

**Cultural Conservation Easements Workshop**  
**At the 2009 Public Interest Environmental Law Conference**  
**University of Oregon, Eugene**

**Friday, February 27, 9 a.m.-11:45 a.m.**  
**The Longhouse**

*What is a cultural conservation easement? How can it be used?*

*Join us in exploring this emerging conservation tool!*

Cultural conservation easements (CCEs) blend the restrictive environmental protection of conservation easements, with the access provisions of easements. CCEs are important for ensuring protection of and access to culturally important Native American sites that may not be in Tribal ownership. Panelists representing Native and non-Native conservation interests will share examples of CCEs, and situations where CCEs could be applied. Panelists and participants will then work together to examine possible terms for CCEs that may be of use to Tribes and Tribal organizations considering the use of CCEs to protect and regain access to traditional cultural use areas.

The conversation will begin with the insights of six panelists, each of whom has distinguished him/herself as a leader in tribal conservation at the grassroots or the national level, or both. Panelists will discuss what cultural conservation easements might look like, projects they can be used for, conservation tools they can be compared to, and challenges to making them a viable conservation tool that serves Native goals. *James Olmsted, Conservation Easement Attorney, Conservation and Preservation Counsel*, will examine some of the key elements of a conservation easement, in order to offer insights into how we might envision the legal, fiscal, and technical components of a cultural conservation easement; *Kurt Russo, Executive Director, Native American Land Conservancy (NALC)* will examine three aspects of cultural conservation: acquisition strategies, organizational development, and programs; *Hawk Rosales, Executive Director of the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council*, will provide a look at how Tribes and Tribal organizations might develop and utilize specialized conservation easements that enable Native peoples' access, monitoring, protection, and stewardship of cultural resources; *Theresa Carmody, Executive Director, Indian Land Working Group*, will discuss possibilities for inserting provisions for cultural conservation easements in Native land reform policy; *Chuck Sams, Executive Director, Tribal Lands Program, Trust for Public Land (TPL)*, will focus on methods to protect culturally significant sites on- and off-reservations, including organizing tribal land trusts and conservation consortiums; *Trina Cunningham, Board member, Feather River Land Trust, and participant, Maidu Summit Consortium*, will explore the nuts and bolts of how to make cultural conservation easements work locally and regionally.

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