

Introduction

# Native American Environmental Protection Coalition (NAEPC)

Presented By:

Jill Sherman-Warne, Executive Director

Native American Environmental Protection Coalition



# Introduction

## Overview of NAEPC

- Native American Environmental Protection Coalition (NAEPC)
- Formation began in 1994 by tribal leaders and elders from La Jolla, Pauma, Pechanga & San Pasqual.
- Formally organized in 1996 to assist member tribes in establishing their own environmental offices.
- Achieved status as a 501 (c)(3) in 2001
- Member Tribes appoint a representative to the NAEPC Board.
- NAEPC is guided and directed by its member tribes through bi-monthly board meetings
- Federally Recognized Tribes achieve membership by submitting a tribal resolution

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# Introduction




# Introduction to NAEPC

## NAEPC PRESIDENT:



- *President John D. Beresford of the La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians*
- *President Beresford says, "Membership in NAEPC gives tribes access to important resources like information, support from fellow tribes, and assistance from NAEPC staff to provide education and outreach to our communities. Together, we share a passion and belief in the NAEPC organization. NAEPC is an asset to our member tribes and others. In 2010, NAEPC was joined by 5 tribes, and in January, NAEPC welcomed it's newest member and the first of this year. When will your tribe join?"*

## NAEPC STAFF:

- *Jill Sherman-Warne—  
Executive Director* 
- *Helen Medina—Financial  
Manager/Bilingual Translator* 
- *Helen Rubio—UST Inspector* 
- *Education & Outreach  
Coordinator (Pending)*



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# Introduction

## 25 NAEPC Tribes & Growing

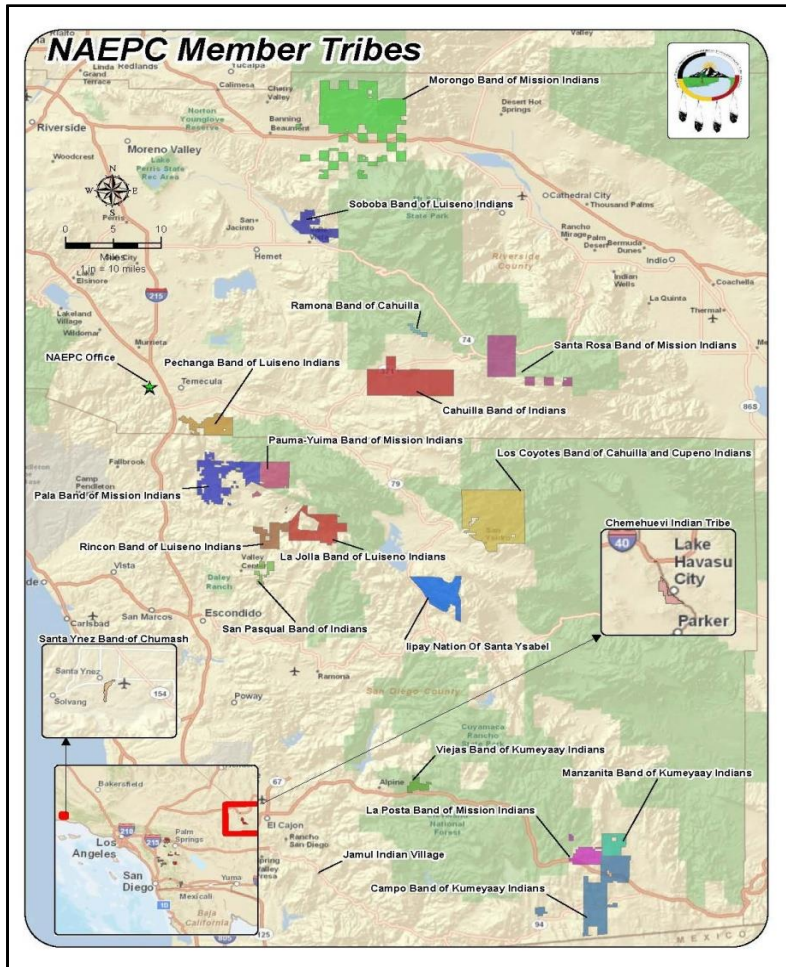
### TODAY, TWENTY-FIVE TRIBES ARE MEMBERS OF NAEPC

