



## **VOLUME 4 - TRIBAL AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN POLICIES AND INITIATIVES**

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## **Policies and Procedures**

The Office of Tribal and Indigenous Peoples (OTIP) oversees the ACHP's engagement with Indigenous communities. OTIP provides information and education to Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) on the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Section 106 review process. OTIP is integral to ensuring the ACHP meets its federal trust responsibility to Tribes and assists other federal agencies in meeting their Tribal consultation responsibilities under the NHPA and the Section 106 process. OTIP staff also works closely with the ACHP's Indian Tribe/Native Hawaiian member to address critical issues brought to the ACHP by Indian Tribes, NHOs, and others working within historic preservation.

### [The ACHP's Trust Responsibilities to Indian Tribes Relationship with Indian Tribes](#)

As a federal agency, the ACHP recognizes the government-to-government relationship between the United States and federally recognized Indian Tribes and acknowledges Indian Tribes as sovereign nations with inherent powers of self-governance.

### [Government-to-Government Consultation with Indian Tribes](#)

In 1992, the NHPA was amended to include and clarify the roles and responsibilities of Indian Tribes and NHOs. Responding to the NHPA amendments, the ACHP adopted policies regarding engagement with NHOs and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) in historic preservation reviews.

Under the NHPA, NHOs have the opportunity to participate in the national historic preservation dialog, and the ACHP works with NHOs to fully consider the preservation of historic properties of importance to them.

### [Interaction with Native Hawaiian Organizations](#)

Additionally, the Section 106 process provides a key opportunity for THPOs and Indian Tribes to be a part of federal decision making when historic properties of religious and cultural significance on or off Tribal lands may potentially be affected by proposed undertakings.

### [Relationship with Tribal Historic Preservation Officers](#)

## **Major Initiatives**

Since many Section 106 reviews are for infrastructure, energy, and other development projects, the ACHP provides guidance for federal agencies, applicants, and Indian Tribes to work together in pre-application information gathering or prior to initiating the Section 106 process. Early coordination can make the Section 106 process more efficient and helps avoid time-consuming discourse later in the process by mitigating potential harm to historic properties at the initial stage.

### [Early Coordination with Indian Tribes during the Pre-Application Process](#)