



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Tribal Engagement Committee

August 2025

ENHANCING RESILIENCE TO
AVOID CASCADING DISASTER



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Today's Agenda



- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Featured Presentations:**
 - **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
- **Updates:**
 - **2025 NAFWS SW Region Conference** by Darren Talayumtewa, NAFWS SW Region Director, Member of the Hopi Tribe
 - **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**





Anya Kitterman

*Archaeologist and Cultural
Resource Program Manager*
Hill Air Force Base



Hill Air Force Base

- **Archaeologist and Cultural Resource Program Manager for Hill Air Force Base**
 - Served in this capacity since 2013
- **Previously:**
 - Cultural Resource Program Manager and District Archaeologist, Six Rivers National Forest, USFS
 - Acting District Archaeologist, Spokane District, BLM
 - Cultural Resource Program Manager, Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park
 - Buildings Archaeologist and Field Archaeologist, AOC Archaeology, UK
- **Education:**
 - **Master of Arts** in Historical Archaeology, Durham University
 - **Master of Science** in Professional Archaeology, Oxford University
 - **Bachelor of Arts** in History/Anthropology, Seattle Pacific University
- **Awards:**
 - Her team received the 2024 Air Force Thomas D. White and 2024 Secretary of Defense awards for Environmental Excellence of Cultural Resources

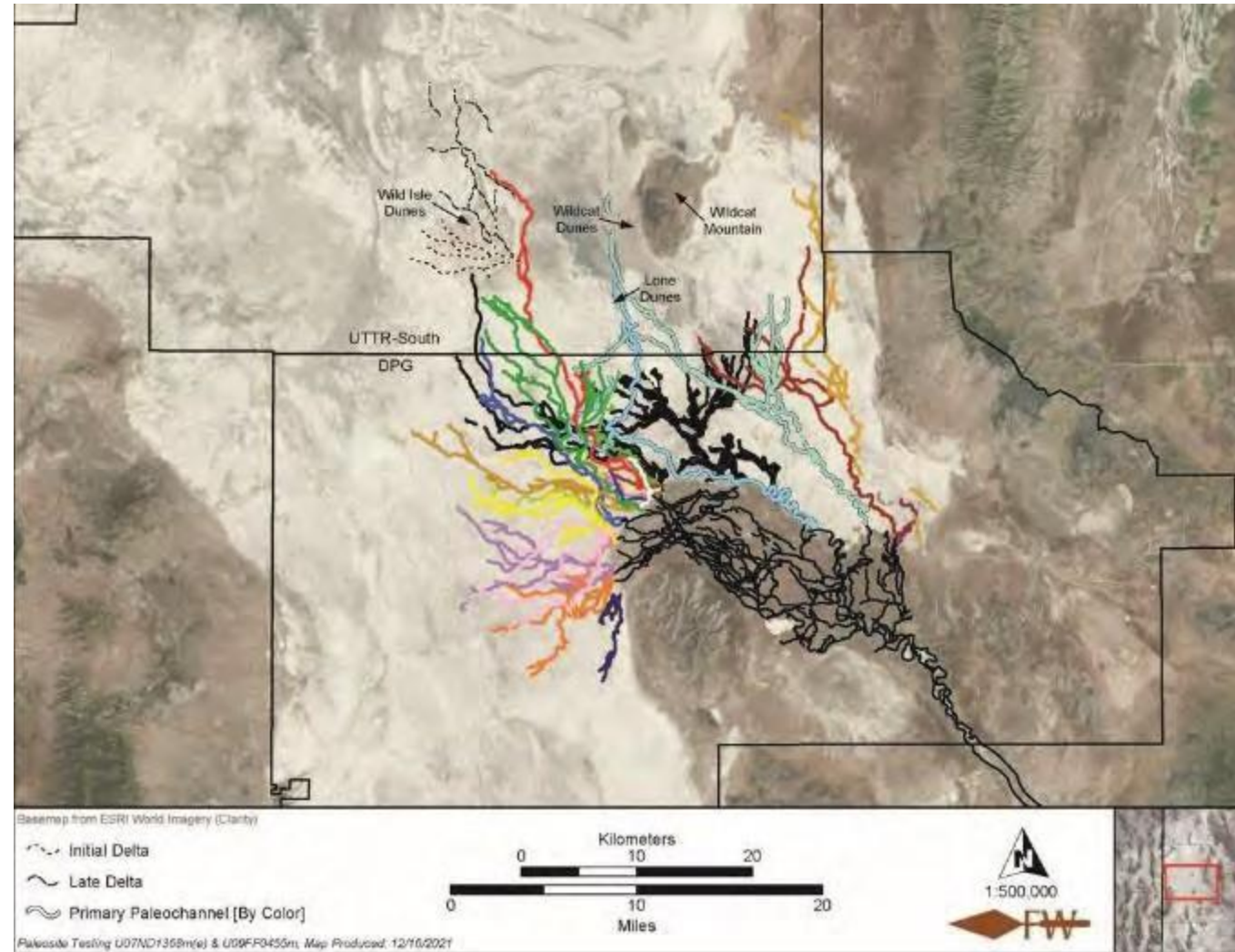


Stepping Through Time: An Emerging PaleoIndigenous Landscape

Anya Kitterman
Cultural Resource Manager
Hill Air Force Base
29 August 2025



Old River Bed Delta: Uncovering a Landscape



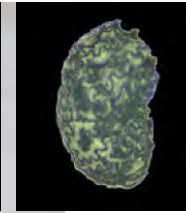
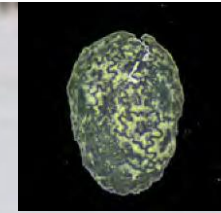


An Abundance of Points





Wishbone Site





Hello Site





Trackway Site: Identification Through Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)





Trackway Site: Recordation Through Photogrammetry





Trackway Site Virtual Exhibits









David Soller, Ph.D.

