



Assessing Waste Management Infrastructure in Indian Country in Region 9

Winter RTOC

February 1, 2024

Denise Thompson

Jenny Stephenson

Announcements

Upcoming Pollution Prevention Grants

Source Reduction Assistance Grants

- Open early February for 60 days
- 5% Total Project Cost Match requirement
- States, local, interstate, and intrastate government agencies and instrumentalities, federally recognized tribes, inter-tribal consortia and 501 (c)(3) non-profit organizations

Pollution Prevention Grants

- Open early March for 60 days
- 50% Total Project Cost Match requirement, Can be included into PPG agreement

BIL Pollution Prevention Grants

- Open early March for 60 days
- No Cost Match requirement, Cannot be included into PPG agreements

Helpful Resources

[FY22 Source Reduction Grants](#)

[FY22 Pollution Prevention Grants](#)

[FY22 BIL Pollution Prevention Grants](#)

Contact: Megan Luo luo.megan@epa.gov

California Ocean Litter Strategy – Community Advisory Group (focused on the LA/San Diego area)



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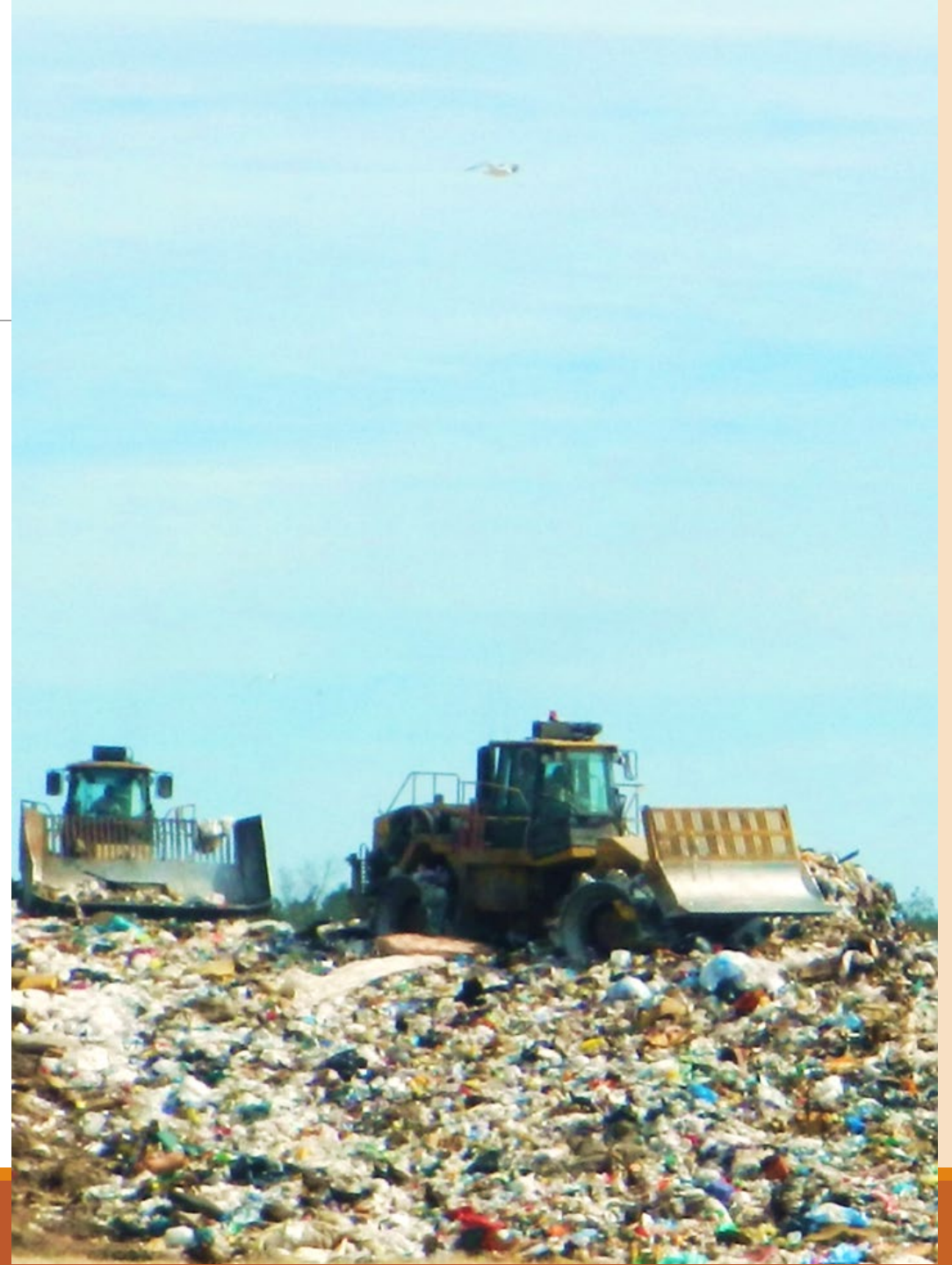
Introduction

