Tribal Consultation Standard Operating Procedures Manual: Volume I: AB 52

Prepared for:



December 2022





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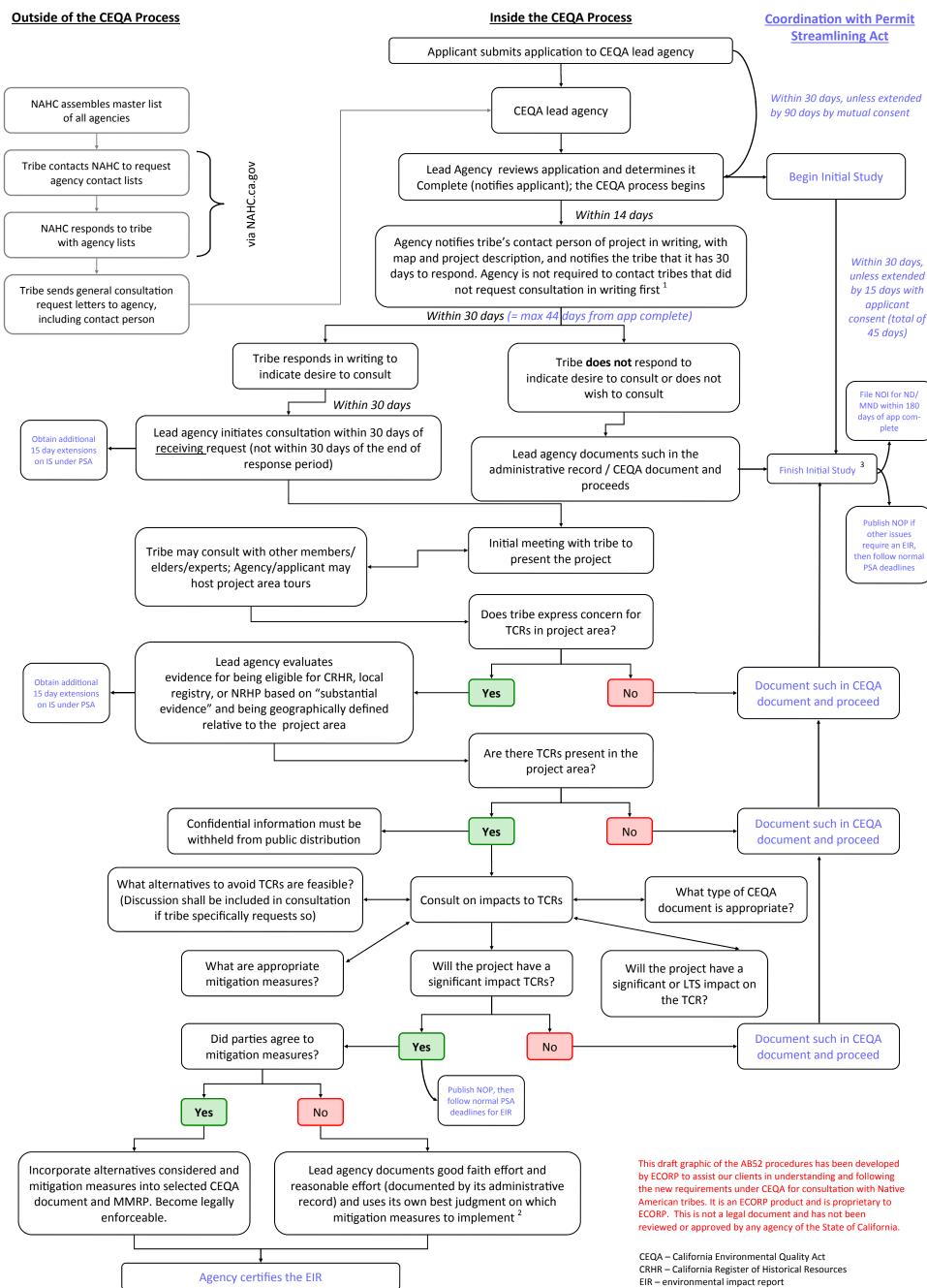
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An Interpretation of AB 52 Native American Consultation Procedures Under CEQA



