Kathleen Brosemer has been the Environmental Program Manager for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians since 2010. She began working there just two months before Enbridge Line 6B spilled 1.2 million gallons of tar sands oil into Talmadge Creek in southern Michigan, evacuating members of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Odawa Indians and startling everyone in Michigan into paying attention to pipelines.

Her work fighting alongside tribal leadership to shut down Enbridge Line 5, a 66-year-old line that carries 23 million gallons per day along the shore of Lake Michigan and across the Straits of Mackinac, has led her into protests, governor’s offices, kayak flotillas, media scrums, water ceremonies, and most recently into Michigan Tech, where she’s working towards her PhD in Energy and Environmental Policy, anticipated in 2021. Her dissertation is on energy justice for the Anishinabek, a people that straddle the international border that was imposed during treaty times.

Policy is a social science, so it has been a steep learning curve for her as she’s a geologist/environmental scientist, who has made her career in exploring and explaining the complex chemistry and biology of multifaceted environmental issues to nonscientist policymakers and the public. She says, “My favorite part of my job is hiring and training young scientists who are tribal members with freshly-earned degrees. I love developing this department with rewarding work for our people!” Before the Tribe, Kathie worked in the NGO sector on the Canadian side of the border at Sault Ste. Marie, founding and leading nonprofits as diverse as Forest Genetics Ontario, Sault Ste. Marie Naturally Green (energy sector), and Clean North, the Sault and District Recycling Association. She is still president of Northwatch, the northeastern Ontario coalition of environmental groups, and in both capacities (the Sault Tribe and Northwatch) is engaged in fighting a chromite smelter project with plans for operations in either of the twin Sault Ste. Maries. She’s a dual citizen who lives in Canada and her daily commute involves Customs agents.

Kathie studied and obtained her pilots license in 2003, with a commercial license and Ground Instructor
In the News Certificate added a few years later. She owns a little Piper Warrior which is where she goes to “free my mind from the tyranny of petty things,” (St. Exupery). She also loves her bees - two hives and a wildflower meadow she keeps on the US side, her little cabin on Lake Superior north of the Sault where she makes maple syrup, and her handcrafts (she sews and is an avid knitter). She has two “only” children - Dan is 39 and Peri is 22, and she fosters children through Nogdawindamin, the native social service agency on the Canadian side. Most of her foster care is respite or emergency care, and eight children so far have taken refuge in her warmth and love. Her latest child has been with her almost five months at this writing. She also has four-legged rescues Acer, a big galoot of a Labrador/Great Dane mix, and Reggie, a long-haired black cat.

Her spirit name is Azhede-kwe, White Pelican Woman, after an elder who accompanied her to Standing Rock had a dream. In the dream, Kathie turned into a pelican to rescue a drowning child and return her to the people.

Open for Public Comment: EPA’s Draft National Water Reuse Action Plan
Closes: December 16, 2019
On September 10, EPA announced the release of a draft National Water Reuse Action Plan, which seeks to foster greater consideration of water reuse across the water sector, such as agriculture, industry, potable water, national security, environmental restoration, and more. EPA seeks the engagement of governmental and non-governmental water sector organizations to identify priority actions and to lead and collaborate on actions identified in the draft plan.


Open for Public Comment: EPA’s Proposed Clean Water Act Methods Update Rule for the Analysis of Effluent
Closes: December 23, 2019
EPA is proposing specific changes to analytical test procedures that are used by industries and municipalities when analyzing the chemical, physical, and biological properties of wastewater and other environmental samples for reporting under the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The Clean Water Act requires the EPA to promulgate these test procedures (analytical methods) for analysis of pollutants. The proposed changes include:
Revised EPA methods;
New or revised methods published by voluntary consensus standard bodies, such as ASTM International and the Standard Methods Committee;
New or updated methods developed by the U.S. Geological Survey;
Methods reviewed under the Alternate Test Procedures (ATP) program; and
Minor changes to quality assurance and quality control within individual methods.

