

Zoom Technical Logistics

- How to participate today

- Please use Q&A for questions and Chat for comments
- If you'd like to make a verbal comment, please use Raise Hand and our moderator will unmute you during the Q&A portion at the end of the presentation
- We welcome comments and questions from Tribal leaders and representatives
- Please keep comments respectful and focused on today's topic



Chat



Q&A



Raise Hand

- This meeting will be recorded



Information Session: SB 18 Tribal Consultation Guidelines & Toolkit Update

April 8, 2026

1:00-2:00 p.m. | 5:30-6:30 p.m.



CA Governor's Office of
**Land Use and
Climate Innovation**

Meet the LCI Team



Rico Miranda
Tribal Liaison



Patricia Kennedy
Manager, Policy Unit



Brandon Harrell
Planning & Climate
Equity Specialist

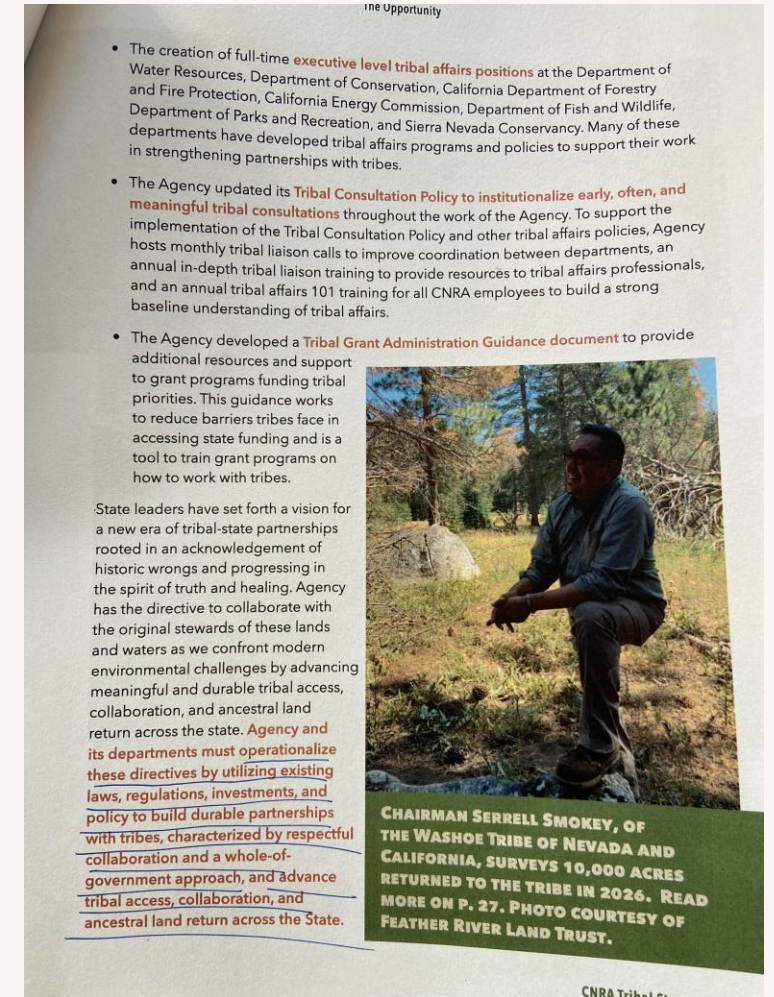
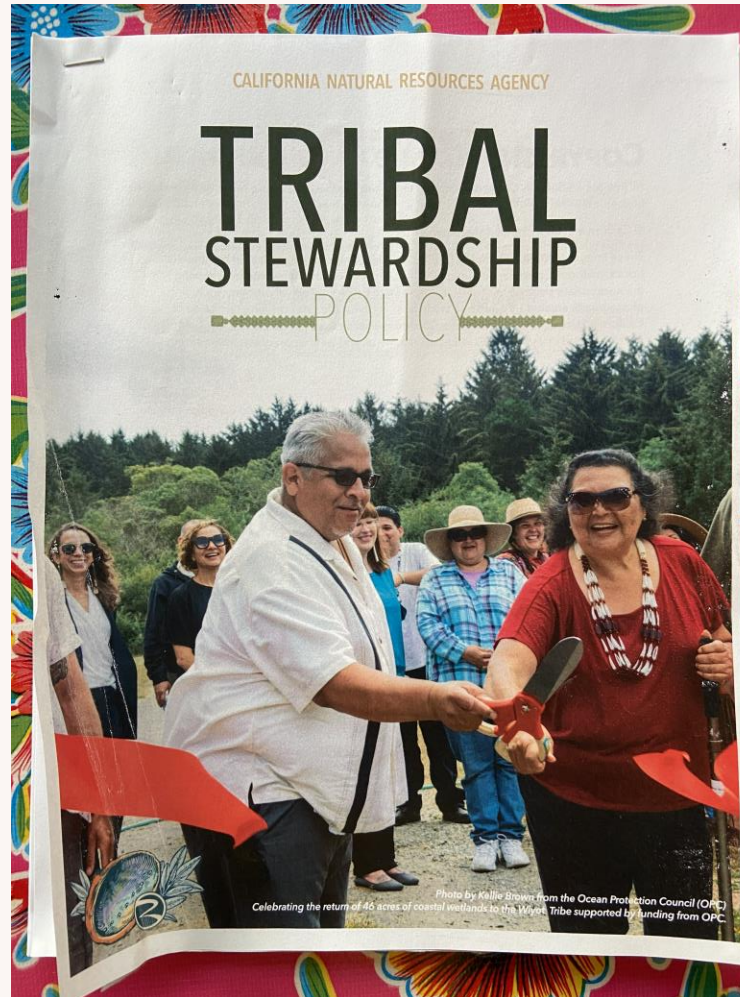


