



National Tribal
AIR ASSOCIATION

NTAA MONTHLY UPDATE JUNE 2026

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Spotlight: NTFAQ FILM FESTIVAL

This year at the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality we had the pleasure of showing four incredible films. Each film had its own unique focus ranging from Tribal environmental issues to memorable cultural experiences.

Elements: Air

Elements is a series of short films that celebrate The Klamath Tribes' leadership in environmental and cultural resilience through personal stories of Tribal Members and their connection to fire, water, and air. Through the voices of three Tribal Members—Anna, Charlie, and Shuína—the series explores the experience of working to bring back beneficial fire, protect endangered fish populations, and carry forward cultural traditions.



Contact:

Miranda O'Neill
Program Manager
Miranda.Oneill@nau.edu

Marty Johnson
Program Coordinator
Marty.Johnson@nau.edu

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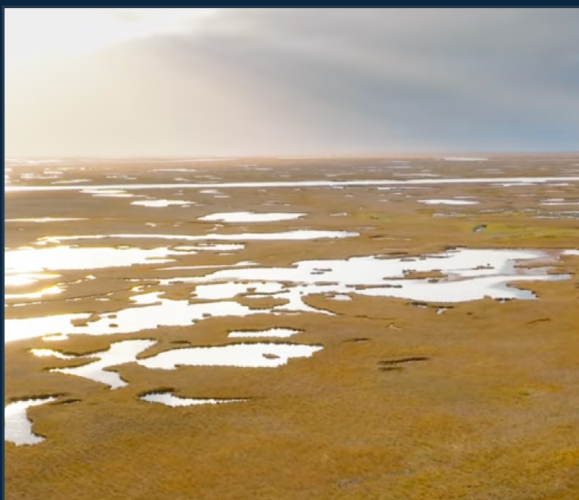
Find us at: www.ntaatribalair.org

Newsletter:

The NTAA Monthly Update is an e-newsletter providing updates and resources to Tribes regarding air policy, grants, and resources. To advertise an announcement, please email Marty.Johnson@nau.edu. To subscribe or unsubscribe from our newsletter, click [here](#).



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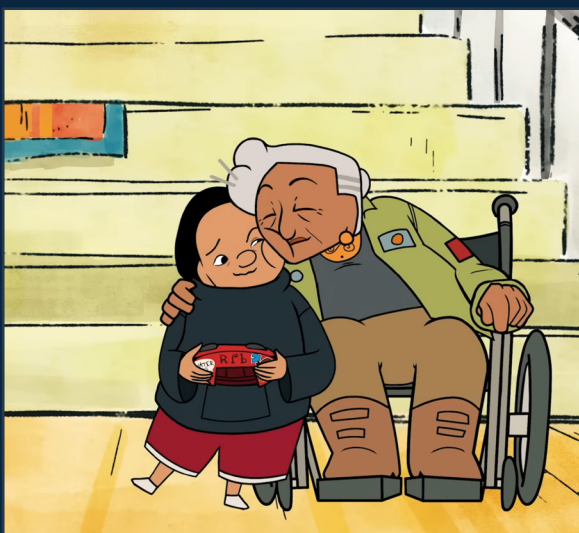


Pay Attention

Cumikluten (Pay Attention), is a 35-minute documentary featuring the work of POLARIS researchers and community members in Chevak and Dillingham. Though Western Alaska is facing increasingly devastating environmental change, Cup'ik and Yup'ik people find strength in their culture and place-based knowledge, as well as in combining these with new ways of thinking about landscapes and adaptation.

How Humans Regenerate Earth

The video calls into question the misguided interpretations of lands managed by indigenous peoples as untouched wilderness, revealing them instead as intricate, living legacies of sustainable stewardship. “How Humans Regenerate Earth” not only celebrates the ingenious land management practices of indigenous cultures but also serves as an urgent call to rekindle humanity’s dormant potential to live in harmony with the Earth.



POW!

From the artist: “Pow! is a love letter to my time spent as a bored Native kid, often dragged by my mom to powwows in tribal centers on the Tulalip Indian Reservation, where instead of powwow dancing I mostly searched for places to charge my Game Boy. Through that process I learned that loving video games and loving your culture don’t have to be mutually exclusive.” Created by Joey Clift, a Los Angeles-based comedian, TV writer, director, Emmy-nominated producer, and enrolled member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) Mental Health Awareness

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) Environment Division's Air Quality Program participated in the Mental Health Awareness Walk held at Generations Park in Akwesasne, New York by SRMT Health Services on May 28th, 2026. The event was attended by nearly 200 community members and provided an opportunity to promote awareness of the connections between environmental health and mental well-being.

Program staff hosted an informational booth where they shared resources related to environmental health, climate anxiety, air quality awareness, and the services offered through the Air Quality Program. Staff engaged with attendees of all ages, fostering meaningful conversations about environmental conditions, community wellness, and mental health. Discussions focused on how environmental disasters and poor environmental conditions can contribute to increased stress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Staff also spoke with parents and caregivers about factors that can affect children's emotional well-being, emphasizing the importance of acknowledging children's concerns, encouraging open conversations, and limiting exposure to excessive negative or distressing online content.

