



**Native American Monitor Training
for the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council
Tuolumne, California
facilitated by
Alan Garfinkel
Cultural Resource Management Consultants
January 27th through January 31st 2014**

First Day: Morning

California Indians: Environment, Language and Culture Area

For the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council



Monday, January 27th

For the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council

Submitted to

**Robert Cox
Cultural Resources Director
Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council
P.O. Box 699**

Prayer and Blessing

- Robert Cox, Director of Cultural Resources
- Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council, Tuolumne California

Introductions

- Let's take a moment before we plunge into the course to get to know one another a bit better.
- I'd like us to go around the room and have each of us say our names and perhaps identify a little about our background - as to how we came to be here and finally as an ice-breaker - please tell us something about yourself that is unusual and that others might be surprised to know!
- I'll start...

Organization of Class

- Five wonderful days with yours truly.
- Soup to nuts, everything you wanted to know about but were afraid to ask concerning Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management.
- Housekeeping details: Classes are conducted each day this week from Monday (today) through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. However, Friday is a half day.

Organization of Class

- Always feel free to ask questions and provide us with feedback.
- If you need guidance or want to reach me anytime day or night, feel free to give me a call on my cell phone at 805.312.2261 or via my email at avram1952@yahoo.com.
- Please leave a message and I will get right back with you.
- Morning sessions start at 9 am and will include a light breakfast.

Organization of Class

- We will start out the class each day with a prayer / blessing and a bite to eat and coffee.
- We will next go over the plan of the day - the topics to be covered and the various exercises or supplemental activities in which we will engage.
- The morning sessions will run from 9 to 11:30 am with 11:30 am to 1:00 pm being our extended lunch hour.
- Lunch will be provided by the tribe.
- The afternoon sessions will run from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Organization of Class

- The course is broken down into topics or modules and is organized as follows.
- Monday (today) - we will start with a pre-test to see how much we know about Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management.
- This is not graded, it is for self evaluation to see where we are and as a way to compare our before and after - to get a glimpse of what we learned after we finished the class.

Organization of Class

- Let's take a few minutes right now to complete our pretests.
- There are just ten true-false and multiple choice questions.
- Please put your names on the tests and let's all get started together.
- We will take the same test at the end of the class and that will help us understand and appreciate how much we have learned!

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question One:
- Native American Monitoring is a requirement of California and National Law. True or False?

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Two: Isolated prehistoric artifacts are always considered to be significant and important under California Environmental Law.
- True or False?

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Three: Cultural resource sites are typically protected before and during construction and development projects applying what laws.
- A. Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the California Historic Resource Inventory of Sites (CHRIS)
- B. The California State Landmarks Program (CSLP) and the National Environmental Quality Act (NEQA)
- C. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- D. None of the above.

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Four: To be defined as a cultural resource site a concentrated area of archaeological materials must contain at least how many individual artifacts.
- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Five: Pre-European Native California contained fewer than 100,000 people - one of the lowest population densities north of Mexico.
- True or False?

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Six: Native California had a fairly homogenous character and as such only a few different languages were spoken by the various tribes inhabiting the state. Estimates range from perhaps 10 to 12 different languages having been spoken during pre-contact times.
- True or False?

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Seven: Archaeologists have discovered that some of the *earliest* Native Californian peoples occupied the state some:
 - A. 5,000 years ago
 - B. 8,000 years ago
 - C. 12,000 years ago
 - D. 18,000 years ago

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Eight: Cultural resource management is broadly defined and includes:
 - A. The study of the physical remains of prehistoric peoples.
 - B. The practice of archaeology within the realm of governmental controls.
 - C. A branch of historic preservation developed for the benefit of the general public as an outgrowth of state and federal laws.
 - D. The scientific discipline of anthropological archaeology focused on the research of historic and prehistoric sites.
 - E. All of the above.

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Nine: The roles and responsibilities of Native American Monitors are typically identified as follows:
- A. Stewards of Native heritage, oversight of archaeologists and avoidance of impacts to cultural resources from construction.
- B. Determination of significance of cultural resources and direction of development and construction staff to avoid cultural sites
- C. Identification and evaluation of late discoveries of cultural remains during construction.
- D. Documentation and research of cultural materials observed during monitoring activities.
- E. All the above.

Pre-test: Native American Monitoring and Cultural Resource Management

- Question Ten: When human remains are discovered during project construction activities, the following are some of the likely steps that should and typically do take place
- A. A forensic anthropologist is called first to determine if the bones are human and if they are of Native American affiliation.
- B. The nearest Indian Tribe is called and they are responsible for working with the archaeologists to determine what should happen with the remains.
- C. The County Coroner is called and the Native American Heritage Commission is contacted and a Most Likely Descendant is identified.
- D. The Native American Heritage Commission is contacted and they determine if the remains are of Indian origin. They contact the County Coroner and then a Most Likely Descendant is contacted.

Quick Review of Correct Test Questions

- Let's quickly take a look and decide on the correct answers to our little pre-test to see what the right answers might be.
- 1. False. There is no federal or state law requiring Native American Monitoring in California.
- 2. False. Isolated artifacts by definition and consistent with the CEQA policies are not considered sites per se and do not rise to a threshold of significance to consider them important cultural resources.
- 3. C. NEPA and CEQA
- 4. The SHPO and the Information Centers and by practice archaeologists in California consider a minimum of three artifacts in a concentrated area to be considered a cultural resource site.

Quick Review of Correct Test Questions

- 5. False. There were no less than 300,000 Native people living in California in pre contact times and that is the highest population density for the region north of Mexico.
- 6. False. Almost 10 times that number. At a minimum 90 languages and that is considered to be some of the greatest linguistic diversity of any area in the world.
- 7. False. Isolated artifacts by definition and consistent with the CEQA policies are not considered sites per se and do not rise to a threshold of significance to consider them important cultural resources.

Quick Review of Correct Test Questions

- 8. C. The best answer is at least 12,000 years. The current evidence for much of the state indicates that there exists a record of not more than about 13,000 years of prehistory. Of course we might discover some greater ages but for right now this is where we stand.
- 9. D. All the above
- 10. D. All the above.

Organization of Class

- You will be given binders of materials.
- Your handbook (three ring binder) has copies of all our PowerPoint Slides and in reduced size along with places on these outlines for you to take notes.
- Importantly, information (articles and other relevant material) about many of the topics covered in this class are also included for your reference in the future.
- If you open your binders you can see the daily agendas and an overview of the class for your review. We will follow those as guidelines, but remain somewhat flexible as well.

Organization of Class

- The Class is set up to cover a number of topics.
- This morning we will begin with an overview on California Native Americans including a discussion of California's environments, Native Californian languages and lifeways relating to specific Culture Areas.
- Next, in the afternoon we will turn to a quick review of California Prehistory covering about the last 12,000 to 13,000 years all in a couple of hours.

Organization of Class

- Tuesday will be cultural resource sites and artifacts day!
- On Tuesday morning we will adjourn to smaller quarters for the morning. The elders will have a morning gathering in the upper half of the conference room.
- To allow the use of that facility we will forego the usual audio-visual materials and work with printed matter and hands on exercises...

Organization of Class

- Next, in the afternoon we will return to the front half of the conference room and will begin again with PowerPoint and continue to discuss the different types of cultural resource sites and the types of cultural materials that we can find there.
- Wednesday we will continue with discussions on the various classes of cultural materials and present an overview of historic preservation law.
- On Thursday morning we will focus on the roles, responsibilities, and relationships associated with the position of Native American Monitor.

Organization of Class

- Thursday afternoon we have scheduled a field trip to a local archaeological site. We will caravan over to the site and perform an in-field review.
- Finally, on Friday we will cover the critical issue of Safety, complete our post-tests and have a short graduation ceremony.
- That's our class in the nutshell. Any questions? If not let's get started!

California Indians

- The territory of the present State of California was “discovered” in AD 1542 by a Portuguese navigator, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo.
- Yet, at that time there were already about 300,000 Native people living in California and they had been there since about 11,000 BC!
- In 1578 Sir Francis Drake landed at Drake's Bay, opened communication with the Natives, and took “possession” of the country in the name of England, calling it New Albion.
- It was explored by the Spaniard S. Viscayno in 1602, but no attempt was made at colonization until the Franciscan Fathers established a mission at San Diego in 1769.
- Within the next 50 years the Spaniards would found 21 missions.



California Indians: The Environment

- California encompasses a remarkable range of environments exhibiting great natural diversity.
- Over a period of 130 centuries (13,000 years) hundreds (if not thousands) of Native cultures adapted to a myriad of ever changing landscapes
- The California environments include: deserts, mountains, valleys, a coastal zone and hill country.
- The number of Native peoples went up and down over time but reached levels in excess of 300,000 persons with villages of upwards of 1,000 people.