Araiya Shah
CivicSpark Fellow



CNRA Tribal Stewardship Policy

"... utilizing existing laws, regulations, investments, and policy to build durable partnerships with tribes, characterized by respectful collaboration and a whole-of-government approach, and advance tribal access, collaboration, and ancestral land return across the State."



Agenda

- ✓ Welcome
- Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation (LCI) Background
- Project Background
- Engagement to Date
- Future Engagement and Tentative Timeline
- Q&A and Next Steps

****This presentation does not constitute Consultation****



Background



CA Governor's Office of
**Land Use and
Climate Innovation**



CA Governor's Office of
**Land Use and
Climate Innovation**

About LCI

Effective July 1, 2024, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) was renamed the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI).

The Office is spurred into action by California's promise of enduring environmental and equity leadership, coupled with the realization that progress is not occurring at the necessary speed and scale.

We strive to shift from exploitative economies, built environments, and policies to ones that are beneficial to all people and the planet, requiring transformative changes across all systems.

Our mandate is clear: to accelerate innovation and implementation that supports thriving people and communities here in California – and beyond.

Statutory Functions

Planning

- Set long-range land use goals and policies
- Develop and adopt General Plan Guidelines
- Manage state planning grants
- Support local and regional planning
- Work with US military on land compatibility issues

CEQA

- Draft CEQA Guidelines
- Operate State Clearinghouse for CEQA
- Resolve lead agency conflicts



Environmental Policy

- Publish Environmental Goals and Policy Report
- Coordinate research on growth and development
- Oversee federal grants for environmental goals
- Coordinate statewide environmental monitoring

***Since the
1970s***



What are the Planning Guidelines?



General Plan Overview

- **A General Plan is the long-term blueprint**, describing the community's vision and identifying strategies for managing preservation and change
- State law requires every city and county to keep an updated General Plan
- Using goals, maps and land use policies, the General Plan shapes how decisions are made over time.



WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

A General Plan is like a road map for the future of Ventura



1



General Plans describe the community's vision and identifies strategies for managing preservation and change.



The State of California requires every city and county to have a General Plan to guide growth.

2

3

General Plans typically include goals, policies, implementation strategies and supporting graphics.



These components work together to convey a long-term vision that will guide local decision making.



4

5

The General Plan also plays an important role in regulating land use. Its policies and maps form the foundation for City ordinances, guidelines and plans.



General Plan Elements

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Land Use | 6. Safety |
| 2. Circulation | 7. Noise |
| 3. Housing | 8. Environmental Justice * |
| 4. Open Space | 9. Air Quality ** |
| 5. Conservation | |



** Required for communities with Disadvantaged Communities (DAC)*

*** Required for communities in San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJAPCD)*

Jurisdictions may add “optional” elements. Elements can be combined in any way.



