

Tribes of Texas Report



*The Tigua Indian
Tribe of Texas*



*Alabama-Coushatta
Tribe of Texas*



*Kickapoo Traditional
Tribe of Texas*

Submitted by the

TEXAS TRIBAL STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP

*Comprised of Members of the
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas,
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas,
The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas
and
the Texas Department of Public Safety*

**Texas Public Safety
Broadband Program**

September 2017

“We’ve been honored to continue a long-standing tradition of a close working relationship with our Tribal Partners. We consider their participation and involvement a foundational aspect of our Texas Public Safety Broadband Program.”

Todd M. Early

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Table of Contents

- 1. DOCUMENT INTRODUCTION..... 1**
 - 1.1 DOCUMENT PURPOSE, MAKING PROGRESS TOWARD OBJECTIVES 1
 - 1.1.1 Notes to Readers 2
- 2. TRIBAL ASPECTS OF TEXAS PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND..... 2**
 - 2.1 TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT 2
 - 2.2 TEXAS TRIBAL STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP (TRIBAL SAG) 3
 - 2.2.1 Tribal SAG General Accomplishments 3
 - 2.2.2 Tribal Public Safety Agencies 4
- 3. CHALLENGES, OBJECTIVES & INITIATIVES..... 4**
 - 3.1 KEY CHALLENGES FACING TEXAS TRIBAL PARTNERS..... 4
 - 3.1.1 Finding Time for FirstNet 4
 - 3.1.2 Getting FirstNet to Make Tribes a Higher Priority 4
 - 3.1.3 Assigning the Talent and Leaders Needed 5
 - 3.1.4 Moving Forward Despite These Challenges 5
 - 3.2 TEXAS TRIBAL SAG OBJECTIVES 5
 - 3.3 PROPOSED INITIATIVES 6
- 4. FIRSTNET CALL TO ACTION..... 7**
- 5. THE TRIBES OF TEXAS – AN INTRODUCTION 8**
 - 5.1 DIVERSE ORIGINS 8
 - 5.2 MIGRATIONS OF THE TRIBES OF TEXAS..... 9
- 6. COMMON MILESTONES 10**
 - 6.1 COMMON MILESTONES TIMELINE 10
 - 6.2 SUMMARIZING THOUGHTS ON TEXAS TRIBAL BACKGROUNDER..... 11
- 7. ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBE OF TEXAS 12**
 - 7.1 ORIGINS, ANCESTRY & RELATIVES 12
 - 7.2 ALABAMA-COUSHATTA GOVERNANCE 13
 - 7.3 CELEBRATING CULTURAL HERITAGE..... 13
 - 7.4 ALABAMA-COUSHATTA HISTORICAL TIMELINE 14
- 8. KICKAPOO TRADITIONAL TRIBE OF TEXAS 16**
 - 8.1 LOCATION OF TRIBAL LANDS..... 16
 - 8.2 CELEBRATING CULTURAL HERITAGE..... 17
 - 8.3 KICKAPOO HISTORICAL TIMELINE 18
- 9. THE TIGUA INDIAN TRIBE OF TEXAS 19**
 - 9.1 LOCATION OF TRIBAL LANDS..... 19
 - 9.2 ORIGINS AND ANCESTRY 20
 - 9.3 CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL HERITAGE 21
 - 9.4 THE TIGUA INDIAN TRIBE OF TEXAS HISTORICAL TIMELINE..... 22
- 10. CLOSING AND SIGNATURES 23**

10.1 IN CLOSING 23

10.2 REPORT SIGNATURES 24

 10.2.1 Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo..... 24

 10.2.2 Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas..... 25

 10.2.3 Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas..... 26

 10.2.4 Texas Department of Public Safety..... 26

APPENDIX 27

 ACRONYMS, DEFINITIONS AND PRONUNCIATIONS..... 27

 BIBLIOGRAPHY 29

 OVERVIEW OF THE TEXAS INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS COALITION (TXICC)..... 30

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1. Document Introduction

This document has been developed on behalf of the Tribes of Texas and published under the auspices of the Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group (Texas Tribal SAG), which includes Tribal Partners representing the three federally recognized Tribes of Texas which are the **Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas**, the **Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas** and **The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas**. The purpose of this report is to articulate Tribal needs, challenges and priorities to FirstNet, the organization mandated by the Federal Government to deploy a public safety broadband network for first responders.

The Texas Public Safety Broadband Program (TxPSBP) recognized early in the process that relationships with the tribes would be a vital part of the program's outreach objectives. The State of Texas values the Tribes of Texas enormously, and recognizes their uniqueness which warrants preservation, respect and support. Although each of the Tribes of Texas has distinct identities, cultures and personalities, they have proven the ability to remain flexible, listen and respect one another and find common ground enabling them to move forward together.

This *Tribes of Texas Report* has been a collaboration among: Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Division of Emergency Management on behalf of the Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas; the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas Council; the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas Emergency Management Office, and the Texas Public Safety Broadband Program, under the Texas Department of Public Safety. As approved, this report is for submission to the FirstNet Single Point of Contact and Texas Statewide Interoperability Coordinator, the Governor of Texas and the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet).

1.1 Document Purpose, Making Progress Toward Objectives

The primary purpose of this document is to describe the background, status, objectives, challenges and initiatives envisioned by the Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group. The Texas Tribal SAG focuses upon FirstNet's Public Safety Broadband and how it relates to tribal interests.

This document also serves to fulfill and make tangible progress in accomplishing the following objectives, which are described in more detail in this document.

- **Describe the Texas Tribal SAG, Governance, Membership and Accomplishments** – Formed under the auspices of the Texas Public Safety Broadband Program, this document describes the methods, governance and consistency established. (Section 2.2.1)
- **Support Texas SAG Objectives** – This document supports the overall Texas Tribal SAG Objectives by establishing them through agreement among all three Tribes of Texas. (Section 3.2)
- **Proposed Initiatives to Support Objectives** – This document includes a list of brainstormed ideas the Tribal SAG will consider pursuing in future efforts. Each is designed to support overall objectives in one or multiple ways. (Section 3.3)
- **Enhance Understanding of the Tribes** – By providing backgrounds and information about the Texas Tribes, the report attempts to enhance understanding. Background information and common milestones are provided for the Tribes when considered together (Sections 5 & 6), as well as short profiles on each individual tribe. (Sections 7, 8 and 9)
- **Provide Example State Tribal Report** – By publishing this report, it is our collective hope that other States will have useful examples and ideas to similarly reach out and pull together a cohesive tribal group and support organizations around FirstNet deployment.

1.1.1 Notes to Readers

- The majority of the tribe-specific content is reused directly from the respective tribal websites and has been reviewed by tribal historians; additional sources are noted in the footnotes.
- This document uses foreign words, technical terms and acronyms. Please reference the Acronyms and Definitions section in the Appendix.
- Shorthand and abbreviations are used for brevity. Except for historical information all other information pertains to the Tribes of Texas when shorthand names are used.
- Objectives around Public Safety broadband coverage for tribal areas are being handled by other groups within the Texas Public Safety Broadband Program.

2. *Tribal Aspects of Texas Public Safety Broadband*

The following section presents an overview of the Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), how it operates and provides highlights of the group's accomplishments.

2.1 Tribal Engagement

The Texas Public Safety Broadband Program operating within the Texas Department of Public Safety has created multiple avenues and methods to engage the Texas Tribal Partners. For instance, offices of the Texas Statewide Interoperability Coordinator and the TxPSBP have met multiple times with tribal representatives, both individually and as a group. The meetings have brought tribal representatives together to discuss emergency communications capabilities, radio interoperability needs and the future of public safety broadband in Texas. A summary of the engagements of the Tribes of Texas is provided below.

- **Annual Meetings (4) with FirstNet at Texas Emergency Management Conferences (TEMC)** – For the past four consecutive years, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, the TxPSBP has coordinated face-to-face meetings between the Texas Tribal Partners and FirstNet tribal liaisons during the annual TEMCs, held in San Antonio in the spring of each year. In 2014, the Tribe had a chance to meet with the FirstNet Board Member and FirstNet National Tribal Liaison, in 2015 with the FirstNet Tribal Liaison and technical staffers and in 2016 and 2017 with technical staffers and newly assigned FirstNet Tribal Liaison. These meetings have included Tribal Partners from Tribes of Texas.
- **Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC)** – The Tribes of Texas have been informally participating in the TxICC and as part of the SCIP Executive Council since 2012 and are currently active. For more information on the TxICC, an additional section is included in the Appendix.
- **Tribal Strategic Advisory Group (Tribal SAG)** – Established from objectives driven from TxPSBP Governance objectives, the TxPSBP Tribal SAG was established to provide a voice for the tribes into the Texas FirstNet and Public Safety Broadband efforts. The Texas Tribal SAG has benefited greatly from consistent engagement from all three Tribes of Texas.
- **Visits to Tribes by TxDPS (SWIC, SPOC)** – The Texas SWIC Office and Texas Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for FirstNet have made multiple trips to visit and meet with tribal leaders throughout the life of the TxPSBP.
- **SCIP Executive Council (SEC) Input** – The SEC as a whole and in which the Tribes of Texas hold voting positions, will be providing input through the TxPSBP to the Office of the Governor (OOG) regarding the Tribal aspects of the Texas State Plan expected from FirstNet. The SEC, with 29 voting members, also maintains the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP). Representatives from all

three Tribes of Texas have been consistently attending annual Texas SCIP conferences and meetings since its inception.

- **Rural SAG** – Established from objectives driven by TxPSBP governance initiatives, the Rural Strategic Advisory Group was established to ensure that the needs of public safety agencies in rural areas will be adequately met by the FirstNet program. The Tribes of Texas were engaged and involved because most of their lands are in rural areas.

2.2 Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group (Tribal SAG)

The Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group has been meeting regularly to work on FirstNet topics since early 2014. Despite the challenges, the Texas Tribal SAG has benefited tremendously by the excellent level of engagement from all three Tribes of Texas. The TxPSBP initiated an ambitious program, led by a senior Texas DPS staffer with a gentle and persistent manner which has kept the program on track since the project kickoff.

