

Section I. A. 9. American Indian/Tribal

The revised Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that federal agencies consult with federally recognized tribes during conservation planning to ensure that any cultural resources considered ‘important’ to a particular tribe are not adversely affected during project implementation. Examples of some of these cultural resources are archeological sites, sacred sites and traditional cultural properties.

NRCS in Vermont established cultural resources consultation with the **Stockbridge-Munsee band of the Mohican Nation**. Their ancestral homelands are located within the upper Hudson River valley that extends into southwestern Vermont. All ground disturbing practices planned within the ancestral homelands are submitted to the Stockbridge-Munsee band for their review and concurrence of No Historic Properties Affected.

There are two non-federally recognized tribes in Vermont considered as *interested parties* for purposes of Section 106 review. All conservation work planned in Franklin and Grand Isle counties are submitted to the **St. Francis/Sokoki band of the Abenaki Nation** for their comments. Any human remains found in Vermont during NRCS planning or implementation activities, except for portions of Bennington County, are reported to the St. Francis/Sokoki band to determine ethnicity. If the remains are of Native American ancestry a reburial plan is developed in consultation with the St. Francis/Sokoki band, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the State Coroner’s office. All conservation practices planned in Orleans and Essex counties are submitted to the **Nebesak band of the Abenaki Nation** for their comments.