

River Plan/South Reach Meeting with Federal Tribal Liaisons

May 16, 2018

Attendees: Federal government staff by phone: Amalie Wilson, NOAA Fisheries, Dave Johnson, BLM, Corina Aikakoula, BPA, David Redhorse, BIA, Kathy Ferge, USDA, Waldo Walker, USFS, Jackie?
City staff: Laura John, Tribal Liaison, Sallie Edmunds, Jeff Caudill and Debbie Bischoff

After a welcome by Laura John and introductions by all present, Laura provided an overview of her role as Tribal Liaison for the City of Portland and the purpose for the meeting, which is for Federal Tribal Liaisons to provide ideas to BPS South Reach planning staff as to how to best engage tribal representatives in non-consultation participation with the City on the River Plan/South Reach project.

Jeff provided a River Plan/South Reach project overview that was shared with federal government staff as a PDF (of a powerpoint presentation) along with an agenda that had questions to discuss, prior to the meeting. Federal government liaisons asked questions of City staff to garner a better understanding of how the City interacts with tribal representatives.

Then different federal tribal liaisons offered the following suggestions to City staff:

1. Send a general letter to each tribe (cast a wide net) providing project information, public events/meetings and ask them if they have an interest in the project and how they would like to engage with BPS staff in a non-consultation/formal way.
2. Send the above letter to each tribal chair and copy the cultural and natural resources directors/staff. Find out who are the tribal representative(s) that we will provide information to and receive input from during the project.
3. Be flexible in the ways a tribe might want to participate.
4. Corina from BPA, will assist BPS staff by providing an example of a project letter to NW tribes.
5. Amalie volunteered to be the contact person on behalf of the federal agency tribal liaisons. Amalie will share our information with the other federal agency tribal liaisons.
6. The Tribal Employment Rights Office was mentioned in the context of City staff hiring tribal members for jobs, e.g. contractors. Tribes are interested in employment for members.
7. Inadvertent discovery plans were mentioned as a tool that could be implemented by the City of Portland, to have development under construction in areas where cultural resources exist be monitored. and if any artifacts are uncovered, construction ceases to define if enough evidence exists that an archaeological site is present. The tribes are consulted on such cases.