There continues to be illegal dumping on all tribal lands especially, Short Creek up by the old mill Site. The tribe has to do the clean-up and pay the costs to do the clean-up.

If you see anyone dumping trash on Round Valley Tribal Lands please call the Tribal EPA office or Tribal Police Office with information. EPA Office-983-6960 or Tribal Police 272-0259. Both offices have phone messages on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

EPA is still bringing in bins for community members. Please use responsibly so all members can benefit from the disposal usage.
The Round Valley Indian Tribes goals for the project year were to provide clean and safe water, protect our water quality and improve water quality in our water sheds. The RV Indian Tribes purpose for collecting data is to support the long range goals of developing our tribal water quality rules, regulations and standards. Also, to create an overview of the quality of tribal waters and those waters upstream and downstream from the reservation. The RV Indian Tribes goals are to assess, analyze, protect, and maintain our tribal waters for the life of the people, cultural purposes, aquatic and wildlife habitat and public contact use. Some problems we have encountered are the reduction of surface flow, which leads to secondary effects, such as elevated temperature’s and low dissolved oxygen levels, which are detrimental to fish and other aquatic organisms. Also, there is a concern of the current illegal Marijuana grow operations in epic proportions that happens on our reservation, in the valley hills and within the surrounding Mendocino National Forest. Growers are using all kinds of various repellents, insecticides and pesticides. One common chemical that is used is Methamidophos. It has a very high toxicity level. Because of this epidemic we are trying to focus on testing that will show indicators of the chemicals from these grow sites as well as natural occurrences that enter our streams. After affects of growing is not only detrimental to creeks, water quality and fish habitat it also harms our wildlife, once ingested they are getting sick and dying. In addition, there is a possibility that soil contamination and soil erosion due to timber operation, grazing, and agriculture in the valley could affect surface water quality. Also, we had the North Pass Fire of 2012 which burned 438 acre parcel on the Reservation Land. This fire was around both sides of the Eel River in which I assume has brought my low readings for dissolved oxygen. The Round Valley Indian Tribes has Community Tribal Council Meetings that are monthly and held bi-annually. During these meeting tribal members come out and ask questions in regards to what is happening in our programs. I had set up a booth with pictures and information that pertains to my program CWA 106 & 319 and what I have been doing. Also, I brief the public on our creeks and what is happening in our creeks. I also attend and collaborate with other tribes and entities. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NCRS), Mitchell and Associates and Wildlife Inventory System (WIS) have been assisting our program with much success. I have just met with the Mendocino Resource Advisory Council (RAC) and see a potential partner with stream restoration and clean up. Collaboration and coordination with other entities is very important within our program as well as effectiveness towards completing goals. Round Valley has designed there water bodies in accordance to their location entering into the valley floor. They have chosen 13 sites in which I am finding out after being here for three years all require different testing criteria. North East sites are mostly located around the Mendocino National Forest and those sites will need testing that contains more of the toxins, rodenticides and pesticides. North side is a mixture of different testing for different locations.
Some can still be tested for the toxins, rodenticides and pesticides and others for natural erosion, contamination and disruption of salmonid migration. Frequency of testing is limited due to budget but with my indicators and parameters I can pick and choose individually which test to do at which location within my budget. I am planning on utilizing my partners and hopefully I can access extra funding to help.

Water samples are taken to Alpha Laboratories in Ukiah, Ca for analysis. All samples are stored in an ice chest with ice until all testing sites are complete then taken to Alpha Labs and dropped off. We test for total hardness, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, sodium, specific conductance (EC), Total Dissolved Solids, Coliforms, E. Coli, pH, Boron. Before I test with my machines I calibrate them to their specifics. On the field, I test for pH, Turbidity, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Water Temp.

In conclusion of our findings this project year we have ran into low/high Dissolved Oxygen readings which are surely unstable. Also, PH testing at different locations was out of range. As mentioned in the first part of the narrative we have encountered some new developments of the Marijuana gardens in our hills. Most of which have very high toxins that are being used weakening our wildlife, eroding our hills and eventually killing off our salmon if not already happening. I am in the process of looking for partners to help fund the need of more extensive funding for our creeks. I would like to approach each parameter towards a goal of fixing its impairments and having some positive outcomes. I have included education and outreach in my budget so I look forward to reaching out to our community and members for their involvement. Also, I’m completing my funding for FY 2014-2015.

