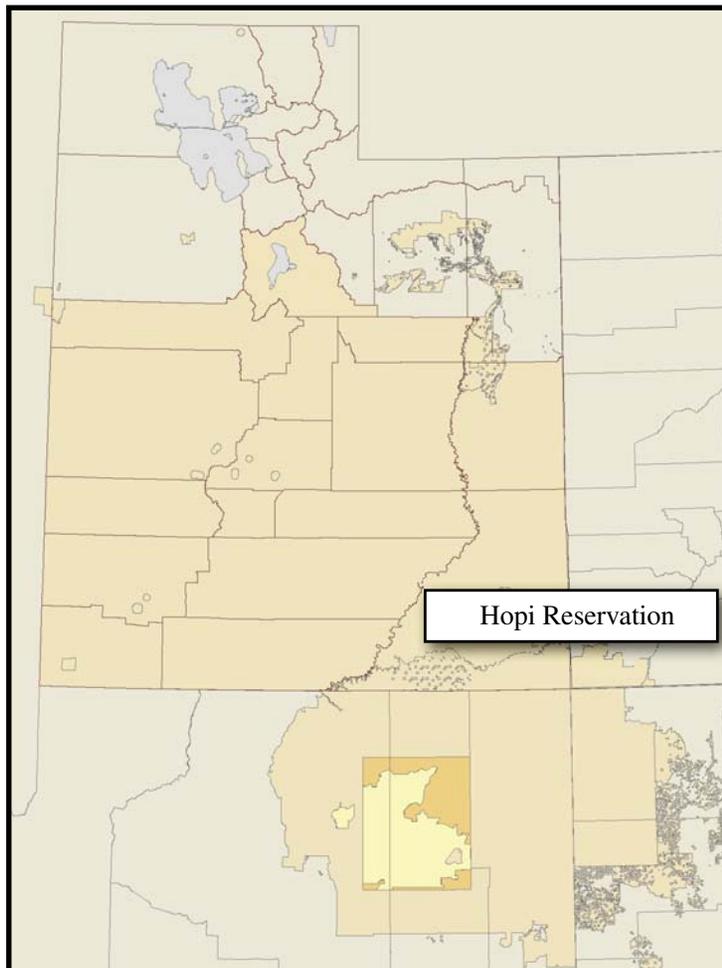


Hopi Profile

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:
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Utah Division of Indian Affairs



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HOPI—OVERVIEW



Contact

Hopi Tribal Government
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Governance

Tribal Council with
representatives from the 12
villages for external matters,

Village leaders are for
governing local matters in a
more traditional manner.

Constitution prepared in
1936 in response to Indian
Reorganization Act of 1934.
Used for external matters
only.

Current Issues

*Water drawdown on Navajo
Aquifer and proposed
pipeline from Lake Powell*

Hopi people have the longest authenticated history of occupation of a single area by any Native American tribe in the United States. They settled in the area once occupied by Hisatsinom (People of Long Ago) known more familiarly as Anasazi. Hopi culture developed with an elaborate ceremonial cycle, complex social organization and advanced dry farming agriculture. Hopi located their villages on mesas for defensive purposes, and held land surrounding the mesas held in common. It is estimated that the Hopi extent once covered over 18 million acres and they participated in an elaborate trade network that extended throughout the Southwest and into Mexico. The Ute and Paiute share language ties with the Hopi, indicating ancestral ties, which Hopi claim across large areas of their former territory as well.

Spanish explorers arrived in the mid 1500s, followed by Navajo from the east in the late 1600s. Navajo began to graze their livestock and appropriate fields and water resources. The Hopi retreated to their mesas and in turn lost claim to much of their traditional land as treaties established reservations for themselves and the Navajo. The Hopi Reservation, established by an 1882 Executive Order, is located in the high deserts of northeastern Arizona and is completely land locked by the Navajo Reservation. The Hopi have successfully brought suit against Navajo to regain more of their traditional land, and they are still pursuing further land settlements to expand their current holdings of only 1.6 million acres.

The Hopi villages are located on or below rocky points which extend to the southwest from Black Mesa. Wells tapping the Navajo Aquifer on the mesa are the sole source of drinking water for Hopi villages. The limited water supply from this ancient aquifer is forcing difficult a decision between using the water for the coal industry that employs residents and generates the vast majority of their tribal revenues, or reserving it for household use.

As of May, 2002 there are 11,323 Hopi/Arizona Tewa enrolled members of the Hopi Tribe and tribal enrollment is growing at an average of 5.5% per year while population is projected to grow at a rate of 2.2%. About 9,000 members reside on the reservation. The Hopi population is young. In 1990, 41.2% of the total Hopi population was under 20. This is encouraging for maintaining a viable community, but a challenge for education and economic development to carry on the society.

<http://www.hopi.nsn.us/>