

California Tribal Gap Analysis Project FINAL REPORT

APRIL 27, 2026

[CALTRIBALGAPANALYSIS.ORG](https://caltribalgapanalysis.org)



BACKGROUND

- Conducted by Prosper Sustainably LLC
- Co-commissioned by California Strategic Growth Council and California Energy Commission
 - Funded by remaining 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding, same as for Tribal Government Challenge grants

SCOPE

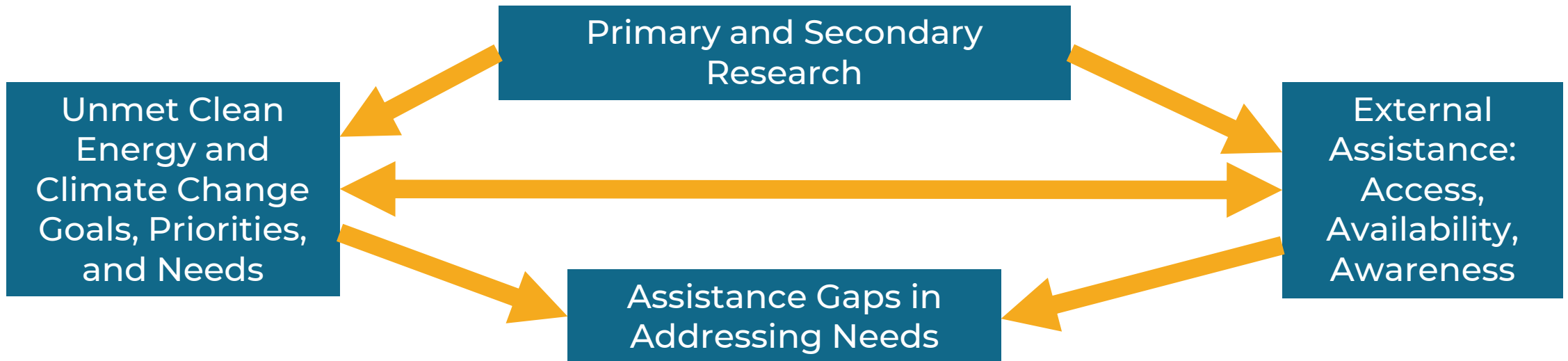
- Analyzed needs and gaps that Tribes face relating to clean energy, climate change adaptation and resilience
- All California Native American Tribes
 - Regardless of federal recognition status or land holdings



GOALS

- Identify Tribal priorities, needs, and barriers in clean energy and climate change adaptation and resilience
- Provide recommendations and inform State assistance programs (e.g. grants, technical assistance, training, etc.) to address identified Tribal needs
- Advance collaboration and build relationships between Tribes and State

*What assistance gaps do California Tribes face in advancing goals and meeting needs?
How can the State address those assistance gaps?*



CTGA Project Team

LEAD CONTRACTOR



CONTRACTOR TEAM



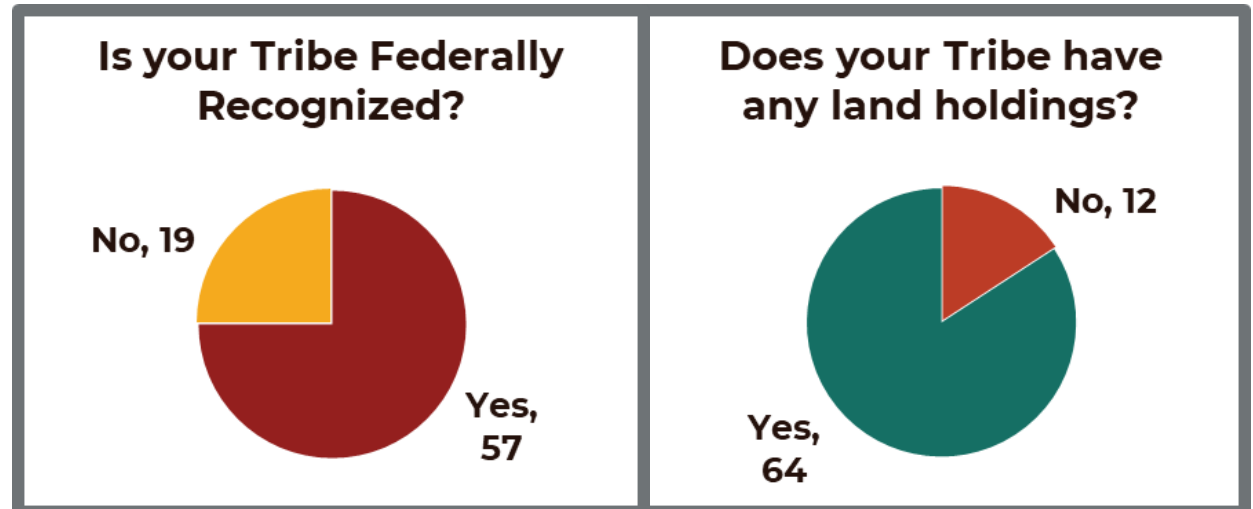
STATE PARTNERS



CTGA Survey Respondents

- All 181 California Tribes were invited to participate.
- Representatives from **76 Tribes** — 57 federally recognized and 19 non-federally recognized — responded.