*Senior Program Scientist for
the National Geologic Map
Database*
USGS



■ Senior Program Scientist for the National Geologic Map Database

- Oversees the development and management of the National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB), a trusted digital repository which is mandated by the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 and serves as the national archive of spatially referenced geoscience data.
- Led the process in which the NGMDB project plan was defined and is responsible for executing and adapting that plan

■ Previously:

- Geologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA
- Geologist, SCS Engineers, Reston, VA
- General scientist, Phoenix Corp., McLean, VA
- Geologist, Mobil Oil Co., New Orleans, LA

■ Education:

- Ph.D. (Geology), George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
- M.S. (Geology), Miami University, Oxford, OH
- B.S. (Geology) College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

The National Geologic Map Database ("NGMDB")

Dave Soller, Ph.D.
(U.S. Geological Survey)

Public Law 102-285
102d Congress

An Act

May 18, 1992
[H.R. 2763]

National
Geologic
Mapping
Act of 1992.
Conservation.
Environmental
protection.
43 USC 31a
note.
43 USC 31a.

To enhance geologic mapping of the United States, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Geologic Mapping Act
of 1992”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) during the past 2 decades, the production of geologic
maps has been drastically curtailed; . . .

(8) a comprehensive nationwide program of geologic mapping
is required in order to systematically build the Nation’s geo-
logic-map data base at a pace that responds to increasing
demand.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to expedite the produc-
tion of a geologic-map data base for the Nation, to be located
within the United States Geological Survey, which can be applied
to land-use management, assessment, and utilization, conservation
of natural resources, groundwater management, and environmental
protection.

facilitate planning and information exchange and to avoid redundancy.

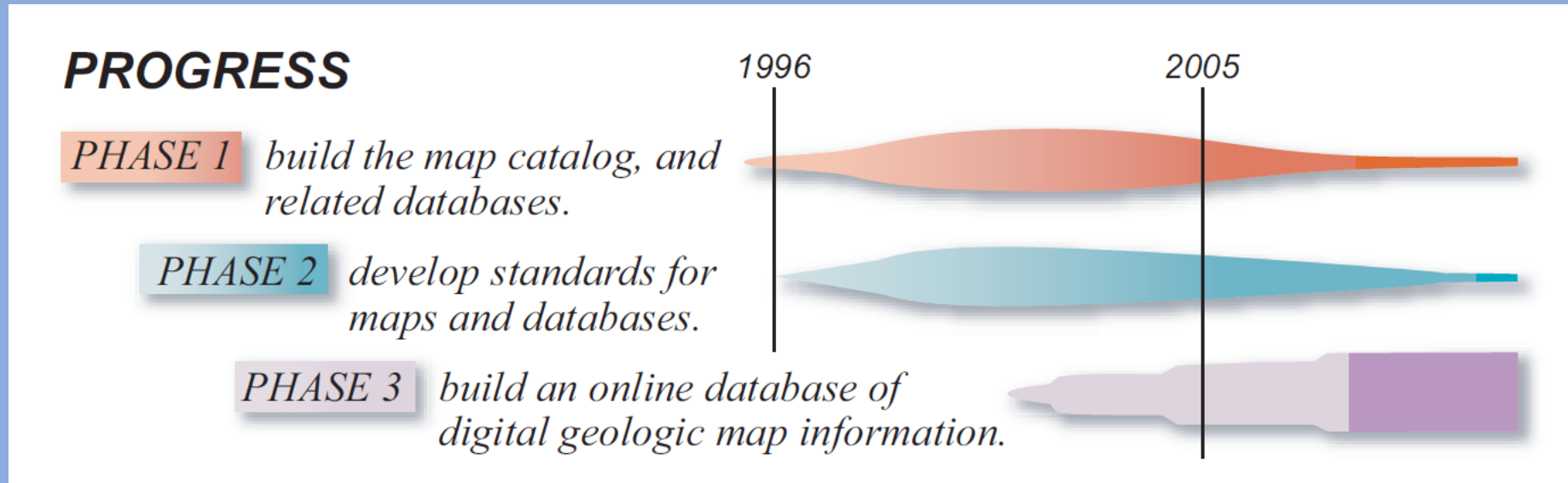
SEC. 7. NATIONAL GEOLOGIC-MAP DATA BASE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Survey shall establish a national geologic-map data base. Such data base shall be a national archive that includes all maps developed pursuant to this Act, the data bases developed pursuant to the investigations under sections (4)(d)(2) (C), (D), (E), and (F), and other maps and data as the Survey deems appropriate.