California Indians: The Environment

- California covers an immense area of over 100 million acres.
- This includes 2000 km of coastline and a 350 km length of the Colorado River.
- The pre-contact California Indians were largely reliant upon the natural resources for their survival.
- Hence, they were intimately familiar with the habits and habitats of both the plants and animals that they used for food, construction materials, medicine, and religious activities.
- Given this close interplay of the natural and cultural environments, it seems reasonable that we might start our study of California Indian lifeways with an overview of the physical environment of California.



California Indians: The Environment

- California is roughly 1350 km long and has a width varying from 260 to 400 km or an area of rough 157,000 square miles.
- The major physical features of California can be broken down into 10 geological or physiographic provinces.
- They include: the Klamath Mountains (NW CA), Cascade Range (NE CA), Modoc Plateau (NE CA), Great Basin (mostly E CA), Sierra Nevada (N. C. and S. CA), Central Valley (N. C. and S. CA), Coast Ranges (N., C. and S. CA), Transverse Ranges (S. CA), Mojave Desert (S. CA), Colorado Desert (S. CA) and Penninsular Ranges.



The Environment: Klamath Mountains

- The rugged Klamath Mountains are located in northwestern California.
- It is a mixture of a number of different types of rock including granite, metamorphic and sedimentary stone.
- It is really an outlier of the northernmost Sierra Nevada - however younger alluvium covers over the older rocks in the upper Sacramento Valley, the Modoc Plateau and Cascade Range



The Environment: Klamath Mountains

- The tallest peak is Mount Thompson in the Trinity Alps.
- The Klamath mountains are drained by the Klamath and Trinity River systems.
- Riverine and upland resources abound in this rugged and heavily vegetated area.



The Environment: Cascade Range

- East of at the Klamath Mountains are the volcanic peaks and mountains of the basaltic (lava) Cascade Range.
- This mountain range extends from British Columbia through the states of Washington and Oregon.
- Mount Lassen is an active volcano that is part of this ring of fire that erupted last from 1914 to 1917.
- North of Lassen is Mount Shasta that dominates the southern Cascades.



The Environment: Cascade Range

- The Cascade Range is drained by the Pit and McCloud Rivers.
- The basalt outcrops found throughout the range harbor immense outcrops of volcanic glass including the obsidian in the Medicine Lake Highlands.
- Both basalt and obsidian were important stone materials used extensively for flaked stone tools.



The Environment: Modoc Plateau

- The Modoc Plateau inter-fingers with the eastern edge of the Cascade Range in northern California
- The Modoc is again a volcanic area that marks the southwestern edge of the Columbian Plateau.
- The Modoc Plateau is a platform of lava flows, fissures, ridges, cinder cones, and plains.



The Environment: Modoc Plateau

- The region is drained by Hat Creek, Fall River and others drainages that are part of the Pit River system.
- Slow-moving streams also descend into the large, shallow basins of Goose Lake, Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Lake.
- Streams and lakes were favored as locations for aboriginal occupation.



The Environment: Great Basin

- The Great Basin or the Basin and Range geomorphic province takes its name from the mostly north-south trending mountain ranges, found throughout this region, that are separated by intervening basins.
- Throughout the Basin, drainage is interior - in that streams flow into dry (saline) lakes without reaching the sea.
- The Mojave Desert is sometimes considered to be part of the Great Basin - although it is often separated due to its distinctive flora.



The Environment: Great Basin

- The Great Basin is distinguished as an arid landscape supporting typically smaller and more dispersed Native hunter-gatherers.
- However, during the early Holocene and late Pleistocene (a time greater than 7500 years ago and ranging to about 13,000 years ago) the Basin featured a series inlands seas.
- These included large lakes and riparian grasslands of marshes and sloughs that attracted big game, waterfowl and intensive occupation by Native peoples.



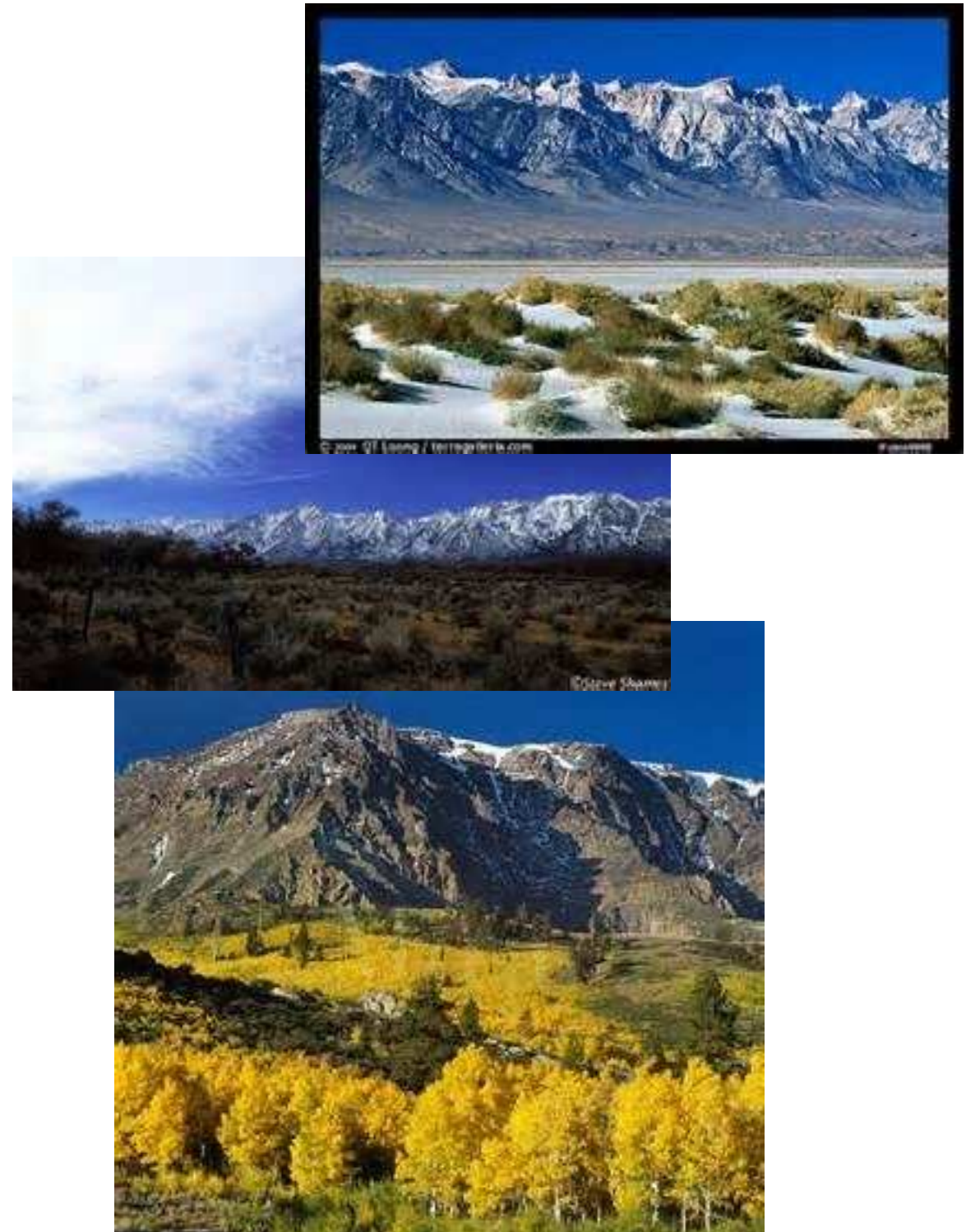
The Environment: Sierra Nevada

- The very impressive Sierra Nevada mountain chain runs the length of California's eastern border.
- This giant block of uplifted granite is one of the longest single masses of stone on the planet.
- The tilted block of stone provides California with a gently uplifted western slope and a far more precipitous eastern skirt.
- The eastern face is carved in areas where ancient glaciers traversed.
- The Sierra exhibits hundreds of peaks over 8,000 feet above sea level.



The Environment: Sierra Nevada

- The highest peak is Mount Whitney - the tallest in the continental United States.
- The western Sierra foothills are doused regularly with abundant rains.
- Sierran rivers supply tremendous amounts of water into the Central Valley - snowfall being an important source of this abundance.
- Winter occupation of the high elevations of the Sierra was limited due to this snowfall.
- The eastern Sierra is arid and part of the western fringe of the Great Basin



The Environment: Central Valley

- A predominant element of California's natural landscape is the great Central Valley.
- It is some 750 km long and from 30 to 80 km wide.
- It is ringed by the Siskyou, Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi mountains to the east and the Coast Ranges to the west.



The Environment: Central Valley

- This huge basin is underlain with alluvial sediments mostly coming from Sierran streams.
- The floor of the valley which appears as relatively flat rises from sea level close to Stockton to an elevation of several hundred feet at its northernmost and southernmost extent.
- The only break in this flat plain is the presence of the 2,000 foot Sutter Buttes - remnants of ancient volcanoes situated near Marysville.



