Getting to Know the CHRIS

Eric Allison, Office of Historic Preservation Nathan Hallam, North Central Information Center July 23, 2015



What is the CHRIS?

The California Historical Resources Information System

- State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC)
 - Approves IC fees and Info Center Rules of Operation Manual
 - Most SHRC activities concern other matters, especially listing of historical resources on state registers and the National Register of Historic Places
- Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)
 - Among other functions, administers/manages Info Center System, manages
 OHP portion of the CHRIS Inventory, provides technical assistance and public education services related to the inventory
 - State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) designates CHRIS Coordinator
- Information Centers (ICs)
 - Manage bulk of CHRIS Inventory, provide access, technical assistance and public education services related to the inventory

Information Center Functions

Delegated by the SHPO

- Maintain the state/CHRIS historical resources inventory on behalf of OHP (and SHRC), for the IC's service area
- Provide access to the inventory, and provide support in its interpretation and use as appropriate
- Provide outreach and education services regarding historic preservation and the CHRIS Inventory

Statewide Historical Resources Inventory – before the CHRIS

- 1948, UC Archaeological Survey established
- 1966, Society for California Archaeology (SCA) established
- 1973, SCA District Clearinghouses
- 1975, Office of Historic Preservation established within Dept. of Parks and Recreation



Key Events in CHRIS History

- 1976, OHP initiates the State Archaeological Sites Survey
- 1989, SHRC forms Information Center Procedural Advisory Committee (ICPAC)
- 1990, National Park Service conducts program review of OHP
- 1990-1995, expansion of IC inventories to include non-archaeological information, distribution of OHP inventory info to ICs

Key Events (cont.)

- December 2010, first meeting of CHRIS Working Group (hosted by SHPO)
- 2011-2014, OHP contracts for studies of CHRIS modernization, sustainability and service delivery model, plus assessment of inventory
- Ongoing, ICs and OHP convert data, both independently and with agency support, and work on plan for future of the CHRIS

Info Center Service Areas





CHRIS Mission Statement

 To assist in the long-term stewardship of California's Historical Resources, both the physical properties and the documentary materials, the mission of the Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System is threefold. Each of these three arenas of effort is of equal importance and value to this mission.

1) Primary records management, both for the conservation of original information and the development and maintenance of working systems;



2) The dissemination of information concerning the full range of historical resource values, the provision of local expertise in the interpretation of that information, and professional advice and recommendations designed to assist in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and,



3) Through a variety of proactive educational efforts on both a formal and informal basis, the Information Centers work to broaden the appreciation and understanding of historical resource values as well as strengthen compliance with state and federal laws.



 The Information Centers are committed to the fulfillment of this mission by providing quality service and products in accordance with local needs and directives from the California Office of Historic Preservation.



The CHRIS Inventory

- SHPO has both federal and state obligations to maintain a statewide inventory
- Over 400,000 Resources
- Over 150,000 Reports
- Significant overlap between OHP and IC portions of the CHRIS Inventory
- Roughly 2/3 of IC inventory digitized
- Archaeological information is confidential, so access is restricted



CHRIS Inventory Digitization

- Converting resource records and reports to PDF format
- Converting resource and report location maps to Geographic Information System (GIS) format
- Populating resource and report/bibliographic databases
- Various IC-specific/regional efforts since the 1990s



CHRIS Funding

- ICs generate Records Search Revenue
- ICs generate roughly \$1.5-\$2 million in income per year, and expend similar amount annually
- OHP provides roughly \$90,000 in federal subgrant funds, plus variable contract funds for data management/conversion
- Agency, other partnerships provide support, often focused on digitization



What the ICs Do

- Maintain and provide access to the CHRIS Inventory (Data Request Form)
 - Over 10,000 resources and almost 10,000 reports per year, varies
- Assist with use and interpretation of the inventory
 - Explain how to access and use the information
 - May provide recommendations related to resource identification



