United States Army Corps of Engineers Tribal Nations Technical Center Of Expertise (TNTCX)

TNTCX NEWSLETTER November 2018 Issue No. 2





## TNTCX Director's Message

Welcome back everyone to the November edition of the Tribal Nations Technical Center's Newsletter. Everyone here at the technical center wishes you and your families a joyous holiday season.

November has been a significant month for the TNTCX. We are extremely happy to announce that Ms. Beverley Hayes has joined our staff. A Resources Ecologist, Ms. Hayes will continue her duties as Program Manager for the Planning Assistance to States and Tribes and the Floodplain Management Services Programs. Readers should look forward to hearing more about Ms. Hayes and her programs in future newsletters.

The TNTCX participated in the recent Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Augusta, Georgia. In addition, the TNTCX was asked to be part of Native American Heritage Month activities at the University of Mississippi. The month of November was capped by our participation in an event hosted by the Pueblo of Santa Clara commemorating the completion of the nation's first Tribal Partnership Program Watershed Study as only the most recent success arising from the tribe's partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District. Many dignitaries and staff were in attendance including USACE Senior Tribal Liaison, Ms. Lisa Morales.

As we head into the happy chaos of the holiday season, I want to encourage you all to be safe and enjoy whatever time you have with friends and family.

Ron Kneebone, Ph.D. Director Tribal Nations Technical Center



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## **District Success Spotlight**

#### Walla Walla District

#### Submitted by Mr. Tatton Suter and Mr. Dean Holecek

**Shoshone Bannock Tribes:** "The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall are comprised of the eastern and western bands of the Northern Shoshone and the Bannock, or Northern Paiute, bands. Ancestral lands of both tribes occupied vast regions of land encompassing present-day Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and into Canada. The tribes are culturally related, and though both descend from the Numic family of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic phylum, their languages are dialectically separate.

The Tribes generally subsisted as hunters and gatherers, traveling during the spring and summer seasons, collecting foods for use during the winter months. They hunted wild game, fished the region's abundant and bountiful streams and rivers (primarily for salmon), and collected native plants and roots such as the camas bulb. Buffalo served as the most significant source of food and raw material for the tribes." (*Shoshone-Bannock Tribes website, November 9, 2018.* <u>http://www2.sbtribes.com/about/</u>)



View of Snake River with Mountains in the background



**Project:** The project area is located within the Fort Hall Bottoms on the Fort Hall Reservation in southeastern Idaho, between the cities of Pocatello, American Falls, and Blackfoot, Idaho. The Reservation was established in 1867 and includes approximately 546,308 acres that is almost entirely owned by the Shoshone Bannock Tribes and individual Tribal members. This effort focuses on developing a Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Fort Hall Bottoms and adjacent land areas on the Snake River located on the Reservation.

The Fort Hall Bottoms RMP will assist the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes by generating a resource inventory of biological resources, land use, cultural resources, soils, hydraulics and hydrology, water quality, and potential resource improvement projects that can be developed, within the bottoms area, to enhance their water and land use resources for future development and cultural usage.



USACE staff looks at bridge riprap with tribal members

**Authority:** The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes submitted a request to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to assist with the Resource Management Plan in April 2012 requesting assistance under Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1974, as amended, to develop a resource management plan for the Snake River Fort Hall Bottoms and tributaries. USACE, in coordination with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes has transferred this study over to the Section 203 Tribal Partnership Program (TPP) within the Watershed study authority.

This project is subject to the Section 1119 of WRDA 2016 which further amended Section 1156 of WRDA 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2310). Section 1032 of the WRRDA 2014 previously amended Section 1156 to provide that the non-federal cost sharing waiver of up to \$200,000 be adjusted to account for inflation from the date of enactment of WRDA 1986 up to the date of enactment of WRRDA 2014, for studies and projects in specified territories of the United States and in Puerto Rico. The Adjusted waiver amount under Section 1156, as amended, is \$455,000. (*Implementation Guidance for Section 1119 of the WRDA 2016, Indian Tribes, USACE, May 11, 2017*)

This project is fully federally funded due to it being under the \$455,000 threshold.



## November TNTCX Update

Michael P. Fedoroff TNTCX Deputy Director

November has been a very busy month for the Tribal Nations Technical Center! We have welcomed a new TNTCX employee Ms. Beverly Hayes, celebrated a completed 203 project with the Santa Clara Pueblo, and attended various events for Native American Heritage Month. See a few of the write-ups below for the November Highlights:



TNTCX Deputy, Mr. Mike Fedoroff speaks with University students about USACE work with Tribes

TNTCX Deputy Director, Mr. Michael Fedoroff, was invited to speak at the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) as part of a Speaker Series highlighting Tribal Nations sovereignty for Native American Heritage Month. The talk was sponsored by the University Office of Diversity and Inclusivity and the Department of Anthropology. At least 50 Graduate and Undergraduate students were in attendance during the question and answer roundtable forum on November 29, 2018.



## November TNTCX Update continued

Director, Dr. Ron Kneebone (TNTCX) and Ms. Amanda Velasquez (SPA-PMC) presented information on USACE authorities to Navajo Delegate Amber Croty and the Navajo Nation Chapters of Cove, Toadlena/Two Grey Hills, Red Valley Tse'alnaozt'i'i', Sheepsprings, Beclabito, Gadiiahi/To'Koi on November 28, 2018.



