Draft Tribal Interview Study Work Plan
Tar Creek Natural Resource Damage Assessment

Submitted to:
Tar Creek Trustee Council Indian Tribes: The Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Seneca-Cayuga Nation, and the Wyandotte Nation; and Brian Cleary, The Cleary Law Group, PC

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Draft
1. Introduction

The Tri-State Mining District (TSMD) in Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma is one of the largest historic zinc mining districts in the country, covering approximately 2,500 square miles. This includes Jasper, Newton, Lawrence, and Barry counties in southwestern Missouri; Cherokee County in southeastern Kansas; and Ottawa County in northeastern Oklahoma. Lead and zinc mining and milling in the TSMD occurred from the 1870s through the 1970s, leaving behind prominent features across the local landscape, including chat piles, tailings sites, development and waste rock piles, and subsidence ponds (Dames and Moore, 1995). These features are a source of hazardous substances, including zinc, lead, cadmium, and other metals that have exposed and potentially injured natural resources within the TSMD.

The Tar Creek Trustee Council (TCTC) is conducting a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in the Oklahoma portion of the TSMD. The TCTC consists of nine Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) natural resource Trustees, including seven Oklahoma Indian Tribes (known as the Tar Creek Trustee Council Indian Tribes, or TCTCIT), the Department of the Interior (DOI), and the State of Oklahoma. Specifically, the Trustees are the:

1. Cherokee Nation
2. Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
3. Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
4. Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
5. Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
6. Seneca-Cayuga Nation
7. Wyandotte Nation
8. DOI through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
9. State of Oklahoma, through the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (OKDEQ), the Secretary of the Environment, and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (OKDWC).

As part of the overall NRDA, the TCTCIT is assessing Tribal service losses as a result of the release of hazardous substances from the TSMD, and identifying potential types of restoration to compensate for those losses. The Tribes have unique and distinct uses of natural resources, and therefore it is important to understand the Tribal losses that have occurred and identify appropriate restoration to compensate for these losses. To gain an understanding of the unique Tribal uses of natural resources, the TCTCIT intends to conduct a Tribal interview study. In this study, Tribal community elders will be interviewed to gather information on the Tribal losses, and the type(s) of restoration that is needed to compensate for these losses.

The interviews are being conducted to elicit this information, following standard survey research methodology, in which surveys are used to collect behavioral information from a population (Rae and Parker, 2005). There is a body of literature on techniques to assess cultural losses, including interview techniques for the purpose of identifying and quantifying tribal values for natural resources. However, these studies are complex and often difficult to undertake (e.g., Keeney, 1996; McDaniels and Trousdale, 2005; Gregory and Trousdale, 2009; Raymond et al., 2014). Therefore, in this study, we are focusing our elicitation on identifying natural resources that are used by Tribal members and citizens, and restoration that will restore those
resources and uses that have been adversely affected by released hazardous substances. While the study is qualitative, and is not designed to directly quantify losses, the results may be used in future damage determination steps. Specifically, the results may inform an equivalency analysis approach to determining damages, in which the damages are based on the cost of the restoration that will provide Tribal uses and services similar to those that were lost. In this type of equivalency analysis, the values members of the public, including Tribes, hold for natural resources are not explicitly measured. Rather, the natural resources and uses that have been adversely affected by released hazardous substances are characterized, and projects that will restore the injured resources are identified and scaled. In this approach, it is implicit that if the equivalent resources are restored as those that were injured, then the services and uses that were lost may also be restored (Allen et al., 2005; NOAA, 2017).

The TCTCIT has contracted with Abt Associates (Abt) to assist with the study. This work plan provides the rationale and scope for the Tribal interview study (Section 2), a description of tasks (Section 3), a summary and timeline (Section 4), followed by references cited in the text and a preliminary draft interview questionnaire (appendix).

