



Arizona Department of Agriculture

Office of the Director
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TRIBAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION POLICY

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PURPOSE

This policy establishes the basic principles governing the Arizona Department of Agriculture's (AZDA) relations with Tribal government and Native Americans in the State of Arizona.

INTRODUCTION

AZDA is charged with supporting and promoting agriculture in a way that encourages farming, ranching and agribusiness, protects the well-being of people, plants, animals and the environment, while safeguarding commerce, consumers and natural resources. Although the AZDA regulates agriculture within this great state, the Tribal governments within Arizona have jurisdiction over a significant portion of the land base. And although the AZDA does not regulate these Tribal lands, the AZDA wants to assist the Tribes whenever possible and to partner with them on mutually beneficial projects.

Coordination of efforts between AZDA and the Tribes could prove to be an important model of inter-governmental cooperation.

POLICY

AZDA recognizes the sovereignty of tribal governments and their jurisdiction over their Tribal lands. AZDA supports and encourages the strengthening of relationships between the AZDA and Tribal governments, including urban Native Americans.

Without tribal consent, the AZDA will not assist or interfere in the regulation of Tribal lands. Additionally, without this consent, the AZDA will not be involved with any matters relating to Tribal lands. However, the AZDA desires to strengthen relationships with Tribal governments and Native Americans to ensure that this agency is as helpful as possible to further their interests as well as those best interests of the State.

RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility for the enforcement of this policy lies with the Office of the Director for the AZDA.

PROCEDURES

1. AZDA will not conduct any activities on Tribal lands without first receiving an invitation from the appropriate Tribal elected official or designated representative.
2. AZDA may enter into an IGA or MOU when considered appropriate and mutually beneficial for the Tribal government and the AZDA.
3. AZDA will work cooperatively with Tribal governments and any Native Americans on appropriate matters.
4. AZDA will conduct training, in partnership with the Governor's Office of Tribal Relations to enhance understanding of agricultural issues concerning the AZDA and/or any Tribal nation.
5. AZDA will not attempt to impose AZDA regulations on any entity that operates solely within Tribal reservation boundaries.

APPROVED BY:

Arizona Department of Agriculture



Mark W. Killian, Director

Effective Date: October 1, 2018