Presented by the Idaho State Bar Environment & Natural Resources Law Section

# The Intersection of Environmental Law and Tribal Nations

February 23, 2023 Perkins Coie, LLP, Boise and Live Webcast



Approved by the Idaho State Bar for 4.0 CLE Credits

# **Program Agenda**

12:00 p.m.	Hosted Lunch
12:15 p.m.	Protecting Tribal Reserved Rights: The EPA's Proposed Revisions to Water Quality Standards Jennifer Brundage Lauren Maher U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1:00 p.m.	<b>Tribal Specific NEPA Considerations</b> Ted Boling <i>Perkins Coie LLP, Washington DC</i>
1:45 p.m.	<b>The Myths and Triggers of Tribal Engagement</b> Collette Brown-Rodriguez <i>Avantus</i> Maranda Compton <i>Lepwe Inc.</i>
2:30 p.m.	Break
2:45 p.m.	<b>Tribal Equity and Transportation Planning in Idaho</b> Cecilia Arritola Idaho Department of Transportation
3:15 p.m.	<b>Trust Duties and Emerging Considerations Related to the</b> <b>National Historic Preservation Act</b> Stacey Bosshardt <i>Perkins Coie LLP, Washington DC</i>
4:00 p.m.	Coordinating with State Agencies, Tribes, and the Federal Government On NEPA, a State Perspective George Lynch Richard Stover Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources
4:30 p.m.	Program Concludes

This program was produced in 2023. Since the law is constantly changing, you are cautioned to use this information only as a starting point for your own research and are urged to consult applicable resources to determine the current state of the law. Similarly, since the application of law is dependent upon each particular fact pattern, you should always independently research the particular issues in any case.

- CLE Credit: The Idaho State Bar will automatically record your attendance today by your signing on to the webcast. You do not need submit your credit in your online account and your online account will not reflect your credit for CLE courses that are indicated as "LIVE EVENTS."
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- Your attendance will show on the ISB website's <u>Attorney Attendance Records</u> approximately 2-3 weeks after you receive your certificate.
- The Course materials are available in your online classroom, in the upper left-hand corner of the screen under the materials tab.
- To ask questions, please use the Q & A tab at the top of your screen. Our speaker will answer the questions as s/he is able to.

### About the Speakers

### Jennifer Brundage U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Jennifer Brundage** is the rule manager for the U.S. EPA's Proposal to Revise the Federal Water Quality Standards Regulation to Protect Tribal Reserved Rights. She is a Regional Liaison with the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Jennifer has worked at the intersection of tribal reserved rights and water quality standards since 2015. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology from McGill University and a Master of Science in Marine, Estuarine, and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland.

### Lauren Maher U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Lauren Maher is an attorney in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Office of General Counsel. She provides legal advice on issues arising under the Clean Water Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, as well as the intersection between federal Indian law and the statutes that the EPA administers. Lauren assists the Agency in preparing and defending Clean Water Act actions and regulations and served as the lead attorney on a Clean Water Act Supreme Court case. Lauren has received numerous awards for her counseling work, including a Department of State Meritorious Honor Award and the Trudy A. Speciner Award for Environmental Protection. Lauren is a graduate of Georgetown University and American University Washington College of Law, where she received a three-year full-tuition public service scholarship.

### Ted Boling Perkins Coie LLP

As an associate director at the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), **Edward (Ted) Boling** served as the country's top National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) attorney. He currently advises clients on the development of renewable energy, resource development, transportation, and infrastructure, drawing on over 30 years of high-level public service. Ted served in the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), CEQ, and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in both Democratic and Republican administrations. His experience includes deep involvement in federal infrastructure issues, as well as leadership of the first comprehensive revision of CEQ's NEPA regulations in 40 years.

### Collette Brown-Rodriguez Avantus

**Collette Brown-Rodriguez** is a member of the Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribe and descendant of the Navajo Nation. Passionate about utilizing multidisciplinary expertise & public speaking background to influence tribal affairs while delivering optimal business results. Earned a Bachelor's in Environmental Science from Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana and earned a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona. With 20+ years of experience as a project management & program development leader focused on natural resource development and tribal affairs, she has been integral to executing complex problem solving, resource management, and establishing organizational cohesion to engage tribes across North America. She has experience in uranium mine reclamation, coal, oil & gas, and base metals mining operations and project development. Currently she is the Director, Community and Tribal Relations for Avantus (Formerly 8minute Solar) company. She also serves as one of the Independent Directors of Apollo Silver a silver exploration and resource development company based in Vancouver.

### Maranda Compton Lepwe Inc.

Maranda Compton is a nationally recognized expert and frequent speaker on issues of Native American law and policy. She is the Founder and President of Lepwe, a strategic consulting firm advising Tribal Nations and the non-tribal entities that seek to consult, engage, and partner with them. Prior to Lepwe, Maranda worked in private practice and pairs her extensive knowledge of Federal Indian Law and Tribal Law with practical, business-focused strategies that help clients navigate the various legal, investment, government relations, and public relations issues that arise when developing and operating projects within or impacting Indian Country. She consults on matters of environmental permitting and treaty rights, Tribal consultation and partnership, Tribal regulation, commercial financing for Trust assets, and equity metrics such as Environmental Justice, Justice 40, and ESG. In addition, Maranda is a thought-leader on Indigenous-focused education and regularly facilitates trainings for non-native organizations on the legal rights, histories, and contemporary cultures of Tribal Nations in the United States. Maranda is a citizen of the Delaware Tribe of Indians (one of three federally recognized Tribal Nations of Lenape people within the United States), as well as a mom of two, a resident of Missoula, Montana, and an adjunct professor at the University of Montana Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

### Cecilia Arritola Idaho Department of Transportation

In her current role, **Cecilia Arritola** is ITD's Program Lead for the NEVI Formula Program, Idaho's first Electric Vehicle program effort. She also works closely with the 5 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) within Idaho. Cecilia is currently leading efforts to prioritize equity for all transportation funding and projects within Idaho. She has extensive experience partnering with local planning agencies, local citizens, relationship within all disadvantaged communities, and collaboration with economic development agencies across Idaho. Cecilia has two young sons, whom she spends much of her time with. You will find her exploring hot springs across Idaho, dancing, enjoying concerts, spending time with family, and loves to travel and explore new cities. She is very involved in her Boise community, cares deeply about creating safe community and thriving spaces that are inclusive for all Idahoans. She lives in Boise with her two boys, Nano and Luka.

### Stacey Bosshardt Perkins Coie LLP

**Stacey Bosshardt** litigates environmental and administrative law cases. She represents mining, energy, pipeline, and other business and governmental clients in environmental and natural resources litigation throughout the country. Stacey's substantial experience includes positions as assistant section chief and senior trial attorney in the Natural Resources Section of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Environment and Natural Resources Division, where she litigated and supervised dozens of cases brought in U.S. district courts. Her experience with cases involving public lands includes litigation under the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Clean Water Act, Federal Lands Policy Management Act, Mineral Leasing Act, National Forest Management Act, and Administrative Procedure Act.

### George Lynch Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

**George Lynch** is Legal Counsel of the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Lynch previously served as Senior Policy Advisor at the Idaho Commerce Department. Before moving to Idaho, Lynch was Senior Legal Editor at Bloomberg and clerked in several federal agencies and served as a Fellow in the U.S. House of Representatives. Lynch has taught courses on international law at Boise State University and is the American Red Cross lead lecturer on International Humanitarian Law. Mr. Lynch has a JD and master's degree in foreign policy from American University and a LL.M. in international law from George Washington University Law School.

### **Richard Stover** Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources

**Richard Stover** is the Administrator of the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources. Prior to his appointment to OEMR, Stover provided legal counsel to a broad range of Idaho citizens, businesses, and public entities, as a partner with Boise law firm Eberle, Berlin, Kading, Turnbow & McKlveen, Senior Counsel for Government Relations at Boise State University, and Assistant City Attorney for the City of Boise. Stover also served as natural resource policy staff for Idaho Governors Phil Batt and Dirk Kempthorne and a judicial extern for U.S. District Judge Edward J. Lodge. Stover holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Idaho and a Bachelor of Arts from the College of Idaho. Stover and his wife Sara are proudly raising their three children in the Gem State.