A huge advantage enjoyed by the Texas Tribal SAG, is the remarkably healthy, mutually respectful and productive relationship among the three Tribes of Texas. The Texas Tribal SAG contacts regularly back each other up, defer to one another and trust one another.

2.2.1 Tribal SAG General Accomplishments

The Texas Tribal SAG stood up in 2014 and its focus was the Outreach and Education of FirstNet and the Texas Public Safety Broadband Program. Through 2015, the Tribal SAG transitioned to a tool to keep in touch, identify issues and keep the Tribes of Texas engaged and in the know with FirstNet, asking questions pertinent to the Tribes. The Tribal SAG has tracked and documented metrics, resources, meeting content and progress to plans and a roadmap.

List of Specific Accomplishments

TEMC 2014	Meeting with FirstNet and Tribes of Texas
Prior to 2015	Consistent Participation in Texas SCIP Conferences
February 2015	Tribal participation in Initial FirstNet Consultation
TEMC 2015	Meeting with FirstNet and Tribes of Texas
2015	Tribal SAG active throughout the year
2015	Consistent participation in Texas Rural SAG
2016	Monthly Texas Tribal SAG Meetings Held
TEMC 2016	Meeting with FirstNet and Tribes of Texas
TEMC 2016	Private, Tribal-Only Meeting Held
June 2016	Coverage Planning Workshop
September 2016	SCIP Conference FirstNet Consultation
TEMC 2017	Meeting with FirstNet and Tribes of Texas
September 2017	Tribes of Texas Tribal Report Published

At this juncture, the Tribal SAG asserts that the foundational aspects of FirstNet Outreach & Education and Governance programs have accomplished their respective missions. The Tribal SAG has successfully engaged Tribal Partners, establishing consensus and a knowledge base to make informed decisions. The group is now ready to proceed toward defining and establishing more tangible goals and opportunities to move the Tribes of Texas forward.

2.2.2 Tribal Public Safety Agencies

Most incidents on tribal lands requiring an emergency response are facilitated by tribal first responders. When additional resources are required mutual aid responders are called in. Tribal fire departments respond to mutual aid calls throughout Texas, and through the Texas Interagency Coordination Center, and may also respond to catastrophic events nationwide. The Tribes of Texas vary in their approaches, some operations are large enough to have dedicated agency operations, others, such as the Kickapoo, primarily rely upon county services. Tribal police, fire and emergency management services are woven into the fabric of first responder operations of their respective cities, counties and regions, enabling Texas Tribes to both provide and receive mutual aid services from other neighboring agencies as situations warrant.

3. Challenges, Objectives & Initiatives

The following section presents the key challenges faced by the Tribal Partners along with objectives for the group as a whole. A list of proposed initiatives based upon group brainstorming is being shared to stimulate other ideas and track projects which apply to future phases.

3.1 Key Challenges Facing Texas Tribal Partners

The Texas tribal community recognizes the many daunting challenges facing FirstNet. Among them are challenges which impact tribal interests.

3.1.1 Finding Time for FirstNet

One of the key challenges is squeezing FirstNet into the very busy days of the Texas Tribal Partners. FirstNet is just one of many federal priorities and initiatives the tribes are supporting. Workloads get even heavier in the tribal organizations so that one of the challenges is finding personnel with adequate capabilities who can also find the time to process and participate in FirstNet support activities.

3.1.2 Getting FirstNet to Make Tribes a Higher Priority

The Tribal Partners assert that because FirstNet is a federal program presented to the tribes, it is a fair expectation that FirstNet initiate regular updates and communications to tribal contacts, without requiring prompting and reminders. It is acknowledged that FirstNet support has improved with additional FirstNet Tribal Liaison staffing. However, the need still remains for more meaningful “face time” between the Tribes of Texas and FirstNet leaders, moving beyond the single annual meeting cadence of recent years. The Tribal Partners would also like to see the FirstNet staffers and Tribal Liaisons make national and regional tribal conferences more of a priority.

Another issue raised by the Tribal Partners is the need to move beyond the Outreach and Education phase and into substantive discussion toward tangible results. Rather than giving the Tribes of Texas less support and attention because of their cohesion and level of understanding, the Tribal Partners feel these accomplishments justify additional support from FirstNet to move them forward. This is explored further in the following *FirstNet Call to Action* section.

3.1.3 Assigning the Talent and Leaders Needed

Assigning high value personnel resources in tribal government to something so technical and specific to communications technology has been a daunting challenge. Some of the tribes don't have resources to keep up with better funded urban and suburban agencies. Not all tribes have a dedicated communications team, however some tribal departments have Public Safety communications support, perhaps from contractors or from their internal MIS or IT departments. Since they are not representatives for the Tribes, the tribal members consult with them to help process and articulate information.

3.1.4 Moving Forward Despite These Challenges

Despite these challenges, the Texas Tribal SAG has achieved a strong working understanding of FirstNet and FirstNet policies. With just three Tribes of Texas and the establishment of a tight, working group, the Texas Tribal SAG has participated fully in the process, an astounding accomplishment noting the challenges outlined.

3.2 Texas Tribal SAG Objectives

The objectives of the Texas Tribal SAG include:

- **Support Tribal Sovereign Status** – One of the areas of focus is how to preserve and strengthen tribal sovereignty for the Tribes of Texas. This reflects the deep commitment on the part of the State of Texas to involve the Texas Tribes, and to ensure they are able to take full advantage of their sovereignty and privileges not shared by other potential FirstNet agency users.
- **Engage in FirstNet Texas State Plan Process** – The Texas Tribal SAG is working with the Texas FirstNet Single Point of Contact (SPOC), engaging in the State's governance process, thereby enabling the Texas Tribal Partners to participate in review and support of the State's position on forthcoming FirstNet Texas State Plan.
- **Showcase Leadership of Tribes of Texas** – The project should seek opportunities to showcase the leadership and cohesion achieved by the Texas Tribal Partners. It is hoped that by providing ideas and experiences, the successes in Texas could help guide other US Tribes and other State coordination and tribal engagement efforts.
- **Represent Texas Tribal Interests to State of Texas & FirstNet** – One of the primary functions of the Tribal SAG is to provide an organized governance entity responsible for coordinating, compiling and helping to communicate the needs, interests, opinions and feedback from Texas Tribal Partners.
- **Create Opportunity to Better Understand Culture, Customs and History** – The entire process provides numerous opportunities, both large and small, to better understand each of the Texas tribes. It is our hope that through a greater understanding, it will be easier to appreciate how their tumultuous histories have impacted how the tribes view their world today. With more in-depth knowledge and understanding among all parties, more effective and nuanced policies and approaches will be enabled.
- **Motivate and Achieve More Consistent Communications with FirstNet** – The Texas Tribal SAG would like to focus on the consistency of information exchanges with FirstNet, with the overall objective of building trust through communication and understanding.
- **Enable More Human and Financial Resources to Pursue FirstNet Initiatives** – In order to purposefully pursue tribal-centric initiatives associated with TxPSBP, an approach which includes a combination of resources, such as funding, personnel and equipment may be needed.

- **Enhance Safety, Protection and Overall Quality of Life for Tribes of Texas** – An objective which articulates tangible ways the FirstNet program can enhance the safety, economic opportunity and quality of life for Texas tribal people.

3.3 Proposed Initiatives

The following initiatives have been discussed and will be explored as the Tribal SAG develops and finalizes its next set of overall objectives. The current list of initiatives being considered for staffing and prioritization is briefly described below, in no particular order.

- **Better Leverage Tribal Grant Programs for FirstNet Work** – This initiative would identify active grant programs which could be more fully leveraged by including FirstNet in the eligibility.

- **Allocate More Resources to Pursue Texas Tribal FirstNet Project(s)** – This initiative would pursue a variety of approaches to create a plan for cross-training, funding, requesting and assigning additional staff necessary to support more initiatives with greater intensity.



Fig. 1, Concealed Cell Tower Examples – The images above show a few examples of how cellular tower sites can be concealed to reduce impact on sensitive visual or cultural landscapes.

- **Establish Regular Dialog with FirstNet, Improve Information Exchange** – The Texas tribal community would like to establish regular cadence for maintaining ongoing dialog with FirstNet, receiving information and assistance on pursuing tribal initiatives.
- **Improve Quality and Interaction for More Effective Tribal Advocacy** – These initiatives would explore ways of improving the level of tribal advocacy not just on behalf of the Tribes of Texas but also more effective representation by states and FirstNet of *all* Indian Nations.
- **Explore A Texas Tribal Pilot** – An opportunity to showcase leadership of the Texas tribes would be the deployment of a tribal operational demonstration of a future FirstNet aspect or technology.
- **Drive Sustainable, Tribal Economic Development** – This initiative builds upon an idea suggested by FirstNet. This would tap the geographically dispersed tribes to help support the FirstNet program. Ideas include developing “Tribal Op Centers” or co-location of FirstNet on tribal-owned towers, which could be leveraged to expand rural broadband and perhaps generate commercial (non-FirstNet) tower lease revenues.
- **Enable Resources Through Participation in other Texas SAGs, Tribal Efforts** – One objective at the program level is to enable the SAGs to leverage and support one another.
- **“Gentle” Deployment Initiatives** – In the spirit of the respect and reverence all tribal people share for nature and the earth, a potential initiative would be to assert that FirstNet infrastructure deployments enhance rather than detract from sensitive visual or cultural landscapes. For instance, deployments could be concealed or designed to reflect tribal cultural traditions.

This preliminary list of proposed and brainstormed Texas Tribal SAG initiatives has been generated to foster ongoing discussion, consideration and possible implementation. These are presented in this document to stimulate additional ideas and provide FirstNet with initiatives worthy of their support and assistance. The Tribes of Texas have met together in private in order to come together on a common set of Tribal SAG

Objectives and supporting Initiatives. As with any healthy and effective strategy initiative, the process will drive continued refinements over time.

