

Building Capacity of Rural Communities to Respond and Adapt to Climate Change: Focusing workforce development within tribal climate adaptation and mitigation planning

Presentation to the UArctic Thematic Network – April 26, 2021

Graduate Seminar on Climate Change Impacts and Responses in the Arctic

Overview of Today's Discussion

Introductions

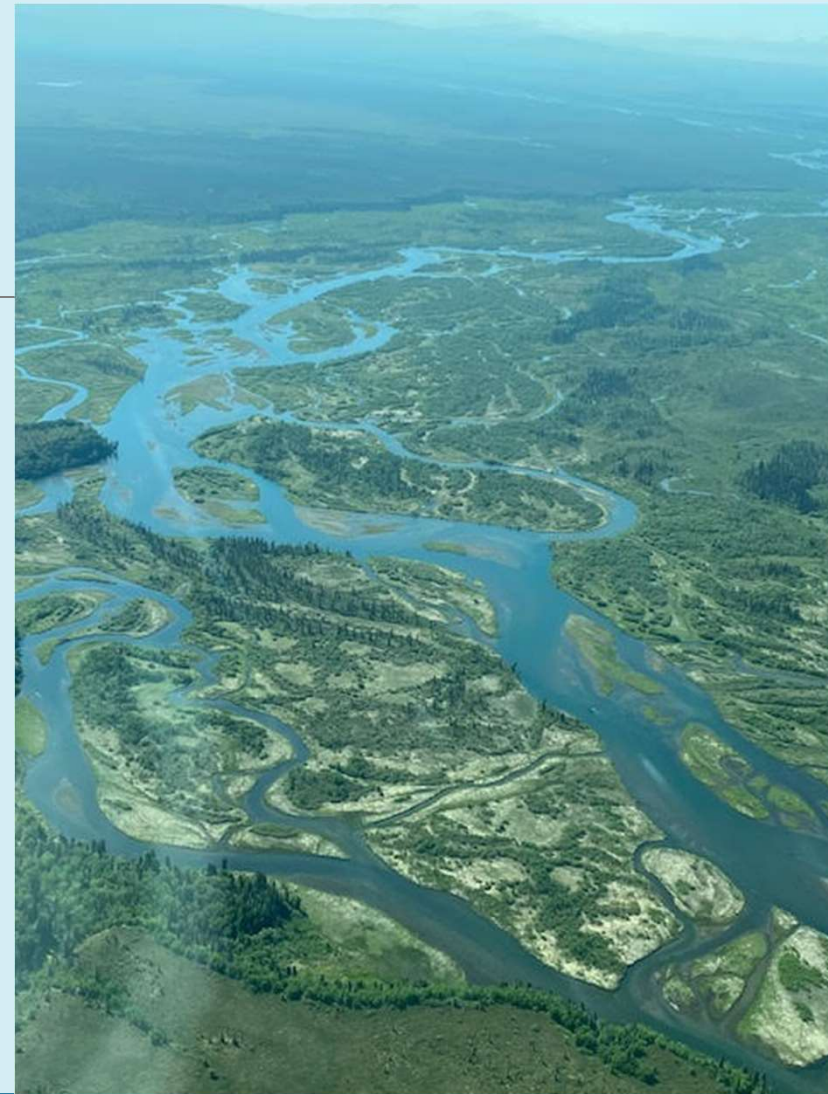
- Adelheid Herrmann
- Greta Goto

Overview of Project

- Context of the work
- The questions

Looking forward

- How and why should workforce development be included as a component of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies?



The project: Building Capacity of Rural Communities to Respond and Adapt to Climate Change

The Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy (ACCAP) is housed at the International Arctic Research Center (IARC) at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, Alaska

The project supports two Hatch project goals to:

“build capacity and advance rural community development that is fully informed by changing climate, ecosystems, and natural resources.” and to

“promote and develop integrated undergraduate and graduate research conducted in partnership with stakeholders.” (Hatch project proposal, 2018)

Climate Adaptation Planning

Climate Change

Tribal Adaptation and Mitigation planning in Alaska

Alaska Tribal Plans - Village-Based and Region wide

Funding Tribal Resilience Program (TRP) (Bureau of Indian Affairs)

- <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ots/tribal-climate-resilience-program>

Why do we do Climate Adaptation Planning and Why Should we do it?