(b) **STANDARDIZATION.**—Geologic maps contributed to the national archives should have standardized format, symbols, and technical attributes so that archival information can be assimilated, manipulated, accessed, exchanged, and compared efficiently and accurately.

Historic
preservation.
43 USC 31f.

The general plan for the NGMDB, ca. 1996 -



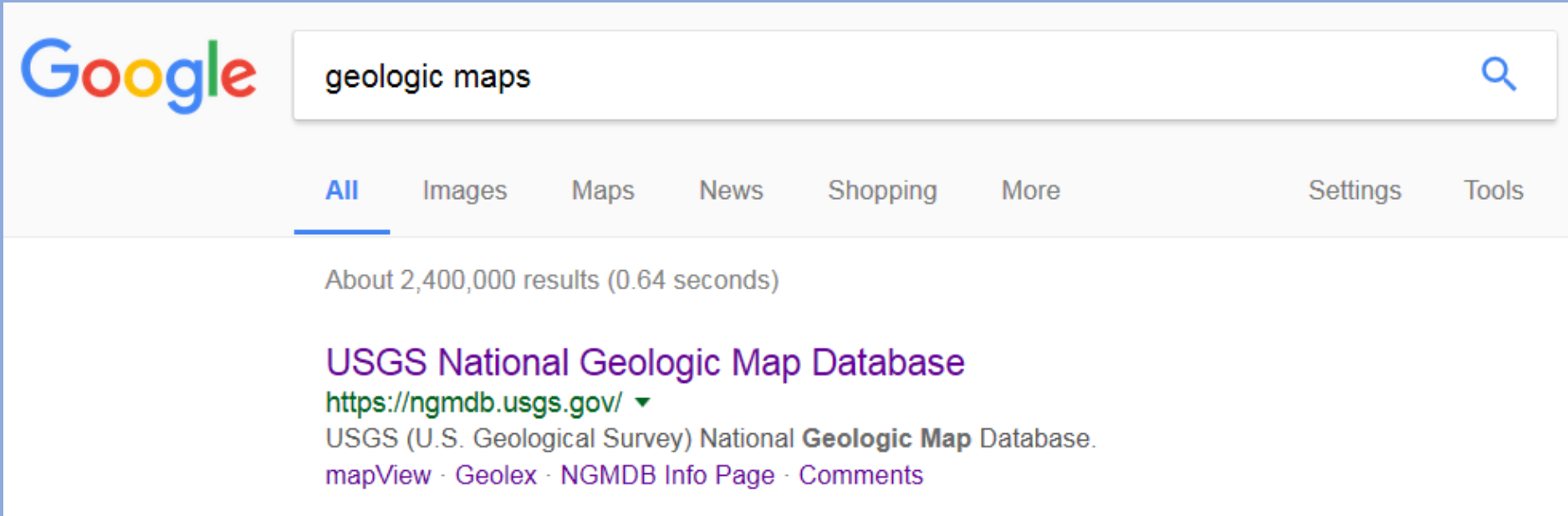
from NGMDB Progress Report, DMT'05 Proceedings <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2005/1428/soller1/>

Our development strategy

- ✿ Focus on content. That's why users come to the Website.
- ✿ Keep the technology simple to use. This isn't a research project. Don't build a site that's beyond the interest, skill, and technologies of our users. Focus on clarity of presentation and navigation, and speed of delivery.
- ✿ Customer Service. Listen to the user. Interact with them. Ensure they get the answers and data they need. As a result, we learn how to improve the system.
- ✿ Plan for the long term. Focus on preserving information. Work with the Library community, to ensure NGMDB content is compatible and addresses generally-accepted, long-term objectives.

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240,300 users made 503,000+ visits in June, 2025
(~ 17,000 visits / day)

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“I need information on...”

Historic USGS topo maps of southwest Oregon. Spatial extent of formations that may have been sources for prehistoric tool stone. Definitions for USGS formation codes Plz, Qu, Yms, Ybgn, Tbgd. Verification there was a hail storm in Orlando in mid-March–FAA doesn’t keep track of this anymore. Buckingham slate vs. Vermont slate–which is better for roof shingles. USGS formation code TRL. The altitude of where I live. US Federal policy on collection, allocation, and cost recovery of geoscientific data. Answers to my homework assignment. Which aquifer is my well in. Source of Long Valley caldera map shown on Berkeley website. Brass survey marker labeled sealock 2 1931 on my land. Difference between till and diamicton. How faults are named. USGS standards for map legends. Mercury concentrations in the US. Names of the Wolfcamp to Atoka formations in northernmost Texas–had to come out here in a rush and could use some back-up. Vitrinite reflectance data on Floyd Shale. Depth and type of alluvium for study in southern California. I hear the USGS is photographing Utah at a 1 foot, true color resolution–when will you be finished, I need this for the design of an Air Force training range. USGS bookstore wants a productID, how am I supposed to know that...

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[Home](#)

[Catalog](#)

[Lexicon](#)

[MapView](#)

[New Mapping](#)

[Standards](#)

[Comments](#)



The National Geologic Map Database

Developing a distributed archive of standardized geoscience information for the nation.

