

# 2016 3rd Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016  
Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino



*National Tribal Emergency Management Council (NTEMC) in Partnership with*

Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council  
Montana Indian Nation Working Group  
United Tribes of Michigan  
Alaska Inter-Tribal Council  
Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona  
Inter-Tribal Long Term Recovery Foundation  
National Joint Powers Alliance

## **Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Early bird registration

## **Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. A Buffet Style Breakfast will be served for all attendees in the Blue Oak Conference Center

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration will remain open all day

### **BLUE OAK CONFERENCE CENTER**

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

- ▲ Tribal Welcome – Rojelio Morales, Tribal Director Intern of Marketing/Entertainment and Willie Barrios, General Manager of the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino
- ▲ Opening Drum – Tachi Drummer will play an Honor Song for the Honor Guard and Presenting the Colors
- ▲ Present the Colors
- ▲ Opening Prayer – Mike Sisco

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. “Welcome to the 3rd Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference” – Richard D. Broncheau (Nez Perce Tribe - Citizen), Chairman of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council (NTEMC)

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. “NTEMC Third Year in Review” – Lynda Zambrano, Executive Director of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Regional Tribal Presentations – “Montana Indian Nation Working Group (MINWG)”, Robert DesRosier, Chairman, “Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona”, Nathan Nixon, Training Coordinator, California Tribal Emergency Management Council, (CalTEMC) Alex Torres, Chairman, Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, Nikos Pastos, Board of Directors Consultant, the Inter-Tribal Long Term Recovery Foundation, Cruz Ponce, Executive Director, Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council, Claude Cox, Chairman of the NWTEMC

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Morning Break (coffee service and water)**

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- 10:30 am – 11:00 a.m. “EM Legislative Updates and effective communication with Washington D.C.” – Richard Flores, Director of Legislative Affairs and Tribal Relations
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. “Emergency Management in the Territory of Akwesasne, A Multi-Jurisdictional Response Effort” - Regina Jacobs, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and First Nations, New York and Canada, Emergency Management Measures Officer
- 11:30 am – 12:00 p.m. “To be a Grantee or Not: The Pros and Cons and Lessons learned in the Missouri River Flood of 2011” – Carroll Webster, Emergency Management Director, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch is on your own today. Please feel free to try one of the many wonderful eating establishments that Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino has ready for you:**

## Let Your Appetite Roam



Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino houses many restaurants and lounges perfectly suited for any occasion or appetite. At the top of the list is Pork Chop Hill Buffet, located on the 3rd floor of the Casino of the moon. Our buffet offers over 60 delicious items to choose from daily, including: Salad/Soup/Shrimp bar, Asian Cuisine, Authentic Mexican Specialties, Local/Seasonal Favorites, Italian/Gourmet Pizza and Pastas, Omelets and Desserts. Pork Chop Hill features a minimum of 6 live cooking stations such as: live action Wok featuring our Chefs creating Asian Delights, made to order Sauteed Pastas and Entrees Gourmet and Specialty Pizza, Two Carving Stations and a Dessert Bar.

**Dining Options at Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino include:**

- ❖ *Koy' Wae' Lounge*
- ❖ *Coyote Grille*
- ❖ *The Coffee Stop*
- ❖ *Rez Dogs On the Go*
- ❖ *The Sunset Lounge*
- ❖ *Pizza Hut Express*
- ❖ *Featuring the special culinary talents of Chef Cesar*

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1:00 – 1:50 “California Office Of Emergency Services (CAL OES) – Office of Tribal Coordination – Bridging the Gap” – Denise Shemenski, Cal OES Tribal Advisor

2:00 – 2:50 “Washington State National Guard” – Laura Lowe, Captain, WAARNG, Liaison Officer, National Guard-Homeland Response Force (HRF) Outreach Team (FEMA Region X)

3:00 – 6:00



## SALT GRASS CONFERENCE CENTER

“FirstNet Unscripted” Please join us for an open discussion about the federal FirstNet network, a multi-billion dollar public safety cellular network with Adam Geisler, regional tribal government liaison—West (reg. IX-X), Margaret Muir, regional tribal government liaison—East (reg. I-VIII), Carl Rebstock, national tribal government liaison accompanied by past and present Tribal Working Group delegates, federal agency partners, and area state single points of contact (SPOCs).

## OFFSITE FIELD TRIP

5:00 – 6:00 This one hour slot has been reserved for those that would like to take a live tour of the National Weather Service facility located within twenty minutes of the beautiful Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino. Transportation will be provided and will leave from the main lobby of the hotel.

## BLUE OAK CONFERENCE CENTER

**5:00 p.m. Doors will open for Pre-Dinner Social Hour**

**5:30 p.m. No Host Bar will be open for purchase of adult beverages**

**6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Dinner and Tachi-Yokut Tribe Cultural Event**

Dinner will be provided on the evening of Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016, hosted by the National Tribal Emergency Management Council. Cultural Event featuring the beautiful Tachi HOOPS Youth Council Traditional Dancers will begin shortly after dinner is served.

Please join us in the Blue Oak Conference Center for a great evening of networking opportunities and a chance to make new friends. We will begin the evening with a dinner service at 6:30 p.m. We would like to have everyone seated by 6:45. Dinner will be followed by a special Networking Social and Silent Auction for ALL Conference Attendees. There will be an item for everyone to bid on. All proceeds go towards supporting this annual event.

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Tribal Public Safety Innovations



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### WHY JOIN THE NORTHWEST TRIBAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL....HERE ARE THREE MAIN REASONS WHY!

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There are three main areas that separate the Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council and the National Tribal Emergency Management Council from all other EM/HLS groups out there:

The NWTEMC-NTEMC remains committed to Sovereign Immunity, assisting our Tribal partners with building infrastructure and internal capacity. There are many groups out there that want to come into the Tribe and be the Incident Commanders, the Incident Management Team, and the First Responders. We want to continue to help our Tribal Nations remain in the driver's seat of their own incidents, and the best way that we can assure this is to continue our work in the areas of sharing information, training, skill sets, resources and best practices.

We believe that Public Safety and Public Health are Trust Responsibilities of the Federal Government, and therefore, do not charge dues or membership fees to be a part of our organization.

Although this makes sustainability difficult at times, we do not believe that our Tribal Nations should have to pay for what the Federal, State and Local Partners are receiving in the way of grants and technical assistance. Therefore, we continue to work hard on bringing grant dollars into the individual Tribal Nations, training opportunities to our Tribal Lands, and Technical Assistance to Indian Country that continues to help build our emergency management and homeland security programs, free of charge.

