



POLICY ON PROJECT AND SITE INFORMATION FROM TRIBAL LANDS

APPROVED BY THE AZSITE CONSORTIUM BOARD 10/24/2024

I. Background

AZSITE is Arizona's official inventory of known historic and archaeological cultural resources. AZSITE provides location and boundary information for historic and archaeological sites and surveys, as well as detailed attribute data and supporting documentation. AZSITE has been developed as a tool for preservation of resources through planning, for the review of projects for compliance with federal and state preservation legislation, and as a research tool for qualified archaeologists and historians.

AZSITE is managed by the AZSITE Consortium Board, comprised of the Arizona State Museum (ASM) at the University of Arizona, the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University (SHESC-ASU), the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Arizona State Parks, and the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA).

II. Definitions

"Tribal lands" as discussed in this document refer to reservations, Tribal trust lands, allotted trust lands, or fee lands as depicted in the most recent [Arizona Surface Management Agencies feature service](#) published by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). AZSITE acknowledges that these boundaries do not adequately represent the ancestral lands inhabited by Indigenous peoples for thousands of years.

"GIS boundary" as discussed in this document refers to the mapped boundary of a project or site feature in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format.

“Map Application” refers to the AZSITE Map Application, a web GIS application allowing qualified users to map and spatially query these data.

“Attributes” and “Attribute Search Application” as discussed in this document refer to non-spatial information relating to sites and projects that are provided in AZSITE, and to the AZSITE Attribute Search Application, a web application allowing qualified users to query these data.

“Mercator GIS Server” as discussed in this document refers to AZSITE’s standalone GIS server, which allows qualified users to access AZSITE data directly from their own GIS software.

“Data Clip” as discussed in this document refers to extracts of AZSITE data requested by users according to the [AZSITE Data Clip Policy](#).

III. Policy

AZSITE does not show project and site information from tribal lands in the Attribute Search Application, in the Map Application, or on the Mercator GIS Server. Project and site information from tribal lands are not provided in Data Clips unless 1) the requestor is a tribal government entity, or 2) a tribal government entity’s formal endorsement is provided with the request.

IV. Procedures

AZSITE follows the following procedures in implementing the *Policy on Project and Site Information from Tribal Lands*.

- A. If the GIS boundary is located entirely within tribal lands:
 - a. The GIS boundary is not shown.
 - b. The related attributes are not shown.
 - c. Any related documents are not posted in AZSITE.
- B. If the GIS boundary is located partially on tribal lands, i.e., the GIS boundary spans a tribal land GIS boundary:
 - a. The portion of the GIS boundary on tribal lands is not shown.
 - b. The related attributes are shown, except where these indicate locations of cultural resources on tribal lands.
 - c. Any related documents are redacted prior to posting in AZSITE. Redactions may include:

- i. Locations of sites and projects on tribal lands on document maps.
 - ii. Narrative site descriptions or photographs of sites located on tribal lands.
 - C. If the GIS boundary is not located on tribal lands:
 - a. The GIS boundary is shown.
 - b. The related attributes are shown.
 - c. Related documents are posted.
 - i. If the document includes maps of other project or site locations on tribal lands, these data will be redacted.
 - ii. If the document includes narrative site descriptions or photographs of other sites on tribal lands, these will also be redacted.
 - D. Data Clips
 - a. Data Clip deliverables will be developed using the primary AZSITE dataset, which does not include project and site information from tribal lands as described above.
 - b. If the area of interest for the Data Clip request includes tribal lands, and the requestor is a tribal government entity, or a tribal government entity provides a formal endorsement of the request (e.g., the requestor is a contractor of a tribal government entity):
 - i. Data Clip deliverables will be augmented with project and site information available to AZSITE for the portion of the area of interest located on tribal lands.