The Environment: Coast Ranges

- The Coast Ranges are actually a series of distinct, separate mountain ranges that run along the edge of California west of the Pacific Ocean.
- These mountains run roughly from the northernmost State boundary to a point just above the Transverse Ranges contiguous with the Mojave Desert.
- They are typically separated into North and South segments.



The Environment: Coast Ranges

- Hills and ridges in this region are often rounded and the North Coast Ranges exhibit the most impressive scenery.
- Where these mountains meet the sea we recognize extremely rugged and dramatic terrain with nearly vertical sea cliffs.
- Sometimes we see an abrupt termination of the mountains with a small band of narrow land forming terraces just a few hundred feet above the ocean.



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The Environment: Coast Ranges

- The largest drainages in the Coast Ranges are the Eel, Russian and Salinas rivers.
- Native peoples lived near the major streams but also in the hills, around lakes, on the ocean shore, and near estuaries.
- The most prominent estuaries are Humboldt, San Francisco and Monterey bays.



The Environment: Transverse Ranges

- The singular mountain ranges that trend east-west in California are appropriately identified as the Transverse Ranges.
- They span a 500 km wide length finding their perimeters in the north contiguous with the Coast Ranges and the Sierra Nevada chain and in the south terminating at the Salton Trough and the Peninsular Ranges.
- The Transverse Ranges actually include a number of distinct topographic features including: The Santa Ynez, Santa Monica, San Gabriel, San Bernardino, Eagle, and Orocopia mountains.
- The Transverse Ranges run into the sea where the Channel Islands (San Miguel, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa) are their almost complete submerged manifestations.
- The Channel Islands and their adjoining coastal strand supported the indigenous Chumash people who exhibited some of the highest population densities of hunter gatherers in California if not the world.



The Environment: Mojave Desert

- This large expanse of arid land covers about 50,000 square kilometers of California terrain. It adjoins the Colorado and Yuma Deserts to the south and east.
- It also interfaces with the Sierra Nevada escarpment on its western perimeter.
- It is separated from the Great Basin desert by the Garlock Fault that lays at the foot of the El Paso Mountains in eastern California.
- The Mojave desert is home to a number of significant mountain ranges including the Granite, Bristol, Providence, Turtle, Maria and Chocolate.
- The lowland Mojave Desert is also home to many playas and dry lakes that during the Pleistocene were well watered and even formed a series of interconnected, inland seas.



The Environment: Colorado Desert

- The Colorado Desert is also known as the Salton Trough.
- It is a low-lying southernmost desert area laying below the Mojave Desert and was home to the ancient inland sea of Lake Cahuilla.
- Lake Cahuilla was formed by the intermittent flooding and filling of the Salton Sea Basin from the overflow of the nearby Colorado River.
- The filling and desiccation of Lake Cahuilla was a key environmental change that affected the Native land use patterns of the Colorado Desert Region.



The Environment: Peninsular Ranges

- The Peninsular Ranges are so named since they run the full length of the Baja California peninsula, yet they also extend into Alta California for over 200 km.
- The Ranges are made up of granite that intruded into more ancient metamorphic and sedimentary materials.
- On the north is the Los Angeles Basin and extending into the Pacific Ocean are the landforms of the San Nicolas, Santa Catalina, San Clemente and (the smallest) Santa Barbara Islands.



The Environment: Peninsular Ranges

- The most significant features of this province are the Santa Ana, San Jacinto, Santa Rosa, Agua Tibia and Laguna mountains.
- The streams that descend these mountains include the Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey and San Diego rivers.
- Shelter bays and lagoons, open coasts, wide river terraces, and deep uplands are all characteristic features of this region.



The Environment: Climate

- California's very amiable climate is dubbed Mediterranean - and it was unique to North America. This predominant regime features wet and mild winters with warm and dry summers.
- The Pacific Ocean exerts a considerable influence keeping temperatures relatively pleasant.
- It was only in the higher, interior mountains and the lowland desert where expressions of more extreme climatic conditions were exhibited.



The Environment: Climate

- Snowfall accounts for a large percentage of the moisture at elevation and considerable snowpacks accumulate in the Sierra.
- The lowest rainfall of course is characteristic of the desert areas (from 2 to 6 inches).
- The San Francisco Bay area and northwest California have some of the greatest levels of precipitation (from 15 to 50 inches).
- Climate was not the principal determining factor for Native occupation but was most important in determining the character of the fauna and flora for a given area.



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- The influence of various environmental factors all work together to produce the varied distributions of plants and animals found in California.
- California is an exceptionally varied environment and exhibits a mosaic of dozens of natural vegetation types - these are often closely packed together due to dramatic changes in elevation found in a small areas.
- The lowermost elevations of California are represented by the Mojave and Colorado Desert, the Great Basin and the Central valley.



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- These areas have alkaline vegetation including creosote bush scrub and saltbush. Additionally they include sagebrush steppe and pinyon-juniper woodlands.
- Animals most important to Native peoples in these poorly watered areas include rabbits and hares, pronghorn and bighorn sheep.
- In the Central Valley a steppe / prairie grassland and tule marsh environment were found. The latter environs (before Euroamerican settlements) included valley oaks, tule, cattails, elk, pronghorn, waterfowl, and jackrabbits.



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- In the lower elevations are found oak woodland and chaparral communities.
- These areas were composed of grasslands and scattered oak trees and are found in the Sierra foothills, Transverse Ranges and Coast Ranges.
- The latter plant community may have been one of the most central since it provided an abundance of acorns, edible seeds and forage for deer. All important resources for Native subsistence.
- Other common oak woodland animals include rabbits, quail and dove.
- Economic plants found in the chaparral community include manzanita berries and *Broadiaea* bulbs (sometimes called Indian onions).



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- In the upper elevations lay the forest belt composed of various kinds of timber.
- This area included the mixed coniferous forests, mixed evergreen forests, redwood forests, and coastal sagebrush.
- This zone is found in the Sierra, the Coast Ranges, and the mountains in southern California.



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- In the Sierra one can also recognize ponderosa and sugar pines, incense cedar, white fir, black oak and groves of redwood.
- Wildlife in this region includes elk, rabbits and bear.
- This area was considered one of upper limits for year round settlement for pre-contact Native peoples.



The Environment: Plants and Animals

- Finally at the uppermost elevations are the Canadian, Hudsonian and Boreal zones.
- These are zones near, at and above the tree line.
- Lodgepole and whitebark pines and hearty alpine vegetation may be found on or near the crests of these high mountains.
- Native peoples would pass through these areas when engaged in long distance upland hunting, and on trading and traveling expeditions.
- Great Basin people from the east side of the Sierra also would conduct upscale hunting for bighorn and marmots in such high elevation encampments.



California Indians: Languages



California Indians: Languages

- California was an amazing setting for Native language diversity!
- Some scholars have argued that aboriginal California was more linguistically complex than any other area of the world of equal size - perhaps with the exception of coastal New Guinea.
- In pre-contact California there were no less than 23 language families and linguistic isolates, with perhaps a total of 90 distinct languages within the State.
- These 90 Native languages represented seven unrelated language stocks, superfamilies or families.



California Indians: Languages

- About 67 of these languages are best classified into two groups: Hokan and Penutian.
- Elsewhere in North America it is the Algonquian, Athabaskan and Uto-Aztecan families that have the greatest numbers of languages.
- Hokan has the widest and most fragmented distribution and appears to be one of, if not, the oldest of the linguistic stocks - it is known to contain 5 different language families and 5 isolated languages.
- The different groups in California that spoke languages classified as Hokan include: Ipai, Tipai, Quechan, Halchidoma, Mojave, Pomo, Washo, Kato, Coast Yuki, Achumawi, Atsugewi, Shasta, Karok, Chimariko, Esselen, Salinan, and Yana.



California Indians: Languages

- A small and restricted grouping is also one of the most ancient language groups and is identified as Yukian (stock or language family).
- It is represented only by two Native groups - the Yuki and Wappo.
- Both languages and Native groups are situated in the northwestern corner of California.
- It may be that these Yukian speaking peoples represent as old a language family as that of the Hokan or perhaps one that is even more ancient.



California Indians: Languages

- About the same age and almost as old as Hokan is the Penutian Stock.
- Linguists are unsure of the exact nature of the relationships within this class.
- However somewhere between 27 and 38 individual languages are all grouped under the Penutian classification.



California Indians: Languages

- Penutian serves as an umbrella for four different language families including Wintuan, Maiduan, Utian, and Yokutsan
- Spatially the Native tribes are all concentrated as a core expression within the heartland of California - in the central coast and interior valley.
- They include: Wintu, Nomalaki, Patwin, Maidu, Konkow, Nisenan, Miwok, Ohlone, and Yokuts.