Map Catalog

Find over 100,000 products from over 600 publishers



Stratigraphy

Find geologic names, charts, and guidelines



MapView

Discover geologic maps through our map interface



TopoView

Access the Historical Topographic Map Collection



Standards & Guides

Resources for Creating Geologic Maps and Reports



Geologic Map Schema

GeMS - Database Schema for Digital Geologic Maps





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

Website: <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)

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

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.



90 California Native American Tribes Represented

Both Federally and Non-Federally Recognized

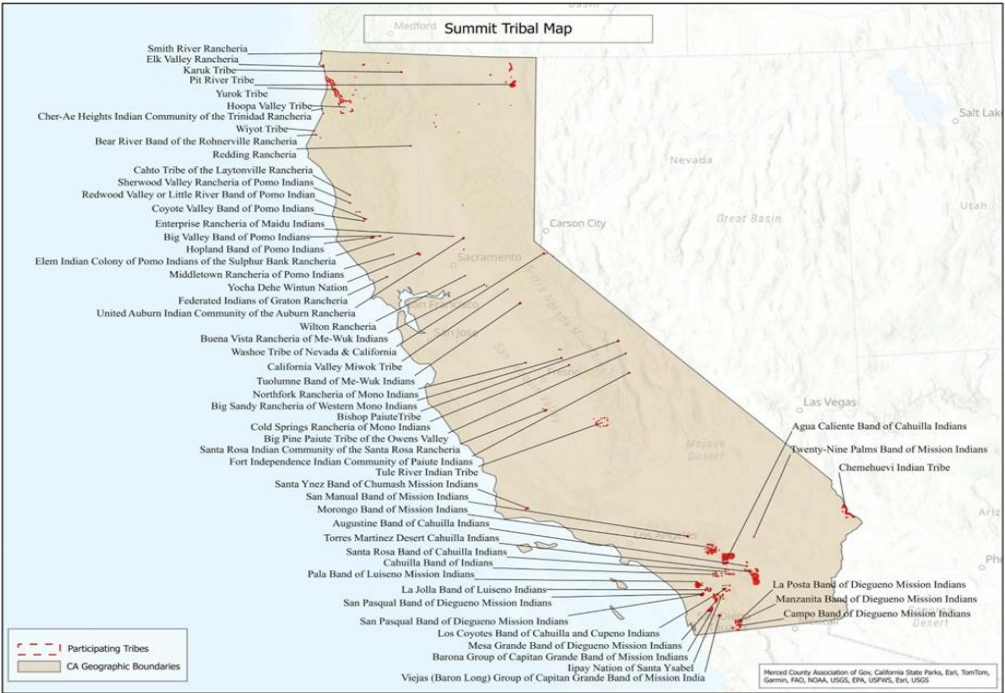
280 in-person participants
230 virtual participants

A lot of Networking – Tribes, Federal, State, Non-Profits, and Academics



California Native American Tribal Representation for this Summit

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



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

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

This Summit was built from the Tribal Perspective Their input, suggestions, and planning

California – Governor's Office, Natural Resources Agency and Cal/EPA Support



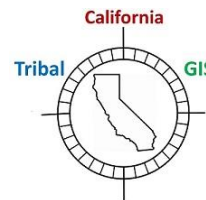
Tribal Planning / Theme / Topics / Transparency

- Mtg 1 - Intro 2 5 and 10 2025
- Mtg 2 - Topics Presentations Sponsorship 2 26 2025
- Mtg 3 - Presentation THPO invited 3 12 2025
- Mtg 4 - Planning Presenters Theme 3 28 2025
- Mtg 5 - Call Presenters Sponsorship SaveTheDate 4 23 2025
- Mtg 6 - Agenda Formation Registration Sponsorship 5 21 2025
- Mtg 7 - Agenda Presentation Summit status 6 25 2025