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Proposed Revisions to the Federal Water Quality Standards Regulation to Protect Tribal Reserved Rights

> Idaho State Bar Association Tuesday, February 23, 2023

Jennifer Brundage and Lauren Maher U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Overview

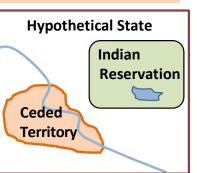
- EPA is proposing revisions to the federal water quality standards regulation (WQS) at 40 CFR Part 131.
- The proposed revisions describe how WQS must protect aquatic and aquatic-dependent resources – such as fish and wild rice - reserved to tribes through treaties, statutes, executive orders, or other sources of federal law, in waters of the United States.
- Once final, this proposal would create a regulatory framework to be applied case-specifically to ensure that WQS protect resources reserved to tribes.

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# Scope of Tribal Reserved Rights Rule

- <u>Waters where states establish WQS</u> (e.g., in ceded territory).
- This proposed rule is separate from EPA's work to propose baseline WQS for waters on Indian reservations that currently do not have CWA-effective WQS in place.





# Background: What Are Water Quality Standards?

- Define the water quality goals for a waterbody
- 3 key components: designated uses, criteria, and antidegradation policy
- Basis for

- Listing waters as impaired
- Total maximum daily loads (TMDL)
- Water quality-based effluent limits
- Certification under section 401 of the CWA



### Background: How Are Water Quality Standards Established?

- Adopted into state or authorized tribal law
- After a state or authorized tribe adopts new or revised WQS, the CWA requires the state or authorized tribe to submit them to EPA for approval or disapproval
- EPA reviews state and authorized tribal submissions for compliance with the federal WQS regulation at 40 CFR part 131
- Where the EPA Administrator determines new or revised WQS are necessary for a state or tribe, the CWA authorizes EPA to promulgate federal WQS.

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Proposed Regulatory Revisions: New 40 CFR 131.9

"(a) [WQS] must protect tribal reserved rights applicable to the waters subject to such standards."
"... [WQS] must, to the extent supported by available data and information, be established to protect:

(1)The exercise of the tribal reserved rights unsuppressed by water quality or availability of the aquatic or aquatic-dependent resource; and,
(2)The health of the right holders to at least the same risk level as provided to the general population of the state." SWIROWHER THE PROTECTION

### New 40 CFR 131.9(a)(1): Accounting for Suppression

- Intended to address situations where existing water quality is lower than necessary to allow for right holders to fully exercise their tribal reserved rights
- EPA is <u>not</u> proposing that WQS must always protect the waterbody condition that existed at the time a reserved right was established.
- This proposal, if finalized, would not establish any nationally applicable thresholds for unsuppressed levels or use of a resource.



### New 40 CFR 131.9(a)(2): Protecting the Health of the Right Holder

- Intended to establish acceptable risk (e.g., cancer risk level) for tribal members whose exercise of reserved rights may put them at greater risk than the general population, e.g., due to higher rates of fish consumption.
- Specify that tribal members exercising applicable reserved rights should be exposed to no greater than a 1 in 100,000 cancer risk, per EPA's current guidance for the general population.



# Implementing New 40 CFR 131.9(a)

- Where relevant reserved rights apply will be informed by several factors, including input from the right holders, and language of the treaties, statutes, or executive orders and relevant judicial precedent.
- To determine the WQS that protect those rights, EPA recommends that states request information from the right holders such as types of pollutants perceived to be impacting their rights, key aquatic species, and/or consumption rates.
- EPA encourages right holders to proactively share any such information with states and EPA.



### New 131.9(b): Initiating Consultation

- If finalized, this rule would *require* EPA to initiate consultation with right holders, consistent with applicable EPA tribal consultation policies, in determining whether state WQS protect applicable reserved rights.
- EPA's policy and longstanding practice is to consult on a government-to-government basis with tribes when EPA actions such as WQS approval/disapproval decisions may affect tribal interests.
- The rule would not require tribes to consult with EPA if they did not wish to.



New 131.9(c): How To Incorporate Protection of Tribal Reserved Rights into WQS

"In order to meet the requirements in paragraph (a) of this section, States must:

- 1) Designate uses...that either explicitly incorporate protection of tribal reserved rights or encompass such rights; and
- 2) Establish water quality criteria...to protect tribal reserved rights; and/or
- 3) Use applicable antidegradation requirements to maintain and protect water quality that protects tribal reserved rights."

States could also choose to combine these methods. 11



New §131.6(g): Minimum Requirements for Water Quality Standards Submission

Where tribal reserved rights apply, WQS
submissions would need to include:
"1. Information about the scope, nature, and
current and past use of the tribal reserved rights,
as informed by the right holders; and
2. Data and methods used to develop the [WQS]."

EPA is also proposing conforming revisions to 40 CFR §131.5 ("EPA Authority")



Proposed Revision to §131.20 WQS Triennial Review

"The State shall from time to time, but at least once every 3 years, hold public hearings for the purpose of reviewing applicable water quality standards...This review shall include <u>evaluating</u> whether there are tribal reserved rights applicable to State waters and whether water quality standards need to be revised to protect those rights pursuant to §131.9."



### **Potential Benefits**

- By laying out how EPA would review state WQS that impact aquatic resources reserved to tribes, this proposed rule would improve protection of
  - resources reserved to tribes, and
  - the health of tribal members exercising their reserved rights.

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• The proposed regulatory framework is also intended to provide transparency and predictability for tribes, states, regulated industries and municipalities, and the public.

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Next Steps

• The public comment period is ongoing through March 6, 2023. Please submit written comments via the online docket at <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OW-</u> 2021-0791.

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• Pending review of comments, EPA anticipates finalizing this rule in late 2023.



# Edward (Ted) Boling | Partner Perkins Coie

- Served as Associate Director for NEPA (2016-20), Senior Counsel (2009-10), General Counsel (2008-09), and Deputy General Counsel (2000-07) at the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in the Executive Office of the President
- Served as a deputy solicitor (2012-16) and as counselor to assistant secretaries (1997-98, 2010-12) at U.S. Department of the Interior. Trial attorney at U.S. Department of Justice (1990-97, 1998-2000)
- Deep involvement in federal infrastructure permitting issues and the first comprehensive revision of CEQ's NEPA regulations in over 40 years
- Advises leaders on transportation and energy development projects, agencies that must hire outside coursel, and the environmenial professionals that support them on the development of renewable energy, resource development, transportation, and infrastructure.
- Drafted NEPA guidance on mitigation and monitoring, cumulative impacts analysis, and the development of categorical exclusions
- Advised White House on the establishment of national monuments, including the first marine national monuments in the United States
- Washington University School of Law (J.D.1990)

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# What is NEPA?

- A statement of national environmental policy:
  - "to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and the biosphere and stimulate health and welfare of man"
  - "to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation"
  - "encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment"
- Procedural requirements for federal agencies to implement that national environmental policy
- Authorizing legislation for a Council on Environmental Quality ("CEQ") to implement that national environmental policy

# Where Do You Find It?

The Statute

- 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 4347
- NEPA "streamlining" (e.g., FAST Act)
  42 U.S.C. § 4370m et seq.
- The Regulations Many Different Sources
  - CEQ, 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500 1508
  - Federal agency NEPA procedures approved by CEQ
- Caselaw
  - Thousands of judicial decisions over the last 50 years.
  - · Seventeen cases in the Supreme Court.

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### Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Public Law No: 117-58

### **NEPA-RELATED PROVISIONS**

- SEC. 11301. CODIFICATION OF ONE FEDERAL DECISION
- SEC. 11311. EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF NEPA FOR FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS.
- SEC. 11318. CERTAIN GATHERING LINES LOCATED ON FEDERAL LAND AND INDIAN LAND.
- SEC. 14002. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS FOR CERTAIN TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.
- SEC. 14003. PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENTS FOR TRIBAL CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.

# The Statute

- "Action Forcing" 42 U.S.C. § 4331(a)
- "it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government ... to use all practicable means and measures,...to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans." 42 U.S.C. § 4331(a)
- The Action Required 42 U.S.C. § 4332(C)
- For every "major Federal action[] significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, a detailed statement by the responsible official on –
  - (i) the environmental impact of the proposed action,
  - (ii) any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided...,
  - (iii) alternatives to the proposed action,..."

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# The Regulations

### CEQ Regulations

- Promulgated in 1978 to provide step-by-step instructions on the implementation of NEPA
- Prior to 2020, only one regulation amended once 40 C.F.R. § 1502.22 (1986) – incomplete or unavailable information
- Entitled to "substantial deference." *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 355 (1989).
- CEQ Regulations revised for the first time, 85 Fed. Reg. 43304-76 (July 16, 2020).
- CEQ has finalized three amendments, 87 Fed. Reg. 23453 (April 20, 2022), with more to be proposed in 2023.

