



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Tribal Engagement Committee

July 2025

ENHANCING RESILIENCE TO
AVOID CASCADING DISASTER



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Today's Agenda



- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Featured Presentations:**
 - **Update on ITCN 51st Annual Conference** (*Together As One: Advancing Unity Among Nevada's Tribal Nations*. July 13-18, 2025 at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, NV) by Clifford Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc.
 - **Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Drone Requirements/Regulations and How it Might Impact Tribes** by UAS Integration Office by Thea Dickerman, AFS-760, Emerging Technologies Division, Flight Standards Service, FAA and Alina George, AUS-410, Project Manager, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Office, FAA
 - **Update on the 2025 NAFWS SW Region Conference** by Darren Talayumptewa, NAFWS SW Region Director, Member of the Hopi Tribe
 - **Update on the 1st CA Native American Tribal GIS Summit 2025** by Donna Miranda-Begay, CEO CA Tribal GIS, Tübatulabals of Kern Valley, Tribal Chairwoman Emeritus, Tübatulabal Cultural Practitioner and Researcher
- **Next Steps and Actions**
- **Around the Phone Updates**

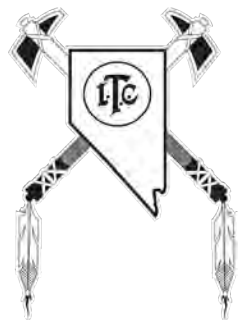




Clifford Banuelos

*Tribal-State Environmental
Liaison*

Inter-Tribal Council of
Nevada, Inc.



- **Tribal-State Environmental Liaison**, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc.
 - Works with the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) since 2017
 - Supports state and Tribal Nations to better coordinate and consult on environmental items
 - Aides in communication between Tribal Nations and many federal agencies such as EPA, FEMA, DOT, DOE, USDA, USFW, DOI, and many more
 - ITCN is a consortium and governing body of the 28-member Tribal governments in the state of Nevada
- Previously: Environmental Coordinator, Elko Band Council of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
- Member of the Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone



Thea Dickerman

UAS Safety Specialist
Emerging Technologies
Division of Flight Standards
Service, FAA



- **UAS Safety Specialist in AFS-700, the Emerging Technologies Division of the Flight Standards Service, FAA**
- Worked with the FAA since 2018 and has been in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) work in various capacities since 2015.
- **Education:**
 - **Master of Arts** in International Relations and Economics, Johns Hopkins Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies
 - **Bachelor of Arts** in History and Women's Studies, University of New Hampshire
- Originally from New Hampshire and lives in Washington, DC.



Alina George

Program Manager
UAS Integration Office
FAA



- **Program Manager, UAS Integration Office, FAA**
 - Works on several projects including:
 - BEYOND program
 - Outreach and Engagement
 - UAS workforce development
- Joined the FAA in 2019
- **Bachelor** in English Literature, University of Toronto

