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GrantStation

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“Once upon a time, when women were birds,
there was the simple understanding that
to sing at dawn and to sing at dusk
was to heal the world through joy.

The birds still remember
what we have forgotten,
that the world is meant to be
celebrated.”

~Terry Tempest Williams

Photograph: Viola Loretta

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Over \$140 Million in *America the Beautiful* Challenge Grants Announced



The Biden-Harris administration joined the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), public and private sector partners in announcing \$141.3 million in grants through the [*America the Beautiful Challenge \(ATBC\)*](#). The 74 new grants will support landscape-scale conservation projects across 46 states, three U.S. Territories, and 21 Tribal Nations, and will generate at least \$12 million in matching contributions for a total conservation impact of more than \$153 million. Approximately 40 percent of 2023 grants and funding will support projects implemented by Indigenous communities, representing an unprecedented level of funding dedicated to Tribally led projects for a single grant program at NFWF.

The ATBC grants support projects that conserve, restore and connect wildlife habitats and ecosystems while improving community resilience and access to nature, which also advance President Biden's ambitious environmental justice goals. The competitive grant awards were made possible through President Biden's Investing in America agenda, with funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, other federal conservation programs, and private sources. The White House launched the Challenge in 2022 as a partnership with the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Defense, Native Americans in Philanthropy, and NFWF.

Interior Department Announces Nearly \$22 Million for Local Parks and New Actions to Increase Outdoor Access in Urban Areas



The National Park Service will distribute nearly \$22 million in funding through the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) program for the redevelopment or creation of five new local parks that will serve communities in Anchorage, Alaska; Moorhead, Minnesota; Greensboro, North Carolina; Buffalo, New York; and Norfolk, Virginia. **The Department also announced a funding opportunity for more than \$224 million in grant funding for next year** for local communities across the United States for the creation of new parks and trails, or substantial renovations to existing parks through the ORLP program. The announcement represents the largest grant funding since the launch of the program. The ORLP program helps advance the Biden-Harris administration's *America the Beautiful* initiative by supporting and expanding safe outdoor spaces for nature-deprived communities.

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Hellman Foundation c/o Hirsch Philanthropy Partners  
595 Market Street #820 San Francisco, CA, 94105 Phone: 415-837-5408  
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January 24, 2024 Deadline - **Udall Foundation's Native American Congressional Internship.** For more information click [here](#).

February 1, 2024 Deadline - **NAU's Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals.** Paid 8-week summer internship. For more information [here](#)

ASU RECHARGE, at ASU Tempe, Friday, February 2. For American Indian students in grades 7-12. Students will learn about their education, future, and communities through engaging activities, presentations on college majors, culture and identity, and college preparedness. For more info, or to register, click [here](#)

Reminder: ROSS Application Deadline is December 18, 2023

The application period runs from October 16 to December 18, 2023. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be accepted, unless they have been granted a 24-hour grace period by Grants.gov to address errors in their submission.

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$2 Billion to Fund Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants as Part of Investing in America Agenda

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights announces the largest single investment in environmental justice in history, funded by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act

Today, the Biden-Harris administration announced approximately \$2 billion in funding available to support community-driven projects that deploy clean energy, strengthen climate resilience, and build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Community Change Grants are the single largest investment in environmental justice going directly to communities in history, and will

advance collaborative efforts to achieve a healthier, safer, and more prosperous future for all. These funds, part of President Biden's Investing in America agenda, are made possible by the President's Inflation Reduction Act—the biggest-ever investment in clean energy and climate action.

“Throughout my Journey to Justice tour, I've heard from residents and advocates calling for resources to support local solutions in communities that have long been overlooked and forgotten,” **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan**. “Today, thanks to President Biden's commitment to investing in communities that have long struggled to access federal funding, we are delivering on these calls to action. This historic, unprecedented funding has the promise to turn disadvantaged and overburdened areas into healthy, resilient, and thriving communities for current and future generations.”

“For far too long, communities that have borne the brunt of power plant and industrial pollution have been left out and left behind,” **said John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the President for Clean Energy Innovation and Implementation**. “The Inflation Reduction Act and President Biden's Justice40 initiative change that by bringing new investment, clean energy, and good-paying jobs to disadvantaged communities.”

“President Biden is leading a whole-of-government effort to confront longstanding environmental injustices and inequities,” **said White House Council on Environmental Quality Chair Brenda Mallory**. “Thanks to this historic funding covered under the President's Justice40 Initiative, we are investing in locally-driven solutions to make a positive difference for communities that have suffered from pollution, underinvestment, and decades of disproportionate environmental impacts. Investments like these show how we are delivering on the President's ambitious environmental justice agenda and his commitment to build more equitable and resilient communities for generations to come.”