Next time you are out to our creeks remember to observe and monitor. If you see anything illegal, new dump sites or even anything unnatural and would like me to address it please contact me I will take the necessary actions to try and solve the situation. I have said it before our creeks have meaning to our culture and our lands. You see garbage near our creeks pick it up; dams left and wire along sides pull it out, any other unfamiliar objects coming in or out of the creeks contact EPA office at (707) 983-6960 or Natural Resources Department for Eloisa at (707) 983-8341. Tribal Police can also be reached at (707) 272-0259.
The Tribal Environmental Department has been busy completing a new grant for our Water Pollution Control 106 program. The Non Point Source 319 Grant was approved through EPA. The grants base amount is small but it’s a start. I will be applying for the competitive funding in December but because it’s limited to 20 tribes I will need to be thoroughly prepared. The Round Valley EPA Department has created an Assessment and Management Plan.

The Assessment plan assess the potential for nonpoint source water pollutants to negatively affect water surface or groundwater quality on or upstream of tribal lands. Within the hundreds of watersheds which ultimately drain into the valley, the tribe is acutely aware of the scale of agricultural NPS pollutants from: cattle grazing and the damage caused to stream bank stability and riparian corridor vegetation, miles of un-maintained dirt/gravel roads, the Bison field along Slough Creek and the un-impeded access to it and subsequent nutrient loading and the widespread illegal marijuana cultivation activities. Urban Non Point Source include: faulty septic systems, residences with no septic tanks or sewer connections, the proclivity for illegal dumping of trash along roads or streams, old junk yards adjacent to streams, bacterial pathogens associated with livestock or pet wastes, or the industrial component of hazardous and carcinogenic materials once used at the abandoned and dismantled Louisiana-Pacific Mill site near Short Creek. The goal of this assessment is to focus attention on water quality parameters and issues that point to significant or potentially significant Non Point sources of pollution and provide a guidance mechanism to effectively identify and monitor these issues and develop management methods to effectively alleviate their impacts.

The Management Plan will be to protect, improve, and/or restore water quality, watershed conditions and aquatic/riparian habitat on the Round Valley Indian Reservation. The overall goal is the development and implementation of high water quality standards. This will be accomplished through identifying actions to attain these goals and set timelines for the implementation of these actions. Some listed goals are to educate tribal members, stakeholders and other interested local residents through outreach programs on good water quality practices. Identify various non-point sources of pollutants entering tribal water courses. Utilize the Best Management Practices (BMP’S) during implementation activities to help improve and/or protect these water resources. Some objectives are to develop a general habitat protection policy and environmental protection ordinance. Expansion of baseline monitoring in areas of current or likely future NPS pollution input. Outline a range of options that can address current and foreseeable negative impacts and develop the BMP’s to address these negative impacts. Listed for long term objectives are restoring of the riparian areas for improved habitat conditions. Enforcement of Tribal Ordinances to prevent NPS pollution of water sources once the Ordinance is written and adopted. Further public education through community events and continued assessment and evaluation and modification of the Management Plan.

