

Journal #5198 from sdc 5.10.22

Killer whale comes to greet Native Canoe Families

Legislative hearing re creating a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies

Interior Department Releases Indian Boarding School Report

Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

Annual Pinenut Blessing at Desert Creek



[Dennis Zotigh](#)

PHOTO OF THE DAY. Killer whale comes to greet Native Canoe Families in Washington State traditional ceremonies. 2019

Nevada Indian Commission

This Thursday, May 12, 10 am, Stewart alums, families and anyone interested can listen to a Legislative hearing about creating a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies.

Introduced by Representative Sharice Davids (D-KS) and co-led by Representative Tom Cole (R-OK), Co-Chairs of the Congressional Native American Caucus, this bill will establish a formal commission in the United States to investigate and document the attempted termination of cultures and languages of Indigenous peoples and assimilation practices that occurred against American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians through U.S. Indian boarding school policies.

This investigation will be documented through culturally respectful and meaningful public hearings and the Commission will receive guidance from a Truth and Healing Advisory Board to develop recommendations for the federal government in a final report due no later than five years after enactment.

If you would like to watch the livestream online, you may do so on the House Natural Resources Committee website here: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/.../scip-hybrid...>

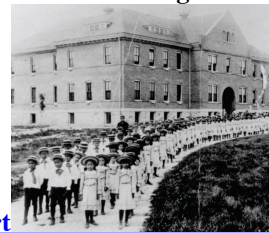
Also, the House allows for written testimony until May 26, 2022.

Therefore, NABS and the Nevada Indian Commission are humbly asking you to share your story by emailing the House Natural Resource Committee at: HNRCDocs@mail.house.gov and CC NABS at info@nabshc.org,” the email reads.

Interior Department Releases Indian Boarding School Report

Native News Online

The U.S. Dept. of the Interior released the "Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report" on



Wednesday. [Interior Department Releases Indian Boarding School Report](#)

Join Native News Online and Deb Parker for our exclusive analysis of the Department of the Interior's Release Next Steps of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative.

<https://www.facebook.com/nativenewsonline/videos/304833295026856>

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*Reminder (or in case you missed the first time around)*

**Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples**

Federal officials (EPA, ACHP and FS) speaking at the U.S. Government side event on Traditional Knowledge, held during the 18th Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, April 24, 2019.

For many years, EPA's tribal program and environmental justice (EJ) programs focused on helping federally recognized tribes develop their own environmental programs. However, EPA was also asked to work with other indigenous peoples, including tribal members and grassroots organizations.

Since the creation of the Agency's EJ program in 1992, EPA understood the need to work with both federally recognized tribes and all other indigenous peoples to effectively provide for environmental and public health protection in Indian country and in areas of interest to tribes and other indigenous peoples. In July 2014, EPA completed its [Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#), which was accompanied by the [Administrator's memo](#). This Policy explains how the Agency works with tribes and other indigenous groups and members to protect the environment and public health in Indian country and in other areas of interest to tribes and other indigenous peoples. The Policy also talks about how EPA works with indigenous peoples throughout the United States.

#### **On this page:**

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- [EJ Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Advisors](#)
- [Development of the Policy](#)

#### **Overview**

*"EPA must work each and every day -- hand-in-hand with other federal agencies, states, tribes and local communities -- to improve the health of American families and protect the environment one community at a time, all across the country." — Former EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.*

The Policy describes how EPA works with federally recognized tribes and indigenous peoples throughout the United States, and with others living in Indian country. The seventeen principles of the Policy help EPA protect the environment and public health and address EJ concerns in Indian country. The Policy also includes implementation tools available to the Agency.

#### **Scope**

The Policy focuses on EPA's work with federally recognized tribes, state recognized tribes, tribal members, indigenous community-based/grassroots organizations, Native Hawaiians, individual Native Americans, and others living in Indian country. The Policy also discusses EPA's work with other federal agencies, state agencies, and other interested groups.

