



Payette Lake, McCall Idaho

The Tribal Climate Camp June 19-25, 2016

University of Idaho, McCall Field Campus

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), Institute for Tribal Government (ITG), United South and Eastern Tribes (USET), and the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Northwest Climate Science Center (NW CSC) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are collaborating to offer The Tribal Climate Camp (TTCC) to support teams of tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop tribal policy needed to address climate change impacts. The BIA is funding this collaborative as part of its FY 2015 Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program. TTCC will take place on the University of Idaho's field campus in the Central Idaho Rocky Mountains on the shore of Payette Lake in McCall, Idaho.

TTCC is one of three components of the ATNI-USET strategy to increase resilience through education, training and organizing. The other components are two Collaborative Bi-Coastal Tribal Climate Change Workshops and the Second Annual Tribal Leaders Summit on Climate Change. This is the largest tribal cooperative effort to address climate change in the nation. The DOI NW Climate Science Center (jointly represented through the U.S. Geological Survey, Oregon State University, University of Idaho, and University of Washington), is providing scientific, educational, and policy support for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the TTCC.

The Importance of Understanding Climate Change in Tribal Cultures

Climate change is expected to significantly alter the ecology and economy of the Northwest, Southern and Eastern regions of the United States. Native communities are among the most climate-sensitive groups within these geographic areas. Climate-induced changes over the next 50 years will affect tribal infrastructures, economies and cultures, and will present new political challenges and opportunities as tribes work across the table with federal agencies, states, local governments and non-governmental organizations. For many tribes, climate change may alter the abundance of foods and medicines that are vital for subsistence and ceremonies,



such as salmon, deer, root plants, and berries, and which tribes are guaranteed access to by treaty, executive order, or other agreements with the Federal Government. Increasing the resilience of tribal governments and native communities is critical for being prepared for future climate change scenarios.

TTCC Goals and Learner Objectives

The TTCC is patterned partially after the successful [NW CSC Climate Boot Camp](#), now in its sixth year in the NW region. The overall goal of TTCC is to build the capacity of tribal leader teams to address climate change and associated economic, social, cultural, regulatory, and technological trends and impacts within their tribes, between tribes and between tribes and other governments, through strategic alliances with partners across Indian Country and globally.

TTCC is intended for early career tribal environmental professionals who have been assigned with some level of responsibility for leading a climate change program, or professionals who know they are about to be assigned. TTCC Attendees will be drawn from the 83 USET and ATNI member tribes.



Attendees are expected to come in teams of 2-3 individuals who are staff of the same tribe and who are tasked with working on climate change as a tribal team. At least 1 member of the team should be an early career tribal environmental professional in cases where there are more senior staff who are also assigned to climate change programming. One team member, in some cases, may be a tribal citizen who is taking leadership to work on climate change but who is not a staff member, such as a council member or member of a natural resource advisory committee. This team approach will help ground the work at camp in the realities of the tribal teams back home, and also build confidence and increase probability of success back home.



Learner objectives will focus on building a common knowledge base in climate science and on building individual and team capacity to lead and manage for change and adaptation across departments within a tribe and between the tribe and partner agencies and organizations.

The teams will work with instructors on understanding lessons from successful tribal climate change programs, building support within a tribe for climate change planning, sustainable fundraising, methodologies for engaging with community members including youth and elders, the evaluation of climate change programs and the basic climate science tools tribes can use in developing programs. Through this curriculum, teams will leave the camp with a plan for how to work together to take leadership on climate change programming within their tribes.

University of Idaho, McCall Field Campus

The [University of Idaho McCall Field Campus](#) is located at 5300 ft elevation, on the shores of Payette Lake in Idaho's Salmon River Range. The campus is proximal to vast public and private forest and rangelands and rivers, including three National Forests, three Tribal homelands, the Wild and Scenic Snake and Salmon River Systems, the Frank Church Wilderness Area and many local communities with resource-based economies and cultures.

The 14 acre McCall field campus offers a rustic retreat setting with 600 feet of lakefront beach, home-cooked, nutritious meals and bunkhouses and cabins. Educational facilities include yurts, a classroom building, an outdoor meeting area and a large amphitheater area with lake view and fire pit. Ponderosa State Park surrounds the campus and offers hiking, Nordic skiing, mountain biking, boat ramps, trailer hook-ups, and a wide variety of evening interpretive programs.



Tribal and Federal Partners:



ATNI is a regional Tribal organization comprised of 57 federally-recognized Tribes from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Alaska, Nevada, and Montana. ATNI is a union of sovereign governments, addressing among other things, issues such as energy and economic development, fishing, and treaty rights, and environmental issues.

ITG is working with ATNI to develop and lead its Climate Change Project. ITG is part of the Center for Public Service - Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. ITG serves elected Tribal governments from across the nation and also provides training and support to local, state, and federal government agencies and others who work with Tribal governments.

USET is a nationally-recognized intertribal consortium comprised of 26 federally-recognized Tribes in 12 southern and eastern states, ranging from Maine to Florida to Texas. USET is dedicated to promoting Indian leadership, improving the quality of life for American Indians, and protecting Indian rights and resources on Tribal lands.



DOI NW CSC is one of eight regional Climate Science Centers initiated by the Department of the Interior to understand and address changes in climate and adaptation, addressing the full range of natural and cultural resources. The NW CSC was established in 2010 as a partnership between the Department of the Interior and an academic consortium led by Oregon State University, University of Idaho, and University of Washington.



More Information

If you would like more information about TTCC, please contact Kyle Powys Whyte, Chair, TTCC Program Committee: kwhyte@msu.edu, Steve Daley Laursen, TTCC Director stevendl@uidaho.edu, or Arwen Bird, TTCC Program Coordinator: nwclimatecamp@gmail.com

Our web site contains more information about TTCC goals and objectives: www.tribalclimatecamp.org

