What is the Senate Request to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Community Leaders?
Thirteen Democratic Senators from both the Indian Affairs Committee and Special Committee on the Climate Crisis sent a request to all American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Community Leaders for input on the effects of climate change in Tribal communities.¹ The letter provided four prompt questions:

1. What policies, regulations, and programs have proven particularly useful in assisting your communities in mitigating and responding to climate change impacts?
2. Are there policies or strategies that your communities are using to address climate change that could scale for implementation at the federal level, including traditional knowledge?
3. What actions or policies could federal agencies take within existing authorities to improve climate change mitigation and resilience in your communities?
4. What new policies would you recommend Congress consider to improve climate change resilience in your communities, reduce emissions of heat-trapping pollution, increase the development and availability of renewable resources, or capture or off-set emissions of heat-trapping pollution?

NTAA will be preparing a Policy Response Kit for Tribes to use in submitting comments. NTAA is approaching these questions in four categories:

---

¹ See Senate Request to read a copy of the letter sent July 10, 2019.
NTAA’s Policy Response Kit for Tribes will be posted on NTAA’s website here: https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/ntaa/PolicyResponseKits/PolicyResponseKitsHome/

NTAA will host an Informational Webinar to help Tribes Respond to the Request for Climate Change Policy on September 4, 2019 at 10 am PT/1 pm ET. Click here to register.

Where Can I Find More Information?
The deadline to submit comments is Friday, September 13, 2019. Comments should be submitted to Community_Leaders_Feedback@indian.senate.gov. For more information, you can contact Cristine Blackburn at Christine_Blackburn@schatz.senate.gov or Joshua Mahan at Joshua_Mahan@indian.senate.gov.

Any questions, please contact NTAA’s Project Director Andy Bessler at 928-523-0526 or Andy.Bessler@nau.edu.