



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

[N6564; NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0041188; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]

### Notice of Inventory Completion: California Department of Transportation, Oakland, CA

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has completed an inventory of associated funerary objects and has determined that there is a cultural affiliation between the associated funerary objects and Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice.

**DATES:** Repatriation of the associated funerary objects in this notice may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

**ADDRESSES:** Send written requests for repatriation of the associated funerary objects in this notice to Lindsay Busse and Althea Asaro, PQS Principal Investigators – Prehistoric Archaeology, California Department of Transportation, District 4, 111 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612, email [lindsay.busse@dot.ca.gov](mailto:lindsay.busse@dot.ca.gov) and [Althea.Asaro@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Althea.Asaro@dot.ca.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of Caltrans, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in its inventory or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

### Abstract of information available

The 1,830 associated funerary objects are catalog entries representing lithics, soil samples, clay, charcoal, faunal remains, shell and beads; of the 1,830 associated funerary object catalogs, 83 catalog numbers are missing and Caltrans and Sonoma State University (SSU) and San Francisco State University (SFSU) continue to look for them. These collections are primarily

the result of archaeological investigations along Highway 101 in Novato in Marin County for Caltrans improvement projects between 1966 and 2005 at archaeological site CA-MRN-192 (Acc. # 47-0 & 2005-3). There were known/documented potentially hazardous substances in the SFSU facility where cultural items were previously housed, which may have contaminated the housing (bags/boxes). This is currently remediated with personal protective equipment (PPE), but through consultation, the housing may be replaced before the transfer of custody.

### **Cultural affiliation**

Based on the information available and the results of consultation, cultural affiliation is clearly identified by the information available about the associated funerary objects described in this notice.

### **Determinations**

Caltrans has determined that:

- The 1,830 objects described in this notice are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rite or ceremony.
- There is a connection between associated funerary objects described in this notice and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, California.

### **Requests for Repatriation**

Written requests for repatriation of the associated funerary objects in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under ADDRESSES. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by:

1. Any one or more of the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.
2. Any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization with cultural affiliation.

Repatriation of the associated funerary objects described in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE

**FEDERAL REGISTER**]. If competing requests for repatriation are received, Caltrans must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the associated funerary objects are considered a single request and not competing requests. Caltrans is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice.

*Authority:* Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003, and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.10.

Dated: September 18, 2025.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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