### Agency Implementing Regulations

- Other Agencies Have CEQ-Approved NEPA Implementing Regulations:
  - Department of the Interior, 43 C.F.R. Part 46
  - <u>516 DM 10: Managing the NEPA Process Bureau of Indian Affairs</u>
  - <u>59 IAM 3-H: Indian Affairs NEPA Guidebook</u>
  - <u>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Administrative</u> <u>Order (NAO) 216-6A</u>
  - Army Corps of Engineers, 33 C.F.R. Part 230
- No agency has updated regulations to incorporate the 2020 CEQ revisions

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# Executive Order 13990: Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis

# Sec. 2. Immediate Review of Agency Actions Taken Between January 20, 2017, and January 20, 2021

- Agency actions subject to review are those "regulations, orders, guidance documents, policies, and any other similar agency actions promulgated, issued, or adopted between January 20, 2017, and January 20, 2021, that are or may be inconsistent with, or present obstacles to, the policy set forth in section 1 of this order."
- Agencies are directed to "consider suspending, revising, or rescinding the agency actions."
- Directs DOJ to notify courts with pending litigation on any action being reviewed to consider a stay

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### E.O. 13990 Sec. 7 Revocations

Executive actions revoked or suspended with direction to agency heads to consider whether to recommend a replacement order include:

- Executive Order 13807 Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects "The Director of OMB and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality shall jointly consider whether to recommend that a replacement order be issued."
- CEQ is directed to rescind its June 2019 draft guidance on GHG guidance. CEQ, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, shall review, revise, and update its "Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act Reviews," 81 Fed. Reg. 51866 (Aug. 5, 2016).

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# E.O. 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

- CEQ's review of the 2020 NEPA rule will need to be coordinated with the Department of the Interior's Section 207 review of: "siting and permitting processes on public lands and in offshore waters to ... increase renewable energy production on those lands and in those waters, with the goal of doubling offshore wind by 2030 while ensuring robust protection for our lands, waters, and biodiversity and creating good jobs."
- CEQ's NEPA review will need to include Section 213 provisions:
- "to ensure that Federal infrastructure investment reduces climate pollution, and to require that Federal permitting decisions consider the effects of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change"; and
- "to accelerate the deployment of clean energy and transmission projects in an environmentally stable manner."

# Conservation & Environmental Justice

Under E.O. 14008, development of renewable energy production and transmission will have to be harmonized with other goals:

- Section 216, of conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030; and
- Section 219, of securing environmental justice and spurring economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities that have been historically marginalized and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment in housing, transportation, water and wastewater infrastructure, and health care.

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### DOI Secretarial Order 3399

- S.O. 3399 instructs Interior bureaus/offices to implement 2020 CEQ NEPA regulations only:
- Without changing the "application or level of NEPA" compliance that would have occurred under the prior CEQ regulations and,
- consistent with Department's own NEPA regulations, the Departmental Manual, and guidance from the Department's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.
- Departmental regulations found to "irreconcilably conflict" with the 2020 CEQ regulations must be referred for resolution by the Department and CEQ.
- Tribal Consultation and Environmental Justice Engagement in NEPA. "Historically, many Federal agencies have not consistently obtained Tribal input or coordinated with Tribes to integrate Tribal concerns into the decision-making process. Tribal consultation is a means to rectify this by recognizing the government-to-government relationship and considering Tribal interests in decision making."

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Multiyear Strategic Plan E.	and CRC Commitments
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All EPA programs that seek feedback and comment from the public will provide capacity-building resources to communities with environmental justice concerns to support their ability to meaningfully engage and provide useful feedback to those programs.

	E.	Include commitments to address disproportionate impacts in all written agreements between EPA and Tribes and states (e.g., grant work plans) implementing delegated authorities.
Obj 2.	Obj 2	EPA programs with direct implementation authority will take at least 100 significant actions that will result in measurable improvements in Indian country.
0		All state recipients of EPA financial assistance will have foundational civil rights programs in place.
tic		Increase by 40% the number of Office of Research and Development activities related to environmental justice that involve or are applicable to Tribes,
Justice		states, territories, local governments, and communities.
ental		Reduce disparities in environmental and public health conditions represented by the indicators identified through the FY 2022-2023 Agency Priority Goal.
		80% of significant EPA actions with environmental justice implications will clearly demonstrate how the action is responsive to environmental justice
Goal 2: Environm Obj 2.2	concerns and reduces or otherwise addresses disproportionate impacts.	
	All EPA programs that work in and with communities will do so in ways that are community-driven, coordinated and collaborative, support equitable and	
	resilient community development, and provide for meaningful involvement and fair treatment of communities with environmental justice concerns.	
	All EPA programs and regions will identify and implement areas and opportunities to integrate environmental justice considerations and achieve civil	
		rights compliance in their planning, guidance, policy directives, monitoring, and review activities.
6		All EPA programs and regions will implement program and region-specific language assistance plans.
		All EPA programs and regions will implement program and region-specific disability access plans.
m		Initiate 45 proactive post-award civil rights compliance reviews to address discrimination issues in environmentally overburdened and underserved
		communities.
	oj 2	Complete 305 audits to ensure EPA financial assistance recipients are complying with nondiscrimination program procedural requirements.
	Obj	Complete 84 information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events with overburdened and underserved communities and
	10	environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and environmental justice issues.
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dened and underserved communities. By

Multiyear Strategic EJ/CRC Priority Goals

Phase down the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). By September 30, 2023, annual U.S. consumption of HFCs will be 10% below the baseline of 303.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e) consistent with the HFC phasedown schedule in the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act

adealon would decrease the 0.5. consumption innectories Deliver tool same metrics for EPA and its Tribal, state, local, and community partners to advance environmental justice and external civil rights comprereptember 30, 2023, EPA will develop and implement a cumulative impacts framework, issue guidance on external civil rights compliance, establish at least 10 indicators to assess EPA's performance in reducing disparities in environmental and public health conditions, and train staff and partners on how to use these

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September 30, 2023, EPA will provide technical assistance to at least 10 communities to help achieve clean and safe water and reduced exposures to hazardous

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resources

substances.

and codified in the implementing regulations

Clean up contaminated sites and invest in water in



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# Myths and Triggers of Tribal Engagement Idaho environmental bar section cle

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# Presenters

### COLLETTE BROWN-RODRIGUEZ

Director, Community & Tribal Relations, AVANTUS



### MARANDA COMPTON

President & Founder, Lepwe Inc.



# The Corporate Perspective



"....understanding ESG in a capitalist context is simple. It is the consideration of extra-financial information to enable better decisions that, if done properly, should lead to sustainable economic growth."

World Economic Forum - 2023

It is imperative that businesses begin to focus on stakeholders rather than only shareholders and these 3 stakeholder groups are demanding more information.

#### Investors

ESG – Why its "Here to

Stay"

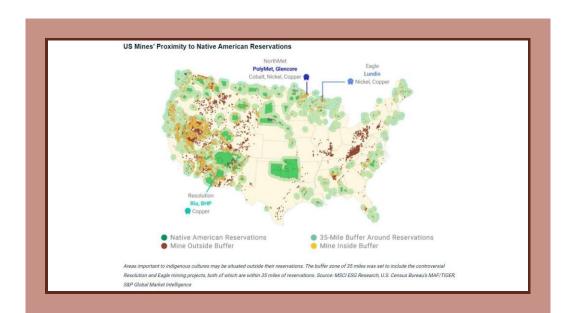
• Want to invest in ways they feel lead to sustainable economic growth

