



SWTF Weekly Digest #17-2020

September 15, 2020

Executive Directors Message of the week:

Good Morning Everyone!

I hope you and your families are all healthy and happy! I don't know about you all, but I really enjoyed the brief cool down, despite all the smoke from fires across the west. And a heart felt thanks to all the firefighters out there!

As we race towards the end of the year, the end of the 2020 census, and the election, remember to make sure that your census form is filled out, and that all your neighbors have done it too. And make sure that if you are doing mail in voting, to get it in the mail as soon as you can!

The American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting is going on now, as is the 2020 National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference. So, if you don't have enough field work to do, and aren't working on your DFHP Grant – take a break and check in on the latest in fish and climate science!

Have a great week!

Adam Ringia, Executive Director

News and Links:

1. [NEPA RULE Takes effect – 9-14-20](#)
2. The [AFS Virtual Annual Meeting](#) started yesterday! **Sept 14-25, 2020**
3. Remind all of your friends and neighbors (and anyone else) to [fill out their Census forms!](#) Here is an [article about it from the NM Political report!](#)
4. Remind all of your friends and neighbors (and anyone else) to register to VOTE!! And then do it when the time comes!!
5. Not Fish news, but still news - The distinct population segment of the [western yellow-billed cuckoo continues to meet the definition of a threatened species](#) under the Endangered Species Act.
6. [USFWS Proposed Rule for designating critical habitat](#)
7. [WRP Newsletter August 2020](#)
8. [Verde River Conservation](#)
9. [Draft Invasive Species Strategic Plan](#) - Tribal consultation conference call is on **September 17th**.

10. [Call for Papers – Tribal Fish and Wildlife Management](#)
11. [World Fish Migration Day](#) – is in 40 days. Check out the planned events so far!
12. If you have stories or pictures (good news is always welcome), please share! Vice Chair Glenn Selby was a rock star last week and gave enough for the whole week!!

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. The **2021 WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency** Grant funding opportunity is open until **September 17, 2020**. The Program supports water management organizations developing projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, increase the production of hydropower and support broader water reliability benefits. [News Release](#)
3. [Desert Fish Habitat Partnership](#) – Deadline to apply has been extended to October 9, 2020!
4. The **Funding Opportunity for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife QZAP FY2020** has officially been posted. The total funding amount for projects is approximately \$1,830,000.00, which is a significant increase from years past. Consequently, USFWS has expanded the categories and priorities of potential projects. Additionally, there is a significant change in the application process this year resulting from our transition to GrantSolutions.gov. This opportunity will be open for application through October 18, 2020. Contact barak_shemai@fws.gov for more information.
5. **Reclamation's Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program** is making up to \$1 million available in Fiscal Year 2021 for tribes and tribal organizations in the western United States to develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources. Each selected project is eligible to receive up to \$200,000. The funding opportunity is available on www.grants.gov by searching for funding opportunity number BOR-DO-20-F013. Applications are due on **October 28, 2020 at 4 p.m. MDT**. [News Release](#) and [Native American Affairs Homepage](#)
6. **Western Native Trout Initiative's FY2021 Request for Proposals is live.** You can view the funding opportunity at [This RFP](#) is our first year of prioritizing Colorado River Cutthroat Trout, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, Westslope Cutthroat Trout, and Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout. Please note the application deadline is **Friday, October 30, 2020 and proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m.** (Mountain Time). If you should have any questions or need additional information, please contact Theresa Thompson (WNTI Coordinator) at tthompson@westernnativetrout.org.
7. Here is a potential funding opportunity [for partnership projects with the NRCS](#)...USDA has announced \$360 million in funding for the next round of Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) conservation projects. Project applications are now being accepted for locally driven, public-private partnerships that improve the nation's water quality (including drinking water sources), combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat, and protect agricultural viability. Projects are eligible to receive between \$250,000 and \$10 million in RCPP funding that is expected to be leveraged with funding and in-kind contributions from partners that are equal or greater to the NRCS investment. Funding is open to private industry, non-government organizations, Indian tribes, state and local governments, water districts, universities, and more. RCPP funding is divided evenly among two funding pools, one for Critical Conservation Areas (CCAs) and one for projects in a single state or across several states.

Webinars and Educational Opportunities:

1. The Forest Service is hiring student interns and recent graduates using the Pathways program soon.
 - a. They will be hiring through the Wildlife Society: Merit, intern indefinite, and recent graduate job announcements will open on September 25 and close on October 10.
 - b. Society of American Foresters: Merit, intern indefinite, and recent graduate job announcements will open on October 27 and close on November 2.
 - c. And Women of Color in STEM: Merit, intern indefinite, and recent graduate job announcements will open on October 6 and close on October 13.
2. **ENHANCE YOUR CREDENTIALS** and join your colleagues in gaining certification by AFS. Certification sets standards and guidelines for professional competence and is used by organizations worldwide to measure qualifications. For information on how you can apply- and a list of current certified professionals- go to, <https://fisheries.org/membership/afs-certification/>.
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. 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.
5. **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=>

Science! Or science-y...

1. [Paleo record show significant changes to biodiversity](#)
2. [Abandoned mines pose a threat to water quality](#)

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