

ADVANCING TRIBAL INCLUSION WITH YOUR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adapted from recommendations by the Northwest Forest Plan Just Futures Collaborative

Context: The Forest Service's drafted actions (DEIS) feature potential measures to expand Tribal land management, including: cultural harvesting and access, co-stewardship, cultural fire, tribal workforces, and tribal youth education.

Your comment can help secure what is included in the *final action*, and build momentum for Indigenous sovereignty in Northwest Forests!



First, share why you care:

Successful comments are personal! In your comment, let the Forest Service know why advancing tribal sovereignty matters to you and the Northwest you want to live in. Include life experiences that have helped inform you about why tribal sovereignty is necessary and valuable (e.g. to the land, your community, etc.).

Then, don't be shy! Dig into details about their decision:

Urge the Forest Service to pass the strongest language:

Alternative B's Tribal inclusion approach is strongest because it covers the most topics, and has concrete requirements for national forests in specified timeframes.

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "retain all of the Tribal inclusion plan components that are in **Alternative B** into the final action (FEIS)"

Call for adjusting language to address *these issues* (all that stand out to you):

Measures on tribal plant protection, post-disturbance management, and first foods could be left out.

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "add the Tribal potential management approach and Tribal Goals 8 and 9 **from Alternative D** into the final action (FEIS) as well"

Advisory committee-recommended language on cultural burning as a right could be watered down.

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "recognize Indigenous cultural burning as a right by including all of the language from the **Advisory Committee's Desired Condition 1-16** into the FEIS action"

Tribal inclusion approaches could be ignored because they are not categorized as enforceable.

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "move the tribal forest potential management approaches from A through H **into Standards and Guidelines** in the final action (FEIS)"

Tribes could be bound to "acre" metrics over their own objectives in some stewardship/restoration.

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "advance the Tribal objective 3 **from Alternative D**, not from B"

The Forest Service could leave out historic language on committing to address past harms to tribes

▶ **Action:** Call for the Forest Service to "include the **Federal Advisory Committee's full Tribal Inclusion preamble** into the Final Record of Decision and other relevant areas, emphasizing the section that begins with 'Over a century...'"