

Returning: five first questions

Use these questions to slow down before sharing, contacting, or starting a project. This is not a referral form, cultural permission, or repatriation service.

1

What kind of return is this?

Reconnecting with people or place? A historical record? A family story? An ancestor or cultural belonging? Land use? Each needs different care.

2

Who is already responsible?

A person, family, band, Tribal office, community group, or museum may already be carrying this work. No public webpage does not mean no work.

3

What should stay private?

Consider living people, ancestors, burial places, cultural knowledge, unpublished records, and other information that is not yours to share.

4

What help has actually been invited?

Research, an explanation, or a referral may help. Do not assume a role in another person's or community's project.

5

What should happen before publication?

Check public facts and dates. Ask appropriate people about permission, context, and whether the information should be shared at all.

If the subject is an ancestor, cultural item, or protected place

Consult the responsible people and offices directly. Do not send the Institute locations, photographs, claims, or confidential cultural information.

Pit River Heritage Department: pitrivertribe.gov/thpo/

These are general learning questions, not directions for any specific Tribe or band. The Institute does not speak for a Tribe, band, family, or existing project.