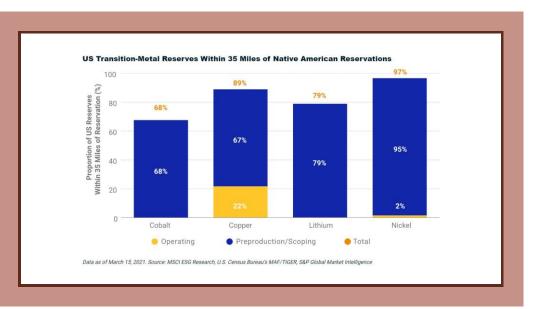
Customers

• Want to understand how their consumer decisions are impacting the world

Employees

Want to understand how their employers' decisions are impacting the world

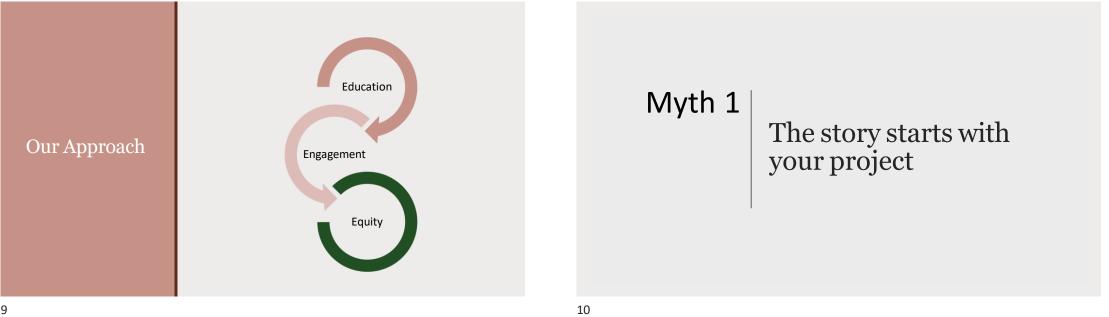


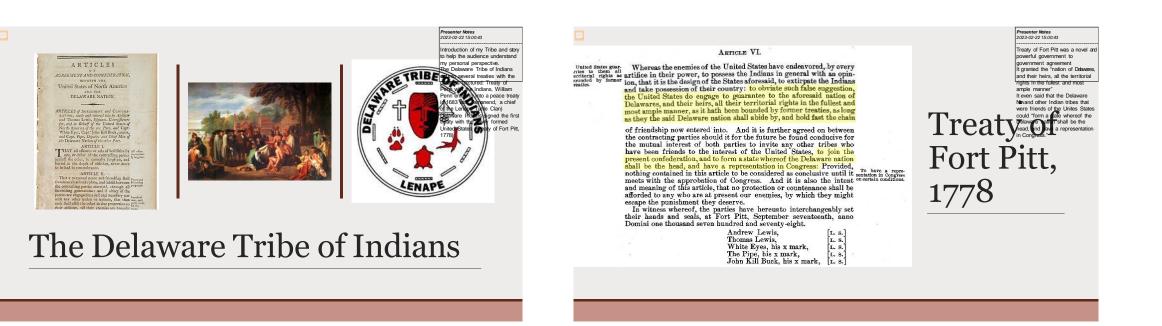


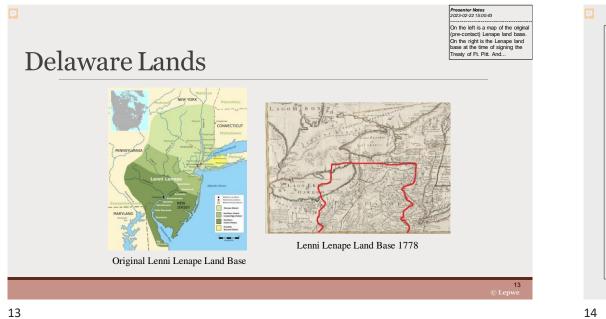
# 5 Myths of Tribal Engagement

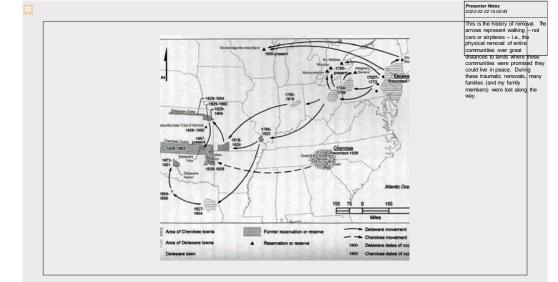
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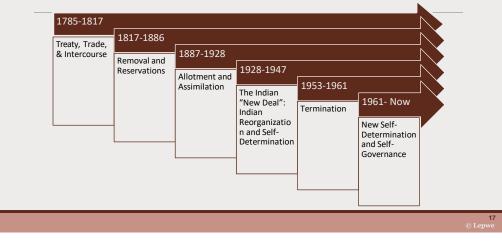
# Busting Myth 1...

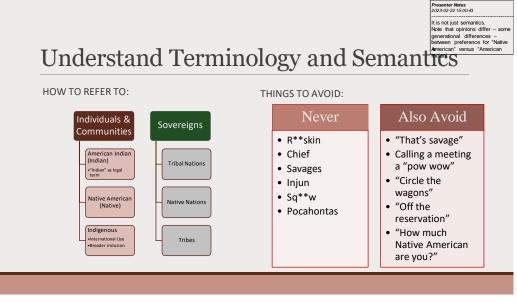
Presenter Notes 2023-02-22 15:00-43 Identify history of, and how, VNF wwithin Indian Country

Before approaching any Tribal Nation, be sure to education your executive and project teams on the history of Federal Indian Policy and its impacts on each specific Tribal Nation.

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# Address the Historical and Legal Knowledge Gap:





# Avoid Being Guided By Stereotypes

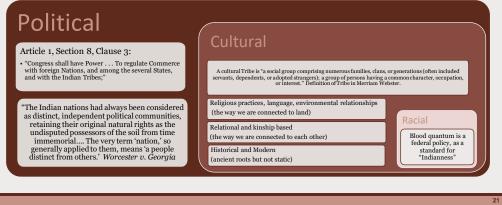


Myth 2

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Tribes are stakeholders akin to landholders and environmental groups

# What are Tribal Nations?



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# Tribal Nations are **Political** Entities

usual and accustomed stands, to oppression, removal, and discrimination Governmental structures Based on Indian Reorganization Atof 1934 Tribal Council Tribal Corporations/Business Card Attorney General's Office Environmental Agency/Department All of this provides a better

Presenter Notes 2023-02-22 15:00:44 Common themes range from hutig and fishing practices with mutual

underating of tribes' development

Political entities ran by elected and appointed officials

Political entities like other governments:

- "Tribal Leaders" (or more appropriately, Tribal elected officials) are subject to a political process and elected by constituents
- Departmental Directors/Chairs are often appointed by the Council and serve at their pleasure
- Government affairs relationship
- Different than a landowner for purposes of negotiation and regulation

22



NO pan-Tribal identity

- There is no singular Tribal history
- There is no singular tribarnistory
- In fact, a political Tribal entity is often comprised of various cultural Tribal entities

#### Each Tribal Nation possesses unique political structures, laws, and ethos:

- · Each Tribe sets it own membership requirements, government structures, laws and regulations
- How you work with a particular Tribal Nation must be tailored
- E.g., you would not permit a project in California the same way you would in North Dakota
- Analogy: Think of Tribal Nations as individual European Nations and Federal Indian Law as EU Law.

#### Many Tribes experience similar key issues:

- Economic isolation; lack of tax base
- Historical trauma
- Health and welfare concerns
- Cultural maintenance → environmental resilience

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understanding of tribes' development