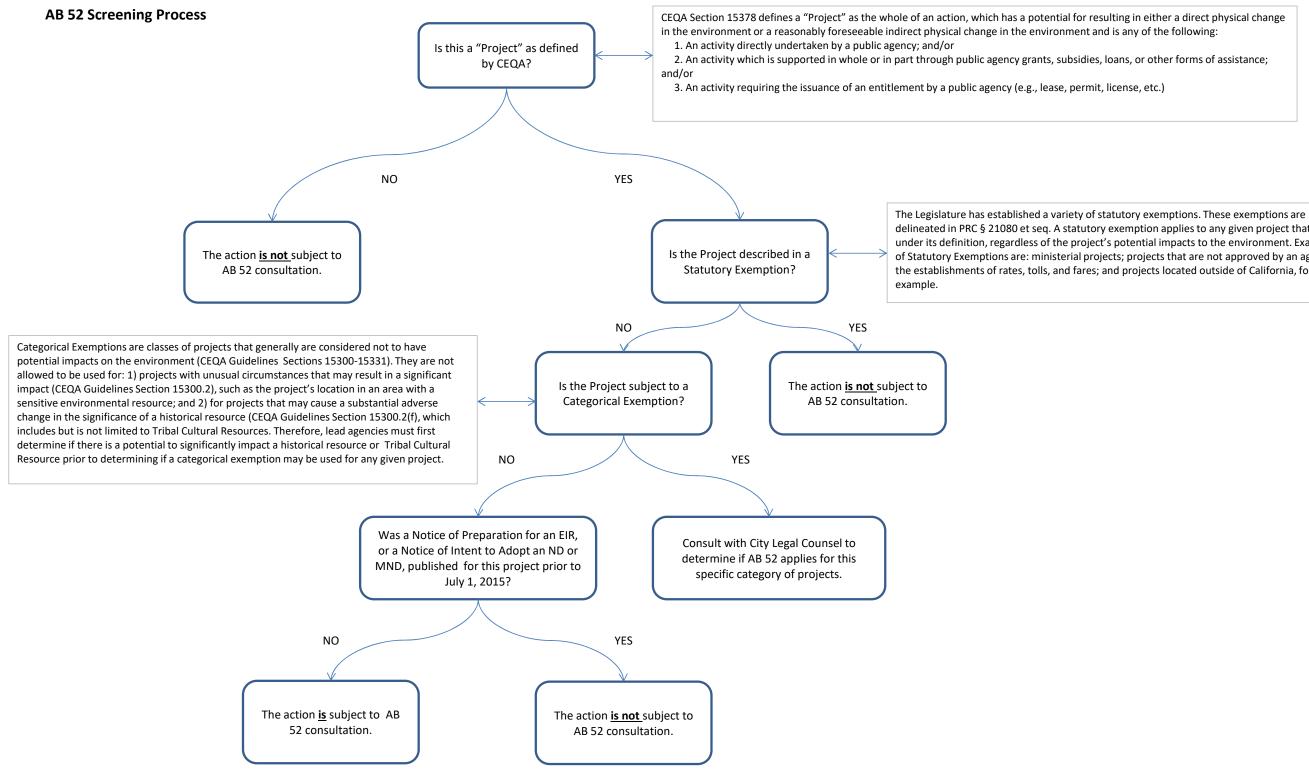
¹ in accordance with 21080.3.1(b)(1), consultation is triggered by a tribe notifying the Lead Agency in writing of its desire to consult. This does not preclude optional tribal consultation with tribes who did not send a general request letter, but in such a case, said consultation does not technically fall under AB 52.

² e.g., preservation and avoidance; protecting cultural character, traditional use, and confidentiality; and use of conservation easements.

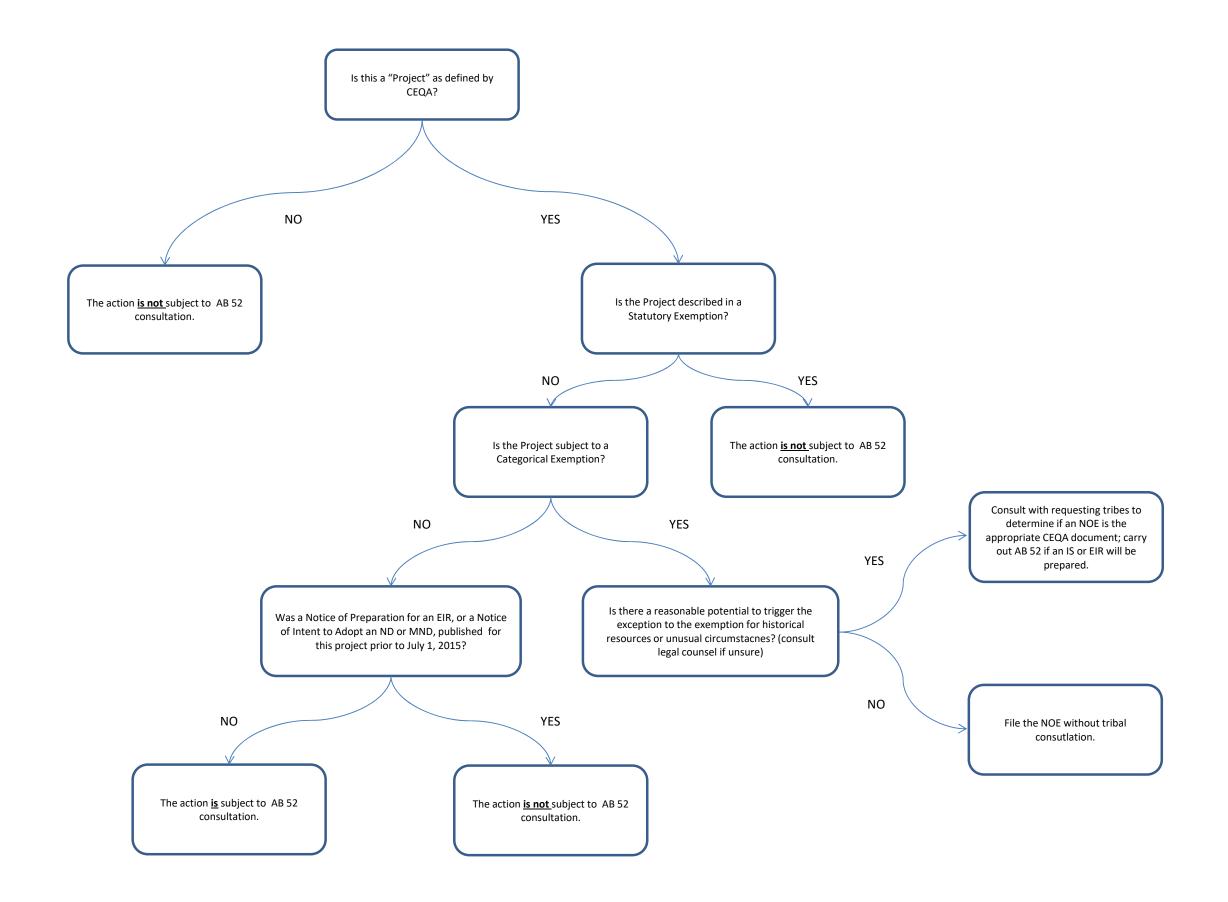
³ even absent formal tribal consultation, the CEQA document must still address impacts to TCRs, which should, at minimum, include results of a search of the Sacred Lands File by the NAHC.

