

Chapter 3-2: Native American Freight Connections

Like all communities, Native American reservations and rancherias need access to the freight system to obtain goods and services and to export products.ⁱ And like many other communities, they may be negatively impacted by the freight system, especially when a major truck route or rail line passes through or next to their reservation, rancheria, or ancestral land. In many instances, tribes share the experience of urban communities located in close proximity to the freight system in that they are impacted by the movement of freight but do not benefit from the movement of that freight through their community.

Given the rural location of most reservations and rancherias, their residents are further impacted in that they rarely have freight related employment opportunities that are available to those living in urban freight settings. The rural location of the reservations and rancherias creates another freight related challenge in that many of the state highways and local roads that provide access to tribal lands do not allow full-size, 53-foot truck trailers, the standard “big rig.” This can add cost and time to deliveries as large loads must be broken down into smaller loads and transferred to smaller trucks in order to be shipped to the tribal facility. State routes are major ingress and egress collectors to tribal lands. State routes intersect the tribal lands of 39 Federally-recognized Tribes (35% of total tribes); are within 2 miles of tribal lands of 86 tribes (78%); and within 5 miles of tribal lands of 100 tribes or 91% of the total in California.ⁱⁱ

California is home to 110 federally-recognized Native American Tribal Governments. This represents almost 20% of the total number (566) of federally recognized tribes in the contiguous United States. There are many Native American Tribes in California that are not federally recognized. Great extents of California are regarded as ancestral lands that contain important sacred and spiritual locations, burial grounds, traditional foods and materials, and cultural resources. Current day federally recognized tribal land is dispersed throughout the State but most heavily concentrated in areas south and east of Los Angeles County and the State’s North Coast. San Diego County (SANDAG) is home to seventeen (17) Tribal Governments and eighteen (18) reservations, the most Tribal Governments in one county in the

contiguous United States. Sixteen (16) Federally-recognized Tribes located Riverside and San Bernardino counties are in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) metropolitan planning organization. However, not all tribes have reservations or rancherias. In addition to having the largest number of tribes, California is home to the largest American Indian and Alaska Native population (alone/in combination with another race (723,225), or alone (362,801)) in the nation as reported in the 2010 U.S. Census.

The nation's indigenous peoples, including California Tribal Governments, hold a unique political status with the federal government. The United States recognizes tribal sovereignty. Sovereignty is the right of self-governance, and the right of an entity to make its own laws, and be governed by them. In other words, tribal sovereignty describes the right of federally recognized tribes to govern themselves and the existence of a government-to-government relationship with the United States. The federal government has a trust responsibility to protect tribal lands, assets, resources and treaty rights.

Only tribes who maintain a legal relationship to the U.S. government through binding treaties, acts of Congress, or executive orders, are officially "recognized" by the federal government. Once "recognized" a tribe has a legal relationship with the United States. While there are more than 560 Federally-recognized Tribes in the United States, there are still hundreds of tribes undergoing the time-consuming and complicated process of applying for federal recognition,ⁱⁱⁱ many of which reside in California.

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Unemployment and California Tribes

In 2010, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, national unemployment rates in Indian Country^v were five times higher than among non-natives. A December 2013 economic policy report confirms that the overall national American Indian unemployment rate in the Western

region, which includes California, has been above 10 percent for five consecutive years, and far exceeds the white unemployment rate.^{vi}

In California, while American Indians make up only 1.7% of the total population, two-thirds of its counties (38 or approximately 66%) have American Indian populations above the statewide average. In November 2013, California's unemployment rate was 8.5 percent overall.

However, still over half (57%) of mostly rural counties (33) had unemployment rates above the state average. With the exception of Sierra and Los Angeles, every one of these counties has Native American populations above the state average.