- Bear River Rohnerville
- Cahuilla
- Campo
- Chemehuevi (Arizona)
- Hoopa Valley Tribe
- Jamul
- La Jolla
- La Posta
- Los Coyotes
- Manzanita
- Moapa (Nevada)\*\*
- Morongo
- Pala
- Pauma
- Pechanga
- Ramona
- Rincon
- San Pasqual
- Santa Clara (New Mexico)
- Santa Rosa
- Santa Ynez
- Santa Ysabel
- Soboba
- Sycuan
- Viejas

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# What to Know Before you Begin Introduction to NAEPC



## NAEPC SERVICE AREA

- The service areas expands over 1000+ miles.
- The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash is the most Northern.
- Campo Band of Kumeyaay Nation is the most Southern
- Chemehuevi Tribe is the furthest East.
- Moapa is our first Nevada Tribe
- Santa Clara is our first New Mexico Tribe

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## Tribal Lands of NAEPC

Combined, the 25 NAEPC member tribes represent a total tribal land base of over 411,000+ acres in four counties. Approximate breakdown is:

- 113,000 acres in San Diego County, CA
- 72,000 acres in Riverside County, CA
- 31,000 acres in San Bernardino County, CA
- 200 acres in Santa Barbara County, CA
- 72,000 acres in Clark County, NV
- 24 acres in Grant County, NM
- 123,000 acres in Humboldt County, CA

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## Vision and Mission of NAEPC

### VISION:

- *Our vision is to become a recognized leader for environmental stewardship by creating and promoting resilient partnerships while embracing tribal traditions and culture for present and future generations.*

### MISSION:

- *With respect for Tribal Sovereignty, NAEPC is dedicated to providing technical assistance, environmental education, professional training, information networking and intertribal coordination, as directed by the Member Tribes.*



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# Introduction

# Programs of NAEPC



## PROGRAMS

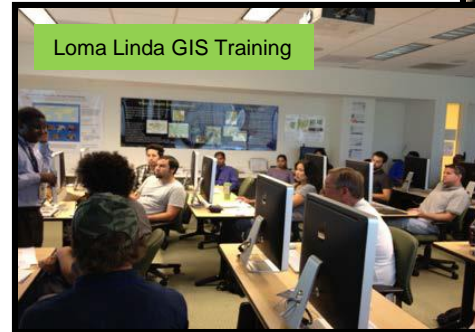
- *Environmental Education for all Ages*
- *Professional Training for Staff*
- *Information Networking between tribes*
- *Advocate for environmental justice*
- *Partnerships/Collaborations*
- *Disseminate information to Member Tribes*
- *US Mexico Border Issues*
- *Website*
- *Underground Storage Tank (UST) Inspector*



Earth Day Outreach



40 hr Hazwoper Training



Loma Linda GIS Training



Bioassessment Training



Cal EPA Preventing Environmental Crimes Training



# Introduction

# NAEPC Partnerships

## PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS:

- *NAEPC has created collaborative relationships with many partners for the purposes of accessing technical information and training to NAEPC tribes at little to no cost.*
  - *Examples of training include: 40hr Hazwoper, CPR & First Aid, Grant Writing, Bio-Assessment, GIS/GPS, Healthy Homes, Mold Awareness, Native Plants, Indoor Air Quality, Refrigerant Removal, Underground Storage Tanks Compliance, Ham Radio Training, and Preventing Environmental Crimes.*
- *Environmental Protection Agency*
  - *San Diego Foundation*
  - *Loma Linda University*
  - *Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)*
  - *Environmental Finance Center (EFCg)*
  - *California Indian Manpower Consortia (CIMC)*
  - *Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)*
  - *Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC)*
  - *American Lung Association*
  - *San Diego Zoo Institution for Conservation Research*
  - *Tribal Environmental Health Collaborative*
  - *California Environmental Protection Agency (CALEPA)*
  - *University of California San Diego*
  - *91<sup>st</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (Military)*
  - *Haztrain*



