

# Swept Away: Safeguarding Tribal Cultural Heritage from the Impacts of Climate Change

An ELI Public Webinar

Dozens of tribes are finding their cultural heritage threatened by the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, coastal erosion, hurricanes, floods, melting permafrost, drought, shifting climate patterns, and more.

In light of these challenges, tribes are pressed to preserve their cultural heritage, including moving community infrastructure and recording resources before they disappear, safeguarding archeological and culturally significant sites, completing climate vulnerability assessments, and other time- and cost-intensive measures. However, tribes are facing logistical and funding challenges especially as they attempt to implement recommendations of vulnerability assessments.

What are the leading efforts and tools to preserve tribal cultural heritage threatened by climate change? What role can technology play in preserving tribal cultural heritage? How are tribes overcoming logistical and financial challenges to safeguarding their cultural heritage from climate change? Join the Environmental Law Institute and expert panelists as they explore efforts underway to save critical tribal cultural resources threatened by the impacts of climate change.

## Panelists:

[Cynthia R. Harris](#), Director, Tribal Programs; Deputy Director, Center for State, Tribal, and Local Environmental Programming; and Staff Attorney, Environmental Law Institute, *Moderator*

[Shasta Gaughen](#), Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Pala Band of Mission Indians (*invited*)

**Naomi Brandenfels**, Archaeologist, Quinault Indian Nation (*invited*)

[James Rattling Leaf, Sr.](#), Coordinator of Climate Partnerships, Great Plains Tribal Water Alliance and Principal, Rattling Leaf Consulting LLC (*invited*)

[Julianne Polanco](#), State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks (*invited*)

## When:

October 21, 2020  
12:00PM –1:30 PM

## Where:

Webinar only

## RSVP:

October 19, 2020

Webinar information will be emailed one business day prior to the event.