

## ARIZONA INDIAN TRIBES PROFILES\*

### *Ak-Chin Indian Community*

The Ak-Chin Indian Community, established in 1912, consists of both Tohono O'odham (Papago) and Pima Indians. The reservation is 22,000-acres and is located in the Sonoran Desert. The Ak-Chin won the struggle with the Department of the Interior over the "The Ak-Chin Water Settlement Act" in 1984. The passage of the act meant that the Ak-Chin Indian Community could become self-sufficient by expanding its agricultural operations. The Ak-Chin Farms cultivate about 16,000 acres and its goal of becoming self-sufficient is about 98 percent accomplished.

### *Camp Verde Yavapai-Apache Indian Community*

Located in central Arizona's Verde Valley, the Camp Verde Yavapai-Apache Indian Reservation is ideal for the irrigated agriculture and grazing that takes place on the land. The Yavapai and Tonto Apache Indian Tribes populate the reservation. President U.S. Grant established the reservation in 1871, but in 1875, the President abandoned the reservation and moved its people to the San Carlos Apache Reservation. In 1900, the Yavapai and Tonto Apaches began migrating back to their homeland in the Verde Valley. In 1909, a reservation was re-established and additional lands were acquired in 1915, 1917, 1967, and 1974. Today, the reservation is 636 acres today and is made up of five different parcels: Middle Verde, Camp Verde, Clarkdale, Rimrock, and the Interstate 17 Visitor Activity Complex. The reservation headquarters are located at Middle Verde. The Tribe leases approximately 180 acres of land for irrigated agriculture, and cattle are grazed on another 180 acres of rangeland. The reservation employment is limited to federal and tribal government and individual business sectors. The tribe operates a convenience market, service station, and recreational vehicle park. The casino that has opened near Cliff Castle Lodge is also tribe-operated.

### *Cocopah Indian Reservation*

An executive order given by President Woodrow Wilson in 1917 created the western and eastern parcels of the reservation that consists of approximately 1,772 acres of land. President Reagan signed the Cocopah Land Acquisition Bill in 1985 that increased the size of the Cocopah Reservation by nearly 6,000 acres, and now includes northern parcel consisting of 600 acres of land. Agriculture is a very important factor to the Cocopah economy with 2,400 acres of irrigated land. Lands are farmed through non-Indian leases. After the tribe acquired its land in 1985, it started many new businesses and developments that created job opportunities and put a plan in place for tribal self-sufficiency. The tribe operates the bingo hall and casino.

\*Source: Economic Development Research Program Web Site <http://ag.arizona.edu/edrp/tribes.html>. Accessed 1/03/02

### ***Colorado River Indian Reservation***

Established on March 3, 1865 for the "Indians of said river and its tributaries", the Colorado River Indian Reservation is both in Arizona with 225,995 acres and California with 42,696 acres. For centuries, the Mohave have lived in the area while the Chemehuevi, Hopi, and Navajo tribes settled onto the reservation later. Agriculture, recreation, government and industry constitute most of the reservation's economy. With 84,500 acres of land being farmed and another 50,500 available for development, the Colorado River is host to the tourism industry with marinas, lodging, restaurants, mobile home parks, and cabanas. The tribe also operates the Blue Water Casino that opened in 1995 and another new casino and 200-room hotel that opened in 1999.

### ***Fort Apache Indian Reservation (White Mountain Apache Reservation)***

The Fort Apache Indian Reservation is 75 miles long, 45 miles wide, and has more than 1.6 million acres of land. This is the home to the White Mountain Apache Tribe and is located in parts of Navajo, Apache and Gila counties. With the reservations natural resources and scenic beauty, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has earned a national reputation for its network of enterprises, which include the Fort Apache Timber Company, and a lumber and hardware retail center in Hon Dah. The tribe also is host to Sunrise Park Resort, one of the best ski resorts in the Southwest. In addition, the tribe owns and operates the Hon Dah Casino and Hotel.

