

Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership Conference April 12, 2018

Climate Change Panel

Kathy Lynn, University of Oregon

Environmental Studies Program

Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project

<https://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/>

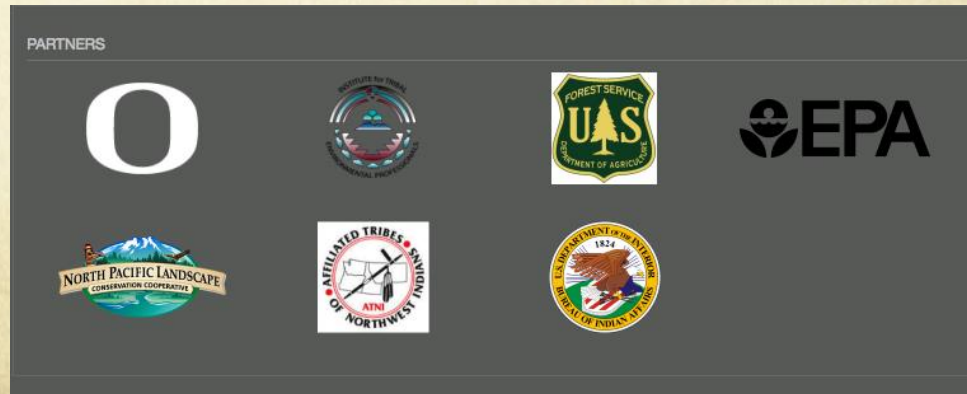
Northwest Tribal Climate Change Initiatives

- Culture, Sovereignty and Climate Change
- Understanding Indigenous and Traditional Knowledges
- Northwest Tribal Initiatives

Pacific Northwest

Tribal Climate Change Project

- Building an understanding on the impacts of climate change on tribal culture and sovereignty and fostering opportunities for tribes to engage in regional and national climate initiatives.
- Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Network:
 - Regular news bulletins and resources with information on climate programs, policies and events
 - Monthly Network call on the third Wednesday of each month at 10 am Pacific.



Climate change and indigenous peoples

- Some populations may have less capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate-related hazards and may be disproportionately affected by climate change.

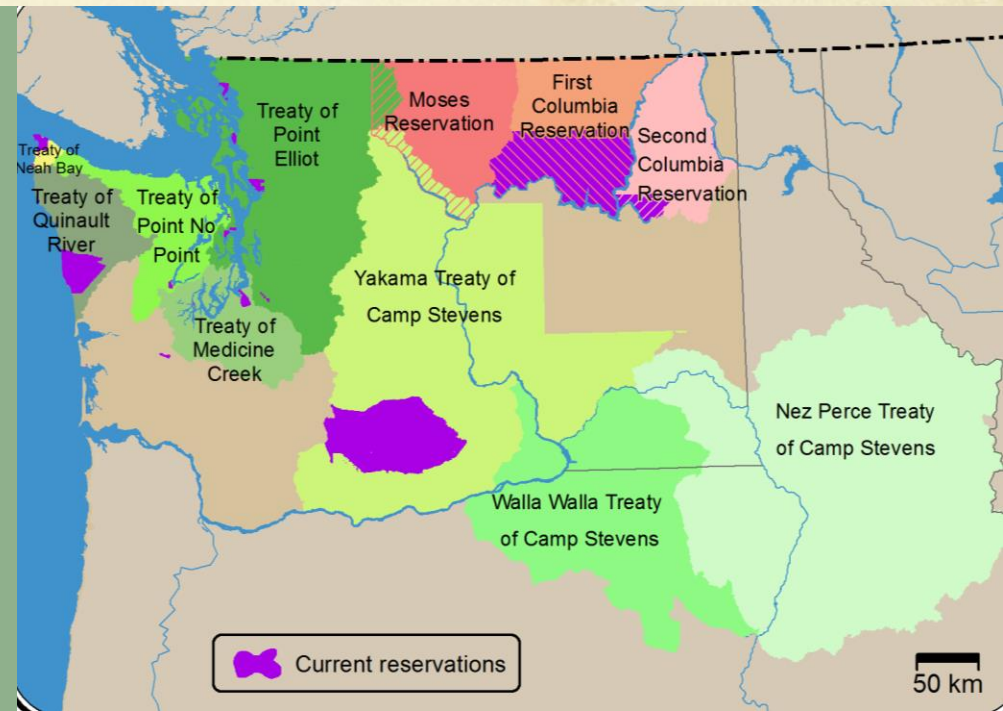


Tribal Sovereignty and Environmental Impacts

- **At risk:** Treaty and reserved rights -- access to sacred sites, cultural resources and traditional practices on ceded lands

“Few contemporary tribes can afford the purchase of large tracts of new land, and federal laws hinder the transfer or expansion of tribal jurisdiction. Tribes therefore see their traditional cultures directly endangered by the magnitude of the projected climate change.”

