

## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

### Monday, June 24

8:30-4:00 **Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**

*Nugget Foyer*

8:30-9:00 **Youth Orientation**

*Room: Central Pacific*

9:00-4:00 **[NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women & Working Session on Tribal VOCA Set-aside](#)** *closed to press*

*Room: Cascade 4*

The Task Force serves as a unified tribal voice to prevent and address violent crimes perpetrated against Native women. This meeting will focus on updates regarding pending legislation, including the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019. The Task Force will break for lunch from noon to 1:00 p.m. and the afternoon session will be a working session focused on the Tribal VOCA Set-aside Program at the Department of Justice (DOJ). Hundreds of millions of dollars have been appropriated for tribal governments for this new program over the past two years. The working session will discuss current funding opportunities and also develop consensus recommendations that can be made to DOJ to improve the ways in which the funding is currently disbursed.

9:00-5:00 **Bureau of Indian Education: Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) Listening Session\***

*Room: Southern Pacific D*

The Bureau of Indian Education will conduct a listening session on the topic of the regulatory definition of "eligible Indian student" and how the JOM funding formula and funding process may be clarified and revised. Please contact [Angela.Barnett1@BIE.edu](mailto:Angela.Barnett1@BIE.edu) for more information.

9:00-12:00 **[Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\) Task Force](#)**

*Room: Cascade 5*

The NCAI Tribal TANF Task Force will discuss Administrative and legislative priorities with the goal of improving the function of TANF programs at the tribal level. The TANF Task Force has consistently supported goals to increase tribal nations' authority to administer their own family support and work readiness programs to serve tribal children and families.

9:00-12:00 **Addiction Task Force**

*Room: Cascade 3*

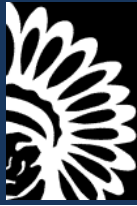
Continuing the rich discussion at NCAI's Tribal Unity Impact Days last September, the Addiction Task Force will review positive practices tribal nations are engaging in as they relate to our upcoming Addiction Prevention Guide.

9:00-12:00 **[Tribal Transportation Task Force](#)**

*Room: Cascade 1*

Safe and well-maintained transportation infrastructure enhances the quality of life and economic opportunities in tribal communities. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) included an important expansion of tribal Self-Governance authority to the Department of Transportation (DOT) and included other provisions to address Indian Country's transportation infrastructure needs. Though

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the FAST Act was an important step forward, improvements are still necessary to ensure DOT programs uphold the federal government's treaty and trust obligations to tribal nations. The FAST Act is set to expire in September 2020, and Congress is already working on the next surface transportation reauthorization bill. The purpose of this meeting is to build a unified advocacy approach to ensure the next surface transportation reauthorization bill promotes safety and prosperity in tribal communities and upholds the government-to-government relationship between tribal nations and the United States.

### 9:00-12:00 **Large Land Base Tribal Nations Caucus**

*Room: Cascade 2*

The purpose of the Large Land Base Tribal Nations Caucus is to strengthen the ability of NCAI to advocate for the unique issues of tribal nations with large land bases and to foster unity and cooperation among tribal nations to preserve tribal sovereignty, lands, culture, and quality of life for all. The Caucus will govern its own proceedings consistent with this purpose.

### 9:00-12:00 **[Intellectual Property Rights in Biomedical Research – NIH Consultation\\*](#)**

*closed to press*

*Room: Sierra 1*

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Tribal Research Office invites tribal nations to provide input on policies on intellectual property rights in biomedical research.

#### ***Presenters:***

David R. Wilson, PhD, Director, NIH Tribal Health Research Office

Mark Rohrbaugh PhD, JD, Special Advisor for Technology Transfer, NIH Office of Science Policy

### 9:30-12:30 **[National Register of Historic Places – National Park Service Consultation\\*](#)**

*Room: Southern Pacific B*

The National Park Service is hosting a consultation with tribal leaders on the proposed rule regarding the National Register of Historic Places. The rule would implement the 2016 Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, extend the timeline for the Keeper of the National Register to respond to appeals, and ensure that if owners of a majority of the land area in a proposed historic district object to its listing, the proposed district will not be listed over their objection.

### 1:30-5:00 **[All of Us Research Program – NIH Consultation\\*](#)**

*closed to press*

*Room: Sierra 1*

The National Institute of Health (NIH) invites tribal nations to provide input on the All of Us Research Program, which aims to recruit a million diverse participants to create a dataset available to researchers to conduct research to help reduce health disparities and advance precision medicine.

#### ***Presenter:***

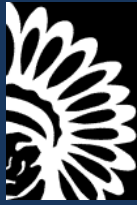
Lawrence A. Tabak, DDS, PhD, Principal Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health

### 12:00-1:00 **New Member Orientation**

*Room: Sierra 2*

All members and officers are invited to this welcome session for new members of NCAI and a briefing on membership, committees, voting, and process.

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**Presenters:**

Juanita Ahtone, Chair, Resolutions Committee, National Congress of American Indians  
Yvonne Oberly, Chair, Rules and Credentials, National Congress of American Indians  
Ed Thomas, Parliamentarian, National Congress of American Indians  
Robert Holden, National Congress of American Indians

1:00-4:00

**Federal Recognition Task Force**

*Room: Cascade 2*

The Federal Recognition Task Force was established to address the interests of all tribal nations, both federally and non-federally recognized, on any recommended changes to policies, procedures, or strategic plans in the federal recognition process. The Task Force will continue work on implementation of the current proposals from the Department of the Interior to modify the federal acknowledgment process.

1:00-4:00

**Two-Spirit Task Force**

*Room: Cascade 5*

The role of NCAI's Two Spirit Task Force is to assist in the coordination, collaboration, and outreach to Indian Country on Two Spirit issues and to develop and share approaches and solutions to policy issues that affect Two Spirit/LGBTQ community members in a manner consistent with tribal self-determination.