2. Rationale and Scope of the Study

The Tribes’ members and citizens hunt, fish, and gather within streams, lakes, and riparian habitats that have been affected by hazardous substances released from the TSMD. The biological resources, and the particular locations where the Tribes hunt, fish, and gather these resources, remain integral to the Tribes’ subsistence, spirituality, culture, and daily life. These resources are important for both subsistence and cultural practices of Tribal members and citizens. For example, Tribal members and citizens use fish, mussels, crustaceans, amphibians, frogs, turtles, waterfowl, and furbearers as food resources. Mussel and turtle shells and bird feathers are used in Tribal regalia, crafts, and cultural practices including ceremonies; and specific locations are used as cultural gathering sites. Because particular places and biological resources are intrinsically intertwined with the Tribes’ uses of those resources and their services, the loss of one or the other (or both) necessarily causes a loss. This can include a loss in transference of cultural information; and a loss of Tribal practices, traditions, and customs.

Through sustenance, cultural or religious affiliation, or as a teaching tool, Tribal people depend upon healthy and uncontaminated natural resources and an environment to maintain their way of life (Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, 1999; TCTC, 2009). The following examples of potential Tribal service losses were identified in the TCTC 2009 Assessment Plan (TCTC, 2009):

- **Reduced nutritional value.** If culturally significant biological resources accumulate hazardous substances, Tribal members and citizens could choose not to ingest those resources. The nutritional value that was provided from ingesting the biological resources in traditional ways is lost to Tribal members and citizens.

- **Reduced cultural value.** If culturally significant resources accumulate hazardous substances, Tribal members and citizens could choose not to utilize those resources for a culturally significant purpose. The cultural value that was provided from using them in traditional ways is lost to Tribal members and citizens.
Reduced viability and growth. If culturally significant biological resources are, or have been, prevented from growing because of toxic concentrations of hazardous substances in aquatic habitats, Tribal members and citizens have lost a cultural resource.

A number of studies have shown that due to releases from the TSMD, hazardous substances, including zinc, cadmium, and lead, are elevated in soils and sediments, as well as in biological resources that are of subsistence and cultural importance to the Tribes (OKDEQ, 2003, 2007; Schmitt et al., 2006; van der Merwe et al., 2011; TEMS, 2011a). Further, the OKDEQ has issued Fish Consumption Advisories (FCAs) for the Neosho and Spring rivers within the TCTCIT Tribal areas due to elevated concentrations of lead in fish tissue (OKDEQ, 2010). However, the studies conducted to date have only assessed a subset of the biological resources that are used in Tribal lifeways, there has been limited study of the associated Tribal service losses, and the Tribal communities have not been asked about appropriate types of restoration to compensate for these losses. This study focuses on addressing the need to identify Tribal lost uses associated with injured natural resources, and appropriate restoration to compensate for these unique Tribal uses of resources.

Specifically, the interviews are being conducted to collect qualitative information about the locations and other attributes of restoration that might most appropriately address Tribal losses resulting from released hazardous substances at the site. As noted in the introduction, while it may inform future restoration-based equivalency analyses to determine damages, this study is not designed to directly quantify losses, nor directly estimate a monetary value of damages. Finally, we note that the nine members of the TCTC (listed above in Section 1) will ultimately coordinate on restoration project selection, as described in the Programmatic Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (TCTC, 2017).

3. Description of Tasks

Abt staff will conduct interviews with Tribal elders. In these interviews, the elders will be asked about their uses of natural resources (e.g., frogs, mussels, fish, furbearers, crayfish) and how associated practices may have changed because of contamination of these resources. Questions will also be asked about family (children, grandchildren) participation in Tribal activities and uses of natural resources, and cultural knowledge-transfer across generations. Inquiries will then focus on asking the elders about which types of actions could best restore the affected resources and lost uses they just described. This will include seeking information about the locations and particular restoration attributes that could most appropriately address Tribal losses, and how to restore Tribal services. These interviews will build upon information from the 2009 and 2011 Tribal Cultural Resource Surveys, which documented the types of natural resources used by Tribal members and the general impact contamination may have on the use of these natural resources (TEMS, 2009, 2011b). The TEMS surveys asked for general information about the impacts of contamination. This study will expand upon the previous surveys, focusing in particular on identifying potentially appropriate restoration to address Tribal losses.

