



12. U.S. Department of Interior Policies

Reference website with Departmental and USFWS Policies. See 512 DM2 and 512 DM3.

Departmental Manuals

303 DM 2, Principles for Managing Indian Trust Assets

Formerly Secretarial Order 3215, Part 303 Departmental Manual Chapter 2, issued under the authority of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994, provides Department-wide guidance for carrying out the Secretary's trust responsibility as it pertains to Indian trust assets. The manual states that it is the DOI policy to discharge, without limitation, the Secretary's Indian trust responsibility with a high degree of skill, care and loyalty and provides thirteen trust principles for persons managing Indian trust assets.

512 DM 2.1, Departmental Responsibilities for Indian Trust Resources

Establishes policies, responsibilities, and procedures for operating on a government-to-government basis with federally recognized Indian tribes for the identification, conservation, and protection of American Indian and Alaska Native trust resources to ensure the fulfillment of the Federal Indian Trust Responsibility. Agencies must identify impacts from federal plans, projects, programs or activities on Indian trust resources and must address such impacts in planning, decision or operational documents and consult with tribal government who assets are potentially affected.

512 DM 3, Sacred Sites

Establishes policy, responsibilities and procedures to accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites and to protect the physical integrity of such sites consistent with EO 13007.

Executive Orders

Executive Order No. 13007: Indian Sacred Sites

In managing Federal lands, each executive branch agency with statutory or administrative responsibility for the management of Federal lands shall, to the extent practicable, and not clearly inconsistent with essential agency functions: 1) accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and 2) avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites. Where appropriate, agencies shall maintain the confidentiality of sacred sites.

Executive Order No. 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments

This order supercedes the previous Executive Order No.13084 of the same title. E.O. 13175 provides fundamental principles for agencies to follow when formatting or implementing "policies that have tribal implications", referring to regulations, proposed legislation, other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

USFWS references can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/L_T_History.html

Alaska Specific Government-to Government Policy:
http://alaska.fws.gov/external/pdf/DOI_ak_govt_to_govt_policy.pdf

Tribal Leaders' list and Federal Register Notice (from BIA):
http://alaska.fws.gov/external/pdf/bia_tribes_list_2010.pdf

13. Acknowledgement

This desk guide was created for BLM employees and adapted for USFWS employees. It was created with collaboration amongst many people under the leadership and guidance of Brenda Takeshorse, BLM Alaska Native Liaison.

Thanks to:

Ann Ivanoff for developing the initial idea, research, map, and protocol booklet;
Laura Lagstrom for graciously donating her original artwork, and the
Office of Communications staff for providing production assistance in many ways. Special
thanks to Sandra Borbridge for the initial idea of Alaska Native information and federal
policy/protocol/etiquette in a reference format and for encouraging wider use and circulation of
this information by various branches of the federal government.