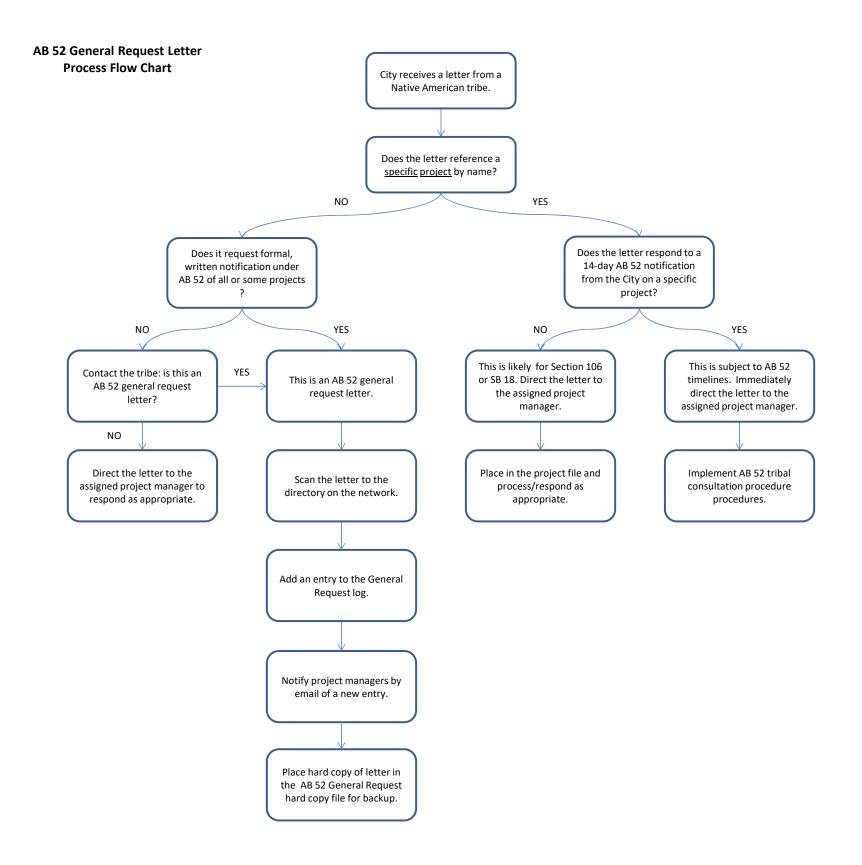
NAHC – Native American Heritage Commission ND/MND – negative declaration/mitigated negative declaration MMRP – mitigation monitoring and reporting program TCR – tribal cultural resources





delineated in PRC § 21080 et seq. A statutory exemption applies to any given project that falls under its definition, regardless of the project's potential impacts to the environment. Examples of Statutory Exemptions are: ministerial projects; projects that are not approved by an agency; the establishments of rates, tolls, and fares; and projects located outside of California, for





Log of General Request Letters Received (AB 52)

Date of Letter	Date Received	Tribe Name	Point of Contact and Address	Requested Method of Noticing	Method Received	Letter Scanned to Network	N
12/20/2022	12/20/2022	Koi Nation	Koi Nation Tribal Council <u>kn@koination.com</u> PO Box 3162, Santa Rosa, CA 95402 Robert Geary, THPO <u>rgeary@hpultribe-nsn.gov</u> PO Box 516, Upper Lake, CA 95485	Certified Mail and Email	□Mail □Fax ⊠Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
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					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		
					□Mail □Fax □Email		

Project Managers Notified	Hard Copy Filed

A digital file structure for the tribal consultation administrative record will:

- ensure a consistent and organized mechanism across projects;
- allow for ease in assembling a legally defensible administrative record for use in staff packets presented to elected and appointed officials;
- allow for faster assembly of summaries for authoring sections in CEQA documents;
- provide another level of quality assurance for the system;
- take correspondence out of individual staff emails and files and place them into an accessible venue with backup capabilities; and
- in the unlikely event of a lawsuit, allow for exporting of the entire directory in a zip file.

