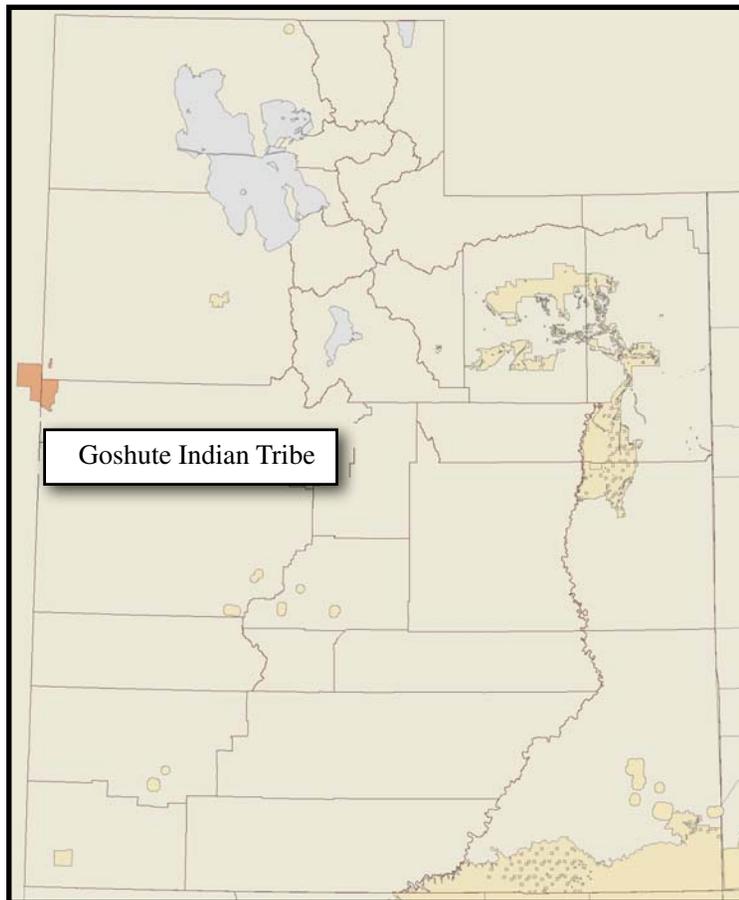


Goshute Indian Tribe Profile

Prepared for the:
**Dixie, Fishlake & Manti-La Sal National Forests
Forest Plan Revision
Social and Economic Assessment**

Prepared by:
Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
with assistance from:
Utah State University College of Natural Resources
Utah Division of Indian Affairs



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GOSHUTE INDIAN TRIBE—OVERVIEW



Contact

Goshute Indian Tribe
 (Confederate Tribes of
 Goshute Reservations)
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Governance

Goshute Business Council.
 Constitution and By-Laws
 approved December 1940

Current Issues

*Hazardous waste storage for
 economic development*

Tribal Land

Approximately 43,000 acres in
 Utah, 122,085 overall

The Goshute people exemplify the historic Great Basin desert way of life perhaps better than does any other group, both benefiting and suffering from their desert isolation. Historically, the Goshutes had Shoshone relatives and friends to the north, Paiutes and Pavants to the south and the Utes to the east. At one time the Goshute homeland extended from the Wasatch front westward past Wells, Nevada and occupied several hundred square miles. The Goshute ranged across a wide area of the Great Basin and relied heavily on mountain ranges and watercourses, in addition to the desert between, for survival. This area has some of the most arid conditions on the continent, as well as one of the most varied regions in terms of climate, topography, flora and fauna. The tribe was sustained by an extraordinary diversity of food and medicinal plants, wild berries, plants, seeds, small game and insects. They survived with their broad understanding of growing cycles, variations in climate, and animal distribution patterns.

The current reservation of the Confederate Tribes of Goshute is located along Deep Creek mountain range, on the border between Nevada and Utah approximately 60 miles southeast of Wendover. It lies in White Pine County, Nevada in the extreme east central Nevada, and in Juab and Tooele Counties in West Central Utah. The reservation was established under Executive Order No.1539 approved May 20, 1912 and Executive Order No.1903, March 23, 1914 and under the authority of June 18, 1934. Land purchases were made from the years 1937 to 1990 for a total acreage of 112,085. An additional 10,000 acres on the southern boundary of the reservation brought the total acreage to 122,085.

The Goshute are part of the larger Shoshonean-speaking Native American groups. The first contact with whites was documented in 1826. The contact with whites remained sporadic and insignificant from that time until the arrival of the Mormons in 1847 when contact became continual and prolonged. At their peak the Goshutes numbered about 20,000. Their membership as of December 20, 1997 was 412 people.

A History of Utah American Indians (2000). ed. Forrest S. Cuch. Utah State University Press, Logan Utah
Source: Utah Historical Society, Division of Indian Affairs Tribal Profiles, 1997

<http://dced.utah.gov/indian/Today/goshute.html>

<http://www.skullvalleygoshutes.org/>