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7 SW States, Including California, Expected to Miss Deadline on Colorado River Drought Plan

EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity

GrantStation

140-arrested-pelosi-and-hoyer-offices-youth-led

Ammon Bundy-breaks-with-trump-on-anti-migrant-rhetoric

Winner of 19 film awards, "Indian Horse"

NCAI, Tribal Nations Await Government-Wide MOA -Tribal Workforce Development Law Judge

Rules Against Pre-Construction Work on Keystone XL

Beginning of the End for Canada's Tar Sands or Just a Blip?

An awkward bird symbolizes the fight over America's West Old MacDonald had a Farm

The Planet Has Seen Sudden Warming Before. It Wiped Out Almost Everything

[Soul Alchemy](#)

**"If only you could hear the
sound of snow...: Hakuin Ekaku**



7 Southwestern States, Including California, Expected to Miss Deadline on Colorado River Drought Plan By KTLA, 12/9/18

With drought entering a second decade and reservoirs continuing to shrink, seven Southwestern U.S. states that depend on the overtaxed Colorado River for crop irrigation and drinking water had been expected to ink a crucial share-the-pain contingency plan by the end of 2018.

EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity is Now Open!!

EJSCREEN Webinar scheduled for December 13th

Interested in applying for a 2019 EJ Small Grant? Join us on Thursday, December 13, 2018 for an hour-long webinar on how you can use the EJSCREEN web tool to help you write your proposal. Join the webinar by doing the following:

1. Dial in using your phone: 866-299-3188 and entering the code 202-564-6349#
 2. Then click the webinar link: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejgrants/>
- Full Proposal Due Date: **Friday, February 15, 2019 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time**

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. The EJSG program will award approximately \$1.5 million nationwide for this competitive opportunity. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants (5 per EPA region) of up to \$30,000 each. These grants are for one-year projects.

See additional details at: [FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#)

Informational Pre-Application Assistance Calls

Date and Time (Eastern Time)

- Thursday, December 6, 2018 - 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, December 13, 2018 (EJSCREEN Tutorial for applicants) - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 16, 2019 (en Espanol) - 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 23, 2019 - 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday January 31, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Is my organization eligible?

Eligible entities for this opportunity are as follows:

- incorporated non-profit organizations -including, but not limited to, environmental justice networks, faith based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions
- federally recognized tribal governments-including Alaska Native Villages; OR
- tribal organizations

If your organization is NOT eligible, we encourage partnering with eligible entities on an EJSG project. See the RFP for more information.

How can I apply?

Click the link below to go directly to the EJSG program website to access the full RFP including instructions on applying through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov): [FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#)

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National Opportunities

Support for Healthy Food Retail Projects

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI), a public-private partnership administered by Reinvestment Fund on behalf of USDA Rural Development, seeks to improve access to healthy foods in underserved areas.

Campus Alcohol Abuse Prevention Initiatives Funded

The NCAA CHOICES Alcohol Education Grant Program provides funding for NCAA member institutions and conferences nationwide to integrate athletics into campus-wide efforts to reduce alcohol abuse.

Matching Grants Promote National Forest Conservation and Restoration

The National Forest Foundation was established by Congress to support the Forest Service in its management of America's National Forests and Grasslands.

Awards Recognize Exceptional Child Care Teachers

The Terri Lynne Lokoff Children's TYLENOL, Children's ZYRTEC National Child Care Teacher Awards acknowledge the critical role of child care teachers in providing quality early care and education.

Regional Opportunities

Environmental and Urban Farming Projects in the Southeast and Northeast Supported

The Merck Family Fund is dedicated to protecting the natural environment and ensuring a healthy planet for generations to come and to strengthening the social fabric and the physical landscape of urban communities.

Funds for Youth Programs in Oklahoma and Surrounding States

The Kerr Foundation primarily provides support to nonprofit organizations in Oklahoma; however, the Foundation also considers requests from organizations in the surrounding states of

Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas, as well as organizations located in Washington, DC.

Grants Enhance LGBTQ Safety and Inclusion in Southern States

The Arcus Foundation is dedicated to the idea that people can live in harmony with one another and the natural world.