# Why is a Tribal Nation not a Stakeholder?

### □ Not Private Landowners or a "community"

- Private Landowners can relocate
- Geostatic political nations tied to the land

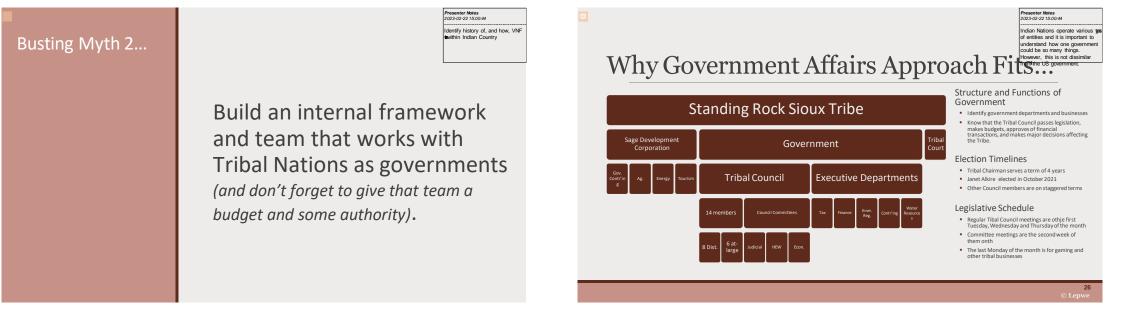
### Not Environmental groups/NGOs

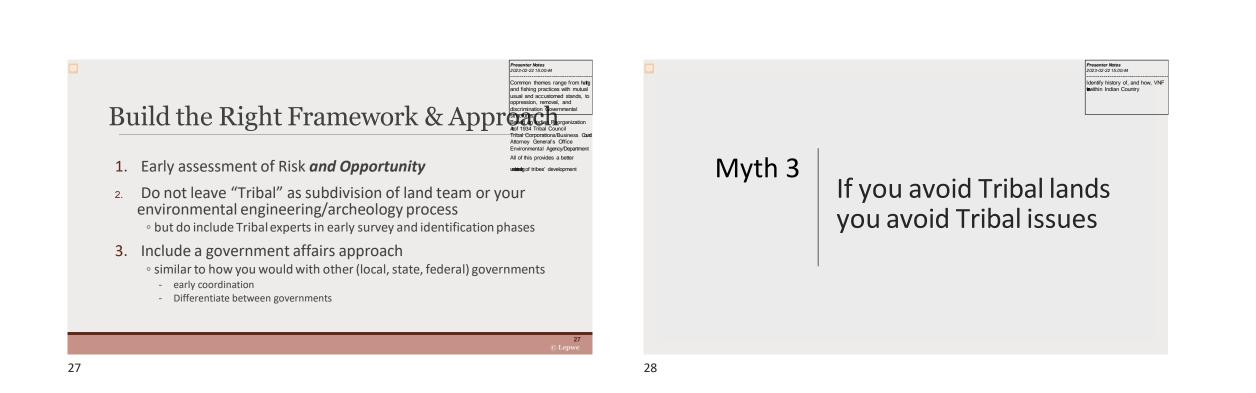
- Solely environmental concerns
- Variation among Tribes
- Environmental issues are cultural concerns
- Not concerned with governmental revenue, economic development, cultural issues

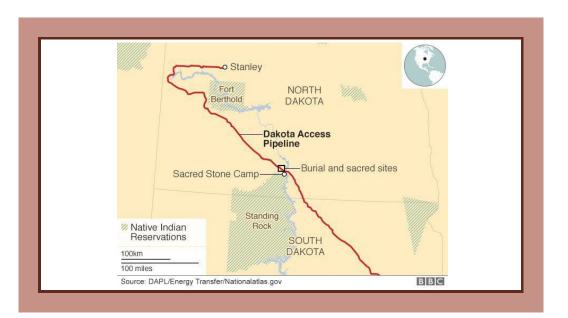
#### Not Tribal citizens groups

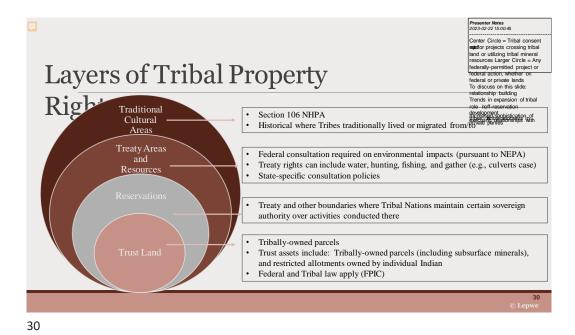
- Not a representative of the sovereign
- Hold different legal right

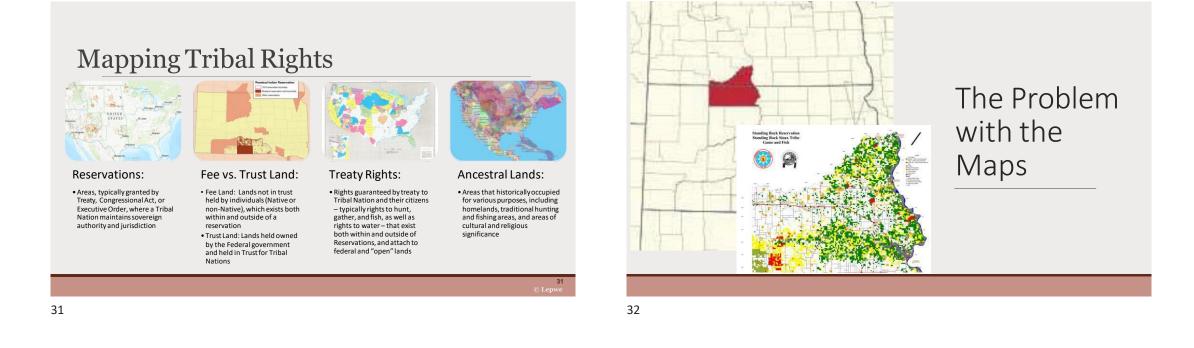
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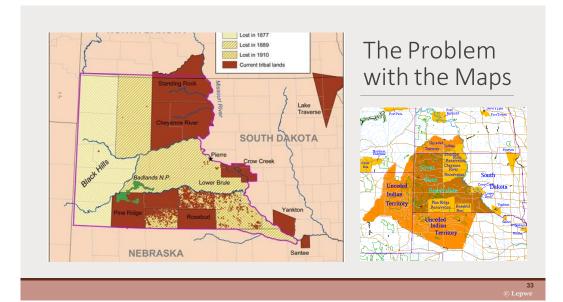








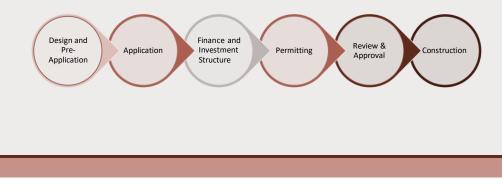








# Tribal Should Be a Part of Design



# Myth 4 Sending a letter to the Tribal Council is how you conduct Tribal Consultation

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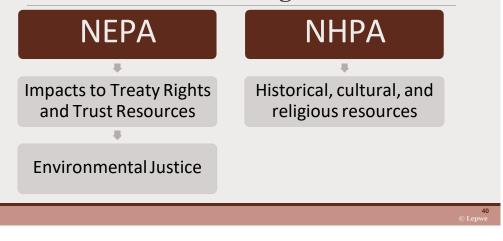
# Triggers for Tribal Consultation

#### IMPACTSTO...

Tribal Trust land/facilities	Federal Action	State Lands & Permitting Nexus
<ul> <li>Tribal consent and federal regulatory approval required (e.g., ROW)</li> <li>Tribal and federal permitting applies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>NEPA <ul> <li>Treaty Rights</li> <li>Trust Resources</li> <li>Environmental Justice</li> </ul> </li> <li>NHPA Section 106</li> <li>Federal Trust Responsibility <ul> <li>and Consultation</li> <li>Federal Licensing</li> <li>Justice 40</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Subject to State laws, which may include environmental review and water quality</li> </ul>

# **Environmental Permitting**

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# Legal Obligation for Tribal

## Consultation Jer 13175 (Nov. 6, 2000)

#### Core principles and purpose:

- o Reiterates fundamental principles of U.S-Tribal relations: that the United States maintains a unique trust relationship with Tribes and that Tribes maintain the right to self-government, sovereignty, and self-determination
- o Establishes standards of behavior for all federal agencies and departments when considering, developing, and implementing policies or actions that will have an impact on Tribal governments
- o Require federal government to consult with Tribal Nations on any federal decision or rulemaking that could impact Tribal lands or resources (both natural resources and cultural resources) and requires each agency to develop a plan for how it will do so.

#### Lacking in definitions or specific standards

- o "Agencies shall respect Indian tribal self-government and sovereignty, honor tribal treaty and other rights, and strive to meet the responsibilities that arise from the unique legal relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribal governments.
- o "Policies that have tribal implications" refers to regulations, legislative comments or proposed legislation, and other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes."
- The result: every federal agency has its own individual Tribal consultation policy, with slight variations.
  - o U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - Federal Communications Commission
  - Department of Energy
  - Department of Interior
  - o Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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There is a framework of

consultation and engagement

with federally-recognized tribes

ederal basthat require

#### There is a framework of federal basthat require Biden's Focus on Tribal Consultation consultation and engagement ally-recognized tribes

Biden's Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships (Jan. 26, 2021)

- □ Reinforces EO 13175 and states that "It is a priority of my Administration to make respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy."
- □ Within 90 days (April 26, 2021) the head of each agency must submit to the OMB Director a detailed plan of actions it will take to implement the policies and directives of EO 13175 and provide annual progress reports thereafter.
  - o DOI has already released specific consultation questions to Tribal leaders
- □ In 1 year, the OMB Director will provide a report on the implementation of EO 13175

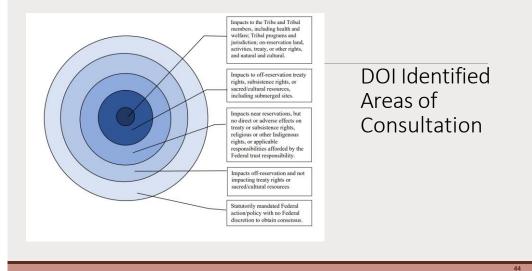
### **Evolving Consultation Policies at Interior**

