

**Altai Project | Amazon Watch | Borneo Project | Gaia Foundation
Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana | Sacred Land Film Project
Womens’ Earth and Climate Action Network**

MEDIA ADVISORY
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**Historic Gathering of Indigenous Leaders Champion “No Go” Areas
For Sacred Sites at IUCN World Conservation Congress**

WHAT: A delegation of 25 powerful indigenous leaders from around the world will attend the quadrennial [IUCN World Conservation Congress \(WCC\)](#) in Honolulu, Hawai‘i, from September 1–10. The WCC is the world’s largest recurring conservation event attended by government, corporate, nonprofit and academic leaders, among its many influencers. The indigenous delegation will amplify the connection between indigenous peoples and biodiversity in sacred cultural landscapes, including the world’s lands, seas and skies, which are vulnerable to climate change and other threats. They will both challenge and contribute to the international conservation movement at a critical moment in history, in part by promoting the concept of “No Go” policies that prohibit mineral and other resource extraction in World Heritage Sites, sacred natural sites, territories and primary forests as well as other indigenous solutions to climate change. The delegation will be working to pass Motion 026 on “Protected areas and environmentally damaging industrial-scale activities” viewable at portals.iucn.org/congress/motion/026.

KEY EVENTS

**Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:
Conservation Activities and the Fulfilment of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

WHEN: Saturday, September 3, 1:00–2:30pm, 314, UNDP Kauhale

WHO: The Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Victoria Tauli-Corpuz; Aura Tegria, U’WA; Gonzalo Oviedo, IUCN.

URL: portals.iucn.org/congress/session/12620

**Workshop: From Rhetoric to Reality: Exploring laws, customary governance and
No-Go area policies for future protection of sacred natural sites.**

WHEN: Sunday, September 4, 11am–1pm, Room 315, Hawai‘i Convention Center

WHO: Indigenous leaders from Hawai‘i, Kenya, Ecuador, Ethiopia and Altai, Russia

URL: portals.iucn.org/congress/session/10217

Cultural Event with Film Screening: “40 Years of Aloha ‘Aina”

WHEN: Sunday September 4, 7:30–9pm, Room 312, Hawai‘i Convention Center

WHO: Craig Neff, Luana Busby-Neff and the [Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana](#)

URL: portals.iucn.org/congress/session/15490

**Workshop: A Deep Dive on Gender and Climate Change: Exploring Policy Progress,
Implementation Challenges, and Women’s Frontlines Solutions**

WHEN: Monday, September 5, 8:30–10:30am, Room 317B, Hawai‘i Convention Center

WHO: Patricia Gualinga (Ecuador), Osprey-Orielle Lake (WECAN International)

URL: portals.iucn.org/congress/session/10233

(more)

INDIGENOUS LEADERS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS

Altai Republic, Russia

Danil Mamyev, Founder of Uch Enmek Nature Park, Altai, Russia
Vyacheslav “Slava” Cheltuev, snow leopard shaman

Benin

Oussoi Lio Appolinaire, son of local chief, Director of GRABE

Colombia

Aura Tegría Cristancho, indigenous lawyer from the U’wa Nation

Ecuador

Nina Gualinga, Youth Indigenous Leader from Sarayaku, Ecuador
Patricia Gualinga, International Relations Director Sarayaku

Hawai’i

Emmett Aluli, Physician, Kaho’olawe activist
Davianna McGregor, History professor, Univ. of Hawai’i
Craig Neff, artist, activist, owner of The Hawaiian Force
Luana Busby-Neff, cultural practitioner

Kenya

Molu Kulu Galgallo, Gabbra ritual elder
Simon Mitambo, Njuri Ncheke Council of Elders, African Biodiversity Network coordinator

Kyrgyzstan

Kamil Mamadaliev, Manaschi (reciter of Manas epics)

Malaysia: Borneo

Komeok Joe, Penan Leader
Peter Kallang, Kenyah Leader, Chairman of Save Sarawak Rivers

Mongolia

Altantsetseg Tsedendamba, Association for Protection of Altai Cultural Heritage
Oyunbaatar Tseren, shaman, Tengriin Sylder Shamans Association

Papua New Guinea

Melchior Ware, biologist, Bosmun village elder
Banak Gamui, biologist, Executive Director of the Karawari Caves Arts Project

United States

Caleen Sisk, Winnemem Wintu Chief
Dorothy FireCloud, Rosebud Sioux, National Park Service superintendent

[Click here](#) for more detailed information on events and [detailed biographies](#) of indigenous leaders.

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