### ***Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation***

Established in 1903, Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation is located just east of Scottsdale in Maricopa County. This 24,680-acre reservation is home to the Yavapai people. Fort McDowell, named after General Irwin McDowell, was created on September 15, 1903 by an Executive Order. During the Apache Wars, the reservation post was one of the most important outposts in the Southwest. The 150,00 square-foot casino on Fort McDowell employs 950 people and serves as the reservation's primary economic activity. A concrete plant, sand and gravel quarrying operation, 2,000-acre farm, gas station and a western adventures catering facility serve as other sources of economic activity on the reservation.

### ***Fort Mojave Indian Reservation***

The Fort Mojave Indian Reservation is spread across three states. Over two-thirds of the 32,979 acre reservation is located in Arizona, while smaller areas of the reservation cross state lines into California and Nevada. Approximately 25,000 acres of the reservation is used for agricultural development as irrigated crop land. The area has a hot, arid climate with 255 days per year being a frost-free growing season. Being totally dependent upon federal and state programs at one time, the tribe is increasing its economic growth in development of resources, agriculture, and retail sale. The 300-room hotel and casino, on the Nevada portion of the reservation, was master planned by the tribe. A recreational vehicle park and an 18-hole golf course are in the planning stages. In Arizona, the tribe owns a small casino; smoke shop, and a J.B.'s franchise restaurant. A long-term lease for a 500-megawatt power plant has been signed.

### *Gila River Indian Reservation*

An Act of Congress established the Gila River Reservation in 1859. The reservation has 372,000 acres of land in south-central Arizona. The reservation has three industrial parks with 36 operations. Commercial complexes in Sacaton and Komatke house several businesses that provide different services to local residents. The primary economic activity remains agriculture, with crops such as cotton, wheat, millet, alfalfa, barley, melons, pistachios, olives, citrus, and a variety of vegetables being grown. Independent farming takes place on 22,000 acres of the reservation, and the total agriculture value exceeds \$25 million. The tribe owns and operates both casinos, with all profits being utilized to help provide members with additional social services, as well as for general tribal operations and economic development expansion. Approximately 1,000 people are employed by the casinos, of which 80 - 85 percent are members of the tribe.

### *Havasupai Indian Reservation*

Established in 1880 and enlarged in 1975, Havasupai means "people of the blue-green water". The reservation has 188,077 acres of canyon land along the western edge of the Grand Canyon's south rim. The tribe's residents live in Supai Village, which is nestled 3,000 feet deep in Havasu Canyon. The Havasupai's are well known for their location, traditional cultural lifestyle, and their arts and crafts. For over 1,000 years, the Havasupai have lived in the Grand Canyon, practicing irrigated farming during the summer months and hunting on the plateaus during the winter. More than 12,000 guests a year visit the Havasupai Reservation, arriving to an eight-mile trail via foot, horseback, or chartered helicopter, thus making tourism the tribe's primary economic base. The tribe also operates a café, grocery store, museum, cultural center, and an art/silkscreen studio.

### *Hopi Indian Reservation*

The Hopi Indian Reservation, established in 1882, occupies part of Navajo and Coconino counties and encompasses 1,542,306 acres. While most of the land is suitable for grazing and agricultural development, federally funded programs represent 46 percent of employment. The other 54 percent consists of private sector employment.

### *Hualapai Indian Reservation*

Hualapai, meaning "People of the Tall Pines", was established in 1883 by an Executive Order. The reservation has a million acres of land along the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon, making the tribe's primary economic activities river rafting, cattle ranching, hunting expeditions, timber cutting, and crafting of traditional and modern folk arts. More than 200 homes have been built, 14 miles of town streets have been paved and curbed, and an improved water and sewer system has been installed. Each of these provides indications recent economic, social and government activity. State and federal services, the tribe, and public schools provide the bulk of full-time employment.

## ***Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation***

The 120,413-acre reservation spans Coconino and Mohave counties and offers solitude not possible in most urban areas. The Kaibab-Paiute people are members of the Southern Paiute Nation. Kaibab, Steam Boat, Juniper Estates, Six-Mile and Redhills make-up the villages located on the reservation. Arizona Highway 389 crosses the reservation and is the main thoroughfare between Las Vegas, Nevada and Lake Powell, making the Kaibab-Paiute economy centered on tourism along with livestock. As the tribe expands, its agriculturally based operations are also expected to grow. Revenue is also earned on numerous land and road-use leases.

