

Synopsis of the Fish Commission Climate Change Subcommittee Meeting

Meeting Date: 6/14/18

Meeting Location: Burlington, video links to the NW Indian Fish Commission Conference Center in Olympia and the Point No Point Treaty Council offices.

Tribes in attendance in Burlington: Upper Skagit, Lummi, Nooksack, Swinomish, Stillaguamish

Presenters in person or via video link attendance:

Eliza Ghitis - Fish Commission, Facilitator

Matthew Randazzo – Quinault Tribal consultant/Climate Change specialist/ I - 1631 advocate

Meade Crosby – NW Adaptation Center Support Desk/UW

Dr. Evelyn Brown – Natural Resources Lummi

Dr. Tommy Moore - Oceanographer/Forks/Ocean Acidification

More people in other locations not identified

Matthew Randazzo – Quinault Tribe Policy Consultant

1. Presentation about “I - 1631” and the Quinault Tribe’s efforts to work with Climate Change issues. Fawn Sharp – Chairperson of Quinault is instrumental in this work.
2. “I - 1631 is to be considered to be a **FEE** not a **TAX**”.
3. If 1631 is successful, 10% of the funds will be provided directly to the Tribes to combat Climate Change. This could be approximately \$200,000 per Tribe.
4. Funding will be dedicated to retraining all types of workers (Tribal and non-Tribal) to clean energy jobs.
5. 25% of the funding to SEQUESTRATION.
6. At the pump, the estimated impact to the consumer will be 1-15 cents per gallon of fuel, or approximately “\$1 - \$4 per tank of gas”.
7. Current language, Carbon fee will be \$15/ton of CO2 emitted, then each year the cost goes up \$2/ton more until sustainable levels? are met.
8. Big oil will spend up to \$25 million to fight 1631.
9. Input from Tribes needed now.
10. If 300,000 signatures are obtained, 1631 would go on the November 2018 ballot. If approved by the voters, 1631 would go into law in 2020.
11. Contacts: Mathew Randazzo, thefirstamericanproject@gmail.com, Joel Moffett ATNI Natural Resources, Don Sampson (Umatilla) ATNI Climate Change Coordinator.
12. **Aside via the May ATNI Conference** - Leonard Forsman (Suquamish and ATNI President) wants language in 1631 to place Tribes at the negotiating table to provide **consent** and not just consultation. This would be the 1st language of its kind in the nation and the world”. Also, “Tribes would need substantial training in Climate Change”.

Meade Crosby – UW Climate Impacts Group/NW Adaptation Center Support Desk

1. Is building a user friendly GIS type interactive data base to illustrate how NW Tribes are being impacted by Climate Change.
2. New lingo “Capacity and Vulnerability Assessments for Adaption Planning”.
3. In their work, 84 Tribes were contacted and 48 Tribes responded.
4. One example of their work provided – “Columbia River Capacity and Vulnerability Assessments”.
5. Video training, workshops and many online tools are being generated.
6. Full release of the interactive database is Fall of 2018.
7. Problem: Many Tribes are frustrated with the lack of data sharing with others.
Discussion of region-wide series of databases.

Dr. Evelyn Brown – Lummi Natural Resources

1. Presentation about tracking the size, population and survival of crab larvae in the Puget Sound.
2. Potential changes in the crab population due to Climate Change/scarcity of zooplankton would have devastating social/economic impacts to the Tribes.
3. Crab management is archaic and a Shellfish/Climate Change workshop may happen in the fall.
4. Sidebar – “Methane gas is a far greater problem for climate change than CO2 emissions”.

Eliza Ghitis - Fish Commission

1. Discussion of Resilience Grants
2. Video connection with Dr. Tommy Moore - Oceanographer, in Forks, is working on ocean acidification. There are concerns about far reaching “dead zones” from lack of oxygen because of dead marine life settling on the ocean floor.
3. Discussion of Tribes doing school presentations about Climate Change.