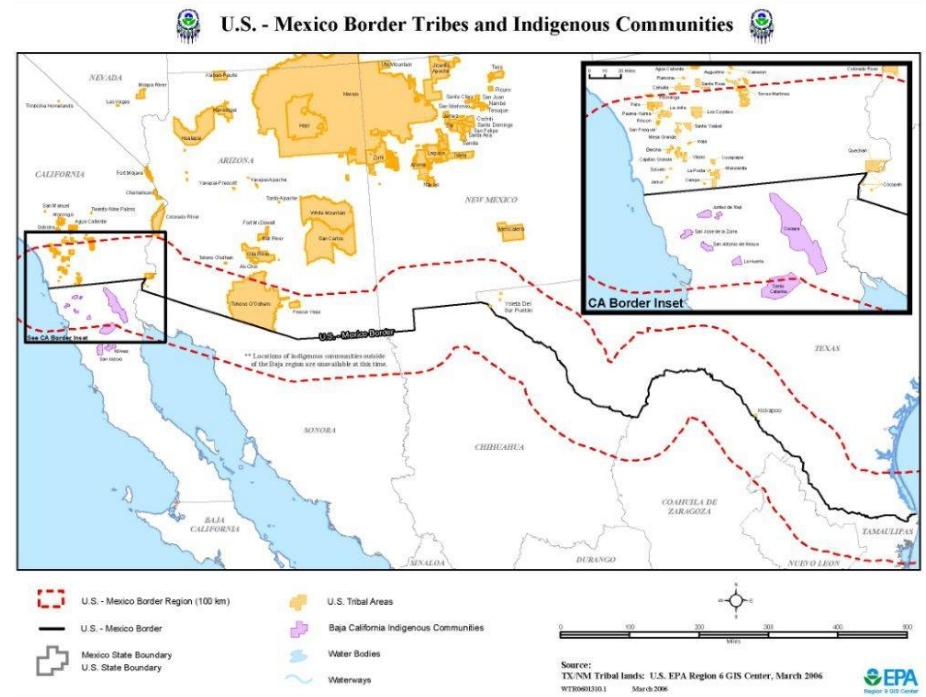
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# Introduction

# NAEPC & US MEXICO BORDER

## U.S. EPA MEXICO BORDER TRIBES & NAEPC

- In 2004, EPA selected NAEPC to serve as the Tribal Liaison between California Border Tribes and EPA.
- Today, NAEPC provides dissemination to all 26 U.S. Border Tribes, which are located in California, Arizona, and Texas.
- As the California Border Liaison, NAEPC shares a responsibility to coordinate and communicate with the Arizona Border Tribal Liaison and all of the 26 Border Tribes through emails, phone calls and border tribal caucus meetings.
- 14 of NAEPC's Tribes are Border Tribes



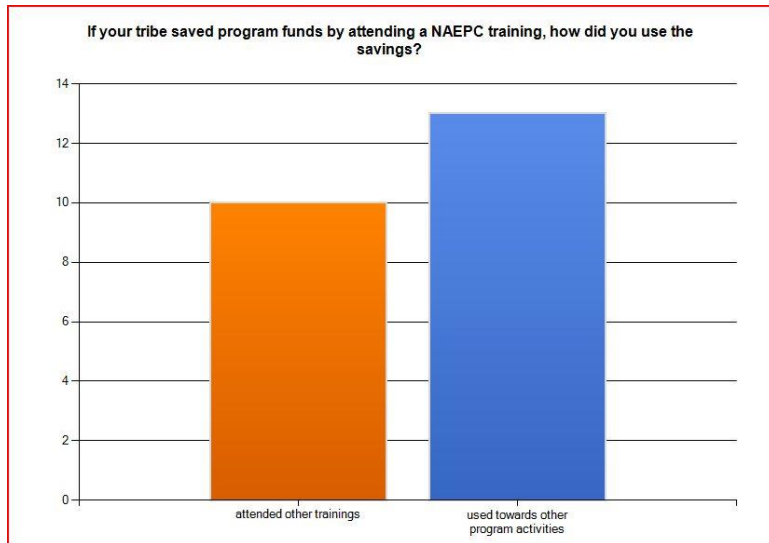
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# NAEPC Makes a Difference