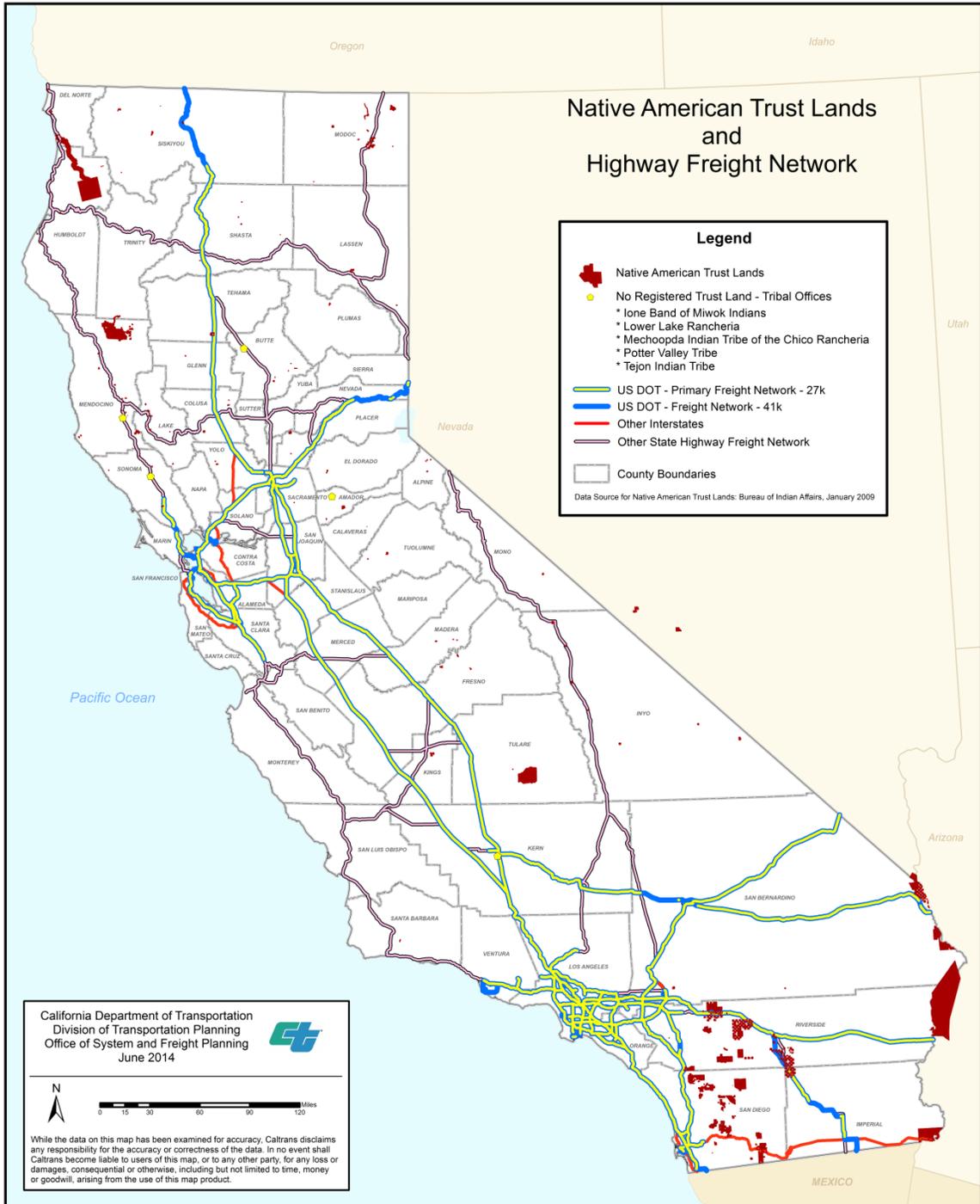
Caltrans and Tribal Employment Rights Ordinances (TERO)