We anticipate conducting up to three rounds of interviews with Tribal elders. The objective of the first round of interviews is to (1) introduce the NRDA process and concept of NRDA restoration to the elders, (2) learn about any impacts of the releases of hazardous substances from the TSMD on Tribal uses of natural resources, and (3) ask for information about what types of restoration actions may appropriately compensate for any Tribal losses that have occurred. In the
subsequent rounds of interviews, we will refine our questionnaire based on what we learn in the first round, and shift the focus toward identifying appropriate types of restoration and attributes of the restoration.

In the remainder of this section, we present details of the tasks that comprise this work plan, including developing the interview questionnaire, conducting the interviews, and compiling information and preparing a summary report.

3.1 Task 1: Develop Questionnaire

To develop the questionnaire, we will conduct a series of planning calls with Tribal cultural resource specialists, such as, for example, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) or other cultural department/program staff, NRDA Tribal representatives, and other Tribal representatives as appropriate, from the seven Tribes. During these calls, we will discuss and refine the potential inquiries to include in the interviews, to ensure that questions will be asked in a respectful and culturally sensitive manner. The appendix provides a preliminary draft that we will review, revise, and refine during the calls. During these calls, we will also attempt to identify elders to interview from each individual Tribe, and discuss the appropriate structure and venue for the Tribal interviews (e.g., one-on-one interviews versus small group interviews, locations where the interviews will be conducted).

We will then finalize the interview materials and circulate the questionnaire to the cultural resource specialists, Tribal NRDA representatives, and other Tribal representatives, as appropriate, for final review and approval. The questions will focus on how Tribal members and citizens use natural resources in traditional practices, how these practices may have changed as a result of hazardous substances released from the TSMD, as well as identify restoration that could compensate for the losses. We anticipate that much of the interview material will be common across all seven Tribes. There may also be different lines of inquiry developed for individual Tribes, depending upon any unique aspects of a particular Tribe’s use of the resources, based on information learned during the initial planning calls. The developed questions will be used as guides by our interviewers during the in-person interviews described below (Task 2). We will undergo a similar process to refine and finalize questions for the second and third round of interviews.

3.2 Task 2: Conduct Interviews

Once the questionnaire has been approved, we will schedule the interview sessions with the elders. We anticipate that the interview format may vary by Tribe, in accordance with individual Tribal norms and practices. For example, we may interview small groups of elders from different Tribes simultaneously, for Tribes who normally engage in cross-Tribal practices, and/or feel comfortable discussing cultural practices with other Tribes. In other instances, the interviews may be conducted with member(s) or citizen(s) of a single Tribe, due to the sensitive nature of the information being discussed. The second and third round of interviews will be scheduled after interview refinements have been completed and approved.

During the interview process, we will be sensitive to Tribal customs and cultural norms. If at any point elders wish to terminate the session or not provide specific information, this request will immediately be accommodated. If elders have private, confidential, or sensitive information, the interviewers can follow up and hold one-on-one separate conversations. We will also be flexible
in designing the format of the interviews. For example, if Tribal elders prefer to only have Tribal cultural resource specialists present during their interviews, we will accommodate such preferences by training the cultural resource specialists on how to conduct the interview.

