Agenda

• Welcome
• A Tradition of Hope by Jesus (Jesse) Fraire
• Brief History of California Indians, COVID-19 & Challenges: Kayla Hilario (CCCO)
• Urban Tribal Perspective: Chrissie Castro (CNVP)
• Rural Tribal Perspective: Elaina O'Rourke (Yurok Tribe)
• Statewide Lens: Lorenda Sanchez (CIMC)
• Resources, Events, Q & A
A Tradition of Hope

Jesus (Jesse) Fraire
Brief History of California Indians
by the California Native American Heritage Commission

• Pre-contact, 300,000 California Indians lived peacefully in CA
• 1769 Spanish contact, mission system began in San Diego
• 100,000 California Indians perished as a result of missions
• 1824 Take over of land by the Mexican Republic
• 1848 The gold rush began, responsible for another 100,000 deaths of California Indians in just two years
• 1852 U.S. Government began negotiating treaties for stolen land
• 1854 First “reserve” established (i.e. reservation)
• 1900 Less than 16,000 California Indians remained, 6,500 lived on reservations
Rancheria system created whereby small parcels of land provided homesites for landless Indians

1951, $.47 cents per acre was settled upon & US Government creates a census of eligible Indians
  • In 1850 land was never purchased for less than $1.50 per acre
  • 65,000 California Indians were deemed eligible & received $600 each

1958 thru 1970, 23 rancherias and reservations were terminated

1969 California Indians Occupy Alcatraz

2020 Over 60 Tribes still not recognized

Native Americans still suffer higher rates of poverty, poor educational achievement, substandard housing, and higher rates of disease and illness. Native Americans continue to rank at or near the bottom of nearly every social, health, and economic indicator. (A Quiet Crisis Report)
Impact of COVID-19 in Indian Country

• Native Communities heavily impacted by the pandemic.
• For the first time in history, Doctors without Borders deployed medical teams to Navajo Nation to assist in the COVID-19 response.
• Because tribes have limited ability to collect taxes, their primary sources of government revenues are their commercial enterprises – this includes tribal casinos, gas stations, and other revenue generators, many of which tribes voluntarily closed to stem the spread of COVID-19.
• There are several tribes that are still on lockdown – while a number of tribes have reopened various sectors and are allowing Update Leave to occur. This is being done on a case by case basis with the USCB Tribal Liaisons direct communications with the tribal governments.
• Data collection during COVID-19 has been challenging as we likely do not have an accurate count of the actual cases in the Native American population in the State of California and across the country.
Challenges Affecting a Complete Count for Tribes

• Originally, the USCB and trusted messengers were telling Update Leave communities and reservations to respond without a census ID. However, in early April the USCB informed us NOT to respond without a unique ID and to wait for their packet with unique identifier.

• Some Tribes are still closed due to COVID-19 and have not granted the USCB permission to come onto tribal lands to begin U/L.

• USCB Area Census Offices will have 21 days to complete U/L operations once they begin- this includes Tribes. If U/L operations do not take place within the 21-day window, they will fall under NRFU.
URBAN Tribal Perspective
Chrissie Castro

• Native Americans and Alaskan Natives “THE hardest” of the hard to count populations in California, why?
• The uniqueness of Natives in urban communities like Los Angeles
• Innovative approach for census outreach to urban Natives
• Challenge to census outreach to urban Natives
American Indians and Alaska Natives as a Share of the Total Population, by State, 2009-2011

Total: 2.5 million = 1% of U.S. Population

American Indian and Alaska Native includes people of Hispanic origin.
SOURCE: KCMU analysis of 2009 - 2011 ACS.
Termination and relocation, 1945-1961
California Reported Voting and Registration for Native Americans: Nov 2016

Total Population: 950,000
Total Registered 2016: 539,000
Total Voted 2016: 465,000
Total Registered 2020: 550,000
Total Voted 2020: 608,000

Targets by 2020:
- Total Registered: 608,000 (64%)
- Total Voted: 608,000 (64%)

Number | Percent | Poly. (Number)
RURAL Tribal Perspective
Elaina O'Rourke

• Unique characteristics of Natives living in rural areas & the challenges

• NW CA Intertribal Census Workgroup

• Innovative approach for census outreach to Natives in rural areas
Unique Characteristics and the Challenges

- Majority of population does not receive mail at their home and many don’t know their official physical address.
- Many areas do not have cell service and enumerators are not familiar with the geography.
- Home locations are hard to reach.
NW CA Intertribal Census Workgroup

- Northern California Indian Development Council made it possible.
- Larger and stronger voice for our tribes and communities.
- Share experiences and find solutions.
Innovative Approach

• Northern California Indian Development Council made it possible.

• Partnering with members of the workgroup for events and PSAs.

List of PSA’s produced:
1-General overview of why census is important.
2-Focus on how census affects services and funding.
3-Your Privacy is Protected
4-Why it’s important to mark the indigenous person as head of household.
5-Census Update for Rural and Indigenous communities (specifying that you should use census ID).
6-Importance of group quarters responses.
Extra-3-minute How-To (several tips for completing the census online).
Workgroup Kick-off Event
Statewide Lens

Lorenda Sanchez

- Innovative approaches for statewide outreach to Native American and tribal communities
  - Collaboration with Native organizations to reach all 58 California counties
  - Distribution of individualized Census information packets for 78 tribal communities
  - Social media posting/sharing
  - Incentivized survey
  - Virtual meeting participation

- Challenges to statewide outreach to Native American and tribal communities
  - Initial outreach was highly impacted by COVID-19:
    - Event cancellations
    - Tribal closures
  - Received mixed messages regarding processes
    - Census ID code
    - Update Leave

- Census partners can work with Native American and tribal communities through collaborative partnerships and utilizing trusted messengers.
• Outreach to Native American and tribal communities in California by California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. (CIMC) and California Native Vote Project (CNVP).

In addition to a partnership with these five subcontractors who each have an established statewide Native American network, CIMC collaborates with a number of California tribes. Each of the partner tribes exercises its sovereign rights and responsibilities to maintain their tribal lands and citizens’ wellbeing. Together we are committed to effectively promote the message of a complete count in the 2020 Census for Native American and tribal communities in California.
CALIFORNIA INDIAN MANPOWER CONSORTIUM, INC.
California Complete Count - Census 2020 Project
TRUSTED MESSENGERS in Indian Country
Important Website for Resources

Virtual Tribal Youth Conference July 24th-26th, 2020

www.NativePeopleCountCA.org
Upcoming Events

**CNVP Virtual Census Jeopardy Party**
Friday, June 26th from 2-3pm.
The event will feature themes such as Census 101 and American Indians and Alaskan Natives and the Census. Contestants will answer questions via chat box and the top winners will be mailed census swag and goodies.

**CNVP Virtual Census Chat**
Thursday, June 18th from 4-4:30pm
Thursday, June 25th from 4-4:30pm
Bi-Weekly

CNVP will host a virtual fireside chat ("Census Chat"). The purpose of this series is to give the greater Native and non-Native communities a place to learn about the ongoing outreach initiatives by key players in the campaign for a complete count for all tribal communities in California. The Census Chats will continue biweekly.

https://www.facebook.com/CANativeVote/
Q & A

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Jesus (Jesse) Fraire

Chrissie Castro, CNVP

Elaina O’Rourke, Yurok Tribe

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