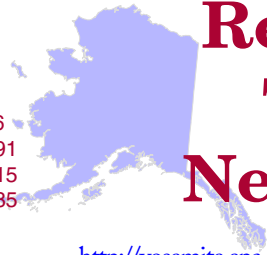


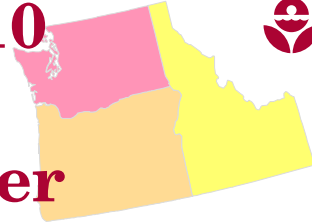
## NEWS

**The Tribal Newsletter**  
is published free monthly.  
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# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. 21 No. 2  
February 2012

## LETTER

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues>

## Conferences and Workshops

### February

**2 – 4**      **New Partners for Smart Growth Conference**, San Diego, CA.  
Visit <http://www.newpartners.org/cfsp>

**6 – 10**      **Alaska Forum on the Environment**, Dena'ina Convention Center,  
Anchorage, AK. <http://akforum.com>

### March

**21 – 22**      **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) workshop**, Denver, CO,  
sponsored by the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management.  
Visit <http://go.usa.gov/Nmu>

### April

**10 – 14**      **Marine Science Workshop**, Kasitsna Bay Laboratory, Seldovia, AK. For info,  
contact Michael Opheim at 907-435-3247 or [mopheim@svt.org](mailto:mopheim@svt.org)

**11 – 13**      **2012 National Training Conference on the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)  
and Environmental Conditions in Communities**, Washington DC.  
<http://www.chemicalright2know.com>

**30 – May 4**      **2012 Tribal Leaders Summit**, Grand Ronde, OR.  
<http://www.grandronde.org/tls>

**30 – May 4**      **8th National Monitoring Conference**, Portland, OR.  
<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2012/index.html>

For more information on EPA Tribal trainings, webinars, grants and opportunities for Tribal consultation, go to <http://www.epa.gov/indian/calendar/index.htm>

## Inside This Issue

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## EPA Region 10 Draft Tribal Consultation Procedures

EPA Region 10 is offering consultation and coordination to all 271 federally-recognized tribes in Region 10 on EPA Region 10's Draft Tribal Consultation Procedures. The Procedures provide detailed guidance on how to conduct tribal consultations on upcoming EPA actions or decisions that may affect tribal interests. EPA has also asked tribes to complete a Tribal Consultation Questionnaire to assist in the consultation process. Written comments on the R10 Tribal Consultation Procedures are due by **February 15**.

Tribes can request consultation at anytime during this process.

For a copy of the draft Procedures or Questionnaire, contact JR Herbst at:

☎ 206-553-2116

✉ email [herbst.john@epa.gov](mailto:herbst.john@epa.gov)

**Reminder!** A full list of current EPA Tribal consultation activities can be found on the American Indian Environmental Office website at

✉ <http://go.usa.gov/Rhu>

## National Research Council Releases EPA-Sponsored Report: Water Reuse: Potential for Expanding the Nation's Water Supply Reusing Municipal Wastewater

With recent advances in technology and design, treating municipal wastewater and reusing it for drinking water, irrigation, industry, and other applications could significantly increase the nation's total available water resources, particularly in coastal areas facing water shortages, says a new report from the National Research Council.

It adds that the reuse of treated wastewater, also known as reclaimed water, to augment drinking water supplies has significant potential for helping meet future needs. Moreover, new analyses suggest that the possible health risks of exposure to chemical

contaminants and disease-causing microbes from wastewater reuse do not exceed, and in some cases may be significantly lower than, the risks of existing water supplies.

This report examines a wide range of reuse applications, including potable water, non-potable urban and industrial uses, irrigation, groundwater recharge, and ecological enhancement. For more information on the report, visit

✉ <http://go.usa.gov/nb7> or

✉ <http://dels.nas.edu/Report/water-reuse/13303>

✉ To download a PDF of the report, [click here](#)

## Have you seen EPA's Greener Products Web Portal?

EPA launched a new tool designed to provide Americans easy access to information about everyday products that can save money, prevent pollution and protect people's health.

