



## **Native American Sacred Lands Forum**

Sacred Lands Protection Coalition Meeting  
March 19-22, 2002, Washington, DC

### **Sacred Lands Protection Coalition Organizing Meeting**

Tuesday March 19, 9 AM - 5 PM  
National Congress of American Indians,  
1301 Connecticut Ave. NW - Suite 200,  
Washington DC  
(please call 202.466.7767 to RSVP)

### **Host Hotel - Howard Johnson**

1430 Rhode Island Ave, NW, Washington, DC  
202.462.7777

\$69 single and \$79 double - group code: Sacred Lands Protection Coalition

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), in collaboration with the Seventh Generation Fund, Native American Rights Fund, United South and Eastern Tribes, and the Association on American Indian Affairs, is hosting the *Native American Sacred Lands Forum*, a summit addressing the destruction of sacred sites essential to the practices of Indian religions and the well being of tribal cultures. **The Forum will take place in Washington, DC from Tuesday, March 19, 2002 through Friday, March 22, 2002.**

Every year sacred sites, integral to the practice of Indian religions, are being destroyed. Legal remedies are often ineffectively implemented and provide limited legal redress to aggrieved traditional practitioners and tribes. The Sacred Lands Protection Coalition will play a key role in efforts to strengthen legal protections for sacred sites and to secure administrative accommodations for the use of sacred places by Indian religious practitioners. **The organizational meeting for the establishment of the Sacred Lands Protection Coalition will be held on March 19, 2002 at the DC offices of the NCAI.** The coalition will focus on education, consultation, and legislation.

Other events scheduled for the Native American Sacred Lands Forum include:

- Meeting between coalition members and Congressman Nick Rahall to discuss draft language of sacred land protection bill, and dates for a hearing.
- Screening of *In the Light of Reverence* at the Department of the Interior, Keynote Speaker-Vine Deloria Jr., invited panel members include Gale Norton, Neal McCaleb, Sen. Inouye, Sen. Campbell, Rep. Rahall, Rep. Hansen and Rep. Kildee
- Reception at the Department of the Interior sponsored by United South and Eastern Tribes and the National Trust for Historic Preservation,
- Connecting native people who attend the initial meeting of the coalition with land managers, agency representatives, members of Congress and staff,
- Linking coalition members with media to help get national publicity, and
- Arranging for the delegation to meet with Senators Inouye and Campbell, Representative Rahall and Hansen, and Congressional staff to discuss language of proposed legislation and to request both oversight hearings and hearings on any proposed legislation.

**To request a copy of the full agenda or more information contact Lillian Sparks, NCAI Legislative Associate, at 202.466.7767 or [Lillian\\_sparks@ncai.org](mailto:Lillian_sparks@ncai.org).**