Cultural & Historic Issues

There are 109 federally recognized Indian Tribes in California. The 1937 CVP specifically provides that one of the purposes of the CVP is to provide for the water needs of Indian land. There is not a single water contract today between the Bureau of Reclamation and an Indian Tribe or individual Indian allottee.

Many Tribes and Indian allottees possess senior water rights, however the Federal Government has ignored them when allocating CVP water. The Federal Government has a Trust obligation to determine how these water rights will be provided in water allocations.