

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



TRIBAL AFFAIRS

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

OFFICE OF THE TRIBAL ADVISOR
GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM



This Annual Report consists of updates on programs and initiatives of the Newsom Administration regarding tribal nations and communities, which were developed in partnership with California tribal communities based on policy recommendations from tribal leaders and ongoing tribal consultation at agencies and departments. This Annual Report is divided into two sections.

Section I is an Executive Summary providing general background information regarding the major policy priorities and initiatives of the Newsom Administration over 2021.

Section II is a report on Administration Initiatives, which includes initiatives completed, developed or in progress throughout 2021. This Section also includes grants awarded to tribes and opportunities for further collaboration.

While this Annual Report seeks to capture a snapshot of tribal-state collaborative initiatives and opportunities across the Newsom Administration, it does not represent all tribal-state collaborative initiatives or opportunities in detail. Tribal nations and communities seeking additional information on anything included herein are encouraged to contact the tribal liaison for the respective agency or department to learn more.



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I. Executive Summary

This Annual Report builds on the Governor's commitment to embrace and reinforce the State's government-to-government relationships with California tribal nations. Some highlights from this year's Annual Report include:

- **To enhance and reinforce the State's government-to-government relationships with California tribes**, the State has created additional executive-level tribal positions, including appointing the first-ever Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs for the California Natural Resources Agency.
- **To facilitate California Native Americans' stewardship of their ancestral lands and natural and cultural resources and to further the promise of the Governor's [Statement of Administration Policy on Native American Ancestral Lands](#)**, the State has supported tribal nations in land acquisitions and access across the state.
- **To support California tribal nations' wildfire and forest health priorities, the State is making historic investments** for tribes to manage their lands, implement wildfire resilience practices informed by Tribal Ecological Knowledges and enhance wildfire safety for tribal communities.

In addition, this Annual Report highlights steps the State is taking to advance **justice and equity for California Native peoples**, expedite **repatriation of Native American ancestors and belongings from the University of California**, and promote **visibility of the rich diversity and history of California Native peoples and cultures**.

The Newsom Administration looks forward to continuing this work together with tribal communities to build a stronger, better, more resilient California for all.

II. Administration Initiatives

Tribal-State Relations

The Newsom Administration embraces meaningful consultation and collaboration with California tribal nations and seeks to increase tribal access to state initiatives, funding and programs.

Grants Portal

California State Grants Portal. The California State Library continues to maintain the [California Grants Portal](#). **All new state-administered grant and loan opportunities offered on a competitive or first-come basis will be posted at the portal.** Grants may be sorted by applicant type, including tribal governments.

Healthy Lands & Ecosystems

The Newsom Administration values tribal nations as co-regulators, culture-bearers and holders of Traditional Ecological Knowledges and tribal expertise. The Administration is working to create and amplify opportunities for greater tribal access to data, tools and funding and seeks to better integrate tribal science, expertise and experiences.

California Natural Resources Agency Tribal Affairs Departmental Overview. The California Natural Resources Agency and its distinct departments, conservancies, boards, and commissions have developed the [California Natural Resources Agency Tribal Affairs Departmental Overview](#) to serve as a resource for tribal nations. In this document, tribes will find a summary of each department under the Agency umbrella, a summary of each department's tribal affairs programs, contact information for tribal liaisons, and information about relevant grant and other opportunities.

Appointment of the First Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs for the California Natural Resources Agency. Governor Newsom appointed the **California Natural Resources Agency's first-ever Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs, Geneva E. B. Thompson (Cherokee Nation)**. Assistant Secretary Thompson, working in partnership with the Office of the Governor's Tribal Advisor, helps cultivate and ensure the meaningful

participation and inclusion of tribal governments and communities within the work of the Agency, supporting the effective integration of these governments and communities' interests in environmental policymaking.



California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot swearing in Geneva E.B. Thompson (Cherokee Nation) as the first Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs for the Agency.

Executive Order N-82-20 Expanding Nature-Based Solutions Early Tribal Consultations.

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) is coordinating the state's efforts to implement Executive Order N-82-20, Expanding Nature-Based Solutions. The Executive Order calls for a statewide Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy to drive long-term climate action across key California landscapes and calls for a strategy to help the state achieve its goal of conserving at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030.

Starting in January, **the Agency has consulted and met with over 60 different California Native American tribes and hosted three separate tribal specific listening sessions throughout the writing of both strategies.** CNRA heard from its tribal partners that tribal expertise, Traditional Knowledge and tribal priorities must be interwoven throughout all aspects of these two strategies. Further, the Agency has heard that

tribal nations must be at the forefront of the implementation of these strategies, which includes **additional funding for tribal priorities, consultation and partnership with tribes on regional projects, and increased climate smart tribal economic development opportunities.**

Secretary Speaker Series: Building Trust Between State and Tribal Governments: What Does True Co-Management Mean?

On November 13, 2020, Secretary Wade Crowfoot hosted a [Speakers Series](#), *Building Trust Between State and Tribal Governments: What Does True Co-Management Mean?*, to discuss what true co-management means for California Native American tribes. Speakers at the event included: Bill Tripp, Karuk Tribe's Director of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, Shaunna McCovey, Resighini Rancheria's Director of Natural Resources and Governmental Affairs, Sam Cohen, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians' Government Affairs and Legal Officer and Christina Snider, California's Tribal Advisor to Governor Gavin Newsom and Executive Secretary of the Native American Heritage Commission.

Assistant Director of Environmental Justice, Equity and Tribal Affairs.

In October 2021, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) opened applications for a new executive-level position for the department. The new **Assistant Director of Environmental Justice, Equity and Tribal Affairs will be responsible for leading, developing and coordinating DPR's Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs programs.** This position will advance meaningful community engagement and elevate equity considerations throughout the department. DPR is aiming to onboard the new position in late 2021 or early 2022.

Land

Draft Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy Tribal Consultations.

On October 11, 2021, the California Natural Resources Agency has requested tribal consultation on our draft Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy. This Strategy was informed by the Agency's early consultations on the implementation of Executive Order N-82-20 [Expanding Nature-Based Solutions](#). The Agency consulted and met with over 60 different tribal nations and hosted three separate tribal listening sessions. In addition to one-on-one government-to-government consultations on the draft Strategy, the Agency also hosted two tribal listening sessions to review the draft language, answer questions, and receive feedback.

Prop 68 Funds: Esselen Tribe of Monterey County.

Using Proposition 68 funds, the California Natural Resources Agency was able to support the Esselen Tribe of

Monterey County's acquisition of the 1,199-acre Adler Ranch to protect Native American cultural and natural resources.

Site Mitigation and Restoration Project-Specific Tribal Engagement. During the first stage project specific tribal engagements, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) researches each project and contacts NAHC for current information to send letters and/or emails to tribal contacts. Some of these contacts result in requests for additional information and other informal communication with tribal governments. Others result in a more formal government-to-government consultation between a tribe and department. Once a tribe requests consultation and government-to-government consultation is initiated, processes following language described in AB 52 or B-10-11 is implemented depending on the project's details.

Between September 2020 and August 2021, DTSC's Tribal Affairs Program sent approximately 235 letters to tribal governments on 31 Site Mitigation and Restoration (Cleanup) projects. This engagement resulted in 14 formal government-to-government consultations. Of these, 12 consultations are currently ongoing (2 are completed) and when completed, applicable mitigation measures will be incorporated into the project's implementation phase as needed and one consultation awaits a scheduled consultation meeting.

SB 673 Permit Criteria for Vulnerable Communities. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is conducting outreach on the development of draft Regulatory Framework Concepts to incorporate Cumulative Impacts (CI) and Community Vulnerability (CV) during review of hazardous waste permit applications pursuant to [Senate Bill \(SB\) 673](#). In October of 2020, DTSC conducted initial outreach to tribes and government-to-government consultation was initiated with two tribes. DTSC welcomes tribal input or participation in this process.

Cleanup in Vulnerable Communities Initiative (CVCI). On July 12, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 158 (SB 158) into law. SB158 appropriates \$500 million for the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for the discovery, cleanup, investigation of contaminated properties, a grant program to fund response actions, and a job development training program focused on providing public health and community engagement. There are approximately 200,000 Brownfields sites that threaten the health of communities in California. The CVCI project team is in the initial stages of developing criteria for site selection and are coordinating on **incorporating criteria that highlights sites for cleanup that would address health or contamination concerns on or near tribal lands.**

Additionally, a communication strategy to share information with tribes on the application process of grants dedicated to providing assistance for the hiring of environmental consultation, environmental site investigation and cleanups at proposed sites. The job development training program will consult with communities, training partners, contractors and workforce development experts in the areas where project activities will be taking place. The training partnerships will establish community engagement and career-building strategies that will identify opportunities for tribal communities to participate in activities across the environmental remediation field.