General Plan Elements (continued)

- 9 Required Elements
- Additional Optional Elements
 - Historic Preservation
 - Water
 - Economic Development
 - Urban Design and Placemaking
 - Agriculture and Working Lands



Specific Plan Overview

- A comprehensive planning and zoning tool for a small area
- Establishes the vision and guiding principles
- Defines policy and development standards
- Strong focus on implementation
 - Regulations
 - Infrastructure needs
 - Costs



Core Planning Principles

- **Indigenous Knowledges**

- Elevate Indigenous knowledge and Tribal stewardship practices in a way that values local tribal communities, honors knowledge, and respects reciprocity.
- Provide guidance on Tribal consultation and co-stewardship opportunities within land use and climate strategies.

- **Climate Adaptation, Mitigation & Resilience** - Treat as a cross-cutting issue (instead of a single chapter) with callouts and best practices linking climate to all General Plan elements.

- **Equity & Health** - Consistently integrate across all elements with clear definitions, data tools, and actionable policies.

- **Community Engagement** - Position as a foundational principle, consolidate best practices, and tailor strategies for engaging diverse and priority communities.



Tribal Consultation in Local Planning



SB 18 and the State's Role

Purpose of Tribal Consultation

- Government-to-government process ensuring Tribes have a meaningful role in local land use decisions
- Supports partnerships that help local governments understand, avoid, and respectfully plan around Tribal cultural resources
- Required under SB 18 (2004)

SB 18 Overview

- Requires consultation with Tribes during General Plan updates
- Applies to land use decisions involving sacred sites and cultural resources
- Supported by state-developed Tribal Consultation Guidelines (last updated 2005)

LCI's Role

- Not a regulatory agency
- Provides guidance, tools, and technical assistance to help Tribes and agencies meet consultation obligations
- Updates Guidelines as needed and aligns training with legal requirements and best practices



Relationship to Planning Guidance

- SB 18 sets the consultation requirement and the guidelines give practical direction

Tribal Consultation Guidelines (SB 18)