Collaboration Shared Vision



State Water Resources Control Board



California Native American Tribal GIS Summit - July 31st and August 1, 2025

Agenda as of 7/20/2025

Order	Byron-Sher (250)	Sierra (90)	Klamath (29)	Training 1&2 (18)	In-person or Virtual	Tribal or Organization Name
Day 1 - July 31, 2025						
8:00am - 8:30am					In-Person	Tribal Opening - Honorable Raquel Williams, Wilton Rancheria Tribe's Vice-President, Welcoming - Sabine Talingen, Cal/EPA - Deputy Secretary for Intergovernmental Relations, Adriaana Renteria - SWRCB - Director, Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and Tribal Affairs, Nathan Blacksmith - SWRCB Tribal Affairs Program Manager, Donna Miranda-Pagay, CA Tribal GIS - CEO, and Ronnie Longprade - US DOD-BIA Pacific Region Geospatial Coordinator
8:30am-9am					In-Person	Opening - Keynote - Jennifer Malone, Wukchumni Tribal Honored Elder, CIBA Board Member, Traditional Basket Weaver
9:05am-9:35am					In-Person	United Auburn Indian Community - Use of GIS by THPO for preservation of cultural landscape and natural resources management.
9:35am to Lunch Time					In-Person	Jill Sherman-Warne - Hoopa Tribal Member, Native American Environmental Protection Council, Guest Tribal Facilitator
9:35am - 10:05am					Virtual	Indigenous Mapping with the Tribal Marine Stewards Network
10:10am - 10:50am					In-Person	* California State Water Resources Control Board, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians - Using the Water Board's Tribal Water Data Map to understand pollution in your area
10:50am - 11:10am						BREAK
11:10am - 11:40am					In-Person	UC Berkeley - Tribal Cultural Resources and Consultation: Findings from Cemetery Policy Research
11:40am - 12:40pm						Lunch
12:45pm - 1:05pm					In-Person	CA State Geography Information Officer (GIO) - Lothar Petri, CA State GeoPortal - data access
12:45pm - 2:50pm					In-Person	ESRI - Workshop/Info Sharing
12:45pm - 2:50pm					In-Person	UC Berkeley - Native GIS Workshop - Increasing Technical Ecocultural Mapping and Water Equity in the Delta
1:10pm - 1:20pm					In-Person	* Cal/EPA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment: CalEnviroScreen: Using California's Environmental Justice Tool
1:25pm - 2:05pm					Virtual	USFWS National Wetlands Inventory
2:10pm - 2:50pm					Virtual	Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) - Tribal Portal for the Vulnerable Communities Platform
2:50PM-3:10pm						BREAK
3:10pm - 3:40pm					In-Person	* California Department of Water Resources - LIDAR Adds a New Dimension to California's Water Map
3:10pm - 4:05pm					In-Person	ESRI - Getting Started with ArcGIS: Licensing, Applications, Demonstrations
3:45pm-4:05pm					In-Person	UC Davis - Understanding Alignment Data: Building Tools for Stewardship on CA's Public Domain Allotment
4:10pm-4:40pm					In-Person	Wrap-up / Summarizing the day
by 5pm						Day 1 - ends

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

Order	Byron-Sher (250)	Sierra (90)	Klamath (29)	Training 1&2 (18)	In-person or Virtual	Tribal or Organization Name
Day 2 - August 1, 2025						
8:00am - 8:30am						Day 2 Tribal Opening - Eileen Boughton, Pomo Tribe
8:35am-9:05am					In-Person	Keynote - Gabriela E. B. Thompson, Deputy Secretary for Tribal Affairs and Indigenous Affairs, Deputy Secretary for Biodiversity & Habitat: Strengthening Partnerships with Tribes to Reach the Goal of 30x30
9:10am - 9:50am					In-Person	Marly Hadden (Meno Lake Pomo/Vashon) is the current Chair of the CA Public Domain Allotments Association, Guest Tribal Facilitator
9:55am - 10:25am					In-Person	Tolowa Dee-ni Nation uses GIS
10:25am - 10:45am					In-Person	Kumt Fork Mono Tribe - Accurating the Num Trail: Interdisciplinary Mapping Cultural Landscapes and Trailscapes
10:50am - 11:35am						BREAK
11:40am - 12:40pm					In-Person	California Department of Conservation - A listening session about F&H and C&M principles in LIDAR, imagery, and derived products.
12:40pm - 1:10pm					Virtual	Lunch
12:40pm - 2:15pm					ESRI - Workshop / Info Sharing	ESRI - Getting Started with ArcGIS: Licensing, Applications, Demonstrations
12:40pm - 2:15pm					In-Person	* Kent State University - Remote Sensing Workshop
1:15pm - 2:15pm					In-Person	Cal Office Emergency Services - GIS and Emergency Management
2:15pm - 2:35pm					In-Person	California Strategic Growth Council - Agricultural Land Equity Task Force: Using GIS to Advance the Goals of the CA Agricultural Land Equity Task Force
2:35pm - 3:05pm					In-Person	CA State Parks and CA DWR - GIS Jobs in CA State Service
3:10pm - 3:30PM					In-Person	ESRI - Getting Started with ArcGIS: Licensing, Applications, Demonstrations
3:35pm - 3:55pm					In-Person	ESRI - Getting Started with ArcGIS: Licensing, Applications, Demonstrations
3:55pm - 4:30pm					In-Person	University of Redlands
4:30pm - 4:45pm					In-Person	CA State Water Resources Control Board - CEC Program: Survey123 for Collaborative GPS Monitoring Strategy in California's North Coast Region
4:45pm - 4pm					In-Person	Closing - Summit Follow-up / Outcomes

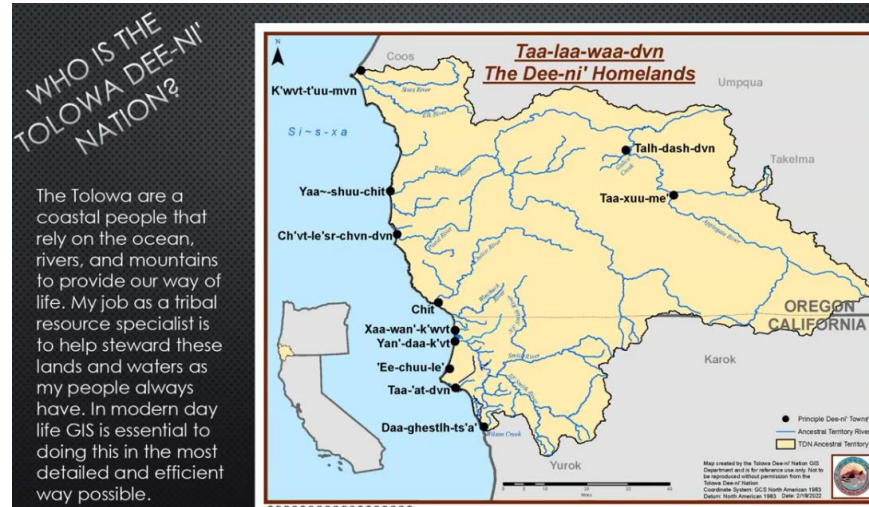
* Presentation / Workshop recommends having laptop/computer - especially for the hands-on workshops
* Kent State University - Hands-On Workshop will require participants to download Google Earth Engine
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lw_7x50qbe_1f88vqal2h0Mh0x6mfc6Ght5x8Kt_V/edit#q=stevensdk

WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Summit Outcomes



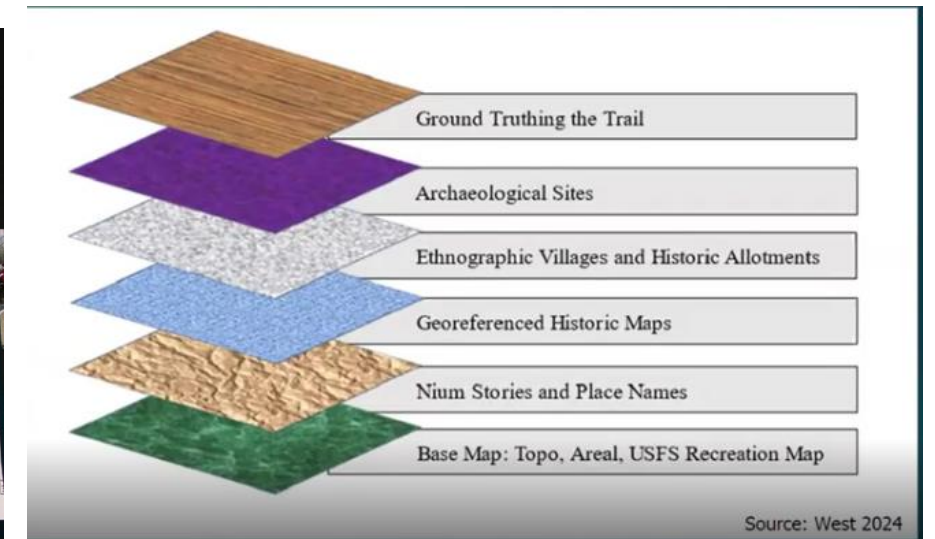
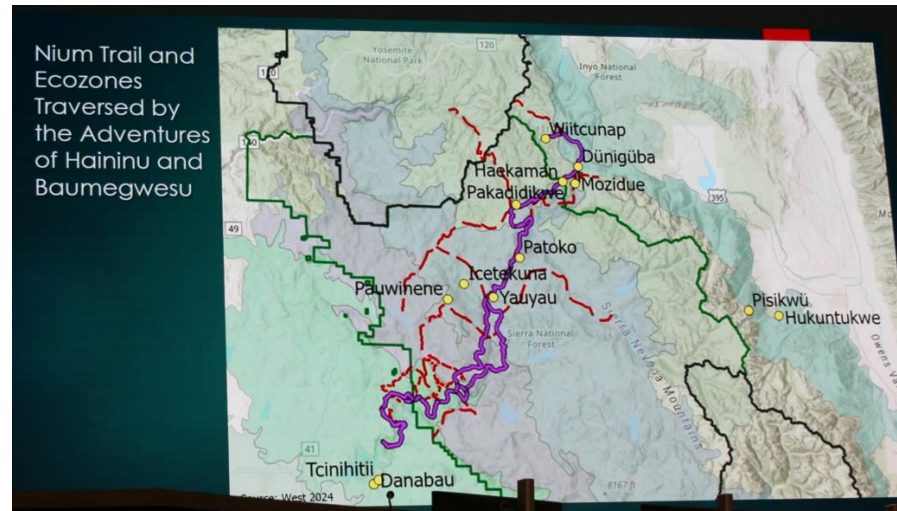
Randall "Race" Richards – Tolowa Dee-ni Nation



WAYS WE UTILIZE GIS

- SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS, MONITORING, AND MANAGEMENT.
- LAND SURVEYING FOR TRIBAL PROPERTIES
- PUBLIC RELATIONS MEDIA (PHOTOS AND VIDEOS)
- TRIBAL HERITAGE, CULTURE, AND INDIGENOUS TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE PRESERVATION AND DIGITIZATION
- WHILST DOING ALL THIS ENSURING DATA SOVEREIGNTY AND BUILDING OUR IN HOUSE CAPACITY AS A NATION