CalEnviroScreen. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) released an updated draft CalEnviroScreen 4.0 on February 22, 2021 for public comment. This new draft version updates the tool's twenty existing pollution and vulnerability indicators with the latest data and improved methodology and adds a new indicator on children's exposure to lead from housing. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 will be finalized in the coming month. OEHHA has included some additional data to better reflect conditions in tribal areas. Included are tribal sites in the tool's environmental indicators, which are housed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and not in state databases.

For the drinking water quality indicator, OEHHA was able to include water quality for twelve tribal water systems who purchase water from a nearby wholesale water system. In the draft CalEnviroScreen 4.0, eleven federally recognized tribal boundaries are within the top 25% most impacted areas. This includes an additional five tribes in draft CalEnviroScreen 4.0, compared to the six identified in CalEnviroScreen 3.0. Following the release of CalEnviroScreen 4.0, CalEPA will use the updated CalEnviroScreen scores to help designate disadvantaged communities for prioritization of the state's greenhouse gas reduction fund (GGRF). OEHHA works with CalEPA on this process and is committed to ensuring tribes receive the benefits of the GGRF investments.

Salton Sea Intergovernmental Roundtable. The Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribal Council hosted a Salton Sea Intergovernmental Roundtable conversation with California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot and local California Native American tribes to discuss current and future Salton Sea and Eastern Coachella Valley restoration, conservation and energy projects, programs and policies.

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council. The Pit River Tribe celebrated the acceptance of 789 acres within the Hat Creek Watershed with a

ribbon cutting ceremony on November 5, 2021, near the town of Cassel in Shasta County. Tribal leaders, members and youth joined representatives from the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E, the Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, Shasta Land Trust and community members to commemorate the formal return of this special land to the Pit River Tribe.

The lands are within the ancestral territories of both the Ilmawi and Atsugewi Bands, two of the 11 bands of the Pit River Tribe. The Hat Creek property is the first of four properties transferred to the Pit River Tribe from PG&E in accordance with PG&E's Land Conservation Commitment.



Members of the Pit River tribe held a ceremony to mark the return of its ancestral land along Hat Creek in eastern Shasta County on Friday, November 5, 2021

Consultation for the Ecosystem Amendment to the Delta Plan. The revised [Chapter 4](#) of the Delta Plan (Ecosystem Amendment) is a new approach that aims to achieve a dynamic and resilient restored landscape envisioned in the Delta Reform Act of 2009. The Ecosystem Amendment portfolio includes protecting existing ecosystems, restoring ecosystems and enhancing working or urban landscapes that provide habitat resources to species in the Delta. As part of the process to develop the Ecosystem Amendment, the Delta Stewardship Council notified interested tribes and is currently engaged in consultation with two tribes.

Environmental Justice Issue Paper Expert Group. The Delta Stewardship Council's 2019 Five-Year Review Report identified [environmental justice](#) as a priority issue and recommended that we prepare an issue paper to investigate the need for additional strategies or responses to address environmental justice within the Delta Plan, summarize the best available science and identify future policy options for the Council to consider. The Council initiated the issue paper in February 2021 and has convened an Environmental Justice (EJ) Expert Group to provide guidance throughout the effort. Outreach for Expert Group membership included tribal governments and Indigenous groups and the Council is planning for the group to have tribal representation. The Expert Group had its first meeting in November 2021 and will continue to meet through 2022. Information gathering for the issue paper will also include interviews with Delta-area tribes in 2022.

Orange County Native Land Use Planning. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a grant of \$200,000 to Sierra Health Foundation/Sacred Places Institute to work with tribal entities in Orange County to conduct land-based visioning and planning to further co-management and land acquisition by tribal entities for multiple sites.

Fish & Wildlife

6PPD in Motor Tire Vehicles Proposal as a Priority Product. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) conducted outreach to California Native American tribes on the [proposal](#) to list motor vehicle tires containing 6PPD as a Priority Product with the DTSC's Safer Consumer Products Program. A reaction product of 6PPD is 6PPD-quinone, has been found to be acutely toxic to coho salmon prior to spawning. **DTSC Office of Environmental Equity, Tribal Affairs staff worked closely cross-programs with the Safer Consumer Products to inform, engage, and collaborate with interested tribes on the potential adverse impacts 6PPD-quinone has on coho salmon.** DTSC conducted outreach with tribes whose traditional land overlapped or was in trade routes with historic coho salmon populations, as well as various tribal organizations that had potential interest in this project.

Fish Advisories and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs). The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is responsible for issuing [fish consumption advisories](#) for fish caught and consumed by recreational, subsistence and tribal fishermen and their families. OEHHA staff are members of the Interagency HAB-related Illness Workgroup that investigates and tracks potential HAB-related illnesses in humans and animals throughout California. OEHHA staff also held one of the three California Cyanobacteria and Harmful Algal Bloom (CCHAB) Network co-chair positions. **CCHAB Network quarterly meetings provide opportunities for all entities, including**

multiple California tribes, involved with freshwater and estuarine HABs to share recent research, monitoring and outreach. OEHHA staff are co-leads for the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC)'s benthic harmful cyanobacteria bloom team that is developing a companion guidance document for water body managers concerned with this type of cyanobacteria, such as North Coast tribes. OEHHA staff are collaborating with California Department of Public Health/Tracking CA and Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians on the Cal-Watch project. OEHHA also assists the United States Environmental Protection Agency communication efforts with tribal groups on fish advisory and HAB-related concerns surrounding federal projects within California, such as Superfund sites.

OEHHA staff are also members of the San Diego (Region 9) Advisory Committee that is part of the Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program's Realignment effort. **The Advisory Committee includes members from tribal governments or advocates, community-based organizations, and state and federal agencies involved in protecting water quality or human health, habitat restoration, or resource management.** The purpose of each Advisory Committee is to provide region-specific advice about which species, pollutants, and locations should be monitored in the future, how to best produce open and accessible data and information gained from monitoring efforts, and how to best use and communicate the findings of the monitoring program. OEHHA's primary role with the committee is to directly communicate with interested members regarding fish consumption advisories and HAB advisories.

California Wildlife Damage Program. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and Wildlife Services (WS-California), a state office within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS), are preparing a joint [Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement](#) (EIR/EIS) to provide comprehensive environmental analysis of current and proposed future wildlife damage management activities undertaken across California. The EIR/EIS will evaluate impacts associated with wildlife damage management activities performed by CDFA and California Counties under CDFA's proposed Wildlife Damage Management Program (WDMP) as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and by WS-California as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In 2021, CDFA conducted 5 formal consultations with tribes in advance of the EIR/EIS in order to invite feedback and participation in the process.

Fisheries and Wetlands Restoration Planning on the Lower Klamath River. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$273,337 grant to the Resighini Rancheria to develop a fisheries and wetland restoration plan for their reservation lands, and complete

designs to improve fish passage on Junior Creek, which provides important overwintering habitat for juvenile salmonids.

Forest Health & Fuels Reduction

Secretary Speaker Series: Good Fire? Managing Ecological Fire in the Age of Climate Change. On October 19, 2021, Secretary Wade Crowfoot hosted a [Speakers Series](#), *Good Fire? Managing Ecological Fire in the Age of Climate Change*, to discuss how California can use “good” fire to protect our communities and restore the health of the environment. During this conversation, participants learned about the importance of cultural fire and how Native people have been stewards of the land since time immemorial and use fire and other tribal expertise to manage their natural resources.

\$20 Million for Tribal Wildfire Prevention and Forest Health. This year’s budget wildfire package included funding for **\$20 million in grants for tribes to manage tribal land holdings, implement and promote Tribal Ecological Knowledge in wildfire resilience, and establish wildfire safety for tribal communities.** CALFIRE and the California Natural Resources Agency are teaming up to develop this new grant program and provide funding to support tribal nations’ wildfire and forest health priorities.

California Air Resources Board Cultural Burning Advisory Panels and Research. Senate Bill 901 (Dodd, Stats. of 2018, Ch. 626) requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB), in consultation with experts, to publish a report on the historical natural wildfire regime before modern fire suppression in California. This work must consider historical fire research regarding Native American cultural burning practices. For this project, CARB staff brought together a **scientific advisory group consisting of seven academic experts of historical fire, cultural burning and Native land management practices in California and the Western United States.** This group met several times to discuss various topics on historical wildfire and cultural burning issues, as well as provided as needed advice and data. Additionally, CARB staff had several phone discussions about Native American history, land use, and cultural burning issues related to this project. The Native American scientists within CARB’s science advisory group participated as scientific experts and are not representing their tribes in an official capacity. On December 1, 2020, CARB held a webinar to discuss the proposed draft report. The presentation was made public on December 31, 2020.

