

**LCCs  
and Indian Tribes  
A Necessary Dialogue**

**Gary S. Morishima**

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James L. Grant<sup>c</sup> 85

# VISION

*without the means to attain it,  
will only be a*

**DREAM**

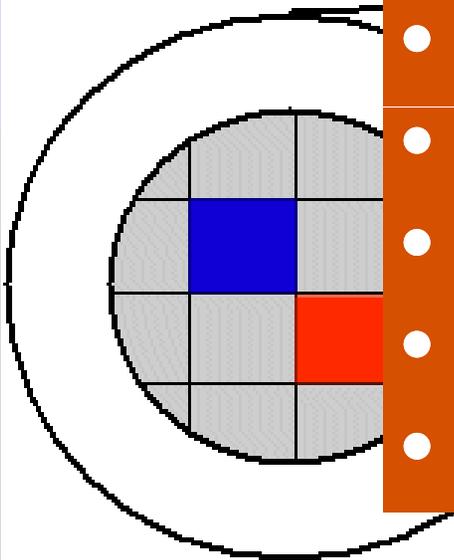


# Pixels



# We've Been Pixelized

- Land ownership patterns
- Agency purviews
- Judicial jurisdictions
- Political boundaries
- Economic forces
- Single species management

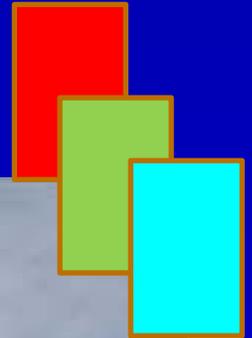


# We've Been 'Pixelized'

- Confined to property ownership boundaries
- Isolation, fragmentation, compartmentalization
- Amenities gained or lost
- How to keep what we want from falling off the landscape?