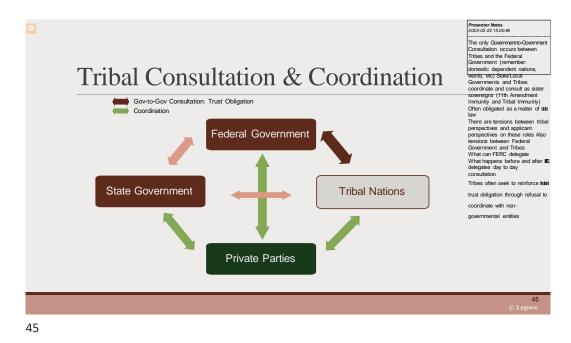
#### DOI Implements Department-Wide Consultation Policy

- Released November 30, 2022
- "Substantial direct effect on a Tribe" which may include:
  - Tribal cultural practices; lands; treaty rights; resources; ancestral lands; sacred sites, including sites that are submerged; and lands Tribes were removed from, or access to traditional areas of cultural or religious importance on Federally managed lands and waters;
     The ability of a Tribe to govern or provide services to its members;
  - 3) A Tribe's formal relationship with the Department, be it nation-to-nation or beneficiary-to-trustee; or
  - 4) Any action planned by a non-federal entity that involves funding, approval, or other final agency action provided by the Department, unless the Tribe is a party to the action. Substantial direct effects on Tribes may include, but are not limited to, effects as shown in the Consensus-Seeking Model (Figure 1).
- More Headquarter control of the process (TGO, TLO)
- Annual Reporting Requirements

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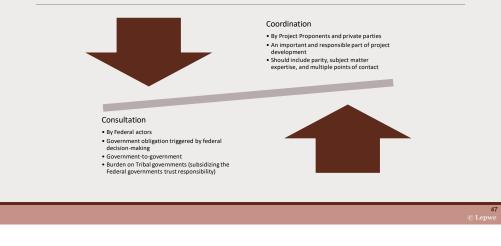




#### Busting Myth 4...

Differentiate engagement and coordination (private parties) from consultation (governmental entities) and build strong relationships with multiple points of contact and parity.

## Consultation vs. Coordination



## Realize Consultation is a Burden

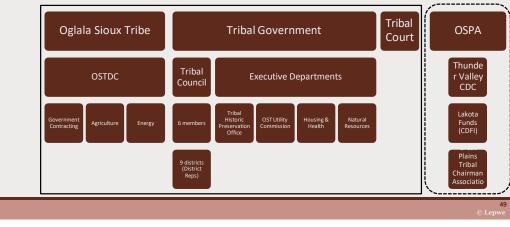
- Tribal Consultation is effectively Tribal Nations subsidizing the Federal government's trust responsibility
  - It is not an "opportunity"
  - It is not federally funded

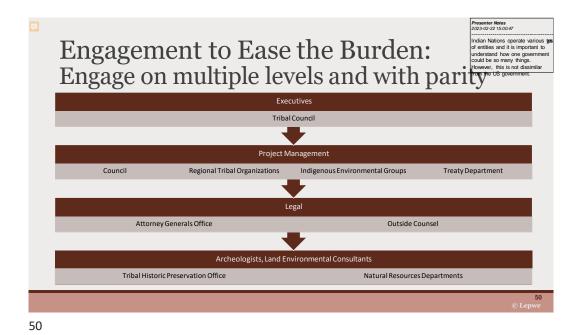
□ A significant demand on the resources (human and financial) of Tribal Nations

□ Consultation occurs far too I ate in the process to create successful relationships between a project and a Tribal Nation

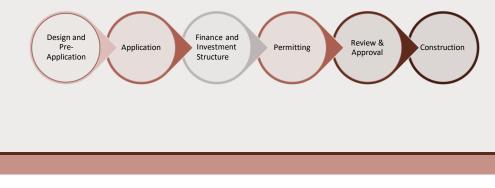
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# Engagement To Ease the

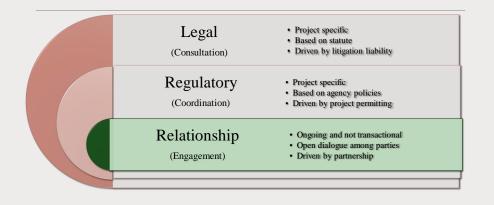


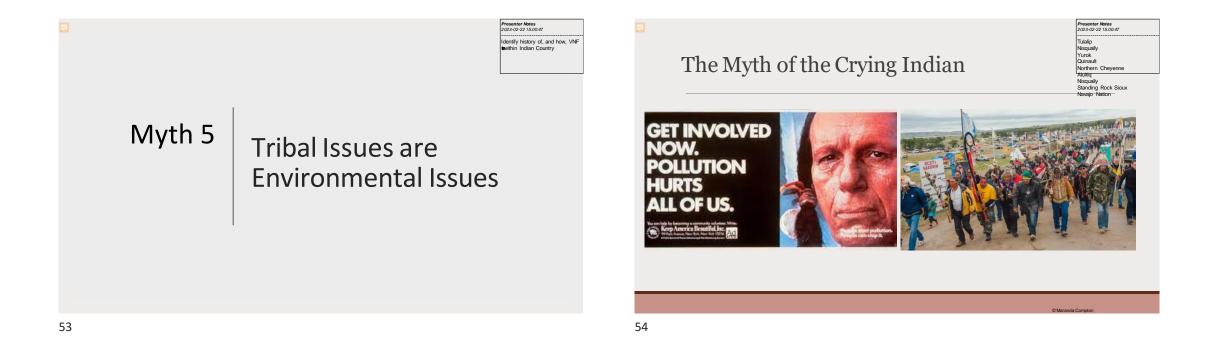


#### Engagement to Ease the Burden: Include Tribal early in your development process



# **Engagement and Relationships**



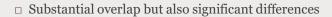


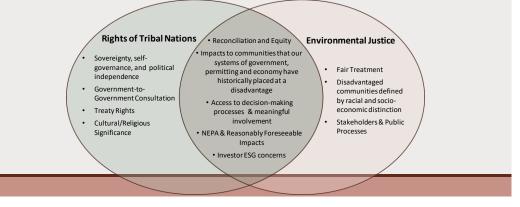
# Sovereignty > Environmentalism

- Recognize the difference between Tribal lifeways and environmentalism
  - Environmental laws are simply the access point provided to Tribal Nations
  - Environments versus lifeways
- Sovereignty means different choices for different Tribes
  - Tribal economic self-determination in spite of lack of tax base
  - Compare California versus North Dakota
- Equity metrics in permitting can conflate the issue

#### Environmental Justice vs. Tribal Sovereignty

Presenter Notes 2023-02-22 15:00:48 There is a framework of federal be that require consultation and engagement with federally-recognized tribes.





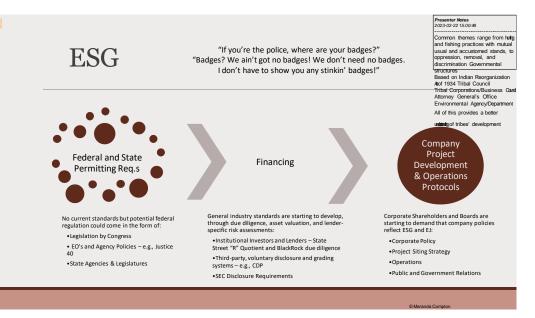
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# Where Tribal Rights Exceed EJ Tidalp Naqually Yack Quiraut Chapter C

- Tribes are political entities that are the signatories to and beneficiaries of the more than 368 ratified treaties with the United States – which permitted (through political agreement) the western expansion of the United States in exchange for a continuing obligation on the part of the U.S. Government to Tribal communities.
- ✓ Maintain a Special Government-to-Government Relationship
  - Under US law, the Federal government took possession of Tribal lands and resources creating a "Trust Status" that necessarily resulted in a "Trust Responsibility".

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#### Busting Myth 5...

Understand how Tribal Sovereignty can be part of, but also separate from, environmentally-focused processes, organizations, and metrics.

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# Two Ending Thoughts....

The Central Nature of Tribal Relations to the Future of Energy Development

- The Energy Transition is being spurred by Federal Action
  - Federal Permitting
- Tribal Consultation and Consent

#### Developments in Federal Permitting and Consultation are not providing answers or improved processes for Tribal Engagement

- What's the FAST-41 Approach to Tribal?
- New policies for consultation only highlight importance but do not provide better tools.