The file structure presented below is suggested as a "module" directly that can be plugged into every project directory on the network. The contents of each folder will vary by project, depending on the nature of the consultation, but the structure should remain consistent. Staff are discouraged from keeping these directors on C:/ drives of their workstations or maintaining hard-copy-only consultation records (hard copy originals should be kept in the paper project files, but only after scanning to the directory).

The primary (highest) level of the directory is called "**AB 52 Tribal Consultation Record**" and it contains six secondary directories, as illustrated below in Figure 1.

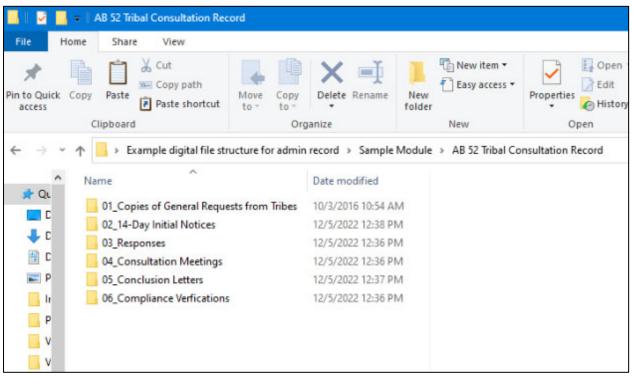


Figure 1. Overall File Structure

01_Copies of General Requests from Tribes: this directory will be used to store duplicate copies (preferably) or shortcuts to all relevant general requests from tribes that pertain to the project. The purpose of this folder is not only for ease in assembling the consultation record for the project, but also to document which tribes had general request letters on file at the time CEQA began. This may become

more important to document as time goes on, particularly because general request letters may be received long after a CEQA process has begun.

02_14-Day Initial Notices: this directory will store copies of letters sent. Further subdivision of each folder may be necessary when numerous tribes are being contacted. The contents of the folder should include: 1) the project description and location map that was enclosed with each letter; 2) the Word version of each letter sent; 3) a scanned (PDF) copy of each letter after it was printed on letterhead and signed and before mailing OR if the letter is placed on digital letterhead and a digital signature is inserted, a PDF of the letter as it was printed; and 4) copies of certified mail / return receipts to verify delivery. Organization of the consultation record is critical because it is always possible that a challenge to the AB 52 process for any given project will occur after the assigned staff departs the County's employment.

03_Responses: this directory should include: 1) a scan of each hard copy letter received including a scan of the postmarked envelope (in case there is a discrepancy between the date of the letter and the day it was received); 2) a PDF of each email response received; and 3) a scan of each returned-to-sender envelope and the letter contained therein. Once the initial responses are received and placed into this directory, subsequent correspondence will be placed in other subdirectories shown in Figure 1.

04_Consultation Meetings: this directory will store and organize correspondence and documentation on a meeting-by-meeting basis. Internal subdirectories, like the one shown in Figure 2, will serve to sort by meeting date.

	Record 🕨 04_Consultation Meeting	, .	
ew folder			
Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
🕌 Meeting 1 [tribe] [date]	6/6/2015 3:06 PM	File folder	
퉬 Meeting 2 [tribe] [date]	6/6/2015 3:06 PM	File folder	

Figure 2. Internal structure of Consultation Meetings directory (note: insert the name of the tribe and date of the meeting where indicated in brackets)

The contents of each meeting folder will vary, but would be expected to include: meeting attendance rosters; agendas; minutes or notes; records of conversation for phone meetings; documentation as to whether or not the tribe requested a discussion of alternatives and if so, the details of that discussion; confidential information about tribal cultural resources provided by a tribe; and any other pertinent documentation. The folders shown in Figure 2 could, if necessary, be placed into a single folder with the name of the tribe, or could be renamed to "ROC" (Record of Conversation) if the correspondence was not in a typical meeting format. As long as the contents of this directory are well organized, variations are acceptable and encouraged.

05_Conclusion Letters: this directory will keep the final letters that terminate consultation under AB 52 when one of the two criteria for termination is met. The documentation stored in this directory will only consist of outgoing letters to consulting tribes, as no responses are expected or requested in the termination of consultation letter. The contents of this directory would include: 1) the Word version of each letter sent; 2) a scanned (PDF) copy of each letter after it was printed on letterhead and signed and before mailing OR if the letter is placed on digital letterhead and a digital signature is inserted, a PDF of the letter as it was printed; and 3) copies of certified mail / return receipts to verify delivery.

06_Compliance Verifications: this directory will house the adopted (or to-be-adopted) mitigation measures (if any) and the compliance verification checklist, at a minimum. Depending on the project, additional management tools, such as internal notes and justifications for certain actions, may be appropriate.

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Click here to enter text.

RE: Notice of Opportunity to Consult for the Click here to enter text. in the City of Clearlake (Project Number Click here to enter text.)

Greetings:

On Click here to enter a date., the City of Clearlake initiated environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Click here to enter text.. The City is proposing to Click here to enter text., specifically located Click here to enter text.. A project location map and detailed project description are enclosed for your information.