We are not a response organization. We believe very strongly in our mission:

To provide guidance and tools for member tribes to develop sustainable and all-hazard approaches to Emergency Management and Homeland Security, through an approach that emphasizes both inter and intra jurisdictional cooperation to maximize resources in mutual aid, training, exercises, planning, and equipping by sharing information and best practices.

Because we are a very small non-profit, we have relied heavily on consortium grants, specific contract work that is provided at severely discounted rates for our member Tribes and the private sector. This year, the NWTEMC has partnered with the [National Joint Powers Alliance®](#), a national municipal contracting agency committed to serving our Members purchasing needs. We are both driven to provide efficient public service through contract purchasing solutions and other related programs. We are only able to do this as we work together, creating a unified purchasing alliance that is valued by both NJPA and the NWTEMC-NTEMC. We will now have access to more than 160 companies that have been vetted through this partnership.



Proud to be Partners with





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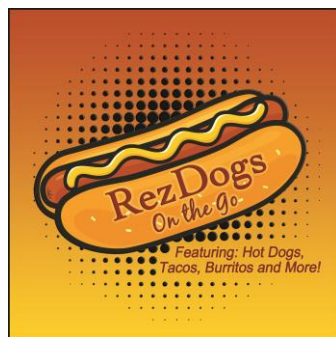
September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

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**Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**

## **GENERAL SESSIONS in the EVENT CENTER**

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. LISTENING SESSION: Did you know that FEMA is in the process of updating the Tribal Policy? Join us for this wonderful opportunity to have your voice heard! Facilitated by Milo Booth, National Tribal Affairs Advisor and Margeau Valteau, FEMA Headquarters
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Milo Booth, National Tribal Affairs Advisor, DHS, FEMA, Office of External Affairs, Intergovernmental Affairs Division
- 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. “National Exercise Program” - David “Mo” Demorat, Chief, State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Activities Section, National Exercise Division at FEMA, FEMA Headquarters
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. BREAK
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. “American Indian Records Repository” - Michael Choate – Office of External Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. “The Department of Transportation’s Hazmat Planning and Training Funding Opportunities for Tribes” – Bonita Brown, MBA, PHMSA-Hazmat Grants, PHH-50, USDOT
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. “NFIRS-Fighting Fires with Facts” - Marion Long, United States Fire Administration
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch –Today is your lucky day! Visit our Information Kiosks, Vendors and Outdoor Displays. Collect ten signatures on your game card and your first RezDog is on us (FREE)!**



**Sponsored by the National Tribal Emergency Management Council, National Joint Powers Alliance, all of our wonderful Vendors and Sponsors of the Conference**

**1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Please see the following page for all of our breakout sessions scheduled for this afternoon and Friday.**

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## BREAKOUTS SESSIONS:

		Blue Oak Conference Center 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Salt Grass and Tule Rooms 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Sage and Laurel Rooms 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
<b>LUNCH</b>	Join	Us	For	Lunch
<b>1:00 – 1:50</b>		<p><b>“Federal Dispersion Modeling and Simulation Resources to Assist Tribal Emergency Managers in Haz Mat Planning, Exercise and Response”</b> – Director, Public Safety and Emergency Management Programs, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, IMAAC Outreach Program – Erik S. Gaull and Andy Grose</p>	<p><b>“FirstNet Casting a Wide Net: OneNet’s best-in-show tribal survey tool”</b> – Shelley Westall, Wash. OneNet, and Michael Gaffney, Washington State University</p> <p><b>Come complete your survey today!</b></p>	<p><b>“Upcoming Rail Regulations for Oil Spill Response Plans and Info Sharing for High-Hazard Flammable Trains”</b> – Victoria Lehman, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Hazmat Safety</p>
<b>2:00 – 2:50</b>		<p><b>“NTARA– National Tribal Amateur Radio Association (ESF 2) and NASSTPO- National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (ESF 10) - Updates from our NTARA President and NASSTPO National Tribal Representative”</b> – Nathan Nixon, NTARA President and Training Coordinator at the ITCA</p>	<p><b>“FirstNet’s Second Steps: Real world applications for tribal emergency response”</b> – William Anderson, Calif.; Trudy Skari, Mont.; Rita Mooney, Tex.; and Shelley Westall, Wash.; with Adam Geisler and Margaret Muir, regional Tribal government liaisons, facilitated by Carl Rebstock, National Tribal Government Liaison</p>	<p><b>“Introduction to CAMEO, a free software program for use with planning for Hazardous Materials.”</b> – Al Finkelstein and Elisa Roper, Tribal Liaison, FEMA Region IV</p>
<b>3:00 – 3:50</b>		<p><b>“Administration for Children and Family Services - IDCM”</b> – Stephen Miller and Wendi Ellis</p>	<p><b>“ICIN – Indian Country Intelligence Network”</b> – Chief Bradley Nathan Nixon, Training Coordinator, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona and</p>	
<b>4:00 – 4:50</b>		<p><b>“Burlington Northern Sante Fe Safety for Tribal Responders”</b> - Quanah Spencer, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway</p>	<p><b>“Join us for our First Tribal Coast to Coast Exercise”</b> - Jason Fenn, Steve Aberle and Nathan Nixon</p>	
<b>5:00 – 6:00</b>	<p><b>Take a live tour of the National Weather Service facility located within twenty minutes of the beautiful Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino. Transportation provided from the main lobby of the hotel. Shuttles will leave promptly at 5:00 pm.</b></p>			

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### **SPECIAL EVENTS THIS THURSDAY EVENING**

**5:00pm – 6:00pm COME MEET THE CHAIRMAN and Members of THE NWTEMC - NTEMC - This one hour slot has been reserved for those that would like to take few minutes to visit with our Chairman, Richard Broncheau, our Executive Board Members and Member Representatives. Come learn more about the National Joint Powers Alliance and the unique relationship that NWTEMC-NTEMC currently has with NJPA. Come find out why YOU should join the NTEMC today!**

### **9:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. Bring Your Dancing Shoes!**



**Don't Dance, that's ok! Just pull up a comfy chair and join us for an amazing evening of fun as we bring you the sounds of Tachi Palace's Live Band, the Red Bloods, located in the Sunset Lounge, across from the Coyote Grille.**

#### **A SPECIAL THANK YOU**

**We have so many people to thank, however, we would like to start by extending a special thank you to Lynda Zambrano, our Executive Director and Conference Planner, for 13 years of dedication and service to our Tribal Nations and her commitment to making sure we are to provide this conference each year.**

**A special thank you to Nathan Nixon for coordinating all of the Ham Radio training and events, all of our volunteers that traveled long distances and donated their time to assist with the Ham Radio Event Station and Steve Aberle, lead instructor and Tribal Liaison to our Ham Radio efforts. Thank you Bruce Williams-Burden, our documentary photographer that has donated his time and efforts to photographing our events over all of these years. A thank you to our wonderful hosts and of the staff at the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino. And our most special shout out to Alex Torres and Abby Hernandez, whom without their help, this conference would not have been possible.**