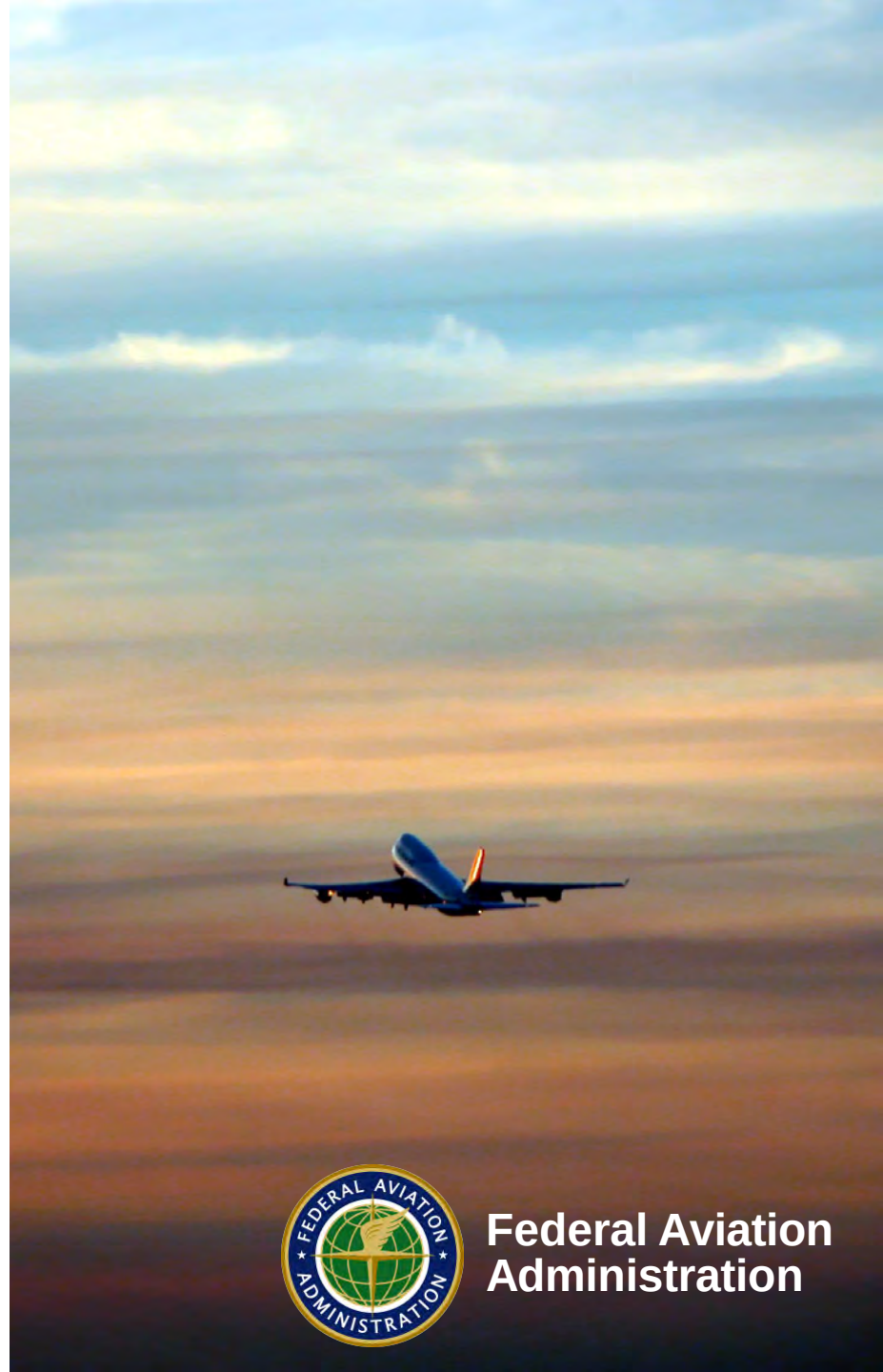
FAA Resources for Tribal Governments

**Western Regional
Partnership Tribal
Engagement Committee**

July 25, 2025



**Federal Aviation
Administration**



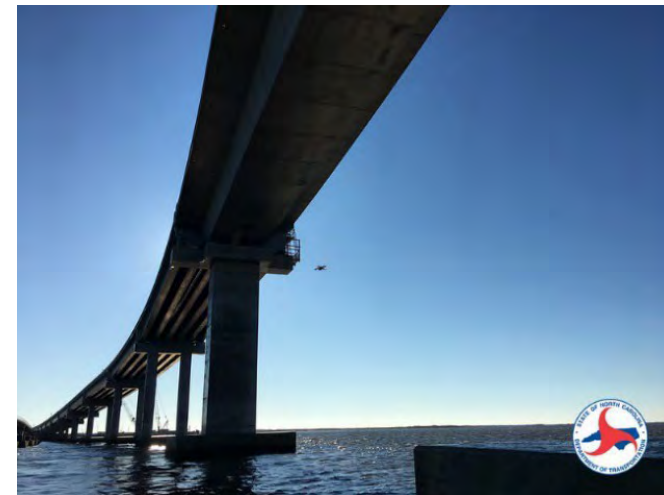
Introductions

UAS Integration Office

- Alina George

**Emerging Technologies Division, Flight
Standards Service**