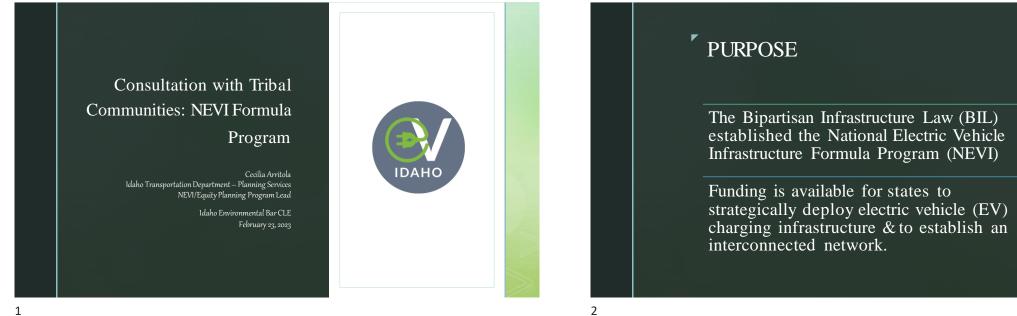
Streamlining Process for Developers? Perhaps differentiation by project developers and operators who get smart and build their own better processes.

- Takes time and resources
- Strategic
- Needs executive-level support

#### Offensive Irony of Current Fed Envt'l Policy

- Under U.S. Law Tribes cannot freely own land over which they have jurisdiction
- Doctrine of Discovery & Marshall Trilogy
- Indians could not hold land because they: (1) not Christian; (2) left the land as "wilderness" and limited use with conservation; and (3) communal ownership
- The basis of superiority of U.S. government was Christianity, individual property interest, and subjugation
- U.S. Federal Indian Law was by and large an effort to invalidate this Tribal property interest
  - Restricting this communal, conservation approach to reservations and pursuant to a Trust status as a way to square the Tribes' property law with U.S. individual property law
  - Nature of the Indian title, as subordinate to the absolute ultimate title of the government.
- Additional policies to invalidate Tribal communal, conservation property interest – e.g., allotment
- Now... conservation and communal ownership of public lands is the Federal policy
  - Public lands, 30 x 30, etc.











#### EQUITY

•Engagement will focus within rural, underserved, and disadvantaged communities throughout Idaho, for diverse input.

•Deployment and use of EV charging infrastructure will aim to provide equitable and fair distribution of all services

•State Plan will continue to reflect this engagement process & input received



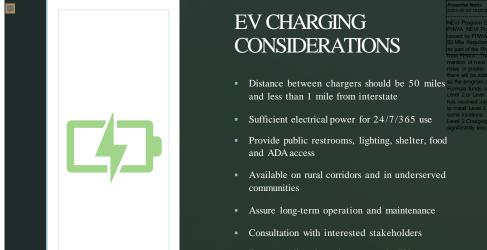
# INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP



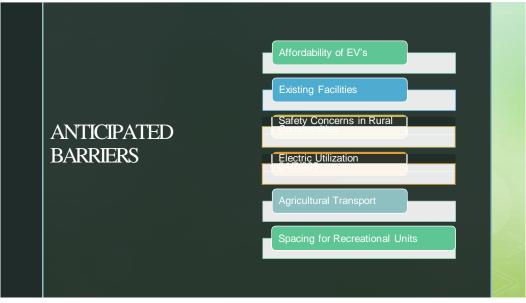
Jtilities (Idaho Power, Avista, Idaho Falls Power)	
daho Consumer Owned Utilities Association	
Government Agencies (Visit Idaho, IDPR, OEMR, ITD, DEQ, Con	mmerce)
daho Automobile Dealers	
Environmental/Energy NGO's	
Electric Co-ops	
daho Commission on Hispanic Affairs	
daho Tribal Affairs Council	
Metropolitan Planning Organizations	
daho Businesses	
Refugee Resettlement Agencies	
Dasis Areas	



PROJECT ELIGIBILITY					
æ	•••		~~		
Purchase and installation of EV Charging infrastructure	Operating assistance for costs of maintaining EV charging infrastructure installed under this program	Traffic Control devices and associated costs related to EV stations	Data sharing for long term success of investments	Acquisition of Traffic Control Devices located within ROW(Right of Way)	Mapping & Analysis Activities for specific area analysis



• Foster public-private investment in EV infrastructure



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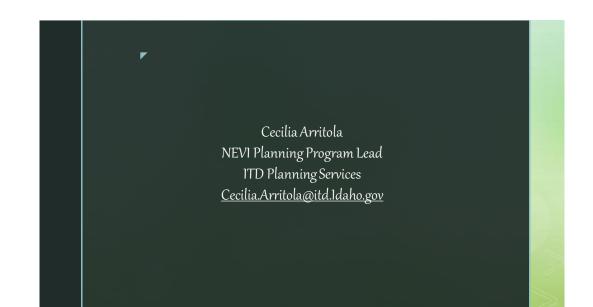
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TRUST ISSUES AND NHPA TRENDS

#### Overview Trust Issues and NHPA Trends

#### **OVERVIEW**

- Background Principles and Caselaw on United States' Trust Duty to Indian Tribes
- Navajo Nation v. United States -
- history
- posture
- implications
- National Historic Preservation Act Developments
  - Potential Corps of Engineers Rulemaking
  - Revisions to NPS Guidance on TCPs

#### TRUST RELATIONSHIP VS. TRUST DUTY

- There is a trust relationship between the federal government and Indian tribes. *United States v. Mitchell*, 463 U.S. 206, 225 (1983).
- Unlike at common law, that relationship alone does not establish an enforceable trust duty. *United States v. Jicarilla Apache Nation*, 564 U.S. 162, 184 (2011).
- For a duty to exist, a statute or treaty must include rights-creating language.

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#### How does an enforceable trust duty arise?

- A treaty or statute must create "specific rights-creating or duty-imposing statutory or regulatory prescriptions." *United States v. Navajo Nation*, 537 U.S. 488, 506 (2003).
- Comprehensive control may support finding that the government is subject to enforceable fiduciary duties only if coupled with "specific rights-creating or duty-imposing statutory or regulatory prescriptions." *Id.*
- Only if such statutory duties exist can "trust principles (including any . . . principles premised on 'control') . . . play a role in 'inferring that the trust obligation [is] enforceable by damages.' "*Birdbear v. United States*, 162 Fed. Cl. 225, 241 (2022).

#### Treaty provisions that contemplate farming

 Anderson, Robert T., Indian Water Rights and the Federal Trust Responsibility. Natural Resources Journal, Vol. 46, No. 2, 2006, Available at SSRN: <u>https://ssrn.com/abstract=1138864</u>



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#### Navajo Nation v. U.S., Nos. 21-1484 & 22-51

#### WHAT LEVEL OF SPECIFICITY IS REQUIRED FOR A TREATY OR STATUTE TO ESTABLISH A TRUST DUTY?

• Question Presented: Can two treaties between the United States and the Navajo (1849 & 1868) that provided for selection of plots of land by tribal members who "desire to commence farming," and for provision of "seeds and agricultural implements", along with DOI's "pervasive control" of water in Col. River Basin, establish a duty to quantify rights owed a reservation?



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# Navajo Nation v. U.S., Nos. 21-1484 & 22-51

#### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

- Plaintiff sought declaration that Interior must determine amount of water needed for reservation's purposes and devise plan to provide that amount of water
- Navajo Nation v. United States Dep't of the Interior, No. CV-03-00507-PCT-GMS, 2019 WL 3997370 (D. Ariz. Aug. 23, 2019):
  - Case filed in 2003
  - Plaintiffs relied on pervasive control over mainstream and treaty language.
  - Court granted government's motion to dismiss Tribe's second amended complaint, finding that it failed to state a claim for breach of trust, and did not allow third amended complaint.
- Navajo Nation v. U.S. Dep't of the Interior, 26 F.4th 794 (9th Cir. Feb. 17, 2022)
  - Reversed district court decision.
  - Petition for en banc review denied.

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#### Navajo Nation v. U.S., Nos. 21-1484 & 22-51

#### NINTH CIRCUIT DECISION

- Navajo Nation sufficiently alleged the existence of implied fiduciary obligation to "protect and preserve the [Navajo] Nation's right to water," derived from:
  - (1) implied treaty rights (Winters);
  - (2) 1868 Treaty, which "recognizes the [Navajo] Nation's right to farm Reservation lands" and "gives rise to an implied right to the water necessary to do so";
  - (3) statutory authorities granting government "pervasive control over the Colorado River"; and
  - (4) agency "regulations and documents" in which the government has undertaken to protect Indian Trust Assets.