At the EPA Greener Products Portal, consumers can find electronics and appliances that have earned EPA's Energy Star label and can browse WaterSense products that help save energy and water.

Consumers can also find information about cleaning products that are safer for the environment and people's health.

These products bear the EPA Design for the Environment (DfE) label. The website will also help with information on standards or designing greener products.

✉ Visit [www.epa.gov/greenerproducts](http://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts)

## EPA Announces Applications for \$1 Million in Environmental Justice Grants

EPA announced that it is seeking applicants for \$1 million in environmental justice small grants expected to be awarded in 2012. EPA's environmental justice efforts aim to ensure equal environmental and health protections for all Americans, regardless of race or socioeconomic status.

The grants enable non-profit organizations to conduct research, provide education, and develop solutions to local health and environmental issues in communities overburdened by harmful pollution.

The 2012 grant solicitation is now open and will close on **February 29, 2012**. Applicants must be incorporated non-profits or tribal

organizations working to educate, empower and enable their communities to understand and address local environmental and public health issues. EPA will host pre-application teleconference calls on February 1, 2012 and February 15, 2012 to help applicants understand the requirements.

For more information on the Environmental Justice Small Grants program and a list of grantees, visit <http://go.usa.gov/RMJ>

Environment Justice Small Grants 2012 Request for Proposals and schedule of pre-application teleconference calls, visit <http://go.usa.gov/nZi>

## Hazardous Fuels Woody Biomass Utilization Grant

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service has announced a funding opportunity, "USDA 2012 Hazardous Fuels Woody Biomass Utilization Grant", due March 1, 2012.

The U.S. Forest Service requests proposals for wood energy projects that require engineering services. These projects will use woody biomass, such as

- material removed from forest restoration activities
- wildfire hazardous fuel treatments
- insect and disease mitigation, and/or forest management due to catastrophic weather events.

The woody biomass shall be used in a bio-energy facility that uses commercially proven technologies to produce thermal, electrical, or liquid/gaseous bioenergy.

Grant funds must be used to further the planning of such facilities by funding the engineering services necessary for final design and cost analysis.

Eligible entities: State and local governments, federally recognized tribes, businesses, companies, corporations, school districts, communities, nonprofit organizations, and special purpose districts.

Additional information is available at <http://go.usa.gov/Re8>

## DOI Tribal Energy and Mineral Resources Grant

The Energy and Mineral Development Program provides funding to Indian tribes with the mission goal of assessing, evaluating, and promoting energy and mineral resources on Indian trust lands for the economic benefit of Indian mineral owners. The department will use a competitive process to select several proposed projects to receive an award.

Grant proposals are due **March 16, 2012**. Proposals received after this date will not be considered. Submitting your proposal electronically is highly recommended this year. E-mail your proposal to [Amanda.john@bia.gov](mailto:Amanda.john@bia.gov) or [amber.beckham@bia.gov](mailto:amber.beckham@bia.gov)

The announcement is available in the federal register at: <http://bit.ly/x0JRgX>

## Future of our Salmon 2012 Conference: A Focus on Hatchery Policy

Salmon are the shared bounty as well as responsibility of the people of the Pacific Northwest. As such, we have a common desire to restore healthy salmon runs to the Columbia Basin.

The Columbia Basin tribes believe that the region needs a common vision to restore naturally spawning salmon populations based on practical management, habitat protection and restoration, and innovative recovery and rebuilding programs. This year's conference, to be held

**October 17-18** at the Convention Center in Portland, Oregon, will concentrate on how hatchery policies shape salmon recovery efforts and how to ensure these policies serve the needs of the salmon and the region. The conference is for federal, tribal, state, and city representatives; Indian, sport, and commercial fishers; environmental organizations; and the public. For more information, **email** [future@critfc.org](mailto:future@critfc.org) or **call** 503- 238-0667. Sponsorship opportunities and conference details are coming soon.

## 2012 EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders' Summit

The next Tribal Leaders' Summit will be held April 30 – May 4, 2012 in Grand Ronde, OR.