In summary, the State of Texas needs to clearly convey that despite the challenges identified, the Tribes of Texas have remained consistently engaged and attentive across a broad-base of Public Safety initiatives. The additional overhead created by the FirstNet Public Safety Broadband Network outreach and work efforts has created a substantial workload for the Texas Tribal Partners, and they have persevered despite competing pressures.

4. *FirstNet Call to Action*

The Tribal Partners emphasize the need to convey that as a result of Texas Public Safety Broadband Program efforts, the Tribes of Texas have been successfully engaged through outreach and fully informed through the education process. Interacting with FirstNet since its inception, it is time to move the Tribes of Texas beyond objective-based discussions and into the development of tangible plans which will help move the Tribes of Texas purposefully forward.

For example, the Tribal Partners would like to see specific deployment plans, perhaps distinguished within the Texas State Plan, which address the unique needs and situations of tribal public safety and reflect the priority intended by Congress and captured in the Statute. A list of possible initiatives to pursue is listed in Section 3.3. Based upon the strategic locations of the three Tribes of Texas, another opportunity would be to leverage rural and/or tribal grant programs that could enable the Tribes to build, own or operate infrastructure eventually, perhaps generating ongoing revenue from commercial tenants to support operations and sustainability—again, while supporting overall national and border security objectives.

Lastly, the Texas Tribal SAG would like to call upon other States to develop programs, strategies and initiatives similar to the Texas Tribal SAG in order to better expose, engage and motivate coordinated Tribal programs--enabling more Indian Nations to benefit from the exciting opportunities presented by the FirstNet Public Safety Broadband Network.

“Many tribes in the US do not have the support we have in Texas. We would like to see more States reach out and work with their Tribes on FirstNet, the way the State of Texas has worked with us.”

Willo Sylestine

Emergency Management Coordinator
Fire Chief

Alabama-Coushatta Indian Nation Fire Department
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Texas SAG Tribal Partner
Tribal Member

5. The Tribes of Texas – An Introduction

This section provides an overview of the three Texas tribes taken together, comparing and contrasting their locations, histories and ancestries. Details are provided regarding the diversity and similarities in the many challenges they have separately and collectively endured during their hundreds of years of history with the State of Texas and its predecessors. Our introduction begins with a description of their diverse origins.

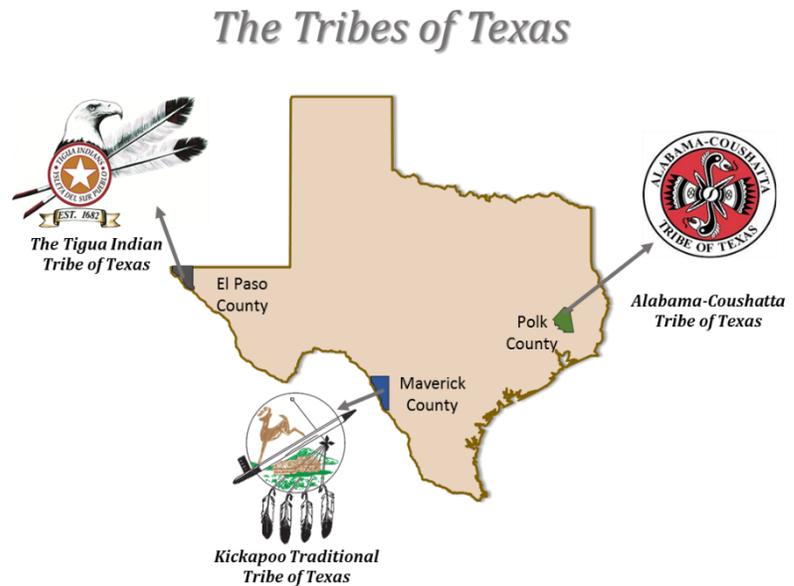


Fig. 2, The Tribes of Texas Locations – This illustration shows the location and counties of the federated lands for each of the three Tribes of Texas. Note that two are situated on the border and the third in the state evacuation area, making each a highly strategic area for Public Safety communications coverage. (Other counties which have non-federated tribal lands are not shown.)

5.1 Diverse Origins

The three tribes which eventually settled in Texas are each from entirely separate categories developed over years of research by anthropologists called: Cultural Areas, Language Stock and Regional Subdivisions. These aspects have been summarized for the Tribes of Texas in the table¹ below.

This diversity has been understood for many years. In the early 1960s, a Texas historian when describing the Texas tribes noted the diversity, writing it was like “*comparing similarities among...China, Australia and Pakistan.*”²

Each of the Tribes of Texas originated from different parts of the continent and arrived in three different areas of Texas. This next section describes roughly how each arrived to where they are today.

Fig. 3, Table Comparing Origins and Language – This table illustrates the diversity among the three Tribes of Texas based upon classifications created by anthropologists studying their thousands of years of history.

Anthropological Category	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas	The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas
Culture Area	SOUTHEAST	NORTHEAST	SOUTHWEST
Language Stock	MUSKOGEAN	ALGONQUIN	TANOAN/ SOUTHERN TIWA
Regional Subdivision		Great Lakes	Pueblo
Representative Tribe(s)	Alabama-Coushatta	Kickapoo	The Tigua
Language Spoken Today	Alabama-Coushatta	Kickapoo	Southern Tiwa

v4

¹ Anton Treuer. *Atlas of Indian Nations*, National Geographic Society, page 467, with Additional edits based upon feedback from tribal experts.

² WW Newcomb, Jr. *The Indians of Texas, From Prehistoric to Modern Times*, (Austin, University of Texas, 1961), page 21.

5.2 Migrations of the Tribes of Texas

This section provides an overview of the migration paths which are also illustrated on the map below.³ Additional details and information are provided in the Tribal Overview sections.

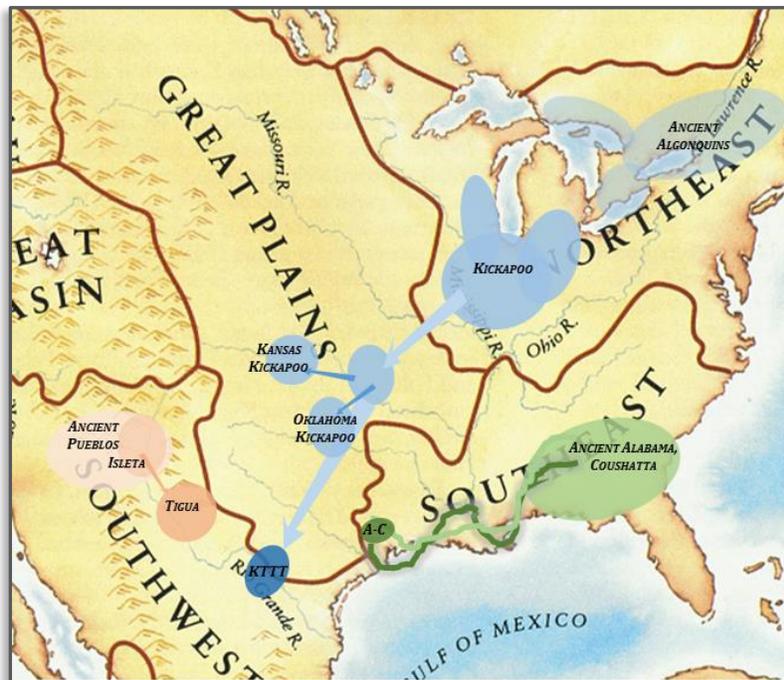


Fig. 4, Map Showing Tribes of Texas Migration – This map illustrates the approximate migration paths of the Texas tribes and roughly how they ended up in where they are today. Indications are not to scale.

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe (AC) – The Alabama and Coushatta Tribes both originated in the Southeast cultural area, traveling along similar routes west along the Gulf Coast eventually ending up in the Big Thicket area of Southeast Texas. Their approximate migration paths are shown in green on the map above.

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas (KTTT) – The Kickapoo are considered an Algonquin Woodland Tribe believed to have ancient origins in eastern Canada. The Kickapoo are early inhabitants of the Midwest, becoming a powerful force there before migrating to Missouri and eventually migrating to Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. The KTTT band are primarily from Oklahoma and maintain a close relationship with them to this day.

The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (YdSP) – The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo is unique among tribal people because they still reside just a few hundred miles from their original ancestral home in the Southwest Cultural area in what has since become northern Arizona and New Mexico. Forced to migrate as captives in the early 1680s, one surviving group migrated south to the El Paso area and established the Ysleta del Sur in 1682,⁴ becoming the first and oldest village in the State of Texas.

All three tribes can trace their history to the earliest beginnings of the State of Texas. The Tribes of Texas are not just Native Americans, they are Native Texans!

³ Jay Miller. *Atlas of Indian Nations*, excerpt of map illustration, National Geographic Society, page 467.

⁴ *Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tigua Timelines, Strengthening Sovereignty Over Time*, pdf document.

6. Common Milestones

Understanding the history of tribal work partners is essential when developing effective policies and approaches when dealing with tribal partners and issues. It is important to understand both the events and political actions at the state and national level which affected all tribal people, as well as actions specifically directed at the individual tribes.

Even at a glance, the turmoil and complexity of the tribal timelines become readily obvious. Their collective stories span multiple regions, surviving through the transitions from the King of Spain, a newly independent Mexico, the Republic of Texas and finally, the United States and the State of Texas. At the national level, the entire span of the 19th and 20th centuries became a political rollercoaster, marked with both landmark victories and brutal oppression. The years of turmoil, challenge and constantly changing legal landscape and many broken promises are a reality that must be fully understood and absorbed in order to create effective tribal policies and programs.

6.1 Common Milestones Timeline

For this report, the Tribal Overviews begin with a description of the “Common Milestones” which provide details on the events common to the Tribes in Texas and/or across the US. A milestone chart and background information are provided at right and below.