Each year the Research Program collects research concepts and comments from the public which have the potential to become funded research contracts the next fiscal year and help inform the type of research the public wants CARB to address.

The second item was for the announcement of a public meeting to discuss the pre-proposal solicitation requirements for a community engagement project being funded in the Imperial Valley. This project is anticipated to kick off at the beginning of 2022 and will result in a community driven research roadmap addressing community concerns around air quality, climate and/or sustainable transportation.

Southern California Tribal-Led Cultural Burn Group. The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program is funding through the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County an inter-agency Native-led fire cadre for Southern California. Currently, all wildland fire classes are taught in Sacramento, creating cost barriers for participation. Starting early 2022, classes will be held at the Pala Band of Mission Indians' fire training room and will be taught by a Native Fire Chief. This project is being led by the Tribal Working Group - a consortium of over 20 tribes and 70 tribal elders from across Southern California and Baja, Mexico.

lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Forest Management Training and Equipment. The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program is funding a project at the lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel with the Coastal Conservancy to train several members of the Tribe on forest management and purchase equipment to help the Tribe lead work to combat the goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) which has killed several thousand mature oak trees on their reservation in recent years. Additionally, they are using RFFC funds to build a small-scale nursery to propagate oaks to replace those that have been killed off.

Pala Band of Mission Indians Forest Management Support. The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program is leveraging a project for the Pala Band of Mission Indians to scale up their forest management efforts by covering labor costs, supplies and some basic equipment. Planned treatments include infested tree removal, protection, restoration and monitoring.

La Jolla Band of Luiseño Tree Mortality Support. Through the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program, the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego Counting is funding the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians to manage oak tree mortality caused by the goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) that are causing unsafe conditions at their campground which is a primary source of revenue. Through RFFC, the Tribe is also hosting chainsaw safety classes to teach inexperienced timber fallers the skills they need to remove infested trees so they can conduct all the contractual work in-house.

Intertribal Indigenous Stewardship Project Capacity Grants. The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program is funding the Intertribal Indigenous Stewardship Project in partnership with the Watershed Research and Training Center to support Indigenous-led stewardship. In 2021, the Project was able to use state funds to complete a pilot capacity grant program for tribes. Examples of capacity grants funded include enabling the Cultural Fire Management Council to acquire and receive training in Geographic Information System software and the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians to develop an action plan to establish a cultural burning program and training.

The San Diego River Conservancy's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Program - Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy. The San Diego River Conservancy awarded a grant to the Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy for purchase of new equipment for vegetation management to five Kumeyaay Bands.

Native American Conservation Corps - Workforce Training in State Parks. State Parks' Pilot Program for Native American Conservation Corps at Cuyamaca Rancho State Parks will focus on traditional fire management and oak restoration.

The San Diego River Conservancy's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Program - Barona Band of Mission Indians. The San Diego River Conservancy awarded a grant to the Barona Band of Mission Indians to help fund the purchase of a new Brush Fire Engine for the Barona Fire Department.

Dry Creek Rancheria Fire Resilience Project. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$299,253 grant to the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians to treat over 50 acres of the Rancheria's land to reduce fuel loading, prepare the land to be managed by traditional means and restore native vegetation.

Pala Fuels Reduction Project. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$286,714 grant to the Pala Band of Mission Indians to implement the Pala Fuels reduction project to reduce hazardous wildfire fuels along the wildland urban interface of the Pala Band of Mission Indians' Reservation in San Diego County.

Restoration

Delta Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant [Funding](#) for Ecosystem Restoration. In Proposition 1, \$50 million is identified for the Conservancy "for competitive grants for multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities" (California Water Code Sections 79730 and

79731). Per Proposition 1 and the Conservancy's enabling legislation (Public Resources Code Sections 32300 to 32381), emphasis will be placed on projects using public lands and those that "maximize voluntary landowner participation in projects that provide measurable and long-lasting habitat or species improvements in the Delta" (California Water Code Section 79710).

All proposed projects must be aligned with statewide priorities as identified in Proposition 1, the California Water Action Plan, the Conservancy's governing statute, the Delta Plan and the Conservancy's Strategic Plan.

Prairie Creek Restoration – Elk Meadows Cabin Reach Planning and Design. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$269,318 grant to the Yurok Tribe to develop plans for placement of wood features in an approximately 3000-foot reach of Prairie Creek to improve habitat for anadromous fish.

Prairie Creek Restoration Implementation. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$984,249 grant to the Yurok Tribe to implement portions of the Phase 1 Prairie Creek Restoration Project, in partnership with Save the Redwoods League.

Máyala Wáta Restoration Project at Meeks Meadow. Supported by a [grant](#) from the California Tahoe Conservancy, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California initiated implementation of the [Máyala Wáta Restoration Project at Meeks Meadow](#). The project will restore 300 acres of meadow habitat through conifer removal, prescribed fire and long-term cultural management of culturally-significant plants and animals.



The Mayala Wata Restoration Project at Meeks Meadow. Photo by John Pellier.



Washoe Environmental Protection Department at the Mayala Wata Restoration Project at Meeks Meadow. Photo by John Peltier.

Upper Truckee Watershed Restoration. The Tahoe Conservancy continued implementing the [Upper Truckee Marsh Restoration Project](#) – the largest wetland and ecosystem improvement project ever undertaken in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The Washoe Tribe is an implementation partner and is onsite during all ground-disturbing activities to monitor for tribal resources. The Washoe Tribe also works with the Conservancy on other Upper Truckee Watershed Restoration projects.

Climate

Climate Change Indicators – Tribal Reports and Listening Session Summaries. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is **collaborating with eight tribes to write in-depth reports documenting the impacts of climate change.** These reports cover climate change impacts ranging from sea level rise to impacts on music and culture. The knowledge shared will help provide greater content for OEHHA’s Indicators of Climate Change [report](#). In addition to the individual reports, OEHHA collaborated with tribes in the Eastern Sierra, Southern California, and the Lake, Mendocino and Sonoma County areas to conduct listening sessions. Thirty-six tribes participated in the sessions and have given permission to publicly share their knowledge. OEHHA is continuing work on the Indicators of Climate Change in California report which is to be released to the public in spring 2022.

Environmental Justice Brown Bag Series. In collaboration with California Sea Grant, the Delta Stewardship Council has sponsored a series of brown bag webinars which

explore topics in environmental justice. One such webinar in November 2021 focused on [Indigenous Justice](#), led by Dr. Kyle Whyte, Professor of Environmental Sustainability at the University of Michigan and member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Dr. Whyte's work focuses on moral and political issues concerning climate policy and indigenous peoples.

Climate Adaptation. The Tahoe Conservancy completed the [Tahoe Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio](#) to provide a framework for integrating climate resilience into the Lake Tahoe Basin's planning and investment programs. This included an examination of climate impacts on tribal cultural resources and practices. In parallel, the Washoe Tribe developed a Climate Adaptation Plan to increase resilience of tribal communities and environmental resources in the Washoe ancestral homeland. The Washoe Tribe and Conservancy are aligning these efforts and coordinating actions that support the goals of each plan.

Water

Water Boards Tribal Consultations. The California Water Boards are committed to improving communications, working relationships, and co-management practices with California Native American tribes. The State Water Board recognizes its parallel relationship to the people it serves, and values tribes' Traditional Ecological Knowledges and experience with managing California water resources since time immemorial. The State Water Board reaffirms that collaboration and input from all California Native American tribes through [consultations](#) on Water Boards' rules, regulations, policies and programs, helps the Water Boards advance decisions and policies that better protect water resources in California. During the reporting period, the Water Boards conducted six AB 52 consultations, four consultations under the scope of Executive Order B-10-11 and ten consultations under the scope of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Drought Response. The Water Board is using a multi-agency coordination approach when responding to tribal [drought impacts](#). The State Water Board and the Department of Water Resources are coordinating to support safe drinking water on tribal land that has been impacted by the drought. **Drought response funding is available to support tribes with domestic wells, state smalls or tribal water systems.** Funding can support outreach and well sampling, interim solutions (e.g., bottled water or hauled water and tanks) and long-term solutions (e.g., well repairs/replacements or consolidation). The State Water Board is also coordinating with the California Office of Emergency Services, Department of Water Resources, Indian Health Services, county representatives, and technical assistance providers to

connect Tribes with drought solutions. Drought coordination is ongoing and is expected to continue through 2022.