The Summit is an event where tribal and agency leaders and environmental professionals come together to explore opportunities to partner and leverage shared resources.

You are invited to come and exchange your ideas, views, and experiences. For more information and to register, go to: [www.grandronde.org/tls](http://www.grandronde.org/tls)

To receive all Summit/Conference information, please e-mail your contact information to [respond@classactevents.net](mailto:respond@classactevents.net)

## Free Training on Water Requirements Compliance

Want to learn:

- ◆ How to find and fix illicit discharges and connections?
- ◆ How to develop an effective municipal stormwater program for construction sites?
- ◆ What you need to know about the industrial stormwater general permit?

Find self-paced training and archived webinars on these topics and a variety of other topics related to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) at EPA's NPDES training site at <http://go.usa.gov/RME>

## Eighth National Monitoring Conference

The 8th National Monitoring Conference, "Water: One Resource — Shared Effort — Common Future" will be held April 30 – May 4, 2012 in Portland, Oregon.

This national forum provides an exceptional opportunity for federal, state, local, tribal, volunteer, academic, private and other water

stakeholders to exchange information and technology related to water monitoring, assessment, research, protection, restoration and management, as well as to develop new skills and professional networks.

For more information, visit

<http://acwi.gov/monitoringconference/2012>

# Climate Change News

## Upcoming 2012 Climate Change Conferences

### **Tribal Climate Change Symposium,**

**July 16-19, Washington, DC, at the National Museum of the American Indian.**

The symposium will be hosted by four Washington state Coastal Treaty Tribes (Hoh, Makah, Quileute, and Quinault) in conjunction with the US Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and the Nature Conservancy. More information to come.

### **Climate Adaptation Futures Conference: International Conference on Climate Adaptation**

**May 29-31, Tucson, AZ.**

Co-hosted and convened by the University of Arizona and UNEP's Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA). The conference focuses on adaptation to climate variability and change and will bring together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners from developed and developing countries to share insights into the challenges and opportunities that adaptation presents. Visit [www.adaptation.arizona.edu/adaptation2012](http://www.adaptation.arizona.edu/adaptation2012)

### **Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change Conference**

**May 23-24, Eugene, OR.** Student-focused conference. Students will present research related to climate and culture in the Americas. The local and regional community will be invited to participate, including American Indian and Alaska Native students from tribal colleges and others from native communities. The conference will also have keynote lectures from indigenous leaders involved in climate change issues from Alaska to the continental United States. See

<http://uoclimateconference.wordpress.com>

### **Tribal Climate and Energy Program**

EPA's Tribal Climate and Energy Information web page provides tribal communities with access to information on implementing climate change mitigation and energy management projects that may improve

- air quality
- economic and workforce development
- public health, and
- reduce energy costs

Go to <http://go.usa.gov/RMH>

## **EPA Climate Ready Estuaries Program Posts 2011 Partner Projects Online**

From 2008 – 2011, EPA's Climate Ready Estuaries program provided targeted assistance to a small group of National Estuary Programs to identify climate change vulnerabilities, develop climate adaptation plans, and begin to implement selected actions within these plans.

The details of the 2011 Climate Ready Estuaries partner projects have been posted online.

To view these projects and to learn more about the Climate Ready Estuaries program, please visit:

🔗 [www.epa.gov/cre/explore.html](http://www.epa.gov/cre/explore.html)

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## Effects of Climate Change Felt in Alaska

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium recently published a report on the effects of climate change in four communities in Alaska: Kiana, Noatak, Kivalina, and Point Hope. The report states that climate change is melting permafrost at rapid speeds, causing housing foundations resting on the permafrost to sag and crack.

Alaskan rivers and lakes are freezing over later in the season, and the resulting thinner-than-usual ice makes traveling over frozen rivers risky. The paper also reports that dwindling permafrost levels erode riverbanks and support structures for bridges and above-ground pipes.

☞ For more info, go to <http://bit.ly/nqBjvy>

In related news, the National Climatic Data Center recalibrated the “normal” temperature for Alaska and the continental U.S. based on weather records at 8,000 various weather stations between 1981 and 2010. These new normals were warmer in every state, including Alaska.

