November 5, 2026

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of Secretary Brooke Rollins, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) cordially invites you to participate in a Tribal consultation on the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) with the FDPIR Tribal Leaders Consultation Work Group.

This consultation will take place on **December 7, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time** and will be held in-person, with an option for virtual attendance during the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Deputy Administrator of State Support and Evaluation for the Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA), Mr. Willie Taylor, will be the USDA consulting official.

Registration: All participants must register. Please use the registration link below to kindly register by December 4, 2026.

Registration Link: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_zSsOxpMjQ5OAxdJIsof9zg

Date: Monday, December 7, 2026
Location: IAC Annual Conference
4455 Paradise Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Room: Sage 3
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Agenda: Updated information, including a final agenda, handouts, and proxy letter information will be posted on USDA's Office of Tribal Relations (OTR) website as it becomes available. Please visit: https://www.usda.gov/tribalrelations/tribal-consultations.

Proxies: In the event you cannot attend and wish to send a proxy, please copy the attached proxy designation form to Tribal letterhead, complete, and email to sm.fn.tribalaffairs@usda.gov by December 4, 2026. This will authorize your designee, in writing, to attend in your place during the estimated time of your absence. The delegation cannot be in perpetuity. You are also encouraged to bring program leadership and staff from your Nation to the Tribal consultation as observers.

Written Comments: USDA encourages Tribal leaders to submit written consultation remarks by email no later than January 8, 2027, to sm.fn.tribalaffairs@usda.gov.

Background. The following topics will be covered during the consultation meeting:

- Program administration and policy updates impacting FDPIR operations
- Food package availability, procurement challenges, and vendor stability
- USDA DoD Fresh Program in the FDPIR
- FDPIR Innovative Nutrition Education Cooperative Agreement Project
- Funding levels, administrative cost considerations, and program sustainability
- Integration of local and Indigenous food systems, including support for Tribal producers
- Technology systems, reporting requirements, and operational efficiencies
- Any proposed changes or restructuring within FNS that may impact FDPIR delivery
- Veterans' disability payment exclusion

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to engaging in Nation-to-Nation dialogue with you.

Sincerely,

Willie Taylor
Deputy Administrator of State Support and Evaluation
Food and Nutrition Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Attachments (1): FDPIR Consultation Proxy Template-December 2026