

In Reply Refer To:  
8100 (NV933)

Tribal Chair  
Address

Dear Chairman:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada State Office (NSO) is revising the “Cultural Resources Inventory General Guidelines” 4<sup>th</sup> edition (Guidelines). BLM Nevada’s Guidelines supplement the BLM Manual Series 8100 and State Protocol Agreement between NSO and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in providing policy to guide compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Among other items, the Guidelines provide technical standards in permitting, inventory procedures, and inventory reporting standards. In addition, the Guidelines provide standards for the use of inventory reporting forms such as the Intermountain Antiquities Computer System (IMACS) forms.

The Guidelines were last revised in 1990. Since that time several laws, regulations, Programmatic Agreements, and policy changes have been implemented that impact the effective use of the Guidelines in complying with Section 106 of the NHPA. These include, but are not limited to, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and its implementing regulations, amendments to the regulations implementing the NHPA, BLM’s National Programmatic Agreement, and the recent revisions to the Nevada State Protocol Agreement. As a result, BLM Nevada State, District, and Field Offices, as well as the SHPO agree on the need for Guidelines revisions.

We are notifying tribal governments and requesting your input on revisions to the Guidelines. A copy of the current Guidelines is attached (Attachment 1). I have enclosed a recent instruction memorandum issued by NSO that alters certain provisions in the Guidelines regarding tribal notification and permitting involving excavation and removal of archaeological resources (Attachment 2). We are asking that any comments or suggestions you may have on revisions to the Guidelines be sent to me, in writing, by January ??, 2011. Please let me know if you would like to consult regarding this proposed revision process. The NSO will be requesting consolidated comments from each BLM District Office by January 28, 2011. The NSO will consider the comments and suggestions submitted from each BLM District Office in making final Guidelines revisions, and consult with the Nevada SHPO. Final revised Guidelines are expected to be completed by fall, 2011.

If you have any questions about this request, or require further clarification of the Guidelines revision process, please contact Bryan Hockett, NSO Associate State Archaeologist, at 775-861-6546, or you may email him at [bryan\\_hockett@blm.gov](mailto:bryan_hockett@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

District or Field Manager