By far the greatest absolute warming is in the winter, while most locations show no significant change in mid and late summer.

☞ For additional details, visit: [Alaska Dispatch, Article #1](#), [Article #2](#), and [Alaska Climate Dispatch](#)

## Tribal Climate Change Adaptation Plan Template

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) has released a tribal climate change adaptation plan template that serves as a resource for Tribes as they develop climate change adaptation plans.

The template provides guidelines and suggestions for writing plans and includes key terms and additional resources. The template is intended to be used for organizing and presenting information, but is not meant to create a “one-size fits-all” plan, as each Tribe will have unique needs and approaches to planning for climate change.

Please contact Sue Wotkyns ([Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu](mailto:Susan.Wotkyns@nau.edu)), ITEP’s Climate Change Program Manager, to request the template, which is available as a Microsoft Word document file.

Please include

- your name,
- Tribe or organization, and
- your contact information

when requesting the template. ITEP provides training, assistance and educational resources on climate change to tribes. Visit <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/climatechange>

## Climate Change Models May Vastly Underestimate Extinction

Predictions of the loss of animal and plant diversity around the world are common under models of future climate change. But a new study shows that because these climate models don’t account for species competition and movement, they could grossly underestimate future extinctions. See <http://bit.ly/xQrhb1>

## Exploring Climate Change Impact on Agriculture

The type of agriculture practiced in a given region depends heavily on the climate and weather that region receives. So naturally, with climate change, agriculture will be forced to change. Go to

☞ <http://bit.ly/thu0Zq>

*Links to websites outside of EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. We cannot attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites, nor does EPA endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.*

## EPA Launches New Tool to Assess Recovery Potential of Impaired Waters

EPA announces the release of a new technical assistance tool for watershed-level surface water quality protection and restoration programs: the recovery potential screening website at [www.epa.gov/recoverypotential](http://www.epa.gov/recoverypotential)

Recovery potential screening is a flexible approach for comparing relative differences in restorability among impaired waters across a watershed or other area. The website provides step-by-step screening directions, restorability indicators and literature, and tools for scoring and displaying results.

EPA developed recovery potential screening to help users improve their restoration programs by revealing and comparing factors that influence restoration success.

The method is applicable to watershed priority setting, impaired waters listing, TMDL implementation, 319/nonpoint source control, healthy watersheds assessment, and watershed plan development.

For more information, please contact Doug Norton at [norton.douglas@epa.gov](mailto:norton.douglas@epa.gov)

## EPA Releases PCB TMDL Handbook

EPA has issued a technical document titled Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Handbook, which provides EPA regions, tribes, states, and other stakeholders with updated information for addressing Clean Water Act section 303(d): waters impaired by PCBs.

PCBs rank sixth among the national causes of water quality impairment in the country, and of the 71,000 waterbody-pollutant

combinations listed nationally, over 5,000 (eight percent) are PCB-related.

This handbook identifies various approaches to developing PCB TMDLs and provides examples of TMDLs from around the country, complete with online references. It aims to help states complete more PCB TMDLs and ultimately restore those waters impaired by PCBs. The handbook is available at <http://go.usa.gov/Re5>

## New EPA Healthy Child Care Website

EPA has launched a new healthy child care web-based resource directory website at: <http://epa.gov/childcare>

This website was developed with three target audiences in mind: childcare providers, parents, and state and local agencies. The information it contains is arranged to be easily accessible for these three distinct audiences.

On the website you will find links to a wealth of information (fact sheets, PowerPoints, trainings,

assessment tools, reports, prevention and intervention guidance, etc.) covering:

- asthma
- chemical hazards
- environmental tobacco smoke
- green cleaning
- indoor air quality
- lead
- mercury
- mold
- pesticides plastics



# News Briefs

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## Change 5 Lights

Change a light, and you help change the world. Replace the conventional bulbs in your five most frequently used light fixtures with bulbs that have the ENERGY STAR label and you will help the environment while saving money on energy bills. If every household in the U.S. took this one simple action we would prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions from nearly 10 million cars.