## LAST YEAR, 43 TRAINING AND OUTREACH EVENTS



- Staff traveled 14,000 miles
- 30 tribes & 4 Tribal Organizations
- Average \$12,000 savings per tribe
- Tribes report using savings to attend other training & to reinvest in program activities.

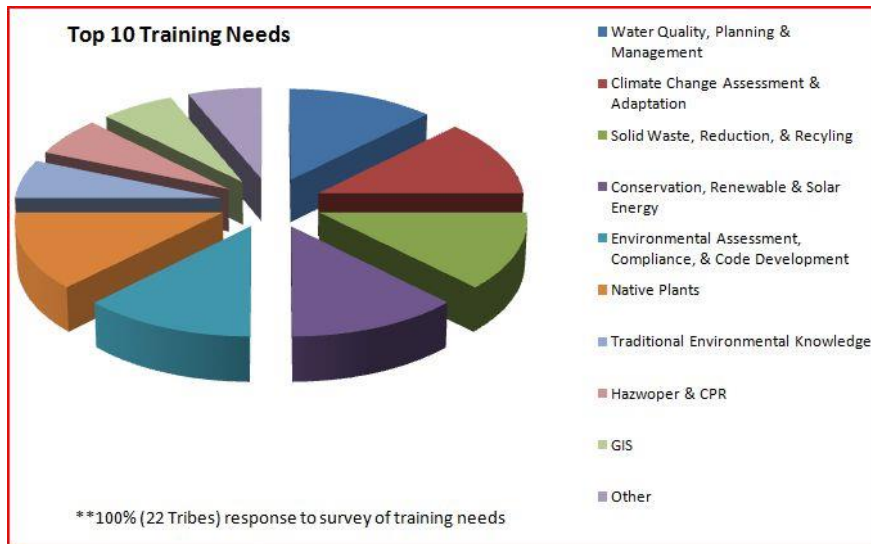
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# Tribal Training Priorities



## TRIBES IDENTIFIED THESE 10 PRIORITIES

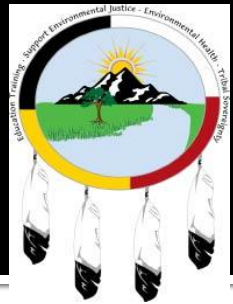


- Water
- Climate Change
- Solid Waste & Recycling
- Renewable Energy
- Environmental Assessment
- Native Plants
- Traditional Environmental Knowledge
- Hazwoper & CPR
- GIS
- Other

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# Introduction

# Tribal Surveys



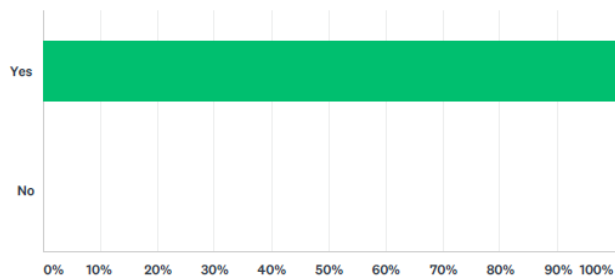
## TRIBES NEED HUMAN HEALTH INFORMATION

Human Health Concerns

SurveyMonkey

Q1 Are you concerned about environmental issues as they relate to human health?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

- To identify emergent issues
- To plan priorities
- To address environmental concerns
- To develop partnerships
- For Grant Writing
- Federal Budget Planning
- Congressional Testimony

