

Tribal Broadband Across California

Success and Status

Broadband Regional Initiatives Branch
April 2026



California Public
Utilities Commission

California Tribes

- State and Federally Recognized Tribes
 - 109 Federally recognized tribes
 - 62 state-recognized tribes
 - 50 were terminated by federal action
- Largest Native American population in US
- Gov. Newsom Executive Order N-15-19 (6/18/19)
 - Apologized for the State's historically sanctioned depredations and prejudicial policies against California Native Americans
 - Reaffirmed and incorporated by reference the principles of government-to-government engagement adopted by the previous administration
 - Established a Truth and Healing Council



Technical Assistance and Infrastructure

- **Planning and Technical Assistance**

- Tribal Technical Assistance
- Local Agency Technical Assistance
- Permitting Playbook
- FCC's 2.5 GHz Application Window



- **Infrastructure Development**

- Federal Funding Account
- California Advanced Services Fund
- Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD)
- Middle Mile Broadband Initiative



Supporting Tribal Sovereignty for Self-determination

Tribal Impact: Federal Funding Account

| Project Name | Entity | County | Award Amount |
|---|--|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Barona Band of Mission Indians | AT&T California | San Diego | \$7,060,256 |
| Colorado River Indian Tribes California Broadband Network | Colorado River Indian Tribes | San Bernardino; Riverside | \$14,826,582 |
| CSR Tribal Digital Village | Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California | Fresno | \$1,478,762 |
| Fort Bidwell Indian Community Fiber-To-The-Home | Fort Bidwell Indian Community | Modoc | \$23,900,190 |
| Hoopa Trinity Rural Access Initiative Linkup (Hoopa TRAIL) | Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District | Humboldt; Trinity | \$39,789,177 |
| Karuk Tribe Fiber-To-The-Home | Karuk Tribe | Humboldt | \$27,445,463 |
| Round Valley Indian Tribes Fiber-To-The-Home | Round Valley Indian Tribes | Mendocino | \$35,172,662 |
| Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians | Chumash Fiber Network | Santa Barbara | \$4,707,693 |
| Tolowa FFA Broadband Project | Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation | Del Norte | \$4,799,149 |
| YTEL FTTH Project | Yurok Telecommunications Corporation | Humboldt; Del Norte | \$19,602,036 |

Tribal ISPs with Infrastructure Grants to Provide Broadband

Last Mile Project: Spotlight on Progress



Chumash Fiber Network in Santa Barbara County
Total Award: **\$4.7 million**

Project Details:

- **13 Miles** of tribally-owned resilient underground fiber
- Project size **6 square miles**

Project Outcomes:

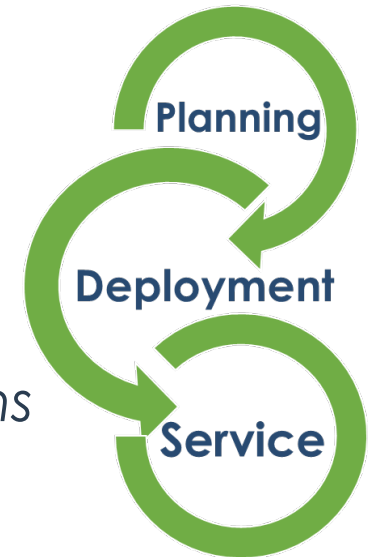
- High-speed internet connections to about **300 locations**
- Benefitting **~850 People** on their Tribal lands and surrounding parts of Santa Barbara County
- "develop it ourselves, but not alone"

Hyperlink: **California Connectivity Stories**

Broadband Technical Assistance Grants

- **Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTA)** has made 83 awards for approximately \$9.5 million (as of January 2026).
- **Local Agency Technical Assistance Program (LATA)** has made 106 awards for approximately \$50 million to both Tribal Organizations and non-Tribal Local Agencies (since 2022).
 - Of the 10 Federal Funding Account Tribal grantees, 9 Tribal grantees awarded Tribal Technical Assistance grants, and 7 Local Agency Technical Assistance grants.

➤ California Connectivity Stories: *Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians*



CPUC is Helping to Build Capacity for California Tribes

Tribal Technical Assistance Program



- Funded 83 Tribal Technical Assistance grants to 43 Tribes
- Grants to California Tribes for technical assistance to improve voice and broadband service
 - Tribal communities on reservations, trust lands, and surrounding areas
 - Funds development of market studies, feasibility studies, engineering, and business plans
- California Tribes with or without federal recognition
- Applications due October 1, January 1, April 1, July 1
- [Tribal Technical Assistance program webpage](#)

Local Agency Technical Assistance Awards

- Barona Band of Mission Indians (\$493,300)
- Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (\$498,896)
- Fort Bidwell Indian Community (\$500,000)
- Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District (\$938,206)
- Round Valley Indian Tribes (\$1,000,000)
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians (\$170,913)
- Southern California Tribal Chairmans Assn (\$483,452)
 - San Diego Tribal Lands of Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
- Tolowa Dee-Ní Nation (\$500,000)
- Yurok Tribe (\$684,000)



Funded 12 California Tribes with Critical Planning for Broadband Projects

Equity Engagement and Education Grants

- Grants for up to \$200,000 to build capacity in community based organizations and Tribal communities to understand and engage with CPUC decision making processes.
- Tribal awardee spotlight:



- [Tribal Energy and Climate Collaborative \(TECC\)](#) supports the engagement of Tribes to learn about timely matters and proceedings before the CPUC on behalf of Tribal communities.
- [Equity and Access Grant Program's Equity, Engagement, and Education \(EEE\) Grant Account](#)

Resources for Tribes in California

- Broadband [Resources for Tribes](#)
 - [Broadband Resources](#)
- [Tribal Technical Assistance](#) program
- California Advanced Services Fund, [infrastructure account](#)



California Public Utilities Commission