1:00-4:00

**Census Tribal Liaison Training**

*Room: Cascade 3*

Tribal Liaison Training will provide a basic overview of the Decennial 2020 Census (i.e. "Census 101"), the role of the Tribal Liaison in providing education and mobilizing participation in the Census in their tribal community, the benefits of Tribal Complete Count Committees (TCCC), and how to get started with forming your own TCCC. Staff will provide a Census Solutions Workshop to brainstorm effective strategies on how best to incorporate a Census awareness campaign in urban and tribal reservation areas.

1:00-4:00

**Border Tribes Caucus**

*closed to press*

*Room: Cascade 1*

All tribal nations situated along U.S. borders are invited to attend the Border Tribes Caucus. The Caucus is intended to be a convening space for tribal nations along the U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico borders to give updates and discuss issues, such as border crossing concerns and travel visas concerns. In addition, attendees are invited to discuss strategies for addressing such issues, such as unified outreach to federal officials, developing standing NCAI resolutions on specific issues, or other approaches. We hope you will join this important discussion and we look forward to seeing you.

1:00-4:00

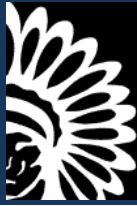
**Climate Action Task Force**

*closed to press*

*Room: Sierra 2*

At the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Executive Council Winter Session in February 2019, NCAI President Jefferson Keel announced the establishment of the NCAI Climate Action Task Force (CATF). The working mission of the Task Force is to "document, inform, and support the climate action efforts of tribal nations and Native organizations, and identify and advocate for policies and funding

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designed to empower their ability to engage in effective, sustainable climate action.” At this inaugural meeting of the Task Force, CATF’s Co-Chairs will work with participants to refine and finalize CATF’s draft mission and key functions, and also will lead a discussion about Indian Country’s policy priorities for climate action at both the national and international levels, and how NCAI can advance with its partners to advance those priorities.

### ***Climate Action Task Force Co-Chairs:***

Melanie Bahnke, President and CEO, Kawerak, Inc.  
Brian Cladoosby, Chairman, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community  
Beverly Cook, Tribal Chief, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe  
Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor, Gila River Indian Community

1:00-4:00

### **[Updates to Tribal Energy Resource Agreement \(TERA\) Regulations – Listening Session\\*](#)**

*Room: Southern Pacific B*

The Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs will lead this tribal listening session to discuss proposed changes to its Tribal Energy Resource Agreement (TERA) regulations to reduce application requirements and streamline the approval process.

4:00-5:00

### **NCAI Committee and Subcommittee Chairs Meeting with Resolutions Committee**

*Room: Cascade 5*

NCAI requests that all Committee and Subcommittee chairs attend this important meeting.

4:00-5:00

### **Youth End of Day Gathering**

*Room: Central Pacific*

4:00-6:00

### **A Decade After *Carcieri*: Addressing the Land-Into-Trust Impacts for All Tribal Nations**

*Room: Cascade 2*

In May 2019, the House passed H.R. 375 (Cole-OK), a bill to amend the Indian Reorganization Act to address the Supreme Court’s 2009 decision in *Carcieri v. Salazar*. The *Carcieri* decision has resulted in numerous tribal land acquisition conflicts and, as a result, has burdened tribal and federal resources – it will be important for Indian Country to work together to address this issue. This session will discuss the recent legislation, explore the impacts of *Carcieri* on all tribal nations, and strategize among tribal nations for advocacy before the U.S. Senate.

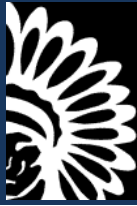
6:00-8:00

### **[Welcome Reception](#)**

*Room: Sierra 345*

Join us to kick off the welcome to the 2019 Mid Year Conference! Come enjoy great food and great company! This event is sponsored by the Local Planning Committee.

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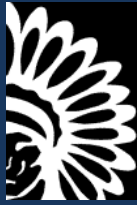
### Tuesday, June 25

- 7:30-5:00     **Resolutions Office Open**  
*Room: Redwood 1*
- Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**  
*Nugget Foyer*
- 8:00-8:20     **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Room: Central Pacific*
- 8:30-4:00     **Elders' Lounge Open**  
*Room: Redwood 8*
- 9:00-5:00     **Marketplace Open**  
*Room: Nugget 2*

### 8:30-12:00     **First General Assembly** *Nugget 1*

- 8:30            **Call to Order**  
Jefferson Keel, President, National Congress of American Indians
- Presentation of the Colors**  
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Color Guard  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Veterans Group  
Walker River Women's Auxiliary VFW Post 6825  
Walker River Men's Auxiliary VFW Post 6825  
Pyramid Lake Veterans & Warriors Organization
- Honor Song**  
Battle Horse Drum Group  
Chelsea Morning Star O'Day, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
- 8:45            **Invocation**  
Darlene Graham, Shoshone
- 8:50            **Welcome**  
Arlan D. Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
- 9:00            **Welcome from Local Official**  
Bob Lucey, Commissioner, Washoe County, Nevada
- 9:10            **Rules of the Convention**  
Yvonne Oberly, Chair, NCAI Rules & Credentials Committee