In accordance with Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) and Section 21080.3.1(d) of the California Public Resources Code (PRC), we are responding to your request to be notified of projects in our jurisdiction that will be reviewed under CEQA. Your name was provided to us as the point of contact for your tribe. We are hereby notifying you of an opportunity to consult with us regarding the potential for this project to impact Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined in Section 21074 of the PRC. The purposes of tribal consultation under AB 52 are to determine, as part of the CEQA review process, whether or not Tribal Cultural Resources are present within the project area, and if so, whether or not those resources will be significantly impacted by the project. If Tribal Cultural Resources may be significantly impacted, then consultation will also help to determine the most appropriate way to avoid or mitigate those impacts.

In accordance with Section 21080.3.1(d) of the PRC, you have 30 days from the receipt of this letter to either request or decline consultation in writing for this project. Please send your written response before Click here to enter a date. to Click here to enter text. or by email to Click here to enter text. In your response, please reference the following project number: Click here to enter text. If we do not receive a response within 30 days, we will proceed. Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Click here to enter text.

Name, Title

[DATE]

[TRIBAL CONTACT NAME/ADDRESS]

Via Electronic Mail to: [email address]

RE: Initiation of Consultation for the XXXX Project in the City of Clearlake, California

Greetings:

On [DATE], the City of Clearlake formally notified you of an opportunity to consult under AB 52 for the proposed XXXX Project. On [DATE], we received a response from XXXXX, indicating a desire to consult with us regarding potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources associated with the proposed project. We look forward to consulting with the [TRIBE NAME] on this project.

In accordance with AB 52 and Section 21080.3.1(e) of the California Public Resources Code, we are hereby initiating consultation with you. We would like to invite you to a project orientation meeting on [DATE, TIME] to discuss the project and determine the best way to continue consultation. Our office is located at XXXXX. Additional contact information can be found on our website, XXXXXX. If you or your representatives are unable to attend, please contact me to schedule an alternate date. In addition, if you are not able to personally participate in the consultation, I respectfully request that you provide me with a written delegation of authority to those who will consult with us on your behalf.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by email at XXXXX, or by phone at XXXXX. Thank you and we look forward to consulting with you.

Respectfully,

Name, Title

cc: project file

AGENDA

City of Clearlake and [TRIBE] AB 52 Consultation Meeting for the [PROJECT]

Date:

Time:

Location:

Meeting Objective: for the City of Clearlake to share project information with the tribe and receive information from the tribe about potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources, so that the City can make an informed decision.

Overall Goal: to make a decision about the project in a manner that is mindful of, and takes into consideration, impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources.

Introductions

Project Orientation and Overview

- Purpose and need for the proposed project
- Project description
- Anticipated environmental review under CEQA
- Anticipated project schedule
- Alternatives considered

Discussion of Tribal Cultural Resources

- Any known Tribal Cultural Resources in the proposed project area?
 - Description, location, form
 - How would the project impact Tribal Cultural Resources, if present?
 - What can the agency do to lessen or avoid the impacts?
 - What is the preferred mitigation, if a significant impact will occur?

Q&A

Action Items

AB 52 Tribal Consultation Meeting Roster

Project:
Project Number:
Meeting Date:
Meeting Time:
Facilitator:
Location:

Name	Representing	Email Address

AB 52 Tribal Consultation Record of Conversation

Project: Click here to enter text.

Project Number: Click here to enter text.

Date: Click here to enter a date.

Participants (Name/Affiliation): Click here to enter text.

Meeting Venue: Click here to enter text.

Summary of discussion: Click here to enter text.

 \Box Check here if the tribe requested a discussion on **alternatives**, pursuant to PRC 21080.3.2(a).

Summarize alternatives discussion, if it was requested: Click here to enter text.

Check here if the tribe recommended **mitigation measures**

Summarize the mitigation measures discussed: Click here to enter text.

Action Items:

City: Click here to enter text.

Target Deadline: Click here to enter a date.

Tribe: Click here to enter text.

Target Deadline: Click here to enter a date.

AB 52 Tribal Consultation Phone Log

Project: Click here to enter text.
Pate: Click here to enter a date.
Time: Click here to enter text.
Caller: Click here to enter text.
Person Called: Click here to enter text.

Check here if a detailed voicemail was left.

Check here if telephone contact with the recipient was made.

Summary of discussion: Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

RE: Conclusion of Consultation for the Click here to enter text. in the City of Clearlake (Project Number Click here to enter text.)

Dear Click here to enter text.:

Thank you for the opportunity to consult with you on potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources for the Click here to enter text. project, located in the City of Clearlake. I am writing to you to summarize and conclude the consultation under Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and notify you of our intention to Choose an item. for this project, pursuant to Section 21082.3(d) of the California Public Resources Code (PRC).

On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to be consulted on projects within our jurisdiction. On Click here to enter a date., within 14 days of determining that an application was complete, we notified you by letter of the opportunity to consult on this project. On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to consult. We subsequently initiated consultation with you on Click here to enter a date.. As part of that consultation, which included a meeting on Click here to enter a date., we determined that Tribal Cultural Resources are located within the project area and could be significantly impacted by the project. Through consultation, we came to a consensus about appropriate mitigation measures. Therefore, we have incorporated the following mitigation measures into the CEQA document:

Click here to enter text.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 21082.3.2(b)(1), we hereby conclude consultation under CEQA and AB 52 for this project, and appreciate the opportunity to consult with you.

