



I AM MY NORMAL SELF

cosmic

"New Clear Days or Nuclear Daze?"

To be able to fill leisure intelligently is the last product of civilization

Arnold J. Toynbee

Monica Shastri





Life doesn't imitate art, it imitates bad television

Woody Allen

Parker Atkinson

Slow-Motio

CREATE

POSSIBLE

The wind howls and the rain beckons
For us to come and play.
The trees scream, "Yes, please!"
But the stones grumble, "Not today."

- Coral Anderson

Calvin Kamis

Coastal Natives Forced to Move Due to Climate Change

Native communities generally have little to no contribution to the causes of climate change, but coastal Native communities are still widely affected by it. These communities are being impacted by coastal erosion, and the flooding that comes with rising sea levels. Due to this, many once inhabitable areas are now being rendered uninhabitable.

"You're talking about communities that have been in place for generations, and live off the land and the waters, and they are seeing and experiencing the changes first and foremost," says Julie Maldonado, who specializes in environmental vulnerability and displacement of Indigenous peoples.

The Hoh Tribe in Washington has dealt with progressively more flooding as well as loss of land to erosion. A third of their reservation has been lost to the sea. They are in the process of moving their village of around 130 people.

Also in Washington, the Quileute Tribe has been settled even more north up Washington state's Olympic Peninsula, but are now too at risk from rising sea levels. They plan to move as well, and have been transferred 785 acres within Olympic National Park—land that they had given up in 1855 to the federal government. But moving an entire Native community is a lot easier said than done.

The relocation of an entire Native tribe is very complicated and has many barriers. When North America was colonized, Natives were "given" reservations on a small fraction of their original territory. This extreme loss of land has affected many Native practices, and now places limits on where tribes may move to be harm free. Often times reservation land within the set boundaries is not safe for relocating, forcing tribes to obtain new land. 90 percent of the Hoh reservation is in a flood zone. The Hoh, along with another tribe, Quinault, also live in areas that are both vulnerable to tsunamis and earthquakes.

The Yup'ik Alaskan Natives live in a village on the southwestern end of Alaska, inside the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Due to the rapid erosion of a river nearby their village and melting permafrost, the village must relocate. The melted permafrost was so terrible that a wooden boardwalk had to be made to prevent residents from sinking into the permafrost. After more than 10 years of meeting with government officials, the Yup'ik have finally been given funds from federal grants to relocate farther south to Nelson island. The Yup'ik have so far built 12 off-grid homes in their new village. Luckily resources, like seal oil, that the community has traditionally relied on should still be plentiful in their new village.

In Louisiana, one of the US states most vulnerable to rising sea levels, are the Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw. They plan to move and resettle further inland. The community is only about 60 people, and has lost roughly 98 percent of its lands since the 1950s. At the time, there were around 22,400 acres of land, and now only roughly 300 acres remain. Its members were the first recipients of federal funds to move an entire community due to climate change.

"We're going to lose all our heritage, all our culture. It's all going to be history," mourned Chief Albert Naquin of the Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Tribe.

Many Natives also inhabit areas that are sacred to them, taking part in place-based ceremonies that are very important for their community identity and well-being. So it is difficult to simply get up and move somewhere else.

"Community displacements due to climate change are about so much more than moving possessions and finding new homes," says Maxine Burkett, co-author of a recent study focusing on relocating Native communities. "They uproot entire communities and tear at the fabric of life, while threatening cohesiveness and culture, as well as doing harm to individuals,