Indian Health Services advises the State Water Board and other agencies when a tribe is categorized as a “high” or “moderate” drought risk. Regardless of categorization, the State Water Board has coordinated, or continues to coordinate drought responses with eleven Tribes.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). State Water Board staff reviewed eighteen Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) and plans to send (or has sent) letters commenting on the plans to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Comment letters for GSPs included feedback on the lack of information about or inadequacy of tribal engagement efforts. Several tribes have shared concerns that GSP implementation will not respect their federally reserved water rights as is required by the SGMA statute. State Water Board and DWR SGMA teams continue to engage on this matter. DWR plans to approve or deny the submitted Groundwater Sustainability Plans for critically over-drafted basins by January 31, 2022.

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water. The State Water Board's [Safe and Affordable Fund for Equity and Resilience](#) (SAFER) drinking water program supports permanent and sustainable drinking water solutions that ensure all Californians have access to safe, affordable and reliable drinking water. There are 128 federally-regulated tribal water systems in California and thirteen of them do not meet drinking water health standards. **Through the SAFER drinking water program and associated SAFER Tribal Drinking Water Outreach Plan, the State Water Board continues to work with tribal water systems to address funding gaps or technical assistance needs to implement long-term solutions.**

Determining the appropriate solution first begins with listening to each tribe's unique drinking water concerns and goals. SAFER program staff then coordinate with other state and federal agencies to respond. During 2020 and 2021, the SAFER program provided, coordinated, or is currently coordinating, drinking water solutions for the following tribal areas: Grindstone Rancheria, Lone Band of Miwok Indians, Karuk Tribe, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, Oasis Mobile Home Park and Yurok Tribe. State Water Board staff will continue to coordinate and respond to future tribal drinking water needs as they emerge. The SAFER drinking water program conducted three tribal drinking water workshops that presented state funding and technical assistance opportunities available to California Native American tribes.

Tribal Beneficial Uses. California Native American tribes use California's waters in a manner unique to each tribe's culture, tradition, ceremonies and lifeways. [Tribal Beneficial Uses](#) (TBUs) provide a way to adequately protect water quality for certain uses of water that directly relate to Native American cultures.

Water Boards Funding. Water Boards offers grants that are open to tribes. The Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) administers the implementation of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) [financial assistance programs](#), that include loan and grant funding for construction of municipal sewage and water recycling facilities, remediation for underground storage tank releases, watershed protection projects, nonpoint source pollution control projects, etc. DFA also administers the Operator Certification Program.

Air

Air Quality Monitoring. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is delegated the authority and responsibility for collecting ambient [air quality data](#) as directed by the federal Clean Air Act. CARB's Quality Assurance program ensures that CARB's decisions are supported by data of known and documented quality. Federal regulations require CARB to provide quality assurance oversight to local air monitoring organizations within CARB's Primary Quality Assurance Organization (PQAO) to ensure that consistent procedures are followed to produce data of similar quality.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency designated CARB as one of the four PQAOs responsible for air monitoring in California. CARB **engaged with Tribes on issues regarding portable air quality monitoring equipment support for wildfires, tribal air programs and standards laboratory certification services.**

Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). The California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a SEP Policy that allows community-based projects to be funded from a portion of the settlement penalties required by CARB enforcement actions. SEPs can improve public health, reduce, or prevent pollution, restore and protect the environment, increase environmental compliance and bring public awareness to neighborhoods most burdened by environmental harm. **Tribes are eligible to [submit proposals](#).**

Cultural Heritage & Expression

The Newsom Administration supports cultural resource protection and expression of Native American culture and understands that California Native American tribes and peoples have a long and rich history in the place that now makes up California.

Renaming Efforts

Sue-meg State Park. The California State Park and Recreation Commission voted to rename Patrick's Point State Park back to its original Yurok name of Sue-meg. While this was a California State Parks led effort under their Reexamining Our Past initiative, the California Natural Resources Agency joined the Yurok Tribe, State Parks, and the Governor's Office in a celebratory webinar. This was an exciting opportunity to celebrate with the Yurok Tribe and to share information on the Agency's tribal affairs program and efforts to address derogatory and offensive names.

Education & History

California Truth & Healing Council. This year, the **first-of-its-kind California Truth & Healing Council** held virtual meetings and listening sessions to create a framework to collect narratives and additional materials for its final report, to be issued in 2025. The Council also created several subcommittees to further the work based on the unique needs, circumstances and histories of subsets of the California Native American population. More information is available [here](#).

Museum Grant Program. The California Natural Resources Agency offers a [Museum Grant Program](#) that is funded by proceeds from the Snoopy Special Interest License Plate sales. These funds are granted to projects that assist the California Cultural and Historical Endowment in supporting and enhancing museums services that recognize the importance of making art, science, history and culture available to the residents of California, with an emphasis on underserved communities. The Wiyot Tribe received \$31,050 for the Tribe's Cultural Center Virtual Programming and Access Project through CNRA's Museum Grant Program.

Delta Conservancy Proposition 68 Grant [Funding](#) for Recreation, Tourism, Access and Historic Preservation Projects. Promoting communities and economic vitality in the Delta is a core mission of the Delta Conservancy. The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018

(Proposition 68) makes funding available to the Conservancy that may be used for projects that enhance Delta communities and keep them economically strong.

The Conservancy's Community Enhancement Grant Program is designed to fund a breadth of projects that benefit Delta communities in order to sustain the Delta's heritage and enhance the unique values of the Delta today.

Native Americans and the California Mission System Historic Properties Context

Statement. This [project](#) intends to develop a statewide context statement with themes and stories provided by affected Native Americans to better understand the experiences of their people during the California Mission System period. Importantly, the context will provide a process for documenting these stories through National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations or updates to listed properties.

Pomo Coast Connect. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$19,500 grant to the Jughandle Creek Farm and Nature Center, working in partnership with the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Pinoleville Pomo Nation and other Mendocino and Lake County tribes, to bring 450 tribal residents to the Mendocino Coast to engage in cultural practices on the beach, the ocean and historic coastal Pomo lands.

Tribal Involvement in the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Coastal Stewardship Program. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Amah Mutsun Land Trust to bring fifty tribal members to the Santa Cruz Coast to learn about their ancestry and traditional lifeways, learn about coastal resources from elders and experts and explore a wide variety of coastal environments.

Coastal Trade Connections. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$25,477 grant to the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians for their California's Coastal Trade Connections project that provided four trips to the coast, serving a total of sixty tribal participants from low-income disadvantaged communities.

Chumash Ambassador Park Conceptual Plan. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$50,000 grant to the City of Santa Barbara to develop a conceptual design to redevelop Ambassador Park, located along the Santa Barbara waterfront into a welcoming park that recognizes and celebrates Chumash Native heritage.

Kizh Nation Cultural and Environmental Stewardship Camp. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Los Indios de San Gabriel dba San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians to provide approximately 45 Kizh Nation tribal youth and adult

members with day trips to several culturally significant locations along the coast, and a weeklong camping trip on Catalina Island.

Cultural Resources

UC Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation Policy. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) worked extensively with the University of California to ensure **meaningful tribal consultation and consideration of tribal interests** in the University's revised Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation Policy. The University issued its final [Policy](#) in December 2021.

Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program. The California Natural Resources Agency offers an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program that makes grants available to local, state, federal and tribal governmental agencies and to nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate the environmental impacts caused by new or modified public transportation facilities.

State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) - Federal and State Agency Consultation.

The OHP has engaged with several tribes during the year in carrying out its [duties](#) related to federal and state project review. The OHP is charged with ensuring that projects and programs carried out or sponsored by federal and state agencies comply with federal and state historic preservation laws and that projects are planned in ways that avoid or minimize adverse effects to heritage resources. OHP reviews and comments on several thousand projects annually.

CAL FIRE's Cultural Resources Program. CAL FIRE is responsible for the protection of resources over a large portion of the state. Cultural heritage resources, which include places where past events occurred and where material traces of these events can be found, are especially vulnerable. Such traces include tribal, archaeological and historical sites, structures, objects, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places and artifacts. **Unlike renewable resources such as trees or wildlife, heritage resources are irreplaceable, and when damaged or destroyed, are lost forever.**

The purpose of the CAL FIRE Cultural Resources Management Program is to **identify and manage archaeological, historical and tribal cultural resources located within project areas under CAL FIRE jurisdiction and to develop methods to protect these resources from project-related impacts.** This is accomplished through regulations, policies and procedures requiring cultural resource surveys of project areas, evaluation of potential impacts and the incorporation of protection measures before project approval. This program provides cultural resource surveys, technical

assistance, project review and training to CAL FIRE staff and other resource professionals.

