



## PAIUTE INDIAN TRIBE OF UTAH

### History

In the late 19th century, the Paiute bands of Southern Utah coalesced into five bands: the Kanosh Band, the Shivwits Band, the Indian Peaks Band, the Koosharem Band, and the Cedar Band. Reservations were established between 1903 and 1929 for all but the Cedar Band, which the federal government overlooked. In 1954, the bands were terminated from federal recognition, with the exception of the Cedar

Band, which received no federal assistance and consequently suffered de facto termination. The tribe became ineligible for any federal assistance for 26 years. The termination which the tribe experienced between 1954 and 1980 had devastating social and economic consequences. Nearly one-half of all tribal members died during this period due to lack of health resources, and lack of adequate income to meet their needs. About 15,000 acres of former reservation lands were lost, primarily due to inability to pay property taxes. Pride and culture diminished dramatically.

### Restoration

In 1975, the Paiute Tribe began efforts to gain federal recognition once again. On April 3, 1980 by an Act of Congress, (the Paiute Restoration Act, P.L. 96-227) the federal trust relationship was restored to the five bands that constitute the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah. All five bands became federally recognized. Four years later, Congress passed the Paiute Reservation Plan in order to recover lands lost due to termination. A new reservation land base was added in 1984 with the return of 4,800 acres of BLM land (out of 15,000 acres lost). The original lands lost were not included. The lands are small parcels and underdeveloped. The selection of these lands were based on their economic potential, and as a result most of them are located along I-15 and I-70. As a compromise the Paiute Tribe agreed to a 2.5 million irrevocable trust fund to be set up to assist the tribe with economic development and tribal government. The Paiute Tribe is only allowed to use the interest from this trust fund. It took the Paiute Tribe nine years to accomplish this task, and it took the federal government less than a year to accomplish theirs. In 1983 the majority of tribal members had access to adequate housing and health care, although chronic health problems, low educational attainment, underemployment and alcoholism persist.

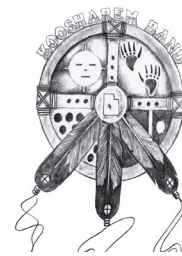
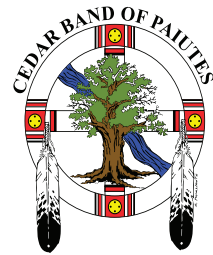


### Social Characteristics

The Paiute Tribe is a young tribe. At the time of restoration in 1980, the average age of the tribal council was 25. According to the latest health department data, 16 percent of the tribe's entire membership is over the age of 55, and 84 percent is under the age of 55. Of the total population of 840, 47 percent consists of youth 16 years and younger.



Kanosh Band of Paiute Indians



Five Seals of the Paiute Bands



**Demographics**

The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah is located in the corner of southwest Utah. Its service area for Tribal programs of Health, Social Services, Housing, Education, Alcohol and Drug Activities, Environment and Economic Development covers five counties. The central headquarters is located in Iron County at Cedar City, Utah. As of April 12, 2006, there are 840 members of the Paiute Tribe divided among the five bands.



<b>Band</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Land</b>	<b>Distance</b>
Cedar Band	263	31%	2,060	10 miles
Indian Peaks Band	39	4.7%	426	11 miles
Kanosh Band	122	14.6%	1,240	210 miles
Koosharem Band	130	13%	1,273	240 miles
Shivwits Band	286	36.7%	27,525	128 miles
	840	100%	32,446	589 miles*

\*Note: Distance is round trip from Cedar City, Utah.

**Tribal Government**

The Paiute Tribe is organized under the provisions of the 1980 Restoration Act, P.L. 96-227, the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, and the Tribal Constitution. The Tribe is made up of five bands. The Tribal Council consists of six members, one from each band area, and a Tribal Chairperson. Council members are elected by popular vote of their respective bands, and the Chairperson is elected by the entire membership of the Tribe, 18 years and older. The Tribal Council is elected to a four-year term, and they meet once a month. The Tribal Council is the official governing body of the Tribe. It has established the Paiute Economic Development Committee (PEDCO) to work with economic development issues of the Tribe, and in March of 2002 a federal Charter of Incorporation was approved for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah and its enterprise, the Nung-Weunts Wook-ahd Corporation.