



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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Instruction Memorandum No. **CA-2006-023**
Expires: 9/30/07

To: All California Field Office Managers and California Desert District Manager

From: California State Director

Subject: Traditional Plant Gathering Policy Consultation Letter to Tribal Community Leaders and Organizations

We have been working on an interagency policy between the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, California (BLM) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (FS) to promote consistency between our two agencies regarding traditional California Indian plant gathering for personal use. We want to ensure that traditional practitioners have access to plant materials and such materials are managed in a manner that promotes ecosystem health. We are undertaking this task as a Service First initiative to support traditional practitioners and the health of traditional resources and communities.

On January 3, 2006, we initiated consultation with Federally-recognized Tribes seeking comments on our draft policy outline. At this time, we are initiating consultation with non-Federally recognized Tribes and tribal organizations on our draft policy through the enclosed documentation. We are requesting that you forward the attached letters to non-Federally recognized Tribes and tribal organizations that your unit interacts with regarding traditional cultural practices. The attached letters may be transmitted electronically or by hard copy mail over the next several weeks, but should be dated no later than **March 15, 2006**. Please send a list of Tribes and tribal organizations consulted to Ken Wilson, State Archaeologist and Tribal Liaison.

If you have any questions, please contact Dayne Barron, Field Manager, Eagle Lake Field Office at (530) 257-0456 or Ken Wilson at (916) 978-4648.

Signed by:
James Wesley Abbott
Associate State Director

Authenticated by:
Richard A. Erickson
Records Management

Attachments

1- Development of Interagency California Indian Traditional Gathering Policy Letter and list of CA BLM/USFS offices (7 pp)

2- Word Version of Attachment 1 (3 pp)