“To advocate for the best interests of federally-recognized Indian and Alaska Native Tribes, and Tribally-authorized organizations, in matters pertaining to water. To advocate for the health and sustainability of clean and safe water, and for the productive use of water for the health and well-being of Indian Country, Indian communities, Alaska Native Tribes and Alaska Native Villages.”

- NTWC MISSION

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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The Council is administered by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals with grant funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water.

**Visit the NTWC Website**

The Council’s website contains policy analysis on water related actions that impact Tribes, important water quality resources for Tribes, and a listing of current Council members, among others. Please visit the website for more information. It is evolving to better meet the needs of tribal water professionals interested in clean healthy water and healthy tribal communities.

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NTWC website: www.nau.edu/ntwc  
Facebook: facebook.com/NationalTribalWaterCouncil

**“Water is the Life of All of Us”**

- Felix Aripa, Coeur d’Alene Tribal Elder

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PURPOSE
The National Tribal Water Council (Council/NTWC) was established to advocate for the best interests of federally-recognized Indian and Alaska Native tribes in matters pertaining to water. It is the intent of the Council to advocate for the health and sustainability of clean water, and for the productive use of water for the health and well-being of Indian Country, Indian communities, Alaska Native Tribes, and Alaska Native Villages.

WHAT WE DO
The National Tribal Water Council holds two in-person meetings annually, conducts monthly conference calls, and works to address priority water issues impacting Indian Country. The Council has a strong working partnership with EPA’s Office of Water to advance and promote water issues of importance to tribes and EPA. Furthermore, the Council undertakes other activities, collaborative efforts, and information exchange. Below is a snapshot.

- **Information Exchange and Outreach**
  Works to enhance involvement in regional, national, and work group meetings; developing training or informational sessions for the Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF).
  Works to increase outreach efforts to Indian Country by enhancing the Council’s website and offering to provide presentations at regional forums and meetings to promote and highlight tribal water program issues and priorities.

  Publishes a "Tribal Water Priorities" document that identifies Clean Water Act (CWA) and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) priorities of the Council and tribes. This document will help to better inform EPA’s Office of Water on key issues of importance to the Council and the tribes.

WHO WE ARE
The National Tribal Water Council is a technical and scientific body created to assist the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), federally recognized Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Tribes, and associated tribal communities and tribal organizations, with research and information for decision-making regarding water issues and water-related concerns that impact Indian and Alaska Native tribal members, residents of Alaska Native Villages and Indian Country in the United States. The Council is not a policy-making body and its input is not a substitute for government-to-government consultation.

Current Council membership consists of the following members:
- Ken Norton, Hoopa Valley Tribe (Chair)
- Michael Bolt, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Vice Chair)
- Eric Morrison, Salamatof Tribe
- Phillip Cernera, Coeur d’Alene Tribe
- Lee Anna Martinez-Silversmith, Navajo Nation
- Colm Larrick, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Denise Jensen, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
- Micco Emarthla, Seneca-Cayuga Nation
- Nancy Schuldtt, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Kathleen Brosemer, Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe
- Shaun Livermore, Poarch Band of Creek Indians
- René Rickard, Tuscarora Nation
- Daniel Kusnierz, Penobscot Indian Nation
- Ann Wyatt, Klawock Cooperative Association/Tribe

ABOUT NTWC

WHAT WE DO (contd)
Publishes a monthly NTWC Newsletter that is distributed through the NTWC listserv. The newsletter provides water-related information on Council activities, consultation opportunities, training events, webinars, and grant opportunities.

- **Policy Response Kits**
  Once the Council conducts analysis of water related policies and initiatives that impact Tribes, the Council, in collaboration with subject matter and legal experts (i.e., Tribal Advisory Committee), responds by preparing Policy Response Kits (PRK).
  A PRK consists of two types of responses depending on the nature of the action – a straightforward comment letter on issues of concern or a PRK that includes a fact sheet, official NTWC comment letter and a template letter for Tribes to use in submitting their own comments.
  Please see the NTWC website for recent comment letters.

- **Water Topics**
  Water topics addressed by the Council include the list below. This list is not exhaustive and additional concerns or emerging issues are added as they arise.

  - Water—Drinking, Ground, Surface and Reuse
  - Nutrient Strategies
  - Indigenous Cultural Values and Water
  - Indian Country and Climate Change Impacts
  - Infrastructure Consultation
  - Challenges in Indian Country