**Most importantly, we thank all of you, our attendees for sharing in our vision, our mission and our journey. We appreciate the presenters and their great presentations, the willingness to share knowledge and best practices and most importantly, the partnerships we develop as we all learn to move forward together.**

**Thank you AL**



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FRIDAY, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

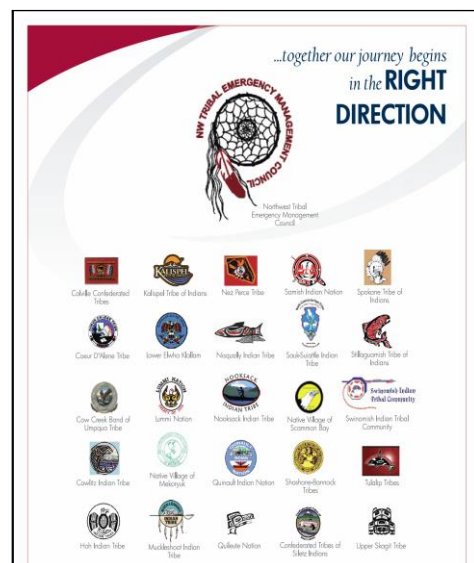
## BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

	Blue Oak Conference Center 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Salt Grass and Tule Rooms 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Sage and Laurel Rooms 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
9:00 – 10:50	<p><b>“National Weather Service – Resources Checklist for Emergency Management”</b> – Jerald Meadows, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, San Joaquin Valley, Hanford Weather Forecast Office</p>	<p><b>“Human Trafficking during Disasters”</b> –Sarah Johnston, Central Valley Against Human Trafficking Outreach Coordinator, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission</p>	<p><b>“FirstNet’s “Catch &amp; Release” Policies: Quality of Service, Priority, and Preemption (QPP)”</b> – Jennifer Harder, Ph.D., senior public safety technology planner</p>
11:00 – 11:50	<p><b>“Office of Emergency Communications-US Department of Homeland Security”</b> - James “Jim” Lundsted</p>	<p><b>“A Conversation: Increasing Tribal Human Services Preparedness”</b> - Suzanne Everson, Regional Emergency Management Specialist, Administration for Children and Families</p>	
LUNCH 12:00 – 1:30	<p><b>Boxed Lunches will be served for all</b></p>	<p><b>Enter Name in Raffle for Great Door Prizes</b></p>	<p><b>Raffle Prize Winner will be Announced</b></p>

**1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Please join us for Closing Ceremonies, great Door Prizes and the Grand Prize Raffle Drawing in the Blue Oak Conference Center.

*The National Tribal Emergency Management Council welcomes all of the conference sponsors, vendors, speakers, presenters and friends to our Emergency Management Family. Without your help and your support, this event would not have been possible. With sincerest gratitude for what you do, we thank each of you. We invite you to join us for years to come and look forward to our ongoing efforts in Indian Country.*

*Board of Directors  
NWTEMC - NTEMC*



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## 2013 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Public Health Emergency Preparedness Conference



# Biographies

### Northwest and National Tribal Emergency Management Board and Staff

#### Claude L. Cox (Spokane Tribe), Chairman

Claude Cox has served as the Chairman of the Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council (NWTEMC) since 2008, a consortium of more than 140 Tribal Nations throughout Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Alaska. Mr. Cox has appointed an interim Chairman of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council (NTEMC). Mr. Cox is currently the Director of Security for a private corporation working on an EPA Clean Up Site. Prior to his current position, he was the Chief of Police for the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe. He previously served as the Chairman of the Spokane Tribal Enterprise Corporation and the Tasha Director for the Spokane Tribe. Claude has been responsible for law enforcement, emergency management, risk management, benefits management, safety lost control, and corporate operations. Prior to his current role, he had served as a Disaster Assistance Employee to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and was President of the Washington Counties Risk Pool and Risk Manager for the Spokane County Safety Department. Claude Cox is a proud enrolled member of the Spokane Tribe.

#### Del Ostenberg, Vice Chairman

Del Ostenberg currently serves as the Vice Chairman of the NWTEMC-NTEMC. He is also the Risk Management Safety and Compliance Officer/Emergency Manager for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation. Del worked for the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs for 34 years. During that time Del worked in Fire Control, Forestry and Fire Management. The last 16 years have been in Fire Management as a Training Officer. Del is a Fire Management Training Officer, training and assisting instruction of ICS thru 400 levels (National Multi-Agency Coordination Group), Fire Investigation and various safety classes. Del was part of the team that developed the National Incident Qualification System computer program for all risk at the National Interagency Fire Center. Del is qualified in the following wild land fire positions: Fire Fighter, Crew boss, Dozer boss, Engine Boss, Strike Team dozer-engine-crew, Task Force Leader, Division Group Supervisor, Incident Commander (Type 3, 4, 5), Fire Investigator type I, II and III, Safety Officer Type II, III, IV and V. Del has worked with several Prevention and Type I and II IMTs, both on and off the reservation, from Alaska to Florida. Del is also an EMT, part of the CISM Debriefing team, and member of the Search & Rescue team 35 years. Del has been a part of the Safety Committee, Chairman for the Mount Tolman Complex Safety committee and Chairman for CCT Safety Committee. Del helped to develop the CEMP for the Colville Indian Reservation, as well as several associated EM plans.

#### Jim Sande, Treasurer

Jim Sande currently serves as the Treasurer of the NWTEMC. Jim Sande has established a career with the Swinomish Tribe for the past 17 years. He is currently the Emergency Manager for the Tribe. His prior experience includes 14 years as a police officer and sergeant with the Swinomish Police Department. Jim is credentialed as a CEM by IAEM. He holds an ABCP certification with DRI International. His experience includes: ICS and CERT instruction; major disaster declaration recovery efforts; grants management; comprehensive emergency management planning; and NIMS implementation. Jim is a firm believer in leveraging partnerships and developing relationships among emergency management partners.

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September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

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### **Carl F. Rebstock**

Carl F. Rebstock, serves as the founding Secretary of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council (NTEMC) and the Second Secretary of the Northwest Tribal Emergency Management Council (NWTEMC). Both the NTEMC and the NWTEMC are a 501(c)(3) public benefit non-profit corporations that exist to enhance the preparedness and resiliency of American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages (AI/AN). The NWTEMC has advanced the needs of all 272 AI/AN throughout the four northwestern states that comprise FEMA Region X since its inception in 2004. It is the largest regional tribal emergency management organization in the nation organized by and for the tribes and the first of its kind. The NTEMC was established in 2011 to support all 567 American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages (AI/AN) throughout the United States of America. It is the first and only nonprofit tribal emergency management organization organized by and for the tribes in the Nation. He serves as the NWTEMC delegate to the Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and the Center of Excellence (CoE) – Homeland Security at Pierce College.

