

NATIVE POWER BENEFITS EVERYONE:

HOW NATIVE COMMUNITIES ARE PROTECTING LANDS & WATERS



**INDIGENOUS FUTURES
SURVEY**

The Indigenous Futures Survey 3.0, which received approximately 5,200 responses from Native peoples across the United States, found that addressing environmental protections and climate change is one of the top three priorities that will influence how Native peoples vote in 2024.

Other findings from this survey include:

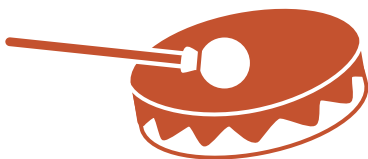
Native communities and Tribal governments are among the most trusted by Native peoples.

75% look to the Native community for decision-making

71% trust their Tribal governments

63% trust the federal government

Culture and identity are strongly connected with the lands, waters, and cultural resources. Many ceremonies require access to traditional lands and the presence of culturally significant non-human relatives, animals, and plants.



90% have participated in traditional ceremony or activity



81% prioritize the importance of Native/Indigenous languages



74% regularly use traditional/ ceremonial medicine

Native peoples have been stewards of lands and waters since time immemorial. We are not separate from nature, we are part of it.

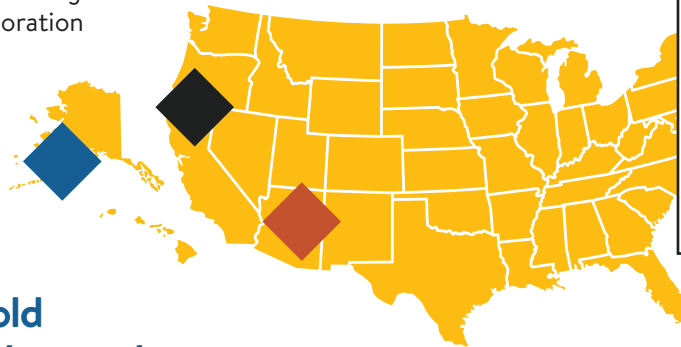
Today, we are leading the climate justice movement driven by Tribal sovereignty and traditional knowledge.

RECENT WIN

The Biden-Harris Administration strengthens Tribal co-stewardship of federal lands and waters

December 2023

- The Biden-Harris Administration commits to establishing [cooperative and collaborative agreements](#) with Tribal Nations.
- The Department of the Interior formally recognizes Traditional Indigenous Knowledge (TIK) as an important contribution to the management of lands, waters, wildlife, and resources.
- The White House Council on Native American Affairs published a guide that will increase collaboration with Tribes in the protection and stewardship of sacred sites.



RECENT WIN

Removal of the Klamath Dams begins

January 2024

- For more than 20 years, the Klamath Basin Tribes—the Yurok, Karuk, Hoopa, and others—advocated for the removal of four dams on the Klamath River.
- These dams blocked migration and created unhealthy water conditions for fish.
- In late 2022, federal regulators approved a dam removal plan. In January 2024, the [first step to remove the dams began](#).

“This is historic and life-changing, And it means that the Yurok people have a future. It means the river has a future; the salmon have a future.”
– Amy Cordalis, attorney and Yurok Tribe member

CONTINUING FIGHT

Apache Stronghold takes Chi’chil Bįdagoteel (Oak Flat) to the US Supreme Court

- Oak Flat is a sacred site for the San Carlos Apache and other Tribes.
- Despite being listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a “Traditional Cultural Property,” Oak Flat is now at risk for copper mining.
- The Apache Stronghold has been leading the campaign to save Oak Flat from this destructive extraction.

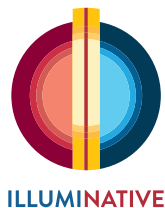
[Learn more](#)

CONTINUING FIGHT

Tribal Nations and organizations oppose the Donlin Gold Project

- A proposal to build one of the world’s largest gold mines—the Donlin Gold Project—threatens the Southwest Alaska’s Yukon-Kuskokwim region.
- If built, the Donlin Gold Mine would have significant impacts on critical waterways and the Yukon-Kuskokwim’s way of life.

[Learn more](#)



Questions?

Contact Info@IllumiNatives.org or Info@NativeOrganizing.org

IFS is a collaborative effort of IllumiNative and Native Organizers Alliance in partnership with Kauffman and Associates Incorporated