General Plan Guidelines

- Shows where consultation fits into long-range planning

- Translates that into more detailed, place-based planning

Specific Plan Guidelines

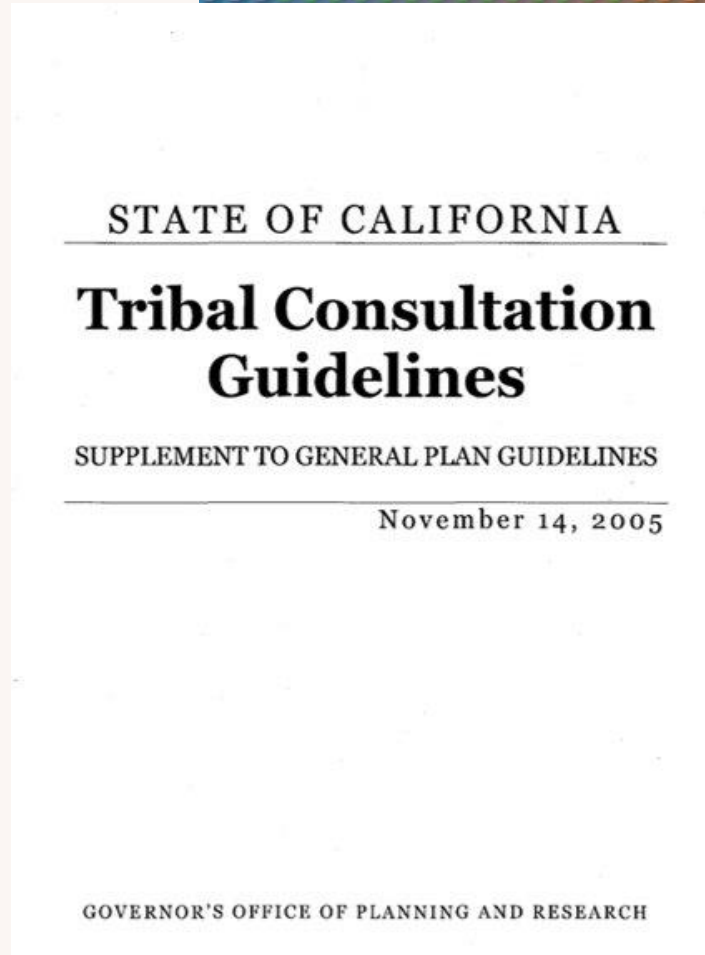
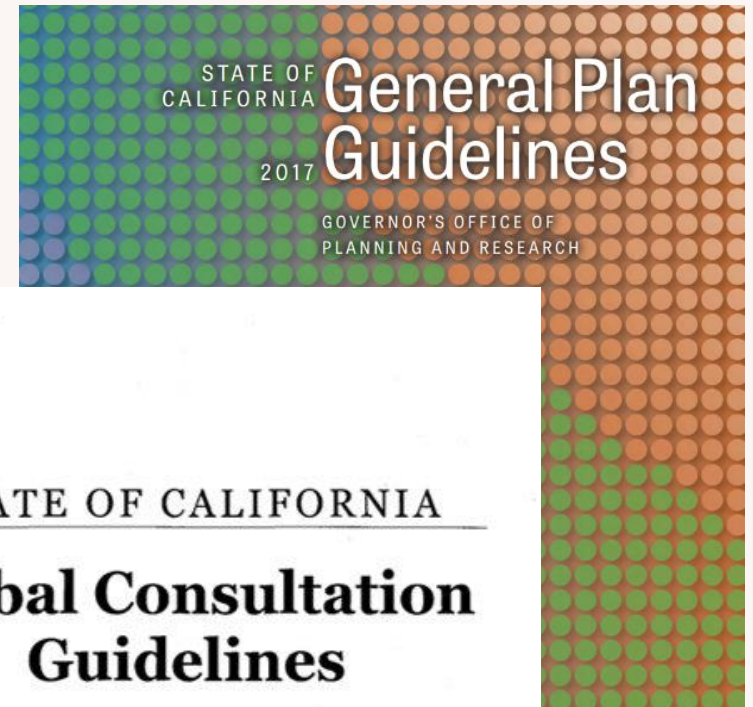


Why are the Guidelines being updated?



Why update the Planning and Tribal Consultation Guidelines now?

- Over 250 new planning-related laws have passed since the last update (2017)
- Tribal Consultation Guidelines (TCG) are outdated (2005)
- Updating General Plan, Specific Plan and Tribal Consultation Guidelines together ensures alignment with current law and best practices
- Updates reflect Tribal priorities, sovereign decision-making, lived expertise, and lessons shared by Tribes over the past two decades



What do we hope to achieve?

- Useable guidance rooted in the law AND best practices for meaningful, early, and often Tribal engagement, emphasizing relationship building
- Upholding Executive Order B-10-11: meaningful, early and timely consultation
- Centering Native voices in all of the Guidelines' updates
- Honoring cultural knowledge, Tribal sovereignty, and lived expertise
- Developing tools and trainings for local jurisdictions and Tribes to better meet these goals

These are not an update to the law and will need to follow the law as currently written at time of publication

Engagement



CA Governor's Office of
**Land Use and
Climate Innovation**

Engagement to Date

Tribal Consultation

- Letters mailed and emailed to all California Native American Tribes on the BIA and NAHC lists (Sept. 2025, March 2026)
- LCI received requests for consultation from several Tribes, and began scheduling one-on-one consultations (Dec. 2025)

Project Outreach

- Hosted a booth at the 58th Annual California Native American Day at the State Capitol in Sacramento, hosted by the California Tribal Chairpersons Association
- Presented virtually at the U.S. EPA Regional Tribal Operations Committee (Feb. 4)
- Presented in-person at the THPO/SHPO Summit (Feb. 11)
- Held interagency meetings with NAHC, Governor's Office of Tribal Affairs, and California Attorney General's Office



Upcoming Consultation and Engagement: What and How



Where and how would you like to consult?

- SB 18 establishes the legal requirement for Tribal consultation

Tribal Consultation Guidelines (SB 18)

General Plan Guidelines

- Provides guidance to local governments for preparations of General Plans, including Tribal Consultation requirements

- Applies SB 18 requirements at the neighborhood scale

Specific Plan Guidelines



Where and how would you like to consult?