For further information about the Management Plan and Assessment Plan, please call (707) 983-8341 ask for Eloisa Britton. Documents are available for review in my office.
Marijuana Cultivation has become an increasingly large epidemic in Mendocino County. Grows are being administered through our Mendocino National Forest and within our Reservation Lands. Growers are using all kinds of pesticides, rodenticides and insecticides to keep their gardens from being disturbed. These chemicals that are being used are very toxic and not only harming our wildlife but all who comes in contact with it. According to an article “Pot Growers’ Use of Rat Poison Killing Rare Carnivores” reads: Rat poison used on illegal marijuana farms is sickening and killing the fisher, a rare forest carnivore that inhabits some of the most remote areas of California.” Further down in the article it also reads “The anticoagulant rodenticides harm fishers by compromising their blood clotting and recovery abilities and decreasing their resilience to environmental stressors. Fishers likely become exposed to the rat poison when eating animals that have ingested it, the scientist say.” All pesticides are highly toxic. One Container that was used was labeled in Spanish and was probably brought across the border from Mexico. While all this is being noted and documented within the Mendocino National Forest and our Tribal EPA Department, the problem is trying to find the right water test that will recognize the pollutants from the chemicals that enter our creeks. Round Valley Indian Tribes Natural Resource crew had ran into a growing operation up on Reservation lands. I am posting pictures of this grow and others that are surrounding our hill. So from EPA to you be careful!! This is very dangerous to our health, land, wildlife, aquatic life. Please, just get to a safe place and call police so the necessary actions could be taken. Thanks
What do you want to know about bacteria in your water?

First of all, “pure” water does not exist - all natural water contains some gases and minerals. All natural waters, regardless of their source (surface or ground water), are likely to contain some microbial organisms. A few cause disease; some impart taste, odor, or turbidity (cloudiness) to the water; others are beneficial. In fact, Total Coliforms are used as indicators of drinking water quality. Most of these bacteria are not harmful. They are everywhere; on your desks, your body, in your vehicle, everywhere. These bacteria are tested in drinking water as indicators because if these bacteria can survive the treatment and/or disinfection of the water system, then other pathogens, such as viruses, protozoa, and other bacteria, can also survive in the water. Since it would be impractical to try and test for all of the pathogens, which can be difficult to detect even if they are present in the water, these Coliforms are a tested for. And since Coliforms are comparable to these other pathogens in that they can be removed by treatment and disinfection, they are indicators of the water safety.

Q: What are coliform bacteria?

Coliform bacteria are organisms that are found in the environment - the soil and vegetation and in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals (fecal coliform). Most coliform bacteria will not likely cause illness, however there are some that can cause severe sickness and even death.

The Total Coliform group is a large collection of different kinds of bacteria. The Fecal Coliform group is a sub-group of Total Coliform and has fewer kinds of bacteria. *E. coli* is a sub-group of fecal coliform. (See the diagram below.)

Total coliform bacteria are commonly found in the environment (e.g., soil or vegetation) and are generally harmless. If only total coliform bacteria are detected in drinking water, the source is probably environmental. Fecal contamination is not likely. However, if environmental contamination can enter the system, there may be a way for pathogens to enter the system. Therefore, it is important to determine the source and to resolve the problem.

Fecal coliform bacteria are a sub-group of the total coliform group. They appear in great quantities in the intestines and feces of people and animals. The presence of fecal coliform in a drinking water sample often indicates recent fecal contamination - meaning that there is a greater risk that pathogens are present than if only total coliform bacteria is detected.
**E. coli** is a sub-group of the fecal coliform group. Most *E. coli* are harmless and are found in great quantities in the intestines of people and warm-blooded animals. Some strains, however, may cause illness. The presence of *E. coli* in a drinking water sample almost always indicates recent fecal contamination - meaning that there is a greater risk that pathogens are present.

**Q: What is tested?**

Every month, sampling is conducted within the Piner, Agency, Della Davis, WWRW (casino), and Administration water systems. When a water sample is delivered to Alpha Lab in Ukiah, it is tested for Total Coliforms. If there is a presence of Total Coliforms, the lab will then test for Fecal Coliform and E.Coli. The lab has to inform the Tribal Water Association immediately once any presence of any coliform is found. Once informed, the Tribal Water Association has 24 hours to re-sample the system. If the sample is confirmed positive for just Total Coliform but negative for Fecal or E.Coli, the Tribes Water Association will conduct 4 more samples, including the original site and source within the 24 hours. If the sample is confirmed positive for Total Coliform and Fecal or E.Coli, the Tribal Water Association will then post “Boil Water Notices” to the users and corrective action will take place. These actions can include disinfecting the well, flushing of the mains, and/or isolating a connection for disinfection. Also, 4 more samples will be taken within 24 hours.