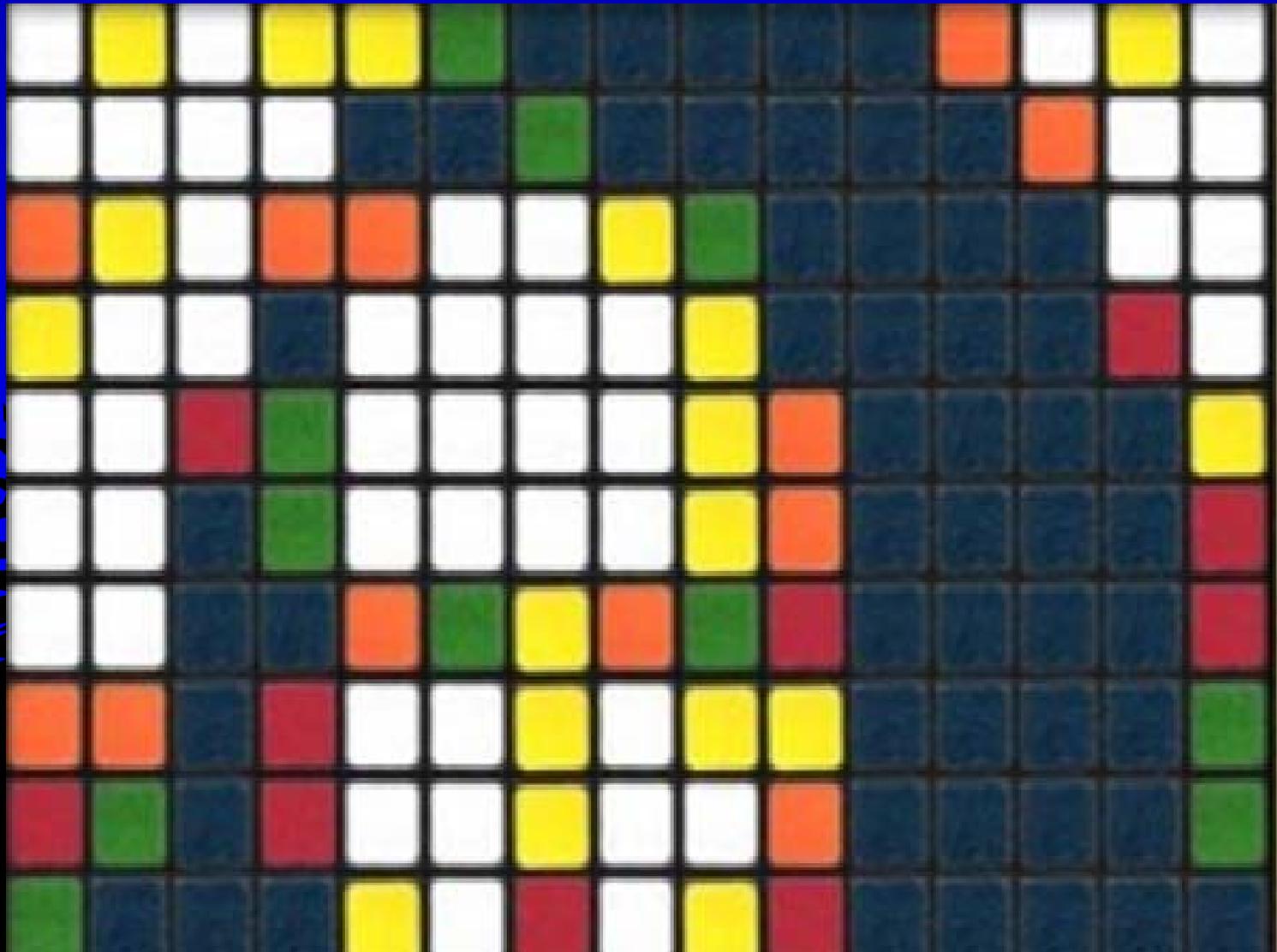
# Anchor Forests



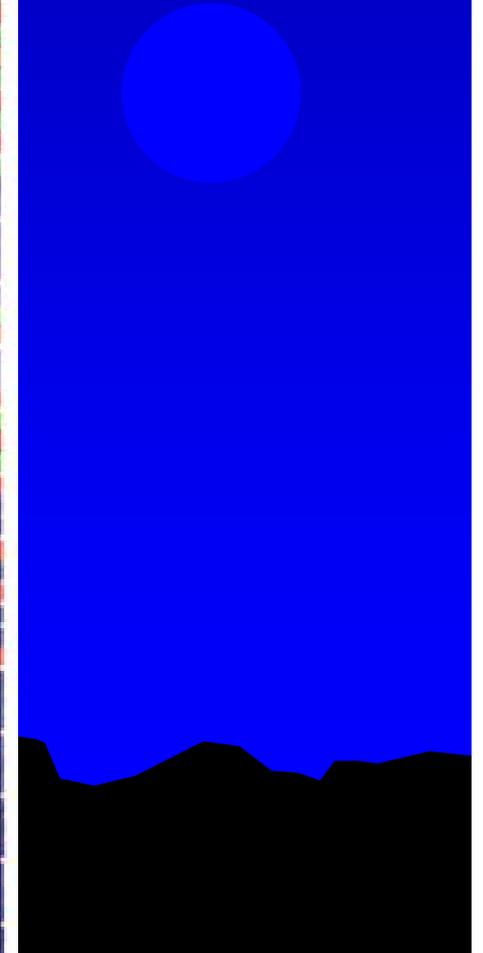