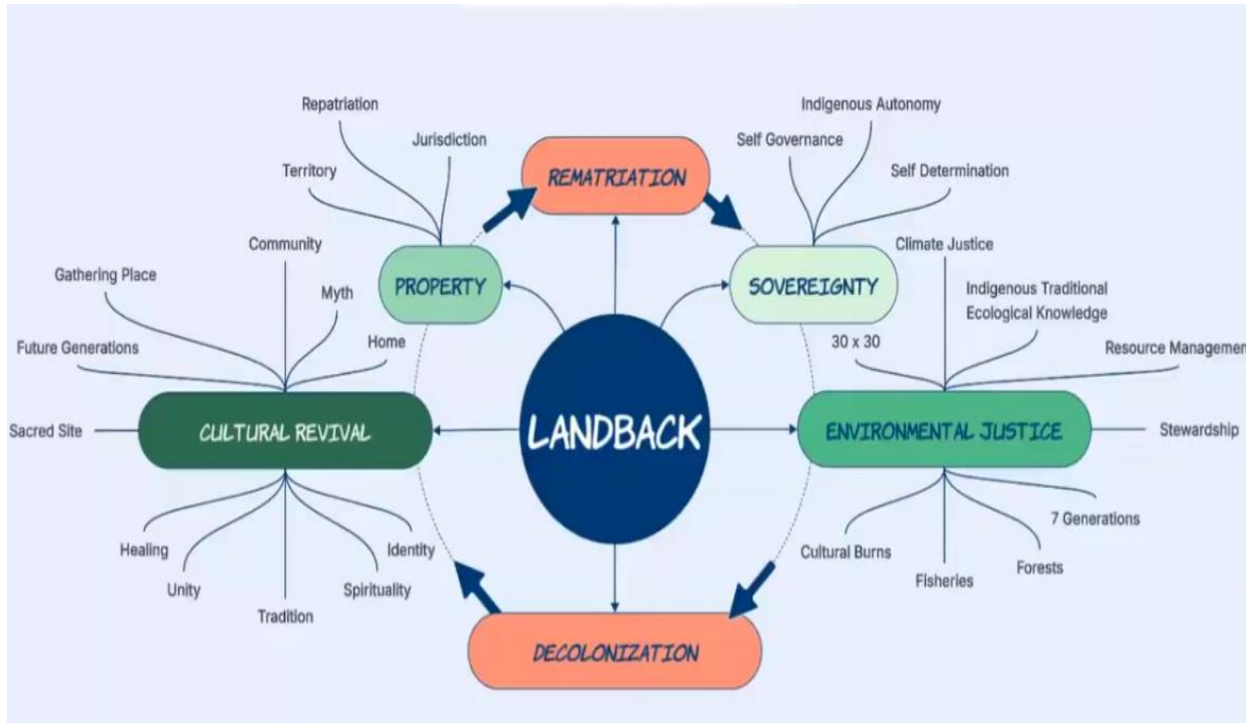
Crystal West – Researcher for North Fork Mono Tribe



Summit Outcomes



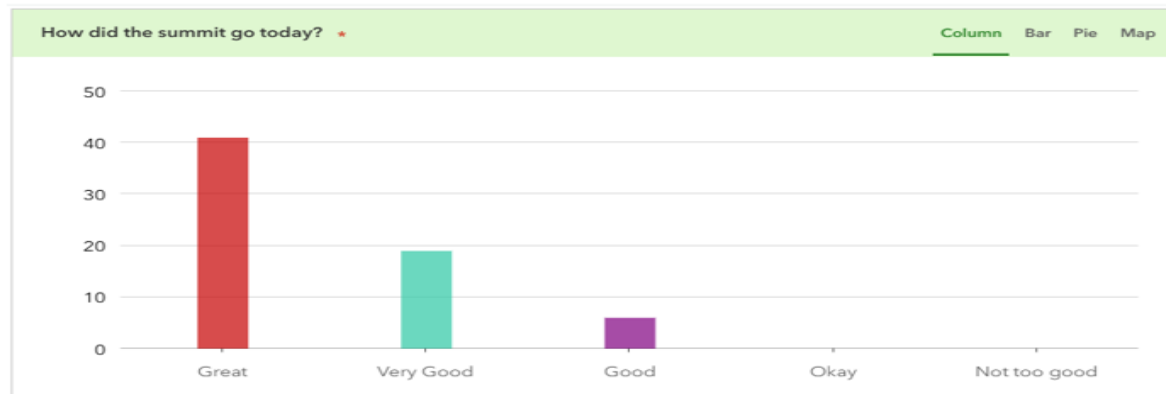
University of Berkeley – workshop on COEQWAL – Collaboratory for Equity in Water Allocation . Word Cloud – live input from participants about their relationship to water.



Kent State University – workshop on remote sensory, use of Google Earth Engine, and focus on Land Back. Mind map of California Land Back Literature Research



Summit Outcomes



- **Policy** – statewide: include GIS data when providing public notices to Tribes about public lands changes
- **Promote – GIS Data Sovereignty** in Tribal engagement and consultation process
- Allow of ground-truthing, rematriation, TEK, and decolonizing mapping in public natural resource management planning and decision making.
- **Funding Tribes for GIS based training and software licensing** – both federally and non-federally recognized Tribes.
- **CA Tribal Lands include public domain allotment lands** – make sure to include them on public maps (i.e., fire maps, flood maps, environmental maps)
- **Great Event and Networking** – knowledge sharing, presentations meaningful
- **Have annual CA Native American Tribal GIS Summit**



