How do environmental NGO’s effectively collaborate with tribes in ways that respect tribal sovereignty and is mutually beneficial?
How do tribe(s) effectively collaborate with environmental NGO’s in ways that protect tribal sovereignty and is mutually beneficial?
Outline of “Introduction to Tribal Engagement” Training

• Welcome ceremony
• Ice breaker – pairs: one thing you have in common
• Introduction to historical and cultural context presentation; Washington Tribes and the United States
  • Definitions
  • Tribal Lands
  • Historic Timeline
  • Federal Designations
  • Examples of Principles of Engagement
• Introduction to historical and cultural context presentation; BC First Nations
• Local example of stewardship presentation by TJ Greene, Makah
• Panel of Lessons Learned and Continued Questions of Tribal Engagement
  • 3 TNC staff who actively work with tribes
  • TJ Greene
  • TNC staff from BC First Nation
• Closing prayer
CONSERVATION PRESERVES & TRIBAL LANDS

WASHINGTON STATE

- Removal and Relocation (1828-1887)
- Allotment and Assimilation (1887-1928)
- Reorganization and Self-Government (1928-1945)
- Indian Self-Determination

MAP LEGEND
- Tribal Lands
- Nature Conservancy Preserve
- County

*Tribal Lands represent Indian territory of federally recognized tribes in Washington.*
WA Tribal Treaties (1854-1856): Governor Isaac Stevens negotiated treaties with tribes in what is now Washington State to obtain the land to accommodate the wave of oncoming homesteaders and settlers.

Indian Removal Act (1883): Tribes refusing to relocate (from ancestral lands) would lose federal protection and be subject to state laws and jurisdiction.

The Dawes General Allotment Act (1887): Authorized the President of the U.S. to survey American Indian tribal land and divide it into allotments for individual Indians.

First WA Boarding School (1878): An attempt to assimilate tribes into the mainstream “American way of life,” Christian organizations then the federal government forced children into off-reservation schools.

Indian Reorganization Act (1934): Allotment is banned and Indian lands taken into trust.

Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) (1975): Tribes have authority for how they administer funds from the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. The Act also rejuvenated tribal governments to take control of their own education and beliefs.

Boldt Decision (1974): Judge Boldt ruled that certain Indian groups (treaty tribes) had retained title to 50% of the western Washington State salmon resource.

Self-Governance Act (1988): Amended from the ISDEAA, tribal self-governance is expanded for tribes, where it is recognized that tribes can provide better governmental services to their own members than distant federal bureaucracies.

Rafeedie Decision (1994): Judge Rafeedie ruled that tribes had reserved harvest rights to half of all shellfish from all usual and accustomed areas.

Second World War
"Federal recognition formally establishes a government-to-government relationship. Status as a sovereign entity carries with it significant privileges, including exemptions from state and local jurisdiction. These exemptions generally apply to lands that the federal government has taken into trust for a tribe or its members. Additionally, federally recognized tribes are eligible to participate in federal assistance programs, which can provide funding for vital community services."

- National Congress of American Indians
Principles of Engagement

1. Cause No Harm
2. Free, Prior, and Informed Consent

“Principles for collaboration between tribes, TK holders, federal agencies and others that are intended to guide collaboration and the creation of mutually beneficial relationships...include integrity, validity, fairness and equity, respect and recognition. Finally, the principles include a discussion of traditional rights, sovereign status of American Indian Tribes, the Nation of Hawai‘i and Alaska Native Tribes, the trust obligation of the federal government, the inadequacy of current intellectual property law, and international agreements to protect indigenous peoples and TKs from exploitation.“

Building Collaboration: Remarks

• Each tribe has had unique experiences, with unique values and culture

• Tribes continue to fight to ensure their sovereignty and to protect their identities

• There is more to learn about individual tribes and tribal context, the Tribal Engagement Resources Box folder provides further knowledge and resources

Thank You!