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# Tribal Surveys



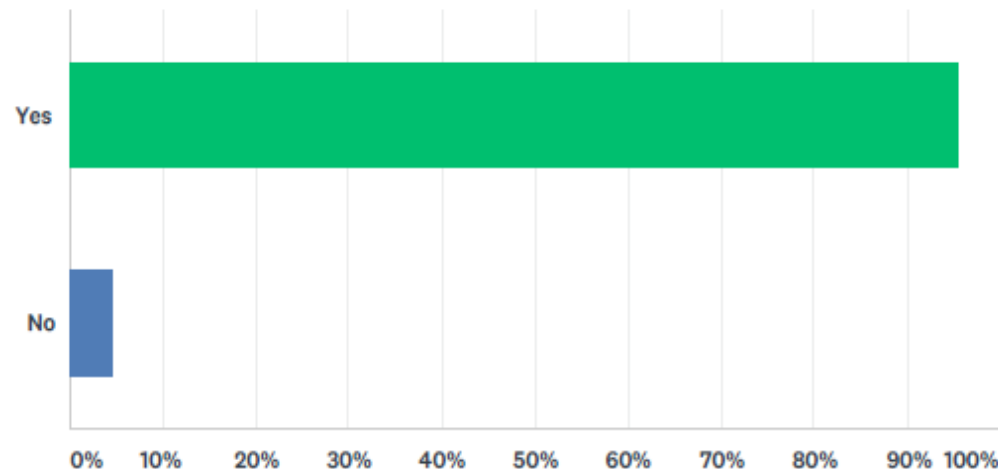
## TRIBES NEED HUMAN HEALTH INFORMATION

Human Health Concerns

SurveyMonkey

Q2 Do you believe the tribal community you serve is at risk for health related risks associated with environmental degradation?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 4



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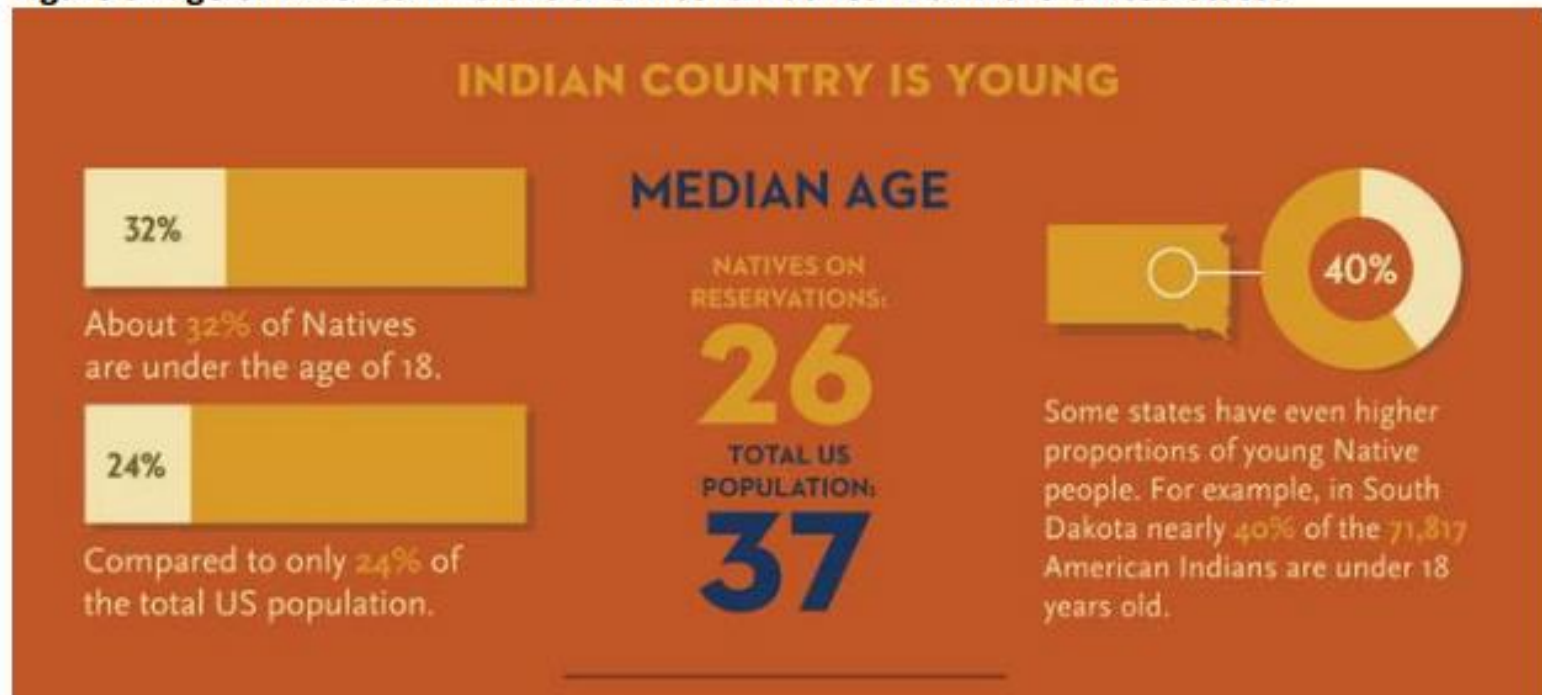
# Introduction