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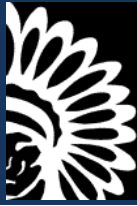
	<b>Resolutions Process Report</b> Juanita Ahtone, Chair, NCAI Resolutions Committee
9:20	<b>President's Report</b> Jefferson Keel, President, National Congress of American Indians
9:35	<b>NCAI CEO Introduction</b> Kevin Allis, CEO, National Congress of American Indians
10:00	<b>Department of the Interior</b> John Tahsuda, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior
10:15	<b>Department of Justice</b> Katie Sullivan, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs
10:30	<b>Violence Against Women Task Force Update</b> Juana Majel-Dixon, Co-Chair, NCAI Violence Against Women Task Force
10:45	<b>Indian Child Welfare Act Update</b> Jack F. Trope, Senior Director, Indian Child Welfare Program, Casey Family Programs
11:00	<b>Tax Issues in Indian Country</b> Mark Fox, Tribal Chairman, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation
11:15	<b>Native American Veterans Memorial Update</b> Kevin Gover, Director, Smithsonian's National Museum of American Indians
11:30	<b>Tribal Leader Discussion</b>
12:00	<b>Lunch Recess</b>
12:00	<b>Washoe Songs at the Marketplace</b> <i>Room: Nugget 2</i>
12:00-1:00	<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Listening Session</b> <i>Room: Southern Pacific E</i> McAllen Grace Brethren Church / Becket Fund for Religious Liberty Petition for Rulemaking to Revise Existing Rules Pertaining to Religious Use of Federally Protected Bird Feathers, Including Eagle Feathers.
1:30-4:00	<b>Concurrent Breakout Sessions</b>

### **Tribal Nations Leading the Way: Existing and Emerging Opportunities for Tribal Control of Federal Programs**

*Room: Cascade 1*

Tribal control over federal programs has proven to be one of the most successful ways to build the capacity of tribal governments and ensure services are tailored to the needs of tribal citizens. Tribal nations must have enhanced

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opportunities to exercise the option to take over federal programs designed to serve their communities. Currently, Congress is considering legislation to improve the Department of the Interior Self-Governance Program, a tribal-federal negotiated rulemaking committee is working to stand up a Self-Governance program at the Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture is taking the first steps to implement 2018 Farm Bill provisions that authorized Self-Determination contracting for tribal forest protection and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. The purpose of this session is to provide tribal leaders an update on improvements and expansions to Self-Determination and Self-Governance programming and ensure tribal nations have the information necessary to decide whether taking control of federal programs makes sense for their communities.

**Moderator:** Jay Spaan, Executive Director, Self-Governance Communication & Education Tribal Consortium

**Presenters:**

W. Ron Allen, Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Melanie Fourkiller, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Self-Governance, Choctaw Nation

### [Cannabis and Tribal Sovereignty](#)

*closed to press*

*Room: Cascade 2*

Currently, 33 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation to legalize marijuana in some form. There are more than 400 tribal nations in those states. As marijuana legalization continues to gain a national foothold, tribal nations will need clarity for their path forward. Thus far during the 116th Congress, there has been at least one marijuana bill introduced in the Senate and four in the House, including H.R. 1416, the Tribal Marijuana Sovereignty Act. This breakout session will discuss the jurisdictional interplay between states and tribal nations in this area, and provide relevant legislative updates.

**Moderator:** Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

**Presenters:**

Joshua Clause, Principal, Clause Law

Leonard Forsman, Chairman, Suquamish Tribe

Marla McDade Williams, Director, Northern Nevada Office, Strategies 360

### **Tribal Youth and Juvenile Justice: Developing Tribal-State Partnerships**

*Room: Sierra 3*

When American Indian and Alaska Native youth are in state juvenile justice systems that are not equipped to meet their cultural needs, they are re-traumatized rather than healed. This breakout will focus on the current state of tribal juvenile justice, how tribal nations can develop partnerships with states to help tribal youth, and changes in federal policy.

**Presenters:**

Michelle Brown-Yazzie, Chief Judge, Mescalero Apache Tribal Court

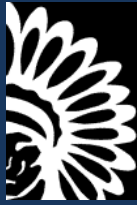
Nick J. Costales, Deputy Director of Field Services, State of New Mexico

Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, Researcher, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

Kelbie Kennedy, Policy Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

Addie C. Rolnick, Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada-Las Vegas

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### Tribal TANF Best Practices and Successes

*Room: Cascade 5*

There are 80 Tribal TANF Programs throughout the country, and there are many examples of best practices that have led to client successes. This session will showcase examples of how programs have developed effective ways to assist clients in overcoming barriers and become successful. Presentations and discussion will include career development and employment services, youth services, vocational training, and the use of culture to enhance success. In addition, you will hear from clients and how they used the Tribal TANF programs and services to reach self-sufficiency and move from dependence on TANF to independence for themselves and their families.

**Moderator:** Tilford P. Denver, Chairman, Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Board of Trustees, Vice-Chairman, Bishop Paiute Tribal Council

**Presenters:**

Leslie Colegrove, Executive Director, Hoopa Valley Tribal TANF Program  
Gordon Forrester, Executive Director, Washoe Native TANF Program  
Ryan Howard, Executive Director, Owens Valley Career Develop Center Tribal TANF  
Jeff Schueller, Executive Director, California Tribal TANF Partnership

### Federal Actions Affecting Tribal Lands in Nevada and Implications for Indian Country

*Room: Sierra 1*

The Tribal Lands Working Group (TLWG) is broadly tasked with tracking and soliciting input on how to address various issues affecting tribal lands. During this session, the TLWG will discuss recent federal actions affecting tribal nations in Nevada. This session will also discuss NCAI's infrastructure permitting project, which is intended to improve private developers' understanding of and respect for tribal interests where there are potential impacts to off-reservation tribal resources.

