

# 2024-2025 Native American Advisory Council (NAAC) Application Packet

Caltrans' Native American Liaison Branch



Director's Office of  
**Equity, Sustainability  
& Tribal Affairs (ESTA)**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
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*Making Conservation  
a California Way of Life.*

August 31, 2023

Dear Tribal Chairpersons:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is soliciting nominations from Tribes and Indian organizations to fill ten vacancies on the Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) effective January 1, 2024.

The NAAC was established in 1996. Its purpose is to ensure that Caltrans receives direct advice from the Native American community on issues pertaining to all modes of transportation in California. We believe this advisory committee contributes to the Tribes' ability to take advantage of transportation opportunities and to participate with federal, state, regional and local jurisdictions in planning, developing, and implementing transportation projects and services. It offers a chance to improve communication and to further government-to-government working relationships.

Each member of the NAAC is appointed to a two-year term. Membership consists of individuals who are nominated by Tribes and Indian organizations throughout the State, recommended by the NAAC, and appointed by the Caltrans Director. Successful Tribal candidates will serve as "at large" members to the Tribes in their geographic regions (northern, central, and southern California) as drawn by the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional map. Successful Indian organization candidates are considered advocates for all Native Americans of California.

The NAAC holds a minimum of four meetings each calendar year. If an appointee is unable to complete the duration of the term for any reason, the Director may appoint a replacement. While the amount of time devoted to membership on the Committee is minimal, and members may designate alternates, nominees should be able to commit to four meetings annually. Caltrans personnel are not eligible to serve as members or alternates on the committee.

This year the NAAC member nominations are being solicited and collected electronically. A nomination form is attached; please return the completed

***"Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability"***

Tribal Chairpersons  
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form, along with a brief biography, to the Caltrans Native American Liaison Branch by October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. E-mail information can be found on the form. If you have any questions, please contact the NALB by email sent to [NALB@dot.ca.gov](mailto:NALB@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Sundquist". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "S".

Eric Sundquist  
Deputy Director  
Director's Office of Equity, Sustainability & Tribal Affairs

Enclosures

1. NAAC Nomination Form
2. List of Tribes by Region
3. NAAC Appointment Process Timeline Committee Member Appointment Process
4. NAAC Charter
5. 2022 NAAC Members

c: Lonora Graves, Branch Manager, Native American Liaison Branch, Caltrans

California Department of Transportation  
Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC)

# NOMINATION FORM

*(Please print)*

Nomination Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribe/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please submit only one nomination per Tribe/Organization.**

## NOMINATION

*(Please print)*

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tribe/Tribal Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Region:  Northern  Southern  Central  Inter-Tribal \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a short biography or a resume.**

**Please return an electronic copy of the completed nomination form and biography by October 20, 2023 to the following e-mail address:**

**E-mail: [NALB@dot.ca.gov](mailto:NALB@dot.ca.gov)**

*If you have any questions, please contact the NALB  
at [NALB@dot.ca.gov](mailto:NALB@dot.ca.gov)*

## List of Tribes by Bureau of Indian Affairs Region

Northern	Central	Southern
Alturas Rancheria	Berry Creek Rancheria	Agua Caliente Tribe
Big Lagoon Rancheria	Big Pine Reservation	Augustine Reservation
Blue Lake Rancheria	Big Sandy Rancheria	Barona Reservation
Cedarville Rancheria	Big Valley Rancheria	Cabazon Reservation
Elk Valley Rancheria	Bishop Paiute Tribe	Cahuilla Reservation
Fort Bidwell Reservation	Bridgeport Indian Reservation	Campo Indian Reservation
Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation	Buena Vista Rancheria	Capitan Grande Chemehuevi Reservation
Karuk Tribe of California	California Valley Miwok Tribe	Cocopah Indian Tribe
Pit River Tribe	Chicken Ranch Rancheria	Colorado River Indian Tribe
Quartz Valley Reservation	Cloverdale Rancheria	Cuyapaipe Reservation
Redding Rancheria	Cold Springs Rancheria	Fort Mojave Reservation
Resighini Rancheria	Colusa Rancheria	Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Nation
Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria	Cortina Indian Rancheria	Ipai Nation of Santa Ysabel
Susanville Indian Rancheria	Coyote Valley Band Reservation	Inaja Cosmit Reservation
Tolowa Dee'ni Nation	Dry Creek Rancheria	Jamul Indian Village
Wiyot Tribe	Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe (formerly Enterprise Rancheria)	La Jolla Reservation
Trinidad Rancheria	Fort Independence Reservation	La Posta Indian Reservation
Yurok Indian Reservation	Greenville Rancheria	Los Coyotes Reservation
	Grindstone Indian Rancheria	Manzanita Reservation
	Guidiville Rancheria	Mesa Grande Reservation
	Hopland Reservation	Morongo Reservation
	lone Band of Miwok Indians	Pala Reservation
	Jackson Rancheria	Pauma and Yuima Reservation
	Cahto Tribe of Laytonville	Pechanga Reservation
	Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation	Ramona Reservation
	Lower Lake Rancheria	Rincon Reservation
	Lytton Rancheria	Soboba Reservation
	Manchester-Point Arena Rancheria	San Manuel Reservation
	Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico	San Pasqual Reservation
	Middletown Rancheria	Santa Rosa Reservation
	Mooretown Rancheria	Santa Ynez Reservation
	North Fork Rancheria	Sycuan Reservation
	Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians	Torres Martinez Reservation
	Picayune Rancheria	Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
	Pinoleville Reservation	Viejas Reservation
	Potter Valley Tribe	
	Redwood Valley Reservation	
	Robinson Rancheria	
	Round Valley Reservation	
	Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	
	Tachi Yokut Tribe	
	Scotts Valley Rancheria	
	Sherwood Valley Rancheria	
	Shingle Springs Rancheria	
	Stewarts Point Rancheria	
	Table Mountain Rancheria	
	Tejon	
	Timbisha Shoshone Tribe	
	Tule River Tribe	
	Tuolumne Rancheria	