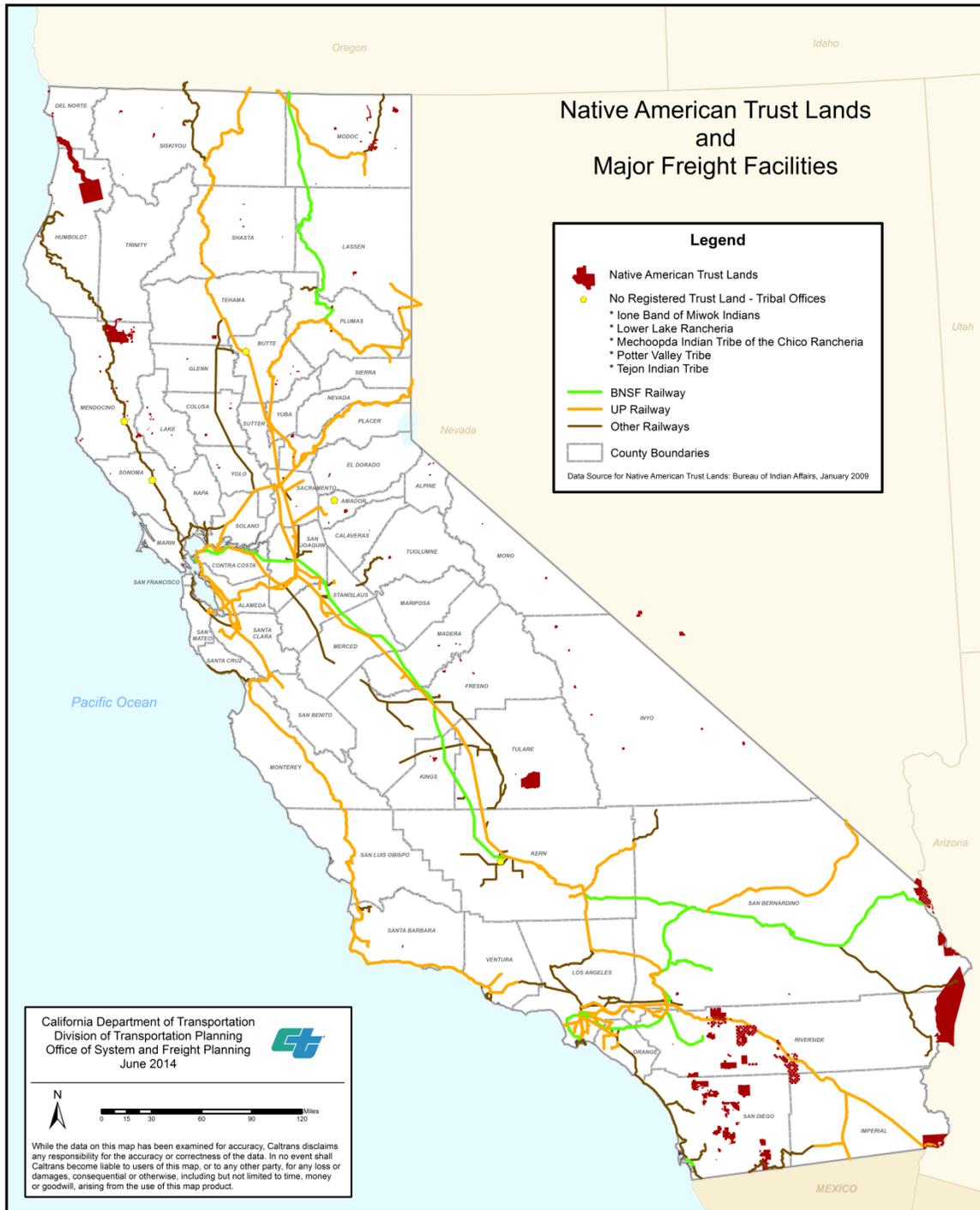
Caltrans supports California Tribes' TERO policies and programs pursuant to Deputy Directive DD-74-R2, and provides related implementation guidelines.^{vii} A Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO) is a legislative act adopted by the governing body of a federally recognized Tribe. Tribal employment policies and programs pursuant to a TERO create job opportunities for tribal members and Native Americans, especially in rural counties and regions with limited economic opportunities, high unemployment rates and high levels of Native Americans who live below the national poverty level. TEROs typically delegate certain duties and authority to a TERO Commission and/or a Tribal Employment Rights Office, establish TERO fees that support tribal government infrastructure, and establish related enforcement and due process dispute resolution mechanisms. Examples in California of such policies often include hiring preference, job skills banks and training.