CALFIRE provides instructors and contractors for the California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) Cultural Resource Training Program. This program trains resource professionals to **recognize and avoid damage to cultural sites** from fuel reduction and timber harvest projects. The legal mandates that require CAL FIRE to protect archaeological, historical and tribal cultural resources are found in the California Environmental Quality Act, the Forest Practice Rules, California Executive Order W-26-92 and the California Register of Historic Resources.

Infrastructure & Economic Development

Many California tribal lands lack equitable infrastructure, which can create challenges for tribes pursuing economic and community development. The Newsom Administration seeks to find ways to support equitable infrastructure and greater opportunities for economic and community development on tribal lands.

Energy & Broadband

Technical Assistance and Partnerships. The California Department of Technology partners with state, local government and educational entities to deliver digital services, develop innovative and responsive solutions for business needs, and provide quality assurance for state government Information Technology (IT) projects and services.

The California Public Utilities Commission Low-Income Oversight Board (LIOB). The LIOB is amplifying tribal voices by continuing to have an appointed member from the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians and an appointed member that is a tribal program manager. The Commission leveraged proposals from the LIOB in adopting the final decision in June of 2021 in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) proceeding to outline additional outreach processes specific to tribal nations to build awareness of the CARE program and the approval of a mini-grant program for tribes to assist in outreach for ESA and CARE enrollment. The Investor-Owned Utilities will continue to report on their tribal outreach efforts in monthly and annual reports during the quarterly LIOB and subcommittee meetings and to provide a section in their annual reports on their tribal outreach activities to monitor the success of these efforts.

Disadvantaged Communities Advisor Group. Senate Bill (SB) 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, called for the formation of the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG). The DACAG consists of eleven members who are either from or represent disadvantaged communities and meets several times a year to review the California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission (CEC) clean energy programs and policies to ensure that disadvantaged communities, including tribal and rural communities, benefit from proposed clean energy and pollution reduction programs. The DACAG is amplifying tribal voices by including two tribal representatives from Blue Lake Rancheria and the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians.

California Public Utilities Microgrid Incentive Program. In January 2021, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved a \$200 million utility program to fund the deployment of microgrids to benefit vulnerable communities throughout the state, explicitly including tribes. CPUC directed utilities to conduct a series of workshops to collect input from stakeholders, including tribes, on the details of how the program should be implemented.

With the directive of engaging in tribal consultation, Investor-Owned Utilities will file their full proposal for implementing the Microgrid Incentive Program on December 3, 2021. Opening comments are due January 3, 2022, and reply comments are due January 21, 2022. The CPUC will issue a decision in the fourth quarter of 2022 approving the implementation plan for the program including eligibility criteria, program design, project evaluation and selection, and evaluation criteria.

California Public Utilities Commission Self-Generation Incentive Program. Adopted in 2019, Decision (D.) 19-09-027 defined all California Indian Country as Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) for the purposes of the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) making them eligible for the Equity Budget and potentially the Equity Resiliency Budget. As of November 3, 2021, there are 58 SGIP projects in various stages of development where a tribal agency is the host customer.

California Public Utilities Commission Disadvantaged Communities Single-Family Solar Homes. Adopted in 2020, Decision 20-12-003 defined all California Indian Country as DACs and, therefore, eligible for the Disadvantaged Communities Single-Family Solar Homes (DAC-SASH) program. DAC-SASH provides up-front financial incentives (\$3 per watt) for the installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic systems to homeowners in DACs who meet the income eligibility requirements set by the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs. To date, 11 California Indian Country applications for projects totaling 48 kW have been successfully submitted to the DAC-SASH Program. Six projects totaling 24 kilowatts have been completed.

Modernize The Electric Grid for a High Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Future Proceeding. In July 2021, the Order Instituting Rulemaking to Modernize the Electric Grid for a High Distributed Energy Resources (High DER) Future was issued. The proceeding will consider increasing community engagement with distribution planning and investigating Investor-Owned Utility (IOU) and DER stakeholder roles and responsibilities. This proceeding will include issues impacting California Indian country and through this proceeding the Commission is conducting expanded

outreach and examining other mechanisms to engage with tribal and local governments across the IOU territories.

The proceeding intends to identify community needs and priorities for distribution planning, specifically identifying the need to consult and engage with tribes to identify needs and priorities unique to Indian Country. The Assigned Commissioner’s Scoping Memo and Ruling was issued in November 2021. As part of Track 1 of the proceeding, the Commission intends to examine ways in which utility distribution planning representatives could better engage with local and tribal governments.

California Public Utilities Commission California Advanced Services Fund. In 2021, the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) program continued to help close the digital divide on tribal land. The fund has five programs which provide support and infrastructure grants to eligible entities for projects in unserved areas.

- The program has approved funding up to the amount of **\$8,223,340 for Hunter Communications, Inc. to construct the Hoopa Valley Broadband Initiative Project.** The Hoopa Valley Broadband Initiative Project will provide last-mile hybrid fiber and fixed wireless broadband access to 1,198 unserved households on the Hoopa Valley Tribal Reservation in Humboldt County.
- The California Public Utilities Commission also continued to assist and coordinate the environmental review for the **Karuk Tribe for the Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative Project in Humboldt County**, which provides for 80 miles of middle mile fiber between Orleans and McKinleyville and connects unserved households along the route.
- Approved in February 2021, the Smith River project by Frontier Communications, located in Del Norte County will provide **improved connectivity to a low-income tribal community on Tolowa Dee’ni tribal lands.**

Tribal Technical Assistance Grant. Grants are available to assist California tribes in developing market studies, feasibility studies and/or business plans, which support tribes in their pursuit of improved communications. The program has funded 30 projects for 16 Tribes in California, for close to \$2 million. The following are the authorizations to date.

Tribe Name	Number of Projects & Approved Grants	Total Grant Amount
Big Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California	3	\$ 150,000

Big Sandy Rancheria Band of Western Mono Indians of California	3	\$ 150,000
Bishop Indian Tribal Council	1	\$ 104,200
Colorado River Tribes	1	\$ 97,000
Elk Valley Rancheria	3	\$ 150,000
Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation	1	\$ 99,500
Hoopa Valley Tribe and Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District	1	\$ 149,850
Karuk Tribe	1	\$ 90,000
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians	1	\$ 60,000
Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	1	\$ 98,000
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California	3	\$ 150,000
Middletown Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians	3	\$ 150,000
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	3	\$ 150,000
Resighini Rancheria	3	\$ 140,000
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	1	\$ 90,000
Yurok Tribe	1	\$ 50,000
Totals:	30	\$ 1,878,550

Broadband for All. Governor Newsom signed SB 156 in July 2021 to help bridge the digital divide and provide reliable and affordable internet access for all Californians. The funding provides for **\$3.25 billion for an open-access statewide broadband middle-mile infrastructure, \$2 billion for broadband last-mile infrastructure and \$750 million for a loan loss reserve to support local government broadband infrastructure development.** This legislation is being implemented by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Department of Technology and the California Department of Transportation.

Transportation

Tribal Access to Transportation Funding and Technical Assistance. Caltrans works with tribal governments to secure **consistent and reliable funding for tribal transportation**

projects. Caltrans provides information on regional, state and federal funding sources through the work of the Caltrans District Native American Liaisons.

Caltrans Native American Advisory Committee. The success of tribal governments in developing transportation infrastructure on tribal lands depends on the coordination and consultation efforts of federal, state, regional and local governments and through building partnerships. The **Caltrans Native American Advisory Committee** (NAAC) provides policy guidance to Caltrans. The NAAC was established in 1996 to advise Caltrans on California Native American issues. Members are nominated by tribes throughout the state, with representatives from Northern, Central, and Southern California. There are also representatives from intertribal organizations. **The NAAC meets quarterly with high-level Caltrans management and representatives from other key transportation agencies in California to discuss current issues and provide guidance.** NAAC members have offered invaluable advice on projects and policies to the Director and the Department. Similarly, Caltrans continues to secure representation from tribal governments on technical and advisory committees for all its transportation planning and programming efforts.

Because of COVID-19 concerns, the majority of the 2021 NAAC meetings have been held virtually. Please see the [NAAC website](#) for additional information.

Caltrans Native American Liaison Branch. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Native American Liaison Branch (NALB) was created in 1999 to **serve as a liaison between the Department, federal, state, local and regional transportation agencies to facilitate compliance with Federal statutes and regulations requiring that tribal governments be involved in transportation planning and programming processes** and to implement Caltrans Director's Policy 19 that requires the Department to **act consistently, sensitively and respectfully when working on issues affecting Native American Communities.** The Native American Liaison Branch has three staff members in Caltrans Headquarters and eleven Native American Liaisons in Caltrans Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Safety. In many states, the Native American population is disproportionately represented in fatalities and crash statistics. Nationally, Native Americans' risk of motor-vehicle related death is about four times that of the general population. The risk is even higher for the population between 4 and 44 years old. Tribal communities must have the tools and funding to provide safe and efficient infrastructure.