Respondent Titles/Roles	#
Environmental	30
Natural Resources	11
Energy or Utilities	3
Other Administrative Position	30
Council Member or Executive	25



Report Outline

Foreword

Executive Summary

Introduction

Methodology

Results and Analysis

- Survey Sample and Respondent Characteristics
- Tribal Clean Energy and Climate Change Needs
- Barriers and Assistance Gaps

Recommendations and Conclusions

Terms

Report Appendices

Appendix A: CTGA Tribal Questionnaire

Appendix B: CTGA Tribal Questionnaire Dropdown Response Options

Appendix C: CTGA Key Outreach Activities

Appendix D: CTGA Quality Control Statement and Plan

Appendix E: Scoring Methodology for Multi-Part, Closed-Ended Questions

Appendix F: CTGA Tribal-Serving Organization Questionnaire

Appendix G: Map of California Tribes by 4th California Climate Change Assessment Region

Appendix H: Climate and Natural Hazard Risk Factors for California Native American Tribes

Report Appendices

Appendix I: Summary Statistics for CTGA Tribal Questionnaire Closed-Ended Questions

Appendix J: All Response Scores for all Clean Energy and Climate Change Activities

Appendix K: Subsets of Need Scores for all Clean Energy and Climate Change Activities – Federally Recognized Tribes, Non-federally Recognized Tribes, Tribes with Land, Tribes without Land, and All Tribes

Appendix L: Climate Change Results by Region

Appendix M: Research Recommendations

Appendix N: Preliminary Assessment of Assistance Gaps in Top Need Areas

Appendix O: Bibliography of Secondary Sources

Recommendations Areas



**IMPROVE STATE-LED TRIBAL
OUTREACH, COMMUNICATION,
AND ENGAGEMENT**



**IMPROVE TRIBAL ACCESS AND
UTILIZATION OF EXISTING STATE
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**



**INCREASE STATE INVESTMENTS
TO CREATE AND EXPAND TRIBAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

Improve Tribal Outreach, Communication, and Engagement

Increase Tribes' knowledge and awareness of assistance programs

Maintain Tribal clean energy and climate program assistance database

Conduct regular Tribal energy and climate meetings

Improve Tribal relations, capacity, and training among State employees

Improve State Tribal engagement policies and processes

Empower Tribes to inform and shape programs and policies

Centralize, streamline, and sustain interagency communications and engagement

Improve Tribal Access and Utilization of Existing State Programs

Eliminate requirements that undermine Tribal sovereignty

Further assess Tribal access to, challenges with, and utilization of applicable programs

Remove unfunded plans and other requirements

Simplify, streamline, and coordinate grant solicitations

Reduce and simplify grants management requirements

Collaborate with Tribes on State climate change research

Use standard metrics for State agencies to track and report Tribal utilization of programs

Dedicate Greater State Investments to Creating and Expanding Tribal Assistance Programs

Funding Needs

- Increase investments in top 8 need areas
- Increase flexible funding
- Increase recurring funding
- Offer funding and assistance for pre-development activities
- Offer phased funding and assistance programs
- Provide cost-share for federal grants
- Provide low-interest loan and loan guarantees
- Fund initiatives to acquire ancestral lands
- Fund basic and broader Tribal energy projects and initiatives

Technical Assistance/Capacity Building

- Increase and expand technical assistance (TA)
- Provide grant writing assistance
- Increase funding for Tribal staffing
- Increase Tribal staff training
- Establish Tribal-serving regional energy and climate hubs
- Create a centralized, evergreen inventory and pipeline of fundable energy and climate projects

Next Steps

- Gather input from Tribes on priority CTGA recommendations
- Recruit agencies and form CTGA implementation committee
- Develop a CTGA implementation plan with input from Tribes
- Hold quarterly meetings with Tribes to report progress on CTGA implementation and share information on state tools and funding opportunities
- Annually report progress to State and Tribal leaders

Thank You! Questions? Feedback?

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