

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Policy Statement

Part 0 – Mission, Values, Principles

Title: Government-to-Government Relations with Oregon Tribes

Section- Policy Number 10-00-23	Supersedes: Government to Government Relations Policy	Effective Date: 12/13/21 Next Review Date: 1/1/26	Date of Last Review/Revision: 12/13/21
Related Standards and References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Executive Order 96-30, ORS 182.162 to 182.168		
Related Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Record Destruction Process		
Policy Owner: Tribal Liaison	Approved:  _____ Alexis M. Taylor, Director		

PURPOSE:

Establish a policy on government-to-government relations between the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon's federally recognized tribes.

BACKGROUND:

In 2001, the Oregon State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 770. This bill and subsequent statutes, (ORS 182.162 to 182.168), directs state agencies to develop and implement policy on relations with Oregon's federally recognized tribes.

POLICY:

It is the policy of ODA to promote and enhance government-to-government relations with Oregon's federally recognized tribes. ODA's intent is to strengthen intergovernmental relations, address concerns, and communicate with tribes on the development and implementation of ODA programs that affect tribal interests.

DEFINITIONS:

Cultural Resources Cluster: The Tribal-State group established to address cultural resources issues, including but not limited to, archeological sites, historic buildings, and elements of natural landscape that have cultural significance. The work group consists of tribal representatives from each tribe and key state agency contacts.

Natural Resources Workgroup: The Tribal-State group established to address natural resource protection and management issues. The work group consists of tribal representatives from each tribe and key state agency contacts.

Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS): Created by statute in 1975, the role of LCIS is to improve services to Indians in Oregon. LCIS serves as the main forum in which Indian concerns are considered; it serves as a conduit through which concerns are channeled through the network to the appropriate entity; it serves as a point of access for finding out about state government programs and Indian communities; and it serves as a catalyst for bringing about change where change is needed.

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Executive Team: ODA's Executive Team includes the director, deputy director, assistant director, communications director and program area directors.

Oregon's federally recognized Tribes: The following tribes are federally recognized in Oregon:

- Burns-Paiute Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indians
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians
- The Klamath Tribes

ODA Programs: Administration, Food Safety and Animal Health, Market Access and Certification Programs, Natural Resources Programs, and Plant Protection and Conservation Programs

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS:

- A. ODA will establish and maintain an agency liaison (tribal liaison) to foster good working relationships between ODA and Oregon's federally recognized tribes.
- B. ODA's tribal liaison will participate in the Natural Resources Workgroup and Cultural Resources Cluster meetings. The tribal liaison will provide relevant agency updates to the tribes at the meetings.
- C. ODA's tribal liaison will notify the ODA Executive Team on issues/concerns identified by tribes and facilitate a process to address them.
- D. ODA will work to provide training to staff to improve awareness of the sovereign authority and self-government of Oregon tribes and how ODA's work may intersect with tribal interests.

- E. ODA's tribal liaison will be responsible for communicating with tribes to identify their interests so that opportunities for tribal input into the planning, development, and implementation of agency programs and activities that may intersect with tribal interests occurs. This includes but is not limited to seeking tribal representation on ODA advisory committees and boards that may intersect with tribal interests.
- F. ODA will have a process to notify Oregon tribes before destroying records listed on ODA's special record retention schedule.
- G. ODA will seek guidance from the Legislative Commission on Indian Services and other state agency staff when appropriate, to improve understanding of tribal government matters.
- H. ODA's Director will provide an annual letter to Oregon tribes outlining future policy and rule development and invite Tribal engagement on areas of interest.
- I. ODA will submit a report by December 15th of each year to the Governor and to the Commission on Indian Services on a summary of interactions with Oregon tribes including an update on the cultural items inventory work.