

# California Landscape Conservation Cooperative – Tribal Team

## 2015 Activities Report for the Steering Committee

### ***Tribal Team Members as of December 2015 (not including LCC staff)***

Tribal Team interest and membership has increased substantially in 2015. There are now 39 individuals from across the LCC who have asked to be a part of the email list, ensuring they receive regular communications about tribal resources and Tribal Team activities, and many of them are regular and active participants in monthly conference calls.

### **Ecoregional Leadership Team Members as of December 2015**

**Tribal Team Chair** – Chris Bujalski, Bureau of Indian Affairs

**North Coast** – Michelle Fuller, Blue Lake Rancheria

**Bay Delta** – Emily Alejandrino, California Department of Water Resources

**Central Coast** – Nina Hapner, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria

**South Coast** – Not filled

**Baja California** – Not filled

**Central Valley** – Marshall McKay, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (Nominated); Irenia Quitiquit, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians (Nominated); Carlos Negrete, Middletown Rancheria (Nominated)

**Sierra Nevada** – Chairman Ron Goode, North Fork Mono Tribe; Dore Bietz, Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

### ***2015 Accomplishments***

#### **Growing Membership and Tribal Representation**

- 2013: 5 active members, all agency/organization representatives
- 2014: 14 active members, 11 agency/organization representatives, 3 tribal representatives
- 2015: 39 active members, 26 agency/organization representatives, 12 tribal representatives

#### **In-Person Meeting, July 2015**

The Tribal Team met in-person for the first time in July and was attended by LCC staff and fifteen Tribal Team members. The primary objectives of the meeting were to discuss and set the framework for the Team's Statement of Purpose and to develop recommendations for 2016 activities and a tribal project RFP.

Among other important guidance, the Tribal Team determined that "TEK" (Traditional Ecological Knowledge) should be dropped from the team title due to sensitivities surrounding the use of TEK and that fact that it represents only one aspect of what tribes have to contribute to conservation in CA. While TEK is an important overall holistic view of tribal land management and cultural heritage, having the term in the team name may set a tone that is not consistent with the partnership objectives of the Team and the LCC. TEK will still be considered in all Tribal Team activities and recommendations.

## Tribal Climate Adaptation Training, September 2015

A Tribal Climate Adaptation Workshop was held at the San Diego Foundation. The workshop agenda and supporting materials were developed in partnership with the California LCC, the California Department of Water Resources, the Southwest Climate Science Center, California Coastal Conservancy, and the San Diego Climate Science Alliance, as well as the state, federal and tribal participants on the CA LCC Tribal Team. The workshop included one day of instruction and a field site visit on the second day.



## Tribal Team Statement of Purpose and Tribal Team Charter, December 2015

On December 7, 2015, the Tribal Team finalized the Tribal Team Statement of Purpose and Charter. The purpose of the Tribal Team is:

*“...to bring the interests and perspectives of Tribes to the CA LCC Steering Committee and CA LCC partners, and to ensure that tribal interests are part of the CA LCC Steering Committee decision-making process. Additionally, the Tribal Team works to create opportunities for partnership between and among Tribes and other land managers and contribute to a holistic view of land management that includes tribal cultural heritage and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK).”*

The Tribal Team Charter sets forth the Team’s goals, scope, membership criteria, leadership team structure, Steering Committee representation, roles and responsibilities, how meetings are conducted, and how Team decisions are made. Both the Statement of Purpose and Charter are considered living documents and changes can be made pursuant to the agreed decision making procedures.

## ***Connecting with Other Tribal Engagement Efforts in 2015***

- **Clear Lake Climate Change Workshop, April 2015**

LCC staff and Tribal Team members provided a presentation on the CA LCC and the Tribal Team at a Tribal Climate Change Workshop hosted by Robinson Rancheria in Clear Lake.

- **23 Annual EPA Region 9 Tribal Conference, Reno NV, October 2015**

BIA / Tribal Team members provided a presentation on the CA LCC, Tribal Team, and solicitation for Team membership during EPA's session on *Planning for Climate Change*.

- **SW Climate Summit, November 2015**

There were two tribal sessions at the 2015 Southwest Climate Summit. There were about 250 participants attending the tribal sessions (40+ for each session). The two tribal sessions were very successful and provided valuable lessons learned.

