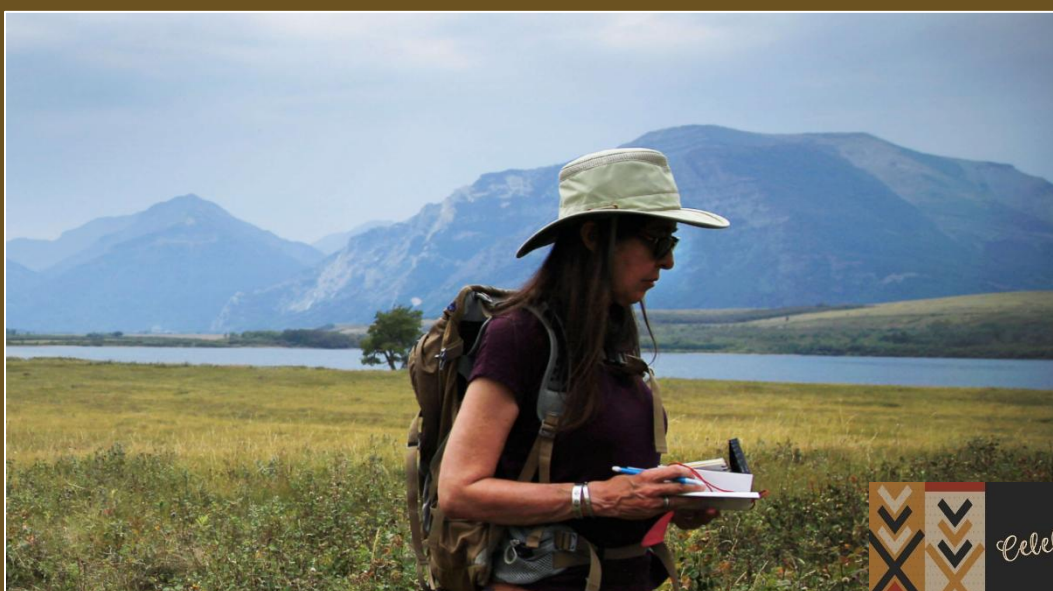


Dr. Cristina Eisenberg (Research Scientist, Teacher)

Dr. Cristina Eisenberg is an Associate Dean at Oregon State University, specializing in tribal initiatives and climate resilience. As a community ecologist with Māori and Western Apache heritage, she combines Indigenous and Western knowledge to address environmental challenges. In her work, Christina says that she uses “Two-Eyed Seeing,” a concept that involves viewing the world through both Western science and Indigenous knowledge, leading to more holistic and effective forest management strategies. Christina often says that Indigenous knowledge calls for “listening with humility” and caring for a forest as one would care for family.



One important initiative Christina directed is the Native Seed Project, which brings together five of the tribal nations in Oregon to restore federal and tribal lands. This project uses Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) methods from ethnobotany (the study of the traditional knowledge and customs of a people concerning plants and their uses) and ecocultural restoration to center the knowledge and experiences of Native inhabitants of the land and to carry out restoration according to the best practices of TEK. Activities include collecting seeds for restoration, restoring forests and prairies, and researching and implementing cultural practices, all of which create career opportunities for tribal youth and make federal and tribal lands more resilient to climate change.



"Reciprocity means that the forest is here to take care of us, but we have a huge responsibility to take care of the forest."

Dr. Cristina Eisenberg

