

# THE HOPI RESERVATION AND EXTENSION PROGRAMS

## Part A: Setting (geographic, social, economic)

Located on the Colorado Plateau in northern Arizona, the Hopi people trace their history in Arizona to more than 2,000 years, but their history as a people goes back many more thousands of years. According to their legends, the Hopi migrated north to Arizona from the south, up from what is now South America, Central America and Mexico.

The Hopi Reservation occupies part of Navajo and Coconino counties and encompasses approximately 1,542,306 acres. Having inhabited this high and dry area since the 12th century, the Hopi have developed a unique agriculture practice, “dry farming”.

### Tribal Government

The Hopi Tribe has a Tribal Council that includes both elected and appointed representatives depending on the village that sends them to council. Some Hopi Villages choose to not send representatives to Tribal Council. Throughout the Hopi reservation, every village is an autonomous government. However the Hopi Tribal Council makes law for the tribe and sets policy to oversee tribal business. Elections for Tribal Chairman and Vice Chairman are held every four year through a reservation-wide vote of enrolled tribal members

Benjamin Nuvamsa, Chairman  
 Todd Honyaoma, Sr., ViceChairman  
 The Hopi Tribe  
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There is no private ownership of land; these were clan and village lands before the Federal Government arrived and turned them into trust lands. The traditional clan and village ownership of land survives. Property passes from mother to daughter. Men move to their wife’s village and farm her fields.

### Contact Information

All proposals should be sent to the Tribal Chairman, the Tribal Council and the affected department. For current department information, access the tribal website at: <http://critonline.com/>. The mailing address for C.R.I.T. Reservation representatives is:

Colorado River Indian Tribes  
 Route 1, Box 23-B  
 Parker, AZ 85344

Table 1: Demographic Information - 200 US Census

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000		
Geographic area: Hopi Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, AZ		
Subject	Number	Percent
<b>Total population</b>	<b>6,946</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>SEX</b>		
Male	3,398	48.9
Female	3,548	51.1
Total households	1,968	100.0

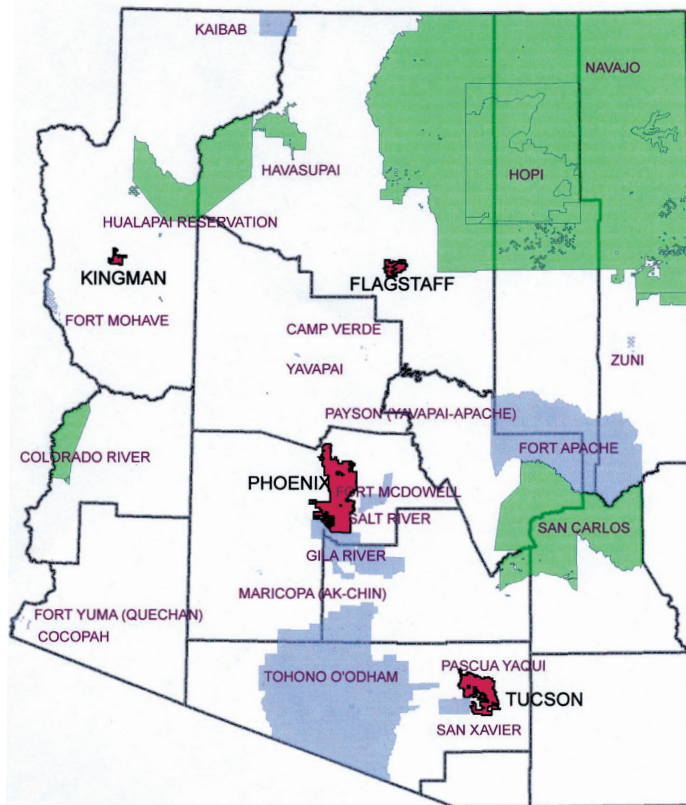


Figure 1. Map of Indian Reservations in Arizona

Table 2: Hopi Tribal Lands as of 2007

		Approximate Area (acres)
<b>Trust lands</b>		
	1882 Reservation	1.5 million acres
	Moencopi	60,000 acres
<b>Fee lands</b>		
	Three Canyon Ranches	+110,000 acres
	Various Commercial Properties	
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.7 million acres</b>

## Communities

Twelve Villages make up the Hopi Reservation. These villages are found at both the base and the top of three mesas that project to the south from Black Mesa (Figure 2):

- **First Mesa** - The three villages lying on top of this mesa are Tewa, Sichomovi and Walpi, while Polacca sits at the base of the mesa.
- **Second Mesa** - The three villages are Shungopavi, Sipaulovi and Mishongnovi.
- **Third Mesa** - Further west are found the villages of Kykotsmovi, Old Oraibi (considered the oldest continuously inhabited village in North America, established about 1150 A.D.) Bacavi and Hotevilla.

