Edition #2 September 2023



NASA Equity & Environmental Justice

EEJ NEWS



INTRODUCTION TO EEJ

The Equity and Environmental Justice Program (EEJ)

NASA's EEJ program helps ensure Earth data can benefit everyone, regardless of race, color, national origin or income. We help communities across the U.S. and around the globe make informed decisions about issues affecting them. The program also builds new partnerships to support community outreach, training, and information and tools that use Earth observations. We aim to create opportunities for people to get involved with Earth observations. This amplifies the power held by citizens to inform and protect their communities.

The EEJ program aims to advance progress on equity and environmental justice. One part of this effort is to help build the community of practice around the application of Earth science information to inform action in EJ communities by monitoring and measuring environmental factors. This newsletter is one of the program's strategic communication efforts for engaging those working in the space. It will continue to evolve, so please share your thoughts for what information is useful to you!



DSCEJ JUSTICE40 CONVENING

Last month, the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ) and the Bullard Center for Climate and Environmental Justice hosted a convening titled *Justice40: A Righteous Time for Investment in New Orleans, LA.* Activists, community leaders, and policymakers from across the country gathered to discuss strategies to successfully achieve Justice40 Initiative goals. The three-day convening was led by Dr. Beverly Wright and Dr. Robert Bullard. Attendees included White House Senior Advisor John Podesta and Dr. Jalonne White-Newsome, Senior Director of Environmental Justice at the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). Representatives from numerous federal agencies participating in the Justice40 Initiative were also in attendance, including EEJ intern Nati Phan and others from NASA. Learn more about DSCEJ's work with Justice40 HERE.





Early Career Achievement Medal EEJ Awardee

Congratulations to our Coordination and Analysis Lead for NASA's Capacity Building Program, Sydney Neugebauer, for being awarded a 2022 Early Career Achievement Medal! This distinguished award is given to individuals who have achieved outstanding performance during the first 10 years of their career supporting a NASA mission. Awardees have demonstrated initiative and creative achievement in contribution to their discipline area. Read more about Sydney's award <u>HERE</u>.

AUGUST COMMUNITY FORUM: UNVEILING THE POWER OF OPEN SCIENCE FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Nikki Tulley, a research scientist for NASA's Indigenous Peoples Initiative and one of EEJ's Associate Program Managers, was one of four panelists who presented at the August Transform to Open Science (TOPS) Community Forum. Nikki spoke on the Earth Science Division's Community Action Program and also discussed the benefits of open science for Indigenous communities. Access the recording and slides <u>HERE</u>.





UPCOMING EVENTS





UPCOMING WORKSHOP

NASA UNBOUND Coastal Issues

Dates September 18-19 & 25-26, 2023. 10:00-12:30 PM ET

Introducing UNBOUND Coastal Issues: a multi-session workshop to identify recommendations to make NASA data products more discoverable and suitable for analyses to address issues in coastal zones, encompassing both coastal and inland areas. The workshop series aims to engage coastal issues for data practitioners who are not currently using NASA data products or would like to increase the use of NASA data for coastal applications. Each of up to 60 paid participants will contribute to discussions, test assigned NASA Earth Data, and develop individual responses that will go into a final report. Continuing education credits are available for APA, GISP, and CFPM certifications for all participants. Learn more about UNBOUND HERE.

UPCOMING WEBINAR

NASA Equity and Environmental Justice Webinar Series

Dates: September 26th, 2023, 4:00-5:00 PM ET

Join the kick-off and introduction of the first session of our monthly webinar series! This series aims to strengthen our NASA Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) community of practice! EEJ PIs (Principal Investigators) will share their project highlights along with their progress. The webinars will also encourage collaborations between each of the different PIs and feature exciting initiatives happening across NASA's Capacity Building Program. Register <u>HERE</u>.



learn about EJ at NASA!

September 26-28, 2023 FIRE & CLIMATE CHANGE: ADAPTATION PLANNING FOR TRIBES In-Person Only: Location TBA WC CE Save the Date This course will provide an overview to planning on fire, highlighting the work of Tribes that has assessment. Since the course material incluction climate change impacts and resilience planning on the course material inclusion of the c

FIRE & CLIMATE CHANGE: ADAPTATION PLANNING FOR TRIBES

Dates: September 26 - 28, 2023. Santa Cruz, California

This course will provide an overview to planning for climate change impacts, with an emphasis on fire, highlighting the work of Tribes that have completed an adaptation plan or vulnerability assessment. Since the course material including presentations and activities will focus on climate change impacts and resilience planning in a specific region, they especially encourage people from this region to attend. Individuals from Indigenous communities will be given priority, while participants from across California are welcome to apply. Learn more HERE.

GEO FOR GOOD SUMMIT

Central Coast-

Dates: October 10-12, 2023. Mountain View, California

The Summit is intended for nonprofit, academic, public sector, private sector, and Indigenous peoples and local communities who are using (or want to learn to use) GEO For Good's mapping tools (such as Google Earth, Earth Engine, Environmental Insights Explorer, and My Maps) for planetary sustainability and human resilience around the world. You'll have the opportunity to dive deep into learning their mapping technologies, hear the latest updates, and learn how others in the community are using these technologies for impact. While registration to attend the event in-person has passed, access to the recording will be available! Request access <u>HERE</u>.