#### **Focus Areas**

**EPA is working to incorporate the seventeen EJ principles in the following four areas:**

- Direct implementation of federal environmental programs in Indian country, and throughout the United States.
- Work with federally recognized tribes/tribal governments on EJ.
- Work with indigenous peoples (state recognized tribes, tribal members, etc.) on EJ.

- Collaborate with federal agencies and others on EJ issues of tribes, indigenous peoples, and others living in Indian country.

## **EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples**

### **Purpose**

EPA and other federal agencies have been expanding outreach, engagement, and collaboration with various stakeholders to advance EJ. The EJ webinar series for tribes and indigenous peoples seeks to enhance EJ integration, build capacity, raise awareness of EPA and other federal programs and resources, and provide technical assistance to tribes and indigenous peoples on priority environmental, public health, and other EJ concerns. EPA received input from tribes requesting that the Agency “increase training and technical assistance,” as well as from indigenous peoples requesting information and training, which will be provided, in part, through these webinars. These webinars are also being provided to further the implementation of several principles of the [EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#). This webinar series began in November 2020.

### **Who Should Attend?**

Federally recognized tribes, indigenous peoples (state-recognized tribes, tribal and indigenous organizations and groups, Native Hawaiians, Native Pacific Islanders, and individual Native Americans), and other stakeholders interested in tribal and indigenous peoples’ EJ issues and concerns.

### **Details about the Webinars**

These webinars are planned to be held regularly as topics are selected and content is ready (monthly or bi-monthly), for 1 ½ hours per session, allowing for a question and answer period. The presenters will include EPA, other federal agency, tribal and indigenous representatives, as well as other stakeholders, as appropriate. Most webinar topics have been recommended by tribes, indigenous peoples, and/or pertain to priorities identified by tribes and other indigenous peoples. **Tribes and indigenous peoples are welcome to recommended topics for future webinars.**

### **Webinar Schedule**

Below is a schedule of past webinars. Registration information for these webinars is sent out through the EJ Listserv. To subscribe to the EJ Listserv, send a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). For additional questions, please email [Danny Gogal](mailto:gogal.danny@epa.gov) (gogal.danny@epa.gov).

|  | <b>Title</b>                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Date</b>       | <b>Meeting Materials and Recordings</b>                                                                            |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Overview of the EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples & the EPA EJ Financial Assistance Programs | November 10, 2020 | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a><br><a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides</a> |