A popular spin-wheel activity encouraged participation and created an interactive, welcoming atmosphere. Activity categories included "Pretend to Be a Tree," "Smile Challenge," "Environmental Health Quick Fact," and "Small Prize." Participants had the opportunity to win a variety of prizes, including live mini succulents and eco-friendly plantable pencils. The Air Quality Program also donated a 2-in-1 dehumidifier/humidifier as a door prize, further promoting indoor air quality awareness while supporting community engagement throughout the event.

The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Mental Health Program Mental Health Awareness Walk provided a valuable opportunity for the Air Quality Program to engage with community members on the connection between climate, weather and overall environmental health, and mental well-being. Through education and interactive activities, staff increased awareness of environmental health impacts while promoting available program services and resources.



NTAA ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 State of Tribal Air Report (STAR) Now Available

The State of Tribal Air Report 2025 is now available on our [website](#) for your reading pleasure. The NTAA's STAR is an annual publication intended to provide an understanding of the importance and impact of Tribal air programs. Nationally vetted Tribal needs, priorities, and recommendations are all outlined, and the successes and challenges experienced by the environmental professionals are highlighted by way of person narratives submitted by the Tribes themselves.

Zoom to Teams

NTAA will be switching all of their meetings from Zoom to Teams. ITEP and thus, NTAA is housed at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and the University has decided to retire Zoom as a university collaboration platform at the end of June. Therefore, starting in July, all meetings will be held via Teams. NTAA staff will be sending out new meeting invites, so be on the lookout for those emails.

Looking for Feature Articles

NTAA is always looking for feature articles for the monthly newsletters. So, if your Tribe has a program, event, or anything that you would like to highlight, especially if it is air related, please contact Marty Johnson Marty.Johnson@nau.edu

NTAA Workgroups

Wildfire Smoke Workgroup

Thursday, June 11, 2026

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. MST

Zoom [Link](#)

Alaska Tribal Air Workgroup

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

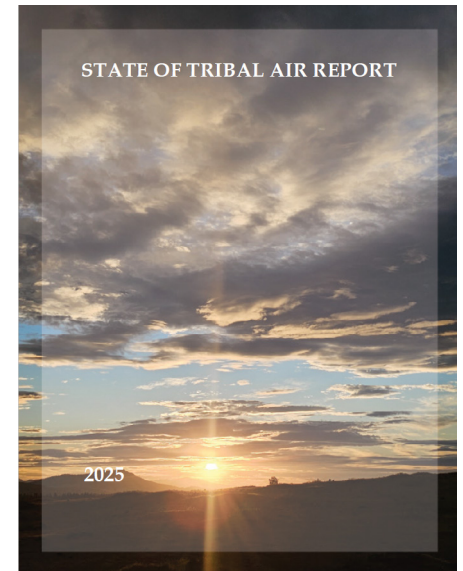
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. MST

Zoom [Link](#)

EPA Air Policy Call

Thursday, June, 25 2026

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. MST



ITEP/TAMS UPDATES

Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF)

August 17-20, 2026

Okana Resort

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Click [here](#) for more information and to register



National Tribal Infrastructure Coordination Conference

October 5-8, 2026

Reno, Nevada

Click [here](#) for more information and to register



ITEP's Online Courses

ITEP offers a variety of online courses for Tribal environmental professionals. The goal is to assist in the professional development and exchange of information for Tribal environmental staff to enhance the operations and performance outcomes of Tribal environmental management programs. There are courses that pertain to:

- Tribal Air Quality
- Tribal Indoor Air Quality
- Tribal Quality Assurance Planning
- Tribal Waste and Response

These courses are free and self-paced, meaning you can start at any time and work at your own pace. Check out the online catalog [here](#).

AIAQTP & TAMS Office Hours:

Click [here](#) to join AIAQTP & TAMS office hours. Each month ITEP, EPA, and Tribes will host a rotating schedule of office hours. Please join a lively discussion and ask questions about Grants, Indoor Air Quality, and the TAMS Center. Click the link above to see the Office Hours Schedule.

Tribal Air Monitoring Support Center (TAMS)

Agenda:

Update on the Unified Platform

Updates from the TAMS SC

UPdates from TAMS Staff

Open Discussion - Any topics from the meeting participants

TAMS Air Monitoring Workgroup Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. Pacific (10 AK/12 MTN/1 Central/2 EST)

Zoom [Link](#)

EPA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Burn Wise Program

The Burn Wise Program is transitioning to EPA's Office of Radiation and Indoor Air, Indoor Environments Division. They are excited to reimagine the content from the Burn Wise program that supports Tribes and residential woodsmoke initiatives to improve air quality and public health. Lauren Gentile (gentile.lauren@epa.gov) is the lead for the Burn Wise transition efforts and is engaging partners and stakeholders to gather feedback about content/resources.