Respectfully,

Click here to enter text.

Name, Title

cc: Project File

Click here to enter text.

RE: Conclusion of Consultation for the Click here to enter text. in the City of Clearlake (Project Number Click here to enter text.)

Dear Click here to enter text.:

Thank you for the opportunity to consult with you on potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources for the Click here to enter text. project, located in the City of Clearlake. I am writing to you to summarize and conclude the consultation under Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and notify you of our intention to Choose an item. for this project, pursuant to Section 21082.3(d) of the California Public Resources Code (PRC).

On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to be consulted on projects within our jurisdiction. On Click here to enter a date., within 14 days of determining that an application was complete, we notified you by letter of the opportunity to consult on this project. On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to consult. We subsequently initiated consultation with you on Click here to enter a date.. As part of that consultation, which included a meeting on Click here to enter a date., we sought information about Tribal Cultural Resources that could be significantly impacted by the project. Although we were not able to come to consensus, we have taken the following information provided by the tribe into account:

Click here to enter text.

Based on this information, we have incorporated the following mitigation measures into the CEQA document:

Click here to enter text.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 21082.3.2(b)(2), we hereby conclude consultation under CEQA and AB 52 for this project, and appreciate the opportunity to consult with you.

Respectfully,

Click here to enter text.

Name, title

cc: Project File

Click here to enter text.

RE: Conclusion of Consultation for the Click here to enter text. in the City of Clearlake (Project Number Click here to enter text.)

Dear Click here to enter text.:

Thank you for the opportunity to consult with you on potential impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources for the Click here to enter text. project, located in the City of Clearlake. I am writing to you to summarize and conclude the consultation under Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and notify you of our intention to Choose an item. for this project, pursuant to Section 21082.3(d) of the California Public Resources Code (PRC).

On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to be consulted on projects within our jurisdiction. On Click here to enter a date., within 14 days of determining that an application was complete, we notified you by letter of the opportunity to consult on this project. On Click here to enter a date., we received a written request from you to consult. Our attempts to Choose an item. were not successful, and therefore, we have reviewed the information available to us about Tribal Cultural Resources and have determined that there Choose an item. be a significant impact. Therefore, we have incorporated the following mitigation measures into the CEQA document:

Click here to enter text.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 21082.3.2(b)(1), we hereby conclude consultation under CEQA and AB 52 for this project and appreciate the opportunity to consult with you.

Respectfully,

Click here to enter text.

Name, Title

cc: Project File

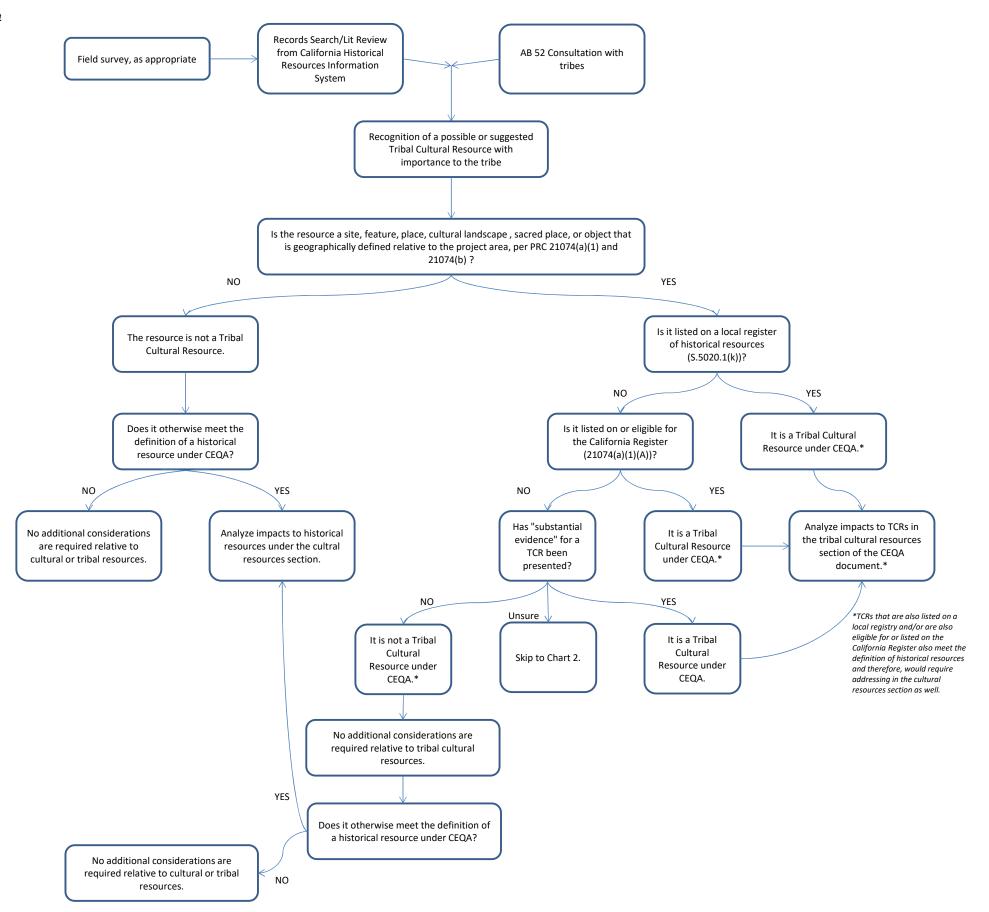
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III. CEQA-Related Documents