1600-1800s: Tribes Arrive in Texas territory

1821: Mexico Declares Independence

1830: Indian Removal Act – This act forcibly relocated southeastern tribes to west of the Mississippi River.⁵ Many thousands died during the journey, so it became known as the “Trail of Tears.”

1836: Texas Declares Independence – During the nine short years the Republic of Texas was independent, they had tribal policies and treaties, but the Republic had termination and removal policies as well.

1845: Texas Becomes 28th State

1887: General Allotment Act – Also known as the Dawes Act, did not apply to Texas. The Dawes Act allotted tribal holdings into individual parcels and signified the landowner as an American Citizen. For some tribes, these laws devastated tribal governance structures and land ownership, resulting in the loss of millions of acres of valuable tribal lands and resulted in “checkerboard” patterns of tribal land holdings.⁶



Fig. 5, Common Milestones Timeline – This graphic shows all of the historical events termed “Common Milestones.” These events are included in the milestone charts which follow but are explained in this section, at left and below.

⁵ Anton Treuer. *Atlas of Indian Nations*, National Geographic Society, page 148.

⁶ Meizhu Lui. *The Color of Wealth, The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide*, (New York, New York Press, 2006), page 46.

- 1924:** **Indian Citizen Act of 1924** – Although the Citizen Act granted citizenship to hundreds of thousands of Indians, partially in recognition of the thousands of Indians who served in the armed forces during World War I, the Alabama-Coushatta warriors were denied the opportunity to enlist because of the exclusion in place from the Dawes Act.
- 1934:** **Congress passes the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934** – Undoing some damage done by previous legislation, the Reorganization Act enacted both specific directives and sweeping changes, enabled tribes to form corporations and allocation of more land to the tribes. Long term however, the Act left some negative imprints, such as limits on tribal autonomy.⁷
- 1953-1987 Termination Period** – Period during which all tribes in specific states had their tribal recognition revoked and federal services terminated.
- 1953:** **Termination of the Tribe’s Federal Recognition** – The US House passed House Resolution 108, which provided that “*all Indian tribes and individual members thereof located within the States of California, Florida, New York and Texas... should be freed from Federal supervision and control and from all disabilities and limitations specifically applicable to Indians.*” Finally, the Resolution asserted that all offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in those states should be abolished.
- 1954:** **Eisenhower Terminates Federal Trust Relationship** – President Eisenhower signed Public Law 627, terminating the trust relationship between the tribes and the United States and transferring all trust responsibility for the Tribes of Texas to the State of Texas.
- 1987:** **The Tribal Restoration Act** – Pushed ardently for many years by Texas Congressmen Ron Coleman and Charlie Wilson, the pair overcame great obstacles to see the passage of the Tribal Restoration Act which restored the Trust relationship between the federal government and the US tribes.

6.2 Summarizing Thoughts on Texas Tribal Backgrounder

Despite their differences the Tribes of Texas share a common history, and show how the political tides shifted for and against tribal people throughout a history spanning America’s formative years. Each of the Texas tribes, perhaps because of their differing origins, approached the centuries of challenge using a combination of very different and very similar survival strategies.

Recognizing the subtle differences between the tribes reinforces the need to respect and acknowledge their individuality, emphasizing the need for outside entities including the State of Texas and FirstNet to treat each Tribe as a separate Indian Nation and cultural entity, even though this program has created a forum for them to work together.

The Tribes of Texas share commonality in their deep connections to their land, history, religion and cultural landmarks. They also practice unique forms of governance, many steeped in tribal customs, and all maintain a fierce commitment to preserving all aspects of their cultural heritage.

The contemporary relationship between the Tribes of Texas and the State of Texas has been challenged by years of dispute over tribal gaming restrictions. In contrast, in the areas of Public Safety and Emergency Management, the State and Tribes have had a strong, productive working partnerships spanning many years – making these healthy relationships even more precious to the State of Texas.

“We live directly on the Mexican border, across from Piedras Negras, Mexico which is an active part of the border. Our tribal members are constantly crossing the border, we are hopeful FirstNet could help us keep them safe.”

Steve Esquivel

Grant Analyst
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Texas SAG Tribal Partner

⁷ Lawrence Schlam. “The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934,” via <http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3407400166.html>.

7. Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas



Having lived in the Trinity River, Big Thicket area of Southeast Texas since the late 1600s, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas established a reservation in 1854. With recognized lands now stretching over 4,500 acres 17 miles east of Livingston, Texas in Polk County, over half of the 1200-member tribe or 600 people still live on the reservation. The Alabama-Coushatta also have additional land holdings in Polk County, some land in Tyler County and a Smoke Shop in Humble, which is in Harris County.

Polk County is within the vital hurricane evacuation route area and has the advantage of proximity to northern edge of the Harris County LTE Public Safety Broadband (Band 14) coverage area.

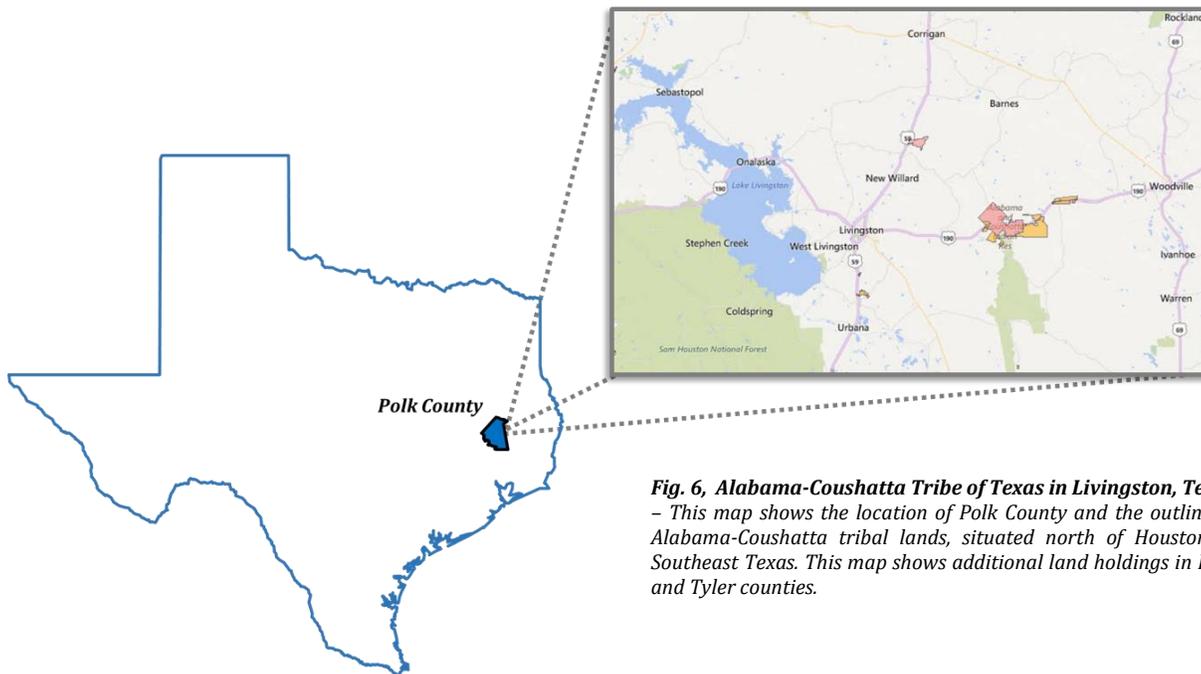


Fig. 6, Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in Livingston, Texas – This map shows the location of Polk County and the outline of Alabama-Coushatta tribal lands, situated north of Houston in Southeast Texas. This map shows additional land holdings in Polk and Tyler counties.

7.1 Origins, Ancestry & Relatives

Although originally recognized as two separate tribes, the Alabamas and Coushattas have been closely associated throughout their history. Both the Alabama and Coushatta (“*koo-SHOT-tuh*”) tribes originated in the Southeast Cultural Area with dialects from the linguistically similar *Muskogean* (“*mus-KO-gun*”) family of Indian languages. Over the many generations they have been together, the original languages have evolved and mixed into what the Tribe calls the Alabama-Coushatta Language, which is what they speak today.

Originally known as the *Alibamu* (“*al-i-BAM-oo*”), the Alabama Tribe was first documented in 1541 by the Hernando De Soto Exploration in northern Mississippi. The Coushatta were also originally known as the *Koasati* (“*ko-ah-SAH-ti*”) and documented by the same explorers a year before. In the earliest contact with Europeans recorded as early as the 1530s, disease and violence wiped out an astonishing 95% of the original tribal people.

By the mid-1600s, both tribes migrated to adjacent areas in central Alabama. Segments of each tribe eventually followed similar westward migration routes in 1763, and settled in the same area of the Big Thicket in southeast Texas. Culturally, these two tribes have always been one people despite minor differences.

Not all Alabama and Coushatta members made this eventual migration. Those staying in central Alabama were relocated to Oklahoma as a result of the Indian Removal Act, becoming the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town of Oklahoma. Other Coushattas remained in or returned to Louisiana, establishing the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana. Each of these three relative tribes share cultural characteristics such as certain aspects of their language, religious practices, and social structures.

The Alabama-Coushatta are long-standing diplomats, deftly navigating dynamic relationships and situations since the earliest years of Europeans' encroachment across America. In 1854, the Alabama Tribe, demonstrating a remarkable level of kinship and loyalty, invited the Coushatta to share their land during a time of uncertainty. Eventually merging into one tribe, their partnership has been successfully sustained for almost 160 years, providing a stronger foundation for their entire community.

7.2 Alabama-Coushatta Governance

The governing body under the Alabama-Coushatta Constitution and Bylaws is the Tribal Council, composed of seven representatives elected by Tribal members to three year terms. The Tribe elects a Principal Chief and Second Chief to life terms, making the current Principal Chief, *Mikko Colabe III* ("MIH-ko KO-lah-be") Clem Fain Sylestine, only the fourth person in 80 years to serve in the position. Both Chiefs serve as advisors to the Tribal Council, sitting in meetings to provide input and voting only to break a tie.

