



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

July 15, 2026

**REQUEST FOR TRIBAL CONSULTATION
ANNOUNCEMENT OF VIRTUAL
LISTENING SESSIONS**

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To: California Native American Tribes

Re: Draft Contact List Regulations

Deadline: September 14, 2026

Contact: tribal.consultation@nahc.ca.gov

On October 13, 2025, the Commission released an updated version of the draft contact list regulations for a 60-day tribal comment and consultation period. On December 11, 2025, the Commission extended the tribal consultation and comment period on the revised draft through January 26, 2026. During the 105-day tribal comment and consultation period the NAHC conducted two virtual and three in person listening sessions at Tuolumne, Soboba, and Graton. Additionally, the Commission engaged in individual consultation sessions with 24 tribes.

Based on the comments received, the Commission made the following major revisions:

1. For the purposes of these regulations, added a definition of a non-federally recognized tribe. (31032 (g))
2. Removed signatory of one of the eighteen unratified treaties as a criterion for inclusion on the contact list.
3. Broadened the criteria for inclusion on the contact list to specify what constitutes previous federal acknowledgement and to include notification of the opportunity to participate in SB 18 consultation as a tribe. (31035 (b) (2)-(3)).
4. Specified what documents are to be submitted in support of a request for inclusion on the contact list. (31035 (b) (1)-(3)).

5. Recognized the NAHC's role in assisting local jurisdictions and project proponents in determining which tribes are traditionally and culturally affiliated with an area and removed the requirement that the Commission approve consultation maps. Instead, the NAHC will accept all maps and share with other tribes when areas of consultation overlap. (31036).

6. Provide for voluntary mediation of map disputes. (31036 (a)(1)); 31038).

7. Consolidated sections related to Commission hearing procedures into one.

The Commission is now engaging in tribal consultation and soliciting comments on the attached revised draft. While feedback on all aspects of the revised draft regulations is welcome, there is one question that we want to highlight as needing additional tribal input.

Should federally recognized tribes currently located outside the geographic boundaries of the State of California be included on the contact list? If so, under what criteria?

The Commission will be hosting virtual listening sessions on the following dates and times:

July 29, 2026: 3:00pm – 5:00pm

The following link may be used to access the listening session:
<https://tkoworks.zoom.us/j/88998964468>

August 17, 2026: 11:00am – 1:00pm

The following link may be used to access the listening session:
<https://tkoworks.zoom.us/j/86548254829>

To obtain the password for these listening sessions please contact the NAHC via email at tribal.consultation@nahc.ca.gov.

Should your tribe seek to engage in direct consultation, the Commission will also hold individual tribal consultations. The deadline to request individual tribal consultation is September 1, 2026. Requests may be made via email to tribal.consultation@nahc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Andrew Alejandro

Andrew Alejandro
Executive Secretary