The Community Change Grants deliver on President Biden's historic commitment to advance equity and justice, including his [Justice40 Initiative](#). The Community Change Grants will deliver 100 percent of the benefits of this program to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. This program also dedicates \$200 million of Inflation Reduction Act funding to provide technical assistance to applicants and grant recipients, which will enhance the ability of disadvantaged communities to access resources for environmental and climate justice activities.

The activities to be performed under the grants are expected to fall under the following categories:

- Climate resiliency and adaptation.
- Mitigating climate and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events.
- Community-led air and other (including water and waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation.
- Investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure.
- Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.
- Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution.

- Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in state and federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes.

The [Community Change Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#), administered through the [Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights \(OEJECR\)](#), has several unique characteristics to advance environmental and climate justice, many of which are responsive to feedback and input the agency has heard from communities. These include:

- **Rolling Applications:** The NOFO will be open for a year, closing on November 21, 2024, and EPA will review applications on a rolling basis. This allows applicants to utilize technical assistance and possibly resubmit a new application if not initially selected. EPA encourages applicants to apply as early as possible.
- **Two-track Submission Processes:** Applications can be submitted under two separate tracks depending on the project scope and funding requested.
 - Track I, Community-Driven Investments for Change, is expected to award approximately \$1.96 billion for 150 projects for \$10-20 million each.
 - Track II, Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance, is expected to award approximately \$40 million for 20 projects for \$1-3 million each.
- **Oral Presentations:** Track I applicants may also be invited to participate in an oral presentation. These oral presentations will enable EPA reviewers to hear directly from the applicants and their partners to learn more about community priorities, desired outcomes, and plans for long-term sustainability. This new format is responsive to community requests to engage with EPA in more accessible ways.
- **Target Investment Areas:** Out of the \$2 billion in funding, EPA has identified five Target Investment Areas (TIA) to help ensure that communities with unique circumstances, geography, and needs can equitably compete for funding. These are:
 - **Tribes in Alaska:** \$150 million for projects benefitting Indian Tribes in Alaska including funds for cleanup of contaminated lands.
 - **Tribes:** \$300 million for projects benefitting Tribal communities in the other states.
 - **Territories:** \$50 million for projects benefitting disadvantaged communities in the United States' territories of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.
 - **Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities:** \$50 million for projects benefitting small and rural areas that lack fixed, legally determined geographic boundaries, such as Colonias.
 - **U.S.-Southern Border Communities:** Consistent with EPA's longstanding commitment to addressing transborder pollution challenges, \$100 million for projects benefitting non-Tribal disadvantaged communities within 100 kilometers north of the U.S.-Mexico border.
- **Technical Assistance:** The \$200 million for technical assistance is available in direct response to feedback from communities and environmental justice leaders who have long called for capacity building support for communities and their partners as they work to access critical federal resources. With this funding, there are two TA programs dedicated for the Community Change Grants. Applicants can learn more about, and express interest in, the technical assistance on [EPA's Community Change Grants Technical Assistance webpage](#).

[Read the Community Change Grants NOFO.](#)

OEJECR will also host multiple informational webinars while the NOFO is open, with the first being held on December 7, 2023. These webinars will address questions, and some may facilitate the formation of partnerships and information sharing. More information on upcoming webinars can be found on [EPA's Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program webpage](#).

[Learn more about environmental justice at EPA](#) [Learn more about Inflation Reduction funding at EPA](#)

For up-to-date information about the NOFO, including information on the webinars, subscribe to the Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights' listserv by sending a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. Follow OEJECR on X (formerly Twitter): [@EPAEnvJustice](#).

Background

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) created the Environmental and Climate Justice Program, the largest investment in environmental and climate justice in U.S. history when it was signed into law by President Biden on August 16, 2022. Under this program, EPA was provided \$3 billion to award grants and fund related technical assistance to benefit disadvantaged communities.

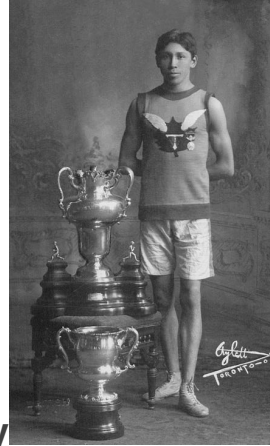
Earlier in 2023, EPA issued a [Request for Information](#), held a dedicated consultation with EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, and hosted multiple webinars to gain public input on innovative strategies and approaches for competition design, community engagement, equitable distribution of financial resources, grantee eligibility for funding, capacity-building and outreach, and more. This feedback was crucial in designing key elements of the Community Change Grants and this NOFO, including the Target Investment Areas, incorporating oral presentations, the rolling application period, and more. EPA thanks everyone for their incredibly valuable time and input, which ensured the creation of a more inclusive and accessible grant program.