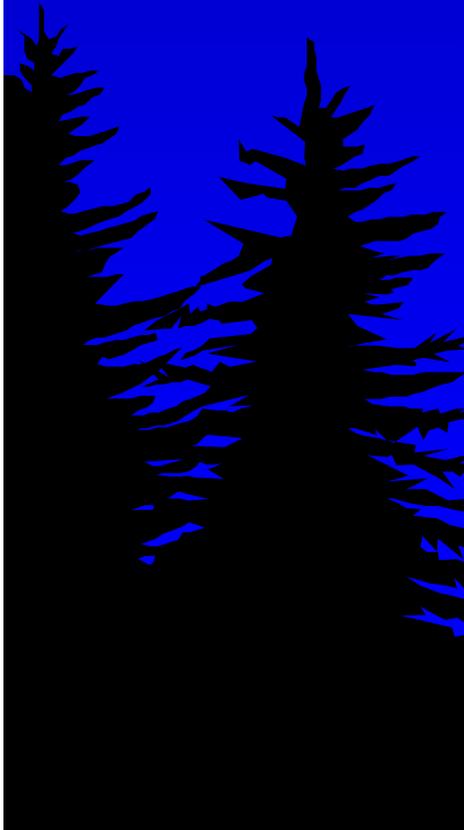
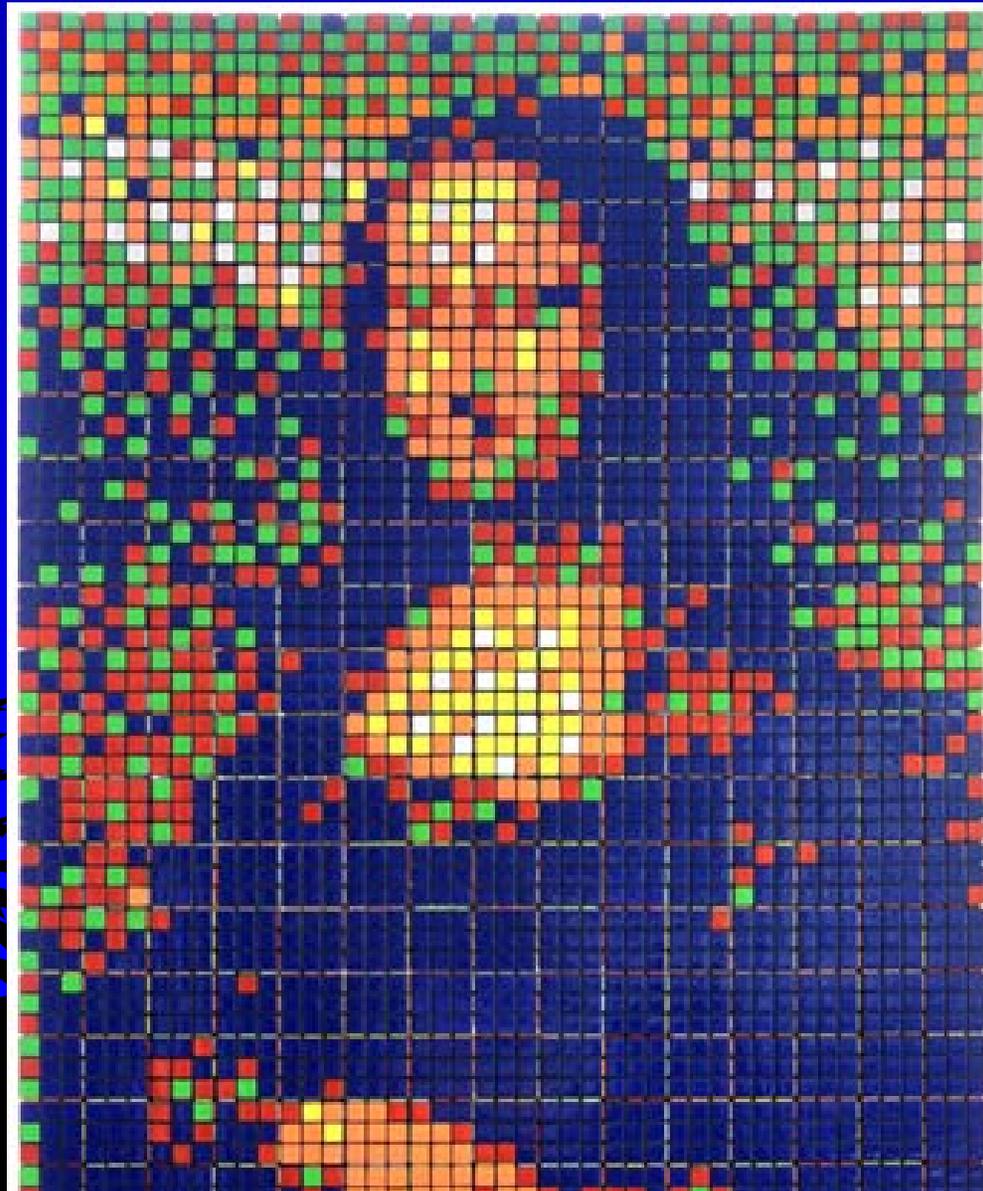
# Everything's Connected