The officers of the Tribal Council are the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The Chair is elected by the general membership while the remaining officers are selected by the Tribal Council from its own membership at the first meeting of a newly elected Tribal Council.

7.3 Celebrating Cultural Heritage

The Alabama-Coushatta have a rich history of sharing and celebrating their cultural heritage. One of their most famous events is the rich and colorful annual Powwow held on Tribal lands and functioning as a tribal reunion and which is approaching its 50th year.



Fig. 7, Alabama-Coushatta 2016 Powwow – Each year the Alabama-Coushatta host a powwow, inviting the public to share and celebrate their tribal traditions, as shown in the images left and above from the 2016 Powwow held in Livingston. Photos courtesy of Skye Breeze Photography.

7.4 Alabama-Coushatta Historical Timeline

What follows is a high-level summary of the rich history of the Alabama-Coushatta in Texas and the events that gave rise to the Tribe’s termination and its ultimate restoration as a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe. This section provides a brief description of historical highlights and legislative actions spanning over 250 years.

- 1807: The Coushattas settle on Trinity River**
- 1813: Warriors in Mexican War of Independence** – Both the Alabama and Coushatta Tribes participated in the Mexican War of Independence from Spain.
- 1840: President Lamar Offers Land** – President Lamar to set aside “two leagues” of land for the Coushatta and Alabama Tribes, however, grants never became effective.
- 1854: Acts for Relief of the Alabama Indians** – Authorized the state to purchase “two leagues” or 1,280 acres for 1,000 members of the Alabama Tribe – the same amount provided for a family of 8 non-Indian owners.
- 1856: Act for Relief of the Coushatta Indians** – Authorized the state to purchase 640 acres in Liberty, Polk or Tyler Counties “for the benefit of, and as a home for the said tribe of Indians.” Frustratingly, the land which was supposed to be set aside by the Act for Relief of the Coushatta Indians was never identified.
- 1857-9: During this period various purchases and actions established approximately 1,100 additional acres of Tribal land.*
- 1859: Coushatta Tribe Moves Onto the Alabama Reservation** – In an extraordinary act of partnership, in 1859 the Alabama Tribe invited members of the Coushatta Tribe to live on their 1,289 acres purchased and awarded by that time.⁸
- 1928: Tribes Are Federally Recognized, More Land** – “Alabama and Coushatta Tribes of Texas” was used to describe the Tribes and the Secretary purchased 3,071 acres of land in Polk County.
- 1939: Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas Ratify Corporate Charter** – On October 17, 1939 the Corporate Charter, signed and certified by Clemson Sylestine and Hollis Battise, was ratified by Indian Affairs.⁹
- 1948: Texas Attorney General Confirms Voting Rights of the Alabama-Coushattas**

ALABAMA-COUSHATTA TRIBE OF TEXAS – TIMELINE

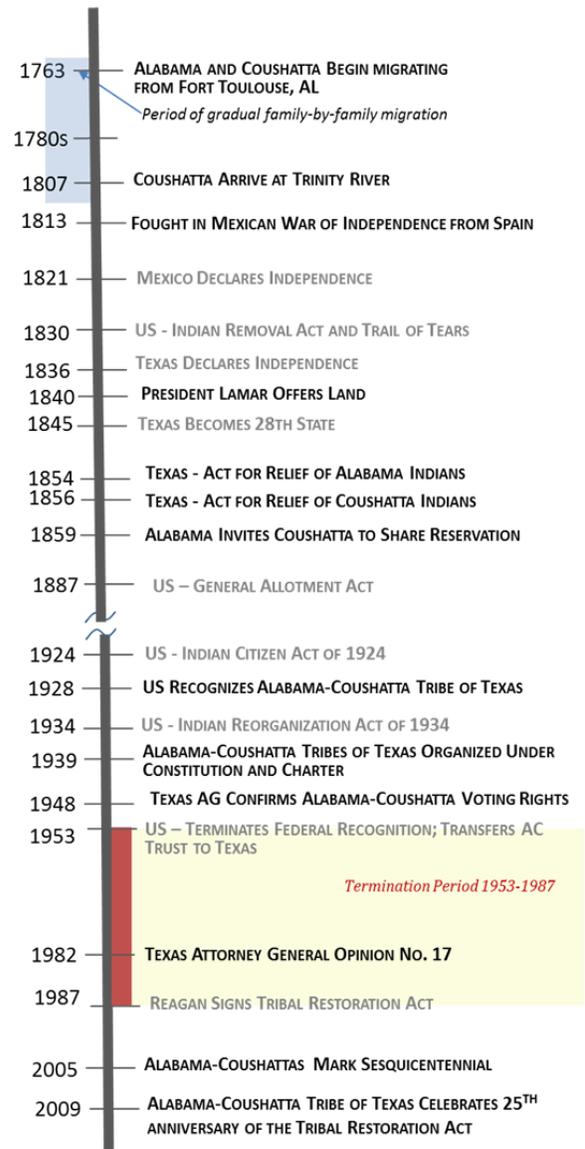


Fig. 8, Alabama-Coushatta Timeline – This graphic shows the historical events. The items in gray are in the “Common Milestones,” while additional information about specific aspects of the Alabama-Coushatta tribal history are included in descriptions at left.

⁸ American History Online

⁹ Corporate Charter documented viewed 6/10/2016, from Tejano History Curriculum Project: <http://ows.edb.utexas.edu/site/tejano-history-curriculum-project/corporate-charter-alabama-and-coushatta-tribes>.

- 1953:** **Texas Governor Authorized for Takeover of Land Trust Pending Tribe Consent** – Authorized the Governor to accept on behalf of the State of Texas the transfer of the Trust lands from the United States, provided that the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe indicated its consent by appropriate resolution.
- 1953:** **Alabama-Coushatta General Council Consents to Transfer of Trust to Texas** – By unanimous vote the Tribe passed a Resolution requesting a complete transfer of the trust responsibilities and authorities from the Federal Government to the State of Texas.
- 1982:** **Texas AG Opinion No. 17** – A fish and game dispute on Reservation land was used by the Texas Attorney General as an opportunity to issue a sweeping opinion, temporarily terminating Alabama-Coushatta Tribe’s federal tribal status, a ruling which still impacts the Alabama-Coushatta to this day.
- 1987:** *Reagan Signs Tribal Restoration Act*
- 2005:** **Alabama-Coushattas Mark Sesquicentennial** – In February 2005, The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas held a powwow marking 150 years of settlement on the land that became their reservation. At that time, Mikko Oscola Clayton Sylestine was First Chief, and Mikko-se Colabe III Clem Fain Sylestine was Second Chief.¹⁰
- 2009:** **Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas Celebrates 25th anniversary of the Tribal Restoration Act** – Celebrating what the Act has and has not meant for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe and its members.
- 2014:** **New Chiefs Named** – Mikko Colabe III Clem Fain Sylestine named First Chief and Mikko Skalaaba (skuh-LAH-buh) Herbert Johnson Sr. named Second Chief.
- 2016:** **Alabama-Coushatta *Naskila* (“NAHS-kee-la”) Entertainment Center Opens**

The historical and background information was sourced from the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas official website, in addition to sources noted. For more information, please visit their website, which can be found here: <http://www.alabama-coushatta.com/>

¹⁰ Texas State Historical Association, Handbook of Texas, online.

8. Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

The *Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas (KTTT)* is bi-national, tri-cultural, operates in two countries, lives among three cultures and speaks three languages. The Kickapoo are well known among North American Indian Nations for how fiercely and successfully they’ve observed and maintained their cultural traditions. The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas keep their religious and cultural practices somewhat hidden, taking advantage of the refuge set aside for them almost 150 years ago called *El Nacimiento de la Tribu Kikapū*, which is across the border in the Mexican state of *Coahuila* (“*kwah-WEE-la*”), Mexico. Operating under the 1794 Jay Treaty, which established special border privileges for indigenous people across international borders, the Kickapoo have been traveling freely and frequently across the border between Eagle Pass and Nacimiento since the early 1950s.



The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas has relatives in the US also, the *Kansas Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas*¹¹ and the *Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma*.¹² Tribal members from Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico travel frequently among the three locations.

8.1 Location of Tribal Lands

The Kickapoo Indian Reservation of Texas federated tribal lands are directly on the U.S.-Mexico border in western Maverick County, just south of Eagle Pass, Texas. The reservation is located directly on the Rio Grande River, and is part of the community of Rosita South. It has a land area of 0.4799 square kilometers, 118.6 acres, and a current population of around 800 persons.

The KTTT also have approximately 10,000 acres of rangeland between Spofford and Bracketville, straddling the border of Maverick and Kinney counties.

With a strategic location in a centralized and active area with tribal lands directly on the Rio Grande River and US-Mexico border, a FirstNet deployment in this key area not only helps to secure the Nation’s border, but also has the potential to ensure safe and secure passage for tribal members between Eagle Pass and Nacimiento, perhaps by creating an enhanced communications corridor to ensure safe passage of Tribal members as they traverse the border.

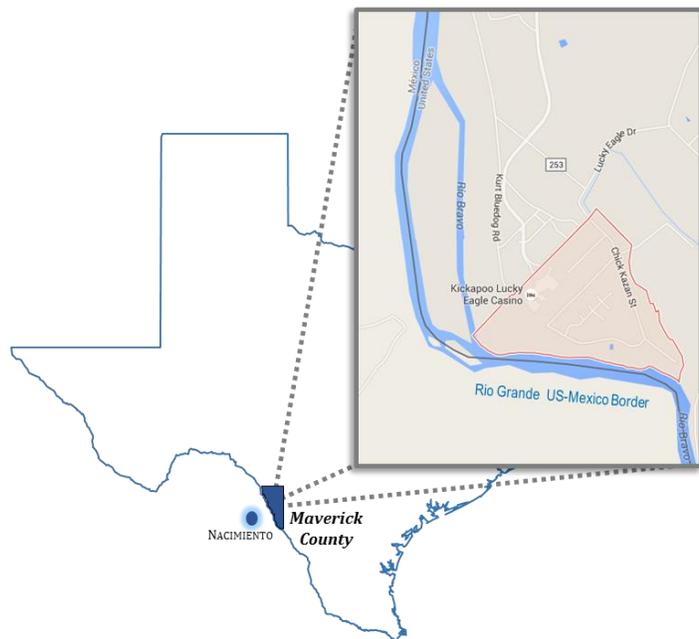


Fig. 9, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Tribal Lands – With tribal lands directly on the Rio Grande River, as shown in the call out, the Kickapoo also travel to Nacimiento, their home in the State of Coahuila, across the border in Mexico.