- Thea Dickerman

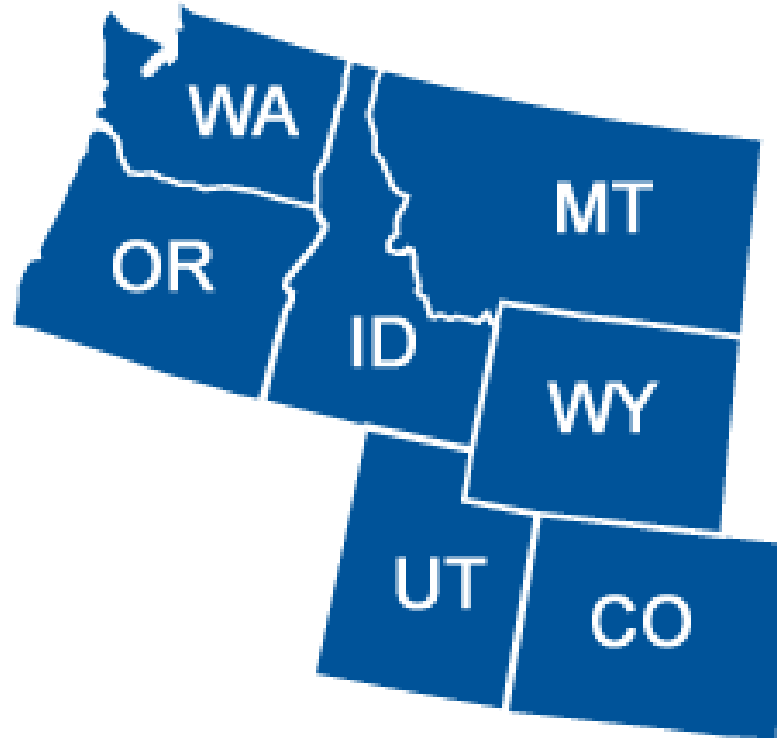


**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Nine Regional Offices



Northwest Mountain Regional Office



Western-Pacific Regional Office

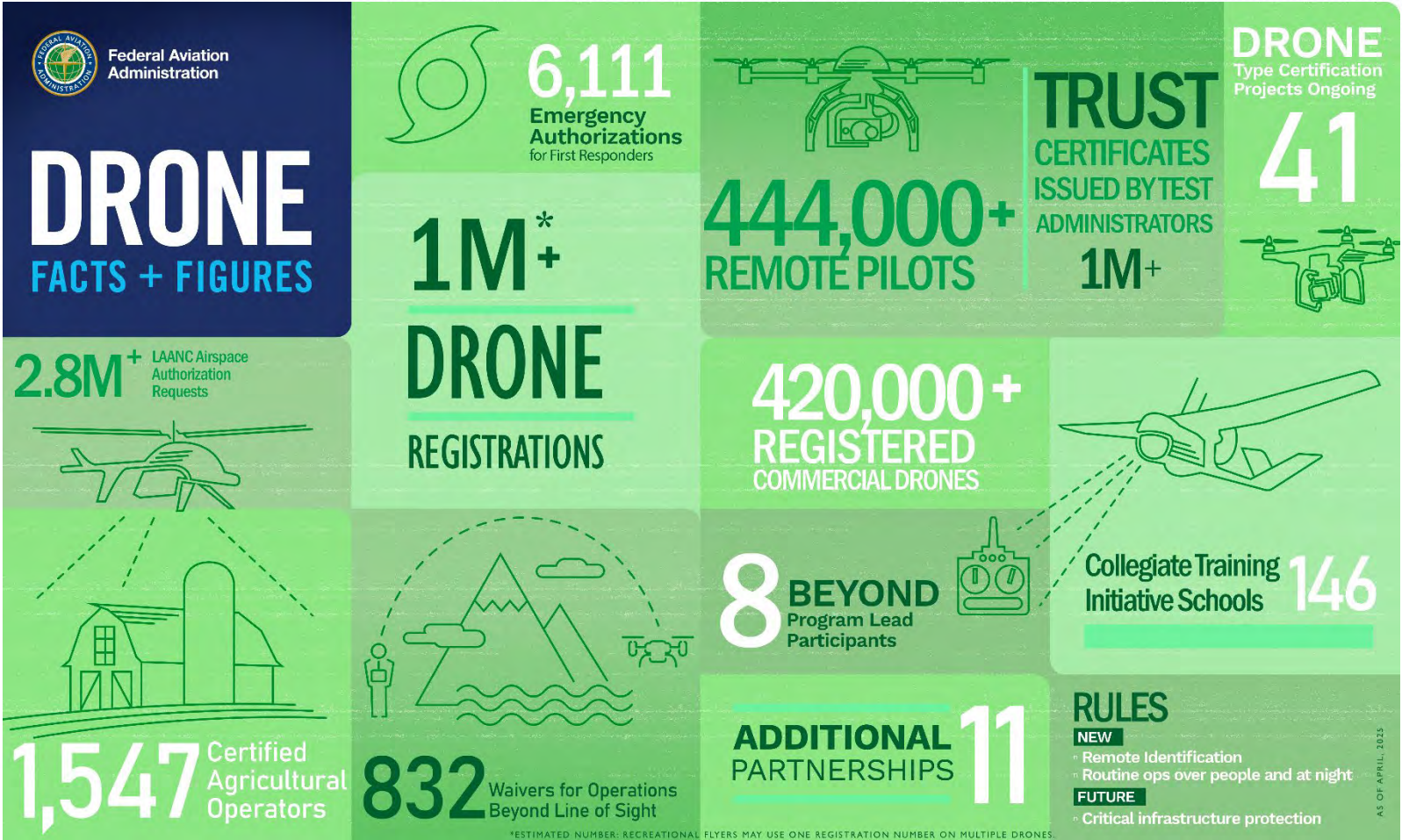


Southwest Regional Office





April 2025

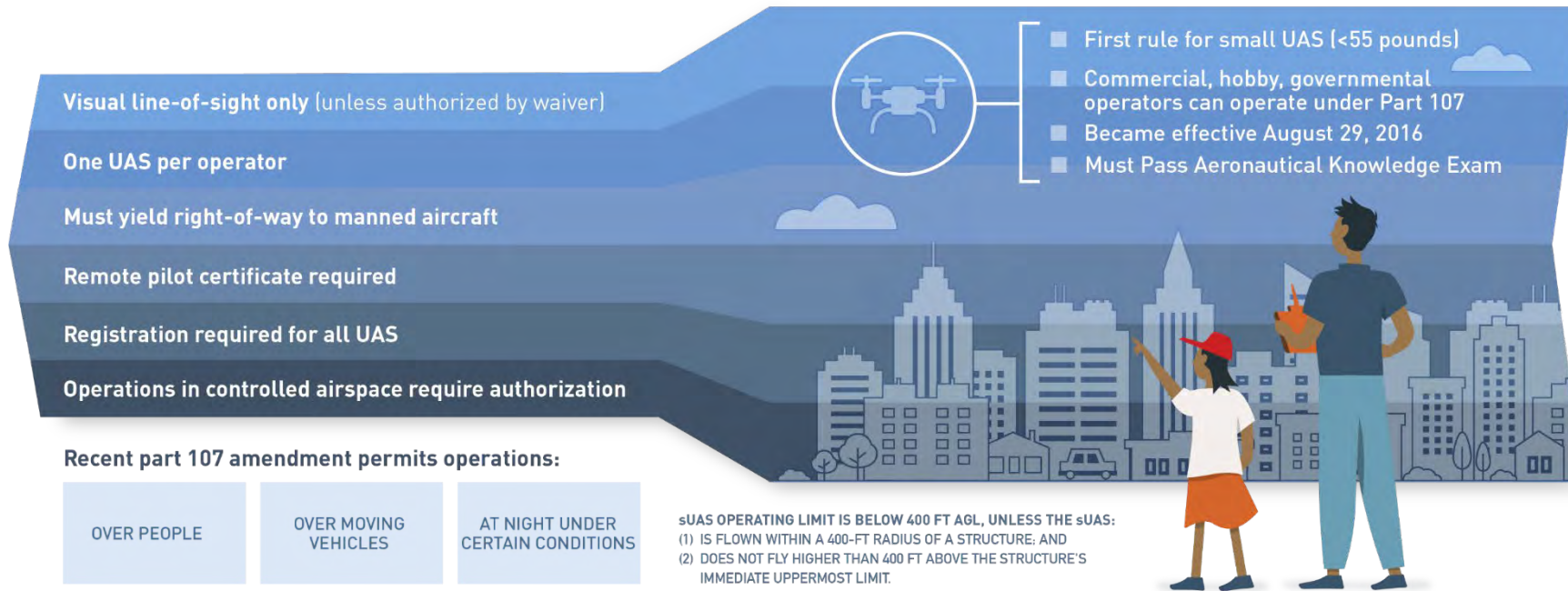


What is the FAA's Authority?