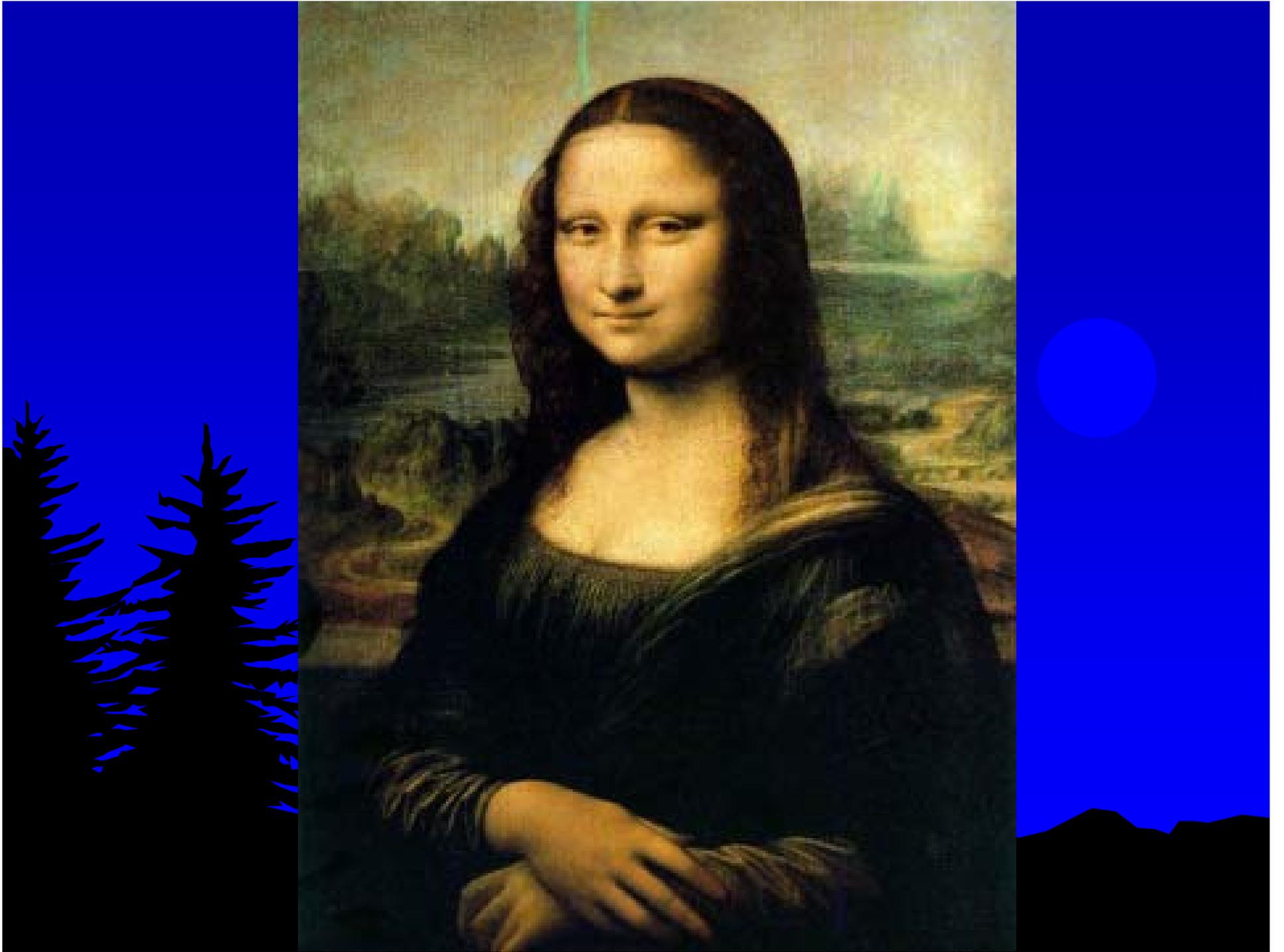


# Pixels Must Be Put Together



# To Begin To See The Picture







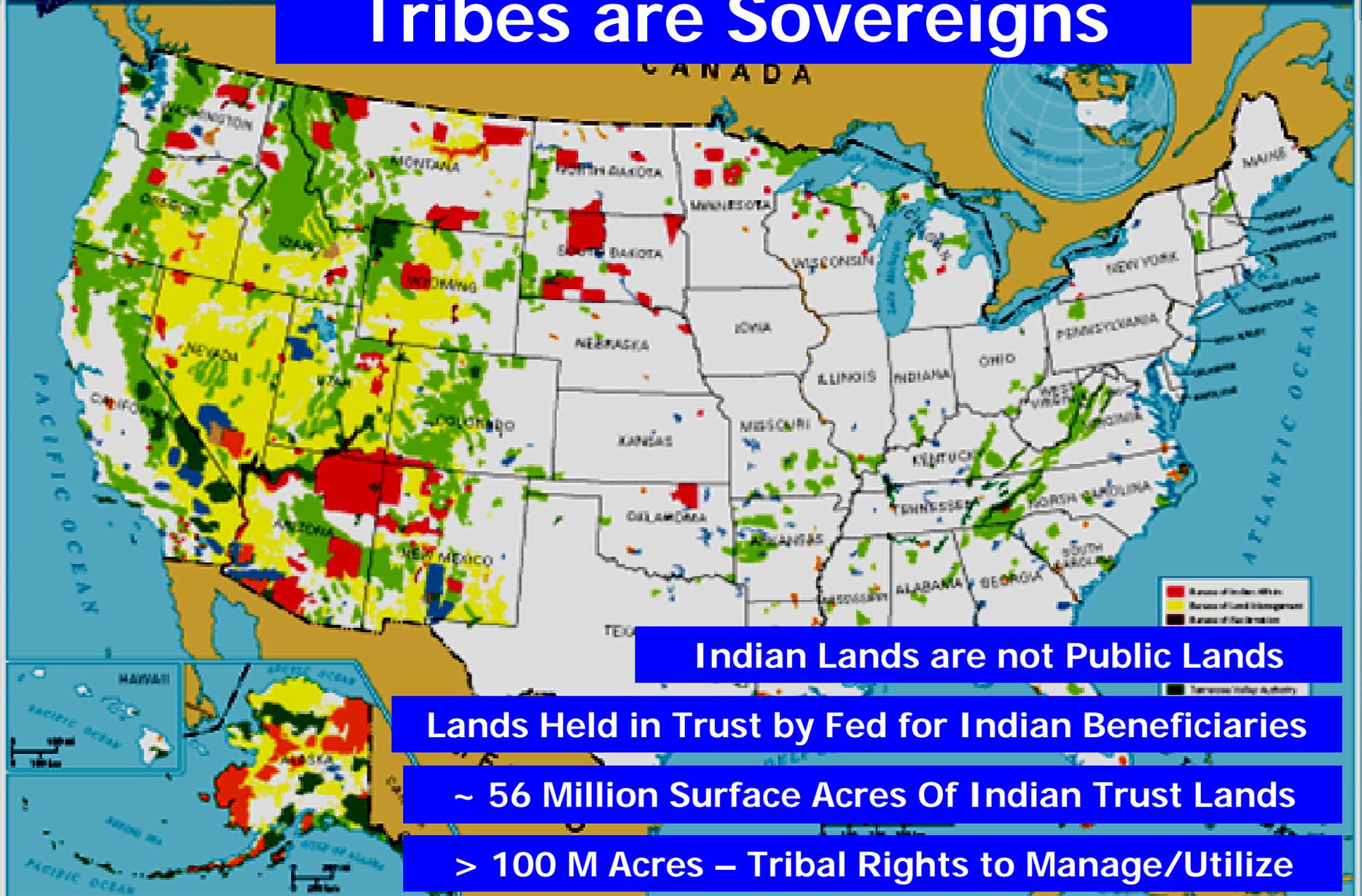
# History's Lessons



- Long history of suffrage, eviction from homelands, and expropriation of resources others have coveted.
- Resources on Indian lands could become very important considerations as climate change, energy security, landscape management strategies are crafted.
- The experiential history of Indian people creates a "cautiousness" regarding Federal initiatives.