3.3 Task 3: Compile Information and Prepare Project Report

After each round of interviews, we will compile the information collected during the interviews in a confidential spreadsheet. We will use the compiled summaries to look for themes among the interviews and to identify gaps on which to focus during the subsequent rounds. We will also use the compiled summaries to track information on the various types of restoration, including attributes (distance, habitat features, language/knowledge transfer components, etc.) and the linkage to the injury. Once all interviews are complete, we will prepare draft and final reports summarizing the results of the interviews. The draft report will be circulated to Tribal NRDA representatives, cultural resource specialists, and other Tribal representatives, as appropriate, for review and comment. We will then prepare a final report. During this process, we will handle all information learned during the interviews in a manner that is respectful to the customs and traditions of the Tribes, and protects the sensitivity of the data collected. We will keep the interview details confidential, and will rely on the identified themes to develop the report. If certain Tribes would not like to share sensitive aspects of the interview information, even with the other Tribes, we can address this by either redacting specific details that the Tribe does not want to share, and/or generalizing the information to a level that is acceptable by the Tribe for sharing. For example, if an interviewee describes ceremonies that are held on certain types of land that are confidential or secretive in nature, we could omit the details of the ceremonies from the report, and only retain the attributes that make the land suitable to the ceremony.

3.3.1 Quality Assurance

All information collected for this study will be processed and handled in a manner that ensures quality control, while allowing flexibility to honor Tribal customs and confidentiality. Quality control will be ensured through the following measures:

- The interviews will be conducted by interviewers who have experience conducting interviews and focus groups, and specifically experience with working with Tribal members and citizens.

- We will have two team members participating in each interview: an interviewer and a dedicated note taker. The interviewer will focus on talking with the elders, and the note taker will record the information discussed and ensure information is recorded consistently and accurately.

- The interviewers will ensure the inquiries are accurately and consistently interpreted by Tribal members and citizens, by first working with cultural resource specialists to ensure that questions are worded in a manner that is understandable by Tribal elders. Secondly, the interviewers will be careful to keep the focus of the discussion on the impacts of the release of hazardous substances on Tribal uses of resources, distinguishing from other impacts, such as urbanization, agriculture, etc. To accomplish this, the interviewers will be familiar with the impacts of the release of hazardous substances, including the resources impacted, so that they can direct/redirect the focus of the interviews on mine-impacted resources.
The interviewers will ensure that the intended meaning of the responses is accurately understood and documented. This will be accomplished by reviewing our notes with the interviewee, to confirm that the notes accurately reflect their responses.

The Abt interviewers may also be joined by Tribal staff with whom the Tribal elders are familiar to assist with the interviews, as appropriate. If Tribal elders prefer that only Tribal cultural resource specialists from their Tribe are present, our interviewers will work with the Tribal members to ensure the same level of quality assurance. Specifically, our interviewers will train the Tribal members to conduct the interviews and record the information in a consistent way.

All information that will be gathered will be treated as confidential and will be handled in a manner that protects the sensitivity of the data, and is respectful of the customs and traditions of Tribal members and citizens. Once the interview summaries are produced, the appropriate Tribal representatives (as designated by the Tribes) will review them and approve their content prior to any distribution. Any information that the Tribes deem necessary to keep confidential will be redacted from the reports.

4. Summary of Study Tasks and Timeline

Below we provide an overall summary of the individual study tasks and subtasks, and a brief description of each (Exhibit 1). We then offer a study timeline for the Tribal interviews in Exhibit 2. This timeline provides the anticipated time required for each work element; the actual dates are flexible and will be finalized during the work plan finalization.

Exhibit 1. Summary of work elements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Subtask</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Task 1. Develop questionnaire</td>
<td>Discuss potential questions</td>
<td>Engage with Tribal cultural resource specialists and NRDA Tribal representatives from the seven Tribes.</td>
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<td>1A. Conduct planning calls</td>
<td>Identify elders to interview</td>
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<td>1B. Develop questions/lines of inquiry</td>
<td>Discuss appropriate structure and venues</td>
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<td>Review and refine the initial draft questionnaire (provided in the appendix)</td>
<td>The questionnaire materials will focus on use of natural resources, how uses have changed as a result of contamination, and potential restoration options.</td>
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<td>Tribal review</td>
<td>Circulate the list to the resource specialists, Tribal NRDA representatives, and other Tribal representatives, as appropriate, for review, refinement, and approval.</td>
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**Exhibit 1. Summary of work elements**

