

Unit 2: Tribal Cultural Resources Law Background Information UC DAVIS
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Clash of Worldviews of Cultural Resources Places Ownership UCDAVIS UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAN
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## Lyng v. Northwest Indian Cemetery Protective Association (Lyng Case)

- US Supreme Court Case from 1988
- Considers whether the US First Amendment prohibits timber activity and road construction on National forest land that is traditionally used for religious purposes by three northern California Tribes
- Federal government is not required to satisfy "every citizen's religious needs and desires...
- The rights of tribal people to use the area "do not divest the
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act No teeth

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U.S. v. Sioux Nation of Indians (Black Hills Case)

- US Supreme Court Case from 1980
- Black Hills of South Dakota were reserved by treaty as part of the "Great Sioux Reservation"
- Gold Discovered and the treaty was seen as "the only obstacle to
- Congress passed an Act allowing for intrusion by non-tribal people into the Black Hills.
- Court found this was an illegal taking that required "just compensation" to the Sioux Nation.

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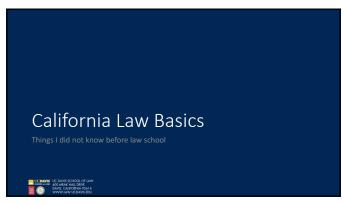
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# Archaeological Fieldwork versus Grave Robbing

- Bieder, Robert E. "The Return of the Ancestors." 1990
- "Expropriation of Indian bodies for science"
- Scientists Pre-historic and Pre-Tribal
- Native Americans Ancestors
- Scientists Archeological sites
- Native Americans Grave sites and cemeteries



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#### Federal Law: NAGPRA

- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990
- Applies to all "museums" with control over Native American cultural item that receive federal funding.
- This law is significant in the field of tribal cultural resources law
- California has incorporated all the requirements and responsibilities of NAGPRA into the California Codes through CalNAGPRA and other codes focused on environmental review and protection
- Generally, these California laws apply to all state agencies and institutions.
- This training will therefore focus on the state of the California laws surrounding tribal cultural resources.

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## CA Legislative Terminology – AB and SB

- Two houses of California Legislature
  - The Assembly
  - The Senate
- AB = Assembly Bill, is a proposed law originating from an author in the Assembly
- $\bullet$  SB = Senate Bill, is a proposed law originating from an author in the Senate
- Examples: AB 52 and SB 18

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### CA Legislative Bills Numbering and Function

- The number on each proposed law or draft law is used for all the proposals in any given legislative cycle from year to year
- These numbers will repeat each year
- For example, SB 18 in 2004 was a cultural resources bill, in 2020 SB 18 was relating to "green electronic hydrogen"
- Each year "SB 18" is not "a law", SB 18 is the bill that adds or amends various California Codes which are laws
- Important to be familiar with the actual codes and the relevant sections of the codes that have been amended

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## California Codes

- The legislation that is adopted, adds, amends or reappeals California laws organized into the "California codes"
- These are all maintained online by the Legislative Counse see: leginfo.legislature.ca.gov
- Note: "leg" in this context is an abbreviation for legislation or legislature pronounced "ledge"
- There is a uniform system used in academic and legal writing to cite to these codes found in the California Style Manual (CSM)
- If interested, it is available free online see: http://www.sdap.org/downloads/Style-Manual.pdf

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### Codes Relevant to Tribal Cultural Resources

- California has 29 "codes"
- They are not numbered
- Listed online in alphabetical order
- These are the codes where most of the protections for tribal cultural resources are found:

Government Code

Health and Safety Code

**Public Resources Code** 

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#### Code Abbreviations for Citations - Official

• This is how these codes are abbreviated for citations (p. 51 of the CSM):

Government Code: Gov. Code

Health and Safety Code: Health & Saf. Code

Public Resources Code: Pub. Resources Code

• Note: You do not need to add California, Cal., or CA in front of the code citation. These simple abbreviations will work



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#### Code Abbreviations - Unofficial

 You may also see these codes abbreviated using only three letters: Government Code: GOV

Health and Safety Code: HSC

Public Resources Code: PRC

- This is an informal way of referencing these codes
- Good to be familiar with both
- Example: if you do any work in child welfare you will hear "wick" said by people about the informal abbreviation, WIC, for the Welfare and Institutions Code. The official abbreviation is Welf. & Inst. Code
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### Code Organization

- California's codes contain multiple sections, these sections are grouped into "divisions" or in some cases "#itles" or oven "parts"
- Example
  - The Public Resources Code has Divisions 1 46
  - The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is found in Division 1
- You do not need to know what division to search or cite to
- Focus on the section number for the law you want to look up or cite to
- In the index or table of contents for each code online, next to the division number and title will be the numbers for all the sections in that division



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### Example of online Code Organization

