## Working with Indigenous peoples 8 Indigenous knowledge

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NASEM Independent Scientific Committee for Review of Everglades Restoration Progress

## **Process & experience**

- Federal guidance
- CISRERP process to date
- USDA Forest Service Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission collaboration



## **30 November 2022 Guidance for Heads of Federal Departments and Agencies**

- Understanding Indigenous knowledge (IK)
- Growing & maintaining mutually beneficial relationships
- Considering, including, & applying IK



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY WASHINGTON, D.C.



November 30, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: A

Assistant to the President and Director Office of Science and Technology Policy

Chair, Council on Environmental Qualit

SUBJECT: Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge



## Understanding Indigenous Knowledge

- A body of observations, oral and written knowledge, innovations, practices, and beliefs developed through interaction and experience with the environment
- Developed over millennia, continues to develop
- Community based
- Grounded in social, spiritual, cultural, and natural systems that are frequently intertwined and inseparable





#### Free Prior and Informed Consent

An indigenous peoples' right and a good practice for local communities

MANUAL FOR PROJECT PRACTITIONERS

# Free, prior & informed consent

Continuous consent & member checking

#### Growing & maintaining mutually beneficial relationships

- Acknowledge context & past injustices
- Early & sustained engagement
- Earn & maintain trust
- Respect different processes & world views
- Recognize challenges
- Consider co-management & costewardship
- Pursue co-production of knowledge



Mr. Frank with Chickee poles placed by his grandfather. Photo taken & used with Mr. Frank's permission.

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#### **Considering, including, & applying Indigenous Knowledge**

- Identify project areas & relevant staff
- Plan ahead & develop an IK plan
- Conduct initial meetings
- Include IK in decisionmaking & research design & implementation
- Regularly coordinate with other agencies

#### USFS – Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife partnership

- Born from a successful lawsuit (Voigt Decision 1983; Ojibwe retained rights to hunt & fish in ceded territory)
- Consortium of 11 tribes in the Upper Great Lakes
- USDA Forest Service all divisions
- Key USFS leadership champions
- Committed, consistent staff
- Annual meetings



#### Mutually beneficial project Co-production of knowledge

Manoomin / Wild rice / Zizania aquatica &/or Z. palustris



### It's been a pleasure

## **Questions or discussion?**