## ***Navajo Nation***

### ***Chinle***

Chinle, established in 1868, is considered the Navajo Indian Reservation's geographic center. After the United States and Navajos signed a treaty in 1868, Chinle became a center for population growth and trade. In 1882, the first trading post was established, followed by the first mission in 1904, and the first government school in 1910. It has been designated as one of the major "growth centers" on the reservation by the tribal government. Commercial industries represent a growing sector, while most jobs are in public, administrative and educational services. The Tseyi Shopping Center houses retail, medical and government services. Expansion is planned to include a major department store, shops, and offices. An increase in tourism is expected and will include additional motels, campgrounds, and cultural facilities.

### ***Kayenta***

The Kayenta, Navajo Nation was established in 1910. Because of its remote location, non-Indians seldom visited the Kayenta region in its early days. The first trading post was opened in 1910, the March Pass School was established in 1914, and in 1916, another trading post opened. Kayenta is considered a "growing center" because of its traffic volume. The primary economic activities revolve around services and mining.

### ***Leupp***

Leupp is situated in the southwest corner of the Navajo Reservation along the southwest bank of the Little Colorado River. Due to water availability, settlements were developed in the 1800's. In 1907, the Leupp Reservation was one of five Navajo Reservations that existed in 1936; the Navajo Nation was formed, combining these reservations into one. Focusing on high-tech industries, Leupp is fast becoming one of the reservation's major growth centers. An industrial park has been developed and is available for light industries and offices. Other economic sectors include services, education, federal and tribal government. With increased tourism, more accommodations are also being considered.

## ***Navajo Nation (continued)***

### ***Many Farms***

Many Farms or "Da'ah'eh Halani" is an Indian community within the Navajo Nation. The community was established in 1937 when the local reservoir's irrigation dam was built. Many Farms is 168,000 acres in size and is home to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding School and Many Farms BIA High School. Featured attractions in the area include the Painted Desert, Petrified Forest National Monument, Monument Valley, and the Hopi Indian Reservation. With increased tourism, motels and campgrounds are being considered for development. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, governmental and commercial services are the major employers in Many Farms.

### ***New Lands***

A planned community for Navajo's relocating from Hopi partitioned land; New Lands is the 100th Navajo Chapter and was established in 1987. "Naht 'a' Dzill" which means planning through strength, is an on-going development that includes areas for residential use, industrial, and commercial use. Community and education-related services, as well as agricultural and recreational uses are in future plans. While New Lands is growing, economic activities are limited. Plans for a motel, recreational vehicle park, and restaurant are expected to bring approximately 100 new jobs to the area.

### ***Tuba City***

The Tuba City, Navajo Nation was established in 1903. Mormons settled Tuba City in the late 1870s, but in 1903 it was discovered that the town was built on Indian land. Primary employers in the area are Public Health, public schools, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The largest economic sectors are mining, services, and public administration. The Tuba City Chapter, a local reservation government unit, makes the community an important center within the Navajo Nation. With the rapid development, Tuba City is a designated a "growth center" on the Navajo Reservation.

### ***Window Rock/Fort Defiance***

In the mid-to-late 1930's, John Collier, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, declared that Window Rock should be the administration center for the Navajo. Just north of Window Rock is Fort Defiance. Fort Defiance was chosen as a military outpost and named by Colonel Sumner in 1851. Colonel Kit Carson used the fort as his headquarters during the Navajo Campaign in 1863. Window Rock/Fort Defiance today is a commercial and administrative growth center on the Navajo Nation. Being the capital of the Navajo Nation, Window Rock has many facilities such as the Tribal Museum and Zoo and the Navajo Tribal Fairgrounds. Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Company is a major employer for the Window Rock area. Administrative services provided through the tribe guarantee the government of having a key role in the economy. Fort Defiance has one industrial park, and there are two shopping centers serving the community.