**Presenters:**

Fawn Douglas, Board of Directors, Friends of Gold Butte  
Laurie Thom, Chairman, Yerington Paiute Tribe  
Ian Zabarte, Principal Man, Western Bands of Shoshone Nation

### **The Battle to Protect Native Children: the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and How Your Tribal Nation Can Make an Impact**

*Room: Sierra 2*

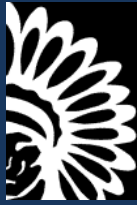
During the past year, American Indian and Alaska Native children and families endured one of the largest coordinated attacks at the federal district and circuit court levels. While the battle has raged in the courts, the public narrative about the issues surrounding Native children and ICWA will have an impact on the outcome of the case. In this breakout session, speakers will provide a brief update on the case and the legal steps ahead. Speakers will also roll out the ongoing tribal communications strategy, highlight communications tools developed for tribal nations, and detail how your tribal nation can make an impact today.

**Presenters:**

Erin C. Dougherty Lynch, Attorney, Native American Rights Fund  
Ricki McCarroll, Founder & Principal Consultant, NUNA Consulting Group  
Amory Zschach, Strategic Communications Manager, National Indian Child Welfare Association

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### Broadband and Radio Opportunities: Bridging the Digital Divide

*Room: Cascade 4*

The ability to communicate and share ideas is fundamental to the health, safety, education, and economic wellbeing of tribal communities. Better access to telecommunications promotes vibrant economies while preserving cultural traditions and ways of life through enhancing our ability to communicate. New and existing programs continue to increase Native ownership of, representation in, and access to telecommunications. Additionally, bi-partisan support for an infrastructure package can provide opportunities for the creation of new tribal programs and enhancement of existing programs. This breakout session will provide tribal leaders an overview of telecommunications programs, funding, training, and technical assistance opportunities available to bridge the digital divide in Indian Country.

**Presenters:**

Geoffrey Blackwell, Chief Strategy Officer and General Counsel, AMERIND Risk  
Gregory Guice, Senior Vice President, Federal Public Affairs, McGuireWoods Consulting, LLC  
Matthew Rantanen, Director of Technology, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association

### ACA Health Insurance Marketplaces: Best Practices to Gain Access to Premium Tax Credits and Comprehensive Protections from Out of Pocket Costs

*Room: Cascade 3*

Enrollment in CMS programs benefits AI/AN individuals, their families, and their communities. Enrollment helps reduce health disparities and improves health status by providing AI/ANs with greater access to preventive and specialty care. The purpose of this session is to guide tribal leaders through the benefits of AI/AN Marketplace enrollment and how to gain access to premium tax credits and comprehensive protections from out-of-pocket costs. Participants will learn through best practices and several case studies.

**Presenters:**

Kristen Bitsuie, Tribal Health Reform Outreach and Education Program Associate, National Indian Health Board  
Doneg McDonough, CEO, Health System Analytics

### **Indian Country Counts: Census 2020**

*Room: Sierra 5*

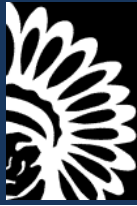
Being included in the 2020 Census is just as important as registering our people to vote and getting them to the polls on Election Day. We know that accurate data is necessary for forward-thinking policy development. It is critical that the 2020 Census captures a full and accurate picture of Indian Country, as it lays the groundwork for a decade of policymaking and funding, from 2020 to 2030. This session will talk about why the Census is important, answer questions in responding to the Census, and how to get involved.

**Moderator:** Ahniwake Rose, Deputy Director, National Congress of American Indians

**Presenters:**

Kaile Bower, Integrated Partnership and Communications, U.S. Census Bureau  
Natalie Landreth, Senior Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund  
Frank McPhillips, Assistant Division Chief, Geographic Operations, U.S. Census Bureau

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### 4:15-6:15 **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS**

*closed to press*

*Subcommittees can meet jointly if they would like.*

Disabilities – Room: Redwood 8

Elders – Room: Redwood 8

Economic Development, Finance & Employment – Room: Cascade 2

[Education](#) – Room: South Pacific D

[Energy & Mineral Policy](#) – Room: Sierra 5

Environmental Protection & Land Use – Room: Southern Pacific C

[Health](#) – Room: Cascade 3

[Housing](#) – Room: South Pacific E

[Human, Religious & Cultural Concerns](#) – Room: Cascade 1

Indian Child & Family Welfare – Room: Sierra 2

[Jurisdiction & Tribal Government](#) – Room: Sierra 3

Public Safety & Justice – Room: South Pacific AG

Taxation – Room: Sierra 4

[Technology & Telecommunications](#) – Room: Cascade 4

[Transportation & Infrastructure](#) – Room: Southern Pacific F

[Tribal Gaming](#) – Room: Southern Pacific B

Trust Lands, Natural Resources & Agriculture – Room: Sierra 1

[Veterans](#) – Room: Cascade 5

### 6:30-8:00 **[Section 184 Draft Proposed Regulation – Tribal Consultation\\*](#)**

*Room: Southern Pacific E*

HUD ONAP will be presenting a highlights of the Section 184 Program Draft Proposed Rule and then opening the meeting up for tribal comment and discussion. Please contact Krisa Johnson at [Krisa.M.Johnson@hud.gov](mailto:Krisa.M.Johnson@hud.gov) for more information.

### 6:30-8:00 **NCAI Native Languages Task Force**

*Room: Southern Pacific D*

Positive developments in Native language policy have taken place at tribal, state, and federal levels. Tribal nations are taking innovative approaches to revitalizing their languages, and states are adopting Native languages as official state languages. This is an open session of the Native Languages Task Force to discuss Native American language protection and revitalization from tribal leaders' perspectives.

### 6:30-8:30 **The Social**

*Room: Chalet Terrace*

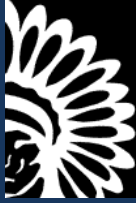
The Social is the perfect event to unwind after a hard day's work. There will be live music provided by DJ EmceeOne, giveaways, and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Bring your appetite and dancing shoes because it's going to be a lot of fun.

