

Conscientious Consultation: The Importance of Tribal Engagement in RE Projects on Federal Lands

Conscientious Consultation: Early & Often Tribal Engagement for RE Projects



Intro

Paramount to the success of any renewable energy project on public or federal lands is early and often Tribal engagement. Approaching Tribes with respect, an open mind, and understanding, will help you avoid pitfalls of consultation later in the NEPA process.

Methods

1. Invite Tribes to early project planning
2. Ask Tribal members to be cultural monitors during archaeological surveys
3. Engage in early and often communication via video, phone, and/or email

Discussion

- Treat Tribal members with respect
- Reflect on your own biases
- Be open to hearing new perspectives



- Be sure to research the Tribes in your area with ancestral ties to the geographic location of your project.
- Be prepared to fund Tribal Cultural Monitors for archaeological survey.
- Tribal monitors may identify traditional sacred sites not previously recorded & choose to keep this information confidential.

References:

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