Ohio Nonprofit Organizations Supported

The mission of The Kettering Fund is to support scientific, medical, social, and educational studies and research conducted by nonprofit organizations carried out within the State of Ohio.

Federal Opportunities

Program Protects Older Individuals

The Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life Program provides or enhances training and services to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, involving victims who are 50 years of age or older.

Agricultural Opportunities for Veterans Supported

The Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Program provides support to increase the number of military veterans gaining knowledge and skills through comprehensive, hands-on, and immersive model farm and ranch programs offered regionally that lead to successful careers in the food and agricultural sector.

An excerpt from GEN H. Norman Schwarzkopf's address to the Corps of Cadets at West Point

“To be a 21st-century leader, you must have two things: competence and character.

I’ve met a lot of leaders that were very, very, very competent. But they didn’t have character. For every job they did well in the Army, they sought reward in the form of promotions, in the form of awards and decorations, in the form of getting ahead at the expense of somebody else, in the form of another piece of paper that awarded them another degree. The only reason why they wanted that was because it was a sure road to faster promotion, to somehow get to the top. You see, these were very competent people, but they lacked character...

I’ve seen competent leaders who stood in front of a platoon and saw it as a platoon. But I’ve seen great leaders who stood in front of a platoon and saw it as 44 individuals, each of whom had his hopes, each of whom had his aspirations, each of whom wanted to live, each of whom wanted to do good. So, you must have character. Some great man once said that character is seen only when nobody is watching. It’s not what people do when they are being watched that demonstrates character, it’s what they do when they are not being watched that demonstrates true character. And that’s sort of what it’s all about. To lead in the 21st Century, to take soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, coastguardsmen into battle, you will be required to have both competence and character. You say, “How do I do that?.. How do I do that?” The answer is very

simple--and I guess this is what I really want to tell you most of all. You are being taught every day at this great institution how to do that. I have a classmate--one of the most ethical and moral people I've ever met. I was discussing with him one day what gave him his great character. He said, "Norm, that's easy. When I went to West Point, I was one of those guys that really believed what they told us up there. And I still do."

Out there among you are cynics. They are the people who scoff at what you are learning here. They are the people who scoff at hard work. But they don't know what they are talking about, let me tell you. I can assure you that when the going gets tough and your country needs them, they are not going to be there. They WILL NOT be there. But you will.

Competence with character. That's what you must have. That's what you are going to carry with you from West Point. Those of you who really believe what you are learning here. To hell with the cynics. Believe it! Believe it! Believe it! You must believe it if you are going to be a leader of the 21st-century military. You must believe it!"



Winner of 19 film awards, "Indian Horse" tells the story of an Ojibway boy stolen and placed into an Indian Boarding School in the late 1950's. Saul Indian Horse has a talent for hockey, which becomes his escape in the face of strict oppression and alienation from his culture.

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2018/12/10/we-gonna-rise-rise-til-its-won-140-arrested-pelosi-and-hoyer-offices-youth-led>

https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/ammon-bundy-breaks-with-trump-on-anti-migrant-rhetoric-its-all-fear-based/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=article_left_1.1

NCAI, Tribal Nations Eagerly Await Government-Wide MOA for Federal Agencies' Full

Implementation of Landmark Tribal Workforce Development Law
WASHINGTON, D.C. | On December 18, 2017, President Trump signed into law the first Indian Country-based law of his Administration: the [Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017](#). This landmark legislation seeks to build on the extraordinary success of [Public Law 102-477](#) (passed in 1992; hereafter "477"), which has enhanced the quality and accessibility of workforce development services for Native people and made existing federal programs significantly more effective in supporting tribal nations and Native organizations as they work to meet their employment, training, education, and welfare reform needs.

Among other key components, the 2017 legislation (1) makes the 477 demonstration program permanent; (2) increases the number of federal agencies statutorily required to participate in the 477 program from four to 12; (3) streamlines and clarifies the process by which the federal government reviews and approves tribal 477 Plans; and (4) designates four types of funding (*including competitive and discretionary funding* for which tribal nations and Native organizations qualify solely or in part due to their status as Indians under federal law) that tribal nations and organizations can *choose* to include in their 477 Plans based on their particular needs and priorities.

