

Washoe Tribe/Hung a lel Ti Alpine County

Ongoing Partnership

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CWDA 2022

Today's Presentation

- Background/context of relationship
- 2014 MOU
- Ongoing Partnership



Timeline

Since time immemorial – lived in the Sierra from Honey Lake to Mono Lake

1844 John Fremont and Kit Carson come through region

1848 Gold rush

1860 Comstock Lode in Virginia City

1908 Douglas County enacts law declaring all native people in town limits after sundown to be a public nuisance unless they were servants. Law stayed on the books until 1974.

1917 First “colonies” in Nevada established

1936 Indian Reorganization Act

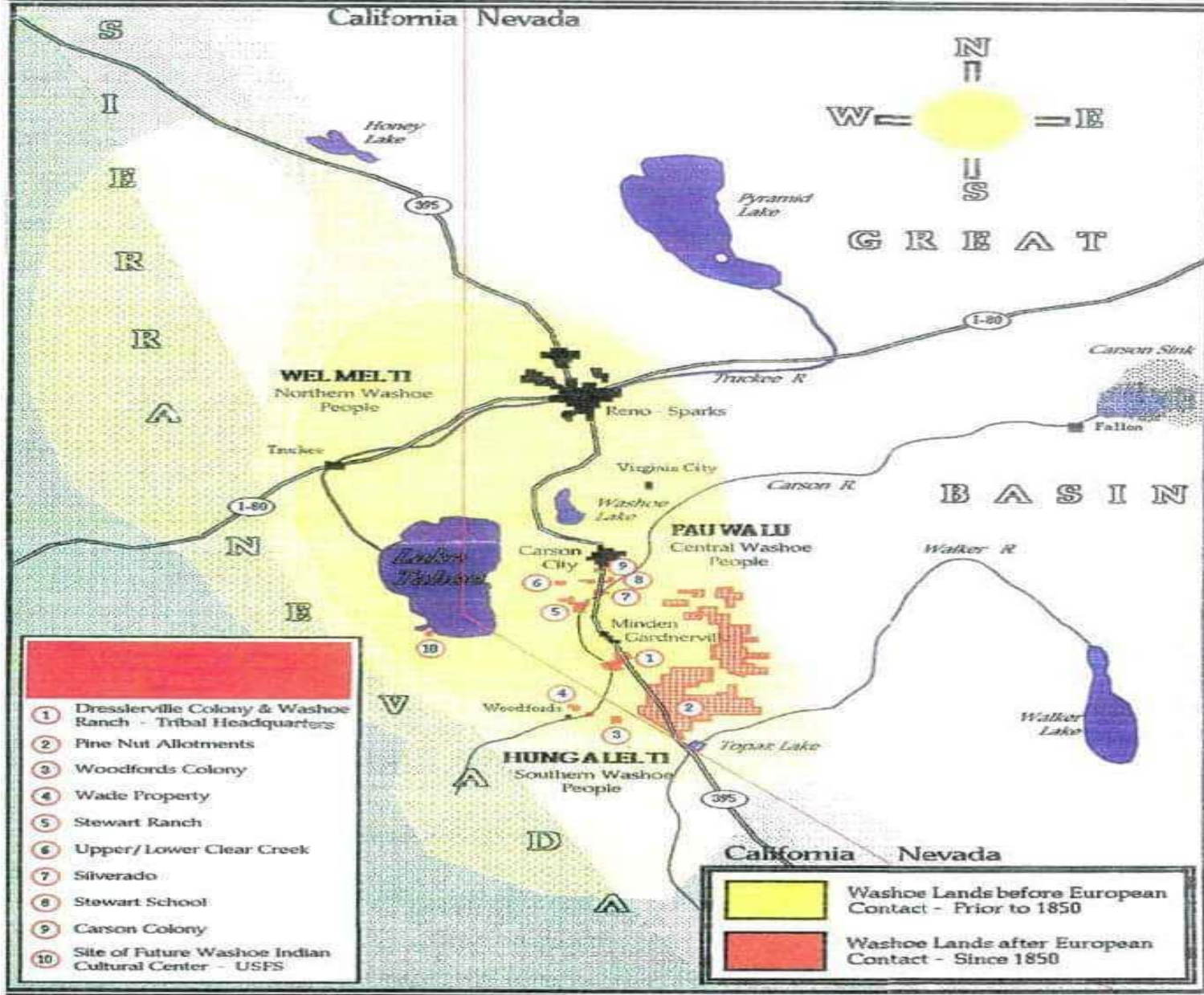
1970 Hung a lel ti established in California

1996 Tribe resumes exclusive jurisdiction over child custody proceedings under ICWA – memo drafted

2007 Negotiations on collaboration begin – memo holding things up

2012 Change in County leadership

2014 MOU signed



WASHOE LANDS

Present And Pre-European Contact Lands Of The Washoe Indian Tribe Of Nevada And California

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2014 MOU

The 'Wherefores'

❖ Recognized:

- ❖ The Tribe's jurisdiction over child dependency cases that arise in Washoe Indian Country
 - ❖ That Alpine County HHS has authority to provide public health and human services
 - ❖ That Alpine County must investigate and respond to all allegations of child abuse and neglect
 - ❖ That community members in the County are citizens of not just the tribe, but also that County, State and United States
- ❖ Affirmed the Tribe and HHS's commitment to a mutually supportive working relationship to provide supportive services**

2014 MOU

Purpose of the MOU

- ❖ Share resources and expertise, thereby increasing the provision of comprehensive child welfare services within the parties' service area
- ❖ To protect the health and safety of children
- ❖ To provide an array of services
- ❖ To promote cooperation and collaboration among all service providers
- ❖ To prevent the inappropriate cultural separation of children from their families
- ❖ To preserve the unique values and culture of the Tribe

2014 MOU

- ❖ Agree
 - ❖ **To work closely together**
 - ❖ To ensure compliance with the ICWA (federal and state version)
 - ❖ The County acknowledged the Tribe's sovereignty and explicitly stated that it respected the Tribe's laws
 - ❖ The County supported the Tribe's exclusive jurisdiction over Washoe children in the service area
 - ❖ **To open communication and information sharing with regard to accessing and making services available**
 - ❖ To obtain ROIs so information could be shared
 - ❖ **To maintain confidentiality**
 - ❖ Tribe granted County access to Washoe Indian Country to provide those services
 - ❖ County agreed:
 - ❖ To accept referrals from the Tribe
 - ❖ To make foster care resources available
 - ❖ To authorize payments for children when eligible
 - ❖ To structure case plans so as to make effective use of limited resources
- ❖ Dispute resolution
- ❖ Tightly limited waiver of sovereign immunity