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<th>Task</th>
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<td>Task 2. Conduct interviews</td>
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<td>2A. Conduct initial round of interviews</td>
<td>Tailor interview sessions to each Tribe</td>
<td>Develop interview format in accordance with individual Tribal norms and practices.</td>
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<td>Schedule interviews</td>
<td>Interviews will be conducted with small groups of elders and may be conducted with multiple Tribes simultaneously, depending on Tribal preferences.</td>
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<td>Conduct interviews</td>
<td>Interviews will involve general introductions, explanation for the reason for conducting the interviews, and initial discussion; guided by the interview questionnaire.</td>
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<td>2B. Conduct follow-up interviews</td>
<td>Refine interview materials based on initial round of interviews</td>
<td>Develop further probes to focus on attributes of restoration that would address Tribal losses.</td>
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<td>Schedule and conduct second and possibly third round of interviews</td>
<td>A third round of interviews will be conducted as needed to, for example, further probe on restoration attributes.</td>
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<td>Task 3. Prepare report</td>
<td>Prepare study report</td>
<td>The report will summarize the results of the interviews. It will be reviewed and approved by the Tribes prior to further distribution. Any sensitive or confidential topics may be summarized in separate appendices, shared only with individual Tribe(s).</td>
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Exhibit 2. Generalized timeline for Tribal interviews, from the initiation of the study.

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Exhibit 2. Generalized timeline for Tribal interviews, from the initiation of the study (cont.)

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References


Appendix

Appendix. Draft Tribal Interview Questionnaire

This appendix provides an initial draft of the questions that will be used in the interviews with Tribal elders. These interview questions will be refined and finalized based on the planning calls with Tribal cultural resource specialists and NRDA Tribal representatives from the seven Tribes. The Tribal interview questionnaire will be used as guides by Abt interviewers during the in-person interviews. Prior to conducting the in-person interviews, Tribal representatives from the seven Tribes will review and approve all interview materials.

We will conduct up to three rounds of interviews with Tribal elders and cultural resource specialists. This draft questionnaire contains questions for the first round of interviews. The objectives of the first round of interviews are to (1) briefly introduce the NRDA process and concept of NRDA restoration to the elders, (2) learn about any impacts of the releases of hazardous substances from the TSMD on their uses of natural resources, and (3) ask initial questions about what types of restoration actions may appropriately compensate for any Tribal losses that have occurred. In the subsequent rounds of interviews, we will refine the questions based upon input from the first round, and shift the focus toward identifying appropriate types of restoration and restoration attributes.

Below we provide the background information that will be shared with Tribal elders on the reason for the interviews (Section A.1), followed by the draft questions (Section A.2).

A.1. About this Interview Questionnaire

We are collecting information from you and others who may know about the impacts of metals contamination released from past mining activities in your area. We would like to learn more about how the contamination may have affected your use of plants and animals, water, and other natural resources. These impacts may include things like impacts to fishing, hunting, and gathering plants and other biota (e.g., mussels and crayfish) for food and medicines, for cultural and ceremonial uses, and for passing on language and traditions. We are also collecting information on things that could be done so that the resources could be used again in ways they were traditionally used before the contamination. This information collection is part of a natural resource damage assessment (NRDA) that your Tribe and other Tribes in the area are conducting along with state and federal agencies. An NRDA is a process in which Tribal, state, and federal agencies try to determine what improvements can be made to natural resources to make up for the impacts of the contamination. This process also involves trying to find ways to make it possible for Tribal members and citizens to use the resources again, in the way they did before the contamination happened.

A.2. Interview Questions

The questions are broken into three sections, including asking for information about:

1. Resources and places
2. Uses of resources
3. Restoration.
Section 1: Inquiries about Resources and Places

To begin, I would like to talk about how contamination from historical mining activities in your area may have affected or changed how you use natural resources (plants, animals, stream water, etc.) or specific places.

[If interviewee responds for other household members or Tribal members or citizens, ask: In answering these questions, are you considering only yourself, your household, or all Tribal members?]

1.1 Are you aware of contamination from historical mining activities in the area? □ Yes □ No

If yes, could you tell me what you know about contamination from historical mining activities in the area?