The public comment is open and closes on December 23, 2019. Comments can be submitted online through www.regulations.gov (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0826). For more information on the proposed rule update, please visit https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/methods-update-rule-2019
Tribal Consultation Opportunity: Proposed Implementation of the Tribal Set-Aside of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act Section 2107 Drinking Water Grant Program

Closes: December 30, 2019

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes to obtain input on the establishment of a new tribal drinking water grant program, as authorized by the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. The WIIN Act addresses, supports and improves America's drinking water infrastructure, which promotes public health and the protection of the environment. Included in the WIIN Act is a new drinking water grant, §2107 Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water, which will include a tribal allotment to support access to safe drinking water in areas governed by tribes. The EPA is seeking tribal input on the questions related to the proposed implementation of the §2107 Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water.

EPA is holding two informational webinars for tribal governments:
- December 5, 2019, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Eastern Time. To access the December 5 webinar, please visit https://meet.lync.com/usepa/temple.leslie/V6YVJVM7. For audio, please call: 202-991-0477; conference ID: 67975799.
- December 18, 2019, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Eastern Time. To access the December 18 webinar, please visit https://meet.lync.com/usepa/temple.leslie/94GRL80. For audio, please call: 202-991-0477; conference ID: 67975799.

The webinars will provide an overview of the WIIN Act grant and answer any questions. For more information, please visit: https://tcots.epa.gov.

Tribal Consultation Opportunity: Implementation of the Office of Research and Development Research

Closes: December 31, 2019

EPA’s Office of Research and Development (ORD) has initiated tribal consultation on the implementation of ORD research. Throughout 2018, ORD implemented a rigorous engagement process to solicit research needs from our partners in the EPA’s programs and regions, states, and tribes. This engagement process ended in September 2018 and the ORD developed draft Strategic Research Action Plans (StrAPs). To access the draft StrAPs, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/research/strategic-research-action-plans-2016-2019.

To initiate the consultation, ORD has proposed charge questions on specific products associated with four of the six ORD research programs. See the tribal consultation plan for a description of these four research products and the charge questions.
- Air and Energy (https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-air-and-energy-research-program)
- Chemical Safety for Sustainability (https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-chemicalsafety-sustainability-research-program)
- Safe and Sustainable Water Resources (https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-safe-and-sustainable-water-resources-research-program)
- Sustainable and Healthy Communities (https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-sustainable-and-healthy-communities-research-program)

ORD will host two national tribal conference calls:
- November 14, 2019 2:00-3:30 p.m., ET
- December 11, 2019 3:00-4:30 p.m., ET (Webinar Registration: https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ordresearchconsultationcall2/)
- Conference Call-in: (202) 991-0477, Conference ID 9520960#

For more information, please visit: https://tcots.epa.gov.
Open for Public Comment: EPA Proposes Updates to Lead and Copper Rule to Better Protect Children and At-Risk Communities

Closes: January 13, 2020

EPA’s proposed Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) (https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/proposed-revisions-lead-and-copper-rule) includes a suite of actions to reduce lead exposure in drinking water where it is needed the most. The proposed rule will identify the most at-risk communities and ensure systems have plans in place to rapidly respond by taking actions to reduce elevated levels of lead in drinking water.

The agency’s proposal takes a proactive and holistic approach to improving the current rule—from testing to treatment to telling the public about the levels and risks of lead in drinking water. The proposal focuses on six key areas. Under the proposal, a community water system would be required to take new actions, including, but not limited to:

- Identifying the areas most impacted
- Strengthening drinking water treatment requirements
- Replacing lead service lines
- Increasing sampling reliability
- Improving risk communication
- Protecting children in schools and childcare facilities

Additionally, the EPA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development launched a new website that summarizes available federal programs that help finance or fund lead service line replacement. The website includes case studies demonstrating how cities and states have successfully leveraged federal resources to support lead service line (LSL) replacement projects. https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/lead-service-line-replacement

EPA’s proposed Lead and Copper Rule reflects input received from the agency’s state, local, and tribal partners, the Science Advisory Board, the National Drinking Water Advisory Council, and best available peer-reviewed science. EPA is taking public comment on this proposal for 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. Please submit comments through Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2017-0300 at www.regulations.gov.