Colonel Rebstock recently retired as an emergency medical planner and aero-medical evacuation pilot from the United States Army Reserve after 30 years of military service. His most recent duty assignment was as the Director of the Puget Sound Federal Coordinating Center (FCC). He was responsible for overseeing the reception of patients in the Pacific Northwest following disastrous events anywhere in the world as a member of the Department of Defense (DoD) executive team for the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). Prior to this assignment, he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations for Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC) – a 205-bed, 4,000-employee hospital – and the then six-state Western Regional Medical Command (WRMC). He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College and holds a master's degree in oceanography from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He is the founding executive director of Passionfish, a nonprofit project founded in 2000 that promotes science-based, multi-stakeholder solutions to sustainable fisheries.

### **Glenn Zaring**

Glenn C. Zaring has spent the last seven years as Director for the Office of Public Affairs for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians creating a functioning Information Office handling tribal communications and public affairs.

As part of his duties, he has headed up the Emergency Management efforts at the tribe where they have created a Tribal Emergency Response Team, an Incident Command Team, a CERT unit and a functioning Emergency Operations Center (backup to the County EOC).

Zaring has helped LRBOI to become NIMS compliant and to establish approved All Hazards Plans, Mitigation Plans and COOP. The tribal government has MOU's in place with the State and County for Emergency Management and is a signatory to MEMAC. The LRBOI team is a participating partner in Region 7 activities and holds a seat on the Regional Planning Team. Zaring is also the elected secretary to the Manistee County LPT and LEPC.

Zaring is a professional Public Information Officer who over his career served in the USAF in West Berlin, Germany with the Security Police and then AFTV. He has been a news broadcaster (TV and Radio), editorial columnist and Associate Professor of Business. For three years he was a speaker with the American Security Council dealing with US/Soviet issues. He sits on a number of non-profit boards in the Midwest. His wife of 29 years, Catherine, is Mayor-Pro Tem for the City of Manistee.

### **Adam Geisler**

Adam Geisler (*La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians*) is also the elected tribal council secretary for the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians (Calif.), vice chairman of the Inter-Tribal Long-Term Recovery Foundation, and a contributor to *The Red Guide to Recovery*.

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### **Robert DesRosier**

Robert DesRosier is employed at the Blackfeet Tribal Nation in Browning, Montana as the Director of Homeland Security and Disaster and Emergency Services, a position that he has held for the past 10 years. Robert has served the public with 15 years in Law Enforcement, 30 years as a fireman and 8 years as an EMT. Robert is the Chairman of the Montana Indian Nations Working Group, an organization of all seven Indian Nations emergency managers and Tribal Homeland Security personnel. He also serves on the executive board for FEMA region 8 RISC (Regional Interagency Steering Committee) and the Executive Board of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council.

### **Dale Nelson**

Vietnam Veteran US Navy, Trained in shipboard firefighting and damage control.

Worked in the petroleum industry for 31 years, helped develop, and train the first emergency response teams at the oil refinery I worked at. Team Captain and Safety Officer for 12 years. Trained as a medic first aid and CPR instructor, industrial fire fighter, as well as HAZWOPER, and HAZMAT response. Tribal Disaster Emergency Services Coordinator for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Co-chair with the Lake Co. Office of Emergency Management, the local TERC/LEPC. Co-chair with the tribes Safety Officer the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes Safety Committee. Represent the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes at the Montana Indian Nations Working Group meetings. Represent the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes at the Montana State Association of Disaster Emergency Services Coordinators meetings.

Appointed by The Montana State Governor to represent The Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, along with all the other Montana Tribal Nations at the quarterly meetings of the Montana State Emergency Response Commission.

### **Ken Choke**

Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, Ken Choke is an Enrolled Member of the Nisqually Tribe and has lived there some 20 plus years. Ken began his career in Emergency Management as a Law Enforcement Officer (Fish and Wildlife) and established the Department 2 plus years ago through the request of the Chief of Police, Tribal Council and General Council. The first major incident Ken was involved with was the Nisqually Earthquake while working for the Fish Hatchery. Since then Ken has dealt with several incidents to include a major wind storm that caused debris on the roadway and knocked out the power to the reservation. Ken was responsible for helping to develop a CERT team to assist in major events and with the wind storm, the CERT helped remove the debris so that Power could be restored to the Reservation and the surrounding areas. Ken helped develop the plans for the Youth/Emergency Center in the event of an Emergency as well the Tribes Emergency plans. The first activation of the Youth/Emergency Center was the MLK winter storm of 2012 which provided services for the Tribal Community and the surrounding areas as well assisted the American Red Cross with their requests for food for local shelters. With the help of the Emergency Management Team, Ken implemented the ICS structure to assist the Tribe with its first co-host of the Tribal Canoe Journey 2012 Paddle to Squaxin. Ken is currently the Tribe's liaison for membership in the NWTEMC and the Washington State Lead for the National Tribal Emergency Management Council.

### **James Akerelrea**

James Akerelrea served in the Army National Guard for 13 years as a finance Specialist, have a degree in humanities, concentrating in economic, minor in psychology and sociology. James is also currently on Tribal Council for the Scammon Bay Tribe, Tribal Judge, Scammon Bay's appointee to the NWTEMC and Alaska State Lead for the National Tribal Emergency Management Council.

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### **Rod Mendes**

Director Rod Mendes leads the Office of Emergency Services for the Hoopa Valley Tribe on the Hoopa Indian Reservation in Northern California, and is in his 45th. year of emergency services. Director Mendes is Karuk Indian through his Mother's side of the family. Mister Mendes has a very diverse career path in Emergency Management with a focus on Fire Department Operations.

Director Mendes started his fire career path in crash crew in 1970 with the United States Marine Corps, being honorably discharged in 1974 as a Sergeant. Continuing his career path on emergency services working for the Department of Defense, the City of San Leandro CA, Hoopa Fire Department and US Forest Service before returning back to Hoopa to take the reins as the Director of the Office of Emergency Services for the Hoopa Valley Tribe.

