



Wilton Rancheria Backgrounder

About Us

- Wilton Rancheria, the only federally recognized Tribe in Sacramento County, is proud to be California's Capital Tribe.
- Wilton Rancheria citizens are primarily Miwok and Nisenan people, descendants of the Penutian linguistic family.
- As a federally recognized Tribe, Wilton Rancheria is a *sovereign nation*. This important distinction affords Tribes a Nation-to-Nation relationship with the Federal government.

History

- The ancestors of Wilton Rancheria have occupied the Sacramento Valley since time immemorial.
- Wilton Rancheria was first established in 1928, which put 38.77 acres of land in to trust in Wilton, California.
- The Rancheria Act of 1958 terminated federal trust responsibilities to 41 California Indian Tribes, including Wilton Rancheria. As a result, the Tribe lost its Federal Recognition in 1964.
- Following a hard-fought legal battle led by Tribal Elders, the Tribe's federal status was restored on June 8, 2009. The Tribe recognizes this date as an annual holiday.
- In November 2011, the Tribe adopted its modern Constitution, and has worked diligently to implement and develop its Tribal government.

Present

- Wilton Rancheria currently has over 1000 citizens, with 62% of the Tribe living in Sacramento County.
- 40% of citizens are under 18 years old, and 60% of Tribal youth attend the Elk Grove Unified School District.
- The Tribe's government is divided into four separate branches: a General Council, comprised of all voting citizens; the Office of the Chair and Vice-Chair, which administers all Tribal departments and programs; the Tribal Council, which enacts legislation and oversees the budget; and the Tribal Court, which hears all cases and controversies under the Tribe's jurisdiction.
- After placing 36 acres of land into trust in 2017, Wilton Rancheria proudly opened Sky River Casino in August 2022. The Casino currently employs over 1600 people and has become one of the largest economic drivers in the region.

Contact

- For more information on Wilton Rancheria, you can visit www.wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov or email media@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov.