

California's Draft Pathways to 30x30: Partnering with California Native American Tribes



Partnering and consulting with California Native American tribes is a **core commitment** of California's 30x30 initiative. Specific principles for strengthening tribal partnerships in the draft document include:

- Engage in **meaningful government-to-government consultation** with California Native American tribes for the protection, care, access, and stewardship of cultural landscapes, celestial-scapes, and seascapes, as well as other sacred sites and ceremonial places.
- **Respect, acknowledge, and support** culturally appropriate use of tribal expertise, traditional knowledge, and intellectual property, with consent of and in consultation with tribes.
- Identify opportunities for California Native American tribes to **utilize tribal expertise, traditional knowledge, and intellectual property** to further conservation efforts.
- Develop opportunities for meaningful and **mutually beneficial tribal management and tribal co-management** within new and existing State lands, marine waters, and private lands, through formal agreements and other means.
- Support the **return and ownership** of ancestral lands to California Native American tribes.

Additional information on the core commitment of partnering with California Native American tribes can be found on page 20 the draft Pathways to 30x30 document.



Photo: Sue-Meg State Park

In January of 2021, the Yurok Tribe formally requested that the California State Park and Recreation Commission change the name of Patrick's Point State Park to Sue-meg State Park. The changing of the name is the first park to have its name changed as part of the Reexamining Our Past Initiative. This larger project within California state government is working to identify and redress discriminatory names of features attached to the state parks and transportation systems.

Tribally led conservation is key to the success of the 30x30 initiative and tribes must be given the space and the funding to spearhead stewardship actions and drive traditional management toward biodiversity goals for the State.

The draft Pathways to 30x30 document identifies numerous specific strategic actions aimed at partnering with California Native American tribes to achieve 30x30.

These actions include:

- Create advisory and working groups for conservation planning and restoration that are inclusive of tribal perspectives.
Pages 39, 42, 49, 50, 54, 61
- Support and explore incentives for California Native American tribes to participate in conservation programs, including support for Indigenous Marine Stewardship Areas.
Pages 39, 44, 47, 54
- Increase community engagement through capacity building and technical support for tribes.
Pages 44, 54, 60
- Work with tribes on conservation prioritization and access for cultural, subsistence, or ceremonial purposes.
Pages 45, 54
- Value, support, and partner with California Native American tribes to apply tribal expertise and traditional knowledge to conservation, restoration, and stewardship.
Pages 49, 50, 54, 59, 60

It is the intent of California's 30x30 initiative to identify and pursue **collaborative partnerships** and **voluntary actions** with California Native American tribes that can deliver **multi-benefit conservation solutions**.



Indigenous Marine Stewardship Areas

IMSA would establish geographic coastal areas within State waters that include specific conservation parameters (e.g., protection types by habitats, species, season adjustments, gear types, human uses), as well as other factors (research and monitoring, outreach and education, enforcement) being requested for stewardship. California Native American tribes would present IMSA proposals to the California Natural Resources Agency, initiate a government-to-government process with relevant agencies, and come to an agreement on proposal scopes.

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