[William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV](#)

As the only **female Native American professor at UNLV, Danielle Finn** has made it her mission to increase the number of Native American students pursuing law at Boyd Law. She is inspired by the resilience of her ancestors and works to empower Native women.



<https://www.unlv.edu/announcement/womens-council/womens-council-spotlight-danielle-finn-0>



Tom Longboat - A Snapshot Biography

Fourteen thousand fans spent the evening of December 15, 1908, at Madison Square Garden in New York City, watching two men race a marathon on an indoor track. Many who couldn't get a ticket waited outside, eagerly anticipating the results. It was a reflection of the time when audiences craved one-on-one endurance competitions.

Thomas (Tom) Longboat came into that race still relatively new to competitive distance running. He had been running for much of his life. As his mother said about Tom, "He run every morning. He run every night." But his competitive running career had only started a few years prior, in 1905. Yet, while the years of competition were few, the victories had become numerous and impressive. Many had already billed him as the world's fastest distance runner. He had the records to prove it.

This night would go as many had before. Tom won. He finished the race in 2 hours, 45 minutes and 5.2 seconds. For his victory, Tom received \$3,750.

Tom would run two more indoor marathons in the next six weeks, winning both while taking time between the race days to get married.

Born on July 4, 1886, near Brantford, Ontario, Canada, Tom's birth name was Cogwagee. His family was part of the Onondaga people, a Native American tribe who lived in what is now the United States for centuries but moved to Canada after the American Revolution, as they had sided with the British during the war.

Growing up in the tribe, Tom played lacrosse, which was popular amongst the community. And it was lacrosse that would lead Tom to competitive running. In 1905, one of Tom's teammates challenged Tom to a race. As would become his norm, Tom easily won. He began entering racing competitions after this victory.

Tom developed "a long slow stride that was deceiving in its speed and seemed to carry him over the ground with the least possible exertion." It would take him to many victories, including the 1907 Boston Marathon. About his race, it was written,

"Longboat's defeat of his field of upwards of 100 starters, creditable as it was, was as nothing compared to the phenomenal, though official time of which he covered the hilly course. His time was 2 hours, 24 minutes and 20 4/5 seconds or more than five minutes better than the record made by J.O. Caffrey, another Canadian runner, six years ago.

Never before has any runner either amateur or professional, in this country or abroad, on the road or on the under path ever approached the figures set up by Longboat yesterday afternoon.

His work demonstrated beyond all question that he is the greatest distance runner that the world has ever seen."

Tom was celebrated for his victory back in Toronto. The mayor greeted Tom upon his return with an education scholarship fund and a gold medal from the city. "Mr. Mayor, I thank you kindly for the splendid reception, for the medal and the city grant and I shall try to behave so as to prove myself worthy of the City's kindness," Tom replied.

The following year, Tom was running in the Olympics. He didn't win, with some believing that Tom was drugged before the race. But in the year after, Tom became a World Champion.

Tom's running career had many successes but also came with many challenges. He experienced racism in the press and dealt with issues surrounding amateur status. Yet, he did what he set out to do. He wanted to show the world the talents of an Onondaga runner. And in doing so, he inspired many Native Americans to take up running.

A few years after the Olympics came World War I. Tom joined to serve his country. He survived the war but came home having been wounded twice. For decades after, Tom worked and lived a quiet life relative to his previous fame. He passed away in 1949.

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**In Death Valley, a Rare Lake Comes Alive**

NY Times, 11/20/2023. Visitors normally flock to Death Valley National Park to feel the searing heat and take in the barren landscape. This fall, they've been drawn by

**Northern California River Sees Record High Salmon Fall Run**

SFist, 11/18/2023. Over 20,000 Chinook salmon made a fall run to spawn in the Mokelumne River this year, wildlife officials say.