During 2008-2010, Caltrans supported the completion of forty-three (43) tribal transportation needs assessments throughout California, and conducted government-to-government relations with California TERO Tribes in order to understand their transportation and employment issues and concerns. The Native American Liaison Branch also completed research and analysis related to TEROs and American Indian unemployment issues in California. NALB found during that time period that:

- California TERO Tribal Government unemployment rates ranged from approximately 40 to 75 percent compared to already high corresponding county unemployment rates that ranged from 10.5% to 27%; and
- From 16.7 percent to 46.7 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native (a category for whom poverty status is determined by the U.S. Census Bureau) populations live below the national poverty level in corresponding counties where TERO Tribes are located.^{viii}

The maps on the following two pages depict the general location of Native American Trust Lands in California and their proximity to the designated highway and non-highway freight network. Due to the small size of many of the trust lands, they are not well represented on the maps and it is necessary to view a more localized map to understand the context of a particular tribal location. The final CFMP will include the identification of freight connector routes to the trust lands as appropriate. Following the maps is a listing of the federally recognized tribes and the respective counties where they are located.





Listed below are the “Federally Recognized” tribes located in California.

County	Tribe
Riverside	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Modoc	Alturas Rancheria of Pit River Indians
Riverside	Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
San Diego	Barona Group of the Capitan Grande
Humboldt	Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria
Mono	Benton Paiute Reservation (U-Tu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe)
Butte	Berry Creek Rancheria of Tyme Maidu Indians
Humboldt	Big Lagoon Rancheria
Inyo	Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley
Fresno	Big Sandy Rancheria of Mono Indians
Lake	Big Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Inyo	Bishop Paiute Tribe
Humboldt	Blue Lake Rancheria
Mono	Bridgeport Paiute Indian Colony
Amador	Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
Riverside	Cabazon Band of Indians
Colusa	Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians (Colusa Rancheria)
Mendocino	Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria
Riverside	Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians
Calaveras	California Valley Miwok Tribe (aka Sheep Ranch Rancheria of Me-wuk)
San Diego	Campo Kumeyaay Nation
Modoc	Cedarville Rancheria of Northern Paiute Indians
San Bernardino	Chemehuevi Reservation
Tuolumne	Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk
Sonoma	Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Del Norte	Coast Indian Community of Resighini Rancheria
Fresno	Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians
San Bernardino	Colorado River Indian Tribes
Colusa	Cortina Rancheria of Wintun Indians
Mendocino	Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Sonoma	Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Lake	Elem Indian Colony of Pomo (aka Sulphur Bank Rancheria)
Del Norte	Elk Valley Rancheria
Butte	Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians
San Diego	Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (aka Cuyapaibe Band of Mission Indians)
Sonoma	Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (formerly known as the Federated Coast Miwok)
Modoc	Fort Bidwell Indian Community of Paiute
Inyo	Fort Independence Community of Paiute
San Bernardino	Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

