



Monday, April 10, 2023

# Data Sovereignty

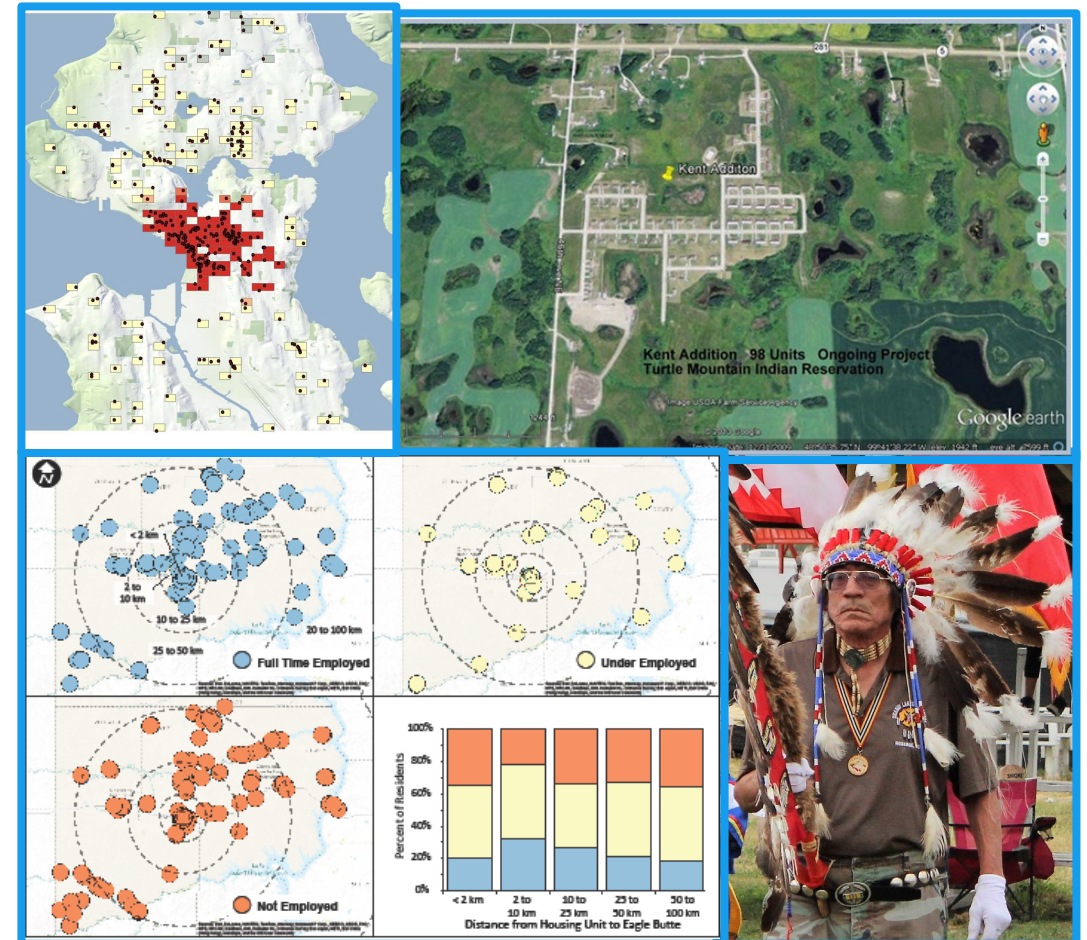
## The Importance of Tribal Data Collection



Kevin Klingbeil  
Managing Director, Big Water Consulting

# What is Data Sovereignty?

- Spans issues of data collection, analysis, management, use, dissemination and ongoing capacity-building
- Includes exclusive (or at least joint) ownership of data by tribe/tribal organization



# What are the impacts of having good data?

- Plan for changes (and adapt over time)
- Pursue new funding opportunities
- Tell an accurate story of your community (and correct story being told)

