



# Technical Assistance in Indian Country





# Welcome

## ◆ Participants:

### ▶ Indian Health Services, RCAC, CRWA & Sustainable Nations

- ◆ Presented February 2011

- ◆ Chuckchansi Gold Resort & Casino, CA





# Topics:

- ◆ Identify Common Technical Assistance Providers (TAP's)
- ◆ What, How and Why TA is Provided?
- ◆ How to Access Services?
- ◆ Who pays for the Service?





# Technical Assistance Goals

- ◆ Assist Tribes with Capacity Development and Access to Resources
- ◆ Support Implementation of the SDWA and the CWA
- ◆ Support Sustainability of Infrastructure



# How Are Services Provided

## ◆ Via

- ▶ Routine/Regular Site Visits (Circuit Riders)
- ▶ Reactive Site Visits - Squeaky Wheel gets the Grease (Circuit Riders or TAPs)
- ▶ Workshops & Conferences





# Who Typically Receives TAP Services

- ◆ Tribal Operators
- ◆ Utility Boards or Councils
- ◆ Community
- ◆ Others.....Specialty TA



# Common Water /Wastewater Technical Assistance

- ◆ OMEs, TMF Assessments
- ◆ Application Assistance (Waivers, Funding, etc)
- ◆ Hands -on (one on one Assistance)
- ◆ On- site Training





# How are Service Obtained by Tribes

- ◆ By Letter, Phone, Email, Fax, Websites
- ◆ Direct request from the Tribe or an agency
- ◆ Services may be Declined or Requested
- ◆ Services are at no Cost (normally)





# Who Pays & Why

- ◆ USDA – RD, TAPs assist with loans/grants
- ◆ USEPA – Compliance Assistance/grants
- ◆ Indian Health Services – Project Construction/Sustainability



# Authority To Act

- ◆ Services are not Provided without Consent from the Tribe
- ◆ 3<sup>rd</sup> Party TAPs Consider themselves 'guests' in Indian Country
- ◆ All Authority rests with the Tribe and or the Primary Agency





# Why Might Services be Declined?

- ◆ No Funding for Requested Activity
- ◆ Geographic Issues (normally don't deny services but may limit on-site Activity)
- ◆ Court Orders or Funder Request (Rare)
- ◆ Other





# Finally: What a Circuit Rider/TAP is NOT?

- ◆ The Maintenance Person
- ◆ The Engineer (normally)
- ◆ The System Operator or
- ◆ The Regulator



# RCAC Contact Information

## Website: [RCAC.ORG](http://RCAC.ORG)

### Northern/Central California –

Dave Wallis

Phone: 559/337-0360

Email: [dwallis@rcac.org](mailto:dwallis@rcac.org)

### **Southern CA/Arizona –**

Dave Harvey

Phone: 760/492-2543

Email: [dharvey@rcac.org](mailto:dharvey@rcac.org)





# IHS Contact Information

**Web Site: [www.ihs.gov](http://www.ihs.gov)**

## Northern California-

Mary Weber

Phone: 707.462.5314 ext. 105

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## Southern California-

Nancy Dewees

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Email: [nancy.dewees@ihs.gov](mailto:nancy.dewees@ihs.gov)





# **CWRA – Contact Information**

**Website: [calruralwater.org](http://calruralwater.org)**

**California –**

**DAN DEMOSS**

**Phone: 916.616.7761**

**Email: [ddemoss@calruralwater.org](mailto:ddemoss@calruralwater.org)**





# Sustainable Nations TA opportunities

- ◆ Sustainable Nations offers training, educational program development, consulting, and sustainable development planning for Native peoples.
- ◆ We cover renewable energy, green/natural building, biologically based wastewater treatment, water-efficient design, and food security development.







# Types of Support

Nonprofit training, research, and development

Contract training/consulting/program development





# How to Initiate a TA Request

- ◆ Contact Sustainable Nations Director for initial consulting
- ◆ Determine category of support
- ◆ Site visit to develop the strategic plan and lay out the work contract.



# Contact: Sustainable Nations

## [www.sustainablenations.org](http://www.sustainablenations.org)

- ◆ National
- ◆ PennElys GoodShield, Director  
Phone: (707) 599-5935  
Email: [pennelys@sustainablenations.org](mailto:pennelys@sustainablenations.org)