- U.S. airspace is public space
- UAS are aircraft subject to regulation
- An aircraft is any device used, or intended to be used, for flight
- UAS flown in US airspace must comply with FAA regulations



Small UAS Rule (14 CFR Part 107) Implemented 2016



Federal Aviation
Administration

Examples of Drone Operations

Recreational Operations

Section 44809 Exception

Example:

Flying at fixed sites, such as AMA flying fields, or not above 400' AGL anywhere in class G

Non-Recreational Operations

Part 107

Example:

Flying for work or business, recreation, education, or for public safety missions

Part 135

Example:

Delivery of food and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals directly to consumers' homes

Part 91

Example:

Image surveying with UAS >55 pounds

Part 137

Example:

Agricultural spraying

Public Aircraft Operations

Public Aircraft Operations

Example:

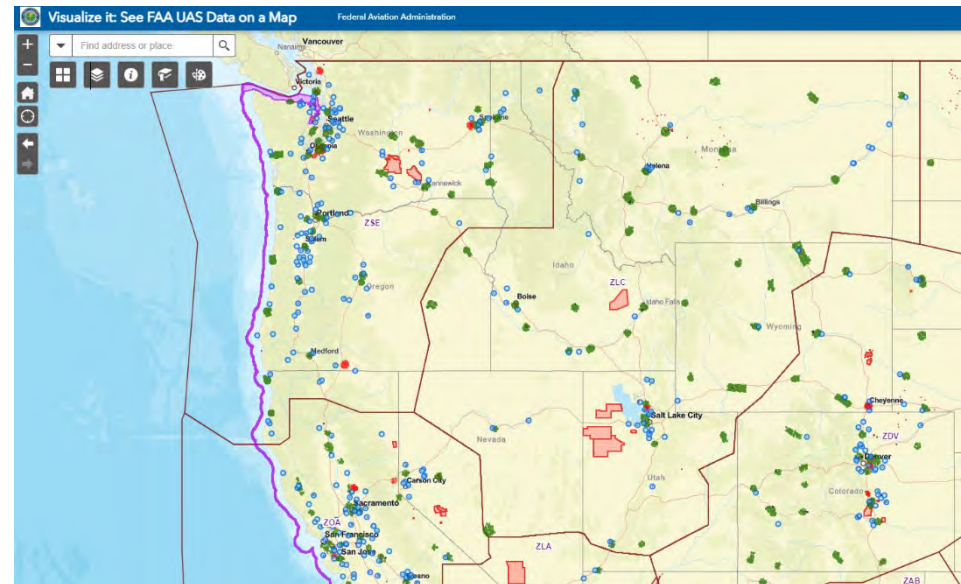
Certain government operations, which may include law enforcement, firefighting, border patrol, disaster relief, search and rescue, etc



B4UFLY



- 4 companies provide B4UFLY Services
- Interactive maps
- Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) enabled airport authorizations



Remote Identification of Drones Overview

- Applies to all registered drones
- Drone operators can comply with Remote ID requirements in 3 ways



Drones with Standard Remote ID



Drones with a Remote ID Broadcast Module



Drones without Remote ID:
Flying in a FRIA



FAA Rulemaking Updates

Normalizing UAS BVLOS Operations proposed rule

- This proposed rule would establish regulations to allow routine beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations conducted with UAS.
- This action would allow the FAA to move from one-off approvals to the predictability of operating by rule, allowing routine and scalable infrastructure inspection, public safety, and package delivery operations.
- The Spring Unified Agenda published with rule project abstract and NPRM publication date ([RIN: 2120-AL82](#)).

UAS Flight Restrictions Near Critical Infrastructure proposed rule

- This proposed rule would establish the criteria and procedures for the operator or proprietor of eligible fixed site facilities to apply to the FAA for an unmanned aircraft-specific flight restriction.
- The Spring Unified Agenda published with rule project abstract and NPRM publication date ([RIN: 2120-AL33](#)).



Public Safety

- Drone Programs
- Fire Safety
- Wildfire Response
- Emergency Management
- Drones as First Responders
- Public Aircraft Operations

