March 2022 Congressional Committee Meetings Update

This month, AIPI tracked the following U.S. House and Senate Committee meetings affecting Indian Country for the month of March. This list includes meetings that took place between February 18, 2022 and March 25, 2022.

1. **February 24, 2022: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs - Oversight Field Hearing titled “Transformative and Innovative Strategies for Better Educational Outcomes for Alaska Native Students”**.
   - Panel 1:
     - The Honorable Julie Kitka, President, Alaska Federation of Natives, Anchorage, AK
     - Sandy Salaktuna Kowalski, Vice President, Shareholder Relations, NANA Regional Corporation, Kotzebue, AK.
     - William Naneng, General Manager, Sea Lion Corporation, Hooper Bay, AK
     - Dr. Valerie Grussing, Executive Director, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, Washington, DC.
     - Dr. Michael Johnson, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, Juneau, AK.

2. **March 1, 2022: House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands - NPFPL Legislative Hearing**.
   - Bills Considered:
     - [H.R.1638](#) - Gilt Edge Mine Conveyance Act.
     - [H.R.4178](#) - To extend the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity Marina fees through fiscal year 2027. Shasta-Trinity Marina Fee Extension.
     - [H.R.5093](#) - Wind River Administrative Site Conveyance Act.
     - [H.R.5493](#) - Land Grant-Mercedes Traditional Use Recognition and Consultation Act.
   - Panel 1:
     - Rep. Dusty Johnson, SD - At Large.
     - Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez, NM - 03.
   - Panel 2:
     - Greg Smith, Director of Lands and Realty Management, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.
Mark Lambrecht, Assistant Director, National Landscape Conservation System Bureau of Land Management.

Anthony Roberts, Tribal Chairman, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

Panel 3:

Hunter Roberts, Secretary, South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Paul Hauser, General Manager, Trinity Public Utility District.

Tom Lannen, District 2 Commissioner, Skamania County, WA.

Mr. Arturo Archuleta, Program Manager, New Mexico Land Grant Council.


Panel 1:

The Honorable Charles “Chuck” Sams III, Director, National Park Service.

The Honorable Carleton Bowekaty, Lieutenant Governor, Pueblo of Zuni, Co-Chair Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition.

Mr. Melvin J. Baker, Chairman, Southern Ute Tribal Council.

Panel 2:

Doug Kiel, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Northwestern University.

Aja DeCoteau, Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

Kevin Washburn, N. William Hines Dean and Professor of Law, University of Iowa College of Law.

Cody Desautel, President, Intertribal Timber Council.


Panel 1:

Wizipan Garriott, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC.

Janie Hipp, General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC.


Panel 2:

Lexie Holden, Associate Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Billings, MT.

JT Willie, Director, Division of Economic Development, Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ.

Kukui Maunakea-Forth, Founder and Executive Director, MA‘O Organic Farms, Wai‘anae, HI.

Gary Hennigh, City Administrator, City of King Cove, AK.

- Bills considered:
  - S.1397 - Tribal Health Data Improvement Act of 2021.
  - S.3168 - A bill to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to modify the enforceability date for certain provisions, and for other purposes.
  - S.3443 - MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians Recognition Act.
  - S.3773 - A bill to authorize the leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.
  - S.3789 - A bill to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes.

- Panel 1:
  - The Honorable Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.
  - Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.
  - The Honorable Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Whiteriver, AZ.
  - The Honorable Amelia Flores, Chairwoman, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Parker, AZ.
  - The Honorable Harry Pickernell, Sr., Chairman, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Oakville, WA.
  - The Honorable Lebaron Byrd, Chief, MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians, Mt. Vernon, AL.
  - Dr. Darin Prescott, Director Health and Clinic CEO, Lower Sioux Indian Community and Great Lakes Area Tribal Health Board, Morton, MN.