California Indians: Languages

- The Algic or Algonquian languages have very ancient roots.
- They have shown to be, at an early date, related to languages and people living in north-central North America (perhaps near Alberta, Canada).
- These Algic languages and peoples appear to have migrated into California in two distinct in-migrations some 5000 to 6000 years ago based on glottochronology.
- They are represented by two Native groups both located in northwestern California known as the Yurok and Wiyot.



California Indians: Languages

- The Athabascan language group has its expression in just four tribes in California - Tolowa, Hupa, Mattole, and Cahto.
- The Tolowa tribe has the most affinity with other Athabascan tribes situated in Oregon and is the most distinctive.
- These Californian Athabascan groups has deep connection with other Native languages include the Navajo and Apache in the American Southwest and some groups in Canada and Alaska.
- The character of these Athabascan speakers' languages reveal a recent spread of these people from the north moving southward perhaps originating in Alaska.
- Linguists believe these Athabascans speakers first entered California about AD 1250 to 1350.



California Indians: Languages

- A major grouping of languages in California are those identified under the banner of Utoaztecan.
- This language grouping hails originally from Mexico and includes languages identified as Numic and Takic,
- They include the Tubatulabal of the far southern Sierra Nevada.
- Now considered a Takic language.



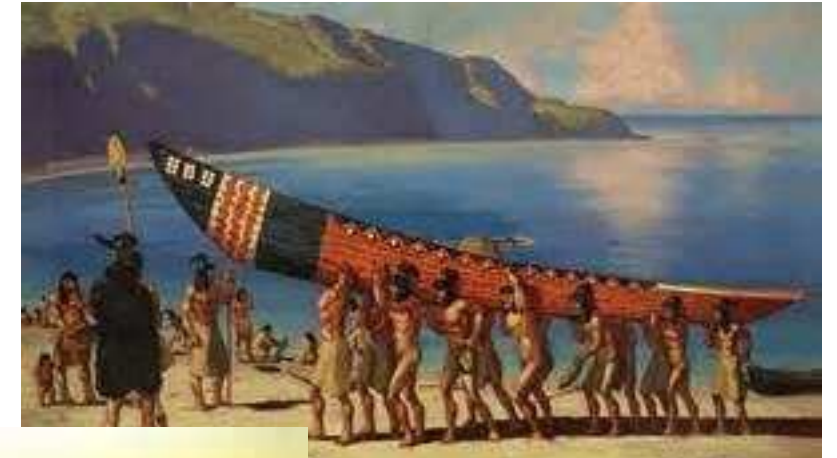
California Indians: Languages

- The Kawaiisu from the Tehachapi Mountains and the western Mojave as a distinct language of the Numic subfamily. Also Panamint of Death Valley and the Coso Range of eastern California.
- Also we have the tribes that are consider Great Basin cultures including the Mono, Northern Paiute and the Chemehuevi.
- The Takic subfamily includes a number of cultures from southern California including the Serrano, Vanyume, Kitanemuk, Tatavium, Cahuilla, Cupeno, Luiseno and Gabrieleno.



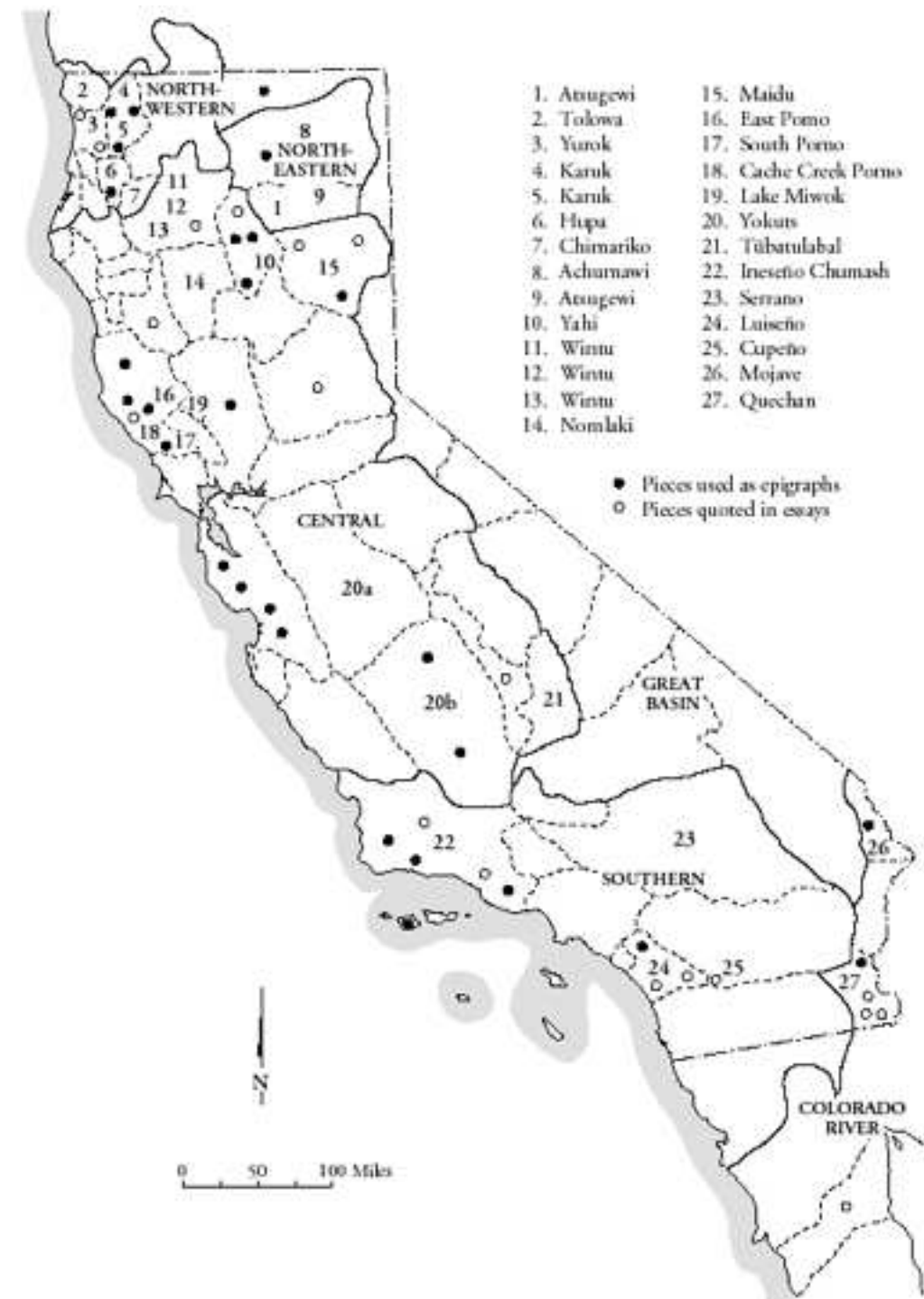
California Indians: Languages

- Finally, a single linguistic isolate with no known relationships to other California Indian languages has recently been identified.
- The Chumash people were previously affiliated under the Hokan linguistic stock.
- Linguists have reconsidered that classification and now include all North Chumash speakers under their own banner of Chumashan.
- These speakers include those people and cultures identified as Island Chumash (including Roseno, Cruzeno) and the Cuyama, Obispeno, Purismeno, Ynezeno, Barbareno, Ventureno, and Emigdiano languages.