¹¹ See Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas which can be found here: <http://ktik-nsn.gov/home.htm>

¹² See Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma which can be found here: <http://kickapootribeofoklahoma.com/>

8.2 Celebrating Cultural Heritage

Known to be among the most observant of their original tribal customs, the Kickapoo still spend a lot of time on their traditional land in Mexico.¹³ This is where they are able to maintain their traditions, and still set up structures called *Wickiups* (“WIH-kee-ups”). These traditional houses are constructed by the women of the Tribe and represent a custom of building sturdy dwellings out of nearby, native resources.¹⁴ This represents a long-standing ability to adapt to their surroundings and a self-reliant attitude which has served them well, as they have had to adapt and survive in different cultures and climates throughout their history.



Fig. 10, Kickapoo Wickiups – Demonstrating amazing adaptability, the Kickapoo culture includes their own type of dwelling. Wickiup photo montage courtesy of Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas website.



Fig. 11, Kickapoo Building Operations – The Kickapoo aggregate and construction operation in the area has been an economic engine for the Tribe – and continues their building tradition.

¹³ Rebecca Bush. History of Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas (KTTT), from TexasIndians.com, accessed January 2016.

¹⁴ Ibid.

8.3 Kickapoo Historical Timeline

This section provides a brief description of major historical, political and tribal milestones.

- 1600s:** Kickapoo primarily in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana
- 1660s:** Migration to Wisconsin, trading with French
- 1700s:** Begin Migrating South
- 1809-11:** Tecumseh’s Rebellion, gradual movement to Missouri
- 1839:** **Mexcio Awards Land** - Kickapoos were awarded 78,000 acres of land near Zaragoza and Remolino.
- 1852:** **Kickapoo Trade Land, Establish Nacimiento** - The tribe traded the previous grant for 17,352 acres at Nacimiento, establishing a permanent Kickapoo presence in northern Mexico.
- 1950s:** **Kickapoo Can Freely Cross Border** - Under rules established due to the protection of the 1794 Jay Treaty.¹⁵
- 1977:** **Tribal Recognition** - The Texas Indian Commission officially recognized the tribe.
- 1983:** **Eagle Pass Land Grant** - PL 97-429 Clarified Texas Kickapoo, grants land in Eagle Pass.¹⁶
- 1998:** **Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Federal Indian Services Restoration Act of 1998** – Restored services for members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County, Texas.

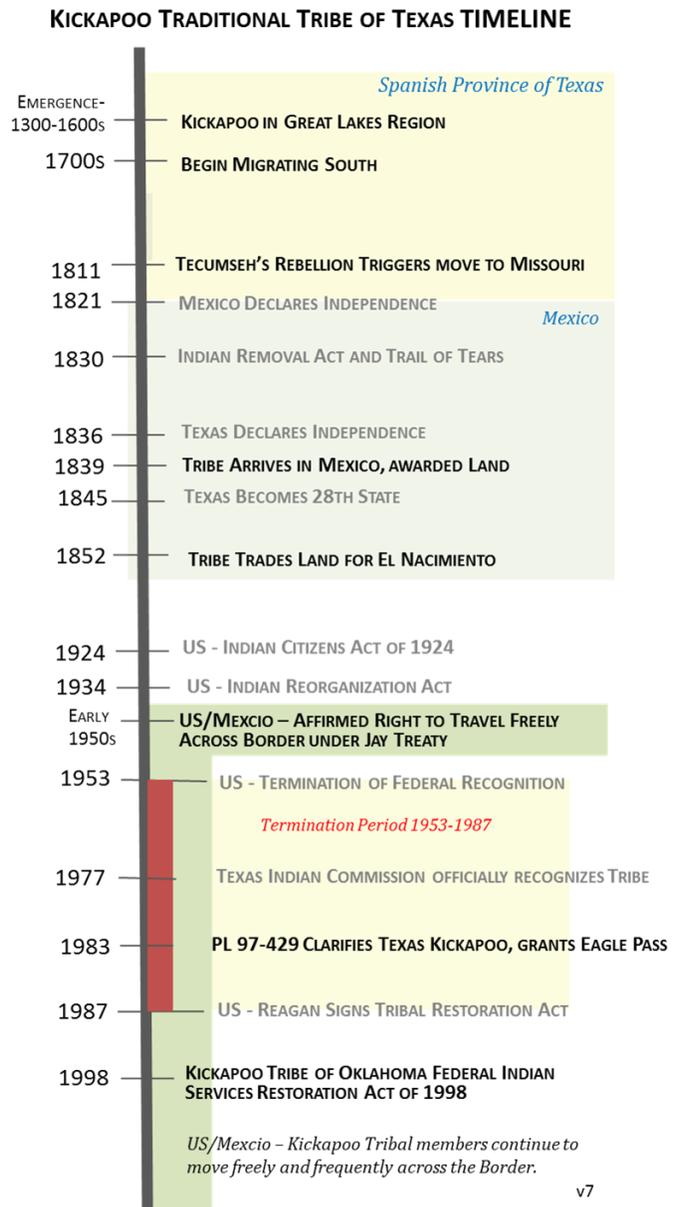


Fig. 12, Kickapoo Timeline – This graphic shows all of the historical events. The items in gray are in the “Common Milestones,” while additional information about specific aspects of the Kickapoo tribal history are included in descriptions at left.

For more information on the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, please visit <http://www.texasindians.com/>.

¹⁵ Bill Wright and E John Gesick, Jr. *The Texas Kickapoo, Keepers of Tradition*, (Austin, Texas Western Press, 1996), page 24.

¹⁶ Ibid, page 25.

9. The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas

The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas of the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo are unique among tribal people because they still reside just a few hundred miles from their original ancient origins of what is now central Arizona and northern New Mexico, where their ancestors and relatives have thrived for thousands of years. Integrating spiritually into the Catholic Church prior to arriving in Texas and creating a strong bond with Mexico, the Tigua founded the first mission village in the State of Texas in 1682. The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas of the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo currently has 4,036 Tribal members.



Some aspects of how to refer to this tribe can be a bit confusing to outsiders. This document attempts to use tribal terms which reflect how the Tigua people refer to themselves and their culture in present day. The formal name of the tribe is “The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas.” The name of their place, settlement, village or pueblo is *Ysleta del Sur* or *Ysleta del Sur Pueblo*. The Tigua speak their native language, they call *Southern Tiwa*¹⁷ (“TEE-wuh”), which is a term most historical references describe as a name of the Tribe, but which has evolved to more precisely refer to the language they speak.

A total of 2,698.4348 acres of Tigua land is held in trust for the tribe by the United States Department of the Interior. Much of the tribal trust land supports tribal government offices and the tribal housing communities. The tribe has also invested in the acquisition of property for tribal businesses and future development.

9.1 Location of Tribal Lands

The Tigua, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo reservation is situated in close proximity to the City of El Paso and the City of Socorro, Texas, just north of Mexico along the Rio Grande River. The land configuration is referred to as “checkerboard” or pieced together with non-contiguous boundaries. The primary reservation community is just one-mile northeast of the Zaragoza international border crossing, between the United States and Mexico.

Indicated in the maps at right and below, the Pueblo lands are located in El Paso County in both the City of El Paso and the City of Socorro. The tribe also owns the *Chilicote* (“chil-li-COT-tay”) Ranch totaling 70,461.28 acres. The ranch is located in Presidio and Jeff Davis Counties and is comprised of grasslands, hills, canyons and highlands. In addition to the diverse wildlife and plant life, the Chilicote houses Tigua cattle ranching operations.

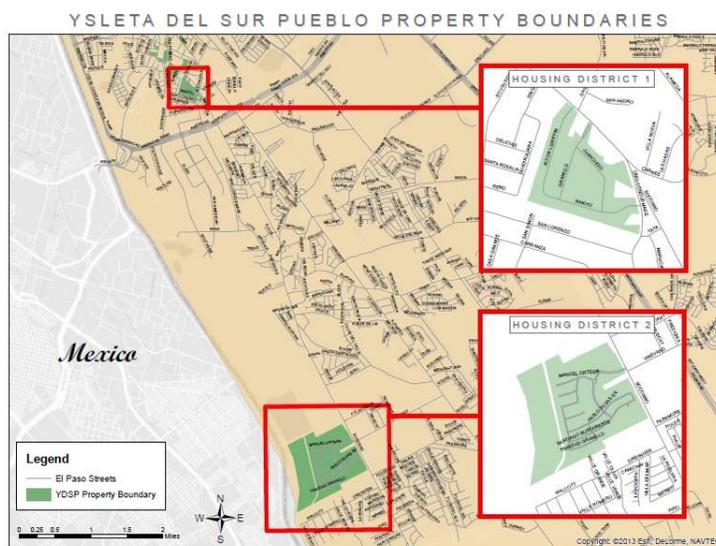


Fig. 13, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo - Detail – This graphic shows additional detail regarding the location of federated land in the City of El Paso area.

¹⁷ The Southern Tiwa language is to distinguish from Northern Tiwa language spoken in Taos, and Picuris Pueblos.

El Paso is a strategic location in the western corner of the state, situated on both the Mexico and State of New Mexico borders. This means that providing tribal coverage areas will enhance US Border security (or vice versa), of the multiple border crossings at the busy Juarez region.