9TH ANNUAL H B C U CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE OCTOBER 11-15, 2023 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA Brought to you by: DEEPSOUTH TORROWGHENGE ASSISTANCE DEEPSOUTH TORROWGHENGE ASSISTANCE TEXAS SOUTHBUS UNIVERSITY

HBCU CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

Dates: October 11-15, 2023. New Orleans, Louisiana

The Deep South Center for Environmental Justice in collaboration with the Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice at Texas Southern University will host the in-person Ninth Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference. The purpose of the conference is to bring together faculty and students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, researchers, climate professionals and environmental justice and community residents impacted by toxic facilities and severe weather events related to climate change in order to bridge the gap between theory and the experiential realities of climate change. Register HERE.

MIDWEST CLIMATE RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

Dates: October 25-27, 2023. Duluth, Minnesota

The conference brings together citizens and representatives from the public, private, and non-profit sectors to inspire and encourage climate adaptation in communities throughout Minnesota and broadly the Midwest region. It also serves as a regional adaptation forum in alternate years of the National Adaptation Forum for community leaders, policy and decision makers, resource managers, researchers, and others working actively on climate adaptation and resilience. Register HERE.





SACNAS - NATIONAL DIVERSITY IN STEM CONFERENCE

Dates: October 26-28, 2023. Portland, Oregon

The largest multidisciplinary and multicultural STEM diversity event in the country, the SACNAS conference is a gathering which serves to equip, empower, and energize participants for their academic and professional paths in STEM. The SACNAS conference is a broadly inclusive space where you are encouraged and empowered to bring your whole self to STEM. Register HERE.

>> PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

<<<

<u>Leveraging Earth Science Data to Heighten Awareness of Environmental Injustices Within the U.S Prison System</u>

Team Lead: Dr. Caitlin Mothes. September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2023

An EEJ landscape analysis examining the environmental impacts and hazards within the U.S prison system. The U.S prison system comprises a disproportionate number of incarcerated minorities and low-income individuals who must often endure burdens related to climate, air quality, and toxic exposure. Through the use of Earth observations, including land cover, climate, and air quality datasets, this project seeks to fill a knowledge gap of EEJ injustices faced by prison communities across the U.S. A full report of the project has been added to the website. Read the report HERE.





A Spatial Decision Support System for Identifying Heat Vulnerability

Based on a Comprehensive Energy Budget Model and Multi-Criteria

Decision Analysis in Oklahoma City, OK

Team Lead: Wenwen Cheng. September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023

An EEJ Landscape Analysis seeking to address heat exposure challenges in Oklahoma City, OK. Heat exposure as a result of an urban heat island disproportionately impacts marginalized communities who are at greater risk of adverse health effects. This project seeks to address this issue with the development of a heat exposure index, a heat vulnerability index, and through the involvement of community engagement. A full report of the project has been added to the website! Read the report HERE.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

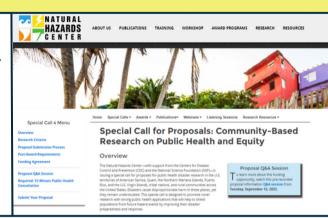


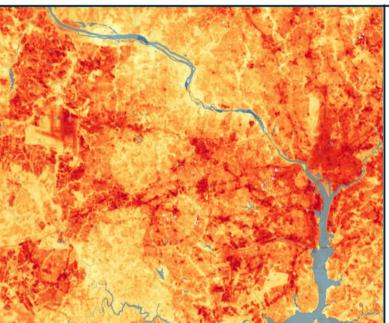
EJ FEATURED NEWS

Opportunity: 4th Special Call for Community-Based Research on Public Health and Equity

Deadline: September 29th, 2023

The Natural Hazards Center has announced a 4th Special Call for Community Based Research on Public Health and Equity. The center is seeking to support studies involving community engagement, with an applicability for public health practice and policy. There is a special interest in research that advances rigorous conceptualization, and measurement of equity as a process that is necessary to reduce both current and future disaster risk. The center will support 3-6 awards in the amount of \$25,000 to \$50,000 each. Learn more <u>HERE</u>.





EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Agents of Change in Environmental Justice

By: Dr. Beverly Wright, Environmental Health News, Podcast

The Man Trying to Save Phoenix from

<u>Historical Heat</u>

By: David Hondula, The Daily, Podcast

Environmental and Climate Justice

 $\underline{\mathbf{B}}\mathbf{y}$: Abre' Conner, Kendrick Sampson, Related Article

<u>Department of Energy: Environmental Justice</u> Links

By: Office of Legacy Management, Related Resources

U.S Department of Justice: Environmental

Justice Resources

By: U.S Department of Justice, Related Resources

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Visit Our Website:

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