Director Mendes is instrumental in taking the lead in many aspects of Tribal Emergency Management in Indian Country, as well as being responsible for the development of the Hoopa Tribe's emergency preparedness, response, and recovery program. Director Mendes is always willing to work with and provide assistance to other Tribal Emergency Managers and Tribal Emergency Services programs to help define opportunities for collaboration and partnering with Local, State and Federal Agencies. With an emphasis on seeking parity for Tribes and Tribal programs throughout Indian Country

### **Thomas W. Weissmuller**

Thomas W. Weissmuller is an Indian law and policy consultant, attorney, mediator, and frequent presenter / lecturer. Tom has always maintained a strong interest in public safety in his personal life and professional career. He is recognized as a tribal justice / public safety expert for various entities, including several divisions of the federal government. An adopted member of the Tlinget Tribe of Alaska under the Dalton family of the Dak dien tan, Tom grew up in Southeastern Connecticut and Southern Rhode Island where he could be found shadowing his father, a forty year firefighter and recipient of the A. E. Hertzler Knox Award for Excellence of Contributions to EMS Services. Tom accepted that award on behalf of his father, Walter T. Weissmuller but also received personal awards for Exceptional Service in the Public Interest from the FBI and the Alumni of Distinction award for career recognition from his Alma mater. Tom is an alumnus of the University of Rhode Island, Washington University School of Law, and The National Judicial College at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Tom worked in several Seattle area firms prior to opening his private practice. His firm, Weissmuller and Associates, offered a range of legal services to clients in Washington, and provided consulting services to tribal justice initiatives throughout the United States. Since retiring from the bench, Tom has maintained a quiet personal practice as well as a fairly active supporting role in developing commercial ventures in Indian country. His personal areas of practice include business, criminal, Indian, domestic, trust, and estate litigation / mediation / arbitration. He has long been a presenter on Indian law and policy.

Judicial Service: After receiving his initial judicial appointment in 1996, Judge Weissmuller was named Chief Judge of the Swinomish and Tulalip reservations in 1998 to assist with court administration, on-call services, and rule making. After seeing the Tulalip court through retrocession, Tom assumed the role of Chief Judge on the Mashantucket reservation in Connecticut where he served from 2005 - 2011. He implemented varying yet comprehensive case management reforms in each community. These have generally included "fast track" docketing, alternative (civil) dispute resolution, telephonic warrant procurement, pre-trial probation services, and alternative sentencing. Judge Weissmuller has sought to enhance court processes and security through technical improvements such as case management software, digital imaging, digital audio recording, and digital surveillance retention. In addition to case management, Judge Weissmuller presided over high volume civil and criminal dockets and has issued many published legal decisions significant to Indian country. He has resolved hundreds of cases by rendering a judicial decision and hundreds more via mediation. From 2005 - 2011, he presided over the Mashantucket Pequot Court and handled the majority of matters involving the Foxwoods Casino.



## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Lynda Zambrano**

Lynda Zambrano currently serves as the Executive Director of the NWTEMC and Deputy Director of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council. Lynda began her career in law enforcement 20 years ago, working with Federal, State, Local and Tribal governments. Lynda has also served as Health Director for several Tribal Nations, which has given her a unique perspective to bring together many different disciplines to work together in emergency management. Lynda has an extensive background in finance, contracts management and audit compliance work. Lynda is a grants writer, assisting with securing more than one hundred grants and several million dollars for Tribal Nations in the State of Washington. Lynda has received recognition for her work in Indian Country from the Federal Emergency Management Association, US Department of Homeland Security and US Bureau of Indian Affairs. Most recently, Lynda was inducted into the International Association of Women in Emergency Management's Hall of Fame. Lynda is the proud wife of Richard Zambrano, whom is a member of the Snoqualmie Tribe, and mother of three.

### **Richard Broncheau**

Mr. Broncheau currently serves as the Acting Chairman of the NTEMC. Richard moved home to the Nez Perce Reservation shortly after graduation from the University of Washington in June 1993. Since November 1993, Mr. Broncheau has worked for the Nez Perce Tribe (NPT) in a number of positions related to education, employment, training and emergency management. His previous position as Emergency Management Coordinator utilized all of his education and employment skills including: 18 years in the Service Industry (i.e. restaurants); 8 years in Post-Secondary Education (i.e. college); 17 years work with the NPT. Mr. Broncheau purchased radios and other equipment for the Tribal Police and Fire Management Programs (THSGP 2009). He rolled out a Community Preparedness program for the Nez Perce Tribe (THSGP 2010). And in October, 2012 he coordinated the installation of three large generators to enhance the Nez Perce community preparedness and response capability.(THSGP 2012).

### **Richard Flores**

Richard Flores currently serves as the Special Advisor for National Tribal Affairs. Richard has also served as Tribal Liaison on several National Declarations of Disaster. Richard has been an instructor with the Emergency Management Institute located in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

### **Walt Lamar**

Walter Lamar has thirty-years of specialized law enforcement and security experience having served as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs-Office of Law Enforcement Services, Senior Advisor to the Director of the Department of the Interior-Office of Law Enforcement and Security, and President/CEO of Lamar Associates. Walter is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation of Montana and a descendant of the Wichita Tribe of Oklahoma, and was raised on the Blackfeet, Wind River, Jicarilla Apache and Navajo Reservations, in addition to Oklahoma Indian Country. As a Special Weapons and Tactics Operator with the FBI in San Francisco and Oklahoma City Divisions, he responded to incidents which included the Los Angeles Rodney King Riots, the Branch Davidian standoff at Waco and the bombing of the A.P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City. Walter founded and supervised the Oklahoma City Violent Crimes Task Force, was a member of the FBI Speakers Bureau, an FBI Special Agenda Recruiter, an FBI spokesperson and a member of the FBI Director's Native American Board of Advisors. He appeared on the America's Most Wanted and Unsolved Mysteries television programs and is prominently featured in John Walsh's book entitled, No Mercy. Walter was twice awarded the FBI Shield of Bravery, and is one of only two agents in the history of the FBI to receive the prestigious medal. His parents are the late Newton Lamar (Wichita), a nationally recognized tribal leader, and Catherine Gobert Lamar (Blackfeet), a retired Bureau of Indian Affairs department head. Walter is married to Dr. Cynthia Chavez Lamar (San Felipe Pueblo, Hopi, Navajo and Tewa), Director of the Indian Arts and Research Center at the School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM.

## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Instructor and Speaker Biographies**

#### **Ms. Regina Jacobs**

Ms. Jacobs is a registered First Nation member of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA – Canada) & the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT- Unites States). The Mohawks of Akwesasne are part of the Iroquois Confederacy and its community lies on the border of both Canada (Quebec & Ontario) and the United States (New York State). Ms. Jacobs began her career in Emergency Management in 2004 as a hobby and it bloomed into a career after meeting her predecessor, Mr. Lawrence “Larry” White who was the Emergency Manager for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne for 18 years. Mr. White retired from MCA in 2010 and Ms. Jacobs became his successor that same year. She currently chairs the Akwesasne & Local Emergency Planning Committee (ALECP) and sits on the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Standards and Practices committee – representing First Nations. She is also a co-researcher/ consultant for the Applied Research in Environmental Sciences Non-Profit, Inc. (ARIES) which is organized and operated for charitable, scientific, and educational purposes. ARIES is a research association in which multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary projects such as USC Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE) whose mission is to improve the Nation's security through the development of advanced models and tools for the evaluation of the risks, costs and consequences of terrorism and to guide economically viable investments in homeland security. Ms. Jacobs is also the current Chair of the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Commission. However, she shares all of her success with the MCA's Chief and Council who are strong supporters of Emergency Management in Akwesasne as it addresses the various obstacles with being a multi-jurisdictional community.

#### **Carroll “Nunie” Webster, Jr.**

Carroll “Nunie” Webster, Jr., Emergency Management Director, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska  
Carroll has served as the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska's Emergency Management Director from June of 2011 – February 2013, and from January 2015 – Current.

Carroll is a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, and has over 20 years of executive leadership experience, sixteen years military service( 4 regular Army, 12 National Guard), and holds an MBA Degree, MSA Certification, and numerous other emergency management and health and safety certifications.

Carroll entered the emergency management field in the wake of an impending disaster. In June 2011, in response to the imminent threat of the 2011 Missouri River Flood, the Omaha Tribal Council reassigned Carroll, a trained Emergency Manager, from their Health Center CEO position and tasked him with developing and implementing an emergency response plan for the imminent flood event. In addition to preparing the Omaha Tribes emergency response plan, Carroll successfully completed all the required documents for the Omaha Tribe to become a federal grantee with FEMA during this declared disaster. On September 16, 2011, the Omaha Tribe officially became a Federal Grantee with FEMA. As a Federal Grantee, the Omaha Tribe received over 16 million dollars in Public Assistance for 97 projects, over 3 million dollars in Mitigation Funding, and over 500 thousand in Administrative Funds.

#### **Chief Francis E. Bradley Sr**

Chief Francis E. Bradley Sr. has over 30 years of Law Enforcement experience. Chief Bradley started his career with the Navajo Police Department as a patrol officer and worked his way up through the ranks to the rank of Captain and acting Chief of Police. In 2001, Chief Bradley accepted the position with the Hualapai Tribe as the Tribes first Chief of Police. Chief Bradley is involved with many committees and organizations, most notably as the President of the Indian Country Intelligence Network (ICIN) and the FBI Indian Country UCR Committee.

## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Denise M. Shemenski**

Ms. Shemenski has a combination of 20+ years' experience in Emergency Management and Operations as a Firefighter/Fire Dispatcher. She has served as a Tribal Advocate, Tribal Liaison and now as the Tribal Advisor for the Office of Tribal Coordination, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).

Ms. Shemenski came to Cal OES to begin her career in Emergency Management in 1999. She has worked in the Fire and Rescue Branch, State Warning Center, Executive Office (State Operations) and the Law Enforcement Division, where she was the Emergency Service Coordinator for the State Committee on Terrorism and the Blue Ribbon Fire Commission (2003 Fire Siege in Southern California).

Ms. Shemenski moved to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) as the Lead Exercise Coordinator for State Agencies for the CA Statewide Exercise, Golden Guardian. Ms. Shemenski acquired the training and credentials at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute for her Master Exercise Practitioner Certification and continued as an Exercise Coordinator and Tribal Advocate. In 2009, Cal OES and OHS merged together after which, Ms. Shemenski became the Tribal Advisor for the Office of Tribal Coordination.

Ms. Shemenski's primary role is to improve and maintain communication and collaboration between Governor's Office of Emergency Services and all Native American Tribes in California. The office goal is to educate internal and external partners to become informed about the cultural settings of California Native Americans, their emergency management and homeland security issues and cultural sensitivities, for the purpose of improving Cal OES's understanding of all Native American Tribes in California.

### **Milo Booth, National Tribal Affairs Advisor**

As the National Tribal Affairs Advisor (NTAA) Milo works closely with FEMA programs to ensure visibility of tribal concerns and is a direct partner with national associations that represent tribal interests. As the NTAA, he provides guidance to FEMA regarding impacts of current and proposed policies and actions that may affect tribes and helps to ensure that real and meaningful engagement takes place with tribes as FEMA works to implement its new Tribal Consultation Policy. He also supports the Regional Tribal Liaisons in strengthening their relationship with tribes, and works with tribes to improve their capabilities to effectively prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against the impacts of disasters.

Prior to joining FEMA Mr. Booth served as a Realty Specialist for the U.S. Forest Service's Lands and Realty Management program, where he helped carry out the program's mission of securing and protecting the public's rights, title, value, and interests in its national forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. He served as Tribal Liaison, working regularly with tribal leaders, the USDA's Office of Tribal Relations and the Forest Service Office of Tribal Relations.

Mr. Booth has over 20 years of experience working with tribal, state, and federal agencies on land management and energy resource development issues. He is a Tsimpshian, Raven Clan and a member of the Metlakatla Indian Community, where he served his community as Director of Forestry and Land Resource. As Director, he oversaw and directed the management of forested land holdings; ensured tribal activities were in compliance with the National Environmental Preservation Act; conducted business development activities for the Tribe; and strengthened relationships between the tribe and federal agencies.

Mr. Booth holds a BS in Forestry with an option in Economics from Oregon State University

## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Margaret Muhr**

Margaret Muhr (*Citizen Potawatomi*) was the director of emergency services for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (Calif.). She is the first Native American graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School's (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense & Security program and was an instructor for FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) tribal curriculum.

### **Michael J. Choate**

Michael J. Choate is the Program Analyst at the Department of the Interior's Office of Trust Records, American Indian Records Repository in Lenexa, KS. He also serves as the AIRR's Safety & Security Officer and coordinates with Homeland Security and Federal Protective Services to ensure the safety and security of staff and visitors at the AIRR. Mr. Choate is a veteran of the United States Air Force where he served in the Security Forces. He graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 1995 with a BA in History and his teaching certificate. Since then he has been employed by the State of Iowa as an Education Counselor, a Higher Education Specialist for the Meskwaki Tribe in Iowa, the Director of the Life Options Program for the Des Moines Public Schools and the Native American Liaison for the United States Geological Surveys Central Region. In 2006 he was hired at the American Indian Records Repository. Michael is a member of the Fond du Lac Band of Minnesota Chippewa (Ojibwe).

