

## Ways to engage with the Administration at Mid Year Tribal Leaders, Your Voices Are Needed!

Come to NCAI's Mid Year Conference to hear from Administration officials and lend your voices to critical listening sessions and tribal leader meetings! Attend the Mid Year Conference from June 12 - 15, 2017 held at the Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT to engage with key Administration officials.

### The Department of the Interior

Hear from **Secretary Zinke** and **Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason** at NCAI's 2017 Mid Year Conference. The Secretary will be addressing General Assembly at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 13th. Prior to Tuesday's General Assembly, on Monday the Department of the Interior will hold listening sessions on the Reorganization of the Executive Branch and the Review of National Monuments.

**Monday, June 12, 1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m., Passamaquoddy Room**  
*Reorganization of the Executive Branch*

This listening session offers tribes the opportunity to provide input on how the U.S. Government should implement President Trump's executive order to reorganize the executive branch to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of federal agencies.

**Monday, June 12, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Passamaquoddy Room**  
*Review of National Monuments*

Executive Order 13792 requires a review of national monuments designated or expanded since 1996 that meet certain criteria. On May 5, Interior Secretary Zinke released a list of monuments meeting those criteria that will be reviewed. This listening session offers Tribes the opportunity to provide input on Interior Secretary Zinke's review of the identified national monuments.

### Federal Communications Commission

**FCC Chairman Ajit Pai** will be attending NCAI's 2017 Mid Year Conference. Chairman Pai will address the General Assembly on Wednesday, June 14. Chairman Pai has made broadband deployment a top priority. The Chairman will brief NCAI's membership about his plans to close the digital divide nationally and in Indian Country during his tenure at the FCC.

**Wednesday, June 14, 8:45 a.m.**

*Chairman Pai Delivers General Assembly Address*

**Tuesday, June 14, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Schaghticoke Room**  
*Tribal Section 106 Review of Wireless Infrastructure*

Join Federal Communications Commission staff for a listening session on the current Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT 17-79) "Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Deployment" that considers the role of Tribal Section 106 Historic Preservation Review of wireless infrastructure. This is an important opportunity for tribes to discuss the importance of tribal input and consultation in infrastructure projects that impact Indian Country.

**Wednesday, June 14**

*Government-to-Government Meetings with Chairman Pai*

Chairman Pai will host government-to-government meetings with tribal leaders. The focus of these meetings will be the FCC's priority to deploy broadband to close the digital divide in Indian Country.

To request a meeting on June 14 with the FCC at NCAI's Mid Year Conference, please fill out the google form [here](#).

Please note that time will be limited and meetings will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis with timing designed to allow for as many tribal leader meetings as possible.

## **Other Confirmed Listening Sessions**

### **World Intellectual Property Organization**

**Monday, June 12, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Shinnecock Room**

*Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions*

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) will hold a Listening Session on traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.

### **Department of Justice**

**Monday, June 12, 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Pequot Room**

*Crime Reduction and Public Safety*

The Department of Justice has scheduled a series of listening sessions as part of the Task Force on Crime Reduction & Public Safety. Tribal leaders and law enforcement and justice personnel are invited to share their opinions about law enforcement and violent crime in Indian Country. More information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/otj>.

### **Department of Agriculture**

**Monday, June 12, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Narragansett Room**

*Roundtable on Programs Impacting Tribes*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers a variety of programs that Tribes, Tribal Leaders, and Tribal Citizens are using. From local food programs to housing opportunities to business, infrastructure, and conservation, USDA offers programs to cover the needs of rural America, including Indian Country. This roundtable offers tribal leaders and other stakeholders the opportunity to engage with the USDA to share priorities, ask questions and receive technical assistance on a variety of programs that support construction, infrastructure, home ownership, food sovereignty, farmers markets, and more. Bring your priorities, and learn how USDA can help make them a reality!

## Federal Emergency Management Agency

Tuesday, June 13, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Oneida Room

*Tribal Consultation Policy Revision*

FEMA is updating its Tribal Consultation Policy that guides how the agency will engage in regular and meaningful consultation and coordination with tribal nations when developing and reviewing a doctrine or policy. FEMA is seeking suggestions and comments from tribal officials and partners on the revised tribal consultation policy to help inform further development and refinement of the policy. For questions, contact: Margeau Valteau, FEMA Tribal Specialist and Tribal Consultation Coordinator, [margeau.valteau@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:margeau.valteau@fema.dhs.gov).

## Environmental Protection Agency

Wednesday, June 14, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Brothertown Room

*Proposal to Revise the Definition of Waters of the United States*

EPA, with the participation of the Department of the Army and the Army Corps of Engineers, is consulting with tribal leaders and tribal officials on a proposal to revise the definition of “waters of the United States.” This action follows the February 28, 2017, Presidential Executive Order (E.O.) 13778, which directs the EPA and the Department of Army to review and rescind or revise the 2015 Clean Water Rule. The E.O. directs the agencies to do so consistent with the principles that Justice Scalia outlined in the Rapanos plurality opinion indicating that Clean Water Act jurisdiction includes relatively permanent waters and wetlands with a continuous surface connection to such waters. The agencies are implementing the E.O. in two steps to provide as much certainty as possible as quickly as possible: 1) an initial rulemaking to recodify the previous, longstanding regulatory definition of “waters of the United States” and 2) a second rulemaking to revise the definition of “waters of the United States,” taking into consideration the principles of the plurality opinion in Rapanos. EPA initiated consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes on April 20, which concludes on June 20. The agencies are aware that the scope of Clean Water Act jurisdiction is of intense interest to many tribes and stakeholders and therefore want to provide time for appropriate consideration and deliberations on the ultimate regulation. Tribal officials are invited to participate in this session to learn more about the agencies’ actions and to provide feedback on how different rulemaking options might affect tribes.

For the full Mid Year Conference agenda or for more information on NCAI's Mid Year Conference, [visit our website](#) or call (202) 466-7767.