“Villages Need Jobs, or young people will keep moving away.”

- Quote from a Adapt Y-K Delta Steering Committee Member

Alaska Tribes

229 Tribes

Rural/remote



Alaska Tribes

In relation to regional corporations and non-profits

Alaska Native Regional Corporations

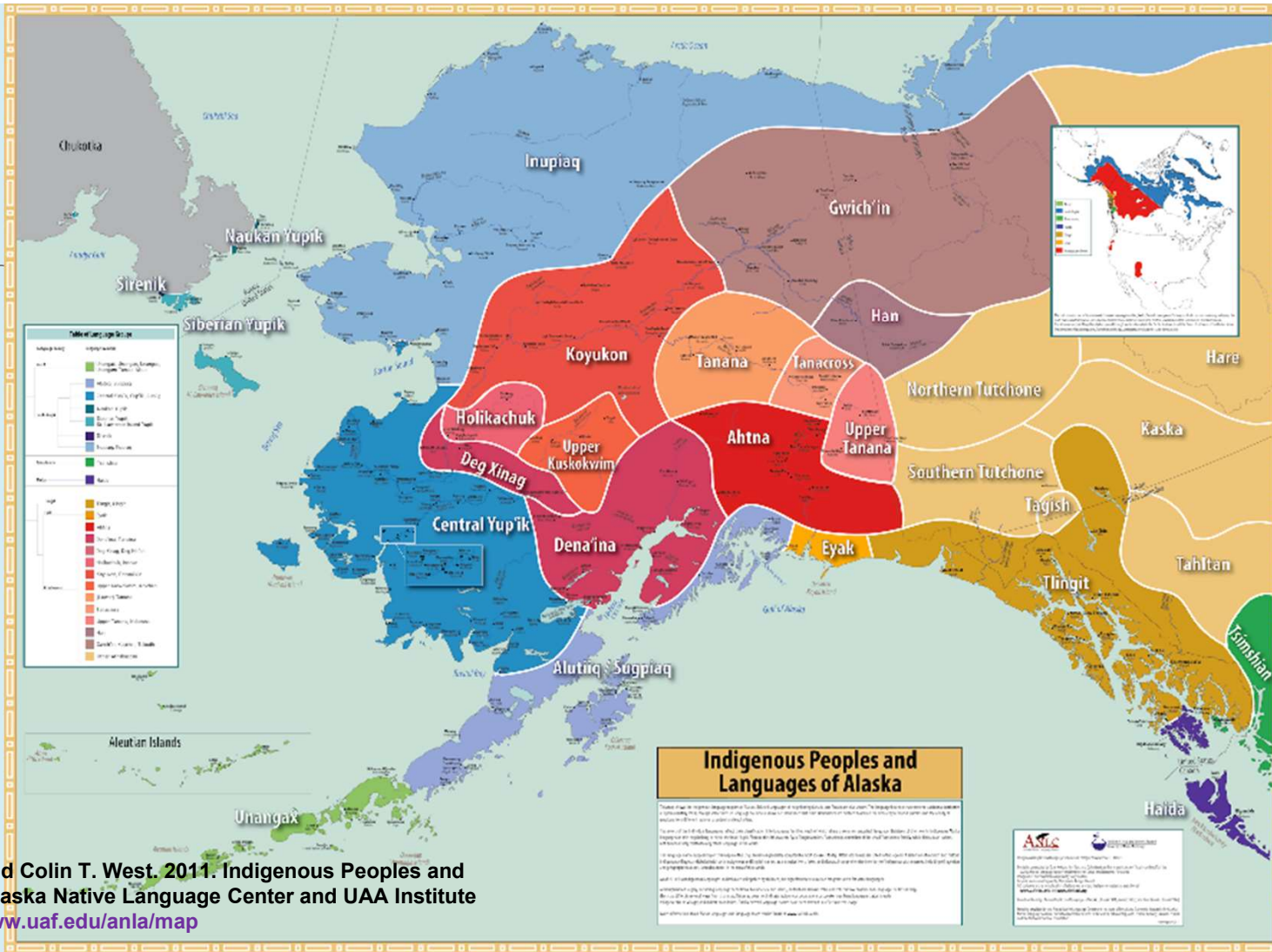


Regional non-profit corporations are listed in text boxes. Contact information is listed on the following pages for both non-profit and for-profit corporations.