Lauren and her team need to hear from us! What Burn Wise content do you find most valuable, why, and what might be missing or could be improved upon? Please contact Lauren (gentile.lauren@epa.gov) directly with feedback or questions ideally, by **June 23rd**.

NESHAP for Crude Oil and Natural Gas: Technology Review and Reconsideration

EPA is proposing an action related to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) from crude oil and natural gas production facilities and from natural gas transmission and storage facilities (oil and gas NESHAP) in connection with a technology review pursuant to Clean Air Act (CAA) section 112. Click [here](#) for more information. Comments due **June 22, 2026**.

Title V Operating Permit Policy and Guidance Document Index

On May 11th, EPA issued guidance clarifying the agency's review process of Clean Air Act (CAA) title V permits to streamline and expedite approvals. The guidance clarifies that state, local, and Tribal permitting authorities may submit title V permit applications to EPA before opening the public comment periods, then conduct public comments concurrently with EPA's review. Click [here](#) to read the guidance. Click [here](#) for more information.

Proposed Rule: Revision to "Begin Actual Construction" in the New Source Review (NSR) Preconstruction Permitting Program

EPA is issuing a proposed rule to revise the New Source Review (NSR) preconstruction permitting program's definition of "begin actual construction." EPA's proposed definition will address which physical on-site construction activities a source owner or operator may, prior to obtaining an NSR permit, lawfully undertake that would not constitute activities on an emissions until that are of a permanent nature. Click [here](#) for more information. [Comments](#) due **June 29, 2026**.

[EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series](#)

EPA's Office of Applied Science and Environmental Solutions (OASES) hosts monthly public webinar series to translate EPA research and share research resources and information that are useful, practical/applied and available to meet stakeholders' research needs. Free webinars are typically held the third Wednesday of every month from 3:00 -4:00 p.m. (ET)

Practical Tools to Advance Water Reuse June 17, 2026

There are no overarching federal regulations specific to water reuse. Instead, states, Tribes, and territories can establish their own regulations or standards. This approach has led to a fragmented landscape for aspiring water reuse practitioners, including industrial water users who operate in many states. Join us for an informational webinar with EPA's Water Reuse Program, which is working to remove barriers to water reuse.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tribal Funding Registry

The Tribal Funding Registry is a Native-led platform that brings together federal, state, corporate, foundation, and Tribal funding opportunities in one place. Built for Tribal Nations and Indigenous-led organizations, with guided support from staff who understand Tribal context. Click [here](#) for more information.

DOE Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment Financing

This program will guarantee loans to projects that retool, repower, repurpose, or replace energy infrastructure that has ceased operations or that enable operating energy infrastructure to avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases. Grant deadline is 09/30/2026. Click [here](#) for more information.

NDN Collective Community Action Fund

The 2026 Community Action Fund Grant Cycle is Now Open! With grants up to \$20,000 USD the Community Action Fund (CAF) grantsupports Indigenous-led direct actions and organizing efforts that are often urgent and time sensitive. The CAF prioritizes frontline, grassroots and community-based efforts that defend Indigenous Peoples' rights, communities and Nations, including responses to climate disasters. Applications accepted on a rolling basis until 10/16/2026. Click [here](#) for more information.

DOE Office of Indian Energy: On-Request Technical Assistance

Rolling Deadline. Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages can apply annually to receive on-request technical assistance with energy planning; housing, building energy efficiency, and resilience; project development; village power; and policy and regulation. Assistance is provided by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, at no cost. Click [here](#) for more information.

USDA Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

Applications accepted continuously. This program provides grants to assist rural communities that have had a significant decline in quantity or quality of drinking water. Grant may fund water-line extensions from existing systems, construction of new water lines; repairs to existing systems, construction of new wells, reservoirs, transmission lines, treatment plants, and other water sources. Priority is given to areas with less than 10,000 people, low-income areas, and communities facing imminent decline and shortage of water. Click [here](#) for more information.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS cont.

Tribal Exchange Network Group (TXG)

Tribal Exchange Network Group (TXG)

Monthly Tribal Data Drop-In Session

Thursday, May 21, 2026 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Pacific

Click [here](#) to register



NACAA

[Washington Update](#)



2026 National Air Quality Conference (NAQC) NACAA Conference

August 10-13, 2026

Omaha, NE

The National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) and Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA) are excited to co-host this year's National Air Quality Conference, which brings together state, local, tribal, and federal air agencies, the private sector, and researchers to learn from each other about the state of the art where air quality reporting and forecasting, public health, and innovative outreach programs intersect.

All attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations directly with the Hilton Omaha by calling 402-998-3400 (please mention the NAQC and NACAA Room Block) or by going [online](#), NO LATER than Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

In addition to making a hotel reservation, you must register [online](#).

Environmental Law Institute

Click [here](#) to view ELI's Calendar of seminars, courses & special events.



National Academies: Science, Engineering, Medicine

Click [here](#) to view National Academies schedule of events.