Caltrans is committed to the "Toward Zero Deaths" goal Caltrans has set with its partners in the California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). Caltrans is always

looking for opportunities to partner with tribal governments to provide a safer transportation system.

Waste Management

Beverage Container Recycling. Tribal governments are welcomed and encouraged to become Certified Beverage Container Collection Centers. **Nine tribal governments operate beverage recycling centers** through CalRecycle's Program. The state welcomes tribal governments to explore if becoming certified beverage container collection centers or service programs would make sense. The application process to become a certified collection center is described on CalRecycle's [website](#). CalRecycle staff are available to answer any questions your Tribe may have.

CalRecycle Grant Funding. CalRecycle offers [grants](#) that are open to California Native American tribes with a few exceptions. These grants are still undersubscribed by tribes:

- Beverage Container Recycling Grants
- Farm and Ranch Cleanup and Abatement Grants
- Rubberized Pavement Grant Program
- Tire-Derived Aggregate (TDA) Grants
- Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program
- Organics Grant Program
- Recycled Fiber, Plastic and Glass Grant Program
- Reuse Grant Program
- Community Composting for Green Spaces Grant
- Household Hazardous Waste Grants
- Local Government Waste Tire Cleanup and Amnesty Grants
- Tire-Derived Product Grant Program

Agriculture

California Underserved/Small Producer Program. The [California Underserved and Small Producers](#) (CUSP) Grant Program is designed to facilitate direct assistance to individual small and mid-scale and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, including tribal governments and tribal-led non-profit organizations who need support applying for economic relief grant programs and assistance with business planning and marketing strategies. In the first round of direct economic relief grants to producers, there were five awards totaling \$55,000 for small-scale producers who

identified as Native American. There will be additional rounds of funding in 2022 for this program.

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Tribal Outreach and Engagement Working Group. CDFA seeks to build and strengthen its outreach and engagement with California tribes, while keeping its program staff informed of opportunities, best practices and communication with the tribal governments involved in agricultural and food systems/food security programs. CDFA's grant programs are highly undersubscribed by tribal governments, Native American farmers and ranchers and non-profit tribal organizations. As CDFA expands its grant offerings to include new areas of focus and focus on socially disadvantaged groups, there is a need to convene a working group to focus specifically on the needs, interests and community outreach strategies of working with all tribal nations.

Tribal State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) Incentive Projects. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) funded three SWEEP projects totaling \$267,000 to three individuals who identified as Native American in the Socially Disadvantaged Farmer and Rancher category.

Tribal Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Incentive Projects. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) funded three HSP projects totaling \$239,000 to three individuals who identified as Native American in the Socially Disadvantaged Farmer and Rancher category.

California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Office of Farm to Fork (CDFA-F2F) [California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program](#) is focused on supporting local and regional farm to school projects that promote nutrition education, sustainable food production and procurement, and high-quality student engagement through experiential learning. Eligible applicants include tribal governments. In the inaugural year of the grant program (2021), CDFA awarded grants to 60 projects, including one tribal government.

Healthy Refrigeration Grant Program. The [Healthy Refrigeration Grant Program](#) (HRGP) funds energy-efficient refrigeration equipment and technical assistance for corner stores, small businesses and food donation programs to stock fresh produce, nuts, minimally processed and culturally appropriate foods grown in California to the extent possible in low-income and low-food-access areas. Eligible participants include small stores and businesses, nonprofits, cities, counties and tribal governments and organizations.

Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) and California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Pest Management Work Group. DPR, in partnership with CDFA, collaboratively launched the [Sustainable Pest Management Work Group](#) in Spring 2021. **The Sustainable Pest Management Work Group is a cross-sector, 26-member group that includes tribal representatives, farmers, community representatives, university researchers and representatives from commodity groups and the pest management industry.** The goal of the Sustainable Pest Management Work Group is to identify pathways, including Traditional Ecological Knowledge and practices, to minimize the use of pesticides and expand the adoption of safe, sustainable pest management practices to advance our collective work to protect human health and the environment.

Paid Tribal Review of Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation Solicitation. The Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation (SALC) Program is setting up two contracts for full reviews of the SALC guidelines by tribal members through a tribal lens to ensure that tribal needs are represented in the program and its incentives.

Mosler Property Site Assessment. The San Diego River Conservancy assisted Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy and Intertribal Agriculture Council in preparing a site assessment for Natural Resources Conservation Service plan to restore a historic orchard.

Community Wellness

The COVID-19 pandemic taxed Native American communities and healthcare systems, with deep losses to community and impacts that will be felt for years to come. The Newsom Administration seeks to create programs and supportive services responsive to the unique health and wellness needs of tribal communities throughout the state.

COVID-19

Tribal Engagement During COVID-19 & Wildfire Emergencies. During the COVID-19 pandemic and fire emergencies, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA) has regularly communicated with tribes and tribal stakeholders on county, state and federal responses to meet the needs of Californians through the CDSS COVID-19 & Fire Disaster Tribal Engagement Digest. Topics include food security, housing resources, family resilience, child welfare, funding opportunities, emergency response and fire emergencies. These communications include announcements on resources, program flexibilities and funding opportunities related to the pandemic and fire emergencies.

Social Services

CDSS Tribal Consultation Efforts. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is committed to communication and consultation with California tribes. The [CDSS Tribal Consultation Policy](#) guides government-to-government consultation between the CDSS and California tribes and provides a framework for elected officials or other designated representatives of tribal governments to provide meaningful input into the development of regulations, rules and policies on matters that may affect tribal communities.

CDSS Tribal Consultation Meetings. CDSS has facilitated meetings on a wide variety of issues, holding regional convenings open to tribal leaders or their designees and through hosting its Annual Tribal Consultation Summit.

Tribal Engagement through the Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC). This committee was established to improve the government-to-government relationships and communication between CDSS and California, as well as provide a space for a multi-agency, collaborative solutioning table. The tribally-led committee meets three times a year and provides advice to CDSS leadership regarding matters of interest or

concern to California tribes and their communities. For further information about the CDSS Tribal Advisory Committee meetings, [click here](#).

Health

Covered California Tribal Advisory Workgroup Meetings. Covered California held two [Tribal Advisory Workgroup](#) meetings in May and August of 2021. The meetings allowed for Covered California to update advisory group members with updates about the implementation of the American Rescue Plan and how it impacts tribal members enrolled in the Exchange.

Covered California Tribal Consultation. Covered California held [tribal consultation](#) on October 12th and consulted with tribal leaders and their representatives on the impact of the American Rescue Plan on tribal members enrolled in Covered California and discussed autoenrollment efforts that impact the community. Also discussed were goals for 2022 related to tribal outreach.

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Notice 20-065. DHCS released [Behavioral Health Information Notice 20-065](#) "Obligations Related to Indian Health Care Providers in Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Counties" on December 3, 2020. The Notice reminds DMC-ODS counties of their obligations to reimburse Indian Health Care Providers for the provision of DMC-ODS services. **DMC-ODS counties are obligated to reimburse Indian Health Care Providers even when the provider is not contracted with the county, and DMC-ODS counties are obligated to contract with an adequate network of Indian Health Care Providers.**

The Information Notice also provides guidance concerning the required reimbursement rates for Urban Indian Organizations and Tribal 638 providers or Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities.

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Notice re: County Mental Health Plans. DHCS plans to release a Behavioral Health Information Notice re: Obligations Related to Indian Health Care Providers in County Mental Health Plans in November 2021.

The Behavioral Health Information Notice will remind county Mental Health Plans (MHPs) of their obligations to reimburse Indian Health Care Providers for the provision of Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS). **MHPs are obligated to reimburse Indian Health Care Providers even when the provider is not contracted with the MHP, and MHPs are obligated to contract with an adequate network of Indian Health Care Providers.** This Information Notice will also provide guidance concerning the required

reimbursement rates for Urban Indian Organizations, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers (Tribal FQHCs), and Tribal 638 providers and Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities.

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Initiative and Five-Year Renewal of the Medi-Cal 2020 Section 1115 Demonstration.

As part of CalAIM's focus on advancing health equity, DHCS is [seeking expenditure authority](#) through a Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver renewal to allow federal reimbursement for all DMC-ODS services that are provided by traditional healers and natural helpers. The purpose of this request is to provide culturally appropriate options and improve access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for American Indians and Alaska Natives receiving SUD treatment services through Indian health care providers (IHCPs). For American Indians and Alaska Natives, traditional healing practices are a fundamental element of Indian health care that helps patients achieve wellness and healing and restores emotional balance and one's relationship with the environment. Medi-Cal recognizes that reimbursement for these services to address SUD in a manner that retains the sanctity of these ancient practices is critical.

