



Notes from Youth Session: Plant Gathering Knowledge & Education

Appropriate ways to Harvest & Share
October 12, 2011

Attendees: Charlene Krise (Squaxin Island), Katie Krueger (Quileute), Preston Hardison (Tulalip), Cecelia Nguyen (Oregon Museum of Science & Industry), Georgiana Kautz (Nisqually), Julia Gold (Tulalip), Kris Miller (Skokomish), Jim Bura (Nooksack), Sandra Bura (Lummi)

- SI needed to enhance land base through purchase
- After Boldt – people returned to community
 - Restore cultural knowledge
 - At treaty time (world upside-down)
- After 70s – restoring knowledge to turn things right
- Importance of certain plants
 - Spiritually to heal emotions as well as body (e.g. cedar, strength of mind) (Holistic)
 - Circle of life – earth is alive and all is part of the circle
 - Asthma: tent with herbal “fumes” of medicinal plants
 - Historically, warriors used cedar for strengthening (branches/headbands) (Squaxin Island)
 - Spiritual enrichment from aromas and sight of some plants
- Gathering conflicts with landowners. WA state has a duty to uphold treaties and educate non-Indians
- Harvests – Nisqually – growth leading to reduced numbers and access so we need to go to federal lands
- Public education needed but purposes are personal and cultural
- Georgiana – ceremony tried to this. Working with the agencies, medicines may not involve cultural person
- Quileute has gathering regulations that respect DNR and USFS listed species and also list our important ones in APP. Also a statement that tribes IS capable of self-regulating and managing resource (~25pgs long)
- On world stage need to demonstrate sovereignty through competence
- Knowledge sharing – timing, trust, conservation, appropriateness
 - Klamath water case – water data misused as to release and purpose
 - Copyright only a partial protection
 - PEER – false accusation re: Mt. Rainier use
 - Careful how much information you share
 - Different value systems (USA vs. Tribes)
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Native science, protocol, just HOW
 - Human biology, seasonal potency
- We need education on HOW MUCH can be harvested and by what means. Licensed pickers lack knowledge.
 - 200 lbs beargrass is too much
 - Nisqually made movie on picking, up at Mt. Rainier

- Preston – add “management” and “co-management”
- Species range shift 10mi/10yrs, because of climate change. How do we meet demands and future needs/pressures?
- Sandra – Collaborate with NWIC regarding plants & diabetes
- Start “Native” gardens. What soils do plants need, for example
- Swinomish putting in gardens. Community run.
- Quileute – tribal school garden plans
- Discussion morphed into legality of access on private lands, “open and unclaimed” lands, need for federal interpretation of Western WA expansive treaties vs. East Coast USA
- Nisqually Land Trust – fee owners of own land