# Tribal Statistics



## TRIBES NEED HUMAN HEALTH INFORMATION

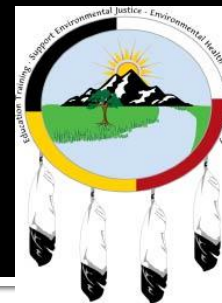
Figure 3: Age of American Indians and Alaska Natives within the United States



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## TRIBES NEED HUMAN HEALTH INFORMATION

Figure 4: American Indian and Alaska Native Family, Income, Housing and Poverty Demographics



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# Tribal Surveys



## TRIBES RESPONSE TO ZIKA

■ very concerned  
 ■ concerned  
 ■ not concerned  
 ■ unsure  
■ need more information

	VERY CONCERNED	CONCERNED	NOT CONCERNED	UNSURE	NEED MORE INFORMATION	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Vector Borne: West Nile Virus--mosquitoes	19.05% 4	57.14% 12	14.29% 3	0.00% 0	9.52% 2	21
Vector Borne: St. Louis Encephalitis--mosquitoes	9.09% 2	22.73% 5	27.27% 6	22.73% 5	18.18% 4	22
Vector Borne: Western Equine Encephalitis--mosquitoes	9.09% 2	27.27% 6	18.18% 4	22.73% 5	22.73% 5	22
Vector Borne: Malaria--mosquitoes	4.55% 1	22.73% 5	54.55% 12	4.55% 1	13.64% 3	22
Vector Borne: Zika--Mosquitoes	18.18% 4	45.45% 10	9.09% 2	18.18% 4	9.09% 2	22
Vector Borne: Dengue Fever--Mosquitoes	4.55% 1	27.27% 6	36.36% 8	22.73% 5	9.09% 2	22
Vector Borne: Chikungunya--Mosquitoes	4.55% 1	22.73% 5	31.82% 7	22.73% 5	18.18% 4	22
Vector Borne: Heartworm--Mosquitoes	4.55% 1	27.27% 6	36.36% 8	18.18% 4	13.64% 3	22
Vector Borne: Salmonella--Flies	9.09% 2	36.36% 8	27.27% 6	13.64% 3	13.64% 3	22
Vector Borne: Shigella--Flies	9.09%	18.18%	36.36%	22.73%	13.64%	

- 3 skipped the question
- 14 concerned/very concerned
- 2 not concerned
- 6 unsure/need more information

2 tribes attended the San Diego. It was considered informational and **HIGHLIGHTED** a need to coordinate with county agencies

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# Tribal Coordination



## 9 STRATEGIES TO WORKING WITH TRIBES

- Understand the History of Tribes (National & Local)
- Recognize different approach to Governance
- Understand Government /Governing of “your” tribal partner
- Accept and Respect our cultural differences
- Understanding there are differences between Tribes (Japan, French and English)
- Establish Trust prior to “partnering”
- Develop effective communication avenues
- Solicit Tribal Input
- Know critical definitions that apply (fee, trust, EO, AI/AN)

