



SWTF Weekly Digest #13-2020

August 18, 2020

Executive Directors Message of the week:

Good Morning Everyone! The SWTFC August Board meeting is just over a week away. Please remember to let me know if you are planning to attend. I sent out a Microsoft Teams meeting invite last week, so hopefully you received it and are planning to attend. I miss seeing you all.

Check out the science behind Pyramid Lakes “Whitening” event – thanks Dan, for sharing the story!

Big federal actions of the last week – the revision of “habitat” definitions for species protected by the Endangered Species act – and claim that it doesn’t impact tribes; and the announcement of a Draft Invasive Species Strategic Plan – which will start Tribal Consultation next month.

As usual for this time of year, drought is expanding across the west, with some science on the impacts of that warming and drying on our fish populations. There are some new grant opportunities (with an informational webinar today! See below), and lots of other news this week.

Again, hope to see you all next week at our summer board meeting!

Have a great week!

Adam Ringia, Executive Director

News and Links:

1. [The FWS is proposing to define "habitat" in our regulations implementing section 4 of the Endangered Species Act.](#) Comments are due **by September 4, 2020**. The Service has concluded that that these regulations do not have “tribal implications” and formal government-to-government consultation is not required under 13175 and related policies.
2. If you are an AFS member, remember to vote in the Diversity and Inclusion motion:
MOTION: That the AFS Rules (Section 14. Standing Committees) be amended to designate Diversity & Inclusion as a Standing Committee of the American Fisheries Society.
3. [Draft Invasive Species Strategic Plan](#) - Tribal consultation conference call is on September 17th.
4. If you have been following the [Keystone XL – the Draft EA for the Burying Beetle](#) is in the FR.
5. [Drought expanding in the west](#)

6. Lake Powell is short of water – [cuts for downstream users](#)
7. How to keep [systemic flows in the Rio Grande](#) – save the fishies!
8. [Call for Papers – Tribal Fish and Wildlife Management](#)
9. [World Fish Migration Day](#) – is in just over 2 months. Check out the planned events so far!
10. If you have stories or pictures (good news is always welcome), please share!

Grant Opportunities:

1. **USFS- SWTFC Youth Grant 2020:** We have funding from the USFS for tribal youth employment – if you are interested, please contact me adam.ringia@gmail.com for more information!
2. [Desert Fish Habitat Partnership](#) – 2021 request for proposals open! Due September 25, 2020 by 5pm.

Webinars and Educational Opportunities:

1. How to Apply for the Outdoor Recreation Division's Special Projects and Infrastructure Grant - August 18 at 2 p.m. Join us on August 18 to learn how to apply for the [Outdoor Recreation Division's Special Projects and Infrastructure Grants](#).
2. ["Introduction to Climate Systems"](#) by the University of Oklahoma from August 31 - September 25, 2020. The course is free and online. If you have questions, you can contact Mr. Maurice Cruz at maurice.p.cruz@ou.edu
3. **Now Virtual: 2020 National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference**
The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) will host the First Biennial National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC) along with support from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Resilience Program. The NTICC is open to all U.S. tribal nations & Indigenous Peoples from throughout the world, with an emphasis on including Elders and Youth. The NTICC will convene experts on climate change and will include a balance of Traditional Indigenous Knowledges and Western Science and will now be held VIRTUALLY September 14 – 17. **Learn more:** <https://sites.google.com/view/2020-nticc-itep/home>
4. **Teton Science Schools Graduate Program Native American Fellowship Opportunity** It is with great pleasure to reach out to you and share an amazing opportunity for which you might be eligible, or might know someone who would be interested and eligible. The Teton Science Schools' (TSS) Graduate Program is offering a full scholarship, covering tuition and room and board, to someone who is currently affiliated with a Native American tribe as an educator, or aspiring educator, or is of Native American descent. Interested scholarship candidates should begin the enrollment process for the [TSS Graduate Program](#). If you have specific questions or want more information, please contact Dr. Nikki Gamrath, Vice President of Educator Development, at the Teton Science Schools at nikki.gamrath@tetonscience.org.
5. Tribal engagement webinar/listening session for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Trust Fund Act. If you think would be willing to present on your work or might be interested in helping to put this webinar on, please contact me and I will get you to the right people! Looking at October as a possible timeframe.

6. **DOI Talent and DOI University.** I'm leaving these links up here just in case:
 - a. DOI Talent: https://www.doi.gov/doitalent/nondoil_learners
 - b. DOI University Classes: <https://doiu.doi.gov/reg.asp?id=>
7. Structured Decision Making for Habitat Restoration - Assessing Landscape Needs and Implementation to Achieve Population Success - **Thursday, August 27 at 3pm ET** and will feature Dr. Jessica Collier from the Green Bay FWCO in Wisconsin. To register for the webinar, please follow this [link](#) or go to the [NCTC homepage](#), click on *Resources/News* tab in upper right, select *Webinar Gallery* in the drop-down menu, and click on the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office gallery picture.

...and a variety of upcoming (with dates) and pre-recorded (without dates) webinars:

1. [AFS – Stream Simulation Design – September 9th](#)

Science! Or science-y...

1. Pyramid Lake Whitening - To those limnologist among our group, Pyramid Lake has been going through what's called a 'Whiting' event when a spontaneous precipitation of calcium carbonate, which occurs once every 7 to 12 years on our lake here in northern Nevada. I attached a satellite phot and some photos when it first started. You can read more on this unusual event: https://www.brr.cr.usgs.gov/projects/GWC_Crystal/aragonite/index.html

This article says Whiting events can be triggered by microbiological processes, or re-suspension of marine or bottom sediments. Planktonic blooms have known to associated with this event. We just went through a nodularia (cyanobacteria) bloom, which most likely triggered this event in Pyramid Lake. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whiting_event

2. [Warming a threat to fish](#) - probably not a shock to any of us.

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