



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

POLICY RESEARCH CENTER

2016 Mid Year Conference— June 27-June 30, 2016



Greetings to our partners! This is your latest update from the NCAI Policy Research Center, which shares recent studies, information on research forums, and PRC initiatives. An electronic copy is available to share on our website: www.ncai.org/PRC.



Changing Climates, Inspiring Hope Using Research to Transform Systems

Reflecting on our theme for the 11th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum, the Policy Research Center has compiled some of the leading research on various environmental impacts affecting tribal lands. We are also featuring research that speaks to tribal climates in a broader sense—community climates, school climates, and so forth.

The State of our Watersheds

According to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC), who recently released the 2016 State of our Watersheds Report, which builds upon their comprehensive research performed in 2012, “Despite *massive harvest reductions, strategic use of hatcheries* and a huge financial investment in *habitat restoration efforts* over the past 40 years, the State of Our Watersheds report shows that *we are failing to turn the tide on salmon recovery.*” The NWIFC has created an interactive map showing land uses, water quality, and ecosystem health indicators across tribal lands in coastal Washington. To view the report and its map, please visit: <http://nwifc.org/publications/sow/>.

Tracking the Impacts of the Gold King Mine Spill

On August 5, 2015, the Gold King Mine spill carried nearly 3 million gallons of acid water and heavy metals down the Animas River in Colorado into the San Juan River, which feeds the irrigation systems on the Navajo Nation. Dr. Karletta Chief (Diné) and Dr. Paloma Beamer are currently assessing the resulting changes in the environment—from soil and sediment to various waters—in three affected Navajo communities. The study received approval by the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board and sampling efforts are being coordinated with the Navajo Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Natural Resources, and Tribal Utility Authority.



Modeling Climate Change Impacts on the Harvest of Coastal First Nations’ Fisheries

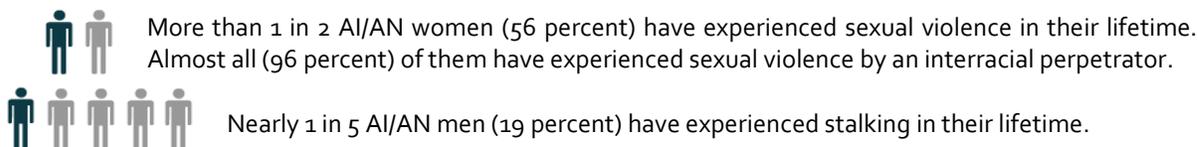
Researchers from the University of British Columbia, University of Cambridge, and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre published a report in January that projects the potential impacts of climate change (modeling latitude shifts and increased emissions) on the harvest of 98 marine fish species of importance to First Nations communities. Pacific herring are projected to decrease in their catch potential in a range from 28 to 49 percent across coast British Columbia; for salmon, declines range from 17 to 29 percent. Yet some species, such as white sturgeon, Pacific sardines, and manila clams, will increase in abundance. To review the full article, please visit the Public Library of Science journal at: <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0145285>.

New Resources Available

(Continue to Page 3 for the latest research reports from the PRC)

The US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has released a "**First Look**" at its 2013-2014 **Civil Rights Data Collection** (CRDC) results. The CRDC measures student access to courses, programs, instructional and other staff, and resources — as well as school climate factors, such as student discipline and bullying and harassment. Get a first glimpse at the data on out-of-school suspensions and expulsions for Native students (with and without learning disabilities): <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/2013-14-first-look.pdf>.

The National Institute of Justice published the **Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men** report in May, citing the prevalence of intimate partner and sexual violence. The national survey found:



To review the findings in full, please access the report online at: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/249736.pdf>.

In April, the Urban Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, and The Joyce Foundation released a report titled, **Engaging Communities in Reducing Gun Violence: A Road Map for Safer Communities**. The project converts insights from three diverse communities into a policy roadmap with actionable strategies for reducing gun violence while improving relationships between governments, law enforcement, and the communities they serve. To access the report, please visit: http://www.urban.org/research/publication/engaging-communities-reducing-gun-violence-road-map-safer-communities/view/full_report.

