

Climate and Health in Indian Country



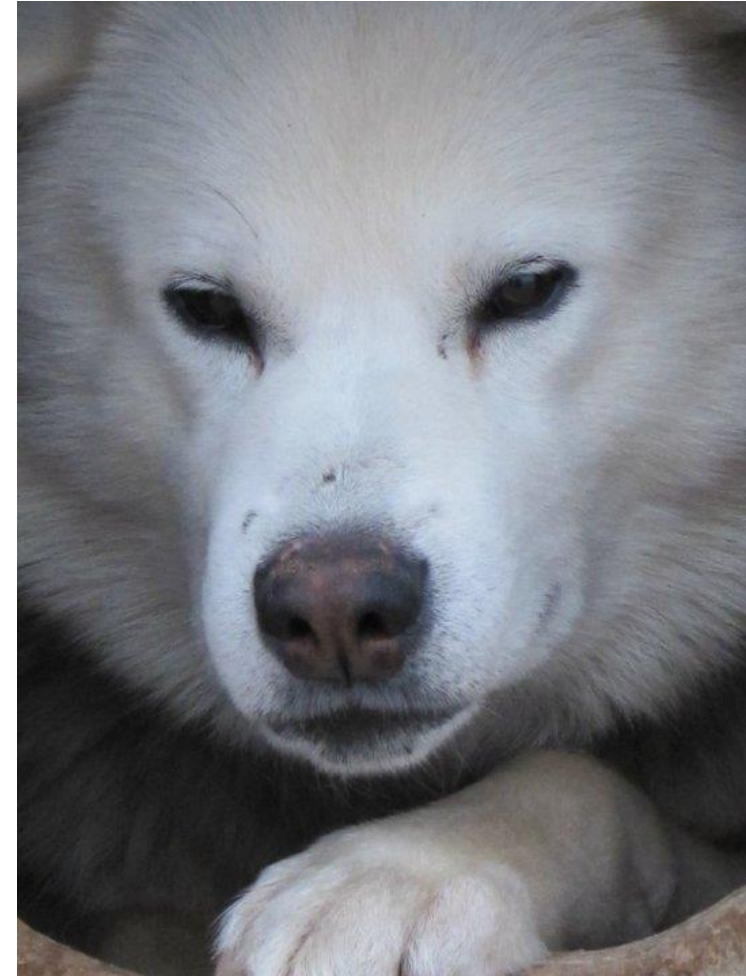
Thursday, April 20, 2017 4:00 pm ET

Call-in toll-free number (US/Canada): 1-877-668-4493

Access code: 736 404 573

Housekeeping

- Phones are muted
- Webinar is being recorded and will be made available
- Please use Q&A box to send questions



Agenda

- Welcome, where are you joining us from?
- Brianna Carrier, NIHB
- Paul Schramm, CDC
- Clarita Lefthand-Begay
- Questions



National Indian Health Board

Purpose: To advocate on behalf of all federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes to ensure the fulfillment of the trust responsibility to deliver health and public health services as assured through treaties, and reaffirmed in legislation, executive orders and Supreme Court cases.

Mission Statement: One Voice affirming and empowering American Indian and Alaska Native Peoples to protect and improve health and reduce health disparities.



NIHB Project Staff

Brianna Carrier,
Six Nations
Mohawk, Turtle Clan
MPA, M.Ed
Public Health
Program Coordinator
Main contact for
Climate-Ready Tribes



2016-2017 Project Goals

- To reduce climate-related **morbidity** and mortality
- To build capacity to **identify** and assess climate-related health threats
- To build **adaptation** capacity
- To increase **collaboration** and data sharing
- To increase communication and **information** sharing



Disclaimer

1. This presentation highlights two of many possible approaches
2. The content of this webinar is complementary



Paul Schramm, Health Scientist, Climate and Health Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Paul coordinates the Climate and Health Program's science activities and partnerships. His work focuses on the human health effects of climate change, including the impacts of heat waves, extreme weather events, and vector-borne disease. He is a lead author on the Southeast Chapter of the Fourth National Climate Assessment and coordinating lead author of the book chapter Human Health and Climate Change in the Southeast USA. Paul received a National Center for Environmental Health Honor Award for his work at CDC and a GreenGov Presidential Award for his work on the inter-agency federal government report "A Human Health Perspective on Climate Change."



