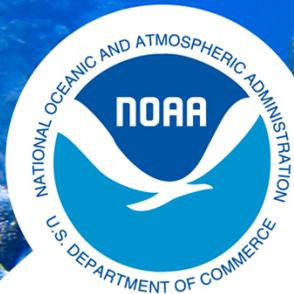


# Tribal Coordination in the Greater Atlantic Region

Jessica Pruden  
March 18, 2015



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

# Policies Guiding Consultation and Coordination with Federally Recognized Tribes

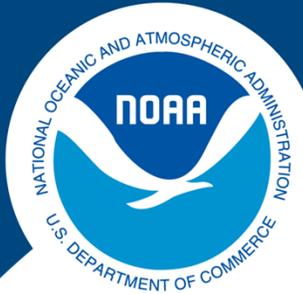
- National Policies (e.g., Executive Orders, Definitions)
- Agency Policies (e.g., Secretarial Orders, Department Administrative Orders etc.)
- Regional Policies (e.g., Regional Consultation Policies etc.)



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# Federal Trust Responsibility

- The relationship between Federally recognized Indian Tribes and the Federal government is one of sovereign to sovereign and has been described at length by the federal judiciary and referred to in federal law promoting Tribal self-determination and self-governance.
- The U.S. government and the governments of Federally-recognized American Indian Tribes have a unique “government to government” relationship defined by U.S. Constitution, treaties, Federal statutes, Federal court decisions, and executive Branch policies.



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# Federal Trust Responsibility

- Central to this relationship is the “trust responsibility”.
- The federal trust responsibility is a legal obligation under which the United States “has charged itself with moral obligations of the highest responsibility and trust” toward Indian Tribes (Seminole Nation v. United States, 1942)



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# Executive Order 13175

## *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* (President Clinton November 6, 2000)

- November 5, 2009, reaffirmed Executive Order No.13175.
- Affirms federal agencies will "...establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies or actions that have Tribal implications..."
- Strengthens the United States government-to-government relationship with Indian Tribes.



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# Government to Government Consultation

## Policies with tribal implications

- All 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.



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# Consultation and Coordination with Tribes on River Herring

- NMFS and ASMFC Solicited input from all Federally and State recognized tribes on river herring.
- NMFS and ASMFC Solicited interest from Federally and State recognized tribes on participation in the TEWG.
- Passamaquoddy Tribe, Pleasant Point, designated Ed Basset as tribal expertise for the TEWG



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# Federal – Tribal Coordination on River Herring Conservation

- In response to NMFS' interest in understanding the cultural importance of river herring in the U.S. and Canada to East Coast Native American Tribes and First Nations to support the River Herring Conservation Plan, the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Pleasant Point, drafted a comprehensive paper entitled: The Cultural Importance of River Herring to the Passamaquoddy People.
- Next Steps working group



**NOAA**  
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# Funding Mechanisms

- NMFS Species Recovery Grants to Tribes
- USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant Program
- DOI BIA Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program
- Other funding mechanisms?



**NOAA**  
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Questions/ Comments please contact:

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