Licensure of the First Tribal Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP). [New Life Health Authority](#) was licensed on August 10, 2021 and is located in Ukiah, CA. The Program has a treatment capacity to serve 230 patients and provides both detoxification and maintenance treatment.

Behavioral Health Response and Rescue Project (BHRRP) an Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) - Crisis Care Mobile Units Program. This program supports and expands behavioral health mobile crisis and non-crisis services throughout the state to counties, cities and tribal organizations. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released the opportunity on July 23, 2021 and it closed on August 23, 2021. DHCS is re-releasing the opportunity to the same eligible applicant pool as the first round.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Tribal and Urban Indian Learning Community. The Department of Health Care Services awarded \$978,000 to seven organizations to implement the Tribal and Urban Indian Learning Community project from June 2021- July 2022. **Each entity received \$100,000 - \$150,000 to participate in the project focusing on assisting California tribal and Urban Indian health programs** to develop, implement, sustain and enhance MAT services for opioid addiction.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Tribal and Urban Indian Community Defined Best Practices. The Department of Health Care Services awarded fifteen organizations to implement the Tribal and Urban Indian Community Best Practices from May 2021- July 2022. **Each entity will receive \$50,000 - \$150,000 to participate in the project focusing on implementation and integration of culturally validated and traditional healing and recovery practices for substance use disorder** into clinical services serving tribes and Urban Indian populations to improve wellness and recovery outcomes.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Tribal MAT Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO). UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs hosts a monthly Tribal MAT ECHO Clinic supporting health care providers in Indian Country to **improve the delivery of culturally responsive, evidence-based treatment for opioid and stimulant use disorders.** The ECHO model is a distance learning method that links specialists at academic medical centers with primary care clinicians in local communities.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Data Analytics. UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs is spearheading the TMAT Data Analytics initiative with the goal of supporting strategic planning efforts to identify and reduce disparities for American Indian/Alaska Native individuals with substance use disorder. UCLA will **examine data to show how the county-based behavioral health delivery system is meeting the needs of American Indian/Alaska Native individuals with substance use disorder as compared to other racial and ethnic groups with respect to access to care, rates and duration of service utilization, quality of care and health outcomes.** In addition, the Tribal MAT Data Analytics initiative will offer starting point resources for counties to consider with respect to engagement with local tribal communities.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Provider Trainings. UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs will offer **regional training opportunities for tribal, Urban Indian and community-based behavioral health providers to learn more about culturally driven treatment modalities and practices for American Indian/Alaska Native individuals with substance use disorder.** The training curriculum and events will focus on implementing evidence-based and culturally informed strategies that providers and clinicians can use to improve their treatment programming and services in ways that incorporate the tribal beliefs, cultures, traditions and values of their patients. Opportunities to network and engage with other providers, clinicians and communities treating American Indian/Alaska Native individuals across the state is a key element to this set of work.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - TeleMAT, Clinical Consultation, and MAT Coaching. TeleWell Behavioral Medicine will continue to **provide teleMAT and co-occurring psychiatry services to American Indian/Alaska Native patients** of tribal and Urban Indian health programs, and education and clinical consultation to providers on prevention, treatment, and recovery issues geared for Tribal and Urban Indian health programs.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - California Indian Opioid Safety Coalition. Led by the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH), the California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB), and Kauffman & Associates, Inc. (KAI), the California Indian Opioid Safety Coalition (CIOSC) is **a statewide coalition of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) and AI/AN serving organizations collaborating in an organized response to the opioid epidemic in California Indian Country.** CIOSC shares successful and emerging examples of Tribal and Urban Indian community health approaches to promote opioid safety, integrate MAT services into health care, and address stimulant misuse.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - California Indian Harm Reduction Workgroup. The California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH) and California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) will support the California Indian Harm Reduction Workgroup to **develop and articulate approaches and principles for Native harm reduction that represent tribal and Urban Indian communities' values and needs.** The workgroup will identify and disseminate best practices for harm reduction strategies within California's American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities. It may also provide funding and technical assistance opportunities for local AI/AN harm reduction efforts. CCUIH and CRIHB will convene this workgroup with tribal and Urban Indian community members from across the state, with support from Kauffman & Associates, Inc.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Tribal and Urban Indian Local Opioid Coalitions. California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) will continue supporting tribal health programs to establish Tribal Local Opioid Coalitions (TLOCs), which are multisector, interagency partnerships of community members, stakeholders, and service providers who work together to reduce and eliminate opioid- and stimulant- related deaths and other impacts of opioid and stimulant use in Tribal communities. Kauffman & Associates, Inc. will support CRIHB as the TLOC activities move forward. **TLOC activities include completing a community readiness assessment, developing tribal action plans, conducting program evaluation, and implementing plans to combat opioid and stimulant misuse.** In addition, the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH) will continue supporting Urban

Indian health organizations to participate in CIOSC and Local Opioid Safety Coalitions, all part of the California Opioid Safety Network.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Community Campaign and MAT Champions. The California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH) and California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) **develop and disseminate culturally adapted prevention, treatment, and recovery materials that are specific to tribal and Urban Indian communities, patients, providers, and stakeholders.** In addition, CCUIH and CRIHB serve as MAT Champions to support the development of tribal and Urban Indian stakeholders' prevention, treatment, and recovery services, and to coordinate relevant MAT-related resources and technical assistance services available to Tribal and Urban Indian providers. The CCUIH and CRIHB MAT Champions also distribute naloxone and provide trainings for tribal and Urban Indian communities and health programs on addiction, MAT, harm reduction, opioid safety, and naloxone.

Tribal Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Project - Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Policy Advocacy Training Program. The University of Southern California (USC) Keck School of Medicine will lead a policy advocacy training course for members of and/or individuals working with, tribal and Urban American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities in California. The goal of the training is to **teach effective approaches to engage local, state, federal and tribal policymakers about SUD-related community needs.** The SUD Policy Advocacy Training Program will focus on using data-informed approaches to enhance advocacy messaging, leverage stakeholder opportunities and tailor concrete policy proposals for targeted audiences. In addition, the USC Keck School of Medicine is conducting an evaluation of the AI/AN organizations funded by the Tribal and Urban Indian Community Defined Best Practices program. Lastly, they will be working with AI/AN-serving MAT providers to understand the facilitators and barriers involved in implementing and maintaining a MAT program.

Elevate Youth California – General Cohorts 1 and 2. [Elevate Youth California](#) aims to **increase mentorship and peer support opportunities and strengthen youth voice in communities disproportionately affected by the war on drugs.** As of June 30, 2021, DHCS released two rounds of funding opportunities of which tribal governments, Sacramento Native American Health Center and Round Valley Indian Health Center were **awarded funding totaling \$4,456,904.**

Elevate Youth California – Capacity Building Cohort. The Elevate Youth California capacity building cohort is intended to build organizational capacity among small and emerging organizations including tribal organizations. **Three tribal entities**

received capacity building funds totaling \$876,524 in this first round of [funding](#). The organizations awarded are Native Star Foundation, Rincon Indian Education Center and Native Directions, Inc., dba Three Rivers Indian Lodge.

Friday Night Live. Friday Night Live (FNL) programs work with youth and their communities to create opportunities for young people to make meaningful contributions to their programs and to improve the health of their communities through community outreach, education and services, social action, and advocacy. FNL programs implemented through tribal entities are currently engaged to support young people through a youth development model to address issues that impact them in their communities. FNL youth address topics such as underage drinking, problem gambling and vaping. The following six tribes are currently engaged through FNL on their tribal lands:

- Pit River
- XL Reservation
- Fort Bidwell Reservation
- Cedarville Rancheria
- Alturas Rancheria
- Manchester Band of Pomo Indians

Nations of enrolled students, many of whom live outside of tribal lands, represent twenty different tribes in California.

Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success Grant Project. The Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success Grant Project focused on preventing prescription drug use among youth in rural California. Through their grant project, some counties built partnerships with tribal communities, through coalitions and collective education and outreach activities. Counties receiving these grant dollars report sustaining efforts after the life of the grant which ended September 30, 2021.

Children and Families

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Field Positions. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) created three ICWA Field Liaisons dispersed regionally to provide Tribal Government 101 training to county staff, connect county and tribal staff on relevant resources (federal, state and tribal) and identify issues in services delivery systems and operational requirements. Contact tribalaffairs@dss.ca.gov for more information.

