



National Congress of American Indians

# NCAI News

**January 15, 2002**  
(Broadcast # 02-010)

**Caucus Meetings to Be Held in San Diego** – We have just learned that on Wednesday, January 16, from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, an informal regional tribal caucus meeting will be held to coordinate tribal participation in the Department of Interior scoping session to be held in San Diego on the following day. In addition, a more formal caucus meeting will be held the morning of the scoping session, January 17, from 8:00 to 9:00 AM in the same room in which that session is scheduled to take place. All meetings will be held at the same hotel, the Hanalei Red Lion, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA, (619) 297-1101.

As previously announced, the first meeting of the Task Force on Trust Reform will be held in the afternoon of January 17 at the Hanalei Red Lion in San Diego. We anticipate that this meeting will be focused on planning and organizing the work of the Task Force. If your region has not yet selected two Task Force representatives and an alternate, please do so as soon as possible so that your region will be represented at this and all future meetings of the Task Force. Please ensure that you notify your regional BIA office as well as the NCAI office at (202) 466-7767 when your region's representatives have been selected.

For more information regarding the caucus meetings on the afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup> and the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup>, please contact Juana Majel at (760) 855-1466.

**NCAI President Hall Meets With Secretary Norton, Assistant Secretary McCaleb** – NCAI President Tex Hall met with Interior Secretary Gale Norton and Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Neal McCaleb today to discuss trust reform issues and the implementation of the proposed Task Force to assess alternatives to the Department's BITAM proposal. President Hall reported that the meeting was extremely productive, with the Secretary agreeing that the "consultation" that the Department had undertaken was flawed, and committing to full participation in and support for the work of the Task Force. She also committed to full consultation according to the terms laid forth in the BIA government-to-government consultation policy in future. It was tentatively agreed that the Task Force should meet next in Washington, DC from February 2-4 following the February 1 scoping session that will be held in DC.

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