### 6:30-8:00 **Department of the Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes and ANCSA Corporations\***

*Room: Cascade 2*

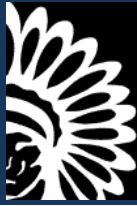
The Department of the Interior (Department) is committed to fulfilling its tribal consultation obligations – whether directed by statute or administrative action such as Executive Order (EO) 13175 (Consultation

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and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments) or other applicable Secretarial Orders or policies – by adhering to the consultation framework described in this Policy. Through this Policy, the Department strives to strengthen its government-to-government relationship with Indian Tribes and begin a new era of consultation. This Policy reflects the Secretary's commitment to consultation with Indian Tribes, recognition of Indian Tribes' right to self-governance and tribal sovereignty. This session is with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management at the Department of the Interior.

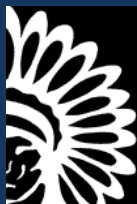


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### Wednesday, June 26

- 6:45            **Sunrise Ceremony**  
*Room: Chalet Terrace*  
The NCAI Sunrise Ceremony will be held as a part of the observances and ceremonies during the National Days of Prayer to Protect Native American Sacred Places. The public is invited to attend NCAI's respectful observance to honor sacred places, sacred beings, and sacred waters, and all those who care for them and protect them from harm.
- Presenter:**  
Augustin Jorquez, Pastor, Apache and Yaqui
- 7:15-8:15      **Regional Caucus Meetings** *closed to press*  
Alaska Region – *Room: Cascade 2*  
Eastern Oklahoma Region – *Room: Cascade 1*  
Great Plains Region – *Room: Southern Pacific AG*  
Midwest Region – *Room: Cascade 3*  
Northeast Region – *Room: Southern Pacific F*  
Northwest Region – *Room: Cascade 5*  
Pacific Region – *Room: Sierra 2*  
Rocky Mountain Region – *Room: Southern Pacific E*  
Southeast Region – *Room: Sierra 1*  
Southern Plains Region – *Room: Southern Pacific B*  
Southwest Region – *Room: Cascade 4*  
Western Region – *Room: Southern Pacific C*
- 7:30-5:00      **Resolutions Open**  
*Room: Redwood 1*
- Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**  
*Nugget Foyer*
- 8:00-8:20      **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Room: Central Pacific*
- 8:30-4:00      **Elders' Lounge Open**  
*Room: Redwood 8*
- 9:00-5:00      **Marketplace Open**  
*Room: Nugget 2*

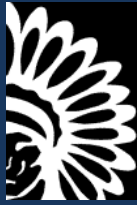
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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

8:30-12:00	Second General Assembly	Nugget 1
8:30	<b>Call to Order</b> Aaron Payment, 1st Vice President, National Congress of American Indians	
	<b>Invocation</b> Melba Rakow, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	
8:40	<b>Welcome</b> Serrell Smokey, Chairman, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum</b> <b>Data and Research: Tribes Taking Action</b>		
Many tribal nations are taking action with data and research to help strategically impact the future of their communities. This session will explore various areas where tribal nations are making an impact.		
8:45	<b>NCAI Policy Research Center Director Update</b> Yvette Roubideaux, MD, MPH, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center	
9:00	<b>Tribal Leader Overview</b> W. Ron Allen, Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe; NCAI Treasurer	
9:15	<b>Census 2020: Get Out the Count for Indian Country</b> Dee Alexander, Tribal Affairs Coordinator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Census Bureau Amadeo Shije, Partnership Coordinator (Tribal), Denver Regional Office, U.S. Census Bureau Asa K. Washines, Tribal Affairs Consultant, More Equitable Democracy	
9:45	<b>Tribal Leader Discussion</b>	
10:00	<b>Diabetes in American Indians and Alaska Natives: Are We Making Progress?</b> Yvette Roubideaux, MD MPH, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center	
10:30	<b>Tribal Leader Discussion</b>	
11:00	<b>Genetic Research: Tribes Taking Action</b> Jamie Henio, Navajo Nation Council Delegate, 24 <sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council, Co-Chair of the Navajo Nation Genetic Research Policy Development Working Group Walter Phelps, Former Navajo Nation Council Delegate, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council, Co-Chair of the Navajo Nation Genetic Research Policy Development Working Group Dr. Franklin Sage, Director, Diné Policy Institute	
11:30	<b>Tribal Leader Discussion</b>	

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

12:00 **Lunch Recess**

12:00 **Washoe Stories and Legends at the Marketplace**  
*Room: Nugget 2*

12:00-1:00 **[Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum](#) – [Poster Session 1](#)**  
*Nugget Foyer*

The poster session is an opportunity for tribal leaders to engage with scholars on a variety of research and data projects that can help inform AI/AN policy.

1:30-3:45 PM **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

### **Tribal Transportation Congressional Listening Session\***

*closed to press*

*Room: Southern Pacific B*

Congress is in the process of considering and debating the next surface transportation reauthorization bill. It is vital that this legislation promotes safety and prosperity in tribal communities and upholds the federal treaty and trust obligations to tribal nations. The purpose of this listening session is for Congressional staff to hear from tribal leaders about Indian Country's surface transportation priorities.

### **International Advocacy to Protect Tribal Sovereignty**

*Room: Southern Pacific E*

Panelists will provide updates on a number of international policy matters of importance to tribal governments. The breakout session will highlight recent developments on the issues of cultural protection, protection of traditional knowledge, and climate change. The session will also include updates on an effort under way to enhance the participation of tribal governments at the United Nations.