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# Tribal Statistics



## SOME TIPS....

Etiquette Do's	Etiquette Don'ts
Learn how the community refers to itself as a group of people	Avoid stereotyping based on looks, language, dress, and other outward appearances.
Be honest and clear about your role and expectations and be willing to adapt to meet the needs of the community.	Avoid intrusive questions early in conversation.
Show respect by being open to other ways of thinking and behaving.	Do not interrupt others during conversation or interject during pauses or long silences.
Listen, and observe more than you speak.	Do not stand too close to others.
Learn to be comfortable with silence and long pauses in conversation (by observing community members' typical length of time between turns at talking).	Do not talk too loud or fast.
Casual conversation is important to establish rapport, so be genuine and use self-disclosure.	Be cognizant not to impose your personal values, morals, or belief.
Avoid jargon. Some AI/AN community members may nod their heads politely but not understand what you are saying.	Be careful about telling stories of distant AI/AN relatives in your genealogy as you try to establish rapport unless you have maintained a connection with that AI/AN community.
Admit limited knowledge of AI/AN culture and welcome others to educate you about specific cultural protocols within the community.	Be aware about pointing with your finger. It can be interpreted as rude behavior in many AI/AN communities.
If you are visiting the home of an AI/AN family, you may be offered food and/or drink; and it is important to accept it as a sign of respect.	Do not rush things and avoid frequently looking at your watch to keep time.

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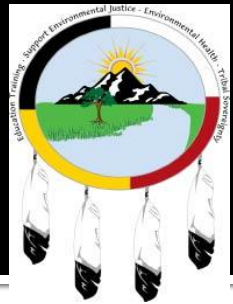
## SOME TIPS.... CONTINUED

Etiquette Do's	Etiquette Don'ts
Explain what you are writing when making clinical documentation or charting in the presence of the AI/AN individuals and/or family.	Avoid pressuring all family members to participate in a formal interview.
During formal interviews, it may be best to offer general invitations to speak then remain silent and listen. Allow the person to tell their story before asking specific questions.	If you are conducting a formal interview and the person you are interviewing becomes emotional, support the individual and do not ask further questions until the individual has composed themselves and are ready to speak.
Be willing to be open and allow things to proceed according to the idea that "things happen when they are supposed to happen".	Do not touch sacred items (hair, ceremonial items, jewelry).
Respect confidentiality.	Do not take pictures without permission.
Respect the right of the tribe to control information, data, and public information.	Never use any information gained by working in AI/AN communities for personal presentations, case studies, and research without the consent from the tribal government.

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## SOME TIPS....CONTINUED

Table 2: Communication Patterns

<p><b>Nonverbal Messages</b></p> <p>AI/AN people communicate through non-verbal gestures. It is important to be cognizant of their non-verbal communication to avoid misinterpretation of non-verbal behavior.</p> <p>Nonverbal communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-operates outside of the awareness level and is hard to manipulate or falsify</li><li>-carries a greater impact than words and reveals emotion</li></ul>	<p><b>Humor</b></p> <p>AI/AN people typically convey truth or difficult decisions by using humor. They might mask great pain with a smile or tell jokes. Additionally, it is important to listen carefully to their humor as it may be inappropriate to ask directly for clarification about sensitive topics.</p>
<p><b>Indirect Communication</b></p> <p>In most AI/AN cultures, it is unacceptable to directly criticize another person and indirectness is preferred. This is important to understand especially when AI/ANs are asked to speak out or testify against another person. There is a common belief that people who have acted wrongly will pay for their acts one way or another.</p>	<p><b>Storytelling</b></p> <p>Conveying messages through telling a story is common among AI/ANs. These stories are typically traditional teachings and personal stories.</p>

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# Tribal Coordination



## 9 STRATEGIES TO WORKING WITH TRIBES...AGAIN

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Introduction

# NAEPC Closing Remarks

Questions?