Conducted an inventory and assessment of waste management infrastructure on Tribal Lands in Region 9

Why

- Understand what data is available
- Baseline
- Compare access to waste management infrastructure on tribal lands to non-tribal communities

Disposal Infrastructure



Landfills

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS

3 Active MSW Landfills

- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Hopi Tribe

CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION LANDFILLS

0 Active C&D landfills

There are no waste to energy or trash incinerators on tribal lands in Region 9.

Distance to an MSW Landfill

Arizona

43 miles Average distance to MSW landfill

Farthest – 143 miles

Closest – 11 miles

Average tipping fee \$43.88 (\pm 13.03)

California

45 miles Average distance to MSW landfill (about 64 minutes)

Farthest – 163 miles

Closest – 2 miles

Average tipping fee \$60.56 (\pm 20.43)

Nevada

36 miles Average distance to MSW landfill (about 43 minutes)

Farthest – 133 miles

Closest – 1 mile

Average tipping fee \$36.11 (\pm \$5.78)

[Tip fee data from the Environmental Research & Education Foundation in their “Analysis of MSW Landfill Tipping Fees – 2022” (published May 2023).]

Collection Infrastructure



Methodology

- 99 Tribes for which EPA has recorded as having an approved Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan
- 62 Tribes' ISWMPs plans were approved and/or updated since 2013
 - 21 plans have been created or updated since 2018
- 65 Tribes' solid waste programs included in the analysis – based on ISWMPs within the last 10 years and supplemented with more recent first-hand knowledge when available.



Curbside Collection of Trash

42 Tribes have curbside collection of trash service available

- 14 Tribes are their own collection service provider
- 28 Tribes use external/commercial collection service providers

35% of Tribes (included in the analysis) don't have curbside trash collection service widely available

Every Thursday is

BLUE BIN DAY!



Ak Chin recycles,
and we want the
community to know it.

Join us in putting
your bins out during
every pickup, no
matter how full.

Don't have a bin?
REQUEST ONE TODAY
from DPW!

It's as easy as:

1 Set up your recycling inside –
use a small bin or cardboard
box in your kitchen!

2 Fill up your bin with clean,
correct recyclables
throughout the week!

3 Dump your recyclables in
your big blue bin and wheel
it out on collection day!



Ask how you can
start recycling

TODAY!

Put out your bin with all contents
CLEANED and **CORRECT** for the
chance to receive recognition!



Plastic
bags



Caps on
plastic bottles



Glass

It isn't hard – start recycling today. Sanitation Department (520) 568-8890

Curbside Collection of Recyclables

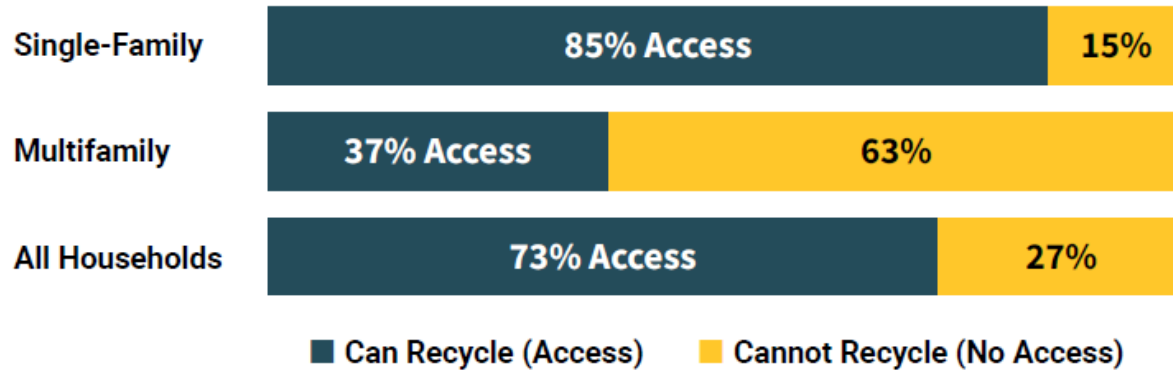
20 Tribes have curbside collection of recyclables service available