Houser et al. 2000



Culture and Sovereignty

“If we lose the clam beds, well, that is who we are.”

- Larry Ralston, Quinault Indian Nation



Source: Quinault Indian Nation

Why does culture matter?

“Can you imagine a world where nature is understood as full of relatives not resources, where inalienable rights are balanced with inalienable responsibilities and where wealth itself is measured not by resource ownership and control, but by the number of good relationships we maintain in the complex and diverse life-systems of this blue green planet?”

- Daniel Wildcat,
Climatic Change 2013

Threats to Indigenous Culture and Lifeways

“The rights of tribes are connected to specific lands with fixed boundaries, including reservations and federally managed lands that cover traditional territories and traditional-use areas.”

- Williams and Hardison 2005



Photo by Warren King George. Printed in [Indian Country Today](#)

Traditional Knowledge

Traditional Knowledge

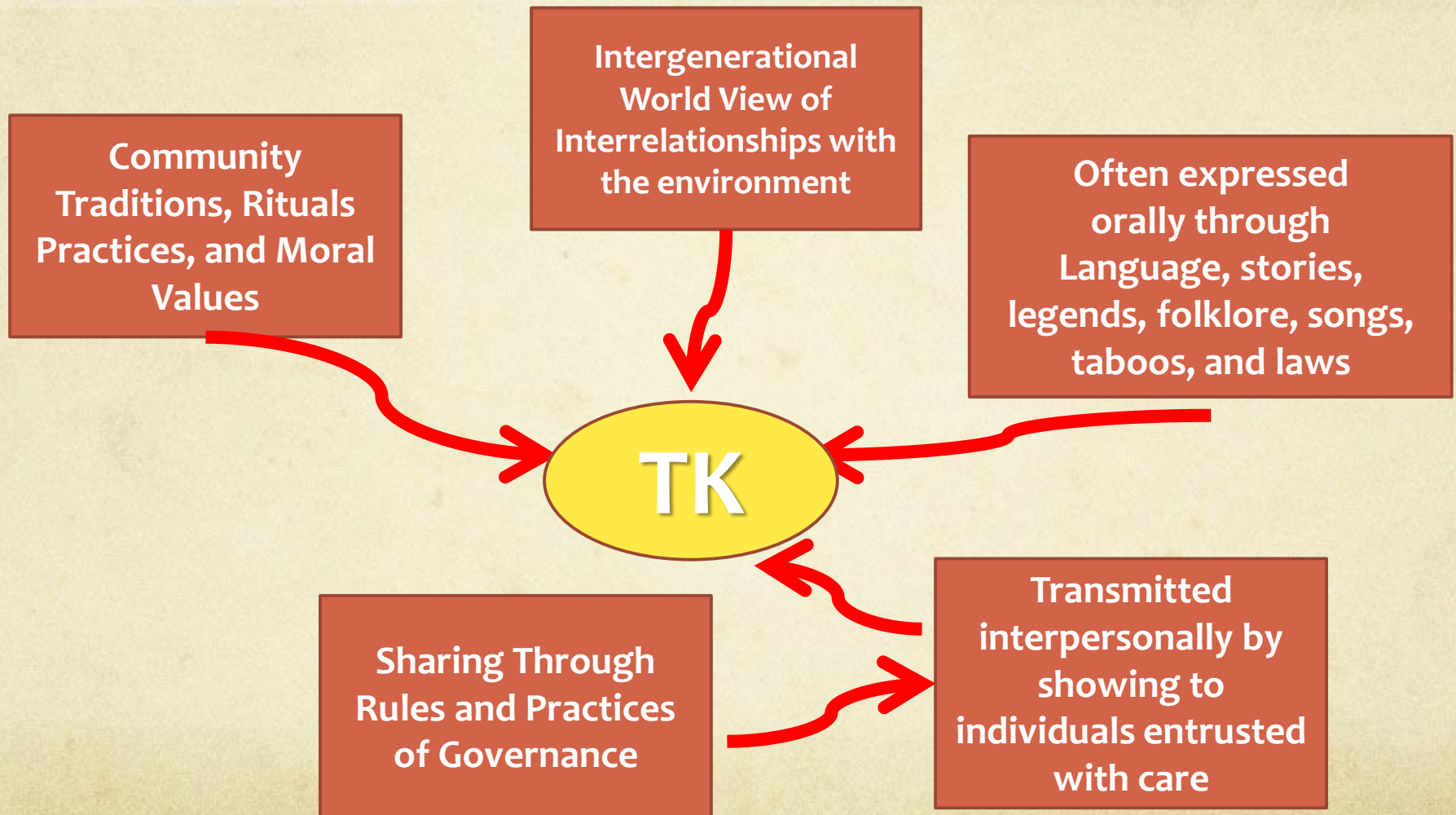
Indigenous ways of understanding relationships among species, ecosystems, and ecological processes – can play a vital role in climate change assessment and adaptation efforts that bridge human and environmental systems



Salmon on Sticks.