## Language

Hopi and Tewa are the traditional spoken languages of the Hopi Reservation.

## Schools

Community, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and a Mennonite Mission schools operate on the Reservation. Hopi High School includes both junior and senior high schools with an attendance of about 670 students.

Graduation rate for the high school is about 80%. Additionally, a branch of Northland Pioneer College offers community college course work for residents.

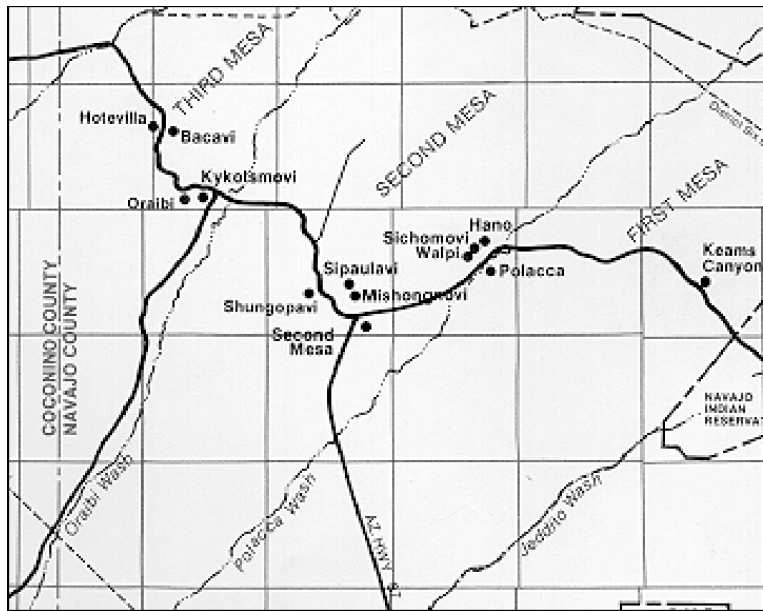


Figure 2. Map of the Hopi Reservation

## Predominant Ecological Types and Significance

A part of the Colorado Plateau, the main reservation is topographically diverse, ranging from 5000 feet at its southwest corner to over 7000 in the northwestern part. Ecological communities include wash riparian communities, high desert grasslands, pinyon-juniper woodlands, and ponderosa pine forests. Traditionally, plants and game were harvested from all these communities, and many tribal members continue to harvest wild plants and game today. Rangeland and farming areas are managed for agricultural activities such as livestock ranching and dryland farming. The Tribe also monitors water quality at dozens of springs and wetlands and has conducted restoration activities at several of these sites. The Hopi Tribe is currently in litigation over water rights in the Little Colorado Basin. Community water sources are wells drilled into the Navajo Aquifer and is limited.

## Natural Resource-Based Economic Activities

### Agriculture

Hopi dry farms corn, beans, squash, and melon during the summer period. Of these crops corn is probably the best associated with Hopi. A wide variety of corn is grown – blue, purple, red yellow, white and sweet. These are traditional open pollinated varieties that have been selected by Hopi farmers over hundreds of years. Corn is still vitally important to Hopi culture and cuisine. Outsiders see corn planting at Hopi as a physical operation. To Hopi it is the basis of their religion, they do not separate the physical act of planting from praying. Religion ensures survival both physically and spiritually. All of life revolves around this.

### Livestock Production

Production of cattle on the Hopi is the one commercial agricultural area of the Hopi people. Beef cattle cow and calf operations cover a very large portion to the reservation. Cattle are marketed both year a around to a sales yard in Holbrook, Arizona and at a fall livestock sale.

### Gardening

Gardening has been a traditional activity of women. Still in use are terraced gardens over the time Hopis have lived here that rely on springs as water sources. Chiles, onions, tomatoes, and other crops requiring irrigation are typically found in a Hopi garden.

### Gathering

Tribal members gather native plants for medicinal, domestic, dietary and crafts uses. Current tribal resource management policies seek to protect these resources for use by tribal members. Hunting is only for ceremonial use of wildlife at this time.

### Tourism

People from around the world come to Hopi drawn by cultural factors such as arts and crafts produced on the reservation. Several shops sell these works across the reservation. Tours are available through the services of local guides. Villages do not allow photography, sketching, recording, or unfettered access to tourists within their boundaries. Inquiring with local villages or the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office in Kykotsmovi is recommended.