The First Things First organization in Arizona recently shared their report, **Taking a Bite out of Absences: Children's Oral Health Report 2016**, which highlights the return on investments in oral health care for children across the state. The percentage of kindergarteners with untreated tooth decay has decreased by 8 percent since 2003, surpassing FTF's stated 2020 goal by 5 percent! This report is an incredible advocacy tool and can be accessed online at: http://azftf.gov/WhoWeAre/Board/Documents/FTF_Oral_Health_Report_2016.pdf.

The Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH) in Sioux Falls, SD recently released their **Research Data Management Toolkit**, which contains practical tools and guidance for tribal organizations that are interested in collecting and storing research data. It is intended to serve as a resource for American Indian Tribal Nations or other Indigenous Nations that are interested in developing processes for collecting and storing research data. The toolkit can be accessed online at: <http://crcaih.org/zoo-category/item/crcaih-research-data-management-toolkit.html>.

Upcoming Research Conferences

Native Children's Research Exchange Conference. The NCRE 2016 will be held September 29-30th at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. A Call for Submissions is open through July 15th. Please visit <http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/CAIANH/ncre/Pages/NCREConference.aspx> for more information.

2016 SACNAS National Conference. This year's Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences (SACNAS) will be held in Long Beach, California between October 13-15th. Their theme is "STEM Diversity & Public Understanding." Visit <http://www.cvent.com/events/2016-sacnasc-the-national-diversity-in-stem-conference/event-summary-4b06c2bd302049b58a9a7d56f0f40996.aspx> to register today!



American Indian Health Research Conference. On October 20th, join the University of North Dakota's Center for Rural Health in Grand Forks as it hosts its annual, daylong conference event. To learn more about the conference, please visit: <https://ruralhealth.und.edu/projects/american-indian-health-research-conference>.

Research Funding Opportunities

Defending Childhood AI/AN Policy Initiative: Supporting Trauma-Informed Juvenile Justice Systems for Tribes. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is accepting applications for funding to support tribal juvenile justice and at-risk youth programs, services, and enhancements. Applications are due **July 6, 2016**: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2016/TribalDefendingChildhood.pdf>.

Affordable Care Act Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program for Teen Pregnancy Prevention. The Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau have announced to support the development and implementation of comprehensive, teen pregnancy prevention programs. Applications are due **July 8, 2016**: <https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/view/HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-AT-1130>.

Building the Capacity of Tribes to Address the Health Impacts of Climate Change. The Environmental Protection Agency has released a funding solicitation to increase tribal capacity to understand the health effects of climate change and plan for new and/or changing tribal community health needs as the climate changes. Proposal packages are due **July 15, 2016** at 4:00pm (ET). The RFP is available online at: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/rfp-epa-oar-oap-16-05.pdf>.

Native American Research Centers for Health. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences and the Indian Health Service announced funding for new (or continued) Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH). The NARCH initiative supports health research projects prioritized by tribes, tribal researcher training, research partnership improvement, and health disparity elimination. The deadline is **July 27, 2016**. Please view the announcement online at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-297.html>.

Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has announced funding to support research on environmental and policy strategies that promote healthy eating among children to prevent childhood obesity. Deadline for concept papers is **August 3, 2016** by 3:00pm (ET). To review the funding announcement, please visit: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2016/healthy-eating-research--building-evidence-to-prevent-childhood-.html>.

NCAI Policy Research Center PROJECTS & RESOURCES

NEW! Policy Brief on Human Trafficking in Indian Country. In a newly released brief titled, *Human Trafficking: Trends and Responses across Indian Country*, the PRC paints a portrait of human trafficking in American Indian and Alaska Native communities—from its root causes and historical context to the current statistics—in order to emphasize the systemic policy and program levers that are essential in combating this crime. Our goal is to support tribal nations in promoting health and justice for their citizens by raising awareness of, and engagement with, this critical issue for our communities. To access the full brief, please visit: www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/TraffickingBrief.pdf.