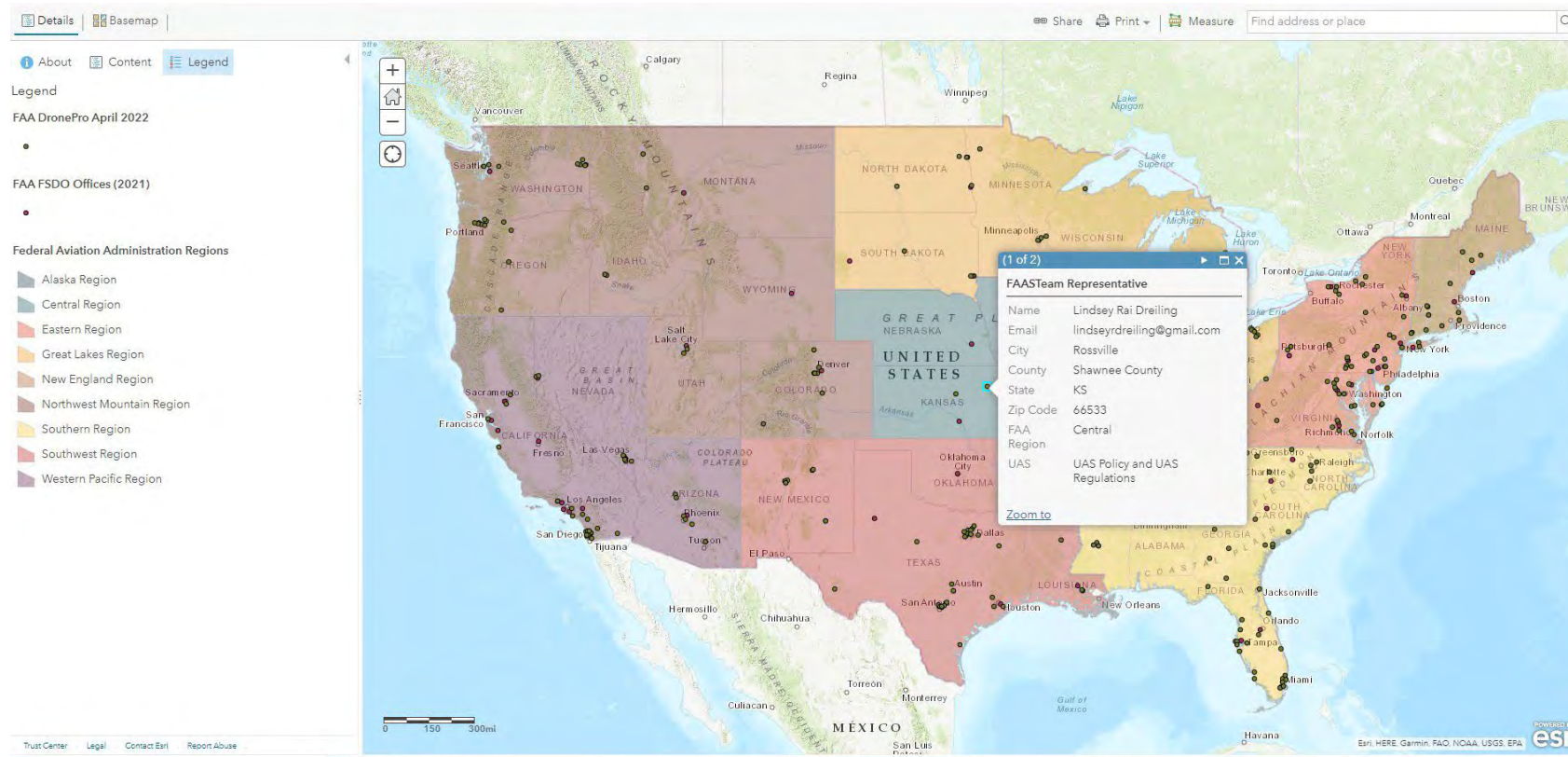


UAS Collegiate Training Initiative (UAS-CTI)

- **The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Collegiate Training Initiative is a program designed for the FAA to recognize and connect institutions that prepare students for careers in UAS (drones).**

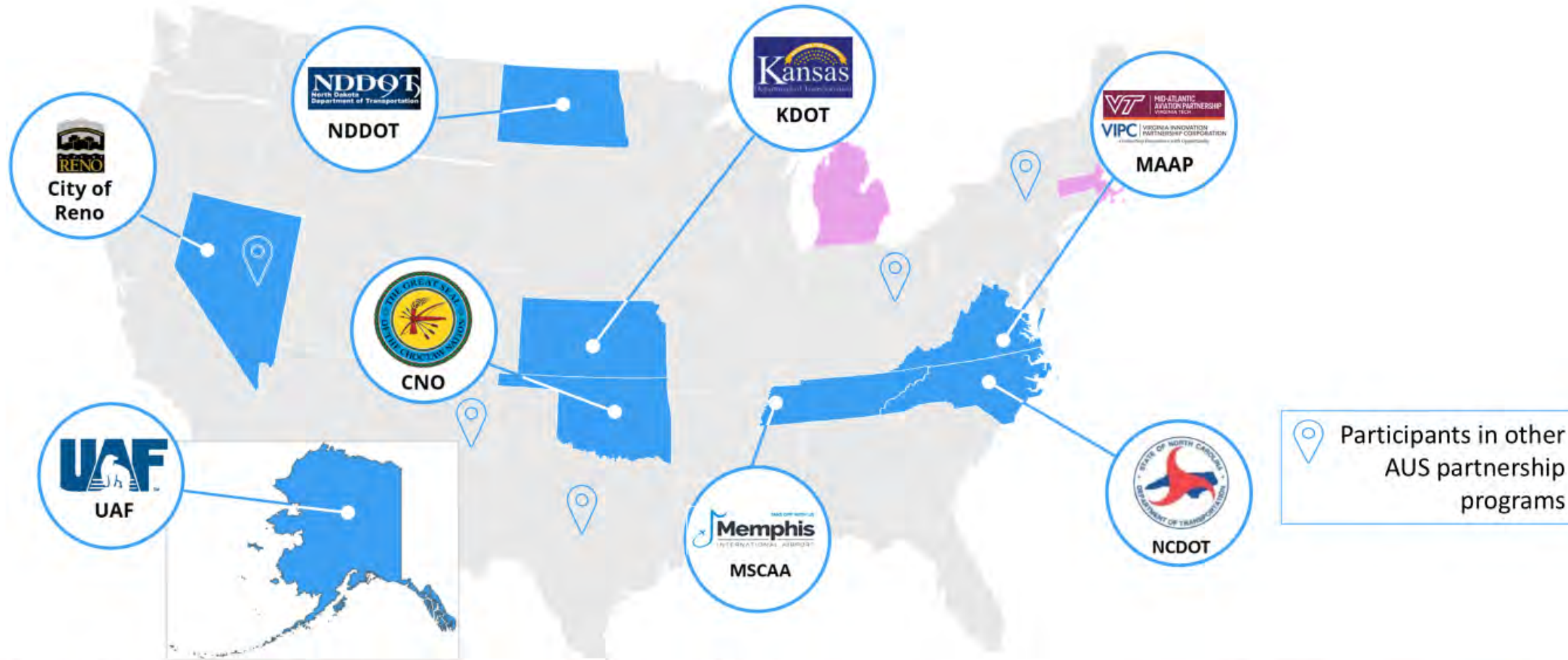


DronePros (Volunteers)



Federal Aviation
Administration

BEYOND Lead Participants



FAA ReAuth SEC. 920. EXTENSION OF BEYOND PROGRAM.20 (a) **FAA BEYOND PROGRAM EXTENSION.**—The Administrator shall consider extending the BEYOND program to additional states, and for new and emerging concepts...

