

James Hedrick

The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe (MIT) does not have a position on the overall Council report. As it pertains to the draft 2025 Council recommendations to engage with Tribes on SEPA categorical exemptions (DRAFT report page 6) MIT recommends the following:

At a minimum the law/plan must provide protections for tribal cultural resources. Including but not limited to:

- permitting jurisdiction must notify the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP);
- within a short-time frame (i.e. business week, days) of notification, the DAHP must notify federally recognized Indian tribes;
- each federally recognize Indian tribe wishing to request a survey must let the DAHP know that within a month / 30 days of receiving notification from the DAHP;
- if a survey is requested, the DAHP must coordinate with the impacted tribe(s) and project applicant to conduct the survey; and
- if resources are identified, the permitting jurisdiction and the DAHP must work with the project applicant and impacted tribe(s) to develop a plan to avoid, mitigate, or minimize harm to the affected resources and the plan must be developed and approved or not approved by the impacted tribe(s) within 180 days.