🔗 Visit <http://go.usa.gov/nTt>

## Mercury and Air Toxics Standards Announced

On December 21, 2011 EPA announced the first national standards to protect American families from power plant emissions of mercury and air toxics like arsenic, acid gas, nickel, selenium, and cyanide.

These new Mercury and Air Toxics Standards will slash emissions of these dangerous pollutants by relying on widely available, proven pollution controls that are already in use at more than half of the nation's coal-fired power plants. For more info go to

🔗 [www.epa.gov/mats/actions.html](http://www.epa.gov/mats/actions.html)

## Pond/Wetland Management Guidebook

EPA has released a new guidebook that describes maintenance and inspection practices for existing ponds and wetlands. The guide includes checklists for use during construction and routine maintenance of ponds/wetlands, and also includes a home owner pond inspection checklist. Maintenance profile sheets describe how to address eight different common maintenance issues.

The Stormwater Pond/Wetland Management Guidebook is available at [www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/pondmgmtguide.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/pondmgmtguide.pdf)

## EPA Launches Climate Ready Water Utilities Initiative

EPA has launched the Climate Ready Water Utilities (CRWU) initiative to assist water and wastewater utilities in implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, with the goal of a more resilient water sector. For more information, visit

🔗 <http://go.usa.gov/Rtk>



## Updated Design Manual for Nutrient Removal at Wastewater Treatment Plants

EPA's Office of Research and Development has just published its new, updated design manual for the removal of nitrogen and phosphorus at municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).

This manual presents an extensive state of the technology review of the engineering design and operation of nitrogen and phosphorous control technologies and techniques applied at WWTPs.

The PDF manual is available online at <http://go.usa.gov/ReP>



## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Alaska Operations Office

# ALASKA NEWS

## The Alaska Forum on the Environment

### Conference Program

The Alaska Forum, to be held February 6-10 in Anchorage, offers almost 80 sessions during conference week. The conference program is organized in “tracks,” so that participants can easily sort the sessions under the topic area they prefer to participate in. The tracks include: climate change, invasive species, solid waste, energy, mining, sustainability, science and technology, clean up and remediation, rural track, and GAP Track, among other tracks being offered. Under each Track, there are several sessions to choose from. You might refer to the on line agenda to get an idea of which topic areas and sessions you would like to attend. Go to: <http://akforum.com>

### GAP Track Agenda

The GAP Training agenda this year will begin on Monday, February 6th, and continue thru Friday, February 10th at 10:30 a.m. We will focus our GAP Track on topics that will assist Tribes to develop environmental programs by offering solid waste and contaminants, environmental education, healthy homes, air and water quality, and climate change sessions, among others. Because we received such a positive response from the December GAP Training about the use of Talking Circles as a tool for networking and important discussion, we will use this approach where appropriate during AFE.

### HAZWOPER 8-Hour Refresher Course

(Friday, February 10, 2012, 8 am - 5 p.m.)

This training applies to those who engage in hazardous waste/substance operations, hazardous materials emergency response, and who have previously completed either 24-hour or 40-hour hazardous waste site training. This course satisfies the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 8-hour annual refresher training requirements for employees conducting hazardous waste operations as specified under 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1910.120

### HAZWOPER Course

*Continued*

Participants wanting to take this session must pre-register or sign up in advance **at the main conference registration desk the week of AFE.**

### Environmental Justice

The GAP Track agenda is featuring a group of Environmental Justice sessions. This includes a two-part **EJ Community Leadership Institute Planning Session**, led by DOE. Additional EJ sessions will include a talking circle, and other discussions related to Environmental Justice activities at the national level.

### Mining Track

This year AFE will have two full days of mining sessions, developed collaboratively by EPA, UAA, and others.

### Ellanak Environmental Award

Please feel free to nominate someone you feel is deserving of this award for outstanding environmental service. Feel free to distribute this information to your contacts for nominations from Tribal individuals by **Friday, January 27, 2012**. Nominations can be mailed, faxed or emailed to Randi Madison at [randi.madison@rtocregion10.com](mailto:randi.madison@rtocregion10.com) or fax to 907-284-2222.