Other Resources

- **Fact Sheet on the State and Local Regulation of Drones**
 - <https://www.faa.gov/sites/faa.gov/files/State-Local-Regulation-of-Unmanned-Aircraft-Systems-Fact-Sheet.pdf>
- **UAS Support Center**
 - <https://uas-support.faa.gov/s/>
- **FAA UAS Website**
 - <https://www.faa.gov/uas>
- **DOT Office of Tribal Affairs**
 - <https://www.transportation.gov/office-tribal-government-affairs/office-tribal-government-affairs>



Contact Us

Alina George

- Alina.C.George@faa.gov

Thea Dickerman

- Thea.C.Dickerman@faa.gov





Darren Talayumptewa

Southwest Region Director
Native American Fish and
Wildlife Society



- **Southwest Region Director** at Native American Fish and Wildlife Society
- **Native American Liaison/Wildlife Biologist** with American Eagle Research Institute (AERIE)
- Member of the **Hopi Tribe**
- Previously:
 - Director, Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program
 - Program Manager, Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program

2025 Southwest Regional Conference



“Self-sufficient Management of Our Natural Resources Through the Teachings of Our Elders and the Creator”

August 11-14, 2025

Sky Ute Casino Resort, 14324 CO-172,
Ignacio, CO 81137

Hosted by the Southern Ute Tribe

Register: <https://nafws.org/product/2025-southwest-regional-conference/>





Donna Miranda-Begay, Ph.D

*CEO, CA Tribal GIS; Tribal
Chairwoman Emeritus
Tübatulabals of Kern Valley,
and Tübatulabal Cultural
Practitioner and Researcher*

- **CEO of CA Tribal GIS, Tribal Chairwoman Emeritus Tübatulabals of Kern Valley, and Tübatulabal Cultural Practitioner and Researcher**
- **Previously:**
 - CIO, Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwoks
 - Chairwoman, Sacramento Urban Indian Health Program board
 - 28 years with California's Department of Water Resources, California Conservation Corps, and State Water Resources Control Board.
 - U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services
- **Education:**
 - Ph.D. – Organizational Behavior and Transformational Leadership
 - Masters – Computer Information Systems
 - Bachelors – Business Admin. (Accounting and MIS)
- Recognized by the CA Tribal Chairpersons Association through State Assembly and Senate resolutions for her Tribal Leadership, Environmental Justice, and Cultural and Natural Resources preservation efforts.

CA Native American Tribal GIS Summit

Honoring Place, Empowering Nations



- **July 31 and August 1, 2025, at Cal/EPA Building in Sacramento, CA (1001 I Street) and virtual**
- **Focus of CA Native American Tribal GIS Summit 2025 (Two Day Event)**
 - This first time CA Native American Summit will focus on the uses, challenges, solutions, and recommendations for the use of GIS technology to assist with management of Natural Resources and protection of Cultural Landscapes. Major Topic Categories include:
 - The state of GIS in CA Tribal communities
 - Data Sovereignty and Governance
 - Environmental Stewardship, Land Development and Management, and Climate Adaptation
 - Cultural Preservation, ITEK (Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge), and Cultural Ecology
 - Education, Workforce Development and Youth Engagement
 - GIS Software and Tools



More Information: [GIS Summit](#) or <https://catribalgis.org/gis-summit-1>



Why a California Tribal GIS Summit?

- In California – both federally (109) and non-federally (40+) recognized Tribes are involved with “Land Back”, “Rematriation”, “Co-Stewardship”, “Cultural Burns – Good Fire”, “Conservation”, and “Protection of Cultural Landscapes”.
- CA Tribes are also obtaining natural resource-based grants that require GIS based files for their applications and reports (i.e., CalFIRE).
- CA Tribes are strengthening their sovereignty by managing their own GIS environments and culturally sensitive GIS data.
- CA Tribes want to correct historical mapping – ground truthing and truth in healing – this requires up-to-date mapping and story map narratives.
- Changes Federally services and funding – require more Tribal resilience – GIS is a tool for supporting today’s Tribal sovereignty and their communities.



Note: Mapping Data as of 7/15/2025 Summit Registration Data

What California Tribal Representation will be at the Summit?

- Statewide
- 90 CA Tribes Represented
- Both Federally and Non-Federally Recognized



More California Native American Tribes Participating in Summit		
Tribe(s), Organization, or School	Tribe(s), Organization, or School	Tribe(s), Organization, or School
Barbareno Chumash Tribal Council, Chumash Intertribal Singers, Native	13 Indigenous Futures Society/ Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	25 Tamiien Nation
1 Coast Action Network, Ocean Origins	14 Ione Band of Miwok Indians, Conservation X Labs	26 Tejon Indian Tribe
2 Choinummi Yokuts, Sierra Resources Conservation District	15 Kizh Nation - Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians	27 Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
3 Chumash	16 Miwok Tribe of the El Dorado Rancheria, Cosumnes Culture and Waterways	28 Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation
4 Chumash / Tongva - Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples	17 Modoc Nation	29 Tubatulabal of Kern Valley
5 Coastal Band of Chumash Nation	18 Nor Rel Muk Wintu Nation	30 Tule River Elders Council
6 Confederated Villages of Lisjan Nation	19 North Fork Mono Tribe	31 Tule River Tribe Environmental Department
7 Department of Conservation Miwok/Nisenan - Tribal Citizen of Ione Band of Miwok Indians	20 Northern Chumash Tribal Council	32 Tuolumne Mewuk, Sogorea Te Land Trust
8 Dunlap Band of Mono Indians	21 Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians	33 Wintun
9 Eldorado Band of Miwok	22 Quechan Indian Tribe	34 Wukchumni Tribe
10 Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indian- Kizh Nation	23 Rumsen Ohlone	35 Wukchumni Yokuts
11 Gabrielino Tongva / Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples		

Map Collaboration – Ali Talakoob, CA State Parks & Recreation - Research and Donna Miranda-Begay, CA Tribal GIS – CEO (7/23/2025)