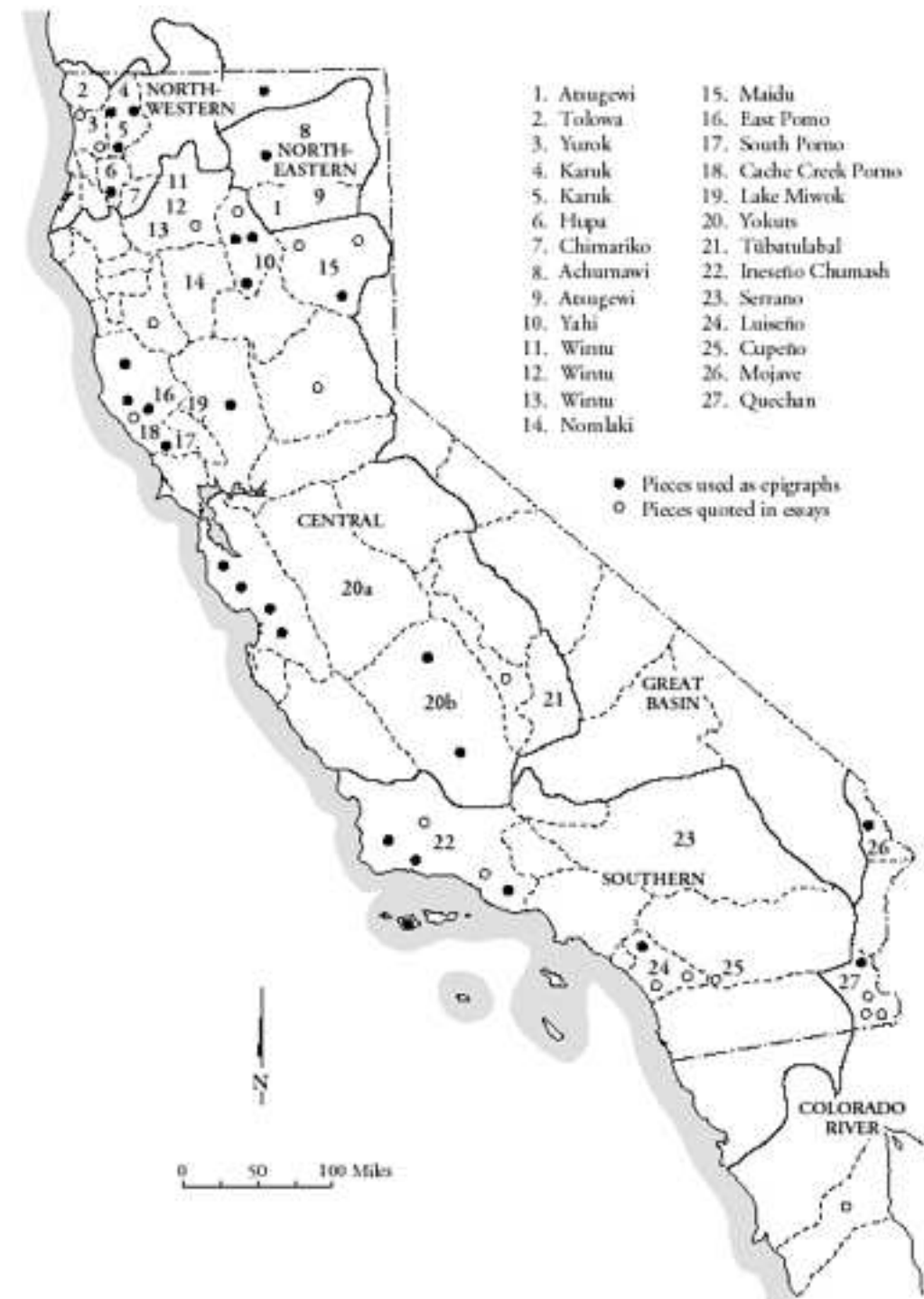
California Indians: Culture Areas

- When the Spaniards began to colonize California, 300,000 Native persons were living here. A number greater than in any comparable area north of Mexico.
- Perhaps one way to understand the diversity of Native California is to break it down geographically and culturally into tribal groups that were somewhat similar in nature.
- One scheme is to do this by area: NW, NE, C, GB, S, and CR.



California Indians: Culture Areas

- We'll run through these areas and select some individual tribes and patterns to perhaps give you a glimpse of the character of Native California in pre-contact times.
- Organizing in this way has some drawbacks. We are really developing a picture of these cultures frozen in time...
- There is disagreement about how to best define the boundaries of Native California and the number of "Culture Areas".
- Nevertheless, this simple overview will provide a flavor for the cultural diversity and characteristic of California's pre-contact, traditional Native cultures.



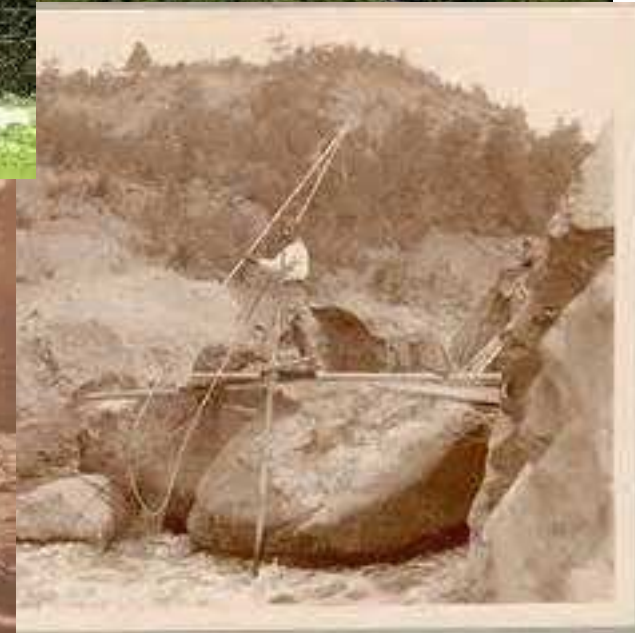
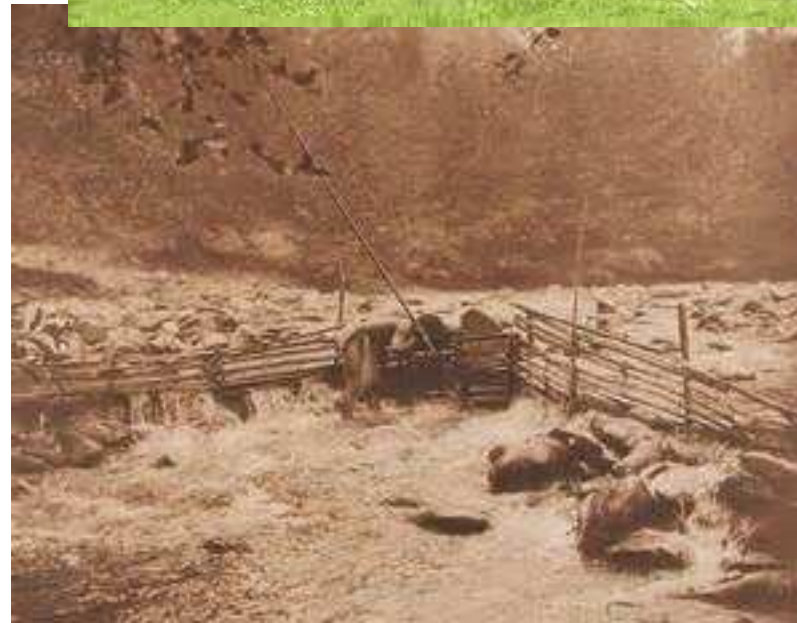
Culture Areas: Northwest

- Northwest California is area of rugged topography and heavy forests with no coastal plain.
- However, given its biotic diversity, it is also one of the most optimal places for a hunting and gathering society.
- In this small area centering on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers and the Pacific Ocean, seven Indian nations lived - the Tolowa, Yurok, Wiyot, Hupa, Chilula and Whilkut.
- These were river and ocean people who subsisted on the abundant yields of salmon, candlefish and sea lamprey.
- Inland they harvested an ample supply of acorns.
- The NW tribes also hunted and fished in the ocean and used redwood dugout canoes.



Culture Areas: Northwest

- These people developed a rather complex economic system based on the use of dentalium bead money as a currency.
- Other items of wealth included very large obsidian blades (some two feet or more in length), red woodpecker scalps, rare white and light skinned deer pelts.
- They lived in permanent year round settlements with semi-subterranean houses of redwood planks.
- There were no true chiefs per se but big men of aristocratic birth who settled village affairs with help from the richest males of the settlement.



Culture Areas: Northwest

- The villages along the Klamath River and its tributaries were linked by a cyclical ritual system referred to as "World Renewal" rites.
- The cycle consisted of about a dozen ceremonies every year and encompassed a wide range of ritual performances including the White Deerskin and Jump Dances.
- These ceremonies afforded opportunities for wealth display and costuming. They also included various first-fruits ceremonies tied to a ceremonial calendar and specific locations.
- These elaborate rituals were intended to maintain the positive attributes of the natural world and to ensure a continuation of the earth's resources.



Culture Areas: Northeast

- Northeast California is an area composed mainly of lava flows, cinder cones, juniper flats, pine forests and seasonal lakes.
- This is an area of contemporary California known as Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen counties.
- The Native peoples in this area were identified as the Modoc, Achomawi and Atsugewi.