- What are best practices for SB 18 Tribal consultation?
- What tools/resources could support effective consultation?

Tribal Consultation Guidelines (SB 18)

General Plan Guidelines

- How should planners engage with Tribes?

- How should planners engage with Tribes?

Specific Plan Guidelines



How do you want to engage?

Consultation

- Formal government-to-government
- Primary means of engagement
- LCI can meet with your Tribe as many or as few times as requested
- **Goal of establishing and maintaining conversations**

Advisory Group

- Focused group reviewing materials and providing consistent advisory input in monthly virtual meetings
- Formed through nomination process
- **Expectations and charter to be created with group**

Roundtables

- Envisioned to be a knowledge exchange between several Tribes
- Series of 6 Roundtables
- **LCI to receive feedback on Roundtable Series process before kickoff from Consultations and advisory group**

Planning Tribal Advisory Group

Purpose

- Advises the State of California during the PGU process
- Not a replacement for consultation – instead, supports culturally grounded planning guidance

Participation

- Both federally and non-federally recognized Tribes
- Tribal leaders and representatives, THPOs, TEK practitioners, and more
- Experience working and consulting with local jurisdictions
- 18-month commitment of monthly meetings

Reciprocity

- Compensation mechanisms still being formalized
- High priority that members are compensated for their time and expertise
- LCI will maintain transparency and timely communication