	United Auburn Ute Utu Gwaitu Tribe Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Washoe Tribe Wilton Rancheria	
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## Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency Map



 <p><b>California Indian Trust Land</b> Pacific Region Office - Division of Real Estate Services</p>	 <p><b>BIA Agencies within BIA Pacific Region</b></p> <p>Projection: CA Transverse Mercator Datum: North American Datum 1983</p>	 <p>Agency Jurisdiction &amp; Area of Interest</p>	<p>SCALE: 0 25 50 75 100 125 150 Miles</p> <p>Map Date: August, 2010</p> <p><small>DISCLAIMER: This map does not address encroachments or questions of location, boundary, and area, which an accurate survey may disclose. It will be used as an illustration only and no liability for damages arising from errors or omissions is assumed. The appropriate office of public land records should be consulted in determining current ownership of those lands depicted on this map as being outside BIA jurisdiction.</small></p>	 <p>Sheet No. 1 of 1</p>
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## **Committee Member Appointment Process - August 2023**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) was established in 1996 to improve the government-to-government relationship between Caltrans and California Tribes. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Caltrans Director, and is made up of 12 to 18 committee members at any given time. Each member serves as an “at large” advocate, representing their geographical area to the best of their ability. Members are appointed to a two-year term.

### **QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT**

For the purposes of this committee, the terms “tribe” and “tribes” shall refer exclusively to the Federally Recognized Indian tribes located entirely or partially within the State of California. Each member of the committee is appointed by the Caltrans Director upon nomination either by a Tribe or by an Indian organization in California. No single Tribe or Indian organization may nominate more than one member. Nominations will be solicited by Caltrans annually or upon determination that a need to solicit exists. The NAAC will review all nominations, hold a vote for recommendations, and forward recommendations to the Director. Considering the recommendations of the committee, the Caltrans Director shall have the exclusive authority to appoint members to the committee. If any member of the committee is unable to serve for any reason, the Director, in consideration of recommendations from the committee, shall have the exclusive authority to determine the appropriate process to select and appoint his or her successor.

### **TIMELINE**

**August 31, 2023** – Letter sent to Tribal Leaders and Indian Organizations from Caltrans Deputy Director for Equity, Sustainability, & Tribal Affairs

**October 20, 2023** – Nomination form and biography must be returned to Caltrans NALB by COB (either by e-mail or postmarked).