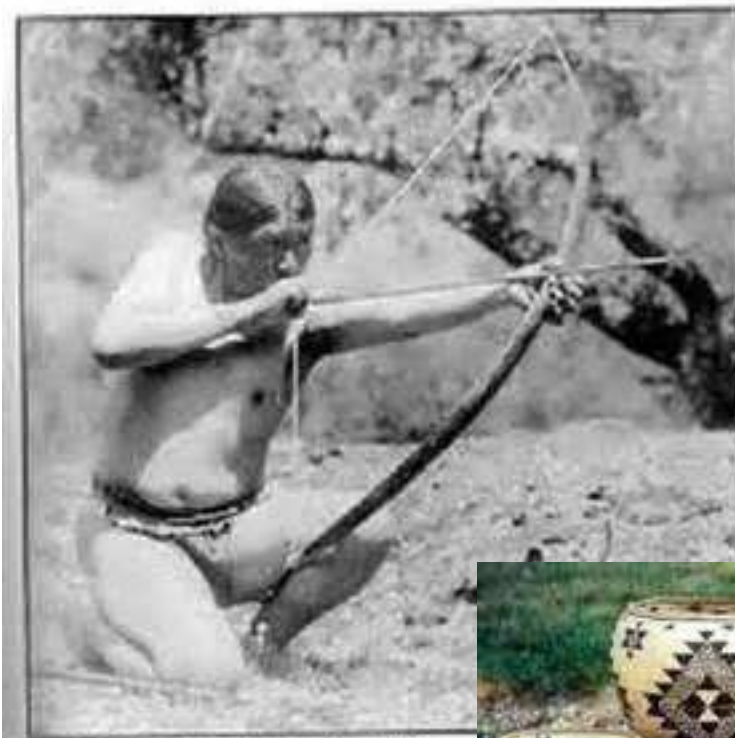
Culture Areas: Northeast

- Several thousand Native persons lived here.
- Bands of Natives occupied villages of 20 to 60 people in cone-shaped homes covered in tule-mats.
- The Natives lived by hunting, fishing and gathering.
- The principal drainage is the Pit River.

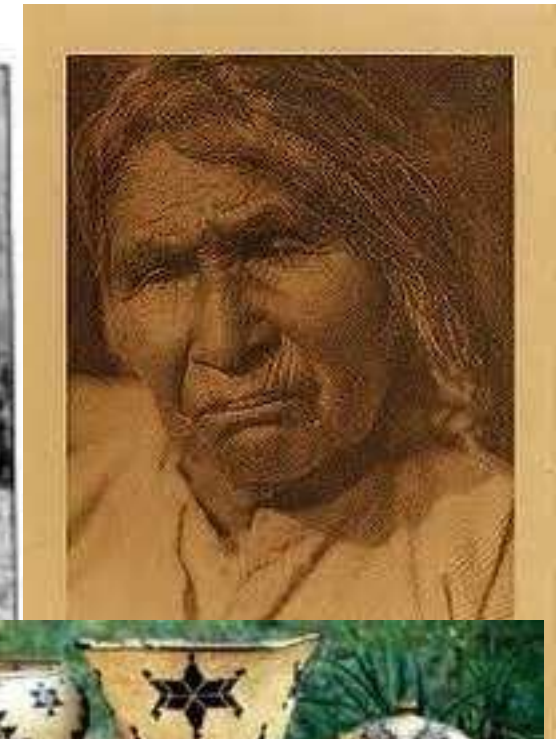


Culture Areas: Northeast

- The area supports herds of mule deer, elk and pronghorn.
- Native people developed a special way to catch deer and dug (dead-fall) traps into the earth along the game trails and watering places to catch the deer.
- This practice gave rise to the name “Pit” River.

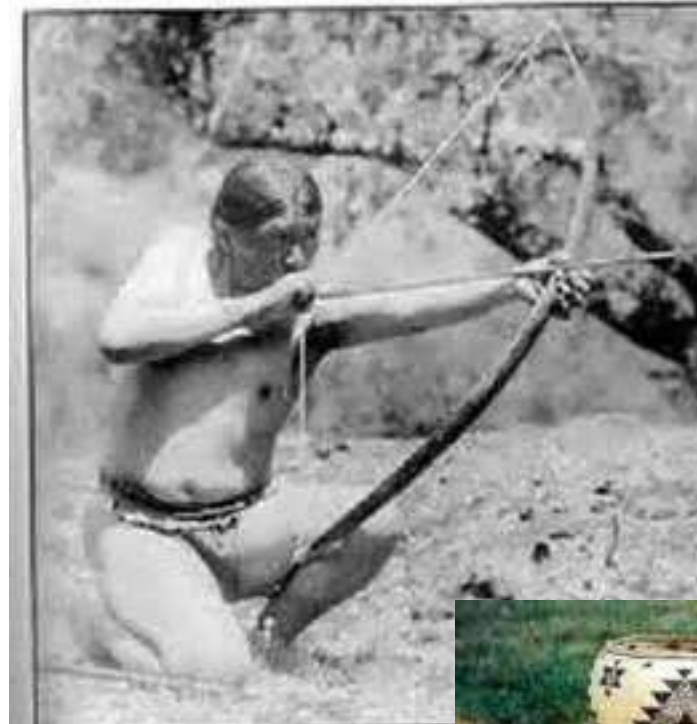


1941, the last Yano Native American, about 1912.



Culture Areas: Northeast

- They used dugout canoes on the rivers and lakes.
- Women were responsible for gathering tule sprouts, camas bulbs, and sunflower seeds.
- Also harvested were pinyon pine nuts, acorns, manzanita berries and other seeds, nuts, and bulbs.



Culture Areas: Northeast

- The chief spiritual being in Achomawi religion is Annikadel.
- Adolescent boys sought guardian spirits called *tinihowi* and both genders experienced puberty ceremonies.
- Elder men would fast to increase the run of fish and women and children would eat out of sight of the river to encourage fish populations.
- Achomawi medicine persons maintained the health of the community, serving as doctors.



Culture Areas: Northeast

- Both men and women held the role of shaman. A shaman had *kaku*, which was a bundle of feathers w believed to grow in rural places, rooted in the earth, and was used to locate pains in the body.
- Quartz crystals were revered within the community and were obtained by diving into a waterfall.
- In the pool in the waterfall the diver would find a spirit who would lead the diver to a cave where the crystals grew.
- A giant moth cacoon which symbolized the "heart of the world", was another power object but was harder to obtain.



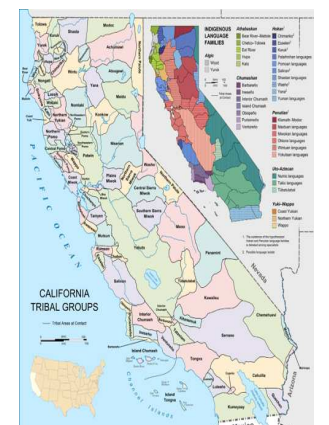
Culture Areas: Central

- Throughout the area the primarily staple was acorns and various seeds. Important game animals included deer, elk, antelope, rabbit and waterfowl.
- Anadromous fish (especially salmon) were a principal source of subsistence.
- On the coast clams, mussels, and small fish were significant to the coastal populations.



Culture Areas: Central

- Given the differential availability of key economic foods, the people practiced a pattern of movement timing their seasonal occupations to take advantage of maximal resource procurement.
- In some areas, resources were so closely spaced and their availability endured for such a great amount of the year that permanently occupied villages could be established.
- Sometimes such towns contained 1,000 persons or more.



Culture Areas: Central

- The basic form of political organization was the "tribelet."
- Each tribelet was composed of a large central village and associated satellite or subsidiary communities.
- Through plant care, burning, and careful management of resources, the native people tended to the Central Region's landscape to satisfy their subsistence needs and cultural desires.



Culture Areas: Central

- Instead, political leadership rested with a headperson(s) whose position was acquired by heredity and whose social prestige was based on his authoritative office.
- A headperson (chief) lived in the tribelet's central village, was the head of a prominent and wealthy family, and decided on issues of resource allocation; interpersonal and intervillage disputes; and sometimes arranged and sponsored ceremonial or religious activities.





Culture Areas: Central



- Religious and ritual life varied greatly from tribe to tribe. In the Sacramento Valley and adjacent foothills the Kuksu religion was predominant .
- In the southern San Joaquin Valley the Toloache and Dream Helper religious systems were prominent.
- However, there were also outstanding shared elements: dedication to place; focus on sacred objects and actions; ceremonies for life cycle events; rituals aimed at sustaining the earth and a reverence for the plants and animals that supported them.
- Among all groups, medicine persons(*shamans*) were responsible for a variety of religious activities aimed at affecting a wide range of conditions, including personal health, the economic success of the tribe, weather conditions, and to take revenge against one's the enemies.



Culture Areas: Great Basin

- Life in the interior of southern California's Great Basin, Mojave and Colorado Deserts was often difficult.
- People had to contend with harsh winters, blistering hot summers, scanty rainfall, and much more limited water supplies with fewer useful economic plants and animals.
- Despite these challenges, Native people called this region home for more than ten thousand years.
- These desert regions were populated by gatherer-hunters, with plant foods as the mainstay of subsistence.



Culture Areas: Great Basin

- More than one hundred species of roots, greens, seeds, nuts, and berries were regularly collected.
- The nuts of the piñon pine were perhaps the single most important food resource as well as the seedpods of mesquite.
- Tribes living in this region include: the Kawaiisu, Owens Valley Paiute, Chemehuevi, Panamint Shoshone (Timbeshah), Vanyume and Eastern Mono.



Culture Areas: Great Basin

- Desert people were most apt to have simpler sociopolitical organization than was common in other parts of California.
- The family band, an extended nuclear family, formed the core of these social units.
- Mostly village headmen and no true chief were the rule.
- The seasonal round and settlement structure emphasized flexibility.