- 7 Tribes provide curbside recyclables collection
- 13 Tribes have recyclables collection service available from a commercial or external hauler

More than 60% of Tribes (within the analysis) **do not** have curbside collection of recyclables service available to their residents.

According to The Recycling Partnership, the typical US household generates **800 pounds** of recyclables per a year.

National Recycling Access



| | % of Homes with Access to Recycling | | % of Homes that Cannot Recycle |
|------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| | Curbside | Drop-off | |
| Arizona | 75% | 12% | 13% |
| California | 94% | 3% | 3% |
| Nevada | 74% | 6% | 20% |





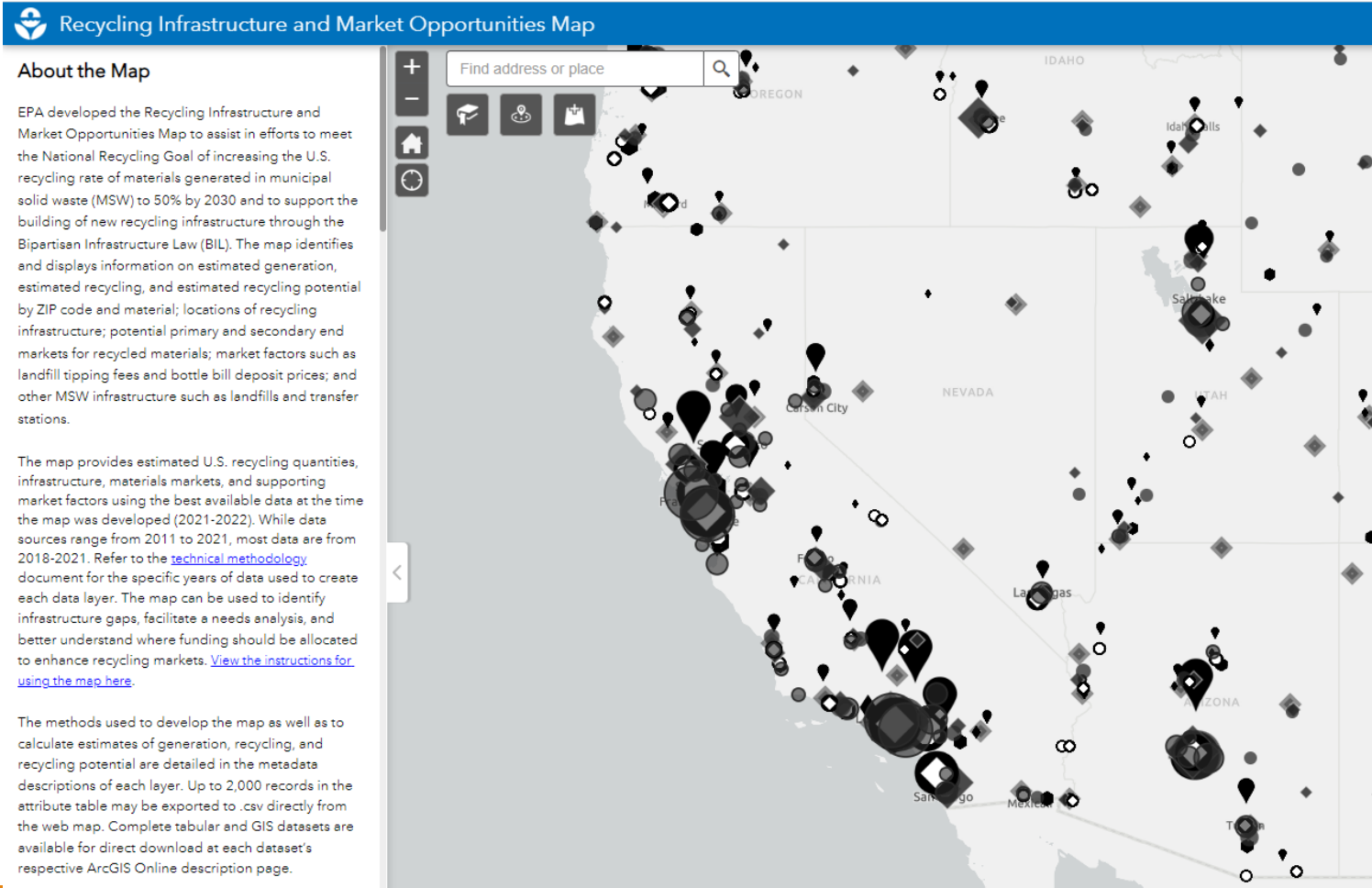