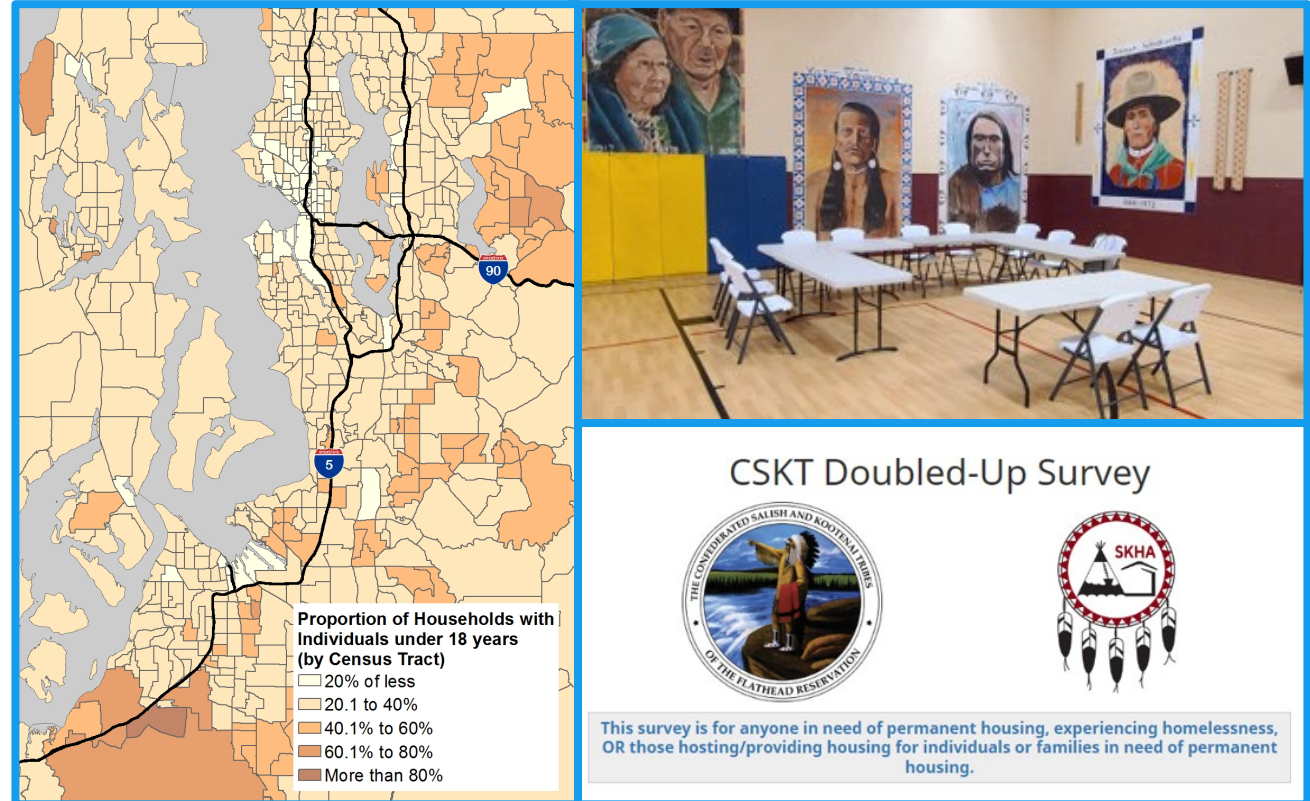


# Why should tribes collect their own data?

- Many non-tribal data sources are seen as inaccurate, for a variety of reasons:
  - Lack of trust in collectors
  - Inappropriate measurement techniques
  - Unable to match data collection to tribal programs
  - Uniqueness of tribal geographies

# What types of data collection methods should you use?

- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- Spatial
- Administrative
- Observational



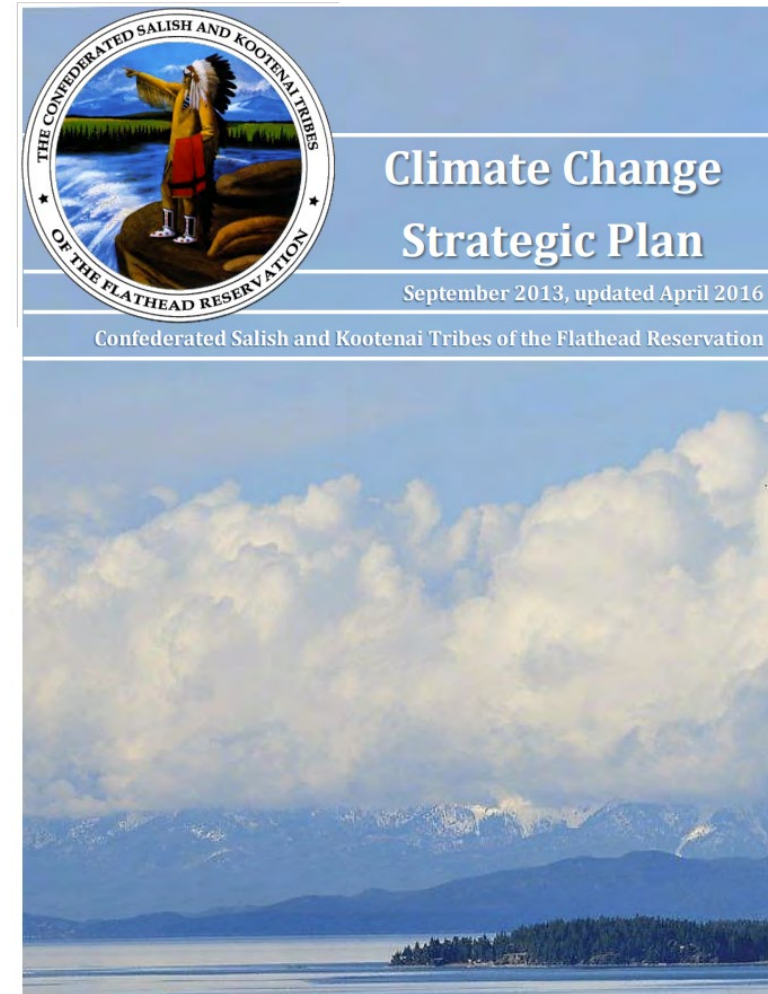
# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
  - 2018: Tribal Census funded by SAMHSA (facilitated opioid response grant and IHBG Competitive Grant)
  - 2021: Housing Needs Assessment for planning purposes and successful IHBG formula “Census Challenge”
  - 2023: Preparing second Tribal Census (longitudinal data—changes over time)



# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- CSKT Climate Change Strategic Plan
  - Incorporates traditional ecological knowledge and the knowledge of tribal elders with modern science and climate adaptation strategies
  - Developed by the Tribe's Natural Resource Department and informs policies across Tribal government



# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- SDNHC Veterans Housing Study
  - Sharing of data with other veterans' service providers and South Dakota Native Homeownership Coalition (SDNHC) members
  - Identified opportunities to connect veterans with local Native CDFI and others who can package mortgage lending products that work for vets





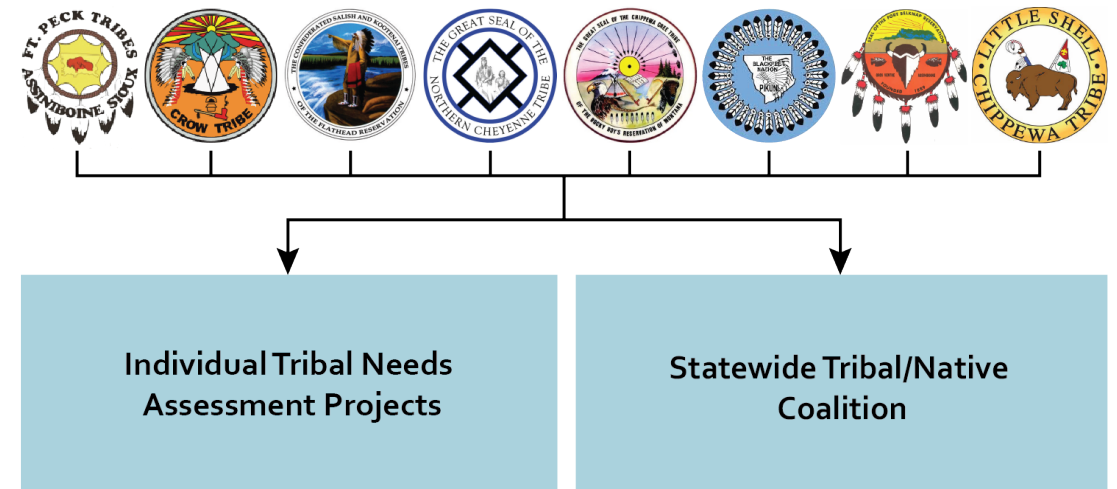
# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- Tribal Workforce Development Toolkit
  - NCAI's research findings from extensive engagement with tribes, tribal colleges, and Native organizations
  - Data collected through case studies, interviews, surveys, and individual consultations



# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- Montana Native Health + Housing Needs Study
  - Emerging statewide coalition of tribes, nonprofits, agencies and other partners working together to collect data and advocate for policy change
  - Individual tribal projects address unique programs and needs
  - Tribes hold joint ownership of the aggregated statewide findings
  - Partially funded by Montana Healthcare Foundation



# Examples of Tribal Data Collection

- Studying the Impacts of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program
  - Regional tribal organization (UNAHA) partnering with a national affordable housing advocate (NLIHC) to collect data and report on the effectiveness of a federal program (ERAP)



# Additional Uses of Tribal Data

- Master Planning
- IHBG Census Challenge
- CDFI Development
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies
- Transportation Planning
- Tribal Census
- Market and Feasibility Studies (incl. energy efficiency programs)
- Evaluation of Tribal Programs and Facilities
- Population Projection (incl. based on enrollment reqts)
- Service-Related Cost and Gap Analysis

# Considerations for Tribal Data Collection

- Data security and confidentiality
- Burden on the community
- Collaborative/Community-based data collection
- Effective and appropriate use of data
- Building trust to ensure future success



# Future(s) of Tribal Data Collection?

- State and federal programs are increasingly investing in data collection on tribal lands to promote access to their programs
  - CDFI Fund, EDA, WA Dept. of Commerce, SDHDA, etc.
- How should other programs and governments accommodate the unique sovereignty and needs of tribes and tribal programs?

# Questions?

# Big Water Consulting

Kevin Klingbeil

kevin@bigwaterconsulting.net