#### **Presenters:**

Andrea Carmen, Executive Director, International Indian Treaty Council  
Virginia Davis, Senior Policy Advisor, National Congress of American Indians  
Melody McCoy, Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund  
Peter Yucupicio, Vice Chairman, Pascua Yaqui

### **Tribal Tax Agreements & Financing Tools**

*Room: Cascade 4*

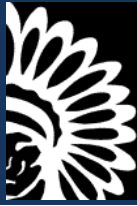
This breakout session will provide a discussion on how tribal nations are negotiating tax agreements and what opportunities are available to tribes after last year's Supreme Court opinion in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, a case that addressed the treatment of state taxes with respect to remote sales. This session will also provide a legislative update on tribal tax and finance priorities before the 116th Congress. Please join us for this important discussion.

**Moderator:** Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

#### **Presenters:**

Ethel Branch, Member, Kanji and Katzen PLLC  
Peter Larson, Partner, Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP  
Lenny Powell, Associate, Jenner Block LLP  
Jake Schellinger, Director of Government Affairs, National Congress of American Indians

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

### **Tribal Food Sovereignty Advancement Initiative: Implementing the 2018 Farm Bill**

*Room: Southern Pacific C*

Agriculture and nutrition programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) can have a major role in the wellbeing of tribal citizens across Indian Country. The 2018 Farm Bill included many strong provisions for Indian Country that will provide tremendous opportunities for tribal nations to enhance their agricultural programs, as well as their economies, workforces, and public health. This session will provide tribal leaders an opportunity to hear the latest status of programs authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill, such as the expansion of 638 contracting authority at USDA, the creation of the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee, and many others. Additionally, this session will provide space for tribal leaders to discuss the USDA Tribal Consultation on Farm Bill implementation that is being held at NCAI's Mid Year Conference.

***Presenters:***

Phil Baker-Shenk, Partner, Holland & Knight LLP  
Zach Ducheneaux, Executive Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council  
Colby Duren, Director, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative  
Jim Durglo, Fire Technical Specialist, Intertribal Timber Council

### **Building Your Emergency Preparedness Capacity: From Natural Disasters to Emergency Communications**

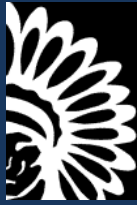
*Room: Cascade 5*

For many tribal nations, access to accurate information, disaster preparedness tools, and trainings are essential in assuring that lives are saved and cultural sites are protected in the face of disasters. During the past several years, tribal nations have been hit hard by natural disasters and must have access to the most accurate forecasts and climate information to prepare and respond. Establishing reliable communication in Indian Country and developing emergency plans are some of the first steps to building tribal homeland security and emergency management capacity. This breakout will focus on the First Responders Network Authority (FirstNet), the National Weather Service's work in Indian Country, and available technical assistance for tribal nations.

***Presenters:***

Adam Geisler, National Tribal Government Liaison, First Responder Network Authority  
John Murphy, Chief Operating Officer, National Weather Service  
Adrienne Roughgarden, SLTTI, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Emergency Communications Division, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

### Concurrent Breakout Sessions – Tribal Leader Scholar Forum 1

1:30-2:30

#### **A) Genetic Research: Tribes Taking Action**

*Room: Cascade 1*

Tribal nations have taken action on genetic research. This session will share what strategies tribal nations have developed to ensure that their communities are protected and also can benefit from cutting edge research.

##### Driving Change: Priming the Navajo Nation Genetic Research Policy Development

Dr. David Begay, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy, University of New Mexico

Rene Begay, Professional Research Assistant, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Beverly Becenti-Pigman, Chair, Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board  
Dr. Franklin Sage, Director, Diné Policy Institute

##### NIH Intellectual Property Consultation – Summary of Input

David R. Wilson, PhD, Director, NIH Tribal Health Research Office

##### Discussion

#### **B) Crime & Justice Data for Policy**

*Room: Cascade 2*

Data is a key component in making informed decisions. This session will focus on data for tribal action on crime and justice topics.

##### Using Data and Research to Address Missing and Unidentified Persons Cases in Indian Country and Alaska Native Villages

Christine (Tina) Crossland, NIJ Senior Social Science Analyst, Office of Research, Evaluation & Technology, U.S. Department of Justice

Steven Hafner, Research Scientist, National Missing & Unidentified Persons Systems (NamUs), U.S. Department of Justice

B.J. Spamer, MFS, Executive Director of Operations, NamUs, U.S. Department of Justice

##### The Survey of Jails in Indian Country (SJIC): Twenty Years of Data

Jennifer Bronson, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice

Karla Eisen, Senior Study Director, Project Director, SJIC, Westat

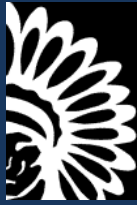
Ben Korelitz, Project Manager, SJIC, Capacity Building Center for Tribes, Westat

Art Martinez, Clinical Psychologist, Chumash Tribe

##### Discussion

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

### **C) Data for Community Change – Data for Action**

*Room: Cascade 3*

This session will focus on examples of how data from community needs assessments can be used to take action to address priority issues in tribal communities.

#### Storytelling Utilizing Data and GIS Technology: Creating Visual Frameworks to Aid Decision-Making in Child Welfare and ICWA

Karla Eisen, Senior Study Director, Capacity Building Center for Tribes, Westat  
Jhon Goes In Center, Geo-Spatial Cultural Advisor, Capacity Building Center for Tribes, Westat

Kathryn Kulbicki, Geographic Information Systems Analyst, Capacity Building Center for Tribes, Westat

#### Piikani (Blackfeet) Pathways to Data, Research, and Food Sovereignty

Loren BirdRattler, Project Manager, Blackfeet Agricultural Resource Management Plan

#### Discussion

### 2:45-3:45 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions – Tribal Leader Scholar Forum 2**

### **A) Research Oversight – Tribes Taking Action**

*Room: Cascade 1*

Tribal nations implement research oversight to ensure their communities are protected and also benefit from the research. This session will highlight tribal nations that have implemented research oversight infrastructure in their communities.