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EPA Competitive Grants Award Process for Tribes & Tribal Experience/Advice & Tips                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | January 26, 2021  | Recording Not Available<br><a href="#">Webinar Powerpoint Slides</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| EPA Competitive Grants Award Process for Indigenous Peoples & Tribal Experience/Advice & Tips                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | February 3, 2021  | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Powerpoint Slides</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Overview of the EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples, EPA EJ Financial Assistance Programs & a Native Hawaiian Organization's Experiences with Federal Grants Applications and Management - Webinar for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders | February 17, 2021 | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Powerpoint Slides</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Transcript (txt)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| EPA Tribal Partnership Groups, highlighting the National Tribal Air Association and Environmental Justice                                                                                                                                                                                                         | March 11, 2021    | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Transcript (txt)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Wildfires and Air Quality (Part 1) – AirNow Maps and Sensors for Communities & Tribal Experience with the Tools                                                                                                                                                                                                   | April 8, 2021     | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Transcript (txt)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Wildfires and Air Quality (Part 2) – SmokeSense and Approaches to Improve Indoor Air Quality During Smoke Episodes & Tribal Experience with the Tools                                                                                                                                                             | April 21, 2021    | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides</a><br><a href="#">Webinar Transcript (txt)</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Advancing Equity and Environmental Justice - Supporting Sustainable Development in Indigenous Communities - U.S. Govt. Side-Event, UN PFII                                                                                                                                                                        | April 29, 2021    | The U.S. Side-Event was not organized as part of the EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples, since it was part of an official U.S. Government activity for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, but is included in the this list due to its relevance to environmental justice for tribes and indigenous peoples.<br><br><a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><br>Recording Password: NyZubQ?5 |
| Enforcement and Compliance Online History (ECHO) and its Use in Indian Country and in Indigenous Communities                                                                                                                                                                                                      | May 26, 2021      | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Meaningful Public Involvement and Engagement in Environmental Decision-Making Processes                                            | June 22, 2021      | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Overview and Tribes as Cooperating Agencies                                               | July 21, 2021      | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| Environmental Justice and the NEPA Review Process                                                                                  | August 26, 2021    | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| Traditional Knowledge – Federal Agencies’ Considerations                                                                           | September 15, 2021 | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| Traditional Knowledge – Tribal Governments’ and Indigenous Peoples’ Experiences with Federal Agencies                              | October 19, 2021   | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| Justice 40 Initiative – A Whole-of-Government Approach to Advance Environmental Justice                                            | November 30, 2021  | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| National PFAS Roadmap – Update for Tribes & Indigenous Peoples                                                                     | January 18, 2022   | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| Advancing Considerations of Traditional Knowledge into Federal Decision Making                                                     | March 23, 2022     | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |
| EJ Small Grants to Support Tribal Meaningful Public Participation, Other EJ Financial Assistance Programs & EJScreen Demonstration | April 14, 2022     | <a href="#">Webinar Recording</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a><br><a href="#">Webinar PowerPoint Slides (pdf)</a> |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fish Programs – Health Approaches with Tribes and Indigenous Peoples                                      | April 27, 2022 | <b>Register Here:</b> <a href="https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_LnGEW1iyRVOtsfsHFy-10w">https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_LnGEW1iyRVOtsfsHFy-10w</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a> |
| EJScreen – Enhancements (2.0) and Demonstration of EPA’s Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool | May 3, 2022    | <b>Register Here:</b> <a href="https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_dNum66EQQ_C3q7g3KF9g1w">https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_dNum66EQQ_C3q7g3KF9g1w</a> <a href="#">Exit EPA website</a> |

## **Implementation of the Policy**

Since the inception of the Policy in 2014, EPA has been working to implement its seventeen principles. Below are some examples of how the Policy is being implemented.

### **Considering Traditional Ecological Knowledge**

Principle 6 of the Policy – "encourages, as appropriate and to the extent practicable and permitted by law, the integration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into the Agency's environmental science, and policy decision-making processes to address environmental justice concerns and facilitate program implementation."

#### **Traditional Knowledge (TK) - Considerations by Federal Government Side Event**

A U.S. Government (USG) side event, Traditional Knowledge – U.S. Government Consideration, was held in April 2019, as part of the [Eighteenth Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#)[Exit Exit EPA website](#). The meeting was hosted by the U.S. Department of State at the USG United Nations Mission. Approximately 25 tribal leaders and indigenous organization representatives attended. The [side event](#)[Exit Exit EPA website](#) included panelists from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), EPA's Office of Environmental Justice, and the USDA/Forest Service. The ACHP focused on their authorizing federal laws, regulations, and recent policy developments in TK. EPA highlighted current policies related to TK, such as the EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples (2014) – Principles 6 and 7, and the OLEM Memorandum – Considering Traditional Ecological Knowledge during the Cleanup Process (2017), and EPA Region 10's TK principles (2018). Tribal and indigenous US-based organizations, including the Seventh Generation Fund, Native American Rights Fund, Indigenous Environmental Network, International Indian Treaty Organization, were represented. Participants also included international indigenous organizations, such as the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and a few tribal government leaders and representatives, including from the Chickaloon Village of Alaska and Navajo Nation. Several [recommendations, questions and comments](#)[Exit Exit EPA website](#) were raised by the tribal and indigenous participants for government consideration and to enhance understanding of TK.