Source: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/ocs/Documents/icwa/pdf/AKNativeRegionalCorps.pdf>

Alaska Tribes

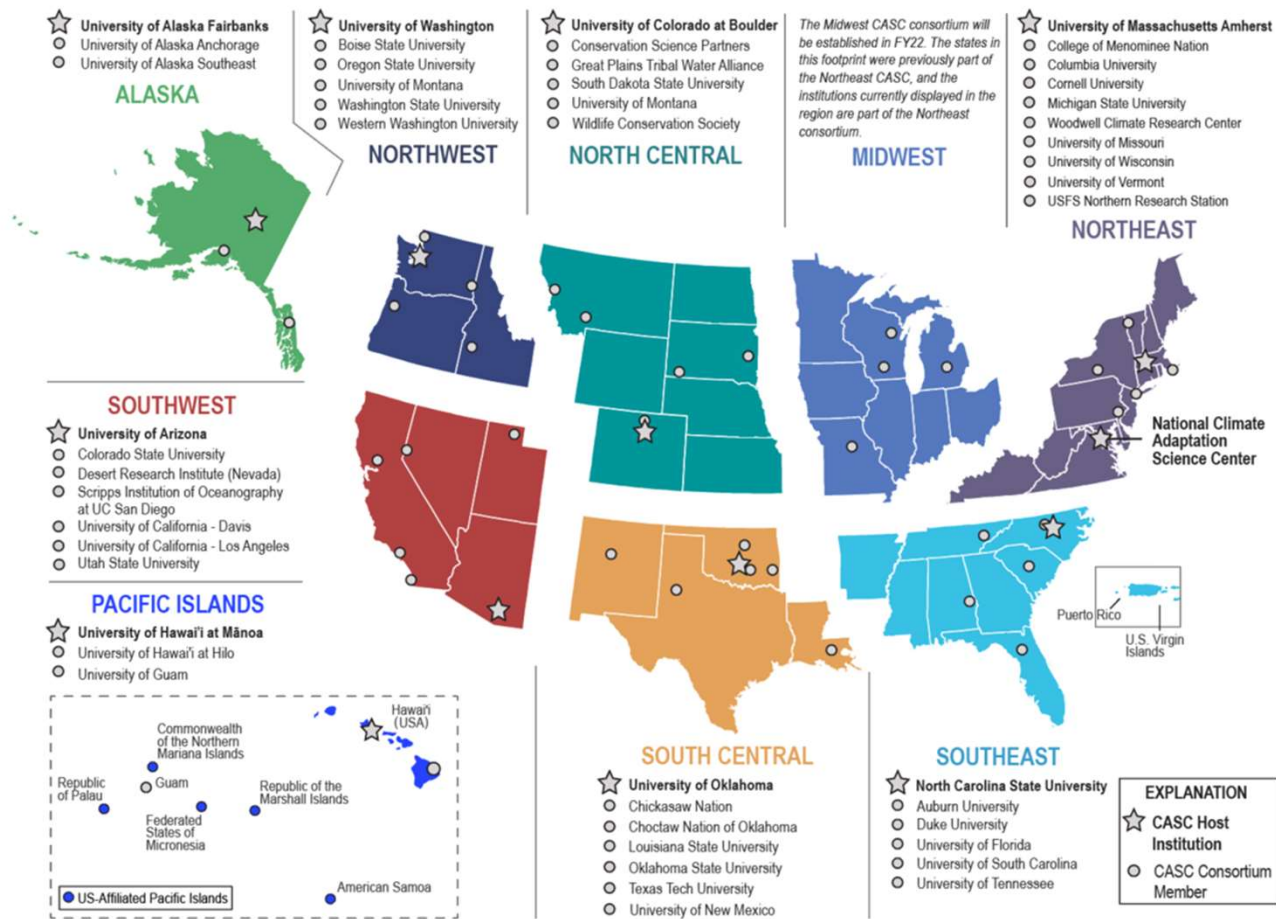
Language Groups



Citation: Krauss, Michael, Gary Holton, Jim Kerr, and Colin T. West. 2011. Indigenous Peoples and Languages of Alaska. Fairbanks and Anchorage: Alaska Native Language Center and UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research. Online: <http://www.uaf.edu/anla/map>

Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC) Regions

The CASCs collaborate across boundaries to address shared ecosystems, watersheds, and landscapes



Project Question and Literature

How do we intentionally focus workforce development (WFD) planning and implementation as part of Tribal climate adaptation and mitigation planning?