County	Tribe
Imperial	Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Nation
Plumas	Greenville Rancheria of Maidu Indians
Glenn	Grindstone Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians
Mendocino	Guidiville Band of Pomo Indians
Lake	Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
Humboldt	Hoopa Valley Tribe
Mendocino	Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
San Diego	Inaja and Cosmit Band of Mission Indians
Amador	Ione Band of Miwok Indians
Amador	Jackson Band of Mi-Wuk Indians
San Diego	Jamul Indian Village
Siskiyou	Karuk Tribe
Sonoma	Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria
San Diego	La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
San Diego	La Posta Band of Mission Indians
Inyo	Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation
San Diego	Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians
Lake (and Sonoma)	Lower Lake Rancheria Koi Nation
Sonoma	Lytton Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
Mendocino	Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester-Point Arena Rancheria
San Diego	Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay Nation
Butte	Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
San Diego	Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians
Lake	Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Butte	Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians
Riverside	Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Madera	North Fork Rancheria of Mono Tribe
San Diego	Pala Band of Mission Indians
Tehama	Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians
San Diego	Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians (Pauma and Yuima)
Riverside	Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians
Madera	Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi
Mendocino	Pinoleville Pomo Nation
Shasta	Pit River Tribe (includes XL Rancheria, Lookout Rancheria, Likely Rancheria)
Mendocino	Potter Valley Tribe
Siskiyou	Quartz Valley Indian Community (aka Indian Community)
Riverside	Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
Shasta	Redding Rancheria
Mendocino	Redwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo
San Diego	Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
Lake	Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians

County	Tribe
Mendocino	Round Valley Reservation (Covelo Indian Community)
Riverside	San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians
San Diego	San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
Riverside	Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians
San Diego	Santa Ysabel Band of Diegueño Indians
Lake	Scotts Valley Band of Pomo
Lake	Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo
El Dorado	Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians
Del Norte	Smith River Rancheria of California
Riverside	Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
Lassen	Susanville Indian Rancheria
San Diego	Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
Fresno	Table Mountain Rancheria
Kings	Tachi Yokut Tribe (Santa Rosa Rancheria)
Kern	Tejon Indian Tribe
Inyo	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
Riverside	Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Humboldt	Trinidad Rancheria/Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community
Tulare	Tule River Indian Tribe
Tuolumne	Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk
San Bernardino	Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Placer	United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria
San Diego	Viejas Band of Mission Indians
Alpine	Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
Sacramento	Wilton Rancheria Indian Tribe
Humboldt	Wiyot Tribe, Table Bluff Reservation
Alpine	Woodfords Community Tribal Council (Part of Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California)
Yolo	Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (aka Rumsey Indian Rancheria of Wintun)
Humboldt	Yurok Tribe

ⁱ The term “rancheria” is unique to California. Spain and Mexico originally referred to Indian lands in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as Rancherías because the missions were built in areas near Indian population centers, often right next to Indian villages and towns. The Spanish called these villages and towns Rancherías. For a thorough treatment of the history of Indian lands including Rancherías and Reservations in California see, William Woods, “The Trajectory of Indian Country in California: Rancherías, Villages, Pueblos, Missions, Rancherías, reservations, Colonies, and Rancherías,” *Tulsa Law Review* 44:317-364.

ⁱⁱ California Division of Transportation Planning, March 2010.

ⁱⁱⁱ “Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Native Peoples”, Native American Rights Fund, <http://www.narf.org/pubs/misc/faqs.html>, accessed December 13, 2013.

^{iv} California Division of Transportation Planning, March 2010.

^v See Woods, “The Trajectory of Indian Country in California: Rancherías, Villages, Pueblos, Missions, Rancherías, reservations, Colonies, and Rancherías,” for further discussion of Indian Country in California.

^{vi} Algernon Austin, “High Unemployment Means Native Americans are Still Waiting for an Economic Recovery,” Economic Policy Institute *Issue Brief #372*, December 17, 2013, pps. 1-2, 4; <http://www.epi.org/publication/high-unemployment-means-native-americans/>, accessed on January 2, 2014.

^{vii} <http://dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ocp/nalb/Images/TEROsigned.pdf>; and http://dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ocp/nalb/Images/TERO/TERO_Guide_03_02_2012.pdf, accessed on January 2, 2014.

^{viii} **Data Sources:** 2009-2010 Tribal Transportation Needs Assessment Reports prepared by IBI Group, LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc., and Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates; CA EDD Monthly Labor Force Data For Counties (not seasonally adjusted), March 2010; U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months, California; GIS Data provided by Bureau of Indian Affairs January 2009, data prepared by GIS, Advanced Systems Planning, DOTP, Caltrans, 2010.

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