NEW! One-Page Data Reports on Native Youth System Involvement. As a part of the PRC's partnership with the National Indian Child Welfare Association and the Annie E. Casey Foundation to produce a report titled, *Strength in Numbers: Using Data to Advance a Deeper Understanding of Native Youth and Families*, a series of one-pagers reporting data from the four states of Alaska, Montana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma will be released over the coming months. Our first set of one-pagers features information on system involvement, or the extent to

which Native youth are in contact with juvenile justice, child welfare, and school disciplinary systems. To access the reports, please visit our PRC Publications page.

Alaska: Native Youth System Involvement

www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/Alaska_SystemInvolvement.pdf

Montana: Native Youth System Involvement

www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/Montana_SystemInvolvement.pdf

New Mexico: Native Youth System Involvement

www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/NewMexico_SystemInvolvement.pdf

Oklahoma: Native Youth System Involvement

www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/Oklahoma_SystemInvolvement.pdf

Engagement with the 2020 Census. The US Census Bureau is considering whether to add an enrollment question for Native Americans in the 2020 Census. The agency is conducting a test in two communities to assess the quality of the data collected using an enrollment question against tribal enrollment records. As a Census Information Center, we have been actively monitoring Census activities and have developed a few resources to assist tribal nations in informing the Census Bureau, including:

Native America Calling interview (June 9, 2016): <http://www.nativeamericacalling.com/thursday-june-9-2016-counting-native-americans-confronting-distrust-census/>

Census 2020 Information Brief: www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/CensusAdvocacy.pdf

Tribal Data Survey. Over the next six months, NCAI will be developing and conducting a survey about tribal data practices. The survey is part of a National Science Foundation funded project that examines the current tribal data landscape and how to improve access, development, and analysis of critical information for tribes and communities. Focus groups will be held at the Mid Year Conference to gather feedback on the types of questions we should ask. We hope to launch the final survey at the 73rd Annual Convention in Phoenix in October. Please participate in the development and collection of the survey so we can improve tribal data in Indian Country!

NCAI Comments on the Proposed Revisions to the Protection of Human Subjects in Research. On September 9, 2015, sixteen federal departments and agencies released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to revise the main policy for the protection of human subjects in research (DHHS 45 CFR 46), typically referred to as "**the Common Rule.**" There are significant implications for research with tribal nations and American Indian and Alaska Native peoples in these proposed revisions. NCAI's NPRM Comment Submission highlighted concerns related to consent for secondary research with biospecimens; research oversight by tribal Institutional Review Boards (IRBs); among other areas of concern. To review our comments and those submitted by tribal nations, please visit: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/priorities/fed-res-priorities>.

New Tribal Insights Brief on Diabetes and its Prevention in AI/AN Communities. To support NCAI's efforts to reduce Native health disparities—particularly in the domain of diabetes and obesity—we have compiled research and best practices across tribal communities in a Tribal Insights Brief titled, *Translating Science: Research and Communities Addressing Diabetes in American Indian & Alaska Native Populations*. The brief describes the evolution of diabetes in Native contexts, as well as successful prevention policies and programs, to combat the fatalism surrounding diabetes. Please review the brief online at: <http://www.ncai.org/policy-research-center/research-data/prc-publications/DiabetesResearchBrief.pdf>.

NCAI's Regional Data Profiles. As part of NCAI's effort to foster regional supports for tribal research, the PRC has developed a series of Regional Data Profiles for all 12 NCAI Areas. These profiles provide region-level population demographic data and some information on trends in education, household, and economic characteristics by states in each region. To view your region's profile, visit: <http://www.ncai.org/about-tribes/regional-profiles>.