### ***Pascua Yaqui Indian Reservation***

In 1964, Congress transferred 202 acres to the Pasqua Yaquis, who wanted to preserve their tribal identity. In 1982, the reservation acquired another 690 acres. The tribe's first constitution was approved in 1988 and in 1994; the status of the tribe was changed from a "created tribe" to a "historic tribe." The Pascua Yaqui Indian Reservation is in southern Arizona, and although this tribe has accepted political integration into American society, they retain their culture and religion. The Casino of the Sun, is the reservation's largest employer. Other economic enterprises include a landscape nursery, a bingo hall, and a manufacturer of adobe blocks.

### ***Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community***

An Executive Order by President Rutherford Hayes on June 14, 1879 established the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. The order allowed the Pima and Maricopa people to occupy 54,000 acres of fertile agricultural land together. Because of its prime location, accessibility and available land for commercial and industrial use, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is attractive to many new businesses. The community is striving to balance new economic development while maintaining long held community values. Approximately 12,000 acres is currently being used for agricultural purposes. "The Pavillions" is the nations largest commercial development built on Indian land. It is a 140-acre retail power center, and is located within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Other tenants include Target, Home Depot, Ross Dress for Less, and Mervyn's Department Store. Other economic highlight in the community's future include a 36-hole signature golf course and a casino. The Salt River Indian Community also mines sand and gravel and operates a comprehensive solid waste disposal facility.

### ***San Carlos Apache Reservation***

Established in 1934, the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation extends across three counties in Arizona - Gila, Graham, and Pinal. President Grant established the reservation by an Executive Order in 1871. The San Carlos Apache Reservation's largest employers are government agencies, delivering such services as health, education and economic services. Approximately 450 jobs are provided to tribal members at the Apache Gold Casino. Lumbering, tourism, and recreation provide other sources of economic activities.

### ***Sells/Tohono O'odham Reservation***

Lying within the arid Sonoran Desert is the Tohono O'odham Nation reservation established in 1934. The reservation covers 2,854,881 acres and is separated into four reservation lands. The Tohono O'odham Reservation is the largest and spans 90 miles across Pima County. It is 2,773,357 acres and extends across the Mexican border. The Gila Bend Reservation is 10,409 acres, the San Xavier Reservation is 71,095 acres and the Florence Village is 20 acres in size. An industrial park with an active 23-acre Foreign Trade Zone is located on the San Xavier Reservation. Federal, state, and tribal governments provide the largest economic sector on the reservation, while cattle raising and other related activities are also important. Agriculture, tourism, and utilities are expected to expand as the tribe implements development plans are expected to increase. With construction of new Indian housing, additional jobs are forecasted.

### *Tonto Apache Reservation*

The Tonto Apache reservations was established in 1912. Recognized by a Congressional Act in 1972, the Tonto Apaches were given 85 acres of land. The reservation has 29 homes, paved roads, and underground utilities. Working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the tribe has been able to build their community. The Tonto Apache are widely known for their artistry in bead work and basketry. Located near Payson, Arizona, the reservation is in position for large amounts of tourism. The tribe has completed major projects and a hotel has been planned. To enable the Tonto Apache to gain its land base, the tribe is working with the Forest Service in a land purchase and exchange process. The tribe operates the 35,000 square-foot Mazatzal Casino and the Tonto Apache Tribal Market.

### *Yavapai Prescott Indian Reservation*

The Yavapai Prescott Reservation, established in 1934, consists of are 153 tribal members, of whom approximately 115 live on the reservation. The three primary groups of Yavapai maintain good relationships and are located at Fort McDowell, Camp Verde, and Prescott. The Yavapai people are widely known for basket weaving, of which many of the baskets are displayed in museums. The Yavapai-Prescott Indian tribe has developed only a portion of its 1,395-acre reservation. The tribe operates the Prescott Resort and Conference Center with gaming. Additional gaming facilities, smoke shop, service station, and convenience store are located just across the street from the conference center. The tribe also owns a business park.