



**Project Title:**

Facilitating Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Planning and Communicating Climate Change Impacts

**Brief Summary (Abstract):** The purpose of this project is to facilitate, communicate, and put in motion tribal climate change adaptation planning, by providing training and educational resources, tools and resources to assist tribes in the planning process, and case study examples of tribes in different regions of the country addressing climate change impacts through adaptation and mitigation.

**Project Location:** National

**Partners:** Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University, US Environmental Protection Agency

**Background:** Tribes throughout the United States are experiencing impacts of climate change on their communities, lands, and natural and cultural resources. Tribal environmental and natural resource managers are tasked with understanding these impacts and leading their tribe's climate change adaptation planning initiatives. This project was designed to build the capacity of tribes to prepare and plan for the impacts of climate change.

**Project Goals:**

- **Training:** provide training that will build the capacity of tribes to engage in climate change adaptation planning.
- **Tools and informational resources:** Develop and provide tribal climate change adaptation planning templates. Recommend tools that will assist tribes in the planning process. Offer webinars featuring presenters with experience and expertise in adaptation planning and/or presenters from agencies or organizations that have technical resources that can be utilized by tribes.
- **Tribal Profiles:** provide written profiles (case studies) highlighting tribes that are actively working to address current and projected climate change impacts, including adaptation planning.
- **Outreach and communication:** provide climate change outreach and communication materials that are applicable and culturally sensitive to tribal populations. These include the Tribes & Climate Change website, the monthly Tribal Climate Change Newsletter, and conference presentations about the project, adaptation planning, and tribal case studies.



NATIONAL *fish, wildlife & plants*  
CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

**Strategy Goals Implemented:**

Goal 3: Enhance capacity for effective management in a changing climate

Goal 6: Increase awareness and motivate action to safeguard fish, wildlife, and plants in a changing climate.

**Status of Project Implementation:** This is a 4-year cooperative agreement, October 2010-September 2014. ITEP formed a tribal steering committee to provide input and guidance to the project. Nine trainings were offered through May 2014; one more is scheduled for fall 2014. Monthly Tribal Climate Change Newsletter distribution list has grown to approximately 1250 recipients. The Tribal Climate Change website currently features 40 tribal profiles and includes a Resources Library. More than 400 individuals, including training participants, have received the Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Planning Toolkit, which is a collection of templates and other material developed by ITEP.

**Project Outcomes:** Tribal Environmental and Natural Resource professionals across the nation who are able to work with their tribe to plan and prepare for climate change impacts and make climate informed management decisions.

**Funding Sources:** US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Atmospheric Programs

**Photos/Attachments:**