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#### Navajo Nation v. U.S., Nos. 21-1484 & 22-51

#### SUPREME COURT REVIEW

- · Intervenor-defendants sought cert. on two questions:
  - (1) Whether U.S. owes the Navajo Nation a fiduciary duty to assess and address the Navajo Nation's need for water from particular sources; and
  - (2) Would the relief sought conflict with *Arizona v. California*, where the Court has issued a Consolidated Decree and has retained jurisdiction?
- Federal Defendants then sought certiorari, but argued that review should be confined to question (1) because consideration of (2) was premature.
- · Cert granted on both questions
- Current status: Argument scheduled March 20, 2023

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#### ASSERTED SOURCES OF TRUST DUTY

	Source of Claimed Duty	Y/N?	Case
	Indian Mineral Leasing Act	N	United States v. Navajo Nation, 537 U.S. 488 (2006)
	Indian Agricultural Act, Indian Dump Cleanup Act	Ν	<i>El Paso Natural Gas Co. v. United</i> <i>States</i> , 750 F.3d 863, 898-99 (D.C. Cir. 2014)
	Indian Health Care Act	Ν	ld.
	1868 Treaty of Laramie, Snyder Act of 1921	Y	Rosebud Sioux Tribe v. United States, 9 F.4th 1018, 1024 (8th Cir. 2021)
	1910 timber sales statute	Y	United States v. Mitchell, 463 U.S. 206 (1983)
11   © 20 (	Fort Berthold Mineral Leasing Act (FBMLA)	Y	Birdbear v. United States, 162 Fed. Cl. 225 (2022) PERKIN

#### Breach of trust case filed by Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation

- Breach of trust claim by Ute Tribe, originally filed in DDC.
- District court dismissed claims -- examined three statutes relied upon by the Tribe-the 1899 Act, the 1906 Act, and the 1992 Central Utah Project Completion Act—and found none gave rise to specific trust duties.
- Remaining transferred to District of Utah.
- Tribes allowed to amend complaint to add "new allegations concerning the Federal Defendants' pervasive, elaborate, and exclusive control over water management throughout the proposed pleading." Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Rsrv. v. United States Dep't of the Interior, No. 2:21-CV-00573, 2022 WL 3585771, at \*6 (D. Utah Aug. 22, 2022)

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#### Tribal trust cases in Court of Federal Claims



 "Between January 1, 2002, and September 30, 2014, the United States settled the claims of 86 tribes and paid about \$2.78 billion in compensation to the tribes." <u>https://www.justice.gov/enrd/tribal-trust-cases</u>

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#### Corps of Engineers Seeks Input on its NHPA Regulations

Federal Register/Vol. 87, No. 107/Friday, June 3, 2022/Notices

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Notice of Virtual Public and Tribal Meetings Regarding the Modernization of Army Civil Works Policy Priorities; Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Input

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD. ACTION: Notice; announcement of virtual public and Tribal meeting dates and solicitation of input.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army, Civil Works, to include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) (together, "Army"), are publishing this notice to announce an effort to modernize the

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Civil Works program of the Corps through a number of related policy initiatives. This effort includes a series of public and Tribal virtual meetings, as well as a public docket, to gather oral and written input that will be used to inform future decision-making related to: Native American/Tribal Nation issues; potential rulemaking actions regarding the Corps' Regulatory Program's implementing regulations for the National Historic Preservation Act as well as Civil Works implementation of the Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines; and, environmental justice, including definitions of certain terms used in policy making.

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#### National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

Procedural statute; doesn't mandate particular results. "Stop, look, and listen."



#### NHPA Section 106

- Section 106 requires agencies to "take into account the effect of [an] undertaking on any district, site, building, structure or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register." 54 U.S.C.A. § 306108
- Secretary of the Interior to maintain "a National Register of Historic Places of buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture."
- National Park Service has established the criteria for significance
- "Property of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe" may be eligible for inclusion. Federal agencies "shall consult with any Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization that attaches religious and cultural significance to property." 54 U.S.C.A. § 302706 (a) & (b).

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#### NHPA regulations

•	Advisory	Committee	on	Historic	Preservation
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- NHPA established the ACHP. 54 U.S.C.A. § 304108
- Independent federal agency that promulgates regulations to implement NHPA.
- Many agencies also have their own NHPA regulations
- Federal agencies "must" comply with those regulations in implementing the Section 106 consultation process. *Te-Moak Tribe of W. Shoshone of Nevada v. U.S. Dep't of Interior*, 608 F.3d 592, 607 (9th Cir. 2010).
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, promulgated in 1990 (55 FR 27003).
  - Governs regulatory program (permits to third parties), not Civil Works program
  - Interim guidance in 2005 and 2007 to update for changes to NHPA/keep pace with amendments to NHPA.

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Appendix C vs. ACHP regulations

	Scope of Undertaking	Analysis Area	Ways to Resolve Effects
Corps regulations	"The work, structure or discharge that requires a Department of the Army permit pursuant to the Corps regulations"	Permit area – "those areas comprising the waters of the United States that will be directly affected by the proposed work	Memorandum of agreement or permitting conditions
	33 C.F.R. § Pt. 325, App. C ¶ 1(f)	or structures and uplands directly affected as a result of authorizing the work or structures."	33 C.F.R. § Pt. 325, App. C, ¶ 8.
		33 C.F.R. Pt. 325, App. C ¶ 1(g)	
ACHP regulations	"a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a	Area of potential effects – "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may	Programmatic agreement or memorandum of agreement
	Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance; and those requiring a Federal permit,	directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist"	36 C.F R. § 800.6(c)
	license or approval"	36 C.F.R. § 800.16(d)	
	36 C.F.R. § 800.16(y)		PERKINS

#### **Dueling Regulations?**

- In the notice, the Army "acknowledges there has been longstanding disagreement between the Corps and ACHP regarding differences between the Corps' Regulatory Program Appendix C and" ACHP's regulations'
- "Differences in the Corps Procedures for Implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Have Gone Unresolved for over Two Decades," GAO 19-20 p. 52
- ACHP has never formally concurred in Corps' regulations. Id.
- Commenters' response: NHPA doesn't give ACHP role of approving other agencies' regs.

#### Updated Guidance on Traditional Cultural Properties

- To assist in the preparation of nominations, the National Register has issued guidance, usually "Bulletins"
- National Park Service has published a draft update of National Register Bulletin 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties (first published in 1998)
- Provides "guidance for identifying, evaluating, and documenting traditional cultural places (TCPs) that are significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and culture, at local, state, and national levels of significance."
- Provides more examples

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• Goal is to publish final in December 2023

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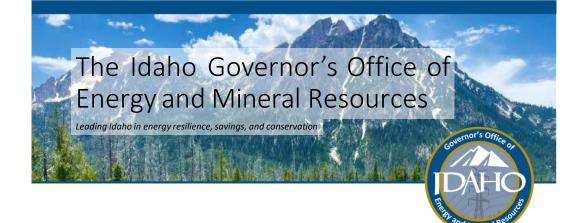
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# Questions?

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#### Executive Order 2020-17

- Idaho's energy and mineral planning and policy development agency
- Lead agency for NEPA involvement on energy and mining issues
- Idaho's clearinghouse for energy and mineral information
- Administer loan & financial assistance programs
- Administrative arm of the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance (ISEA)



#### Mission

• Develop and utilize Idaho's energy and mineral resources in an efficient, effective, and responsible manner that serves to enhance the state's economy and sustain the quality of life for its citizens.

Our focus: reliable, affordable, and sustainable power in Idaho



#### OEMR's Role in NEPA

EO-2020-17 establishes OEMR as the state cooperating agency for energy and mineral projects subject to NEPA

In this role OEMR...

- Tracks projects subject to NEPA
- Serves as a Cooperating Agency representing the State of Idaho
- Coordinates comments and input among state agencies
- Meets regularly with federal agencies such as the BLM, BOR, USFS to discuss energy and mineral developments





## Mining Projects



Itafos Conda Mine

- Itafos Conda will allow Idaho to maintain its position as a leader in the phosphate mining industry.
- The mine will supply Idaho's agriculture and food industries with high-quality fertilizer produced from locally-mined phosphate.



Jervois Cobalt Mine

- Jervois started production on the first American cobalt mine.
- Cobalt is a mineral that is critical to advanced battery production among many other high-value technologies.







