

# Voluntary tribal coordination for energy development yields tangible benefits.

## Tribal Coordination Outside the Section 106 Process – Yes, you should!



Photo Credit: Benjamin Drummond

A CTUIR tribal member sharing knowledge of First Foods to CTUIR youth on BLM lands that had been land locked by private lands for over 70 years. These lands became accessible to CTUIR tribal members through an access agreement established as part of a wind farm development.

### Why

- Voluntary coordination is low cost, high value.
- Better project outcomes, **reduced** project **impacts** and development **timelines**.
- Yields robust & defensible cultural survey & report.
- Supports integration, as appropriate, of tribal cultural resources into state data records.
- Supports relationship building – is this the **ONLY** project you will need informal coordination or formal consultation on?
- Tribal data is **not regularly** in the SHPO database.
- Helps preserve the anthropological history of our region for all.

### Bonus!

- Important to know – **in-person meetings** are generally viewed more favorably in many tribal communities.
- Each tribe may request coordination a little differently – plan time to allow for a respectful pace.
- Building partnerships is helpful to all. Consider involving tribal archeological specialists to support in-field cultural pedestrian survey efforts.

### How

1. Identify area tribes with interest! (via LCIS, Legislative Commission on Indian Services)
2. Start with email, **follow with a phone call**, then try USPS.
3. Plan the initial site visit to include a **pre-scheduled** stop at the tribal museum or schedule an in-person meeting or tour.
4. Do your homework – review key publications of the tribe(s) prior to reaching out.

### What

- After initial engagement – send a Project description with maps – **spatial data** is better!
- Begin consultation knowing planned **ground disturbance** – location and depth.
- Can’t release data to the public? Not to worry – you can likely get an **NDA**.

### When

- During project siting or routing its ideal – change is expensive.
- At latest, before completing a cultural pedestrian survey and/or filing with state licensing council or local land use jurisdiction.

#### Acknowledgements

Thank you to the CTUIR Cultural Resources Protection Program for providing review and input.

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Come find me with Questions!

Scan here to connect:



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Challenge Accepted!

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