Transfer Stations

35 Tribes have or have access to one or more community convenience/drop-off stations/transfer stations

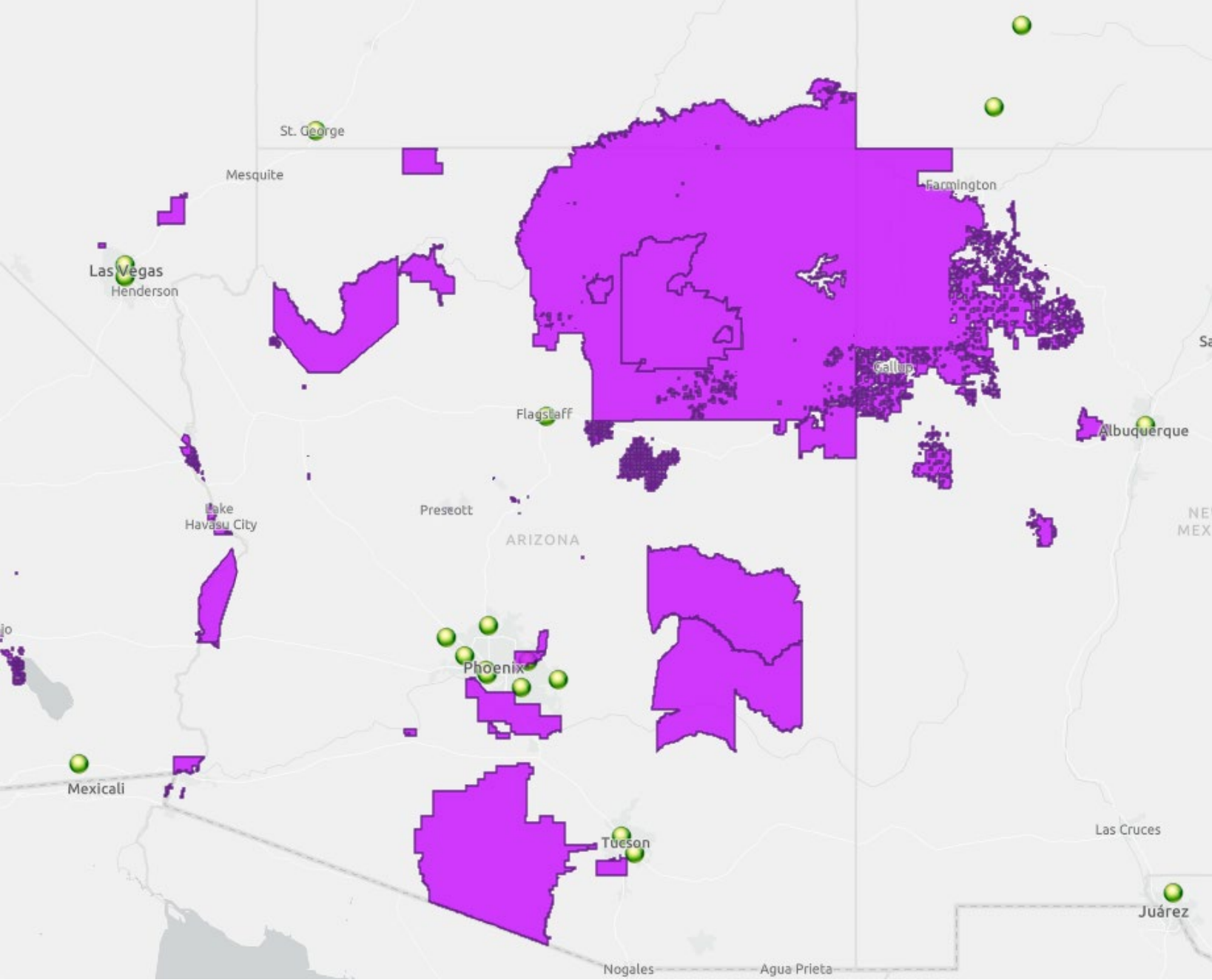
Recyclables Processing Infrastructure



EPA's Recycling Opportunities Map

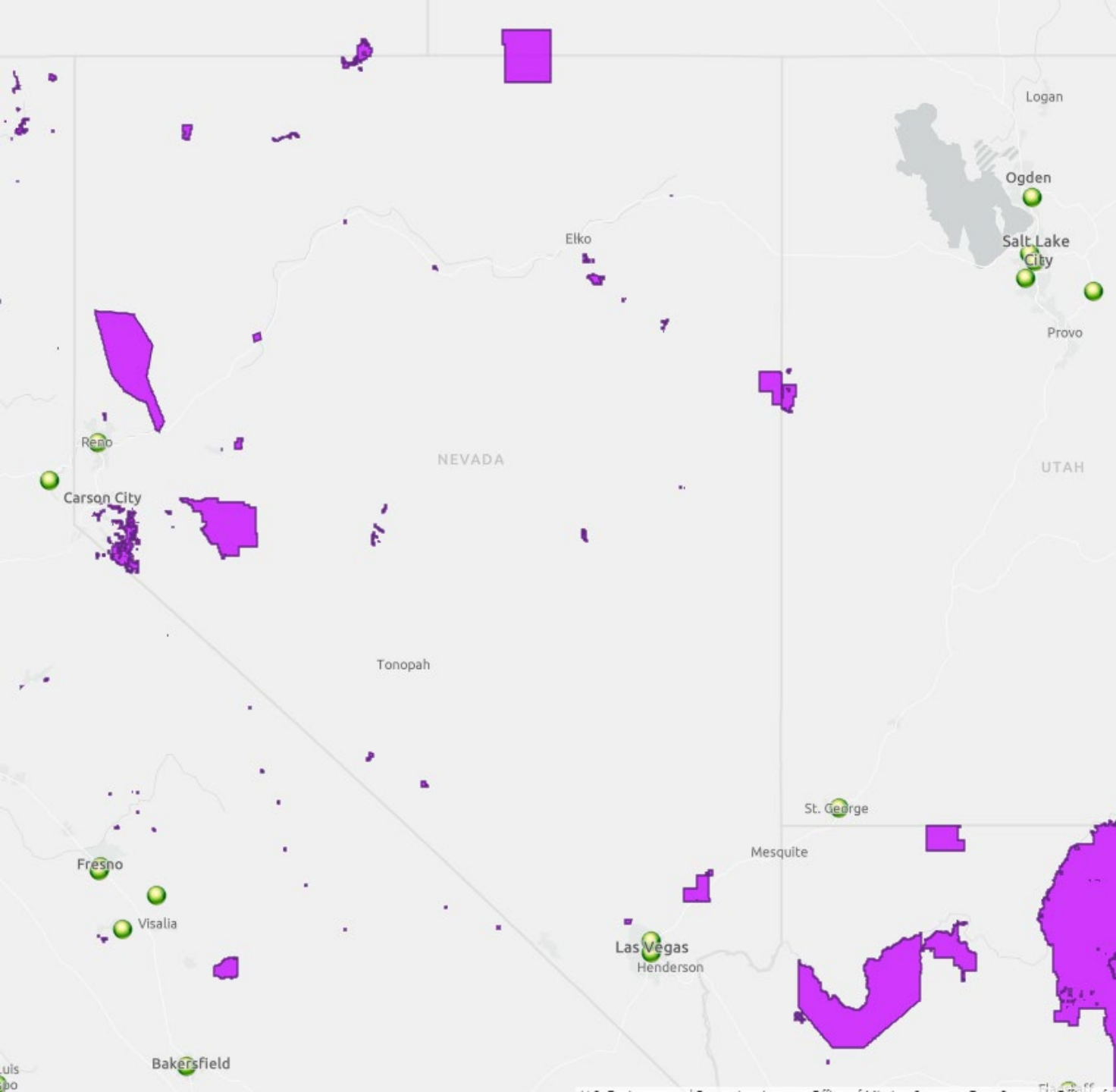


<https://www.epa.gov/circulareconomy/recycling-infrastructure-and-market-opportunities-map>