Table 3 Major Programs and Primary Collaborators

PROGRAM	ISSUES	ACTIVITIES	COLLABORATORS
<b>Youth Education Programs</b>	Cultivate knowledge of the natural resources of the Reservation	Assistance to village programs and Non-Governmental Organizations.	Hopi Office of Youth Affairs, Hopi Pu'tavi Project
<b>Range Programs: Tribe and Livestock</b>	Conserving range resources used by livestock and wildlife	Workshops and field days Range Monitoring	Tribal Office of Range Management/Land
ASSOCIATIONS			OPERATIONS
<b>Community Economic Development</b>	Economic opportunity development for local community members	Hopi Art Market, adult computer training	Hopi Pu'tavi Project, Inc.
<b>Community Health/ Traditional Foods</b>	Encourage local food consumption to promote healthy lifestyle	Revising cookbook for traditional Hopi foods, examine dietary changes	Hopi Pu'tavi, Native Peoples Technical Assistance, Community Health Representatives, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development

### Fuelwood Harvest

Hopi Tribal members harvest dry juniper and pinyon pine for heating their homes. Juniper is the preferred wood of choice for heating the cooking stones for making piki, the traditional corn wafer bread of the Hopi.

### Mining

Mining has been an important economic activity for Hopi. The Reservation contains substantial coal reserves. Past coal sales royalties have been important for Tribal revenues since the mid-1960's.

## Part B: History of Extension

Under the Bureau of Indian Affairs funding extension agents have operated for six decades working for both the BIA and the University of Arizona.

### Federally Recognized Tribe Extension Program Agent

Matt Livingston was the first agent dedicated to the Reservation through the Arizona Cooperative Extension Program based at the University of Arizona. He has served from December, 1991 to the present.

## Part C: Research

Research in tribal communities is often complicated by a long history of mistrust and cases of unethical practices. Because Tribal communities are often small and isolated, research has more potential to leave stigmas than for typical non-tribal communities. Most tribes wish to maintain ownership of data for a variety of reasons. {Refer to separate fact sheet}.

## Topics

There are many research topics of current interest for which the Tribe has established programs and data, including the following:

- Health and traditional foods, with an ongoing interest in community wellness and participatory research
- Rangelands and wildlife, including treatment of woody species encroachment.
- Water, including protection of water quality, wetlands, and groundwater aquifers.

## Research Publications

Considerable research has been conducted and published about the Hopi concerning their culture. Current research includes agricultural/food/culture studies being conducted by the Hopi Tribe, University of Arizona, and Northern Arizona University personnel. The following list (recommended by the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office) includes several publications of the past six decades that feature local research:

- Clemmer, Richard O. (1995). Roads in the sky: the Hopi Indians in a century of change. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
- Koshear, Jeannine. (1987). Hopi agriculture: Environmental and cultural change. M.A. Thesis, Anthropology Department. University of California, Berkeley.
- Laird, David. (1977). Hopi bibliography. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press.
- Loftin, John. (1991). Religious and Hopi life in the 20th century. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.



- Lomatewama, Ramson. (1993) *Drifting thought ancestor dreams: New and selected poems*. Flagstaff, AZ: Entrada Books.
- Tanner, Clara Lee. (1990). *Southwestern Indian Basketry*. In *The art of Native basketry: a living legacy*. F.W. Porter, ed. pp. 187-211. NY: Greenwood Press.
- Whiteley, Peter. (1988). *Bacavi: Journey to reed springs*. Forward by Leigh Jenkins Honheptewa. Flagstaff, AZ: Northland Press.
- Whiting, Alfred F. (1939). *Ethnobotany of the Hopi*, Flagstaff, AZ: Museum of Northern Arizona.

## Current Research Approval Process

The Tribal Chairman has authority to issue permits for research. Research proposals should be directed to the Tribal Chairman for review by appropriate tribal staff. <http://www.nau.edu/~hcpo-p/hcpo/index.html>

## References

- US Census Bureau 2000. (August 1, 2007). *Quick facts*. Retrieved from [http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/QTSubjectShowTablesServlet?\\_ts=214492201582](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/QTSubjectShowTablesServlet?_ts=214492201582)
- Intertribal Council of Arizona, (2007, August 1). *Hopi Tribe*. Retrieved from [http://www.itcaonline.com/tribes\\_hopi.html](http://www.itcaonline.com/tribes_hopi.html)
- Cultural Preservation Office, (2007, August 1). *Hopi cultural preservation Office home page*, <http://www.nau.edu/~hcpo-p/>



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[cals.arizona.edu/pubs/natresources/az1464.pdf](http://cals.arizona.edu/pubs/natresources/az1464.pdf)

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