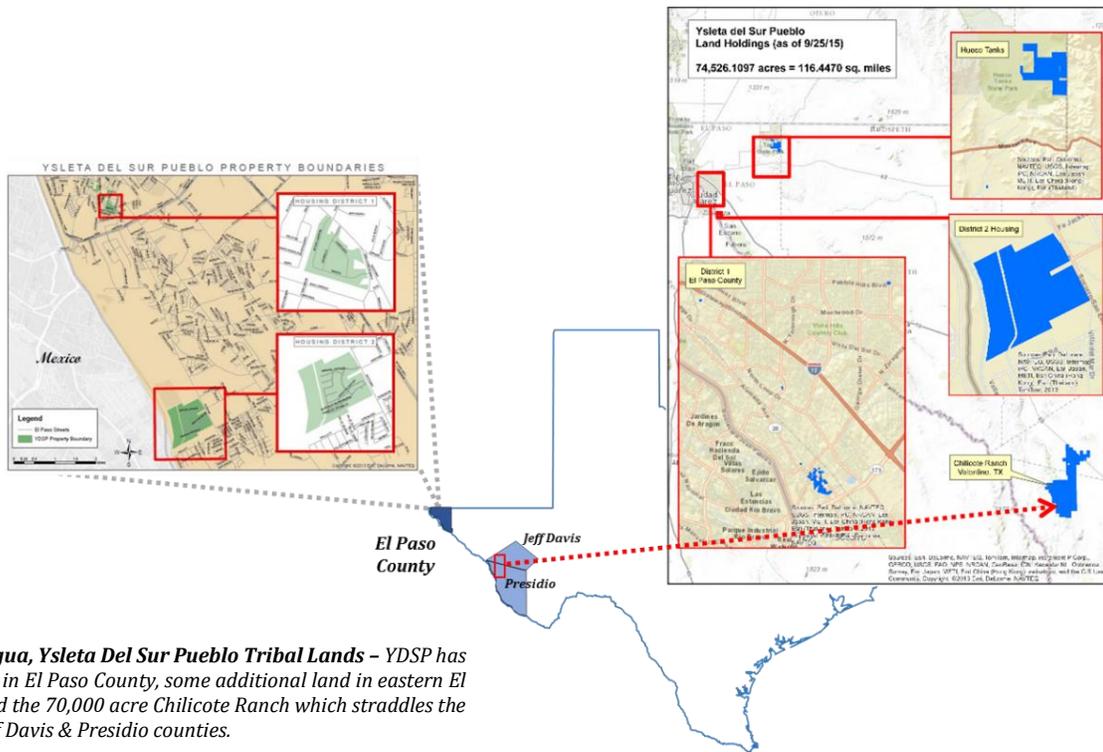


Fig. 14, The Tigua, Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Tribal Lands – YDSP has federated lands in El Paso County, some additional land in eastern El Paso County and the 70,000 acre Chillico Ranch which straddles the boundary of Jeff Davis & Presidio counties.

9.2 Origins and Ancestry

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo is the oldest community in the State of Texas, the Tigua Tribal Council is the oldest government and the Ysleta Mission is the oldest parish. In Spanish “del sur pueblo” means “village of the south” to contrast it with the mother pueblo of Isleta of the north, that is located just south of modern-day Albuquerque, New Mexico. At some point the spelling of Isleta del Sur was replaced with a “Y” creating the name used for the pueblo today, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo in El Paso, Texas.¹⁸

Both the Tigua and Alabama-Coushatta Tribes have had a decisive influence on federal Indian Policy and Native American law, which endures to this day.¹⁹ For instance, during their long and arduous journey



Fig. 15, Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Mission, 1682 – Although a portion of the original steeple and roof was damaged by fire, the mission has been used by the Tigua as a central place of worship for over 300 years.

¹⁸ Nicholas P Houser. *Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Past to Present*, June 2006.

¹⁹ Schulze, pages 16-20.

to obtain federal Tribal Recognition,²⁰ the Tigua case helped to establish federal Tribal Recognition procedures, which did not exist in the early 1960s. This work built upon the solid foundation the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe had established during their successful appeal to transfer the Trust relationship to Texas in 1953, during the earlier part of the federal Termination Period.

To prove their cultural legitimacy and authenticity of their Pueblo Indian customs, the Tigua were subjected to rigorous assessments of their tribal customs, including specifics of their governance, rituals, language and dancing. The results of the assessments revealed the transplanted Tigua people had not only faithfully maintained Pueblo Indian culture, but had managed to maintain some aspects of very ancient customs. In a noted example, a Tigua leader is still called a *Cacique* (“ka-SEE-kay”), which is a Spanish word applied to the role of the traditional spiritual leader and reflects a Pueblo Indian governance tradition originating in ancient times. The success of the Tigua ability to maintain their cultural identity is even more extraordinary when considering the Tigua were able to do so for almost 300 years without federal support or formal Tribal Recognition.

9.3 Celebrating Religious & Cultural Heritage

Today the Tiguas of Ysleta del Sur occupy about twenty-six acres of trust land and live in housing built by government loans on the reservation or in the El Paso community. On ceremonial occasions the men don calico-fringed jackets, which resemble the old leather jackets in historic photographs, and the women wear pueblo dresses adopted during the Spanish period. The Tigua principal public celebration is Fiesta de San Antonio, held on June 13th every year.



Fig. 17, Tigua Annual Fiesta de San Antonio Celebration – The one-day religious ceremony, held annually on June 13th for over 300 years to celebrate the patron saint of the Tiguas, San Antonio (Saint Anthony). The group travels from the traditional homestead, called the Tula (“TOOH-la”), a few blocks to the Mission for the community celebration which gathers all members of the tribe and public to a day filled with food, festivities and prayer.



Fig. 16, Tigua Children in Traditional Regalia – Worn by children and adults, the traditional regalia signifies observation of tribal customs.

²⁰ Achieved in 1967, see timeline section 9.4.

9.4 The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas Historical Timeline

This section provides a brief description of major historical, political and tribal milestones.

- 1680:** **Forced Migration to Texas** – Starting in 1680 after the Pueblo Revolt, over 600 Tiguas in two groups were held as hostages and moved forceably to their current location in present day El Paso.
- 1682:** **Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Mission** – Completed in 1692 was founded in present day El Paso.
- 1751:** **Spanish Land Grant to Pueblo of Ysleta del Sur** – Ysleta Pueblo granted 36 acres.
- 1848:** **Treaty of Guadalupe Hildago** – Ended a war, established Rio Grande as US-Mexico Border.
- 1854:** **Relinquishing Act of 1854** – Texas authority over land rights, the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo and promised land grants.²¹ passed but not enforced. The Act has since disappeared.
- 1871:** **Illegal Incorporation of Ysleta, Resulting in Loss of Land** – Date of illegal incorporation of the town of Yselta, resulting in further loss of tribal lands.
- 1872-74:** **Period of Land Conveyances** – Through various acts of the Texas legislature and unscrupulous land promoters, the Tiguas lost huge portions of their land through a series of aggressive land conveyances, impacts of which are still felt to the present day.
- 1967:** **Texas Tribal Recognition** – Recognized as a Texas Tribe by the state of Texas in May 1967, which recognized the Tigua as a separate, individual tribe for the first time.
- 1968:** **The Tiwa Indians of Texas Act** – PL 90-287 designated the tribe and transferred responsibilities to Texas.²²
- 1995** **Tribal Court Established**
- 1999** **The Tigua Acquires Chilicote Ranch**

The historical and background information was sourced from the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo official website, in addition to sources noted. Much more information on the Tigua can be found here:

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

TIGUA TRIBE OF TEXAS, YSLETA DEL SUR PUEBLO TIMELINE

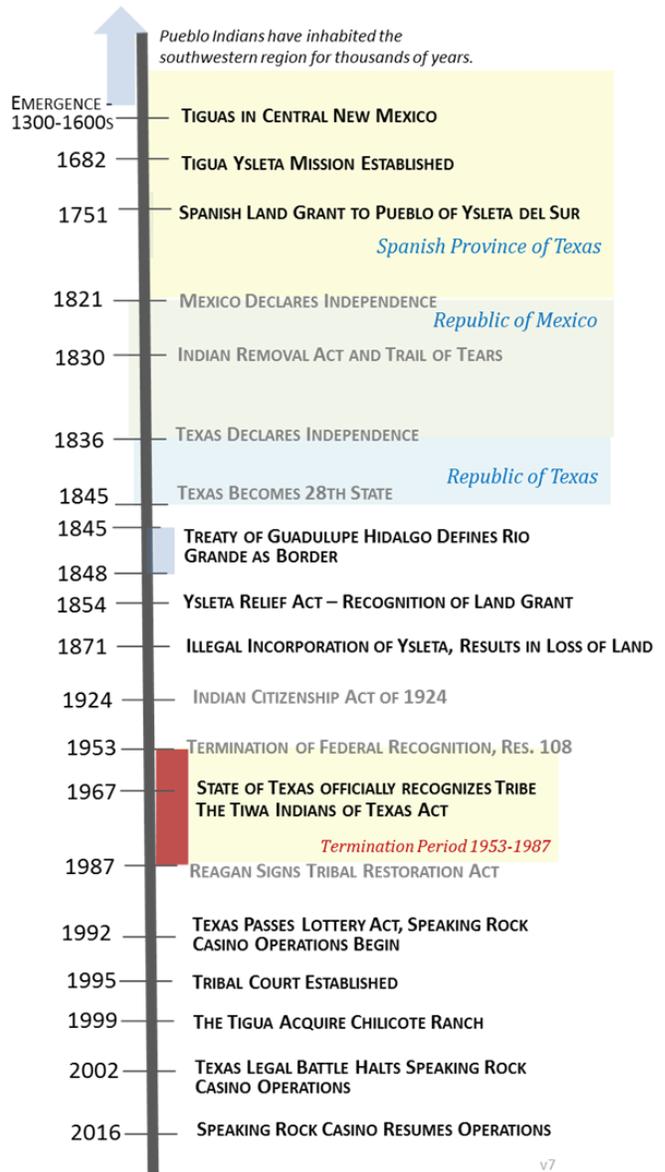


Fig. 18, The Tigua, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Timeline – This graphic shows all of the historical events. The items in gray are in the Common Milestones, while additional information about specific aspects of the Tigua tribal history are included in descriptions at left.