ICWA Desk Reference. CDSS OTA created the ICWA Desk Reference to provide the social work practitioner with quick access to important background information on the ICWA, links to federal and state authorities and valuable practice tips to make their jobs easier and improve the uniform application of the law. This reference will be distributed to county and tribal social workers, as well as judicial officers, advocates, federal and state partners. Access the ICWA Desk Reference [here](#).

Elders

Equity in Aging Advisory Committee (EAAC). The [California Department of Aging's EAAC](#) is charged with advising California Department of Health and Human Services (CHHS) on the implementation activities of the Master Plan for Aging (MPA), as well as CDA program activities. This committee **builds upon the work of the MPA's Equity Work Group (EWG), which advised on the development of the Master Plan.** Both the workgroup and the committee explicitly sought out tribal representation in the recruitment process. Diana Murray, a Tutuni Tribal Elder of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians serves on the EAAC and Kori Novack, Executive Director of the Toiyabe Indian Health Project, served on the EWG.

COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach. [Hoopa Elders: How the Pandemic Change Our Lives](#), hosted by KIDE 91.3, Two Rivers Tribune, FNX and Ethnic Media Services aired November 18, 2021 from 1:00-2:00 pm on KIDE and FNX Television. This event **spotlighted elder leaders in the Hoopa tribal community sharing stories on isolation during the pandemic** and the importance of vaccines and booster shots in reconnecting elders to community.

Corrections & Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Native American Spiritual Leaders. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation employs Native American Spiritual Leaders (NASLs) to attend to the needs of the inmate Native American needs within the Department and act as Subject Matter Experts to assist the Department with any internal Native American requests or concerns.

Veterans

CalVet Farm and Home Loans. CalVet funded home loans for five Native American/Alaskan veterans, through the CalVet Home Loan [program](#). The Agency's loan products for veterans are typically a better value than conventional and other government loan products available on the market.

CalVet Veterans Services Claims. CalVet provided [VA claims benefits assistance](#) services to 380 Native American/Alaskan veterans seeking U.S. Department of Veterans (VA) disability compensation. The total amount awarded for 2021 (1/1/2021 to 12/2/2021) was \$173,544 (or \$14,462 per month). Total retroactive awards amounted to \$996,048.

Emergency Response

California tribes are often at the frontlines of emergency situations throughout the State. The Newsom Administration seeks to partner with tribal nations to bolster our ability to respond collaboratively and comprehensively to emergencies as they arise.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Response. The Governor's Office, California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), California Health and Human Services Agency and its departments, CalVet and agencies and departments across the Administration continued to work on a government-to-government basis with tribal nations on COVID-19 response to facilitate tribal access to the best information, tools and resources to ensure the safety of tribal communities, patrons and employees; integrated tribal priorities and needs into State decision-making and implementation; and coordinated response activities. **The Governor's Office and CalOES held calls multiple times per week during the height of emergency response activities to coordinate resource allocation and response activities.** Though the threat of COVID-19 has not passed, the Governor's Office and CalOES have transitioned ongoing coordination to the California Department of Public Health until the situation demands further emergency resources.

COVID-19 Grant - DR-4482 Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program - Regular Services Program (CCP-RSP). The Department of Health Care Services CalHOPE, in partnership with the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health (CCUIH) provides crisis counseling services for COVID-19 support through the [CalHOPE Redline](#), which provides phone, chat and video-chat services providing national, state and county resources, referrals and trauma-informed support for Urban Indian and tribal populations.

Fire

Tribal Fire Departments. Tribal firefighting resources are utilized when available to assist with fire suppression and protect known sites and resources during wildland fires.

CAL FIRE's Native American Advisory Council. The Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) authorized the creation of a

Native American Advisory Council (NAAC) to advise the Director and the department on Native American issues.

The mission of the Native American Advisory Council is to **assist the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in establishing a cooperative and meaningful relationship with California Native American tribes**. A positive relationship will facilitate the department's work toward achieving its goals and objectives while protecting places of significance to California Native American tribes and actively involving tribes in all aspects of the department's responsibilities that affect California Native Americans. The nine NAAC members shall be Native Americans and shall represent Native American interests statewide.

Hoopa Defensible Space Projects for the Elderly and Medically Vulnerable Populations. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$35,000 grant to the Hoopa Valley Tribe to implement shaded fuel breaks and defensible space projects to protect the homes of approximately 75 vulnerable residents on the Hoopa Valley Tribal Reservation.

lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Fuel Reduction and Defensible Space. The Coastal Conservancy awarded a \$317,071 grant to the lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel to reduce fire fuels in undeveloped woodlands and open spaces, and create defensible space around buildings, infrastructure and roadways on lipay Nation trust lands.

Disaster Debris Removal Tribal Monitoring. In coordination with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), CalRecycle has been tasked to implement and manage private property debris and hazard tree removal projects to assist local governments, protect public health and the environment and accelerate community recovery. CalRecycle exited the 2021 fire season with two new and two existing mission tasks to implement. Hazardous tree removal within Camp Fire area in Butte County is nearly complete. 2020 wildfire cleanup operations implemented in four branches located throughout the state is nearing completion: however, the hazardous tree removal operations will be continuing until the end of the year in Northern California.

CalRecycle has begun implementation of the cleanup operations for the 2021 Wildfires including the Dixie and Caldor fires. CalRecycle is mission tasked by Cal OES to conduct private property structural debris and hazard tree removal of 5,991 parcels across 25 counties following the 2020 Statewide Fire Siege. The operational footprint is divided into four operational regions: Northern, Inland, Bay and Southern,

with Field Management and Assessment Consultant and Structural Debris and Hazard Tree Removal contracts awarded to each. Operations effectively began November 23, 2020. Inland, Bay and Southern Branch operations will conclude by October 1, 2021. Northern Branch Operation end of mission is targeted for December 31, 2021.

CalRecycle's contractors removed approximately 93,000 hazardous trees from over 8,500 parcels enrolled in the program. While 2020 and 2021 wildfires have impacted operations, the tree felling operation is complete. Tree removal is taking place and should be complete October 2021. These operations involve working with many local, state and federal partners towards the goal of helping disaster survivors in the affected recover as expeditiously and efficiently as possible. These projects may involve collaboration with tribes, provided FEMA directs CalRecycle to implement tribal monitoring as a treatment measure.

Public Safety

Confusion over jurisdiction and gaps in law enforcement often leave tribal citizens with severe public safety issues. The Newsom Administration seeks to partner with tribal nations to address gaps in public safety and provide additional capacity to tribal law enforcement and justice systems.

Law Enforcement

Tribal Support through Law Enforcement. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has worked with and provided **support to tribes that request assistance with illegal cannabis cultivation on tribal lands**. Tribes often lack sufficient enforcement resources to prevent or combat non-tribal trespassers exploiting and damaging tribal lands and resources for black market cannabis. CDFW's enforcement officers **work with tribal, state and federal agencies in joint efforts to arrest violators, eradicate illegal crops and remediate the environmental harms**. CDFW's law enforcement division has also been critical in developing various memorandums with tribes to facilitate access to wildlife resources.

For example, CDFW developed a memorandum of agreement with a tribe to facilitate the collection and distribution of surplus fish from California hatchery systems. The tribe makes these surplus fish available to their own and other tribal members as well as the local community. In addition, CDFW has worked with various tribes to develop protocols for the collection, possession and transportation of dead wildlife and continues to implement these procedures to advance tribal subsistence and cultural uses. CDFW's law enforcement division continues its recruitment and outreach efforts at tribal-based youth and college student events, which also builds partnerships and deepens its commitment to broadening diversity in hiring and recruitment.

III. Conclusion

This Annual Report builds on the Governor's commitment to embrace and reinforce the State's government-to-government relationships with California tribal nations. Since issuing [Executive Order N-15-19](#), which calls on the State to act in collaboration and communication with California tribal communities to address the historical wrongs committed by the State, the Newsom Administration has worked toward healing deep distrust and doubling down on its commitment to do better in its work with tribal nations.

In that spirit, the Administration will continue to look to the expertise and experience of tribal nations to craft solutions that best address the significant challenges facing California tribal communities, looking for opportunities to improve government-to-government relations, advance justice and equity for California Native peoples, explore remedial actions to address past atrocities, expand tribal stewardship of ancestral lands and natural and cultural resources, promote visibility of the rich diversity and history of California Native cultures and partner with tribal governments to bolster sound and sustainable economic development in California Indian Country.

As the State and the tribal nations that have sustained this place since time immemorial continue this work together as partners in mutual respect and understanding, all Californians will benefit from our collective efforts to overcome the most pressing challenges of our time and create lasting positive change. We look forward to addressing issues of mutual concern and seizing opportunities for mutual growth as we continue the work of caring for our respective constituencies.