation Strategies to Climate Change on Native Lands

Dr. Nancy Maynard, Project Manager, NASA

Networking and Outreach

American Indian Alaska Native Climate Change Network
Professor Daniel Wildcat, Haskell Indian Nations University

2:50 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Legislative Options

Essential Tribal Provisions in Climate Change Legislation
Bob Gruenig, Senior Policy Analyst, National Tribal Environmental Council

Collaborative Efforts with State and Local Governments

Terry Williams, Director, Natural Resources , Tulalip Tribe

Mitigation Options and Their Economic Opportunity

Jonny Bearcub Stiffarm, Business Development Manager Native Energy
Dean Suagee, Of Counsel, Hobbs, Dean Strauss & Walker LLP

United League of Nations recommendations for Indigenous Nations Climate Change Policy

Alan Parker, Professor, Evergreen State College

4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Panel 3 – Developing a National Tribal Climate Change Strategy

NCAI staff will facilitate a discussion to build a national tribal climate change strategy that will cover the major aspects of the challenge [research, adaptation, and mitigation], proposed actions and solutions and how tribal communities can work together to implement them. The strategy will then be posted on the new climate change CoP website at ClimateChange.ncaiprc.org to encourage participation by new stakeholders.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Panel 4 – Tribal Leaders Consideration of the Strategy

The commitment of tribal leaders is absolutely vital if tribal concerns about, climate change are to be meaningfully addressed by the next Administration and Congress; for tribes to take advantage of economic opportunities, and for tribes to initiate and participate in cross-sectoral efforts. This panel is intended to elicit the thoughts of tribal leaders about climate change and the strategy proposed, and to identify tribal leaders willing to move the tribal climate change agenda forward.

5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Next Steps (moderated by NCAI)