

Sample Letter for inviting Initiating Tribes

The Honorable (first name) (last name)

Chair

XX Tribe

Address

Dear Chairperson (last name):

The purpose of this letter is to invite your participation in watershed planning in WRIA (#) as an "initiating government", under the provisions of the 1998 Watershed Management Act, Chapter 247 Laws of 1998. A summary of this act and a map of the proposed planning area are enclosed for your convenience.

We hope you will be able to join (counties), (city) and (water supply utility) as we develop management strategies for meeting the competing resource needs in our watershed. Under the bill, initiating governments designate a lead agency, decide the initial scope of watershed planning and set up a planning process and planning unit.

We are asking for a meeting of initiating governments on (date) at (time) in (wherever) to designate the lead agency and proceed with the grant application process. Our next step will be to consult with other local governments, state government and other affected tribes to develop the planning process and establish the planning unit. We may decide to hold a public hearing on the scope of work and composition of the planning unit.

Please let us know your decision on joining us in watershed planning as soon as possible . We look forward to your participation and partnership in this process. If you have any questions, please contact (name, phone).

Sincerely,

cc: XX Tribe Natural Resources Director

Other initiating entities

Gordon White, Department of Ecology