**State Water
Resources
Control Board**

Agenda as of 7/20/2021

Conference Rooms at Cal/EPA Building, 2nd Floor			End Date and the update updates on 6/7/2025	
Order	Room Short (T50)	Speaker (T60)	Topic (T50)	Tribe or Organization Name
Day 1 - July 31, 2025				
				Tribe/Opening - Honorable Reginald Williams, White Panther's Tribal Vice President, Welcoming - Sabine Thakagan, Cal/EPA - Deputy Secretary for Intergovernmental Relations, Address Remarks - USFWS - Executive, Tribal Affairs Program Manager, Donna Miranda-Rogay, Cal Tribal GR - GR and Regional Landscape - US DoH Public Health Assistant Secretary
8:00am - 8:30am			In-Person	Opening - Fayeale - Twentee Palms, Twentee Palms Tribal Museum Elder, Cal Board Member, Traditional Barkner Management
8:30am-9am			In-Person	United Auburn Indian Community - Use of BLM by NPS for preservation of historical landscape and natural resources management
9:00am - 9:35am			In-Person	JO Sherran-Venue - Hoopa Tribal Member, Native American Environmental Protection Council, David Tribe President
9:35am - 10:00am			Virtual	Indigenous Mapping with the Tribal Marine Stewards Network
10:00am - 10:30am			In-Person	California State Water Resources Control Board, Big Valley Board of Pondera Indians. Using the Water Board's Tribal State Data Map to understand protection in your area
10:30am- 11:30am			In-Person	BREAK
11:30am - 11:45am			In-Person	US Berkeley - Tribal Culture Resurgence and Conservation: Findings from California Policy Research
11:45am - 12:00pm			In-Person	Lunch
12:00pm - 12:30pm			In-Person	Cal State Geographical Information Office (GEO) - Leahra Petrik, Cal State Geographers - data access
12:30pm - 1:00pm			In-Person	USFWS - Building Stewardship with Wildlife Landmarks - Agricultural Conservation
1:00pm - 1:30pm			In-Person	USFWS, ECEMSP Project Workshop - Building Stewardship
1:30pm - 2:00pm			In-Person	USFWS, ECEMSP Project Workshop - Building Stewardship
2:00pm - 2:30pm			In-Person	USFWS, ECEMSP Project Workshop - Building Stewardship
2:30PM - 3:00pm			Virtual	USFWS National Wetlands Inventory
3:00pm - 3:30pm			In-Person	Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (CLCI) - Tribal Public Use Voucher/Community Platforms
3:30pm - 4:00pm			In-Person	BREAK
4:00pm - 4:30pm			In-Person	California Department of Water Resources - USBR Aids a New Dimension to California's Water Map
4:30pm - 4:59pm			In-Person	USFWS - Building Stewardship with Wildlife Landmarks, Agricultural Conservation
5:00pm - 5:30pm			In-Person	USFWS - Unraveling Ancient Sites: Building Tools for Stewardship and Public Domain Assessment
5:30pm - 6:00pm			In-Person	Wrap-up / Socializing the day
6:00pm - 6:30pm			In-Person	Day 1 ends

¹ Presentation / Workshop recommends having laptop/computer especially for the hands-on workshops
Red Font are the agenda updates as of 7/20/2025

Conference Room at Cal/EPA Building - 2nd Floor						
Order	Byron Sher (210)	Sierra (916)	Klamath (25)	Training 1&2 (18)	In-person or Virtual	Topic or Organization Name
0847 - 2 August 1, 2025 8:00am - 8:30am					Virtual	Day 1 Tribal Opening - Elana Boughton, Elana Tracy Keynote - Daniel C. Hays, Deputy Secretary for Tribal Affairs and Heritage Invest, Deputy Director for Biodiversity & Habitat Strengthening Partnership with Tribes to Reach the Goal of 50-50 Video Message (Monor Lake Pavea/Yavapai) to the current Chair of the CA Tribal Designated Consulting Agency Tribal Pavilion
8:35am-9:00am					In-Person	Trained One-on-One with Sierra State GIS
9:05am - 10:25am 10:25am - 10:45am					In-Person	North Fork Mono Tribe - Recovering the Numi Trail: interdisciplinary Mapping Cultural Landscapes and Practices BIOAC
10:45am - 11:15am 11:40am - 12:40pm					In-Person	California Department of Conservation - A training session about F&B and C&M programs in USDA, ungulate, and demand products. Lunch
12:45pm - 1:15pm					Virtual	U.S. Geological Survey - Discovering the National Map EPA - Environmental Science with Artificial Learning, Applications, and Monitoring
12:45pm - 1:15pm					Virtual	U.S. Geological Survey - Discovering the National Map
12:45pm - 1:15pm					In-Person	Kent State University - Land Risk / Remote Sensing Workshop
12:45pm - 1:15pm					In-Person	CA Office Emergency Services - GIS and Emergency Mapping
2:15pm - 2:45pm 2:45pm - 3:15pm	California Strategic Growth Council				In-Person	California Strategic Growth Council - Agricultural Land Equity that Focuses on 50-50 to Address the Needs of the CA Agricultural Land Equity Task Force Break
2:15pm - 3:15pm					In-Person	CA State Parks and CA DWR - GIS Jobs in CA State Service
2:15pm - 3:30PM					In-Person	EMO - Getting Started with ArcGIS Learning, Applications, and Monitoring
2:15pm - 3:30PM					In-Person	Kent State University - Land Risk / Remote Sensing Workshop
3:45pm-4:15pm	Location Plans Attachment Mapping				In-Person	Location Plans Attachment Mapping, Dr. Jessica Mueller California's OpenSpace Support and Pathways in GIS at the University of Redlands
3:45pm - 4:15pm	University of Redlands				In-Person	CA State Water Resources Center Board - CEC Program Survey 12 for Attachment APFD Monitoring Strategy in California's North Coast Region
3:45pm - 4:15pm					In-Person	California APFD Monitoring Strategy in California's North Coast Region