Source: Jon Ivy, Coquille Indian Tribe

What is Traditional Knowledge?

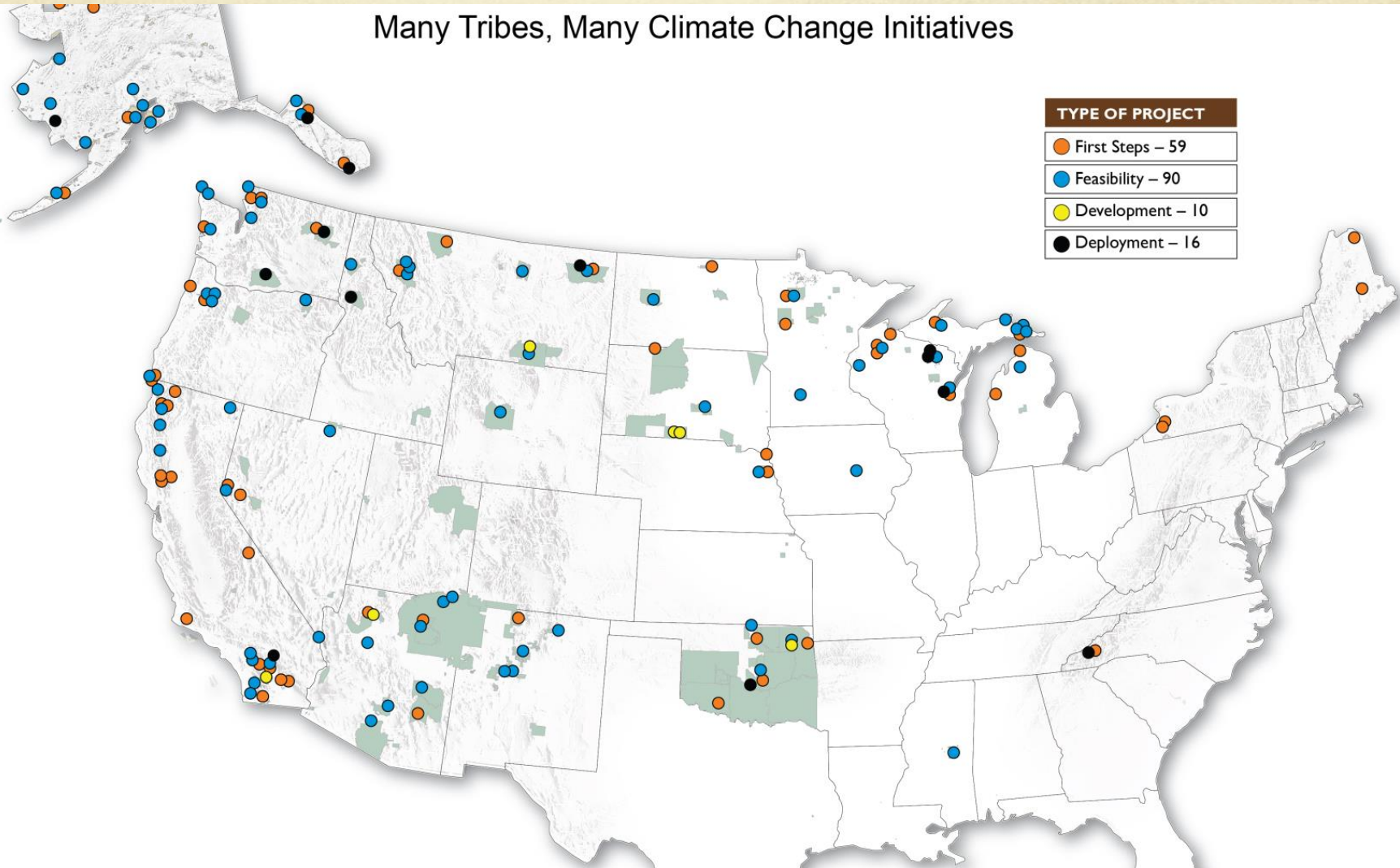


Climate Impacts affecting Indigenous Communities in the U.S.

