



COVID-19 Regional Response Fund Report March 2020 - March 2021 Appendix 1: Regional Context

Humboldt Area Foundation + Wild Rivers Community Foundation Service Area: A Regional Context

As a whole, the area is often defined by bodies of water. Eighteen percent of Curry County is water, containing 24 lakes and 13 rivers. Similarly, 18% of Del Norte County is water, containing 19 lakes and five major rivers, four of which also flow in Humboldt County where there are 110 miles of Pacific coastline, 12 watersheds, five lagoons, and two lakes.

Trinity County has four lakes and also shares two large-volume rivers with Humboldt County: the Trinity and the Eel. Whether or not the rivers are considered sacred, wild, scenic and recreational, they are an integral part of ecosystems and have flowed through the history of the place, through the redwood trees and through generations of people. The Klamath, Eel, Mattole, Smith, Chetco, Rogue and Sixes rivers are just some of the many high-flowing rivers connecting jurisdictions and cultures, times and places, species and ways of living.

The area represents remote rural areas bound together by the land, water, history and circumstances. The large service area extends beyond 10,000 square miles—about the same as the state of Massachusetts—with a census popula-

tion of about 200,000. The region is also projected to shelter a significant part of California’s migrant and undocumented workers given its agriculture and service industries. Cycles of extractive natural industries, such as gold, fishing and timber, have led to economic booms and busts. The region has emerged today as a dairy and agricultural hub for the state—including a transitioning cannabis industry. Its largest employers are governments, nonprofits and retail services.

Tribal Nations in HAF+WRCF’s Service Region

There are 23 tribal nations, reservations and rancherias in the service area—the most concentrated group of Native American tribes in the state of California.

Additionally, according to Census 2010, California has the largest Native American population in the United States: “12% of the total native population” (www.courts.ca.gov/3066.htm). Of the local tribes, including the Yurok Nation, the most populous in the state, as well as the Hoopa Valley, Karuk, Wiyot and Tolowa Dee-Ni’ nations, there is a strong revitalization of native cultures, languages and traditions in the region, including a nationally regarded Native American Studies program at the region’s California State University at Humboldt (Humboldt State University).

HAF+WRCF Service Area Map



Regional Indigenous People and Tribal Nations

1. Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria
2. Big Lagoon Rancheria
3. Blue Lake Rancheria
4. Chilula Tribe
5. Chimariko*
6. Coos
7. Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation
8. Karuk Tribe
9. Lassik*
10. Nomlaki
11. Nongatl*
12. Nor El Muk Wintu Nation
13. Resighini Rancheria
14. Round Valley Indian Tribes
15. Sinkyone
16. Sovereign Nation of Elk Valley Rancheria
17. Tolowa Dee-ni’ Nation
18. Trinidad Rancheria
19. Tsnungwe Council
20. Wailaki
21. Whilkut*
22. Wiyot Tribe
23. Yurok Tribe

*Denotes tribes with descendants only without an active tribal organization.



Humboldt Area Foundation + Wild Rivers Community Foundation Service Regional Demographics

Demographics % of Regional Population

Total Across Region:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Population | 198,580 | 100% |
| White | 166,239 | 84% |
| Native American | 18,358 | 9% |
| Asian American | 11,365 | 6% |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 39,866 | 20% |
| African American | 3,220 | 2% |

Curry County

| | | |
|---|---------------|------------|
| Population: 22,925 (~12% of reg. pop.) | 22,925 | 12% |
| White | 21,045 | |
| Native American | 596 | |
| Asian American | 183 | |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 16,965 | |
| African American | 115 | |
| Undocumented: No Data | - | |

Del Norte County

| | | |
|---|---------------|------------|
| Population: 27,812 (~14% of reg. pop.) | 27,812 | 14% |
| White | 21,721 | |
| Native American | 2,698 | |
| Asian American | 862 | |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 5,590 | |
| African American | 973 | |
| Undocumented: No Data | - | |

Humboldt County

| | | |
|--|----------------|------------|
| Population: 135,558 (~68% of reg. pop.) | 135,558 | 68% |
| White | 112,784 | |
| Native American | 8,676 | |
| Asian American | 3,931 | |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 16,403 | |
| African American | 2,033 | |
| Undocumented: No Data | - | |

Trinity County

| | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|
| Population: 12,535 (~6% of foundation regional population) | 12,285 | 6% |
| White | 10,688 | |
| Native American | 6,388 | |
| Asian American | 356 | |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 909 | |
| African American | 98 | |
| Undocumented: No Data | - | |