#### **Considering Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) During the Cleanup Process**

In 2017, EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management issued a [memorandum to provide direction to improve the decision-making process as it relates to site assessment, characterization, and cleanup activities \(PDF\)](#) (6 pp, 225K), to ensure OLEM is considering TEK when tribes willingly provide this information to the EPA. The consideration of TEK offers a way of bridging gaps in perspective and understanding, especially when used in conjunction with knowledge derived from the scientific method. OLEM's cleanup programs (including national and regional programs) address contaminated soil, groundwater, surface water, sediments, air, and other environmental media. These programs include common elements such as an initial site assessment, initial site stabilization when needed to protect against imminent threats, site characterization, cleanup option evaluation, selection, and implementation, and long-term stewardship of the site. Depending on the program and processes employed, OLEM can consider TEK during various phases of program implementation.

## Application of Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Cleanup of the Grasse River Superfund Site in New York

At the Grasse River Superfund Site in New York, EPA worked collaboratively with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe on the design of the cleanup of contaminated sediment along the shores of the Grasse River, specifically with thoughtful attention to habitat reconstruction and application of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to the restoration of habitats following cleanup. Incorporating TEK involved close collaboration between EPA and the Tribe's Environment Division on inclusion of tobacco burning ceremonies and seed ceremony songs in the reconstruction process as specified by the Tribe. Seed selection and seed sources/nurseries are also being selected on the basis of their ability to provide the species of cultural plants used for traditional foods, medicines, utility, ceremony, etc. specified by the tribe as well as seeds adapted to the site-specific growing conditions.

### EJ Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Advisors

Each EPA program and region has designated an Environmental Justice Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Advisor (EJ TIPA), to provide advice and facilitate effective implementation of this Policy. The Office of Environmental Justice chairs the EJ TIPA group.

| Office/Region                                        | Primary EJ TIPA                                                                                                   | Backup EJ TIPA(s)                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Office of Water                                      | <a href="mailto:miller.nettie@epa.gov">Nettie Miller</a> (miller.nettie@epa.gov), 202-564-3271                    |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Air and Radiation                          | <a href="mailto:childers.pat@epa.gov">Pat Childers</a> (childers.pat@epa.gov), 202-564-1082                       |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Land and Emergency Management              | <a href="mailto:wilson.erika@epa.gov">Erika Wilson</a> (wilson.erika@epa.gov), 202-343-9113                       |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention   | <a href="mailto:hauff.amanda@epa.gov">Amanda Hauff</a> (hauff.amanda@epa.gov) 202-566-0603                        |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance       | <a href="mailto:binder.jonathan@epa.gov">Jonathan Binder</a> (binder.jonathan@epa.gov), 202-564-2516              |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Research and Development                   | <a href="mailto:Tong-Argao.Sania@epa.gov">Sania Tong-Argao</a> (Tong-Argao.Sania@epa.gov), 919-541-1397           | <a href="mailto:ridley.danielle@epa.gov">Danielle Ridley</a> (ridley.danielle@epa.gov), 202-564-6179             |
| Office of General Counsel                            | <a href="mailto:hoppe.allison@epa.gov">Allison Hoppe</a> (hoppe.allison@epa.gov), 202-564-6628                    |                                                                                                                  |
| Office of Mission Support/ Environmental Information | <a href="mailto:jackson.elizabeth@epa.gov">Elizabeth (Beth) Jackson</a> (jackson.elizabeth@epa.gov), 202-566-0626 | <a href="mailto:poke-williams.shela@epa.gov">Shela Poke-Williams</a> (poke-williams.shela@epa.gov), 202-564-3208 |