²¹ Treuer, page 196.

²² Texas Public Law 90-287, passed April 16,1968, via www.gpo.gov

10. Closing and Signatures

10.1 In Closing

This document has described how the Texas Tribal Partners have been involved and have been working together under the Texas Tribal Strategic Advisory Group to outline the objectives, initiatives, challenges and accomplishments. As part of the formal Objectives (Section 3.2) to enhance understanding of the Tribes of Texas among the wider audience, this document provides a Tribal Overview section that presents Common Milestones and a more in-depth look at each Tribe. Woven throughout the material is the underlying cultural and strategic importance of protecting their land and people, both because of their unique situations and because of where they are located. The many thoughtful and nuanced assertions from the Tribal Partners demonstrate the hard work and many intricate conversations held among them for the development of this document.

In conclusion, the Tribes of Texas would like to express their optimism and enthusiasm for the FirstNet program, reflecting their positive outlook which has allowed them to endure centuries of adversity, as this report has described. It is our sincere hope that other States will be inspired to work to achieve similar cohesion and engagement, toward benefiting *all* Indian Nations—and that this commitment will be further solidified and strengthened as the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network is built out across Texas and the nation.

“We are interested in leveraging any resource, including modern technology, that could help us and all of Indian Country overcome obstacles the way we have in our past history and carry us into the future. Bringing public safety broadband to our nation could help us do that, so we want to see it succeed.”

Josué (Josh) García

Emergency Management Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas
Texas SAG Tribal Partner
Tribal Member

10.2 Report Signatures

10.2.1 Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo





The Honorable Carlos Hisa

Tribal Governor
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Tigua Tribe of Texas

Date 5/9/17





Ricardo Quezada

Director of Cultural Preservation
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Tigua Tribe of Texas

Date 4-18-17





Josué García

Emergency Management Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Tigua Tribe of Texas
Texas SAG Tribal Partner

Date 04.12.17

10.2.2 Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas



[Handwritten signature]

Estavio M. Elizondo Sr.
Tribal Chairman
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Date 7-12-17



[Handwritten signature]

David P. Valdez Sr.
Tribal Council Secretary
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Date 7-12-17



[Handwritten signature]

David Trevino
Tribal Council Treasurer
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Date 7-12-17

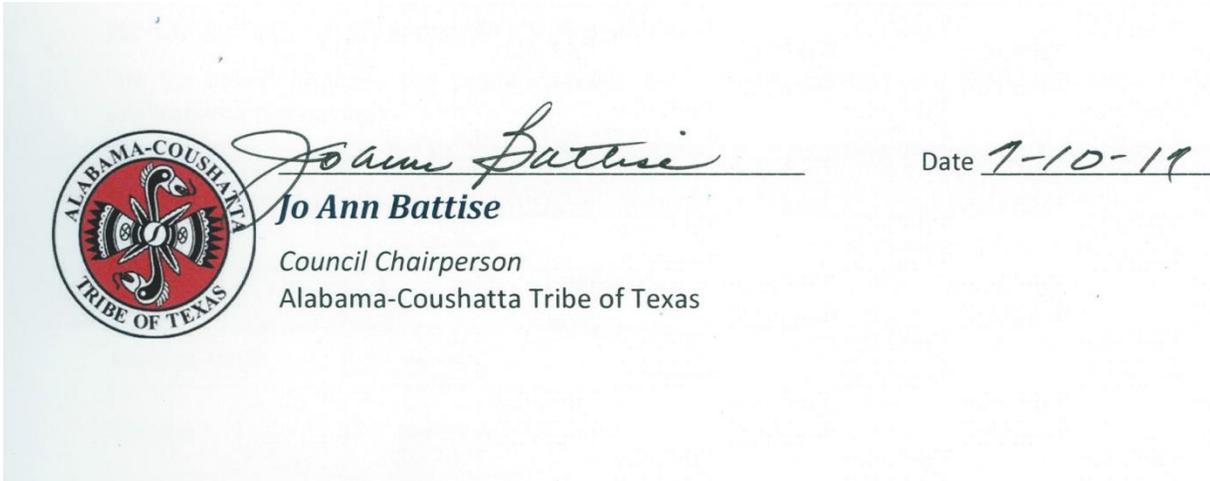


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Kendall R. Scott
Tribal Council Member
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Date 7-12-17

10.2.3 Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas



10.2.4 Texas Department of Public Safety



APPENDIX

Acronyms, Definitions and Pronunciations

Among the lessons learned from the development of a cross-cultural endeavor is the importance of understanding each other’s respective language, terminology and correct pronunciations with sharp attention to detail. For instance, the group had to learn to pronunciations such as *Kickapoo*, (“*KIH-ka-poo*”), *Cacique* (“*ka-SEE-kay*”), *SPOC* (“*spok*”) and *SLIGP* (“*SLIG-pee*”).

The list below provides the pronunciations, abbreviation, context and reference and definitions where applicable or not obvious.

Word or Acronym	Phonetic Pronunciation	Abbreviation For, Refers to	Definition and Notes
Alibamu	<i>al-i-BAM-oo</i>		Ancient Indian name of Alabama tribe
Alabama	<i>al-i-BAH-mah</i>	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	A Tribal name; "Alabama Coushatta" is also the name of the language the Tribe speaks today
Battiste, Hollis	<i>BAH-teest</i>		An original signatory of 1939 Alabama-Coushatta Tribal Charter
Cacique	<i>ka-SEE-kay</i>		Adopted from a Spanish word, a Cacique is a title for the Tigua spiritual leader, reflecting a Pueblo indian governance tradition originating in ancient times.
Chilicote	<i>chil-li-CO-tay</i>	Chilicote Ranch	Name of ranch owned by The Tigua; non-federated lands
Coahuila	<i>kwah-WEE-la</i>	State of Coahuila, Mexico	Nacimiento is in the State of Coahuila, Mexico
Coushatta	<i>koo-SHOT-tuh</i>	Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	A Tribal name; "Alabama Coushatta" is also the name of the language the Tribe speaks today
FirstNet	<i>FIRST-net</i>	First Responder Network Authority	
Isleta	<i>ee-SLEH-ta</i>	Isleta Pueblo	Pueblo of Indian people related to The Tigua
Kickapoo	<i>KIH-ka-poo</i>		Tribal term for name of tribe
Koasati	<i>ko-ah-SAH-ti</i>		Ancient Indian name of Coushatta tribe
KTTT	<i>abbrev.</i>	Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas	
PS LTE	<i>abbrev.</i>	Public Safety LTE	PS LTE is 3GPP-based (4G) broadband operating in Band 14 PS Spectrum.
Mikko	<i>MIH-ko</i>		Title of First Chief of Alabama-Coushatta Tribe
Mikko-se	<i>MIH-ko-see</i>		Title of Second Chief in Alabama-Coushatta Tribe
Muskogean	<i>mus-KO-gun</i>		Name of language stock of Alabama-Coushatta languages
Nacimiento	<i>nah-SEE-mee-EN-toe</i>		Name of Kickapoo settlement in Mexico
OOG	<i>abbrev.</i>	(Texas) Office Of the Governor	
SAG	<i>SAG</i>	(Texas) Strategic Advisory Group	
SCIP	<i>SKIP</i>	Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan	Plan mandated by DHS
SEC	<i>abbrev.</i>	(Texas) SCIP Executive Council	

Word or Acronym	Phonetic Pronunciation	Abbreviation For, Refers to	Definition and Notes
SLIGP	<i>SLIG-pee</i>	State and Local Implementation Grant Program	Name of NTIA grant program
SPOC	<i>SPOK</i>	(FirstNet State-level) Single Point of Contact	
SWIC	<i>SWIK</i>	StateWide Interoperability Coordinator	
Sylestine, Clemson	<i>SILL-es-teen</i>		An original signatory of 1939 Alabama-Coushatta Tribal Charter
Tanoan	<i>tuh-NO-an</i>		An Ancestral language stock of Tiwa languages
TEMC	<i>abbrev.</i>	Texas Emergency Management Conference	Name of annual Texas conference held each spring in San Antonio
Tigua	<i>TEE-gwuh</i>	The Tigua Indian Tribe of Texas	A Tribal name
Tiwa	<i>TEE-wuh</i>	Southern Tiwa Language	Name of language spoken by The Tigua today
Tribu Kikapū	<i>TREE-boo KIH-ka-poo</i>		Name of Kickapoo Tribe in Spanish
Tuhla	<i>TOOH-la</i>		The Tigua traditional homestead
TxICC	<i>abbrev.</i>	Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition	Name of Texas coalition
TxPSBP	<i>abbrev.</i>	Texas Public Safety Broadband Program	Name of Texas program organized under SLIGP
Wickiup	<i>WIH-kee-up</i>		Name of traditional Kickapoo dwelling
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo	<i>ee-SLEH-ta del soor PWEH-blo</i>		Name of the Tigua pueblo and village in Texas
YdSP or YDSP	<i>abbrev.</i>	Ysleta del Sur Pueblo	Abbreviation for the Tigua pueblo and village in Texas
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Overview of the Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC)

The Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC) was formed in 2006 and represents 5,300 emergency response agencies to work toward improving emergency response communications coordination across the State. The TxICC is the State interoperability governance body and is responsible for planning and oversight of emergency communications interoperability throughout Texas. The SCIP Executive Council (SEC) serves as the voting and oversight body of the TxICC. The SWIC is Chair of the TxICC and provides coordination and guidance on emergency communications concerns and priorities.

To implement SCIP initiatives, SCIP Strategic Advisory Groups are formed, comprised of TxICC members, other SMEs and managed by the SWIC Office. The TxICC and the SWIC have made great strides in maintaining and implementing the Texas SCIP and forming partnerships between agencies that previously had little to no working relationships.