Engagement and collaboration with the Tribal Nations is a key aspect of project development. OPALCO recognizes that the Tribal Nations with ancestral lands in the San Juan Islands have strong spiritual and cultural ties to salmon and other aquatic species in the region that includes thousands of years of access and use for religious/cultural ceremonies, subsistence, and for commercial purposes. The proposed project would be in the Usual and Accustomed (U&A) fishing area for the region's Tribal Nations who were signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliott, which is a key aspect of why OPALCO started outreach to the Tribal Nations at the inception of the feasibility study.

OPALCO began outreach and hosting meetings with Tribal Nations over two years ago. OPALCO continued engagement through meetings and correspondence at key milestones throughout the duration of the Department of Energy Phase 1 grant process to share information about the potential project and collaborate to assess the feasibility. OPALCO worked collaboratively with Tribal Nations to identify priority topics requiring study to inform the FERC Draft License Agreement (DLA) application process. In March 2025, OPALCO filed the DLA application with the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC). Government-to-government consultation with the Tribal Nations will occur between FERC and the Tribal Nations. The table below includes a detailed log of OPALCO's early and ongoing engagement efforts with Tribal Nations.

Tribal Engagement Summary Table – last updated 4/29/2025

Tribal Nation	Outreach and Engagement
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla	 September 26, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. September 27, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	 September 26, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. September 27, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Lummi Nation	 July 17, 2022: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. August 26, 2022: Email to department technical staff. September 7, 2022: Response from department technical staff received. September 23, 2022: Meeting with department technical staff. October 5, 2022: Follow-up email to department technical staff. March 19, 2024: Email to department technical staff. April 29, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. May 1, 2024: Email to department technical staff. July 9, 2024: Follow-up emails and coordination with department technical staff and Tribal Chairperson. August 28, 2024: Follow-up emails and coordination with department technical staff and Tribal Chairperson. September 27, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 3, 2024: Email to department technical staff.

	 November 7, 2024: Email to department technical staff. March 26, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Nooksack Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. February 18, 2025: Received mailed letter from Tribal chairperson. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	 December 17, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 19, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Samish Nation	 July 21, 2022: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. August 26, 2022: Email to department technical staff. October 13, 2022: Follow-up emails to department technical staff. October 26, 2022: Response from department technical staff received. November 29, 2022: Meeting with department technical staff. March 20, 2024: Email update to Tribal Councilmember and department technical staff. April 1, 2024: Response from department technical staff received. July 9, 2024: Emailed department technical staff and received background materials from department technical staff. July 10, 2024: Follow-up emails and coordination with department technical staff. September 4, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. September 27, 2024: Email to Councilman and technical staff. September 21, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. November 12, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. November 12, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. January 9, 2025: Meeting with department technical staff. March 26, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.

Skokomish Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Suquamish Indian Tribe	 July 21, 2022: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. August 26, 2022: Email to department technical staff. October 13, 2022: Email to department technical staff. April 26, 2024: Response from department technical staff received. May 29, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. June 4, 2024: Coordination between OPALCO team, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and department technical staff. July 9, 2024: Email to department technical staff. July 16, 2024: Email to department technical staff. August 28, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. September 27, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 3, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 28, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 29, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. October 29, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. December 4, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. February 18, 2025: Email to department technical staff. February 19, 2025: Response from department technical staff. February 19, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 14, 2025: Email from department technical staff. April 21, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Swinomish Indian Tribe	 July 21, 2022: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. August 26, 2022: Email to department technical staff. August 29, 2022: Response from department technical staff received. September 9, 2022: Meeting with department technical staff September 18, 2022: Email received from department technical staff. September 22, 2022: Email to department technical staff. October 10, 2022: Email to department technical staff. October 10, 2022: Response received from department technical staff.

	November 14, 2022: Email to department technical staff
	 November 14, 2022: Email to department technical staff. January 23, 2023: Email received from department technical staff. January 30, 2023: Email received from department technical staff. January 31, 2023: Email received from department technical staff. February 14, 2023: Email received from department technical staff. February 14, 2023: Email received from department technical staff. March 6, 2023: Meeting with department technical staff. March 19, 2024: Email to department technical staff. March 19, 2024: Email received from department technical staff. April 4, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. July 9, 2024: Email to department technical staff. August 8, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. September 27, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 3, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 29, 2024: Comments from department technical staff. October 30, 2024: Email to department technical staff. November 6, 2024: Email to department technical staff. November 6, 2024: Email to department technical staff. February 15, 2025: Email to department technical staff. February 18, 2025: Email to department technical staff. February 18, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 8, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 8, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 8, 2025: Email to department technical staff.
Tulalip Tribes	 July 21, 2022: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. August 26, 2022: Email to department technical staff. October 13, 2022: Emails to department technical staff. May 25, 2023: Follow up email and coordination with department technical staff. May 26, 2023: Email to department technical staff June 15, 2023: Email to department technical staff. June 16, 2023: Meeting with department technical staff. March 19, 2024: Email to department technical staff. July 9, 2024: Email to department technical staff. July 25, 2024: Email to department technical staff. September 5, 2024: Meeting with department technical staff. September 27, 2024: Email to department technical staff. September 3, 2024: Email to department technical staff. October 3, 2024: Email to department technical staff. March 26, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 10, 2025: Email to department technical staff.

	 April 28, 2025: Email to department technical staff. April 29, 2025: Mailed letter to department technical staff.
Upper Skagit Indian Tribe	 December 5, 2024: Mailed letter to Tribal chairperson. December 11, 2024: Email to Tribal chairperson and email to department technical staff. April 9, 2025: Email to department technical staff.