1.2 Are there any resources or places that you are concerned about using because of contamination?

□ Yes

□ No (Skip to Question 1.3)

• Can you tell me what resources or places?

  Resource / place 1: ________________________________
  Resource / place 2: ________________________________
  Resource / place 3: ________________________________
  Resource / place 4: ________________________________
  Resource / place 5: ________________________________

For each of the different resources or places that you are concerned about using because of contamination from historical mining activities:

• In general, what did you do there?

• What concerns do you have about these resources or places?

• Has your concern changed over time? □ Yes □ No

  If yes, why and how has it changed and when did this change occur?

1.3 Are there resources or places that you used in the past that you no longer use because of contamination from historical mining activities?

□ Yes

□ No (Skip to Section 2)

• Can you tell me what resource or places?

  Resource / place 1: ________________________________
  Resource / place 2: ________________________________
For each of the different resources or places that you used in the past that you no longer use because of the contamination:

- In general, what did you do there?
- About when did you stop?

Section 2: Inquiries about Use of Resources

[If you answered “Yes” to 1.2 or 1.3:]

You indicated that you are concerned about using certain areas and resources, or have stopped using them because of contamination from historical mining practices. I’d like to get a little more information about how often you use or used these resources and areas, and how that has changed over time. This change can come in a number of different ways. For example, you may still use certain resources or places, but the experience is reduced, because of your concern over contamination. Or, you may still use the resources or places, just not as often; you may go to other places instead, or you no longer do certain activities or go to certain places because of the contamination. You may have also changed your use of certain resources or places in some other way.

If there are some specific locations or specific uses of resources that you do not feel comfortable providing, please don’t provide them. The general region and types of uses are fine for our purposes.

Current Resource Uses

In the questions outlined below, the specific resource (e.g., mussels) and the action (e.g., harvesting mussels) would be discussed. These questions would be asked for each of the specific resources/activities/places that are currently used by Tribal members and citizens.

[If you answered “Yes” to 1.2:]

First, I would like to focus on the resources that you still use and places where you still go.

[If interviewee responds for other household members or Tribal members or citizens, ask: In sharing this information, are you considering only yourself, your household, or all Tribal members?]

2.1 In general, where do you go to [action] [resource]?

- About how far do you travel to get to this site and about how long does it take to get there?
• How often do you [action] [resource] at this site (e.g., how many times a month/season/year)?
  - Do you have any concerns about [action] [resource] at this site?
    □ Yes
    □ No (Skip to next question)
  If yes, what are your concerns?
    ▪ [Probe:] Do you have any concerns about [action] [resource] because of contamination?
      □ Yes
      □ No (Skip to next question)
    If yes, what are your concerns?
  - Has your use of this site changed over time?
    □ Yes
    □ No (Skip to next question)
  If yes, how has your use of the site changed over time?

• How long do you usually stay at the site to [action] [resource]? (Hours/days per trip/year?)
  - [If use of this site changed over time:] In the past, how long did you usually stay at the site to [action] [resource]? (Hours/days per trip/year?)

• [For hunting/harvesting activities:] How many_____/much______ do you get each time?
  - Do you have any concerns about the [resource] you [hunt/harvest]? If yes, what are your concerns?
    ▪ [Probe:] Do you have any concerns about the [resource] you [hunt/harvest] because of contamination?
  - [If use of this site changed over time:] In the past, how many_____/much______ do you get each time?

• Do you know how many Tribal members or citizens participate in [action] [resource] in this area? If many, are the Tribal members or citizens that participate typically related to each other (e.g., of the same household)?
  - Do you take your children, grandchildren, or other youth to this area to teach them how to [action] [resource]?
2.2 Are there other areas where you could go (or have to go) to [action] [resource]?

- How do these other areas compare to the area where you currently go to [action] [resource] (e.g., ease of access, quality of resources, or distance from household)?