## ***Resources for Steering Committee Members on Native Americans and TEK***

**Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Climate Resilience Program**

<http://www.indianaffairs.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/climatechange/>

**The Third National Climate Assessment: Indigenous Peoples, Lands, and Resources (2014)**

<http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/report/sectors/indigenous-peoples>

**The Ethics of Traditional Knowledge Exchange in Climate Change Initiatives (July 30, 2015)**

<http://earthzine.org/2015/07/31/the-ethics-of-traditional-knowledge-exchange-in-climate-change-initiatives/>

**Guidelines for Considering Traditional Knowledges in Climate Change Initiatives**

[Climate and Traditional Knowledges Workgroup (CTKW) – September 2014]

<https://climatetkw.wordpress.com/>

**Fostering Tribal Engagement in Climate Science Centers and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives**

[Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project - October 2012]

[http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/files/2010/11/Tribal\\_engagement\\_10-15-2012-1izz31b.pdf](http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/files/2010/11/Tribal_engagement_10-15-2012-1izz31b.pdf)

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Resources on the California Climate Commons**

<http://climate.calcommons.org/article/tek>

**Braids of Truth – An Exploration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Climate Change and Collaboration Challenges** [Salish Kootenai College - June 2014]

<http://www.bia.gov/nifc/fuels/ecoknw/index.htm>

**White House Tribal Nations Conference (Part 3)** – In early December, panelists at the 2014 White House Tribal Nations Conference talked about global climate change. Watch compelling statements by Interior Secretary Sally Jewel, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, and Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz. <http://www.c-span.org/video/?323039-3/white-house-tribal-nations-conference-part-3>. Also, **President Obama’s** remarks: <http://www.c-span.org/video/?323039-4/president-obama-tribal-nations-conference>

### ***Agency Positions and Actions with Tribal Engagement and Traditional Ecological Knowledge***

**Secretary of Interior Order 3289 “Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America’s Water, Land, and Other National and Cultural Resources”** [2010]

[https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/other/SO\\_3289\\_Amended.pdf](https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/other/SO_3289_Amended.pdf) [Section 3c. Landscape Conservation Cooperatives – “Because of the unprecedented scope of affected landscapes, Interior bureaus and agencies must work together, and with other federal, state, **tribal** and local governments, and private landowner partner, to develop landscape-level strategies for understanding and responding to climate change impacts”]

**Secretary Jewell Issues Secretarial Order Affirming American Indian Trust Responsibilities** [US Dept of Interior – August 2014] <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-issues-secretarial-order-affirming-american-indian-trust-responsibilities.cfm> [“The Secretarial Order provides seven principles that apply to all Interior agencies, not just the Bureau of Indian Affairs, including supporting tribal sovereignty and self-determination, protecting tribal lands and resources, building partnerships...”]

**Executive Order B-10-11** [CA Office of the Governor – September 2011] Reinforces Tribal consultation policy and establishes the position of Governor’s Tribal Advisor <http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=17223>

**CA Department of Water Resources Tribal Water Summit Guiding Principles** [CA DWR – April 2013] [http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/docs/tws/2013/Guiding%20Principles\\_FINALfor%20proceedingsv%202.pdf](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/docs/tws/2013/Guiding%20Principles_FINALfor%20proceedingsv%202.pdf) [Guiding Principle #1 – “Tribes and State agencies will work together to develop strategies and approaches that better incorporate Traditional/Tribal Ecological Knowledge into water and water-related resource planning and management activities”]

**US Geological Survey Releases Tribal Engagement Policy**

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2014/09/29/us-geological-survey-releases-tribal-engagement-policy-157115> [“It is our intent to share climate change mitigation and adaptation information with tribes and to receive feedback from tribal members regarding how ecosystems and cultural resources can be maintained as climate changes”] **Related document: “Tribal Engagement Strategy of the South Central Climate Science Center”** <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1396/>

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge for Application by Service Scientists**

[US Fish and Wildlife Service – February 2011] <http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/pdf/tek-fact-sheet.pdf>

**Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Agroforestry** [US Dept of Agriculture – May 2014] <http://nac.unl.edu/documents/agroforestrynotes/an44g14.pdf>