* Presentation / Workshop recommends having laptop/computer - especially for the hands-on workshops

* Kent State University - Hands-On Workshop will require participants to download Google Earth Engine https://eox.google.com/documents/d12hw_7c50a04e_438f9aaf-8a0826e0x0mfi1C068H1x8EX_1/edit?usp=driveoth



ArcGIS – Survey123 / WebBased Tool



ArcGIS Survey123 App
used for:
Summit Organizing
Registration
Presenter
Exhibitors
Sponsorship
Workshop Surveys

ArcGIS Survey123 • My surveys • Organization

Registration - CA Tribal GIS Summit 2025

Overview Design Collaborate Analyze Data Settings

Registration - CA Native American Tribal GIS Summit

California Native American Tribal GIS Summit 2025
HONORING PLACE, EMPOWERING NATIONS
Dates: July 31 and August 1, 2025
Location: Virtual and Cal/EPA Building in Sacramento, CA (1001 I Street)

Registration Process

This Summit's priority audience is CA Native American Tribes (both federally and non-federally recognized), Indigenous professionals, community members, students, and staff who work for Tribal organizations/agencies in California. However, we do encourage you to attend and hope you will join us. To get started please fill out the registration form.

By early to mid-July 2025, virtual registered attendees will be provided zoom links to attend the four conference room areas for this summit.

Your participation is one of the following:*

☐ Attendee

☐ Presenter

☐ Exhibitor

☐ Sponsor

☐ Volunteer

☐ Summit Planning Team Member

Text, number, date, and time

Singleline text Multiline text

Number Slider

Date Time

Date and time Email

Website Barcode

Choice

☒ Single select ☐ Multiple select

Single select grid Dropdown

Likert scale Rating

Ranking

Location

Map Address

Location list

Media and files

Image File Upload

Audio Signature



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

GoDaddy web page tools used to provide Summit Web Site



The screenshot shows the GoDaddy website editor interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with a GoDaddy logo, a dropdown arrow, and buttons for "Preview", "Publish", and "Unpublish". To the right of these buttons are icons for user profile, help, and a menu. Below the navigation bar is a browser window showing the URL "https://catribalgis.org". The main content area displays the website for the "CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL GIS SUMMIT 2025". It features a yellow callout box on the left with the text "In-Person Registration - SOLD OUT", "Virtual Registration Open But Closing on 7/23/2025", and "FREE EVENT". Below this callout are four small images: a mountain landscape, a river landscape, a map of California, and a sunset landscape. To the right of the images, the text reads "Summit Theme", "'HONORING PLACE, EMPOWERING NATIONS'", "July 31st and August 1st, 2025 - location Cal/EPA Building in Sacto, CA (1001 I St.) and virtual", "NOTE - FREE Event", "NEWS - WE HIT THE 500 Mark - total registered. In-Person Registration is FULL.", and "Virtual Registration is still Open. Virtual Registration will be Open Until 7/23/2025 or until we reach 531 Registered. 90 California Tribes have". On the right side of the editor, there's a sidebar with tabs for "WEBSITE", "THEME", and "SETTINGS". The "WEBSITE" tab is selected, showing a "Website / Content / Edit" breadcrumb. Below this are sections for "Headline" (with the text "July 31st and August 1st, 2025 - location C") and "Description" (with the text "NOTE - FREE Event" and "NEWS - WE HIT THE 500 Mark - total registered. In-Person Registration is FULL.").

Summit Outcomes – To be determined



Each Summit Day – we will have a wrap-up session

Tribal Perspectives

Tribal Youth

Academics

Federal, State, and Local Government

Non-profits and Businesses

Potential Outcomes

Future Regional CA Native American GIS Summits/Workshops

Proposed Legislation / Policy

Shared Solutions – GIS Based

Funding Opportunities

Overall – improved GIS Knowledge Build to help with management of Natural Resources, Environmental Justice Support, and Protection of Cultural Landscapes.





WRP TEC Next Steps

WRP Tribal Engagement Committee Co-Chairs



Will Micklin

- CEO, Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians

**LeRoy N.
Shingoitewa**

- Hopi Tribal Council Representative

**Floyd W
Velasquez Sr.**

- Emergency Services Administrator, Morongo Band of Mission Indians



Roll up of Action Items



- **Please sign up for a WRP account – wrpinfo.org**
 - Invite/Encourage other Tribal members/liaisons to be part of TEC
- **Please provide input on Tribal Leadership Excel document**
- **Seeking Tribal NR Co-Chair and an additional TEC Co-Chair**
- **Interest in being part of a WRP Deep-Dive:**
 - Water Security/resilience
 - Wildland Fire (response/ prevention)
 - Aviation/ Airspace Needs
- **Please indicate if you:**
 - Are interested in being part of the Outreach Subcommittee
 - Have recommendations on future agenda topics
 - Have additional resources like a study/funding for the good of the team



WRP TEC Calls



Aug 29	▪ Stepping Through Time: An Emerging Paleo Indian Landscape by Anya Kitterman, Archaeologist/Architectural Historian, Hill AFB ▪ Overview of the USGS National Geologic Map Database by Dr. Dave Soller, Senior Program Scientist for the National Geologic Map Database
Sept 26	▪ <i>TBD: David F. Conrad, Acting Director/Deputy Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs</i> ▪ Utah Division of Indian Affairs by James Toledo, Deputy Director, Utah Division of Indian Affairs
Oct 31	▪ Native American Fish & Wildlife Society Update by Dr. Julie Thorstenson, Executive Director, Native American Fish and Wildlife Society ▪ Dr. Joe Hoover, University of Arizona
Dec 5	▪ Update by the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) by Dr. Valerie J. Grussing, Executive Director, NATHPO
Jan 31	
Feb 27	
March 27	
April 24	



Around The Phone



Thank you!