Step 1 WOTUS Rule Published in Federal Register

Final rule effective: December 23, 2019

On October 22, 2019, the EPA and the Department of the Army published a final rule to repeal the 2015 Clean Water Rule: Definition of “Waters of the United States” (“2015 Rule”), which amended portions of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), and restored the regulatory text that existed prior to the 2015 Rule. The agencies will implement the pre-2015 Rule regulations informed by applicable agency guidance documents and consistent with Supreme Court decisions and longstanding agency practice.

For more information, please visit:
https://www.epa.gov/wotus-rule/definition-waters-united-states-recodification-pre-existing-rules

Happy Thanksgiving
Approaches to Reduce Nutrient Loadings for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Management Request for Applications (RFA)

Application Deadline: December 10, 2019

EPA released a grant announcement through its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program for Approaches to Reduce Nutrient Loadings for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Management. Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) are a growing concern in the United States. Impacts from HABs include losses in income from recreation and tourism, animal and human illness from exposure to contaminated water or seafood, and expenses related to monitoring, treatment, and control of HABs.

In order to prevent and control the occurrence of HABs, new research is needed in a variety of areas to reduce both point and non-point source excess nutrient loading to U.S. waters. The EPA is seeking research on nutrient treatment technologies, best management practices, and agricultural conservation practice systems to reduce excess nutrient loadings and thereby prevent and control HABs.

Applications may be submitted electronically to EPA through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) no later than December 10, 2019, 11:59:59 p.m. EST. For more information, please visit: [https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/approaches-reduce-nutrient-loadings-harmful-algal-blooms-management](https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/approaches-reduce-nutrient-loadings-harmful-algal-blooms-management)

Tribal 319 Program Competitive Funding Announcement

Application Deadline: December 20, 2019

On November 5, the EPA posted the FY 2020 Request for Applications from Indian Tribes and Intertribal Consortia for NPS Management Grants Under CWA Section 319. Each year the EPA’s National Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program solicits applications via a national competition from 319-eligible tribes and intertribal consortia to implement on-the-ground projects to manage NPS pollution. Awards made under this announcement will support on-the-ground projects that will directly result in the protection or restoration of water quality, such as riparian planting, livestock exclusion fencing, and lake protection and restoration activities. In addition, applicants may include other eligible activities to support on-the-ground work, including but not limited to: NPS training for tribal staff, developing watershed-based plans, NPS ordinance development, and outreach and education. In recent years, the EPA awarded approximately $2.5 million/year in federal 319 funds under this solicitation depending on Agency funding levels.

Eligible tribes and intertribal consortia may apply for funding by submitting an application for up to a maximum federal budget of $100,000. Please note that applications must be submitted to Grants.gov.

- **December 2, 2019**: Deadline for questions from prospective tribal applicants about the FY 2020 Request for Application. You may submit questions to [tribal319grants@epa.gov](mailto:tribal319grants@epa.gov).
- **December 20, 2019**: *Application Deadline* Applications must be submitted electronically to the EPA through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) by 11:59 p.m. EST in order to be considered for funding. Late applications will not be considered for funding.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service FY 2020 Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (GLFWRA)

Application Deadline: January 7, 2020

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is accepting Fiscal Year 2020 project proposals to protect, restore and enhance Great Lakes fish and wildlife habitat under the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (Act). The six goals of the Act are:

1. Restoring and maintaining self-sustaining fish and wildlife resources.
2. Minimizing the impacts of contaminants on fishery and wildlife resources.
### Upcoming Events

**Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. – Tribal Operator Certification Training**
This course is for tribal drinking water treatment facility operators. Course topics include, but not limited to, intro to surface water, groundwater and wells, water treatment processes, regulatory compliance, Safe Drinking Water Act, water safety, and math relating to water facility operations. For more information, visit [http://itcaonline.com/?page_id=2987](http://itcaonline.com/?page_id=2987)

