

**CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE 2009  
TRIBAL COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE  
Highlights of October 10, 2008, Meeting in Sacramento**

The eleventh meeting of the Tribal Communication Committee (TCC) was held in Sacramento on October 10, 2008. The meeting objectives were to (1) revise a charter and workplan for planning the 2009 Tribal Water Summit, and (2) finalize an invitation for Tribes to join the Summit planning process.

**Outstanding Business**

The TCC debriefed the California Indian Days at the Capital. TCC members met with over 100 Tribal participants, explaining the work of the TCC and requesting Water Stories submissions. A sticker was designed with a logo of “Save Our Sacred Water” which could be used for other TCC correspondence to Tribes. The formal Water Stories invitation is ready to mail out.

The Tribal Water Stories provide an opportunity for bringing Tribal knowledge about climate change into the Water Plan. Information about water resources (such as springs, timing of flows), or hunting patterns and game sources, would be especially helpful regarding past climates.

It was reported that the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) wrote a letter to the State Water Board about consultation and water rights. The letter was in response to an inquiry from the Water Boards’ Chief of the Hearing Unit. The letter is a helpful reference, as it applies to all California Tribes and puts multiple water-connections together in one document. The document references the work of the TCC.

It was noted that the Bureau of Land Management, State Parks, and California Indian Basketweavers Association (CIBA), are looking to work with TCC in Northern California – to share information about policies on gathering.

**Review of Summit Charter and Workplan**

Dorian Fougères, Assistant Facilitator to the TCC, reviewed each component of the charter. Items were updated and revised according to the group’s suggestions. A survey will go out to Tribes to develop an inventory of Tribal water issues.

**Invitation to Participate on Summit Planning Team**

TCC members finalized the invitation, which will be sent out within the next two weeks.

**Training Materials on Tribal Government**

A group of TCC members presented an initial outline for training on Tribal government, and samples of training materials were also distributed.

**Outstanding Business and Next Steps**

The next TCC meeting will be Friday, November 7, from 12:30 to 4:30 PM, in Sacramento.