



National EPA-Tribal Science Council

U.S. EPA/STAR Tribal Progress Review

Research Triangle Park, NC

21 September 2016





National EPA-Tribal Science Council (TSC)

“... the mission of the **Tribal Science Council** is to provide a forum for the interaction between Tribal and Agency representatives of mutual benefit and responsibility to work collaboratively on environmental science issues...

*The **Tribal Science Council** is committed to the development of sound scientific and cultural approaches to meet the needs of tribes.”*



Tribal Science Council (TSC)

- Established in 2001 at the request of the National Tribal Caucus to provide scientific support in Indian country
- Serves as a forum for interaction between tribes and EPA to identify and share information on priority environmental science issues
- Coordinates with the National Tribal Caucus to integrate science priorities into the Agency's annual planning and budget process





Tribal Science Council (TSC)

- Members include representatives from:
 - A federally recognized tribe in each EPA Region, plus a member from the Alaska Native communities
 - Each EPA Program and Regional Office
- Current co-chairpersons
 - **Curtis Munoz**, Kiowa Tribe, Region 6
 - **David Jewett**, EPA ORD – Ada, OK Laboratory





The TSC: Understanding and Assisting with Environmental Issues in Tribal Communities

- Connect EPA labs and centers with tribal communities to strengthen “science” and outreach
- Facilitate engagement between tribal partnership groups and EPA on community environmental issues
- Science Seminar Series
- EPA Tribal Science Bulletin
- Technical support opportunities for tribes





National Tribal Science Priorities

- **Climate Change**
- **Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)**





Tribal and ORD Science Priorities



Climate change
Traditional ecological knowledge
Science education and capacity building
Cumulative exposures/impacts/risks
Persistent bioaccumulative toxics
Food availability and quality
Oil and natural gas issues
Loss of native species
Indoor air (mold)
Sustainability
Nutrients

Safe and Sustainable Water Resources
Sustainable and Healthy Communities
Chemical Safety for Sustainability
Human Health Risk Assessment
Air, Climate, and Energy
Homeland Security



Questions?

Contact Information

Curtis Munoz
TSC Tribal Co-Chair
nethkuplega@yahoo.com
580.654.1975

David Jewett
TSC Agency Co-Chair
jewett.david@epa.gov
580.436.8560

Monica Rodia
TSC Executive Secretary
rodia.monica@epa.gov
202.564.8322