# Tribes are Sovereigns



**Indian Lands are not Public Lands**

**Lands Held in Trust by Fed for Indian Beneficiaries**

**~ 56 Million Surface Acres Of Indian Trust Lands**

**> 100 M Acres – Tribal Rights to Manage/Utilize**

# As Sovereigns...



- Tribes have the right to self-determination.
  - Self-governance compacts & self-determination contracts.
  - Without diminishment of the federal trust responsibility.
- Tribes will defend sovereignty and territorial rights.
- Tribes must be substantive participants and consulted, government-to-government, during formulation and implementation of policy.
- Tribes, many being place-oriented, are sensitive to & uniquely impacted by climate change and landscape-scale management.

# Fiduciary Trust Obligations



Because Indian Lands are Held in Trust

- Fiduciary standards serve best interests of Indian beneficiaries.
- Public policy objectives are subordinate to the protection of the interests of Indian beneficiaries.
- Restrictions/regulations that diminish potential value of the trust corpus without liability cannot be unilaterally imposed.
  - Taking of Indian property for public purposes.

# Social Justice



- Tribal communities are among the most vulnerable to effects of climate and landscape-level changes.
- Many place-oriented Tribes limited by reservation boundaries and resource availability at specific times and places.
- Some adaptation strategies involving relocation may not be acceptable by certain Tribes with ancestral homelands and/or adjudicated rights to very specific resources (e.g. salmon runs).
- Indian Tribes wary of schemes that displace environmental costs upon them without free, prior, & informed consent.

# Peoples of North America

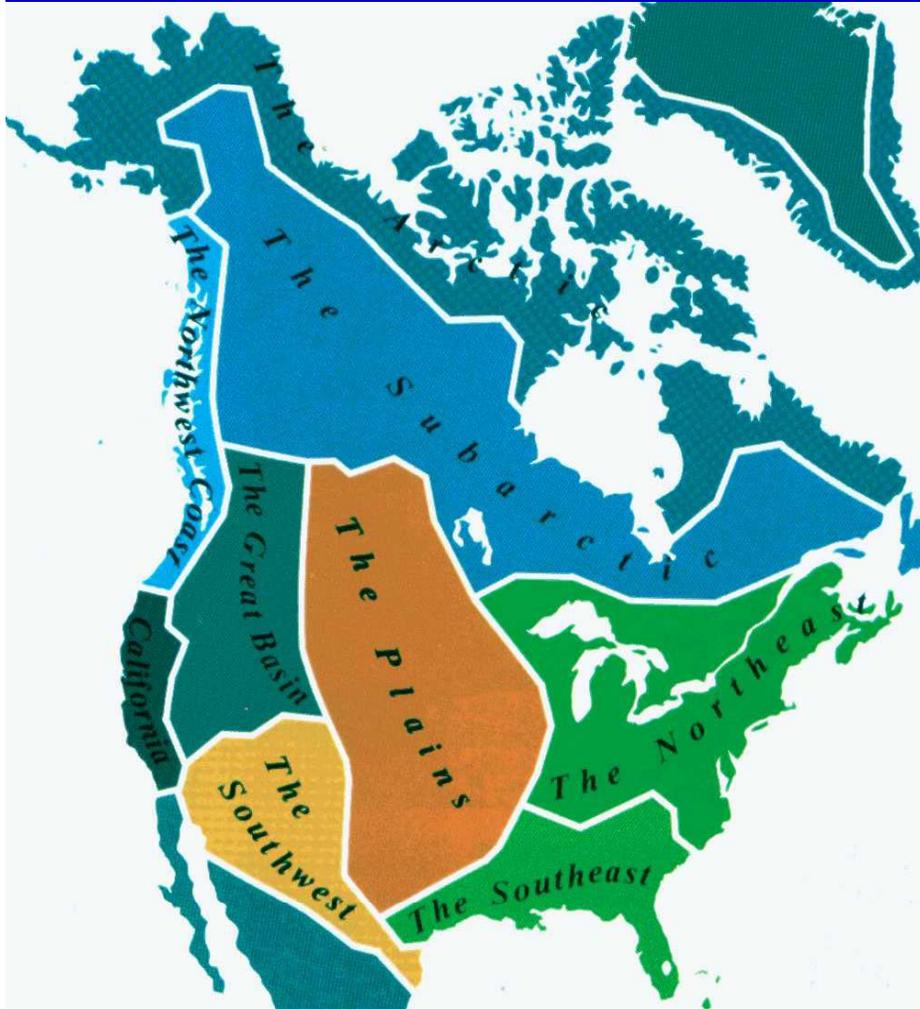
Cultural and  
Biological Diversity  
Are Intertwined



