

Understanding the Energy Policy and Regulatory Environment:

Tribal Energy Projects with State Partnerships

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Webinar
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www.bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov

Overview

❖ Introductions

- Jana Ganion, Energy Director, Blue Lake Rancheria

❖ Tribal and State Partnerships and Projects

❖ Ideas for Future Work on Tribal and State Partnerships

Mad River Residents



Photo courtesy of fishingwithjd.com

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Oregon / California
Border



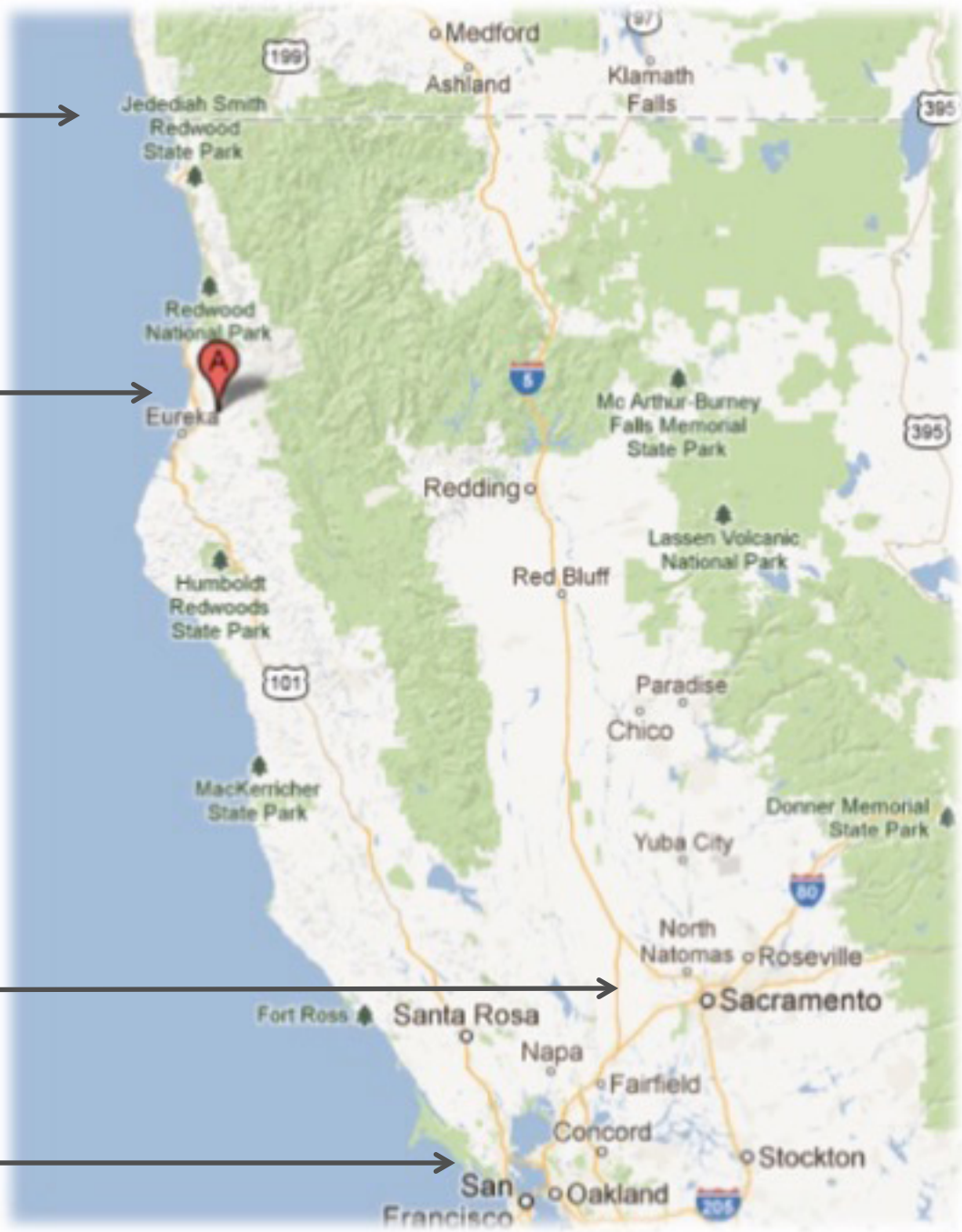
Blue Lake Rancheria



Sacramento
Region



San Francisco
Bay Area



Blue Lake Rancheria, California

- ❖ Federally Recognized (1908) | 51 Members
- ❖ Tribal Government | 15 Divisions | 30 Programs
- ❖ ~100 Acres of Trust Land along the Mad River | Co-manager
- ❖ Economic Enterprises | ~400 EEs | 2,000 Visitors Daily
- ❖ 2015-16 White House “Climate Action Champion”
- ❖ 2014 “Integration Award” from PG&E
- ❖ Appointed to Dept. of Energy, Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs’ Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group (ICEIWG)



Energy Vision

- ❖ **Climate Action | GHG Reductions | Community Resilience**
- ❖ Energy Security
- ❖ Levelized (Predictable) Cost of Energy / Economic Development
- ❖ GHG Reduction Goals: 40% less GHGs by 2018 (2014 baseline), and eventually, 100% renewable energy through onsite generation
- ❖ Goals formulated to meet (or exceed) California goals



Low Carbon Microgrid
Groundbreaking Ceremony
at Blue Lake Rancheria



Climate Change Impacts

- ❖ Big Wildfires
- ❖ Drought & Water Shortage
- ❖ Extreme Storms & Floods
- ❖ Landslides
- ❖ Infrastructure Damage
- ❖ Threats to Life & Safety



BLR & California Projects

- ❖ Climate adaptation / emergency preparedness planning and programs
 - Technical Advisory Team for Governor Brown's EO B-30-15
- ❖ Climate mitigation planning and projects
 - Support of California's GHG reduction targets:
 - 40% below 1990 levels by 2030; 80% below 1990 levels by 2050
 - E.g., Reduce black carbon, particulate matter, short-lived climate pollutants
- ❖ Renewable energy implementations, utilizing state funding for projects on tribal lands:
 - 2013-2015 – “RePowering Humboldt with Community Scale Renewable Energy.”
 - 2015-2018 – “Low-carbon, Community-scale Microgrid for Critical Infrastructure.”



Tribe/State Partnerships

- ❖ California Energy Commission
- ❖ California State University at Humboldt / Schatz Energy Research Center (SERC)
- ❖ Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E)
- ❖ California-based Technology Partners



Lessons Learned

❖ Environmental review

- State funds required California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review.
- Worked through a compliant, mutually-feasible process that respected state and tribal regulation.
- Notably, the state utilized the Tribe's Environmental Assessment (EA), a new context for state staff.



Future Tribal State Work

❖ Tribal/State Project Guidelines

- CalTrans example for projects on tribal land
- Respects tribe and state sovereignty
- Provides documented context
- Streamline tax exemption for energy projects

❖ Tribal Access to State Incentives

- Community Choice Aggregation example
- On-bill financing; energy efficiency incentives

❖ Joint Powers Authority/Agency

- JPAs are formed under state laws
- Basis for tribe/tribe and tribe/state JPAs

❖ Tribal Utility Commission

- National tribal utility policy, standards, incentives
- Develop tribal/state utility commission framework





Jana Ganion
Energy Director, Blue Lake Rancheria
jganion@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov



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