TNTCX Director, Dr. Ron Kneebone discusses USACE Authorities with Navajo Nation Delegate Ms. Amber Croty



#### November TNTCX Update continued

TNTCX Staff attended the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Augusta, Georgia. Tribal panels were held with the Muscogee Creek, Eastern Band of Cherokee, United Keetoowah Band, and the Chickasaw Nation to discuss topics of consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Agency partnerships. This is the first time these tribes have officially had a delegation to Augusta, Georgia since the Treaty of Augusta in 1773. Other agencies were also in attendance such as the National Park Service (Booth pictured below) and US Forest Service.



National Park Service Outreach booth at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference



## **Partnering Tips**

- It is helpful to present project examples to Tribal Communities to explain USACE Authorities during meetings
- Become familiar with your Tribal Area of Responsibility (AOR) including ancestral lands of import to Tribal peoples prior to the meeting
- Ensure that you know important Tribal Feast Days or Holidays to avoid consultation scheduling conflicts
- It is helpful to understand how the Tribal Government you are working with is organized to ensure you have the appropriate USACE staff attending consultation meetings



USACE Mobile District partners with Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma for Ancestral Plant Gathering on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway

#### Tribal Engagement Focus

With contributions from our Tribal Partners, USACE Tribal Liaisons, and TNTCX Staff

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

Website: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/ Home/

928-523-9555

**Mission:** ITEP strengthens tribal capacity and sovereignty in environmental and natural resource management through culturally relevant education, research, partnerships and policy-based services

Water Resource Connections:

ITEP offers training in environmental areas, including climate change, wastewater, and energy.

#### Indian Nations Conservation Alliance

Website: <u>https://iltf.org/</u>

651-766-8999

**Mission:** The Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) is a national, community-based organization serving American Indian nations and people in the recovery and control of their rightful homelands.

Water Resource Connections:

The ILTF works to promote education, increase cultural awareness, create economic opportunity, and reform the legal and administrative systems that prevent Indian people from owning and controlling reservation lands.

## United South and Eastern Tribes (USET)

Website: http://www.usetinc.org/

615-872-7417

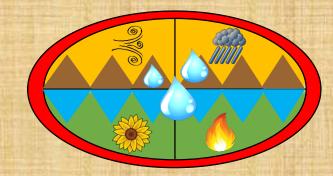
**Mission**: Established in 1969, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is a non-profit, inter-Tribal organization representing twentyseven (27) federally recognized Tribal Nations, from Maine to Florida to Texas. USET is dedicated to enhancing the development of Tribal Nations, and improving the capabilities of Tribal governments, improving the quality of life for Indian people through a variety of technical and supportive programmatic services.

#### Upcoming Events

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Winter Convention Jan 28-31, 2019 Portland, Oregon Tribes from the Pacific Northwest will be in attendance https://www.atnitribes.org/

The United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) SPF Impact Week March 3rd -7th 2019 Washington, DC Tribes form the Southern and Eastern United States will be in attendance; this is primarily a policy meeting, however networking opportunties for command staff are possible http://www.usetinc.org/

Please try to attend Tribal engagments in your AOR. This helps build our corporate relationships and keeps staff up to date on current issues important to Tribal Nations. It is also a great opportuntiy to outreach to our Tribal Partners and provide information on our USACE authorities! Please send the TNTCX Pictures of your engagements to share in our Newsletter!!!



#### Tribal Engagement Focus San Francisco District

Sarafina Maraschino Tribal Liaison



On June 27, 2018, SPN Commander LTC Rayfield, accompanied by SPN District Tribal Liaison Sarafina Maraschino and PAO Chief Brandon Beach, signed the Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS) Scope of Work (SOW) with Yurok Tribal Vice Chairman David Gensaw, Sr., at the Yurok tribal offices in Klamath, California. SPN FPMS Planner, Craig Conner, who developed the SOW, was unable to attend. Under FPMS, USACE provided technical assistance to the Yurok Tribe through ERDC to collect survey data on the Klamath River throughout the summer of 2018. The data will eventually be combined with USGS aerial surveys to create a model of Klamath River conditions prior to the scheduled removal of four dams on the Upper Klamath River in 2020. This signing ceremony represents the District's first ever action with the Yurok Tribe and is consistent with the Corps' commitment to supporting projects and programs beneficial to the Tribes.





At the request of the Tribe, a contingent from SPN returned to the Yurok reservation in the northwestern corner of the state on August 15-16 for a two-day visit to discuss potential projects. The potential projects included ecosystem restoration, flood risk management and natural resources protection projects most likely under the Continuing Authorities Program, Flood Plain Management Services, Planning Assistance to States & Tribes, Interagency & International Services, the Tribal Partnership Program (TPP) and General Investigations. The trip, organized by Yurok Senior Project/Design Engineer, D.J. Bandrowski with assistance from SPN Tribal Liaison Sarafina Maraschino, featured numerous meetings with the tribal council and tribal departments (Fisheries & Watershed, Environmental, and Planning). The SPN team discussed the Corps' civil work process and the Yurok discussed the tribal environmental needs. The SPN team, comprised of SPN Planning Chief Tom Kendall, CAP center Engineers Brian Haines and Trevor Greene, and the SPN Tribal Liaison, was given a tour of nine locations scattered throughout tribal lands along the Klamath River and remote locations along the Lower Klamath watershed (Blue Creek, Requa Road, Hunter Creek, Salt Creek, Richardson Creek, Klamath Glen, and Terwer Creek), including a boat ride on the Klamath with a seal's eye view of the Klamath estuary.





The outreach trip was very successful in terms of improving the Corps' knowledge of Yurok water resources and priorities, and identifying potential project partnerships. Following the tribal elections of Oct-Nov, 2018, the Yurok intend to send study request letters to the Corps after prioritizing their project list.

#### HOW TO REACH US

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