- Public Resources Code PRC
- GENERAL PROVISIONS
- DIVISION 1. ADMINISTRATION [500 830]
- DIVISION 2. GEOLOGY, MINES AND MINING [2001 2815]
- DIVISION 3. OIL AND GAS [3000 3865]
- DIVISION 3.5. MINES AND MINING [3900 3985]
- DIVISION 4. FORESTS, FORESTRY AND RANGE AND FORAGE LANDS [4001 - 4958]



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**Code Sections Citations** 

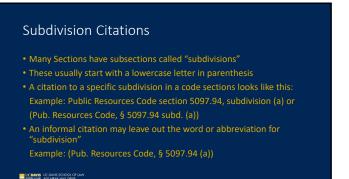
- The term section indicates the part of the code that has the law you want to find or cite to
- Section is abbreviated using this symbol: §
- In legal writing code sections are cited two ways
- Outside of parenthesis, spelled out with no abbreviations, usually inside a sentence

Example: Government Code section 5097.9

- Inside of parenthesis, with abbreviations, usually at the end of a
- Example: (Gov. Code, § 5097.9)

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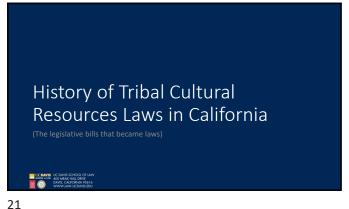
## Et Seq. Meaning • "et seq." this is an abbreviation of a Latin term = et sequentes • Means and those that follow • In code citations means and the sections that follow Two examples ➤ NAGPRA: 25 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq. > CalNAGPRA: Health & Saf. Code, § 8010 et seg.

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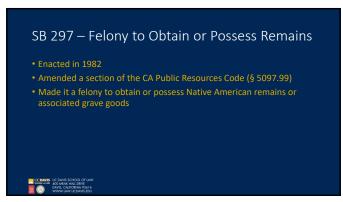
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Timeline of CA Cultural Resource Bills Bill Number AB 4239 Created Native American Heritage Commission 1982 SB 297 Native American human burial and skeletal remains 1991 AB 12 California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (Cal NAGPRA) AB 978 2002 SB 1816 Native American Historic Resources Protection Act General Planning Tribal Consultation Improved Consultation in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process AB 52 UC Systemwide Policy for Repatriation AB 275 Strengthens repatriation under Cal NAGPRA AB 168 Cultural Resources Exempt from SB 35 Fast Track (2017) 2020

## AB 4239 Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) • Repealed and added Sections of the CA Public Resources Code (§§ • Created the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) • Preserve and ensure accessibility of cultural sites and burials • Prevention of irreparable harm to cultural sites • Maintain an inventory of Native American sacred sites located on • Duties have changed and expanded over the years



## AB 12 – Repatriation Policy

- Added a section to the CA Public Resources Code (§ 5097.991)
- "It is the policy of the state that Native American remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated.
- This policy statement remains in the law today, unamended



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#### AB 978 - Cal NAGPRA

- Added Sections to the CA Health and Safety Code (§§ 8010-8021, 8025-8030)
- California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001 (Cal NAGPRA)
- Repatriation Oversight Committee (§ 8025)
  - · Was never active or funded



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#### SB 1816 – Native American Historic Resources **Protection Act**

- Added Chapter 1.76 (commencing with Section 5097.995) to Public Resources Code
- Adds a criminal violation and a civil action for the unlawful and malicious excavation, removal or destruction of a CA Native American Tribal historic, cultural, or sacred site, that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources, on public

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#### SB 18 – General Plans Tribal Consultation

- Amended a section of the CA Civil Code (§ 815.3)
- Amended sections of the CA Government Code (§§ 65040.2, 65092, 65352.3 – 65352.4, 65562.5)
- Requires Consultation with Native Americans regarding city and county general plan preparation or amendments
- Adds Tribal Cultural Sites to open-space plan protections
- Tribes can hold conservation easements, includes unrecognized tribes



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#### AB 52 – Adds Cultural Resources to CEQA

- Amended (§ 5097.94) and added several sections of the CA Public
- Added a new class of resources (tribal cultural resources) as having potential environmental impact under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- negotiated agreements for treatment of discoveries of cultural

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## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- CA Public Resources Code Sections 21000 21189.70.10,
- CEQA Guidelines, CA Code of Regulations Sections 15000 15387
- Responding to National Environmental Policy Act
- Applies to all discretionary projects proposed to be conducted or approved by a California public agency, including private projects requiring discretionary government approval



#### AB 2836 – UC Repatriation Policy

- several sections to the CA Health and Safety Code (§§ 8025 8028.5)
- Requires the University of California (UC) system to adopt a systemwide and campus wide policy and process for repatriation of cultural resources.
- ROC, decommissioned, duties transferred to NAHC