- Tribal sovereignty and culture
- Public health
- Mental health
- Food security and traditional foods
- Tribal economies
- Natural resources
- Energy
- Climate-related disasters
- Fossil fuel extraction and transport

Many Tribes, Many Climate Change Initiatives

Many Tribes, Many Climate Change Initiatives

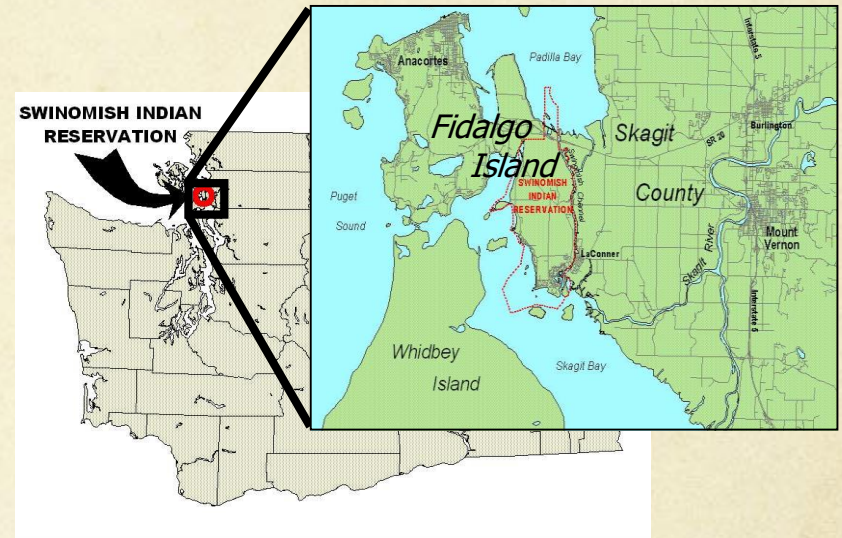


Swinomish Tribe:

Coastal Tribes Facing Climate Change



Swinomish tribal members beach seining on the western shore of the Swinomish Reservation.
Photo by Jim Gibson, Swinomish Shellfish Biologist



Swinomish Tribe:

Examining Environmental and Community Health Indicators In a Climate Context

**Natural
resources
security**



**Community
connection**



**Cultural
traditions**



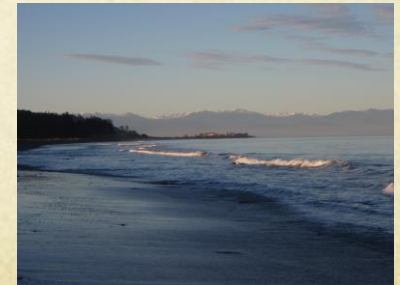
**Self-
determination**



Education



Well-being



Slide Source: Swinomish Tribe

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation: *First Foods*



Root peeling. Source: Benjamin Drummond and Sara Steele -
Facing Climate Change: Stories from the Pacific Northwest -
<http://www.facingclimatechange.org/stories/plateau-tribes/>

Save the Date!

May 9, 2018

- Climate Change, Water, and Landscapes: Impacts to Indigenous Culture and Sovereignty in the U.S.
- Keynote Speakers Dr. Karletta Chief and Dr. Margaret Redsteer.
- <https://ccip.uoregon.edu/>

2018 CLIMATE CHANGE AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES LECTURE

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 | 6:30 pm

University of Oregon | Many Nations Longhouse



Photo credit: Tolstan Kjellstrand

Climate Change, Water, and Landscapes: Impacts to Indigenous Culture and Sovereignty in the U.S.

For More Information: <http://ccip.uoregon.edu>
Kathy Lynn, UO Environmental Studies
kathy@uoregon.edu
Mark Carey, UO Clark Honors College
carey@uoregon.edu

keynote speakers



Dr. Karletta Chief
Research Scientist |
Hydrology and Water
Resources



Dr. Margaret Redsteer
Research Scientist |
Climate Change and
Ecosystems

This lecture is part of the UO Symposium on Environmental Justice, Race, and Public Lands. Featuring keynote lectures by Dr. Kyle Powys Whyte and Dr. Carolyn Finney. May 9th – 11th, 2018. Visit: <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/ejrp/>.



Robert D. Clark Honors College
UO Environmental Studies Program
UO Native American Student Union
UO Center for Environmental Futures
Office of the Vice President for Equity
and Inclusion

Office of the Provost and Academic
Affairs in partnership with the
Teaching Engagement Program (TEP)
University of Oregon Fund for
Community Engaged Teaching
Program

UO Climate Change Research Group
Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest
Research Station
Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change
Project

An equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Accommodations for people with disabilities will be provided if requested in advance by calling 541-346-5777.



“I don’t believe in magic,” Billy once said. “I believe in the sun and the stars, the water, the tides, the floods, the owls, the hawks flying, the river running, the wind talking. They’re measurements. They tell us how healthy things are. How healthy we are. Because we and they are the same. That’s what I believe in. Those who learn to listen to the world that sustains them can hear the message brought forth by the salmon.”

~ Billy

Frank, Jr.

For More Information

Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate
Change Project:

<http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/>

Online Tribal Climate Change Guide:

<http://tribalclimateguide.uoregon.edu/>

Kathy Lynn, Coordinator, Pacific
Northwest Tribal Climate Change
Network

541-346-5777

kathy@uoregon.edu

