

CAL OES TRIBAL TALK NEWSLETTER

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MEET YOUR CONTACTS



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CAL OES TRIBAL COORDINATION

The purpose of the Office of Tribal Coordination is to improve and maintain communication and collaboration between California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and all Native American Tribes in California. This office aims to create effective collaboration and informed decision-making where all parties share a goal of reaching a decision together. Our office priorities are to educate internal staff and external partners to understand the culture of California Native Americans and their emergency management and homeland security issues in order to achieve a strong and supported preparedness posture in and around Indian Country.

Services Provided

- Tribal Coordination and Collaboration
- Tribal Cultural Sensitivity Awareness Training
- Government-to-Government Consultation
- Emergency Management & Homeland Security Programs
- Grants Management
- Disaster Assistance Information
- Tribal Assistance Call (TAC-G)

Inside This Issue

Tribal Talk - Tule River Tribe Central Valley Tribal Emergency Management Summit	2
Tribal Talk - Blue Lake Rancheria- Resiliency Training & Innovation Center (RTIC)	4
Significant Meetings, Trainings, and Links	6

TRIBAL TALK - TULE RIVER TRIBE CENTRAL VALLEY TRIBAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUMMIT



Panel Discussion at Central Valley

Tule River Indian Reservation at Eagle Mountain Casino Event Center in Porterville, CA hosted the Central Valley Tribal Emergency Management Summit March 19th-21st. The summit was a gathering of tribes, state and federal emergency management representatives, and local first responders, including fire departments and law enforcement agencies.

The summit kicked off with posting of the colors by Tule River Veterans Post 1987 followed by opening ceremonies presented by Master of Ceremony Dirk Charley, Dunlap of Mono Indians, and Tribal Liaison Katrina Poitra, the Red Cross Disaster Program

Manager. A drum ceremony was performed by Blood River and an opening prayer and blessing was offered by spiritual leader Joseph Garfield. The theme of the summit was “One Language, One Voice, One Response.” Throughout the summit, several topics were discussed by the Tribal Crisis Response Team Development, Cross Jurisdiction Collaborations, Tribal Emergency Management Programs within Indian County, and Tribal and Partner Health Care Emergency Response.

The second day of the event included two breakout sessions: Homeland Security Active Shooter Workshop and Psychological First Aid. In the first session, guest speaker Edgar Castor, Protective Security Advisor (CISA) Region 9, facilitated a scenario-based workshop to inform participants of best practices for dealing with an active shooter. The second breakout session, Psychological First Aid, was presented by guest speaker Dr. Amanda Mortimer, a professor at Fresno State’s Department of Psychology, and provided a



Guest Speaker at Tule River

framework for understanding stress responses in disaster relief workers and the people who they serve. The course introduced psychological first aid and guidelines for disaster mental health care.

Following the breakout session, the summit continued with panel discussions and a boxed lunch. The panel discussed the importance of the summit's theme, "One



Language, One Voice, and One Response," and its impact on Indian Country. They covered how to work with and help neighboring tribes as well as county, state, and federal partners, the process of declaring a disaster, and how the process works before and after a disaster.

Market Place, an array of vendor booths, provided information and pamphlets for all participants to enjoy.

The last and final day at the main event started with Cultural Awareness - The Sacred Role of Fire in Indian Country. There were several topics revolving around fire and how it pertains to the current disasters. Fire is very important to tribes and used during different types of blessings or special occasions. Some include sacred ceremonies, sweat lodges, and Pow Wows.

After the discussion on fire, guest speakers from the Department of Water Resources addressed the Flood Emergency Program, and the National Oceanographic Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) provided information on weather and its adverse effects including information on valley air pollution, smoke, and debris flows.

Closing comments by Dirk Charley concluded the three-day event.



TRIBAL TALK - BLUE LAKE RANCHERIA– RESILIENCY TRAINING & INNOVATION CENTER (RTIC)

The Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe is in development of a regional Resiliency Training & Innovation Center (RTIC) under a grant awarded by Department of Homeland Security in 2016.

The RTIC was created to identify capability gaps in the region of far Northern California. This region has potential hazards that can impact the residents at any time, including earthquakes, severe storms, floods, tsunamis, and landslides to name a few. Travel to/from this rural, geographically isolated area to existing training facilities can be time consuming and expensive as no adequate, fully equipped training facility is available within the region.

The idea of the RTIC was developed to fill a gap in our regional resilience framework with a dedicated training facility to serve as an interactive community interface where the whole community can learn and network. At the RTIC, professionals in various fields of emergency management can share their expertise and participants can take back resources and knowledge to their communities to build capabilities in planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

The primary purpose of the RTIC is to achieve demonstrably improved economic, environmental, and social resilience for rural, geographically isolated Northern California. Though the Northern Region of California is our primary focus, students from across the nation attend our trainings. Students are both tribal and non-tribal, which enriches training opportunities while providing networking and awareness opportunities for all. Professionals in various fields of emergency management will share their expertise in planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery, Participants will return to their communities with new resources and knowledge, building capacity where they live and work.



Mission Statement

Blue Lake Rancheria Resiliency Training & Innovation Center (RTIC) provides quality education and training that enable a diverse student population to achieve their educational goals. Programs are enhanced by developing and maintaining partnerships with business, industry, and the community. Staff are dedicated to working to serve the RTIC and the whole community.

As complexity and frequency of threats increase, it is imperative to foster innovation and learning to advance our capacity for resilience while deepening the partnerships that are so important when disaster strikes.

RTIC works to attain capacity in the following topics:

- Emergency preparedness
- Lifeline sectors (e.g. power, water, food, transportation, communication)
- Community planning and capacity building
- Health and Social Services development and recovery
- Natural and cultural resources development and recovery
- Continuity of operations
- Clean energy skill sets (technology and operations)
- Economic development and recovery
- Infrastructure development and protection
- STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)
- Other skill building (e.g. GIS, career readiness, environmental literacy, civic engagement activities).



Training Class at RTIC



HAZWOPER Class at RTIC

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More information is available at:

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SIGNIFICANT MEETINGS, TRAININGS, AND LINKS

BIA National Tribal Assistance Coordination Group Call (N TAC-G)

1st Thursday of each month

877-655-9025

Code: 4174120#

BIA California Tribal Assistance Coordination Group Call (CA TAC-G)

Currently on hold until further notice.

3rd Thursday of each month at 9:00AM

877-655-9025

Code: 4174120#

If your Tribal Community is interested in hosting trainings for 2019, please contact Cal OES Tribal Affairs.

Tribalaffairs.@caloes.ca.gov

Training Opportunities:

[Cal OES Training Bulletin](#)

[FEMA Independent Study](#)

[Center for Domestic Preparedness \(CDP\)](#)

Other helpful links:

[Indian Health Services](#)

[Prepare for Emergencies in Indian Country](#)

[Emergency Preparedness and Response for Native American Cultural Resources](#)

[Cal OES Grants](#)

[Red Guide to Recovery](#)

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Cal OES

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OF EMERGENCY SERVICES