**Don't Forget or Marginalize  
Tribes**



# Coincidence? Tribal Groups & LCCs



# Importance of Language

- Cultural Continuity, Order and Relationships
- Ontological genesis, evolution, adaptation, observation, communication, social interaction, & delineation of difference
- Epistemological framework for place & time
- Categorical and systemic taxonomy

# Two ways of thinking and knowing

<b><i>Traditional Knowledge (TK)</i></b>	<b><i>Scientific Ecological Knowledge (SEK)</i></b>
Abstract	Concrete
Qualitative	Quantitative
Inclusive	Exclusive
Intuitive	Intellectual
Holistic	Reductionist
Spiritual (social values)	Clinical ("value free")
Co-existence	Control
Diachronic (long time series, place oriented)	Synchronic (short time series, broad generalities)
People are part of nature (reciprocity)	People apart from nature (competition)
Communal Knowledge Based on insights collected by practitioners (transferred generation to generation)	Individual Knowledge Data collected by specialists/researchers (shared by publication)

# Opportunity: Biological Diversity

- **Monitoring & Management**
  - Permanent, place-based
  - Multi-generational history of observation & interpretation
  - Climate change impacts
  - Ecological Functions
  - Invasive Species

# Indian Tribes

## Managers and Potential Partners

- The experience of Tribes with resource stewardship and adaptation spans millennia.
- Tribes have accumulated traditional knowledge and acute sensitivities to their environment.
- Tribal peoples will be among the first to notice changes to ecological processes.
- Many Tribes have sophisticated resource mgmt. programs, and their own environmental laws and policies.



# Tribal Partners

- **Permanence**
- **Dependence on natural resources**
  - Intimate ties between communities and environments (economic, cultural, spiritual)
  - Commitment to stewardship and sustainable use, credibility as long-term stewards
  - Multi-generational, place-based experience
  - Experience adapting to change
  - Reserved rights to water, hunt, fish, & gather

# Opportunities For Partnerships

- Intellectual
- Practical & Economic
- Environmental Stewardship
- Biological & Cultural
- Political

# Indian Tribes

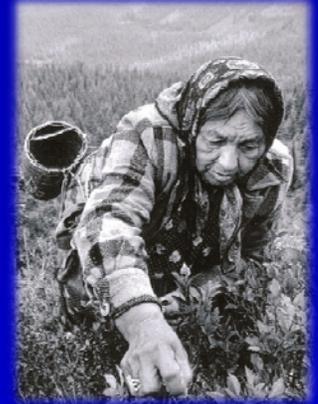
## What They Offer



- History of holistic stewardship
- Contemporary expertise on emerging social, ecological and economic issues.
- Expertise in the integration of processes, disciplines, and funding to resolve complex, multi-resource, value, & jurisdictional landscape-scale management.
- Experience that enables diverse interests to bridge gaps in communication and perception to find common ground.

# Indian Tribes

## What They Need



- Government-to-government consultation and substantive participation in the development of policy, objectives, and initiatives regarding climate change and landscape-scale management.
- Reciprocal sharing of knowledge, expertise and scientific research.
- Increased monitoring at the tribal level.



# Questions?

