

## TRIBES Services



### Accessing Tribal Information Services

For the Tribal ID Data Standard, and Tribal Entity Mappings, go to

<https://www.epa.gov/data-standards/tribal-identifier-data-standard#file-150427>

For the TRIBES Web Services, go to

[www.exchangenetwork.net/data-exchange/epa-tribal-identification-tribes/](http://www.exchangenetwork.net/data-exchange/epa-tribal-identification-tribes/)

For services that provide lands associated with tribal entities, go to

<https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/tribal/MapServer>

### For More Information

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### Introduction

EPA program offices interact with tribes on a government-to-government basis and consider the interests of tribes in all aspects of our work. As partners in environmental protection, EPA and tribes often exchange data, and many EPA systems maintain information related to tribes. These activities require EPA to be able to unambiguously identify tribal entities. EPA's Office of Information Management (OIM) maintains and updates a standardized list of tribal entity information (federally recognized tribe names and codes) for use in EPA systems and partner data exchanges of tribe related information.

### Managing Tribal Entity Information

In order to properly manage data related to tribes, EPA needed a dependable information resource to identify American Indian tribes eligible to receive federal funding. EPA adopted the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) official list of federally recognized tribes for this purpose, and this list forms the basis of our Tribal Identifier data standard. The use of official BIA names in combination with EPA assigned identifiers ensures unambiguous identification of tribal entities, even when names change. EPA maintains a spreadsheet (a.k.a. the Tribal Entity Mapping spreadsheet) that contains tribal entity information needed to support the Tribal Identification Data Standard. The spreadsheet includes the current, official BIA list of federally recognized tribes, and previous lists published by BIA since 1979. It also includes tribal codes managed separately by BIA, and the EPA identifiers for each tribe. The Tribal Entity Mapping spreadsheet can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/data-standards/tribal-identifier-data-standard#file-150427>.

### Tribes Names Service

EPA requires its system owners to implement applicable EPA data standards. For EPA systems containing tribal information, implementing the Tribal Identifier data standard ensures our ability to exchange and integrate information related to tribes.

In response to requests from EPA system owners, OIM created the Tribes Name Service to allow systems to consume a current list of



tribal entity names and other identifiers. These centralized services make it easier for EPA to implement the Tribal Identifier data standard.

These web services also allow system owners to validate tribal names and identifiers against the current BIA list. The Tribes Name Service is available on the Exchange Network at [www.exchangenetwork.net/data-exchange/epa-tribal-identification-tribes/](http://www.exchangenetwork.net/data-exchange/epa-tribal-identification-tribes/).

## Tribal Areas Service

EPA has created Tribal Areas Service that combines tribal land information (in the form of map polygons) with tribe names for use in systems that display spatial information about tribes. These layers are being used in EPA's Envirofacts (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/multisystem.html#tribal>), allowing users to search for facilities on tribe lands. The map layers comprising the Tribal Areas Services can be accessed from <https://geopub.epa.gov/arcgis/rest/services/EMEF/tribal/MapServer>.

## Recent Activities

The Office of Information Management and the Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) are actively reaching out to EPA program offices and Exchange Network partners to encourage utilization of these services to promote the use of standardized tribal information in EPA systems. Implementation of the TRIBES Web Services by Agency applications is an EPA bowling chart measure.

## Future Activities

OIM and OITA will continue working with Agency system owner to encourage implementation of the tribal identification data standard. EPA is working to migrate the TRIBES Web services into a microservices framework that will improve performance.