Importantly, the expanded law also gave the 12 federal agencies a deadline of one calendar year (December 18, 2018) to finalize and sign a government-wide Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) establishing how they will work together to properly uphold and administer the law. Specifically, the MOA will set forth the process by which the Department of Interior - the law's lead federal agency and *ultimate arbiter* - will use to review and approve each new or modified tribal 477 Plan, and how it will ensure full compliance by other federal agencies named in each plan.

NCAI passed a [resolution](#) at its recent Annual Convention sharing Indian Country's priorities for the implementation of this critical legislation, and it has been working closely with the Workforce Development (477) Tribal Workgroup to inform the White House and federal agencies about what full implementation of the law needs to entail.

"We are confident this MOA will live up to the full spirit and explicit intent of the law," said NCAI President Jefferson Keel. "The legislation is crystal clear: it is up to tribal nations and Native organizations - and *not* any single federal agency - to determine which federal programs should be included in 477 Plans presuming they meet the statutory criteria. That is what tribal self-determination means, and that is what this law requires."

"This legislation broadly expands on the proven workforce development successes made possible by the original 477 law within the framework of tribal self-determination. We are hopeful from our discussions with the White House Domestic Policy Council that the MOA to be released later this month will advance that same purpose and prove to be a hallmark of this Administration's signature legislation for Indian Country," said 477 Tribal Workgroup Co-Chairs Holly Snowball Morales and Margaret Zientek in a joint statement. "The 12 impacted federal agencies clearly understand the importance of tribal self-determination and self-governance codified in the 477

law, the importance of honoring tribal nation decision-making regarding programs best suited for inclusion in their 477 Plans, and the importance of honoring the Department of Interior's leadership role in making sure the 477 law achieves its intended potential. We look forward to working with all 12 agencies to make the new and permanent 477 law a success across Indian Country."

For more information about the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017 and the forthcoming government-wide MOA, please contact NCAI's Ian Record at irecord@ncai.org.

About the 477 Program

The 477 Program enables tribal nations and Native organizations to combine certain federal funds made available for employment, training, and related services programs into one holistic employment and training 477 Plan that they administer following approval by the Department of the Interior. Once plans are approved, participating tribal nations and Native organizations must submit just one federal report each year that demonstrates it is utilizing the federal funds integrated in their 477 Plans in accordance with the stated objectives of those plans. Operating a 477 Plan allows for one client intake form, one client file, one annual report to the federal government, and one budget. This greatly reduces administrative burdens and costs, enabling tribal nations and Native organizations to provide more and better quality services to their clients. It also helps to break down programmatic silos, empowering tribal nations and Native organizations to design comprehensive, client-centered approaches to workforce development.

NCAI Contact: Ian Record, *Partnership for Tribal Governance Director*,
irecord@ncai.org

Judge Rules Against Pre-Construction Work on Keystone XL

JESSICA CORBETT, COMMON DREAMS

Opponents of TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline celebrated a win in court after a federal judge ruled on Friday that the fossil fuel giant cannot conduct pre-construction work on the pipeline until the full environmental review ordered last month is complete. Critics of the Keystone XL continue to battle it in court and on the ground.

[Read the Article →](#)

Federal Judge Blocks Pre-Construction Work on Keystone XL Pipeline

Truthdig

Indigenous and environmental groups, as well as local landowners, celebrated the court victory, denouncing the proposed tar sands pipeline as "reckless and risky." [Read the full story](#)

Beginning of the End for Canada's Tar Sands or Just a Blip?

Nicholas Kusnetz, *InsideClimate News*

Kusnetz writes: "When hundreds of activists protesting the Keystone XL pipeline were arrested

at the White House in 2011, their ultimate target lay thousands of miles away: Canada's tar sands." [READ MORE](#)



[Magazine](#)

An awkward bird symbolizes the fight over America's West

[Video - World Economic Forum](#)

[Old McDonald had a farm, AI-AI-O. Read more: <https://wef.ch/2EjHqQP>](#)

[The Planet Has Seen Sudden Warming Before. It Wiped Out Almost Everything.](#)

By CARL ZIMMER

In some ways, the planet's worst mass extinction — 250 million years ago, at the end of the Permian Period — may parallel climate change today.

[AnimalsWeird & Wild](#)

These spiders feed their leftovers to carnivorous plants

