

# Times Change for Everyone

It's estimated that as many as 2,000 Native Americans called Inyo and the Eastern Sierra home when white European settlers first arrived in the mid 1800s. As times changed over the next several decades, so they did for the Native Americans. Water rights retained by the local Paiute-Shoshone were as aggressively sought after by the City of Los Angeles as were those of the farmers and ranchers. When agriculture as an industry began to decline, so did employment for the Native Americans.

The federal government recognized four separate tribes in the Owens Valley and an additional tribe in the Death Valley area of Inyo County. Reservation lands were eventually created for all the tribes in an attempt to give the local Paiute - Shoshone some form of economic stability. A few were able to obtain Jobs created by the Los Angeles Aqueduct, but most severely suffered the devastating economic effects the aqueduct and land grab had inflicted upon the entire county.