- Workforce development – What is it?
 - approaches, skills acquisition, networks, careers, collaborations, barriers, conditions for successful workforce development programs; climate change workforce development (green jobs, blue jobs)
- Governance
 - Tribal, federal, state and local, regional Native non-profits and corporations
- Protocols
 - Impact of protocols on planning and implementation of plans
- Silos
 - Effect of silos among and within agencies and sectors (e.g. public, private, non-profit; and e.g. health, construction, food, government, tourism, transportation)



Scope of the literature review

The question

- What does current literature say about workforce development (WFD) as an essential component of Tribal climate mitigation and adaptation strategies?

Purpose:

- To understand theories, definitions and approaches to WFD
- To understand what, if any, standards or criteria for excellent WFD programs include
- To illustrate connections between WFD and economic and or community development and climate change adaptation and or mitigation planning

Workforce development goals in adaptation plans

Preliminary Working Definition of Workforce Development:

"Workforce development is the coordination of public and private sector policies and programs that provides individuals with the opportunity for a sustainable livelihood and helps organizations achieve exemplary goals, consistent with the societal context."

(Source: Jacobs, R., & Hawley, J. (In press). Emergence of Workforce Development: Definition, Conceptual Boundaries, and Implications. In R. MacLean & D. Wilson (eds.), *International Handbook of Technical and Vocational Education and Training*, Amsterdam: Kluwer.)



Alaska Climate Adaptation Plans

- Adapt Y-K
- Nome Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan
- Oscarville Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan
- Shaktoolik Adaptation Plan
- Tlingit & Haida Adaptation Plan

<https://adaptalaska.org/resources/>

Adaptation Plan	0	Low	Medium	High	Notes
Adapt Y-K Plan (Regional Plan)			?		Work: 46 x's Workers: 2 x's Workforce: none Job: 3 x's Economic: 23 x's Community: 85 x's Tribe: 14 x's Tribal: 33 x's. Indigenous: 5 x's Climate: 207 x's
Nome Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan		?			Work: 33 x's Workforce: none Job: none Economic: 14 x's Community: 60 x's Tribe: 22 x's Tribal: 69 x's Indigenous: 1 x's Climate: 97 x's

Nome Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan

6.1 Adapt food preservation techniques to improve food security.

- Strategy #2: Scope the **building of adaptable meat drying racks** for warmer, wetter, and more variable weather that could control the temperature and moisture.
 - **Determine local preferences for dried meat.** This information will help develop design standards and ensuring that the final food products align with what people want.
 - Obtain engineering designs. **Designs must use local resources and labor**, whenever possible. Most fish racks are built with driftwood and a few nails and screens.

6.2 Promote the **use of traditional food preservation techniques** that are less energy intensive than freezers, to provide opportunities for sharing traditional knowledge and reducing energy costs.

- Strategy #1: Continue to **support opportunities for Elders to show youth how to preserve** food using traditional methods, such as canning, seal oil, and salting.
- Strategy #2: **Host trainings on fish drying**, such as through a community fish rack or annual youth-Elder camps.

Source: Nome Tribal Climate Adaptation Plan, pp. 23-24. <https://adaptalaska.org/resource/nome-tribal-climate-adaptation-plan/>

WFD and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation planning

How and why should workforce development be included as a component of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies?

- Do tribal organizations or tribal communities assess their current WFD needs – as related to climate adaptation/mitigation?
- Do tribal organizations or tribal communities know what education/training is available to fill their WFD needs as related to climate adaptation/mitigation planning and jobs?

Our next steps

Continue literature review

Continue refining a working definition of workforce development

Continue reviewing Tribal Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Plans

Explore Alaska Native regional non-profits' and for-profit workforce development programs

Continue development of Geotourism Research Project as a form of economic development as it relates to climate change

Chin'an! Quyana! Thank You!

Resources:

NCAI Toolkit Website:

<http://www.ncai.org/ptg/workforce-development/toolkit>

Adapt Alaska website:

<https://adaptalaska.org>

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Comments and Discussion

What are some of your experiences in developing workforce development strategies when working with Tribes or with Climate Change work?

Other Comments?