- a. TCR Decision Tree
- b. CEQA Checklist for Cultural Resources
- c. CEQA Checklist for Tribal Cultural Resources





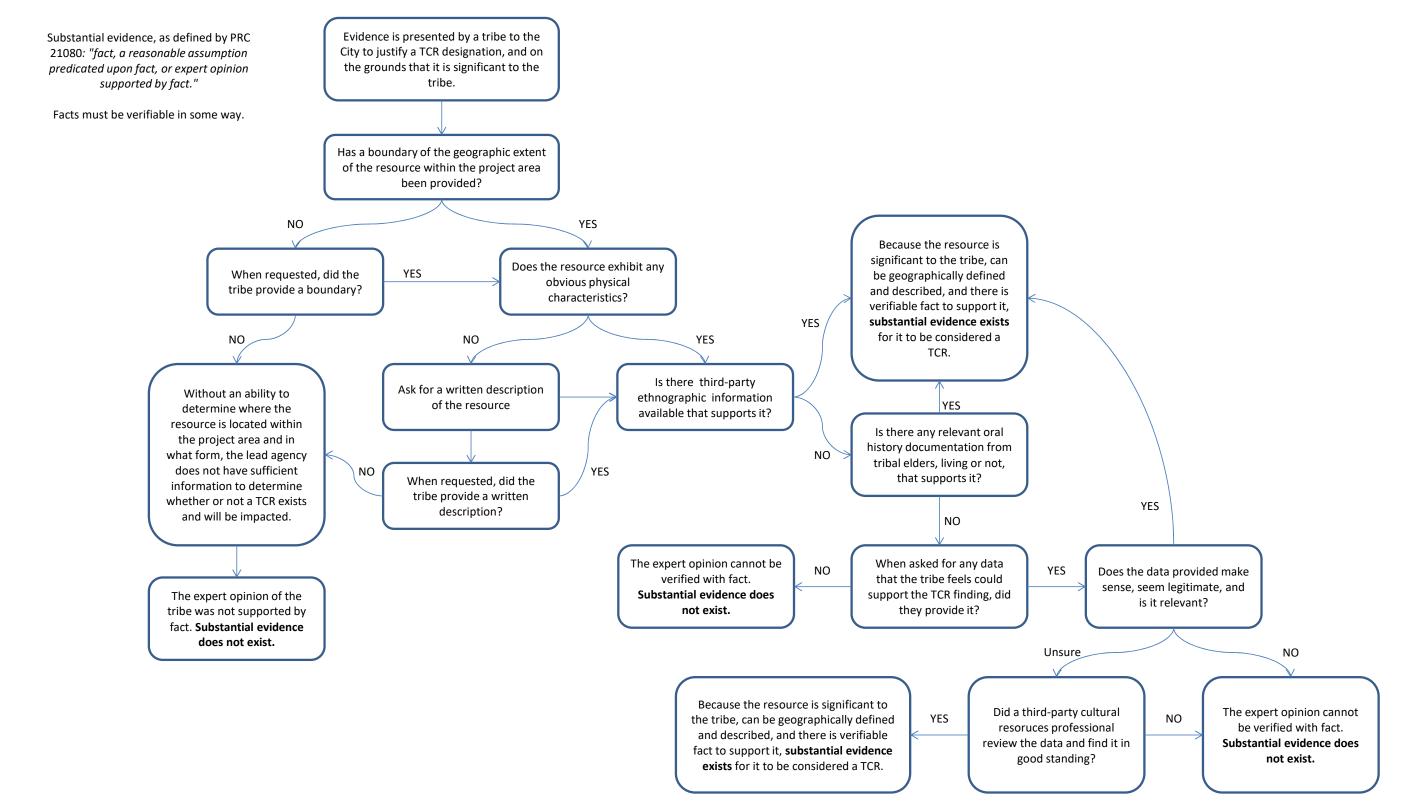


Chart 2

#. Cultural Resources

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				
b)	Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
c)	Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?				

#. Tribal Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Tribal Cultural Resource as defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				

1. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		
2. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		

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IV. Quality Control and Compliance Verification

a. Compliance Tracking Form

AB 52 Compliance Verification

Project Name: Click here to enter text.

Project Number: Click here to enter text.

Screening Checklist

Result : project \Box <u>is</u> \Box <u>is not</u>	subject to AB 52 consultation		
Date determined: Click here to en	ter a date. Staff : Click here to enter text.		
Comments : Click here to enter text.			

Date of Decision to Initiate CEQA: Click here to enter a date. Staff: Click here to enter text.

(reminder: 14-day notification letters must be sent by Click here to enter a date.)

Review of General Consultation Request Directory

Date reviewed: Click here to enter a date. **Staff:** Click here to enter text.