#### Tools for Tribal Leaders: Building Research Infrastructure Efficiently

Melissa Buffalo, MS, Cancer Equity Manager, American Indian Cancer Foundation

Heather Larsen, MEd, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Research Office

Michaela Seiber MPH, Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH), Sanford Research

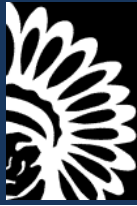
#### Deliberation and Community Engagement on Genetics in Three Communities

Jessica Blanchard, Research Scientist, Center for Applied Social Research, University of Oklahoma, Norman OK

Justin Lund, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of Oklahoma

Michael Percy, Epidemiologist, IRB Administrator, Division of Research and Public Health, Chickasaw Nation, Ada, OK

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

Joseph Yracheta, Missouri Breaks Industries Research, Inc., Eagle Butte, SD

### Discussion

#### **B) Data for Climate Action**

*Room: Cascade 3*

In conjunction with the launch of NCAI's Climate Action Task Force, this session will examine the role of data in informing and driving the design and implementation of strategic climate action approaches across Indian Country. Session presenters will share how their nations are relying on the generation and analysis of data to guide their decision-making in this critical area of tribal governance, and how they are using data to measure their climate action progress.

Christopher Caldwell, Director, Sustainable Development Institute, College of Menominee Nation, Menominee Nation  
Joe Hostler, Air Quality Specialist, Yurok Tribe

### Discussion

#### **C) First Kids 1st: Helping Native Youth Thrive**

*Room: Cascade 2*

Accurate and meaningful data helps tribal leaders make decisions to ensure that their children thrive and their communities are healthy and sustainable. But knowing where to find the right data is essential. Though Community Asset Mapping and identifying data to use and track over time, tribal nations can quickly transform data into action and drive change. Join us for a discussion to learn how and where to access the right data to inform your strategic, forward directed decision-making.

### Welcome, Overview of First Kids 1<sup>st</sup>

Ahniwake Rose, Deputy Director, NCAI  
Christian Weaver, Native Youth Strategy Manager, NCAI

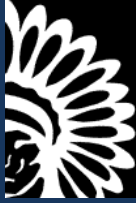
### Community Asset Mapping for Native Youth

David Simmons, Director for Government Affairs and Advocacy, National Indian Child Welfare Association

### Measuring Progress for our Youth – Data for Action

Yvette Roubideaux, MD, MPH, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center

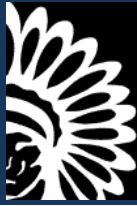
### Discussion



## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

- 3:45-4:15 **[Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum – Poster Session 2](#)**  
*Nugget Foyer*  
The poster session is an opportunity for tribal leaders to engage with scholars on a variety of research and data projects that can help inform American Indian and Alaska Native policy.
- 4:15 **Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum ends**
- 4:15-5:30 **Youth End of Day Gathering**  
*Room: Central Pacific*
- 4:15-6:15 **FULL COMMITTEE MEETINGS** *closed to press*  
Economic, Finance & Community Development – *Room: Cascade 3*  
Human Resources – *Room: Cascade 4*  
Land & Natural Resources – *Room: Cascade 2*  
[Litigation & Governance](#) – *Room: Cascade 1*  
Veterans – *Room: Cascade 5*
- 6:30-8:00 **USDA Farm Bill Implementation Listening Session\***  
*Room: Cascade 2*  
USDA will be holding a tribal listening session on the implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill. This event will cover all of the titles of the 2018 Farm Bill. The 2018 Farm Bill, and the programs and activities authorized within it, have a broad impact on Indian Country, impacting a wide array of areas.
- 6:30-8:30 **[Cultural Night](#)**  
*Room: Sierra 345*  
A night to share the beauty of the local culture with dancers and drum. Come join the local tribal nations as they host Cultural Night.

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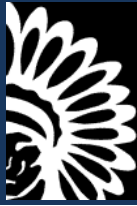
# NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

## Thursday, June 27

- 7:15-8:15      **Regional Caucus Meetings *\*\*Optional\*\**** *closed to press*  
 Alaska Region – *Room: Cascade 2*  
 Eastern Oklahoma Region – *Room: Cascade 1*  
 Great Plains Region – *Room: Southern Pacific AG*  
 Midwest Region – *Room: Cascade 3*  
 Northeast Region – *Room: Southern Pacific F*  
 Northwest Region – *Room: Cascade 5*  
 Pacific Region – *Room: Sierra 2*  
 Rocky Mountain Region - *Room: Southern Pacific E*  
 Southeast Region – *Room: Sierra 1*  
 Southern Plains Region – *Room: Southern Pacific B*  
 Southwest Region – *Room: Cascade 4*  
 Western Region – *Room: Southern Pacific C*
- 8:00-8:20      **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Room: Central Pacific*
- 8:30-12:30    **Elders' Lounge Open**  
*Room: Redwood 8*
- 9:00-12:00    **Indian Arts and Crafts Open**  
*Nugget Foyer*

8:30-12:00	Third General Assembly	Nugget 1
8:30	<b>Call to Order</b> Juana Majel Dixon, Secretary, National Congress of American Indians  <b>Invocation</b> Ralph Burns, Elder, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	
8:40	<b>Welcome</b> Anthony Sampson, Chairperson, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	
8:45	<b>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Update</b> Maryann McGovran, Tribal Treasurer, North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California	
9:00	<b>Achieving Racial and Economic Equity: The Value of Cross-Community Collaboration for Census 2020 and Beyond</b> This panel session will synthesize and share the value and power of collaboration between Native American, African American, Latino, Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander American communities in collectively advancing racial and economic equity, specifically through the joint work of	

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

the W.K. Kellogg Racial Equity Anchors. It will share how the Anchors are working together to ensure a complete count of people in Census 2020, and how cross-community collaboration can empower each community's ability to educate the general public and policymakers about the wisdom and need for pro-equity policies.