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|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Office of International and Tribal Affairs | Please submit any questions or concerns regarding federally recognized tribal governments here: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/contact-us-about-environmental-protection-indian-country">https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/contact-us-about-environmental-protection-indian-country</a> .<br><br>Or Please Call: 1-800-962-6215 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Office of Environmental Justice            | <a href="mailto:gogal.danny@epa.gov">Danny Gogal</a> (gogal.danny@epa.gov), 202-564-2576                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Region 1                                   | <a href="mailto:wells.sharon@epa.gov">Sharon Wells</a> (wells.sharon@epa.gov), 617-918-1007                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Region 2                                   | <a href="mailto:caldwell.lance@epa.gov">Lance Caldwell</a> (caldwell.lance@epa.gov), 212-637-3665                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <a href="mailto:jonathan.grant@epa.gov">Grant Jonathan</a> (jonathan.grant@epa.gov) 212-637-3843                                                                                                                    |
| Region 3                                   | <a href="mailto:Okorn.barbara@epa.gov">Barbara Okorn</a> (Okorn.barbara@epa.gov) 215-814-3330                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <a href="mailto:beers.samantha@epa.gov">Samantha Phillips Beers</a> (beers.samantha@epa.gov), 215-814-2627<br><br><a href="mailto:hamilton.brian@epa.gov">Brian Hamilton</a> (hamilton.brian@epa.gov), 215-814-5497 |
| Region 4                                   | <a href="mailto:pugh.katherine@epa.gov">Katherine Pugh</a> (pugh.katherine@epa.gov), 404-562-8351                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <a href="mailto:Thomas-Burton.Tami@epa.gov">Tami Thomas-Burton</a> (Thomas-Burton.Tami@epa.gov), 404-562-8027                                                                                                       |
| Region 5                                   | <a href="mailto:walts.alan@epa.gov">Alan Walts</a> (walts.alan@epa.gov), 312-353-8894                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <a href="mailto:davis.tina@epa.gov">Tina Davis</a> (davis.tina@epa.gov), 312-353-8254                                                                                                                               |
| Region 6                                   | <a href="mailto:gee.randy@epa.gov">Randy Gee</a> (gee.randy@epa.gov), 214-665-8355                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <a href="mailto:tellez.debra@epa.gov">Debra Tellez</a> (tellez.debra@epa.gov), 575-202-7295                                                                                                                         |
| Region 7                                   | <a href="mailto:romero.anna-marie@epa.gov">Anna-Marie Romero</a> (romero.anna-marie@epa.gov), 913-551-7739                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <a href="mailto:espinosa.monica@epa.gov">Monica Espinosa</a> (espinosa.monica@epa.gov), 913-551-7541                                                                                                                |
| Region 8                                   | <a href="mailto:varilek.kimerly@epa.gov">Kim Varilek</a> (varilek.kimerly@epa.gov), 303-312-6925                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <a href="mailto:belille.jean@epa.gov">Jean Belille</a> (belille.jean@epa.gov), 303-312-6556                                                                                                                         |
| Region 9                                   | <a href="mailto:bacock.alan@epa.gov">Alan Bacock</a> (bacock.alan@epa.gov), 415-947-4195                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <a href="mailto:rayos.mark@epa.gov">Mark Rayos</a> (rayos.mark@epa.gov), 415-947-4110                                                                                                                               |
| Region 10                                  | <a href="mailto:villa.catherine@epa.gov">Cathy Villa</a> (villa.catherine@epa.gov), 907-271-1270                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <a href="mailto:wilson.wenona@epa.gov">Wenona Wilson</a> (wilson.wenona@epa.gov), 206-553-2148                                                                                                                      |

### Development of the Policy

EPA began the development of the Policy in 2011, tasking the EPA Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Environmental Justice Work Group, comprised of EPA staff, with creating a draft policy.

In addition, the Agency sought advice and recommendations from the [National Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(NEJAC\)](#), a federal advisory committee to the EPA. The NEJAC's [Indigenous People Work Group \(IPWG\)](#), made up of tribal and indigenous EJ stakeholder representatives, assisted the NEJAC in providing advice and recommendations to EPA on how the Agency can work effectively with federally recognized tribes and indigenous peoples to address their EJ concerns.

The NEJAC provided the following advice and recommendations to help EPA develop an effective Policy:

- [Recommendations for Fostering Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#), January 2013
- [Recommendations for the EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#), January 2013

Consultation with tribes, as well as outreach to indigenous stakeholders, was a critical part of the development of the policy.

The first set of tribal consultation and public comment periods were held February through April 2012. EPA focused on obtaining input on the four focus areas the Agency was planning for the Policy.

The second tribal consultation period, which focused on the Working Draft of the Policy, started in November 2012 and concluded in February 2013. This consultation overlapped with the indigenous peoples and public comment period held January through February 2013.