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### AB 275 – Strengthens Repatriation for Tribes

- Added a section the CA Government Code (§ 8318)
- Repealed and added sections to the CA Health and Safety Code (§§ 8011 - 8017, 8025, 8026)
- Redefines "State Agency" in the Government Code to specifically include the University of California and requires state agency liaisons for consultation with tribes
- Modifies almost all sections of Cal NAGPRA to improve repatriation process for tribes



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#### AB 168 - SB 35 Fast Track

- Amends sections of the Government Code (§§ 65400, 65913.4,
- In 2017, SB 35 created a "streamlined" approval process for affordable housing plans making them exempt from the CEQA process
- Modifies the language to exclude a project from SB 35 fast track if Cultural Resources affected



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## Status of Laws Today

- The most recent changes to the relevant CA code sections as of today were made to those codes concerned with repatriation of tribal cultural resources (AB 275)
- Consultation in land use planning has been stable in the codes since it
- The powers and duties of the NAHC are ever changing and expanding
- We have seen bills focused on amending a specific topic like CEQA consultation for example but also with a change in a code governing



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## Native American Heritage Commission

• Public Resources Code

- Division 5 "Parks and Monuments"

• NAHC is a state government commission established in the law:

Department of Parks and Recreation

- and Recreation has control of the state parks system



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### State Parks System

- Why is the NAHC established here in this code, in this division?
- State Parks System not only open space and public recreation...
- This division is where most laws related to historic preservation are found.
- This is where "historic resource" is defined
- Many of the protections for tribal cultural resources relate back to the framework found here for protection of historic resources



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## Establishment

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.91)
- NAHC is a state government commission with 9 members
- Appointed by the Governor



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## Composition

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.92)
- At least five of the nine members shall be elders, traditional people, or spiritual leaders of California Native American tribes, nominated by Native American organizations, tribes, or groups within the state
- An Executive Secretary (staff member)
- All appointed by the governor



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#### **Commission Members Volunteers**

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.93)
- The commission members are not paid for their time
- Are reimbursed for actual expenses



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### Powers and Duties (1/7)

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- Note: initially when NAHC established in 1976, only (a) (j)
- a) Identify and catalog places of tribal cultural significance specifically known grave sites and cemeteries into an inventory – notify landowners and most likely Native American descendants
- b) Recommend that the state acquire tribal culturally significant places that are on private lands and are inaccessible to Native Americans to improve access
- c) Recommend to the Legislature procedures to encourage private property owners to voluntarily preserve and protect cultural resources and allow access to Native Americans



Powers and Duties (2/7)

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- d) Appoint necessary clerical staff
- e) Accept grants and donations
- f) Make recommendations to the Director of Parks and Recreation and the California Arts Council relative to the California State Indian Museum and other Indian matters touched on by other department of Parks and Recreation programs



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## Powers and Duties (3/7)

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- g) Bring a legal action (lawsuit) against a public agency to prevent severe and irreparable damage to or assure appropriate access for Native Americans to an area of tribal cultural significance
  - If the court finds damage will occur or access denied and mitigation measures are not available, it shall issue an injunction (order stopping the public agency action) unless the court makes a finding that public interest and necessity require otherwise



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## Powers and Duties (6/7)

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- m) Provide CA Native American tribe with a list of public agencies that may be lead agencies for purposes of CEQA within the tribe's cultural and traditional geographic area

  - Information on how the tribe may request the public agency to notify the tribe of projects withing the jurisdiction of those agencies to request



## Powers and Duties (7/7)

Powers and Duties (5/7)

• (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) – (p))

k) Mediate disputes and reach agreements between landowners and

I) Assist interested landowners in developing agreements with Native

Americans for treating and disposing of human remains and

known descendants relating to Native American human burials and

- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- Note: ROC Created in 2001, never funded or functioned, decommissioned, duties transferred to NAHC by AB 2836 in 2018,
- o) Establish a fee for a person or public or private entity to cover the cost of a search of the inventory in (a) or the Native American Contact List
- through section 8025 of Health and Safety Code (CalNAGPRA)



**Additional Powers** 

- Notification to most likely descendants when a discovery of Native American human remains is made
- (Pub. Resources Code § 5097.94 subd. (a))
- Most likely descendants' determinations for discoveries listed above
- (Health & Saf. Code § 8013)
- Maintain a list of Federally recognized and Non-Federally Recognized Native American Tribes in California and their corresponding aboriginal territories

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- (Pub. Resources Code, § 5097.94, subds. (a) (p))
- h) Request and use service of all federal, state, local and regional agencies including for the purposes of carrying out the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
- i) Assist Native Americans in obtaining appropriate access to sacred
- j) Assist state agencies in protecting sacred places on federal lands

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associated burial items

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