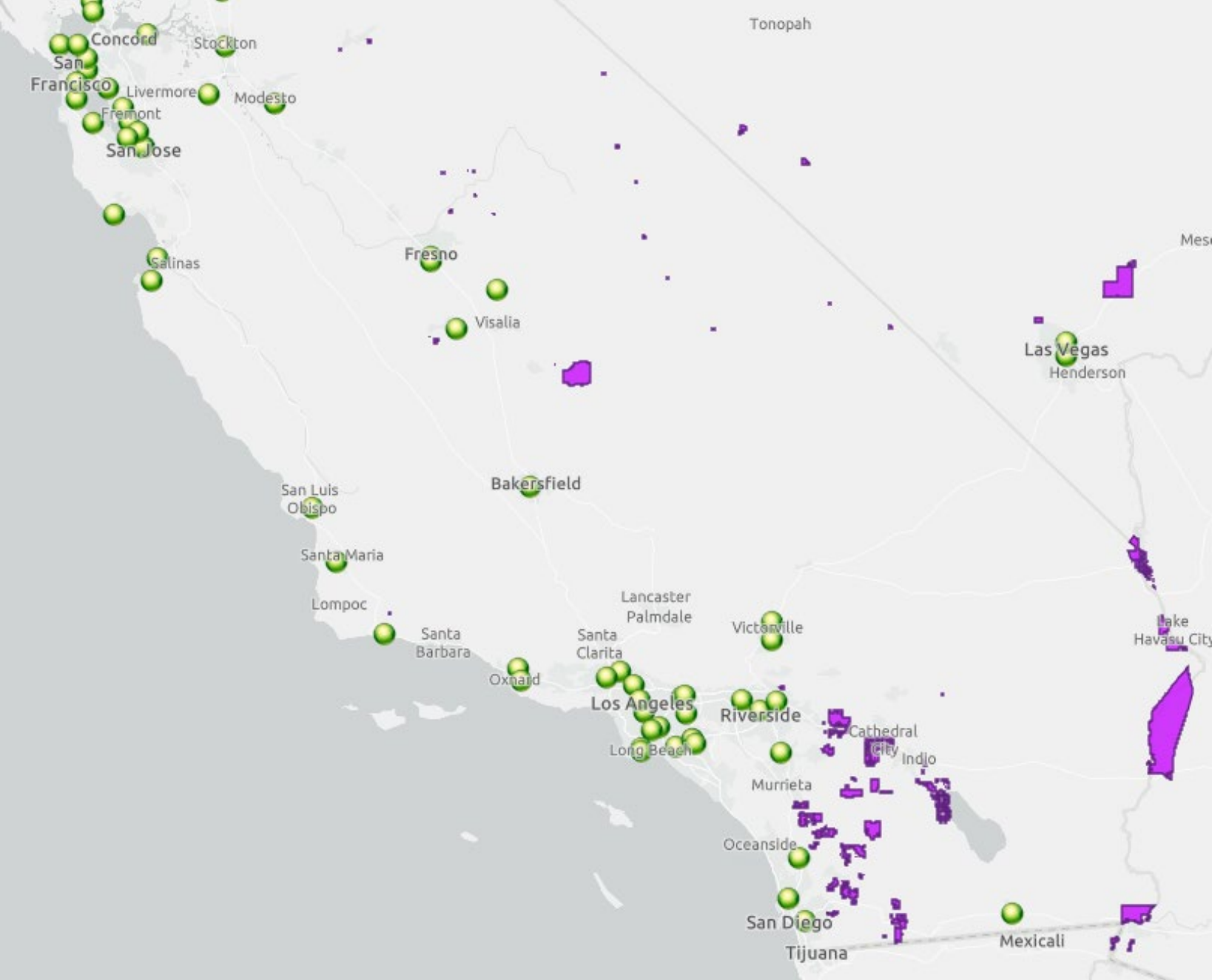
Arizona

Material Recovery Facilities

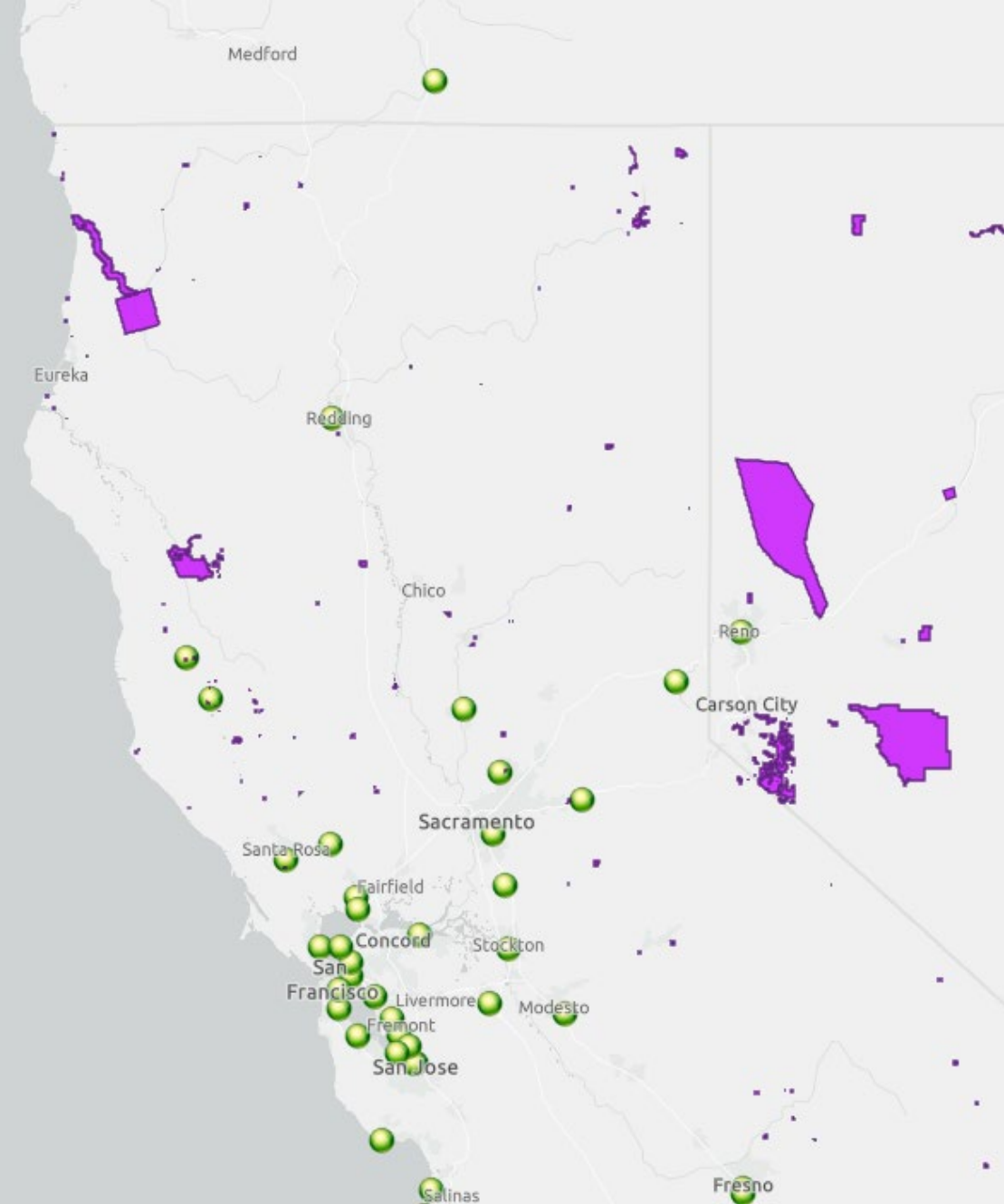


Nevada

Material Recovery Facilities



Southern California Material Recovery Facilities



Northern California Material Recovery Facilities

California Container Redemption Deposit (CRV) Sites

4 sites operated by Tribes

- Robinson Rancheria
 - Robinson Rancheria Recycling at Big Valley
 - Robinson Rancheria (Nice, CA)
- Hopland Band
 - Lalil Daqaw Pomo Recycling Center
- Pala Band
 - Pala Transfer Station & Recycling Center

Data source: CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Centers
<https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/RecyclingCenters/>



Trash Outside the Waste Management Infrastructure

Open Dumps

Open Burning



Open Dumps

[listed in Indian Health Service's STARS database]

Arizona

826 Total number of sites

14 Tribes with listed open dumps

California

329 Total number of sites

50 Tribes with listed open dumps

Nevada

69 Total number of sites

11 Tribes with listed open dumps

IHS and EPA Headquarters have been undertaking an effort to improve the data quality of the list of open dumps.