**November 1, 2023 - NAAC Meeting** – Nominations reviewed by the NAAC and recommendations are made.

**November 25, 2023** – Recommendations are sent to Director for appointment.

**December 16, 2023** – Appointment letters are sent out to new committee members.

**January 1, 2024** – Appointed committee members begin their terms.

## CHARTER

### CALTRANS NATIVE AMERICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. **PURPOSE:** The committee is established to improve the government-to-government relationships between the Indian Tribes of California (Tribes), and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The committee provides advice to the Director of Caltrans (Director) about matters of interest or concern to the Tribes and their constituents. The Director recognizes and respects the sovereign status of the Tribes. The committee has the power to recommend policies or procedures for Caltrans, but not to incur debt payable by Caltrans, nor to represent Caltrans before any other entity. By no means will the meetings with Tribes through this committee constitute a "consultation" with Tribes.
2. **QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT:** For the purposes of this committee, the terms "Tribe" and "Tribes" shall refer exclusively to the federally-recognized Indian tribes located entirely or partially within the State of California. Each member of the committee is appointed by the Director of Caltrans upon nomination either by a Tribe, or by an Indian organization in California. No single Tribe or Indian organization may nominate more than one member. Nominations will be solicited by Caltrans annually or upon determination that a need to solicit exists. Considering the recommendations of the committee, the Director of Caltrans shall have the exclusive authority to appoint members to the committee. If any member of the committee is unable to serve for any reason, the Director in consideration of recommendations from the committee shall have the exclusive authority to determine the appropriate process to select and appoint his or her successor.
3. **REPRESENTATION.** Notwithstanding his or her Tribal affiliation, each member who is appointed by the Director upon nomination by a Tribe is considered an "at large" advocate, to the best of his or her ability, for the interests of all the Tribes in the geographic area of the State of California (south, central, north) in which his or her Tribe is located. Each member who is appointed by the Director upon nomination by an Indian organization is considered an advocate for Indians of California. The committee shall elect, by majority vote of those present, a Chair, Vice Chair, and/or Secretary. The Chair, Vice Chair and/or Secretary will serve a term that coincides with their membership on the committee.
4. **CALTRANS REPRESENTATION:** The Caltrans Deputy Director, Planning is the Director's representative to the committee. The Deputy Director serves ex-officio as a member of the committee and shall not vote on any matter whatsoever.
5. **NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIPS:** The total number of memberships on the committee shall at a minimum, consist of twelve voting memberships, and at maximum it shall consist of no more than eighteen voting memberships. At all times, twelve voting memberships shall be members appointed upon the nomination of Tribes, and one nonvoting member shall be the Deputy Director, Planning. No more than one-third of the membership shall be Indian organizations.
6. **TERM OF MEMBERSHIP:** Each voting member shall be appointed to a two-year term. Members appointed to fill a vacancy occurring mid-term, shall be appointed for the period of time remaining in that term of membership. By mutual agreement of the Director, Indian organization, and the Tribe nominating the member, a member may be reappointed for any number of terms of membership. A member may send an alternate to serve in his or her place. Any member who misses two consecutive meetings, and has not sent an alternate shall automatically be deemed unable to serve, and his or her membership shall be declared vacant. Alternates have all the voting rights and privileges of the member they represent. Alternates do not automatically fill vacant memberships.
7. **"SUNSET" PROVISIONS:** The Director shall, on or about the first day of January of each year evaluate whether this Native American Advisory Committee will continue to exist. The committee shall automatically continue in existence unless the Director determines otherwise.



8. **FREQUENCY AND LOCATION OF MEETINGS:** A minimum of three meetings shall be called and held each calendar year. Meetings shall be held in Sacramento, California or at such other locations as may from time to time be convenient and necessary. Any Tribe may sponsor a meeting of the committee at its reservation, under mutually agreeable terms.
9. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE:** Caltrans shall provide reasonable staff support for the activities of the committee. Caltrans shall make arrangements for all meetings, shall provide administrative support, and shall record and maintain minutes of each meeting. While Caltrans will attempt to accommodate each member's needs, Caltrans shall not be responsible for any costs to members, except as may be agreed in advance in writing. In all cases the provisions of the State Administrative Manual, and federal regulations as appropriate, shall govern the conduct of business affairs.
10. **CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:** Meetings shall be conducted in a decorous, parliamentary and collegial manner. No specific rules of order are prescribed. Summary minutes of each meeting shall be taken. All decisions of the committee shall be made on the basis of consent of the voting members present, except that any member may request a vote to be taken on any specific matter. When a vote is taken, a voting member must make a formal motion defining the committee's proposed action on the matter, the motion must be seconded by a voting member, the number of "ayes" and "nays" must be counted, and the vote of a simple majority of the members present shall govern. In case of a tie vote, the motion shall be deemed to have failed of passage. All formal motions, seconds, and votes must be recorded in writing in the minutes of the meeting.
11. **OPEN MEETING LAW:** Inasmuch as the committee is entirely advisory in nature, and has no governmental powers in and of itself, the proceedings of the committee are not subject to state or federal open meeting laws. However, the Director urges the committee to conduct its business in an open manner, whereby any interested person is permitted to observe any meeting of the committee. The committee may, upon formal motion and approval by a majority of the voting members present, close the meeting to public observation for stated and reasonable cause. The committee shall decide the terms and conditions under which it will receive testimony before it. The committee shall not issue any form whatsoever of public information or news releases; however, the committee may request Caltrans to issue such releases on its behalf and Caltrans shall not unreasonably refuse to do so.
12. **INCOMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES:** Inasmuch as the committee is entirely advisory in nature, and has no governmental nor fiduciary powers in and of itself, the proceedings of the committee are not subject to state or federal laws governing incompatible activities. The Director requests each member to refrain from any activity that could reasonably be construed as, or give the appearance of, an incompatible activity or a conflict of interest. Members shall not seek any personal preference in any business matter involving Caltrans, by virtue of their membership on this committee. However membership shall not bar any member from otherwise conducting business with Caltrans.
13. **MODIFICATIONS OF CHARTER:** The Director shall have the right to change this Charter. However, the committee may at any time request the Director to change this charter. Notwithstanding his right in this regard, the Director shall not unreasonably refuse such request. By the same token, in the event the Director considers necessary any change not requested by the committee, he shall seek the committee's consent to the change.

