



WECAN Indigenous Women's Tongass Delegation

Delegate Biographies

March 12 and 13, 2019 Washington, D.C.



Wanda "Kashudoha" Loescher Culp – Tlingit, activist, artist, and WECAN Tongass Coordinator

Wanda "Kashudoha" Loescher Culp is an Indigenous Tlingit activist, advocate, and hunter, fisher and gatherer of wild foods, born and raised in Juneau, and living in Hoonah, Alaska. She is the mother of three children, and is recognized as a storyteller, cultural interpreter, playwright, and co-producer of the film *Walking in Two Worlds*. As of 2016, Wanda has united with WECAN as a Regional Coordinator, revitalizing initiatives to protect the Tongass Rainforest and the traditional rights and

life-ways of the regions Indigenous peoples



Kari Ames – Tlingit, Alaska Native Voices Cultural Heritage Guide and keeper of traditional life-ways

Kari Ames is of the Tlingit Nation. She grew up and lives in Xuna Kaawuu (People of the North Wind) also called Hoonah, which is a small town of 800 people on Chichagof Island in Southeast Alaska. Her Tlingit name is Dee Yaa, and she is Yeil Raven moiety of the L'uknaxh.adi (Coho Salmon Clan) from the Frog House. Kari is currently working for Alaska Native Voices as a Cultural Heritage Guide in Glacier Bay National Park. She is deeply involved in her culture — weaving the past and the

future together, living and learning as much as she can about her culture including traditional singing, drumming, hunting and gathering of plants.



Rebekah Sawers –Yupik, living in the Tongass with her Tlingit husband and daughter, Indigenous Youth Educator

Rebekah Sawers is an Alaskan Native Yupik and a mother, a daughter and an aunt who now lives in the Tongass and works with Indigenous youth in educational programs in Hoonah, Alaska. Her husband and daughter are Tlingit, and Rebekah is part of a

collective of women who are working to protect the Tongass Rainforest.



Adrienne Nichol Lee – Tlingit, President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 12 and keeper of cultural Tlingit education

Adrienne Nichol Lee is Tlingit Chookenshàa living in Hoonah, Alaska year around. She is President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 12. Adrienne and her family harvest from the Tongass to prepare for the long winters, and while she has spent the past seven years in management work, she has also dedicated herself to pursuing her grandmother’s footsteps in cultural Tlingit education.



Osprey Orielle Lake – Founder/Executive Director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) International

Osprey Orielle Lake is the Founder and Executive Director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) International and co-organizer of the Delegation. She works nationally and internationally with grassroots, frontline and Indigenous leaders, policymakers and scientists to promote climate justice, resilient communities, and a just transition to a regenerative energy future. She serves on the Executive

Committee for the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature and leads WECAN's advocacy work in areas such as Women for Forests, Rights of Nature and UN Climate Forums. Osprey is the author of the award-winning book, *Uprisings for the Earth: Reconnecting Culture with Nature*.



Holly Harris – Staff Attorney with Earthjustice

Holly Harris is a Staff Attorney at Earthjustice in the Alaska office and is co-organizer of the Delegation. Earthjustice is the nation’s largest nonprofit environmental law organization. We leverage our expertise and commitment to fight for justice and advance the promise of a healthy world for all. We represent every one of our clients free of charge.