Restricting Open Burning

We don't have a reliable list of Tribes with ordinances prohibiting or restricting open/backyard burning of trash.



Assessing Waste Collection Services

Tribal Waste Management Program Sustainability Evaluation Tool

Please enter the tribe's name and the date Sustainability Evaluation Tool is completed.

TRIBE:

DATE:

The Tribal Waste Management Program Sustainability Evaluation Tool is designed to effectively evaluate how a tribal waste management program is currently operating and identify areas where support is needed to create a sustainable waste management program. There are seven key indicators that are representative of a sustainable waste management program.

The Tool asks questions specific to each of these areas (with a tab for each area). These 7 key indicators are:

- 1. Planning:** Tribe has an integrated waste management plan, a capital improvements plan, and an operations and maintenance plan.
- 2. Financial Viability:** Tribe has annual operations budget, user fees, and billing & collection are adequate.
- 3. Management:** The management structure is effective and clearly defined, waste management program manager has authority to hire and direct staff, there is a tribal utility board with the ability to make decisions.
- 4. Staffing:** Tribe has a staffing plan with clear descriptions, staff training plan and implementation, and the appropriate number of staff and skills.
- 5. Operations:** Tribal operations comply with laws and regulations, operations are cost effective and meet demand.
- 6. Coordination:** There is good coordination with other tribal departments, for example a tribal housing authority and or utility, as well as coordination with other jurisdictions for service as needed. For example if there is a problem with open dumping, the tribe demonstrates the ability to coordinate removal or cleanup with neighboring jurisdictions.
- 7. Compliance & Enforcement:** Tribe has codes and /or ordinances in place and a tribal enforcement program that is effective.

INSTRUCTIONS: To use this evaluation tool, answer the questions on each of the colored tabs. Each question uses a drop down menu and includes a line to enter comments. The workbook will total the results and display them on the "My Results" tab. Printing instructions are also included on the last tab of the workbook.

Introduction Planning Financial Viability Management Staffing Operations Coordination Compliance & Enforcement My Results

Self-assessment tool – with 7 indicators focused on program capacity

1. Planning
2. Financial viability
3. Management
4. Staffing
5. Operations
6. Coordination
7. Compliance & enforcement

<https://www.epa.gov/tribal-lands/tribal-waste-management-program-sustainability-evaluation-tool>

United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Indicator on Access to Basic Services

| SERVICE LEVEL | DEFINITION |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Receiving door-to-door MSW collection service with basic frequency and regularity and MSW is collected in three or more separate fractions; or <input type="checkbox"/> Having a designated collection point within 200m distance served with basic frequency and regularity and without major littering and MSW is collected in three or more separate fractions |
| Improved | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Receiving door-to-door MSW collection service with basic frequency and regularity and MSW is collected in a minimum of two, separate fractions (e.g. wet and dry fractions) <input type="checkbox"/> Having a designated collection point within 200m distance served with basic frequency and regularity and without major littering and MSW is collected in a minimum of two, separate fractions (e.g. wet and dry fractions) |
| Basic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Receiving door-to-door MSW collection service with basic frequency and regularity or <input type="checkbox"/> Having designated collection point within 200m distance served with basic frequency and regularity |
| Limited | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Receiving door-to-door MSW collection service without basic frequency and regularity; <input type="checkbox"/> Having a designated collection point within 200m distance but not served with basic frequency and regularity; or <input type="checkbox"/> Having designated collection point in further than 200 m distance. |
| No | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Receiving no waste collection service |
| <p>Note: Basic frequency and regularity: served at least once a week for one year</p> | |

Discussion

What are the elements of a waste management program that are a basic need?

What indicators do you use to tell the story of the problem/need or progress/success?

What would be an appropriate way to qualify waste services on tribal lands?

Next Steps





Thank you

Additional thoughts or questions to share, please reach out –
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