

Other Tribal Work

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

IEc assisted the Shinnecock Nation with climate change adaptation. For this effort, IEc adapted U.S. National Climate Assessment global sea level rise projections to account for expected local land subsidence, measured historically by regional tide gauges. We mapped areas of inundation and episodic flooding from a 100-year storm event on Tribal lands for several time periods to enable the Nation to plan for climate change.

For the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, IEc developed a climate change adaptation plan for Akwesasne, the Mohawk Nation Territory. The plan outlines current conditions of the Tribe's resources, assets, and community; future anticipated conditions with climate change; and ongoing and planned climate change adaptation actions. The plan is a first step in the Tribe's efforts to develop practical actions to adapt to ongoing and expected climate changes.

REMEDIATION SUPPORT

For the Grand Ronde, Nez Perce, Siletz, Umatilla, and Warm Springs Tribes, IEc provides remediation consulting services on the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. Reviewing and providing comments on technical documents, we inform and communicate client positions on both technical and procedural elements of the remedial process. We also provide briefings and materials for meetings with EPA and partners and deliver briefings to tribal leadership in advance of government-to-government consultations. Our support on this site has encompassed the Feasibility



Study, review by EPA's National Remedy Review Board and Contaminated Sediments Technical Advisory Group, the Proposed Plan, and ROD implementation, including baseline sampling and remedial design.

WATER RIGHTS

IEc provided support to the Secretary of the Interior's Indian Water Rights Office for a study to identify the social, environmental, and economic benefits that occur as a result of the implementation of enacted Indian water rights settlements. IEc applied a case study method to focus on a range of settlements and to identify changes to community health, economic conditions, social and cultural well-being, and the ecosystem, both on- and off-reservation as a result of settlement. This effort included interviews with tribal representatives to inform our understanding of the timing and detail of settlement actions and associated outcomes.

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES ANALYSES

For the Umatilla Tribe, IEc evaluated economic benefits and ecosystem services provided by the Columbia

River Water Exchange project designed to restore instream flows in the Walla Walla River to levels sufficient to recover and sustain a viable population of Chinook salmon and other native fish.

IEc's analysis monetized ecosystem service benefits where feasible, but also qualitatively addressed religious, cultural, and intrinsic values.

OIL DEVELOPMENT ANALYSES

For the Mi'gmaq First Nations, IEc provided technical review of and comments on TransCanada's application to construct and operate an oil pipeline in New Brunswick, Canada, and BP's application for exploration drilling in the Scotian Basin, Canada. Our reviews included evaluation of the applicants' spill forecasting and modeling, environmental protection plans, and emergency response plans. Our comments focused on potential project impacts on the treaty-protected marine resources of Mi'gmaq First Nations and the adequacy of the applicant's analyses and proposed mitigation measures.