## 2023 NAAC Members

### Northern California Agency

Name	Tribal Organization	Address	Contact Information	Date	Alternate
<b>Jacque Hostler-Carmesin</b>	Trinidad Rancheria	PO Box 630 Trinidad, CA 95570	Tele: (707) 677-0211 Fax: (707) 677-0436 <a href="mailto:jhostler@trinidadrancheria.com">jhostler@trinidadrancheria.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	Garth Sundberg
<b>Richard A. Warner</b>	Elk Valley Rancheria	2332 Howland Hill Rd. Crescent City, CA 95531	(707) 465-2680 <a href="mailto:rwarn@elk-valley.com">rwarn@elk-valley.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2024	TBD
<b>Jeff Hodge</b>	Hoopaa Valley Tribe	PO Box 1348 Hoopaa, CA 95546	(530) 625-4017 <a href="mailto:hvt@dot@gmail.com">hvt@dot@gmail.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD
<b>Misty Rickwalt</b>	Karuk Tribe	PO Box 1016 Happy Camp, CA 96039	(530) 627-3016 <a href="mailto:mrickwalt@karuk.us">mrickwalt@karuk.us</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	Dion Wood
<b>Herb Quinn</b>	Pit River Tribe	35970 Park Ave. Burney, CA 96013	(530) 238 -0889 <a href="mailto:Hauinn@pitrivertribe.org">Hauinn@pitrivertribe.org</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD
<b>Tony Hayward, Sr.</b>	Redding Rancheria	2000 Redding Rancheria Rd. Redding, CA 96001	(530) 227-2927 <a href="mailto:tony.hayward@reddingrancheria-nsn.gov">tony.hayward@reddingrancheria-nsn.gov</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD

### Central California Agency

Name	Tribal Organization	Address	Contact Information	Date	Alternate
<b>Michael DeSpain</b>	Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians	1418 20 <sup>th</sup> St., Ste 200 Sacramento, CA 95811	(209) 613-1524 <a href="mailto:mike@bvtribe.com">mike@bvtribe.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2024	TBD
<b>Paul D. Irwin</b>	North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California	57907 Old Mill Site Crt. North Fork, CA 93643	(559) 877-7360 <a href="mailto:pirwin@nfrha-nsn.gov">pirwin@nfrha-nsn.gov</a>	Dec. 31, 2024	Elaine Fink
<b>Lorenda Sanchez</b>	California Indian Manpower Consortium	738 No. Market Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95834	Tele: (916) 920-0285 Fax: (916) 641-6338 <a href="mailto:lorendas@cimcinc.com">lorendas@cimcinc.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	Tanya Estrada
<b>Orval Elliott, Jr.</b>	Hopland Band of Pomo Indians	3000 Shanel Rd. Hopland, CA 95449	(707) 272-5046 <a href="mailto:oelliott@hoplandtribe.com">oelliott@hoplandtribe.com</a>	Dec. 31, 2024	TBD
<b>Christy Garcia</b>	National Indian Justice Center	5250 Aero Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95403	Tele: (707) 579-5507 Fax: (707) 579-9019 <a href="mailto:christya@nijc.org">christya@nijc.org</a>	Dec. 31, 2024	TBD

### Southern California Agency

Name	Tribal Organization	Address	Contact Information	Date	Alternate
<b>Daniel Salgado, Jr.</b>	Cahuilla band of Indians	52701 CA HWY 371 Anza, CA 92539	(951) 972-2568 <a href="mailto:chairman@cahuilla.net">chairman@cahuilla.net</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD
<b>Erica Pinto</b>	Jamul Indian Village of CA	PO Box 612 Jamul, CA 91935	(619) 669-4850 x4785 <a href="mailto:epinto@jiv-nsn.gov">epinto@jiv-nsn.gov</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD

<b>Margaret Park</b>	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	5401 Dinah Shore Dr. Palm Springs, CA 92264	(760) 883-1326 <a href="mailto:mpark@aguacaliente-nsn.gov">mpark@aguacaliente-nsn.gov</a>	Dec. 31, 2023	TBD
<b>VACANT</b>	-	-	-	-	-