

## **Radiation and the Powers of the Land**

A roundtable of Glenna Cole Allee's new book,  
"Hanford Reach: In the Atomic Field" (Daylight Books, 2021)

UMass-Amherst Anthropology seminar  
Friday, February 11, 2022 at 2:30-4pm EST

Via Zoom: <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/95766507159>

This roundtable reflects on interdisciplinary artist Glenna Cole Allee's book of photographs and oral histories, "*Hanford Reach: In the Atomic Field*," which explores the environmental and cultural legacies of the the Hanford nuclear reservation, one of the most contaminated sites on planet Earth. Hanford was the site of the Manhattan Project's production of the plutonium used in the nuclear bomb dropped on Nagasaki in 1945, as well as the Cold War production of the majority of the plutonium deployed in the US strategic nuclear arsenal. Four decades of plutonium production at Hanford released at least four times as much radiation as Chernobyl.

The lands of the Hanford Reach along the Columbia River in eastern Washington state have been held sacred by indigenous peoples since time immemorial. Allee's book documents contending voices associated with this complex landscape: indigenous advocates who honor the healing powers of the land and the life-giving migration of salmon up and down the Columbia; civilian "downwinders," including Latino farmworkers impacted by many years of carcinogenic ionizing radiation; nuclear physicists who insist on Hanford's contribution to a national security mission; and African American nuclear workers long subjected to racialized regimes of surveillance and control.

This panel places Glenna Cole Allee in conversation with indigenous scholar and advocate Emily Washines, enrolled Yakama Nation tribal member with Cree and Skokomish lineage. and anthropologist Mark Auslander, who has contributed to Allee's book. Discussion will be moderated by Nicholas Caverly, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, an anthropologist of technology who explores the intersections of racism, space, and justice.

On Zoom

Book information: <https://daylightbooks.org/products/hanford-reach>  
See Glenna Cole Allee's work at:  
<https://glennacoleallee.net/section/413415-HANFORD-REACH.html>