

North Fork Mono Tribe

Mission and Restoration Projects

The North Fork Mono Tribes' Mission is the preservation of the North Fork Mono Tribe's traditions, resources and lands through education, culture, religion and conservation.

The Tribe has several restoration projects on-going in the foothills to the High Sierra's, in Mariposa, Madera and Fresno Counties. Restoration projects are highly valued as they restore the cultural resources for the Tribal members to carry on their generations of traditional living. Many of the Tribal members make their living from native plants. It is important for the basketmakers, gatherers and cultural traditionalist to keep their practices and trades alive.

The tribal members and the Tribe's leaders are some of the front runners when it comes to preservation, restoration and enhancement of the lands and watersheds. When the Mono lived on the land they took care of the land. Now the land is mostly privately owned or controlled by governmental entities.

2008 to 2009 the Tribe's leaders participated with the CA Department of Water Resources in the development of the 2009 CA Water Plan Update. In 2009 the Tribe led the way for an historic Water Summit between 175 California Tribes and some 30 plus State and Federal Agencies. Out of the Water Plan Update a new chapter on Meadow Restoration was developed with on the tribe's Councilmember leading the way and the Chapter was dedicated to him.

The following are some of the ongoing projects the North Fork Mono Tribe is working on.

- Lost Lake Trail & Deergrass Restoration - Date: Trail, 1985; Deergrass, 2007
Partners: Fresno County Parks & Recreation; Dumna Tribe; San Joaquin River Trust; California Multicultural Center; CIBA members
- Jensen Ranch Native American Garden - Date: 2008 one acre; 2009 five acres
Partners: San Joaquin River Trust & Conservancy; Am Indian Movement; Haslett Basin Band of Mono;
- Jackass Meadow Sedgeroot Restoration - Date: 2006
Partners: USFS, Botnist; SCE Hydro; NF Rancheria; Big Sandy Rancheria
- Crane Valley Native Plant Restoration - Date: 2005
Partners: USFS Bass Lake Ranger District
- Horseshoe Bend Historic Mono Trail - Date: 2002
Partners: SCE Hydro; USFS Trail & Arch; FERC; Pacific Legacy

Over the past thirty years, the Tribe has been involved in the Relicensing process for P G & E and SCE. Settlements on the hydro projects have included restoration of meadows, trails, and gathering areas. Access, identification and protection of native plant resources, ancestral sites, artifact curation, and historical archiving. Hydro projects destroyed over 100 ancestral sites and continues to damage or eradicate the sites all together. There has been no settlement for the damage done to these sites.