*Continued on Page 11*



# Tribal Marine Science Workshop

## April 10 - 14, 2012

### Kasitsna Bay Laboratory, Seldovia, Alaska



**Please come join us** for our third annual Tribal Marine Science Workshop, to be held at the NOAA/UAF Kasitsna Bay Laboratory located on the south shore of Kachemak Bay, Alaska.

This five-day intensive workshop is designed for natural resource specialists in Alaska Tribes and Native organizations who have an interest in marine sciences, and/or who have responsibilities for managing marine resources adjacent to their communities.

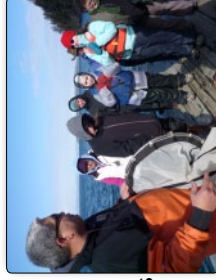
The Kasitsna Bay Lab was recently renovated and is now a modern facility, which includes excellent housing, teaching, and research facilities.



Our program will incorporate classroom lectures and many field trips to the highly productive and diverse habitats of Kachemak Bay.

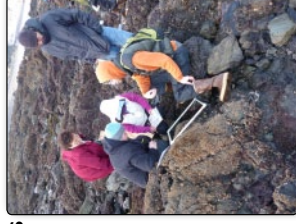
Currently, our agenda tentatively includes presentations on traditional knowledge and uses

of marine resources; the ecology of marine plants, invertebrates, fish, and marine mammal species commonly used for subsistence by Alaska Natives, contaminants in subsistence marine resources and concepts of physical oceanography which may be important for monitoring conditions in the marine environment that affect Alaska's coastal communities.



**There are no fees associated with this workshop.**

Once you arrive in Homer, Alaska, all costs for lodging, meals, local transportation to and from Homer to Kasitsna Bay, field excursions, books, and instruction during the course will be covered.



Enrollment will be limited to sixteen (16) persons, so if you would like to attend, please let us know as soon as possible. We look forward to your participation at our 2012 Tribal Marine Science Workshop!

**For more information, contact:**

Michael Opheim  
Seldovia Village Tribe  
Environmental Programs Coordinator  
Phone: 907-435-3247  
E-mail: mopheim@svt.org



## **Alaska Forum on the Environment**

*Continued*

### **Poster Displays**

AFE is accepting proposals of noteworthy environmental projects from Tribes and organizations around the state with a poster display.

Please visit the website at <http://akforum.com> to submit your poster

Sherry Kimmons is the contact for posters if you have any questions.

### **RTOC Evening Social**

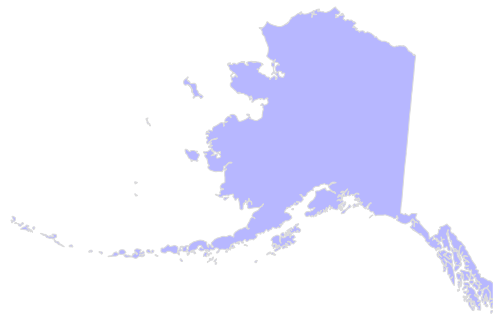
This event will be on Wednesday evening, **Feb. 8**, right after the last session ending at 4:45 p.m., and will go until 6:45 p.m.

The Regional Tribal Operations Committee) plans to introduce the RTOC members, including those visiting us from the Lower 48. This will be a great opportunity to socialize and network.

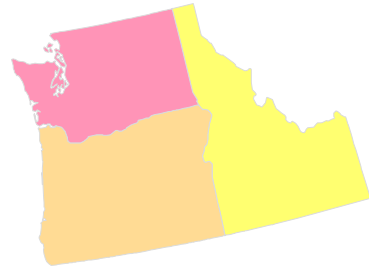
## **To Report Spills and Accidents**

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8802
Oregon	800-452-0311		



# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. 21 No. 2 —February 2012



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### Got News?

The Region 10 Tribal Newsletter invites you, our readers, to submit ideas and articles for consideration and to share your successes and challenges. Photographs are also welcome. Please submit articles to

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