Culture Areas: Great Basin

- Rarely were there year round settlements.
- Population density was often very low with less than a fraction of one person per square mile as the rule.
- Villages might have on average only 50 people or less in them.
- Homes were brush structures formed of tules or other grasses and were simple domed structures.





Culture Areas: Great Basin



- A general belief was that all of the environment, including features of the landscape that we might consider inanimate were alive with power (puha and buha).
- People spoke of events of an earlier time when the land was not yet home to humans and animals talked and acted like people.
- Daily life was filled with experiences of supernatural meaning, spirits regularly communicated through dreams.
- Religious beliefs were highly personalized, each individual having a protecting guardian spirit (such as a particular animal) having received visions in youth.





Culture Areas: Great Basin



- However, for some, this contact was more intimate and direct.
- A few gifted individuals sought active dialogue with the supernatural and became medicine persons (shamans).
- When groups of people assembled for communal activities including rabbit drives, pinyon harvests, antelope or bighorn sheep drives, a circle dance and feast was held to thank the higher powers for their blessings and to ask for continued grace.
- These were social as well as religious events.





Culture Areas: Southern

- In this varied area of southern California most of the major Native tribal groups were non-political ethnic nationalities - a people sharing similar culture, history, religious system, language, and territory.
- From north to south, these non-political ethnic nationalities were the Luiseño, and Ipai-Tipai along the coast, and the Serrano, Cahuilla, and Cupeño immediately eastward.
- For the Chumash and Gabrielino we recognize that there existed a remarkable, politically stable and sedentary people that existed for thousands of years prior to European contact, due, in part, to an elaborate system of economic exchange that crossed sociopolitical and cultural boundaries, enhanced by a sophisticated marine economy including sea faring technology.
- These ethnic nations ranged greatly in size from a few thousand to 10,000 or more in number.



Culture Areas: Southern

- The Chumash and Gabrielino inhabited the southern California coast (from just north of present-day San Luis Obispo to south of Los Angeles) and adjacent offshore islands (the northern Channel Islands) and reached a level of sociopolitical complexity unparalleled for hunter gatherers in the world.
- In many ways, the coastal and island dwelling Chumash, along with the Gabrielino, were among the most exceptional foraging cultures attaining an incipient chiefdom level of society.
- The Native peoples possessed a maritime economy in that their life ways focused on ocean fishing and collecting and the hunting of sea mammals.
- The most important technological innovation was the frameless plank canoe, or tomol. These enabled long distance trade with the Channel Islands and the ability to develop sedentary village life with hamlets of 1,000 or more persons and an economic system based on shell bead currency.



Culture Areas: Southern

- The Chumash and Gabrielino hunted deer and smaller game and, like most other California Natives relied on an abundant acorn harvest.
- However, it was the seafaring economy that perhaps best defined their distinctive lifestyle.
- The great coastal kelp beds provided a rich fishery. This coastal area was home to more than 125 species of fish (including swordfish, halibut and tuna) and numerous sea mammals including otters, dolphins, whales, and sea lions. Additionally, tidal shorelines provided mussels, abalone, oysters, scallops, and clams.
- When the Spanish arrived in the 16th century, they marveled at Chumash and Gabrielino fishermen in their twenty-five-foot long plank canoes, sewn with fiber cordage, and caulked with asphalt.
- Villages along the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles coast sometimes numbered more than a thousand people. The most powerful chiefs derived their considerable wealth and authority by brokering exchange between Channel Islands and inland areas.



Culture Areas: Southern

- In a special ceremonial area set aside for religious functions, the Chumash and Gabrielino gave thanks to the plants and animals that gave them life.
- The Chumash danced to honor the swordfish, the barracuda, and the bear.
- And both Chumash and Gabrielino were linked into an extensive trading network using Olivella (purple olive) bead money, mostly produced on the Channel Islands.
- The Chumash had a set of elite religious functionaries who followed the movements of celestial phenomena - most importantly the sun.
- The most powerful chiefs derived their considerable wealth and authority by brokering exchange between islands and inland areas.





Culture Areas: Colorado River

- Along the Colorado River on the border between California and Arizona several distinctive tribes had their homelands including: Chemehuevi, Mojave and Quechan.
- These were the only Native peoples to adopt agriculture before contact with Euroamericans.
- As such their economies, lifeways and religious life was rather distinctive and differed somewhat from the rest of Native California.
- The name Mojave is composed of two Indian words, "aha" which means water, and macav, meaning alongside.
- The Mojave were also known as the most war-like of the Native nations of California and there existed broad alliances and violence between groups vying for territory.





Culture Areas: Colorado River

- The historic Mojave were known as the Pipa Aha Macav, - the people by the water.
- The Mohave were known as traders and travelers and they had a special relationship with other California groups.
- They would delegate runners who would cross the desert and mountains and eventually reach the Chumash on the coast to trade.
- During that excursion none of the other tribes were to consider such activities in violation or trespass but they were free and peaceful to traverse the lands of other Native peoples with immunity.
- The Mojave were also known as the most war-like of the Native nations of California and there existed broad alliances and violence between groups vying for territory.



Culture Areas: Colorado River

- The [Franciscan](#) missionary-explorer Francisco Garcés estimated the Mohave population in 1776 as approximately 3,000.
- The Colorado Desert, is one of the most extreme environments in North America.
- Temperatures often climb above 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the hot sun, then drop drastically at night.
- The Mojave settled along the bottomlands of the lower Colorado River in permanent settlements.



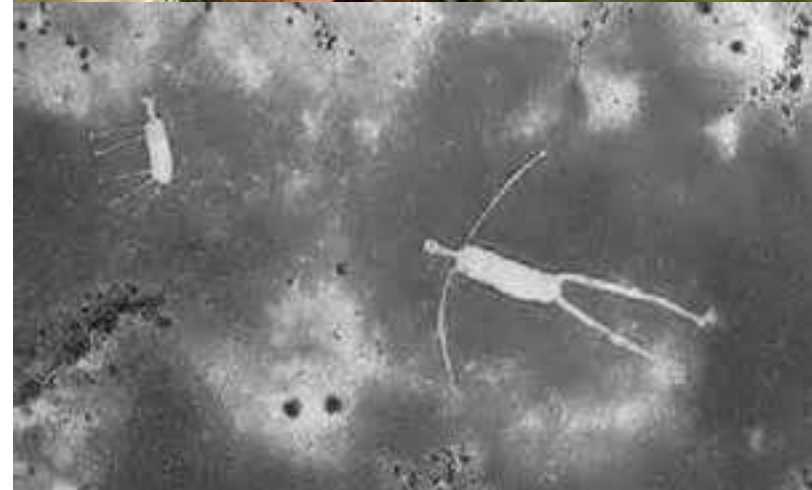
Culture Areas: Colorado River

- The Mojave settled along the bottomlands of the lower Colorado River in permanent settlements.
- Every year, with the melting of snows in the mountains to the northeast, the lower Colorado flooded and provided suitable conditions for farming.
- In this strip of silty soil corn, beans, pumpkins, melons were planted.
- They also fished the Colorado River, hunted small desert game, especially rabbits, and gathered wild plant foods, such as piñon nuts and mesquite beans.



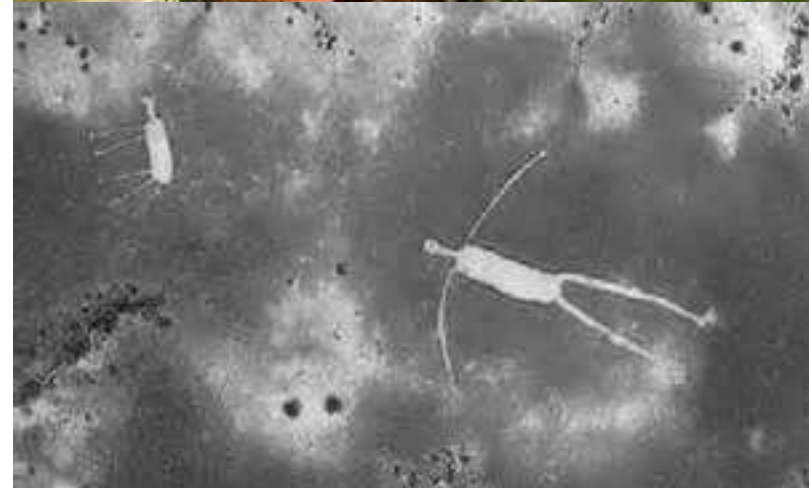
Culture Areas: Colorado River

- The Mohave believed that in dreaming they traveled back to the time of creation and directly witnessed the events of their oral traditions.
- Dreams were believed to be the source of knowledge, skills, courage, success in love and war, and shamanistic power.
- According to Mojave oral tradition, the oldest spirit was Matavilya, whose parents were Earth and Sky.