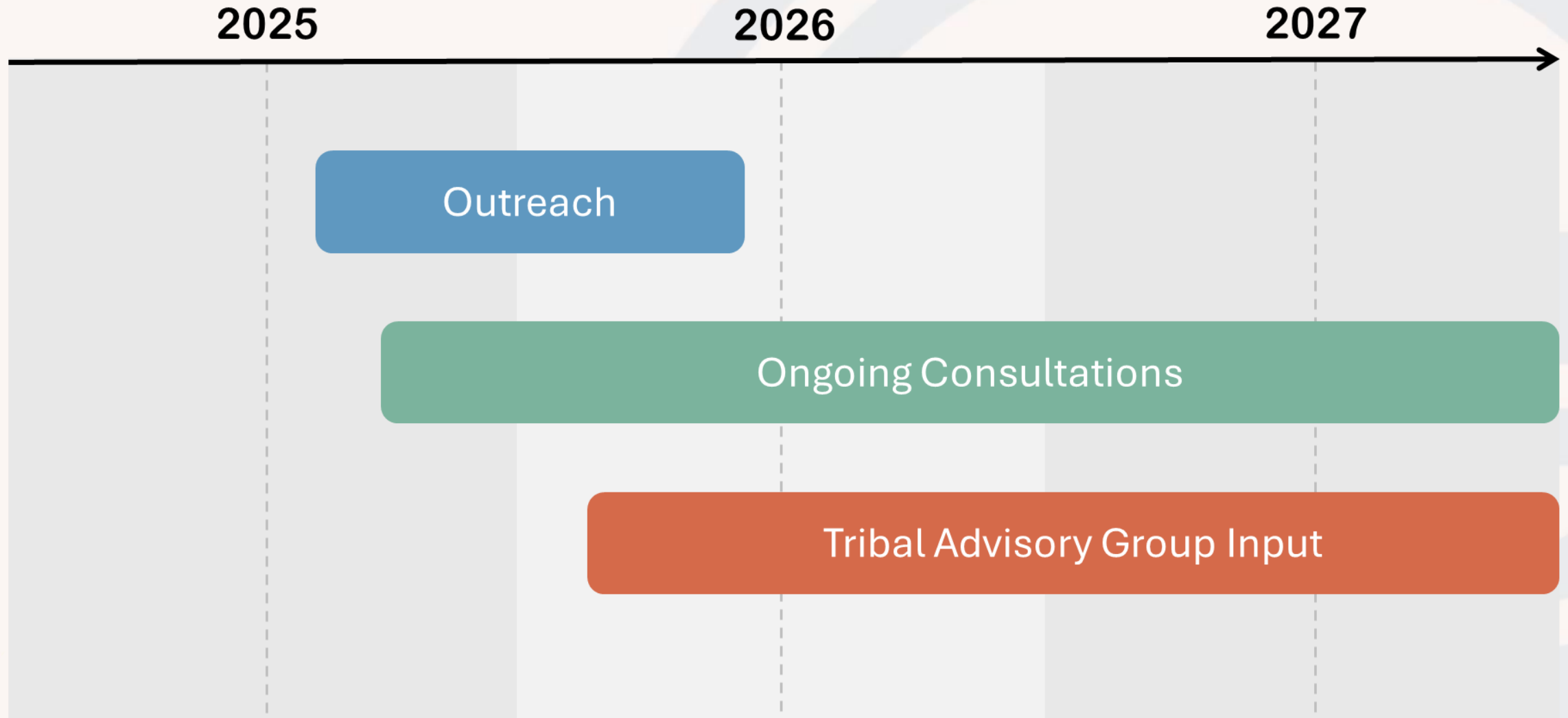
Request for Nomination

Nominee	Nominator	Nominating Tribe
Name	Name	Letter of recommendation
Title	Title	due June 1
Email	Email	
Phone #	Phone #	
Bio, resume, or CV	due May 22	
Brief statement of interest		



- Request for nomination period: March 19 – May 22
- Self-nominations encouraged
- We welcome nominations from:
 - Tribal leaders and representatives
 - Tribal planners
 - Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs)
 - Tribal Environmental Directors, staff, and land managers
 - Administrators
 - Cultural knowledge holders
 - Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) practitioners
- Submit via:
Tribal.Affairs@lci.ca.gov

Engagement Timeline



Next Steps

- Tribal Government to State Government Consultation
 - **Email us!**
- Tribal Advisory Group
 - **Due May 22** (with letter of recommendation due June 1)
- Tribal Roundtables
 - TBD, pending discussion with PTAG & individual Tribes

Other events or places we should be?

Recommended reading, training, or other learning we should do?



Discussion and Q&A



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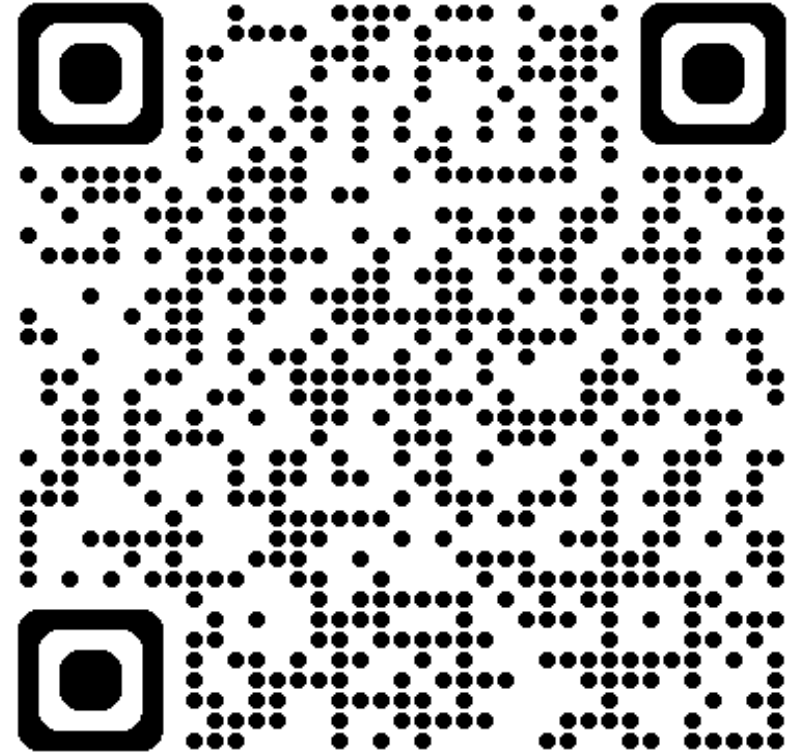
Contacts

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Brandon.Harrell@lci.ca.gov



*Interested in learning more about the SB 18
Tribal Consultation Guidelines & Toolkit project?*



Eyaay ahan

Kaqinaš

au?au?

Miyaxwa

He:yung

Ayukii

Haawka

Míyu

Oppun towih?

Kwichkamadium

Mun-a-hoo

Manahuu

Chiin tha eh

Haminat

Behne

Dv-laa-ha~

He'ba'lo

Oyuukwi

Thank you



CA Governor's Office of
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