### **David "Mo" DeMorat**

Mo DeMorat is the section chief for the State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Activities (SLTT) section of the National Exercise Division. In this capacity, Mo is responsible for soliciting SLTT exercises into the National Exercise Program and providing exercise support requirements for SLTT communities. Two of the primary goals for the SLTT section are to increase whole community participation in the SLTT exercises that the section supports and increase engagement of traditionally under-served communities for their participation in exercises, to include tribal communities. Prior to coming to NED in 2014, Mo served in the National Preparedness Assessment Division (NPAD) as the program manager for FEMA's Lessons Learned and Continuous Improvement Program (LL/CIP) from 2011 to 2014. While with NPAD, Mo supported numerous data collection and analysis deployments at disaster sites, including the Joplin, MO, tornado, Hurricane Isaac (Baton Rouge, LA), and the Colorado floods (2013). Mo also deployed to the Joint Field Officers (JFOs) in Harrisburg, PA, in support of Hurricane Irene, and Queens, NY, in support of Hurricane Sandy.

Prior to joining FEMA in 2011, Mo served 23+ years on active duty in the United States Marine Corps. A Marine aviator, Mo completed numerous deployments and spent the majority of his career in operations, training, and evaluation. Mo's last duty assignment was at the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) where he worked in the Joint Training and Exercise Directorate (J7) as manager of the lessons learned program. Mo supported the major exercises at these commands, primarily in the data collection and analysis function.

Mo completed his undergraduate degree in Operations Management from Pennsylvania State University, graduating in 1987, and obtained his Masters in Business Administration from Webster University in 1996.

### **Victoria Lehman**

Victoria Lehman is a Regulations Specialist with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. In this role she develops rulemakings for the safe transportation of hazardous materials by highway, rail, air, and vessel. She also works to improve public understanding and access to the hazmat regulations, and ensure they are represented in the rulemaking process.

## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

Victoria has supported PHMSA in different roles for the past 7 years. She earned a B.A. in Environmental Studies from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and an M.L.S. from the University of Maryland, College Park.

### **Andy Grose, Ph.D.**

Andy Grose is a Physical Scientist at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) in Fort Belvoir, VA. In that capacity, he is the Contracting Officer's Representative for the Technical Reachback contract, supervising a group of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high explosive (CBRNE)-trained contractors that work 24/7/365 performing hazard prediction modeling in support of DoD, government, and state/local/territorial/tribal customers. He has overseen the growth of the Technical Reachback effort from a team of about 15 to now 45 CBRNE analysts, supporting an ever-increasing list of customers both inside and outside the DoD. He provides quality control for request for information (RFI) modeling products prior to release to DTRA customers, that have numbered more than 2,000 per year in recent years as the mission has grown.

He is DTRA's primary representative to the FEMA-led Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC) and leads DTRA's effort as the IMAAC Technical Operations Hub. He oversaw the transition of the Technical Operations Hub to DTRA in 2012 through an interagency agreement between DTRA and FEMA, with DTRA taking on responsibility for responding to urgent requests for hazard modeling support 24/7. Since 2007, he has worked with the IMAAC community, including DHS/FEMA, NOAA, DOE, EPA, NRC, and HHS to carry out the IMAAC mission of producing modeling products that represent the Federal position during actual or potential incidents involving hazardous atmospheric releases. He works with the Federal interagency during major exercises to develop proper cooperation and coordination procedures between agencies to ensure the best hazard model output is produced and distributed to IMAAC customers. Andy is also the primary DTRA POC to the Secret Service-led Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC). During National Special Security Events (NSSEs) in the National Capital Region, he coordinates DTRA subject matter experts to work shifts at the MACC to both relay information instantly back to DTRA for hazard modeling purposes and to provide and interpret modeling results with more than 30 agencies represented at the MACC.

Prior to his work as a civilian with DTRA, Andy was himself a Technical Reachback analyst at the inception of the 24/7 DTRA Technical Reachback effort. From 2003 to 2007, he worked shifts as the staff meteorologist and produced thousands of RFI modeling products. In this role, he helped refine and develop the modeling products to better assist customers, helped to train incoming analysts, answered modeling software support questions, and assisted in testing and analyzing hazard prediction software to improve their capabilities.

Andy earned a B.S. in Atmospheric Science from the University of North Dakota, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in meteorology from Florida State University. Andy and his family live in Fredericksburg, VA.

### **Jerald Meadows**

Jerald Meadows is the Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) for the National Weather Service (NWS) Forecast Office in Hanford, CA. The WCM manages the outreach and education programs for the forecast office, acts as the primary PIO for the office, and is the leader of Impact based Decision Support Services (IDSS). To conduct effective IDSS and to meet the mission of protecting life and property, WCMs like Jerald, must build deep relationships with partner agencies, the media, and the emergency management community. Jerald has been with the NWS for eight years, in which he has worked in the Amarillo and Lubbock, TX offices, the Tucson, AZ office, and now the Hanford, CA office. Prior to joining the NWS Jerald served nine years in the US Army Reserve, including one deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Jerald received his Bachelor's of Science in Meteorology from Texas A&M University in 2009.



## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Marion A. Long**

Marion A. Long is an NFIRS fire program specialist for the United States Fire Administration (USFA)'s National Fire Data Center. He has worked with the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for more than 30 years. His primary job duties are to promote the timely collection of high-quality emergency response data from fire departments, to identify emergent issues, to provide technical support to local, state, and tribal governments, and to promote use of NFIRS. His experience and background include Virginia NFIRS program manager, National Fire Information Council board member and System Committee chairman, National Fire Academy NFIRS instructor, NFIRS technical advisor, and NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Reporting member.

### **Wendi Ellis**

Wendi Ellis is the Regional Emergency Management Specialist in Region IX. She has responded to the Galena flooding in Alaska, the Oslo Slide in Washington State, Typhoon Dolphin in Guam and been heavily involved, most recently in responses for Hawaii and Texas. She worked for over 20 years advocating, educating and insuring the safety of children in New York City by holding progressively responsible positions at the Administration for Children's Services, Emergency Children's Services division coordinating responses to the most serious of child abuse and neglect cases along with the police department and hospitals, and at the Board of Education as a teacher for learning-disabled children. Formal education was received at Hunter College, Master in Social Work; Marist College, Master in Public Administration; and City College of New York, undergraduate.