The following letters are on file with the City and pertain to this project, and constitute the tribes that will be consulted under AB 52 for this project:

Tribe : Click here to enter text.	Letter date: Click here to enter a date.
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	Letter date: Click here to enter a date.
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	Letter date: Click here to enter a date.
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	Letter date: Click here to enter a date.
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	Letter date: Click here to enter a date.

14-day Notification Letters

Letter date: Click here to enter a date	e. Mailed date : Click here to enter a date.
Method : Choose an item. CEQA.	Mailed date is: Click here to enter text.days past start of

30-day response window ends: Click here to enter a date.

Comments: Click here to enter text.

Responses Received from 14-day Notification Letters

Tribe : Click here to enter text. item.	Date: Click here to enter a date. Response: Choose an
Tribe : Click here to enter text. item.	Date: Click here to enter a date. Response: Choose an
Tribe: Click here to enter text. item.	Date: Click here to enter a date. Response: Choose an
Tribe : Click here to enter text. item.	Date: Click here to enter a date. Response: Choose an
Tribe : Click here to enter text. item.	Date: Click here to enter a date. Response: Choose an

Note: for tribes accepting consultation invitation, initiation must occur within 30 days of receiving the response, not 30 days from the end of the 30-day response period.

Initiation of Consultation

 \Box check here if no tribes requested consultation

The following letters were sent to consulting tribes to initiate consultation:

Tribe: Click here to enter text.	Date : Click here to enter a date.
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	Date : Click here to enter a date.
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	Date : Click here to enter a date.
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	Date : Click here to enter a date.
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	Date : Click here to enter a date.

Consultation

Indicate for each tribe consulted whether or not it requested a discussion on alternatives and whether or not it recommended mitigation measures. Refer to consultation record for details.

Tribe: Click here to enter text. measures	□ requested alternatives	\Box recommended mitigation
Tribe: Click here to enter text. measures	□ requested alternatives	□ recommended mitigation
Tribe: Click here to enter text. measures	□ requested alternatives	\Box recommended mitigation
Tribe: Click here to enter text. measures	□ requested alternatives	□ recommended mitigation
Tribe : Click here to enter text. measures	□ requested alternatives	□ recommended mitigation

Conclusion of Consultation

Tribe : Click here to enter text.	
Concurrence: Click here to enter text.	\Box was not achieved with the City for the following reason:
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	
Concurrence: Click here to enter text.	\Box was not achieved with the City for the following reason:
Tribe : Click here to enter text.	
Concurrence: Click here to enter text.	\Box was not achieved with the City for the following reason:
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	
Concurrence: \Box was Click here to enter text.	\Box was not achieved with the City for the following reason:
Tribe: Click here to enter text.	

Concurrence: \Box was <u>was not</u> achieved with the City for the following reason: Click here to enter text.

Required Mitigation Measures

MM-TCR 1: Click here to enter text.

MM-TCR 2: Click here to enter text.

MM-TCR 3: Click here to enter text.

Consultation Termination Letters

Letter date: Click here to enter a date.

Mailed date: Click here to enter a date.

Method: Choose an item.

AB 52 Compliance Verification

Project Name: Highway 50 Realignment Project

Project Number: 2014-123

Screening Checklist	
Result: project	\boxtimes <u>is not</u> subject to AB 52 consultation
Date determine	ed: 8/3/2015 Staff: S. Smith
Comments : n/a	
Date of Decision to Init	iate CEQA: 9/1/2015 Staff: S. Smith
(reminder: 14-day notific	cation letters must be sent by 10/1/2015)
Review of General Con	sultation Request Directory
Date reviewed: 9/14/20	15 Staff: S. Smith
The following letters are 52 for this project:	on file with the County and pertain to this project, and constitute the tribes that will be consulted under AB
Tribe: Tribe ABC	Letter date: 7/1/2015
Tribe: Tribe XYZ	Letter date: 7/3/2015
14-day Notification Let	ters
Letter date: 9/28/2015	Mailed date: 9/29/2015
Method: USPS (Certifie	d Mail) Mailed date is: 29 days past start of CEQA.
30-day response windo	w ends: 10/29/2015
Comments : n/a	
Responses Received fro	om 14-day Notification Letters
Tribe: Tribe ABC	Date: 10/9/2015 Response: Yes - wants to consult
Tribe: Tribe XYZ	Date: 10/12/2015 Response: No - does not want to consult

Note: for tribes accepting consultation invitation, initiation must occur within 30 days of receiving the response, not 30 days from the end of the 30-day response period.

Initiation of Consultation

□ check here if no tribes requested consultation
The following letters were sent to consulting tribes to initiate consultation on 11/9/2015:
Tribe: Tribe ABC
Consultation
Indicate for each tribe consulted whether or not it requested a discussion on alternatives and whether or not it recommended mitigation measures. Refer to consultation record for details.
Tribe: Tribe ABC ⊠ requested alternatives ⊠ recommended mitigation measures
Conclusion of Consultation
Tribe: Tribe ABC
Concurrence: 🛛 <u>was</u> 🗆 <u>was not</u> achieved with the County for the following reason: Click here to enter text.
Required Mitigation Measures
MM-TCR 1: Contractor Awareness Training
Consultation Termination Letters

Letter date: 11/3/2015 Mailed date: 11/3/2015 Method: USPS (Certified Mail)