Culture Areas: Colorado River

- Matavilya had two sons, Mastamho and Kaatar.
- Mastamho strode up the Colorado River Valley, taking four giant steps.
- At the top of the valley he plunged a cane into the earth, and the river spewed forth.
- An enormous flood ensued.



Culture Areas: Colorado River

- Mastamho then plunged the cane into the ground again, and a boat appeared.
- Taking all his people in his arms, Mastamho boarded the boat and headed downstream.
- Along the way, he created the wide river bottom by turning the boat, reducing the flooding.
- He followed the water to the ocean.



Culture Areas: Colorado River

- Once there, he gathered his people and returned them to the Mojave Valley.
- There he created the spiritual mountain Avikwame.
- Mastamho gave all the land to his people, and taught them to farm.
- Mastamho transformed into a fish-eagle and flew off.
- The Mojave and Quechan adorned the landscape with representations of their cosmology in the form of geoglyphs or giant ground pictures.



California Native and Euroamerican History

- Despite the higher purpose of California missions they resulted in coercive labor settlements functioning for the purposes of the colonizers
- Epidemic diseases proved to be the most significant factor in colonial efforts to overcome native resistance.
- As much as 60% of the population decline of mission Indians was due to introduced diseases.



Yana, the last Yana Native Americans, about 1912.

California Native and Euroamerican History

- Tribal lands were transformed by the introduction of vast herds of horses, cattle, sheep, goats and hogs that destroyed the native flora, the primary source of native diet.
- Wild game animals were likewise driven off by these new animals.
- The discovery of gold ushered in one of the darkest episodes of dispossession and mass murder against the native people of California.



California Native and Euroamerican History

- In 1849 Congress authorized three federal officials to make treaties with the California Indians.
- The federal government finally decided to establish an Indian policy in California in 1854 when Edward F. Beale was appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs for California.
- A steady population decline accompanied by widespread reports of destitution and hunger haunted tribes without reserved lands.



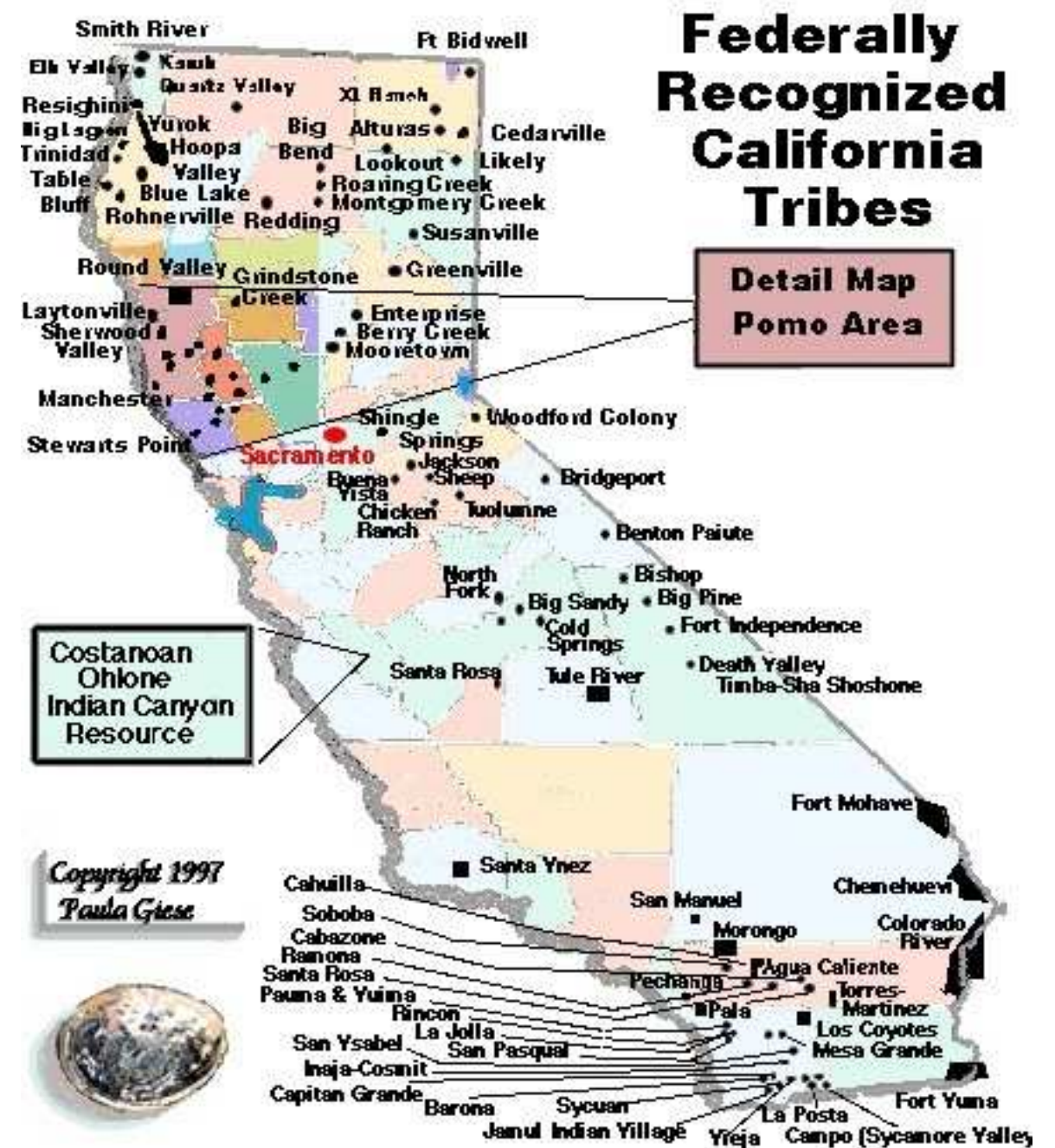
California Native and Euroamerican History

- The General Allotment Act of 1887 forcibly divided reservation tribal lands, doling out small parcels to individual Indians and their families.
- Southern California Indians were finally provided with recognition when several parcels of their former tribal domains were set aside by executive order beginning in 1873 with the establishment of the Tule River Indian Reservation.
- The California Indian population declined to fewer than 16,000 individuals in 1900.



California Indians: Contemporary Political Geography

- As of fall 2007, there are 562 federally recognized indian tribes in the United States.
- There are hundreds who are state recognized, petitioning for recognition, or unrecognized.
- Federally recognized indian tribes have special immunities and privileges due to their government to government relationship with the United States.
- These tribes possess the right to form their own government.
- Many Native Americans and advocates of Native American rights point out that the government's claim to recognize the "sovereignty" of Native American peoples falls short, given that the US still wishes to govern Native American peoples and treats them as subject to US law.



California Indians: Contemporary Political Geography

- The Bureau of Indian Affairs reports on its website that its "responsibility is the administration and management of 55,700,000 acres (225,000 km²) of land held in trust by the United States for American Indians, Indian tribes, and Alaska Natives."
- Many tribes also have their own independent commercial enterprises which generate additional income for the tribe's infrastructure, and in some cases for individual tribal members in the form of per capita payments.
- In recent years, tribal casinos have provided employment for tribal members and a modest profit which supports community programs.



California Indians: Contemporary Political Geography

- A few tribes in urban areas have become rich from their casino's earnings, however, those tribes are the exception rather than the norm.
- Alaska has the most federally recognized indian tribes, but California is the state with the most individual Native American people (413,382).
- These states are followed in order of population by New Mexico, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Montana, North Dakota, Arizona, Wyoming, and Washington.



Class Exercise

- Please count off from one to three (or four) - depending on the size of the class.
- Separate into groups by your numbers - ones, twos, and threes, etc..
- There should be three3 groups of at least three people.
- Here is your assignment...
- You are part of a specially selected government team. A task group with responsibilities directly from and to the Governor of California. You have been asked to prepare a quick overview and high level summary for the Governor himself. He is considering the institution of an annual state holiday for all government employees but also for all the general public - to be called Native California Day!
- He asked your special committee to address the following questions.



Class Exercise

- Please identify one person from your group as a notetaker and another who will present the results of your discussions.
- How long have Native people been in California?
- How many were there? How many languages did they speak? How many are there today?
- What are the major elements of their culture that are most important and that people should recognize?
- What is special about California Natives? Why are they important? What should the general public and government officials be aware of with regard to traditional and contemporary Native cultures, their economies, their arts, their religion, etc.?



Class Exercise

- Please identify one person from your group as a notetaker and another who will present the results of your discussions.
- Please have your presenter be prepared to answer all the questions we have identified.
- Also he or she needs to first introduce him or her self and then lay out the nature of the assignment.
- Then present the various findings.
- Finally summarize what your team discovered and agreed to present.
- You'll have about 15 to 20 minutes to prepare your presentations including discussions and about 5 to 10 minutes each to present.