Clint Odom, SVP for Policy/Executive Director, Washington Bureau, National Urban League

Kathy Ko Chin, President and CEO, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum

Judith Browne Dianis, Executive Director, Advancement Project

Glen Harris, President, Race Forward

Reverend Alvin Herring, Executive Director, Faith in Action

Derrick Johnson, President and CEO, NAACP

Clarissa Martinez, Deputy Vice President, UnidosUS

K. Sabeel Rahman, President, Demos

Ahniwake Rose, Deputy Director, National Congress of American Indians

### 10:00 **Immigration and Children Update**

Rachel Joseph, Former Chairwoman, Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone, and Former Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians

### 10:15 **Tribal Supreme Court Project Update**

John Echohawk, Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund

Joel Williams, Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund

Derrick Beetso, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

### 10:30 **The Washington Football Team**

Shena Matrious, Government Affairs Area Relations, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Chad Germann, Founder and CEO, Red Circle

William Hardacker, Legal Counsel, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

### 10:40 **Federal Advisory Committee Act Report**

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, Chairwoman, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

### 10:45 **Committee Reports**

Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee

Human Resources Committee

Litigation & Governance Committee

Land & Natural Resources Committee

Veterans Committee

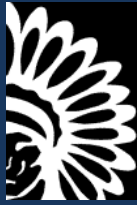
### 12:15 **Retire Colors**

#### **Closing Invocation**

Janice Gardipe, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

### 12:30 **Adjourn 2019 Mid Year Conference**

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

1:30-4:30

### **NCAI Policy Research Center – Post Conference Data Institute**

#### **[Training Session: Holding Space – Strengthening Tribal-Academic Research Partnerships](#)**

*Room: Cascade 1*

During this interactive session, participants will learn how governance, trust, and culture help strengthen tribal-academic research partnerships in the new *Holding Space* Toolkit. Attendees will preview select topics from the Discussion Guide and will play the *Tribal Research Future Game*. Individuals interested in or currently conducting research with tribal nations and academic partners are encouraged to attend.

#### ***Presenters:***

Yvette Roubideaux MD, MPH, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center

Julie Lucero, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada, Reno

Amber D. Emerson, MPH, Coordinator, Evaluation & Research, School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada-Reno

Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, MPP, Researcher, NCAI Policy Research Center

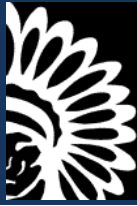
1:00-5:00

### **USDA Farm Bill Implementation Consultation\***

*Room: Cascade 3*

USDA will be holding a tribal consultation on the implementation of the 2018 Farm Bill. This event will cover all of the titles of the 2018 Farm Bill and have consulting officials from across USDA. The 2018 Farm Bill, and the programs and activities authorized within it, have a broad impact on Indian Country, impacting a wide array of areas.

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## NCAI's 2019 Mid Year Conference Tribes Taking Action

### Monday, June 24

7:00 a.m. **ITCN Fun Walk [“Honoring Our Past, Present & Future”](#)**

*Sparks Marina Park, Sparks, NV*

The ITCN Fun Walk is a fundraiser for the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc. Annual Convention scheduled for October 28-31, 2019 in Reno, Nevada. For more information and registration information [click here](#).

### Tuesday, June 25

12:00-1:15 p.m. **[Paya: The Water Story of the Paiute Film Showing and Panel](#)**

Paya: The Water Story of the Paiute tells the untold story of America's longest lived water war between the Owens Valley Paiute and the City of Los Angeles. Using in-depth interviews, 2-d animation, archival footage and photography, Paya documents the history of the Owens Valley Paiute who constructed and managed sixty square miles of intricate irrigation systems for millennia, long before Los Angeles diverted the Owens River through the Los Angeles Aqueduct, 220 miles across the Mojave Desert. After the Indian War of 1863, surviving Paiute returned to the valley from the Eastern Sierra and White Mountains to find their ancient waterworks taken over by white settlers. Over 150 years later, the Paiute continue the fight to save their waterworks, which are remnant in the Owens Valley landscape. Using archival maps from 1856, the filmmakers spent four years working with Paiute elders to locate and map their remnant irrigation systems using GIS technology, ultimately laying the foundation for a 'first use' water rights case now underway. Paya is currently being used by the Owens Valley Paiute and the Native American and academic communities nationally to mobilize tribes. Lunch will be provided.

**Moderator:** Anna Hohag, Attorney

**Panelists:**

Teri Red Owl, Executive Director, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

Monty Bengochia, Chairman, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

Paul Huetter, Vice Chairman, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

Harry Williams, TEPA Board Member

### Wednesday, June 26-Thursday, June 27

12:00-1:15 p.m. **Office for Victims of Crime Tribal Financial Management Center Focus Groups**

*Room: Southern Pacific AG*

The Office for Victims of Crime Tribal Financial Management Center (OVC TFMC) provides training, technical assistance, and resources to support American Indian and Alaska Native communities. In order to help the OVC TFMC better serve the tribal OVC grantees, we are seeking feedback from the field regarding how to best provide training and technical assistance (T/TA) by providing the opportunity for NCAI Mid-Year Conference attendees to voluntarily participate in a focus group. For more information, please contact Sheree L. Hukill, Project Director (Contractor) at [sheree.hukill@ovctfmc.org](mailto:sheree.hukill@ovctfmc.org).

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