



## October 2020 Story Archives

### **The art of fire: reviving the Indigenous craft of cultural burning**

Indigenous Peoples have managed their lands with fire since time immemorial. But colonizers criminalized the practice, leading to a loss of culture and an increase in the risk of wildfires. Now, a small but mighty group of people is revitalizing the craft...

**Read more** on this story published in a recent Narwhal newsletter.

### **Institute for Environmental Professionals (ITEP): Narrative Submissions for the Status of Tribes and Climate Change Report**

The Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) Tribes and Climate Change Program is publishing a report called the “Status of Tribes and Climate Change” (STACC). This report strives to broaden the reach and understanding from a Tribal perspective of the impacts and responses to climate change. ITEP is seeking contributors for an important feature of this report, which will be the inclusion of narratives and testimonials directly from Tribal Nations, illustrating the lived experiences of Tribal peoples as they relate to climate change. The testimonials may come from Tribal citizens, Tribal leaders, or Tribal environmental departments, and can address impacts and/or solutions. These testimonials may take the format of either written pieces, audio recordings, or video recordings.

**Deadline for submissions is October 25, 2020.** *If you have any questions, please contact Dara Marks Marino, at [dara.marks-marino@nau.edu](mailto:dara.marks-marino@nau.edu).*

## **GRID Alternatives: Tribal Solar Energy Training for Tribal Practitioners**

The Grid Alternatives' Tribal Program Office is offering a paid, two-week solar energy training for Tribal energy practitioners and individual Tribal citizens. This opportunity will provide travel and lodging stipends for interested parties. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, training dates have not been identified yet, however, the Program will provide virtual training later this year if necessary.

*If you would like to be considered for this training event, please respond to this [questionnaire](#).*

## **New Study Finds That Focal Species in Similar Habitats will Respond Differently to Climate Change**



Scientists currently have little understanding about the degree to which species that use similar habitats will experience and respond to climate and land-use change. Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (SE CASC) supported researchers assessed suitable connected habitat for focal species in the southeastern U.S. under a changing climate and found that each species faces different levels of climate and land-use threat and though these focal species inhabit similar spaces, their ability to adapt to future changes differs. [Full story here.](#)

## **Cherokee Elk Study shows importance to Appalachian community and economy**

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and survey research firm Responsive Management recently released the results of an economic analysis showing that the presence of elk is important to the southern Appalachian community and its economy. The scientific study assessed economic impacts and measured public opinion toward elk among Tribal citizens and visitors to the Cherokee area. To better manage elk as a resource, the Tribal Nation is investing in elk restoration and protection, but a better understanding of the community's

perspective and the value of elk to the community is necessary for determining the scope and limits of this investment. For the full story in the *Cherokee One Feather* [Click Here](#).

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## **Climate Change Will Decrease Prescribed Fire Opportunities in the Southeastern U.S.**

Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center (SE CASC) researchers found that many ecosystems in the southeastern United States that are home to the region's most iconic species—like longleaf pine, gopher tortoises, and red-cockaded woodpeckers— may have fewer opportunities for prescribed fires in the future due to elevated temperatures. Furthermore, managers may not be able to rely on consistently good burning conditions (i.e. the “prescribed burn window”) in the spring as hot weather arrives earlier and earlier in the year. The full story can be found [HERE](#).