Cessation of Resource Uses

In the questions outlined below, the specific resource (e.g., mussels) and the action (e.g., harvesting mussels) would be discussed. These questions would be asked for each of the specific resources/activities/places that are currently used by Tribal members and citizens.

[If you answered “Yes” to 1.3:]

Now, I would like to focus on the resources and places that you said you no longer use because of contamination. I would like to better understand why these resources or places are no longer used.

[If interviewee responds for other household members or Tribal members or citizens, ask: In sharing this information, are you considering only yourself, your household, or all Tribal members?]

2.3 In general, where do you no longer go to [action] [resource]?

- Why don’t you go there anymore?
- About when did you stop __________________ (using [resource]/going there)?
- About how far did you have to travel to get to this site and about how long did it take to get there?
- How often did you [action] [resource] at this site (e.g., how many times a month/year)?
- How long did you usually stay at the site to [action] [resource] (hours/days per trip/year)?
- [For hunting/harvesting activities:] How many_____/much______ did you get each time?
- How many Tribal members or citizens participated in [action] [resource] in this area? If many, were the Tribal members or citizens that participated typically related to each other (e.g., of the same household)?
  - Do you take your children, grandchildren, or other youth to this area to teach them [action] [resource]?

2.4 Are there other areas where you could go (or have to go) to [action] [resource]?

- How do these other areas compare to the area you used to go to [action] [resource] (e.g., ease of access, quality of resources, or distance from household)?
Section 3: Inquiries about Restoration Options

Thank you very much. We are moving to the last area that we would like to discuss – projects that may help to improve the conditions that we have been talking about so far.

Under the NRDA process, Tribes can identify things that could be done to make it possible to use the resources again, in the ways you did before the contamination. These are called restoration projects, and might include things like projects that help to restore the resources that have been affected, such as replanting native plants that used to grow in the area, and projects that help to restore Tribal uses of the resources that have been impacted by the contamination. This could include things like educational programs, such as youth hunting programs, or other programs that connect elders with youth to enable learning about traditional uses of resources. It is not always possible to restore the affected resources to the same condition that existed prior to the contamination, or to restore the traditional uses that have been lost. However, sometimes it is possible to find projects that can at least make improvements to the conditions caused by the historical mining and contamination, and for Tribes to begin to practice traditional activities with the resources again. Under the NRDA process, Tribes can also identify projects that provide similar resources in accessible and nearby locations (different from those lost) that can be used instead of the ones lost by contamination.

At this early stage, we are just trying to collect information about the types of projects that members or citizens of the Tribe think could make up for the impacts of the contamination. In follow-up interviews, there will be a more complete process of restoration project review and evaluation, but for right now, we are trying to get information about any projects that members or citizens of the Tribe think might address these losses.

3.1 Do you know if any such projects have been undertaken on Tribal land?

- What types of projects have been undertaken?
- Where have these projects been undertaken?
- Who were involved in these projects?
  - [Probe:] Were Tribal youth involved in these projects?

3.2 Are there habitat improvement projects that you think could improve the Tribe’s natural resources or uses of the resources or specific places?

- What types of projects?
  - [Probe, give examples if needed to encourage discussion:] For example, habitat restoration projects could include installing cattle fencing to protect streambanks, support native plants, and improve water quality.
- How do you think these projects would help address the impacts to resources and uses by the Tribe?
3.2 Are there projects that you think could help to make it possible to use the resources again, the way they were used before the contamination from the historical mining practices?

- What types of projects?
  - [Probe, give examples to encourage discussion:] For example, educational programs for youth.

- How do you think these projects would help?

3.3 Do you know if there are educational activities (e.g., school garden, public health outreach) to teach children and community members how this resource was historically used by the Tribes?

- If yes, please describe those activities.

Thank you!

We would like to thank you very much for your time today. Your input is valuable in helping to understand the impacts that contamination from historical mining practices has had on Tribal members or citizens and to refine and focus this information gathering process for future discussions.

Is there anything else you would like to add, or other information you think we should know?

Thank you very much for your time.