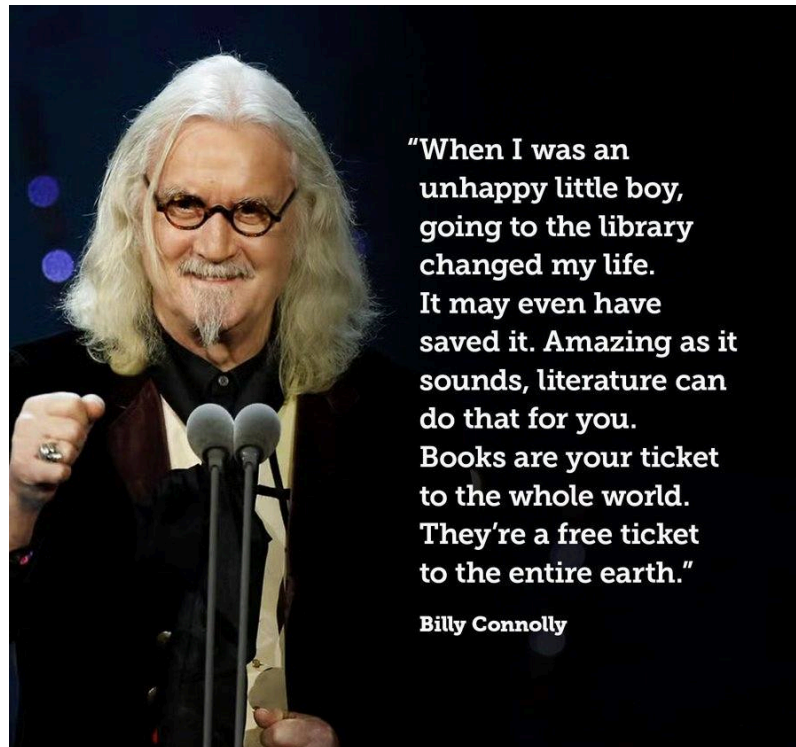
**Sites Project Authority certifies Sites Reservoir's final environmental report**

CBS News, 11/19/2023. An important milestone was reached Friday for the construction of another reservoir in California. The Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Sites Reservoir was certified and the Sites Reservoir Project was approved by the Sites Project Authority, the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act.



## [PG&E Confirms Plan to Begin Full Removal of Eel River Dams](#)

CalTrout, 11/17/2023. All in-river facilities to be removed; Eel will be the longest free-flowing river in California.



### **Library of Congress: Library Technician (Vacancy#: VAR002512)**

- **Opening Date:** November 17, 2023    **Closing Date:** November 15, 2024
- **OPM Control Number:** 761365500    **Vacancy Number:** VAR002512
- **LC Organization Unit:** Discovery and Preservation Services
- **Grade:** GS-08    **Series:** 1411
- **Minimum Salary:** \$58,811.00 per year    **Maximum Salary:** \$76,459.00 per year
- **Availability:** Open to All

The position is located in the Collections Management Division in the Discovery and Preservation Services. Incumbent is responsible for a variety of activities in support of collections inventory control and tracking, both behind-the-scenes activities, e.g. problem resolution, quality control, searching collections storage areas for items not readily found or for which a problem might be present, support of the inventory program; and direct public service, e.g. staffing a circulation station.

This is an **OPEN CONTINUOUS ANNOUNCEMENT**.

The first cutoff for receipt of applications under this announcement will be 11:59 p.m. EST on December 15, 2023.    [Click here for more information.](#)

To see more current job and internship opportunities at the Library of Congress, [visit our careers site](#) and our [internship and fellowships site](#).



**2023 Fashion Week in New York City...Native American Style! Choke Cherry Creek.**

**The significant environmental impact of Tahoe's scarce wetlands:** Associate Professor Benjamin Sullivan at the University of Nevada, Reno, discusses the carbon sequestration potential of restored meadows in the Tahoe Basin. Researchers estimate these meadows may capture as much carbon as forests. ([tahoedailytribune.com](http://tahoedailytribune.com))

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[admissions@tocc.edu](mailto:admissions@tocc.edu)

**2024 Spring Semester Admissions Deadline** **Friday, January 12, 2024 at 5 pm (AZ Time)**



### Native Night at UNR Basketball 11.19

**November 27 in 1868** Col. G. Custer, under cloud for conviction of being absent without leave from his command and conduct in the prejudice of good order and military discipline (mistreating his men), attacked a peaceful Cheyenne settlement without provocation.

**November 27 In 1919** Native Americans installing a pipeline for the Winnemucca Water and Light Company struck for fifty cents a day or more; contractor agreed for fear the ground would freeze.

In **1933** as part of a program to reduce soil erosion, the Fed Relief Admin planned to purchase a hundred thousand sheep from the Navajo, some of which would be distributed as food to Nevada tribes.

**November 28 in 1940** the Duckwater Community adopted their Constitution.



psypost.org

[New research suggests babies start learning language before birth](#)  
[A new study suggests that newborns may begin language acquisition in the womb, with prenatal language exposure influencing their neural activity and potentially shaping their future language learning abilities. This groundbreaking research underscores the early foundations of language development in...](#)

