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Levee Vegetation Workshop

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Federal Treaty Trust Responsibilities

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Facts

- There are 29 Federally-recognized Tribes in Washington
- Federally-recognized Tribes are sovereign Nations
- Federal government has a legal relationship (*Trust responsibility*) with each Tribe based on treaties, statutes, court decisions & executive orders



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More Facts

- Tribes are culturally unique
- Tribes do not get “hand-outs” from the government! The government agreed to certain services in exchange for lands
- Tribal members have the highest rate of enlistment in the Armed Forces



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USACE



Tribal Policy Principles

- Meet the Trust responsibility;
- Honor the government-to-government relationship;
- Acknowledge the inherent sovereignty of Tribes;
- Engage in pre-decisional consultation;
- Protect natural and cultural resources when possible, and
- Find opportunities to use existing authorities to encourage economic capacity building and growth.





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Tribal Trust Responsibilities

- **Duty to protect** resources and rights reserved by tribes
- **Obligation to inform, coordinate and consult** with tribes prior to making or taking actions that have the potential to affect tribal rights or interests





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USACE Obligations



- Treaty rights and land use
- Economic self-sufficiency
- Tribal fisheries habitat
- Protection of archeological sites
- Protection of sacred sites
- Repatriation of Native American human remains



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Questions/Discussion?



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