The third and final tribal consultation and public comment periods, held May 5 to June 5, 2014, focused on the Revised Draft of the Policy.

- [Environmental Justice \(EJ\) Home](#)
- [Learn About Environmental Justice](#)
- [Equity Action Plan](#)
- [National Environmental Justice Advisory Council](#)
- [Grants and Resources](#)
- [EJ in Your Community](#)
- [Federal Interagency Working Group on EJ](#)
- [EJ and National Environmental Policy Act](#)
- [EJ and Title VI](#)
- [EJ for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#)
- [Equitable Development and EJ](#)
- [Community Voices on EJ](#)

The Nevada District Office will offer [T.H.R.I.V.E. \(Train, Hope, Rise, Innovate, Venture, Elevate\)](#), a reimagined training program for small business leaders, formerly known as **Emerging Leaders** in Las Vegas and Reno (new for 2022).

“**T.H.R.I.V.E. Emerging Leaders Reimagined** initiative will provide up-and-coming small business leaders with tools, knowledge, and access to the best and the brightest minds in economic development to help them accelerate their growth and help them become competitive in an increasingly global economy,” **said SBA Administrator Isabella Guzman**.

**Las Vegas** and **Reno** recruitment for the 2022 training cycle has begun. Small business owners can learn more regarding eligibility, how to apply, program format, and locations by visiting <https://www.sbathrive.com> or by contacting the Nevada District Office Project Managers:

**Las Vegas Metro Area:** Barry Van Orden | [barry.vanorden@sba.gov](mailto:barry.vanorden@sba.gov), (702) 388-6674

**Reno Metro Area:** Alfredo Cedenro | [alfredo.cedenrojr@sba.gov](mailto:alfredo.cedenrojr@sba.gov), (202) 941-8150

The SBA's **T.H.R.I.V.E. Emerging Leaders Reimagined** provides complimentary entrepreneurship education and training for executives of high-performing small businesses. Over six months, this intensive executive entrepreneurship training series includes in-person coaching, self-paced instruction, mentoring, and classroom time. The program allows participants to work with a network of experienced subject matter experts in core business topics like accounting, business strategy, marketing, and human resources customized for the unique needs of small business owners.

Please visit [T.H.R.I.V.E. Emerging Leaders Reimagined](#) for eligibility requirements, and to express interest/register in the program. [Applications are accepted through May 31, 2022.](#)

**Get your questions answered and join us for two informational sessions via Microsoft Teams:**

**Thursday, May 12th @ 1:00 PM** [Enter Here](#)

**Thursday, May 19th @ 1:00 PM** [Enter Here](#)

**Topics Covered:**

### **Do I qualify to participate?**

This training is not for start-ups or people who are thinking about starting a business. **T.H.R.I.V.E. Emerging Leaders Reimagined** advanced training series is open to small business owners and executives that:

- Have annual revenues of at least \$250,000
- Have been in business for at least three years
- Have at least one employee, other than self

### **What are the key program highlights?**

- Mentoring
- In-person coaching for C-level executives
- Self-paced instruction with demonstrated business sustainability
- A hybrid model that includes virtual and classroom sessions
- Micro-sessions customized for small businesses' unique needs
- Experienced subject matter experts



# Annual Pinenut Blessing @ Desert Creek

**Date:** Friday, May 13, 2022

**Starting Time:** 'Around' 12 Noon

**The Blessing will be said by an Elder**

**\*\*NO MEDIA PLEASE!**

A Potluck sharing of food will follow. Each reservation or Colony is encouraged to bring food and water. If able, please bring tables, chairs and canopies.

The Forest Service will provide toilet facilities.

YOUNG PEOPLE (STUDENTS) ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND, PARTICIPATE, ASSIST AND HELP WITH ELDERS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, WATCH, LISTEN AND LEARN THE TRUE MEANING OF THE BLESSING.

Round Dance Songs and Dancing will follow the blessing.



Questions or concerns,  
Contact Elwood Emm, YPT Chairman,  
at [chairman@ypt-nsn.gov](mailto:chairman@ypt-nsn.gov)