Clarita Lefthand-Begay, Assistant Professor, University of Washington

Clarita Lefthand-Begay is citizen of the Navajo Nation and an assistant professor in the University of Washington's Information School. She received her doctoral degree in Environmental and Occupational Hygiene from the University of Washington's (UW) School of Public Health in 2014. She is the Director of the Tribal Water Security Project, a project that examines the water insecurity challenges faced by tribes in the United States. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on tribal water security, and climate change adaptation, health and resiliency. As a researcher and tribal community member, Clarita supports efforts to strengthen environmental and tribal wellbeing while respecting and honoring self-determination and cultural revitalization.



Questions?

- Is your community engaged in climate change and health planning?
- What climate change impacts is your community seeing that may impact health?
- What would you like to see more information on?
- Do you know of Tribal climate and health resources to share?





INDIGENOUS HEALTH INDICATORS

Save

WELCOME!

USE THE MENU BELOW TO SEE DETAILS ABOUT
EACH INDIGENOUS HEALTH INDICATOR

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

NATURAL RESOURCES SECURITY

CULTURAL USE

EDUCATION

SELF-DETERMINATION

RESILIENCE



Stay Engaged

- 4th National Climate Assessment in 2018
- #ClimateChangesHealth
- APHA's Year of Climate Change
- Bureau of Indian Affairs- Climate Change/Climate Tribal Resilience Program
- NIHB Climate Ready Tribes



NIHB 8th Annual National Tribal Public Health Summit

Together We Rise: Sustaining Tribal Public Health as a National Priority

June 6 - 8, 2017 | Anchorage, AK



CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS ON HEALTH^{1,2}

Air Pollution

Higher levels of air pollution, coupled with rising temperatures, may trigger **respiratory diseases** such as asthma and chronic lung disease.



Allergens

Higher levels of pollen, as well as longer pollen seasons, may aggravate **asthma** and **allergy** symptoms.



Wildfires

Smoke exposure increases respiratory and **cardiovascular hospitalizations**; **medication** dispensations for asthma, **bronchitis**, chest pain, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (**COPD**), and respiratory infections; and medical visits for **lung illnesses**.

Temperature Extremes

Periods of extreme heat result in higher rates of death from heat **stroke**, **cardiovascular disease**, and **respiratory disease**, as well as increased hospital admission rates for heart-related illnesses, including kidney problems and cardiac dysrhythmia (irregular heartbeat).

Weather Extremes

More frequent and severe extreme weather events, such as heat waves, droughts, and floods, may increase rates of **heatstroke**, **drowning**, **infectious diseases**, **injury**, and **mental stress**, among others.



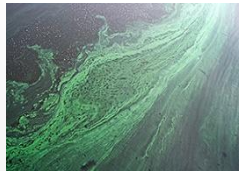
Vectorborne Diseases

Changing weather patterns and the resulting migration of animals and insects are likely to spread vector-borne diseases such as **Lyme disease**, **malaria**, **dengue fever**, and **Zika** virus disease to new geographical areas.



Food and Waterborne Diseases

Changing temperatures and rainfall patterns are likely to increase the number of food and water-borne infections, such as **diarrheal disease**.



Food Security

Changing growing seasons and more frequent droughts pose threats to food security, including lower crop yields and **poorer nutritional quality** of the food supply. Subsistence food gathering may decline as resources become **scarce** and seasonal indicators become **reliable**.



Mental Health and Stress-Related Disorders

Direct and gradual physical impacts of climate change on the environment, society, and infrastructure can lead to **trauma**, **shock**, **stress**, **anxiety**, **depression**, and other **mental health impacts**.





Thank you!

Any additional questions can be directed to Brianna Carrier at
bcarrier@nihb.org