- **Water Distribution – Level 1**  
  February 10-14, 2020; Sloan, IA

### Funding Opportunities Continued

3. Protecting, maintaining and, where degraded and destroyed, restoring fish and wildlife habitat, including the enhancement and creation of wetlands that result in a net gain in the amount of those habitats.
4. Stopping illegal activities adversely impacting fishery and wildlife resources.
5. Restoring threatened and endangered species to viable, self-sustaining levels.

Protecting, managing and conserving migratory birds.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requests interested entities to submit restoration, research and Regional project proposals for the restoration of Great Lakes fish and wildlife resources. The purpose of the Act is to provide assistance to States, Indian Tribes, and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin. Supported in part by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, we expect approximately $1.38 million to support projects this fiscal year.

The 2016 Reauthorization of the GLFWRA made some significant additions to allowable non-federal match as it relates to time period, land and conservation easements. Please see the Notice of Funding Opportunity for more details.

Deadline for proposal submission is **Tuesday, January 7, 2020 by 5:00 PM EST.**  

### RESOURCES

**Alaska Center for Climate Assessment & Policy**  
- December 3, 2019 (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PST) Rapid Change: 2019 in Northwest Alaska’s Oceans and Impacts to Ecosystems and People  
  For more information, visit [https://uaf-accap.org/events/](https://uaf-accap.org/events/)

**Tribal Climate Health Project**  
- December 3, 2019 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. MST) National Tribal Climate and Health Adaptation Webinar Series  
  For more information, visit [https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/708085888714208012](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/708085888714208012)

**EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water Webinars**  
- December 5, 2019 (2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. EST) Lead Service Line Identification and Replacement Webinar Series: Focus on Large Public Water Systems  
  For more information, visit [https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-training](https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/drinking-water-training)

**EPA Water Research Webinar Series**  
- January 29, 2020: Science to Support and Implement Microbial Water Quality Criteria  
  For more information, visit [https://www.epa.gov/water-research/water-research-webinar-series](https://www.epa.gov/water-research/water-research-webinar-series)
NTWC Members – For more information, visit Meet the Council.

Ken Norton  
Hoopa Valley Tribe  
Region 9 (NTWC Chair)  
kenpnorton@gmail.com

Michael Bolt  
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
Region 4 (NTWC Vice Chair)  
michbolt@nc-cherokee.com

Daniel Kusnierz  
Penobscot Indian Nation  
Region 1  
dan.kusnierz@penobscotnation.org

Rene Rickard  
Tuscarora Nation  
Region 2  
rrickard@hetf.org

Shaun Livermore  
Poarch Band of Creek Indians  
Region 4  
silvermore@pci-nsn.gov

Kathleen Brosemer  
Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa  
Region 5  
kbrosemer@saulttribe.net

Nancy Schuldt  
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Region 5  
nancyschuldtd@fdlrez.com

Micco Emarthla  
Seneca-Cayuga Nation  
Region 6  
memarthla@sctribe.com

Denise Jensen  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska  
Region 7  
denise.jensen@winnebagoatribe.com

Colin Larrick  
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
Region 8  
cclarrick@utemountain.org

Lee Anna Martinez-Silversmith  
Navajo Nation  
Region 9  
leeanna.martinez09@yahoo.com

Phillip Cernera  
Coeur d’Alene Tribe  
Region 10  
phile@cdatribe-nsn.gov

Eric Morrison  
Salamatof Tribe  
Region 10  
emorrison@salamatentribe.org

Ann Wyatt  
Klawock Cooperative Association, Tribe  
Region 10 – Alaska  
annwyatt@klawocktribe.org

To manage your ITEP/NTWC listserv subscriptions, go to http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/About/itep_Newsletters#ntwc

©2019 Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at Northern Arizona University  
email: itep@nau.edu