Once all samples are confirmed negative of any bacteria, the Tribes Water Association will continue to take 5 more samples the following month to make sure no more bacteria is present.

**Q: How could they enter a water system?**

The most likely sources come from where the water is used, the spigot, sink, or unclean containers. Another source includes backflow from a contaminated source, a sink-top carbon filter, bucket of water, or puddle at the end of a hose. Also, reduced pressure or suction in long water lines, or drawing in soil water at the joints are sources as well.

**Q: Where else could coliform bacteria come from?**

Don’t always blame the water first. Who sampled the water and how? How sanitary are your practices in food handling, personal hygiene, etc.? Do children wash regularly? While uncomfortable and personal subjects to some, these are more likely routes for contamination than the water itself.
### ROUND VALLEY RECYCLING

**Office:** 707-983-8240  **Fax:** 707-983-8264  
76220 Commercial Street, Covelo  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday-Friday 11:00am – Friday 5:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm  
**Closed:** Sunday and Monday

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PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE ACCORDING TO CURRENT METALS MARKET

(%): Price paid depends on percentage of contamination/percentage of recovery

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<tr>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>Clean Price (per lb)</th>
<th>DIRTY PRICE (per lb)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Harness Wire</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mowers/Saw Engines</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Aluminum Auto Engines (drained)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>#2 Plastic</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRV Glass</td>
<td>.106/ per lb</td>
<td>NO MILK JUGS PLEASE</td>
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What is intended within this page is information for recycling in your home. Websites, Email addresses, and other information have been checked out by the Tribal Environmental Department.

Round Valley Indian Tribes does not endorse, promote or benefit financially from any information that is posted.

Round Valley Indian health Center

Accepts your sharps in the Biohazard infectious waste container for free. Please dispose of these sharps correctly to avoid any infectious accidents to others. If you need a container go to the RV Indian Health Center for a new one.

Pills are dangerous especially if they fall in the wrong hands or children get a hold of them, this can be fatal. Please take all of your old pills or any unknown and unused pills to the R.V. Indian Health Center they will accept and dispose of them correctly with no questions asked. For more information contact: (707) 983-6181.

RECYCLING NEWS

Round Valley Indian Tribes

Solid Waste Services
(800) MY-GARBAGE
www.solidwasteservices.net
csr@solidwasteservices.net
350 Franklin Ave. Willits, CA 95490 or Refuse Road Site Covelo.
1-30 Gallon Can $4.00
22.50-Per Cubic Yard
Motor Oil is free for first 20 gallons a day.
Refrigerators/Freezers $15.00
Stove/Washers/Dryers $10.
Tires depend on size $4.00-up
Batteries free disposal
Cell phones and batteries free
Medals $10.00 a yard
Electronics free
Paint latex only limited amount
PAPER AND CARDBOARD
• White & Pastel Office Paper
• Opened Mail
• Magazine & Catalogs
• Newspapers & Inserts
• Corrugated Cardboard, Flattened
• Paper bags
• File Folders
• Phonebooks
• Paper Egg Cartons
• Blueprints
• Paperback Books
CONTAINERS
• Empty Screw-top plastic bottles, jugs & jars
• Empty plastic tubs #1-7 (No lids, no# 7 PLA compostable
• Glass bottles & jars (remove lids)
• Aluminum, steel & tin cans (Do not crush)
• Clean, balled aluminum foil 2” or larger and pie pans
• Paper milk & juice cartons (no caps)

Items that are not recycled:
• Plastic bags
• Loose plastic caps and lids
• Frozen food boxes & ice cream containers
• Paper & Styrofoam to go containers
• Paper & plastic cups
• Plastic clamshell containers for berries, etc..
• Plastic microwave trays

Hazardous Waste Hotline
(707) 468-9704

M&M Feed recycles batteries. Please place in a bag or a box depending on how many. No charge for disposal.

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE
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Please remember to recycle this newsletter. If you don’t not want to keep them toss in your paper recycling. Thank you for helping reduce solid wastes in the ground.

Any questions about items to be recycled, the internet is a great place to look or you may call RV Tribes EPA and we will assist you with any information we can. (707) 983-6960