### **Stephen J. Miller, MS, JD, LL.M**

Stephen J. Miller, MS, JD, LL.M, is the Region 8 Emergency Management Specialist (REMS) and has been with the Administration for Children and Families since coming to Denver from Chicago. He manages all phases and levels of disaster preparedness, response and recovery while reporting to the Region 8 Regional Administrator and OHSEPR. While in Illinois his background includes being a juvenile probation officer in Cook County Illinois. He went on to join the Illinois State Police (ISP) as a Special Agent (detective) and served 25 years retiring as a Captain in the ISP Legal Office. In the ISP Legal Office he developed agency policy, wrote and reviewed legislation, prepared discipline cases and provided legal advice to field operations. Upon leaving the ISP, he taught legal topics to police commanders for 8 years at Northwestern University. His educational credentials include a BS in Political Science from DePaul University, a MS in Criminal Justice from Southern Illinois University, a JD degree from Northern Illinois University School of Law, and an advanced law degree (LL.M) from the John Marshall Law School. He is a Colorado boater with a mountain cabin along with his wife, four grown children, and two labradoodles.

### **Suzanne Everson**

Suzanne Everson joined the Administration for Children and Families in December 2015 as the Regional Emergency Management Specialist (REMS) for Region 10. As REMS, she collaborates with tribal partners to support preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Previously, she served in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for five years. She has supported Federal response efforts for multiple disasters, including the 2011 Joplin Tornado. Most recently, Suzanne served at FEMA's headquarters, providing technical assistance to state, tribal, and local government agencies around the United States on issues related to federal doctrine and preparedness. Prior to her emergency management career, Suzanne was a social service professional, providing direct service to homeless and at-risk youth populations. These experiences led her to recognize that collaboration between multiple stakeholders is a vital part of providing high quality service. Suzanne graduated from Fairhaven College at Western Washington University, where she studied effective strategies for collaboration between grassroots community organizations, NGOs, and government agencies.

## 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino

### **Steve Aberle (Amateur radio callsign WA7PTM)**

Steve gained his first amateur radio license (WN7PTM) in 1970 and is a Life Member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). He has been active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) since 1976 and in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) since 1979. Since 1999 his ARRL appointment has been as an Official Emergency Station. Steve has over three decades of experience in volunteer emergency communications planning, training, responses, mentoring, and as a HSEEP exercise evaluator. He was a law enforcement first responder for seven years, a county emergency communications director for five years, and is a former mountaineering and Search and Rescue leader and instructor. Steve holds a B.S. degree in Computer Science and is a retired data network and security manager and engineer. He has been a technical consultant to both the computer and wired/wireless communications industries, performing cyber-security strategic resilience planning and tactical responses, Internet and intranet design and architecture, network security, systems analysis, software engineering, quality assurance, international customer support, and professional training.

### **Bonita Brown**

HMEP Tribal Grant Programmatic Specialist, DOT/PHMSA

Bonita A. Brown brings over 4 years of experience in hazardous material safety grant management and over 20 years of experience in project/program management. As a member of the Hazmat grant Reauthorization team, Bonita was instrumental in assisting in the process of implementing changes in the grant program to enhance EPCRA, increase the number of tribal grantees, lengthen the performance period, updating the formula to modernize the distribution of funds based on current data, and improve technical assistance to improve the grant cycle process and increase the progress of the HMEP grant's priorities. Bonita has a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and Accounting from the University of Maryland, a Master degree in International Business Administration from George Mason University and has completed the required course work for a Doctorate of Business Administration with a focus in leadership and management. Bonita is stationed at the DOT headquarters in Washington, DC.

### **Erik S. Gaull, CEM®, CPP®, CBCP®, PMP®, MEP**

Erik Gaull is the Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management Programs for Applied Research Associates, Inc., where he focused on preparedness for and response to a terrorist use of a nuclear weapon for FEMA and leads a project for the Defense Threats Reduction Agency conducting outreach to first responders and emergency managers about the Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center. Prior to joining ARA, Erik was an independent consultant and educator specializing in business resiliency, enterprise risk management, and public safety/homeland security. He worked on projects in the United States, Europe, Canada, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Middle East for private sector clients, the World Bank, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, U.S. Navy, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and numerous local governments. Erik holds a Top Secret/SCI (SI/TK) security clearance and four premier peer-conferred professional designations – Certified Emergency Manager®, Certified Protection Professional®, Certified Business Continuity Professional®, and Project Management Professional®. Additionally, he has earned FEMA's Master Exercise Practitioner, Professional Continuity Practitioner (Level I), Advanced Professional Series, and Professional Development Series recognitions. Erik is a Nationally Registered Paramedic, a Pro Board-certified Fire Officer III and Fire Instructor III, a hazardous materials technician, and a law enforcement officer. Erik's pro bono work includes serving on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Protection Advisory Council Emergency Services Sector Coordinating Council, as the Sector Chief for Emergency Services Sector of the National Capital Region InfraGard Member Alliance, and on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate's First Responder Resource Group. Erik previously served on the ASIS Standards Technical Committee that revised the 2008 edition of the ANSI/ASIS Chief Security Officer (CSO) Organizational Standard.

## **2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Tribal Emergency Management Conference**

**September 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

**Hosted by the Tachi Palace Hotel and Casino**

From 2000 to 2002, Erik served as the Director of the Operational Improvements Division of the Office of Mayor Anthony A. Williams in Washington, D.C. On September 11, 2001, he helped manage the District's Emergency Operations Center. In the months following, he developed the District's "First Hour of Action Plan for Senior Officials" and assisted with the development of numerous other plans, policies, procedures, and exercises. Additionally, Erik was a key liaison for the Mayor and City Administrator in the intergovernmental response to the Anthrax attacks of 2001. He was appointed by Mayor Williams to the Mayor's Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program Advisory Committee in 2002 and the Mayor's Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee in 2001. Prior to joining the Williams Administration, Erik spent nearly eight years at TriData Corporation, a management consulting firm for public sector emergency services. He was the Director of Local Government Studies when he left the firm.

Erik has substantive experience in all three levels of government – at City Hall in both Washington, D.C. and New York City; in the New Mexico State Department of Health; and in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has had direct service delivery roles as a firefighter, paramedic, law enforcement officer, and park ranger in Connecticut, New York, Maryland, New Mexico, and Washington, D.C.

In addition to completing the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Erik has earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Public Policy from Georgetown University and an A.B. in Urban Studies from Columbia University. Erik is also a graduate of the FBI Citizens' Academy and the DEA Citizens' Academy. He is an Adjunct Instructor at the National Fire Academy and the D.C. Metropolitan Police Academy, and he is a PADI-certified Open Water SCUBA Instructor. He was formerly an adjunct faculty member in the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and the George Washington University Medical Center Department of Emergency Medicine.

Erik is a Life Member of the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department in Montgomery County, Maryland, where he currently serves as a Firefighter/Paramedic III. He is also an Officer in the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department Reserve Corps Division. Erik and his family live in Cabin John, Maryland.