Summit 2026 – Planning Underway



Step 1 – Location: potentially Southern California – Redlands University

Step 2 – When – potentially in June 2026

Step 3 – What/Who – Planning Team, Theme, Presenters

Step 4 – Budget, Sponsorship, Marketing

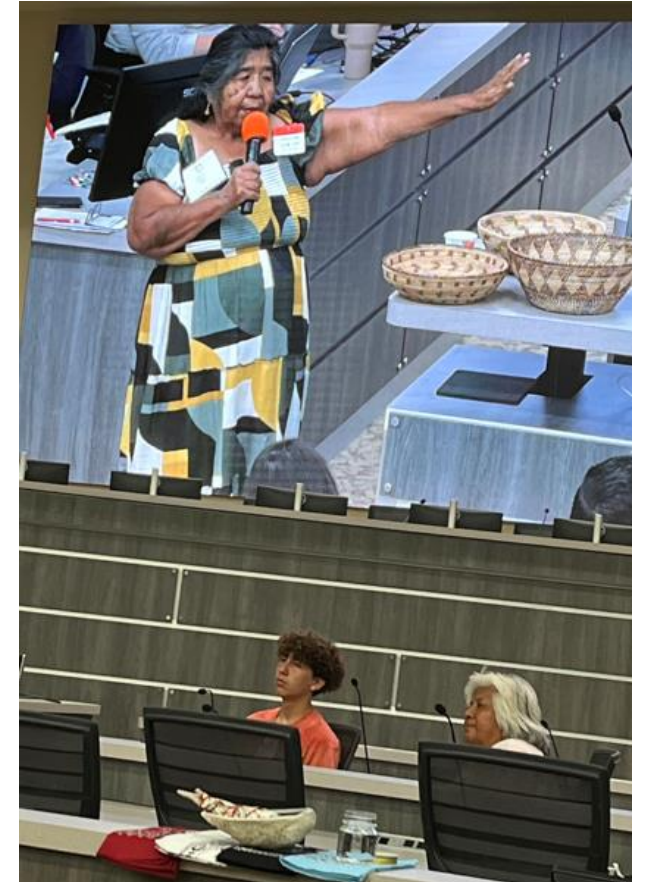
Step 5 – In-Person and Virtual Option / Registration

Step 6 – Exhibitors / Tribal Vendors

More steps....

Donna Miranda-Begay – donnabegay@yahoo.com

Website: www.catribalgis.org





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



Sept 26	- How the Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy supports Tribes on their energy journey by David F. Conrad, Acting Director/Deputy Director, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs - Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's Emerging Aviation Program: Overview and History by James L Grimsley / Executive Director - Advanced Technology Initiatives, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma - 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	

Discussion items/future items:

- Tribes' land management policies with federal agencies
 - How tribes are dealing with removal of tribal historical information from federal buildings
- Presentations TBD:
- Mervin Wright: Identifying traditional plants and uses/work in Nevada
 - Traci L Morris, Ph.D. American Indian Policy Institute - Center for Tribal Digital Sovereignty update

Around The Phone



Funding Opportunities

Bureau of Reclamation - Native American Affairs



Emergency Drought Relief Funding Opportunity

The Program's objectives are to assist eligible Tribes to develop, manage and protect their water and related resources to mitigate the adverse impacts of drought.

To be consistent with the purposes of the Act, proposals should meet one or more of the following objectives:

- Mitigate drought impacts
- Increase drought resiliency
- Reduce reliance on declining water sources
- Increase the efficiency of water deliveries
- Mitigate the loss of water and related Tribal trust resources
- Address drinking water shortages
- Cost Share: No Cost Share
- The NOFO closes on **Tuesday, October 14, 2025**.
- The maximum Reclamation funding will be \$2,000,000 per grant or cooperative agreement (no more than \$2,000,000 to any one applicant).
- Reclamation anticipates that total funding available will be approximately \$9,000,000; funding is contingent upon the availability of funds.
- Eligible recipients are federally recognized Tribes impacted by a Reclamation project, located within the 17 Western States.
- Applications will be accepted through Grants.gov, paper copy, and email; please see NOFO for submission details and for the applicable nature of projects and evaluation criteria for this program

Technical Assistance Funding Opportunity

- Maximum Award per Applicant: \$2,000,000; \$1,000,000 per proposal
- Cost Share: No Cost Share
- Closing Date for Applications: **October 28, 2025**, submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. MT
- Eligible Activities May Include, But Are Not Limited To:
 - Water need and infrastructure assessments
 - Water management plans and studies
 - Short-term water quality or measurement data collection and assessment to inform new management approaches
 - Training for tribal staff and managers in water resources development, management, and protection
 - Drilling domestic or stock watering wells
 - On-the-ground activities related to riparian and aquatic habitat aimed at maintaining or improving water quantity or quality, such as:
 - Restoring wetlands
 - Controlling erosion
 - Stabilizing streambanks
 - Constructing ponds
 - Developing water basin plans
 - Distinct, stand-alone water-related activities that are part of a larger project.

Please note that if you are requesting funding for a phase of a larger project, you should only describe the work reflected in the budget and exclude descriptions of other activities or components of the overall project.

Additional information is located on the Reclamation website for the Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program: <https://www.usbr.gov/native/programs/TAPprogram.html>

Questions? Contact: Kerri Denhalter (kdenhalter@usbr.gov, Office: 951-695-5310, Cell: 951-428-9059), Water Resources Specialist at Bureau of Reclamation



WESTERN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

Thank you!