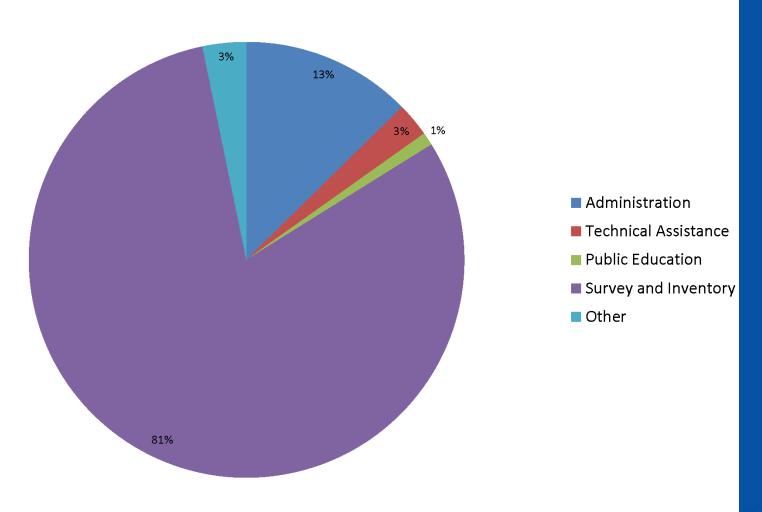
What the ICs Do

- Records Searches (over 6,000 last year)
 - Important part of background research
 - Staff searches
 - o In-House searches
- Confidential and non-confidential searches
 - Depends on the qualifications and needs of requestor
 - Type of search may be specified by written agreement



Estimated Info Center Staff Time Spent on Selected Activities, Based on Total Hours Reported

8 of 10 Info Centers, July 2012-June 2013





Contact Information

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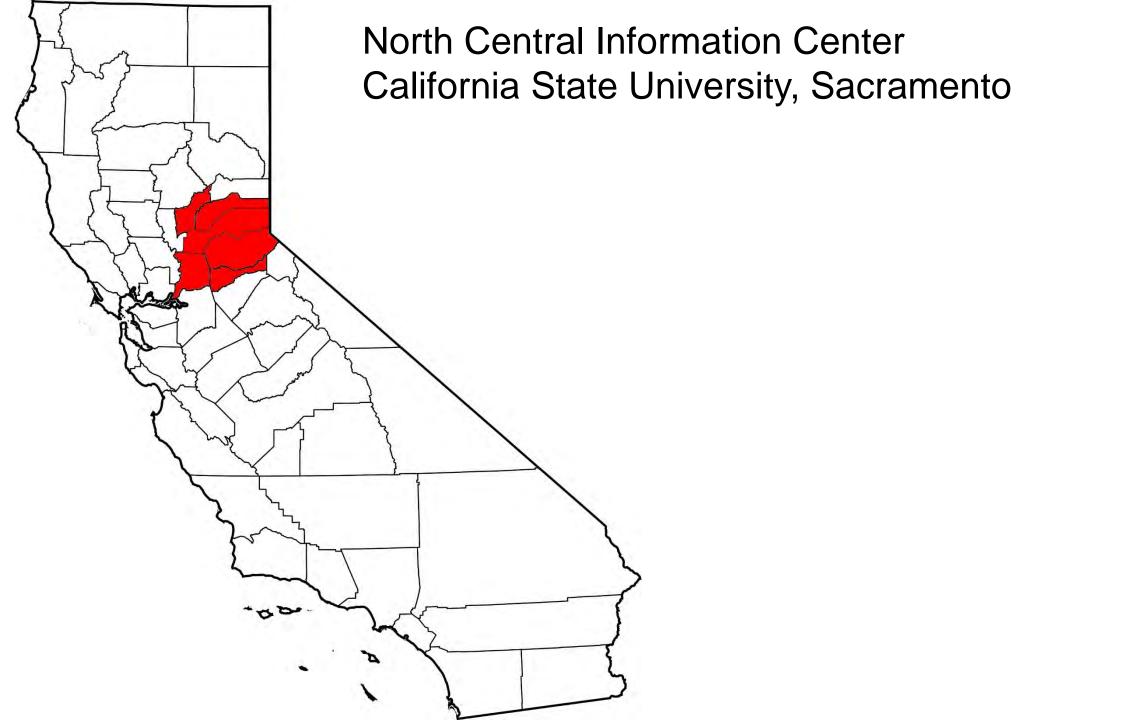
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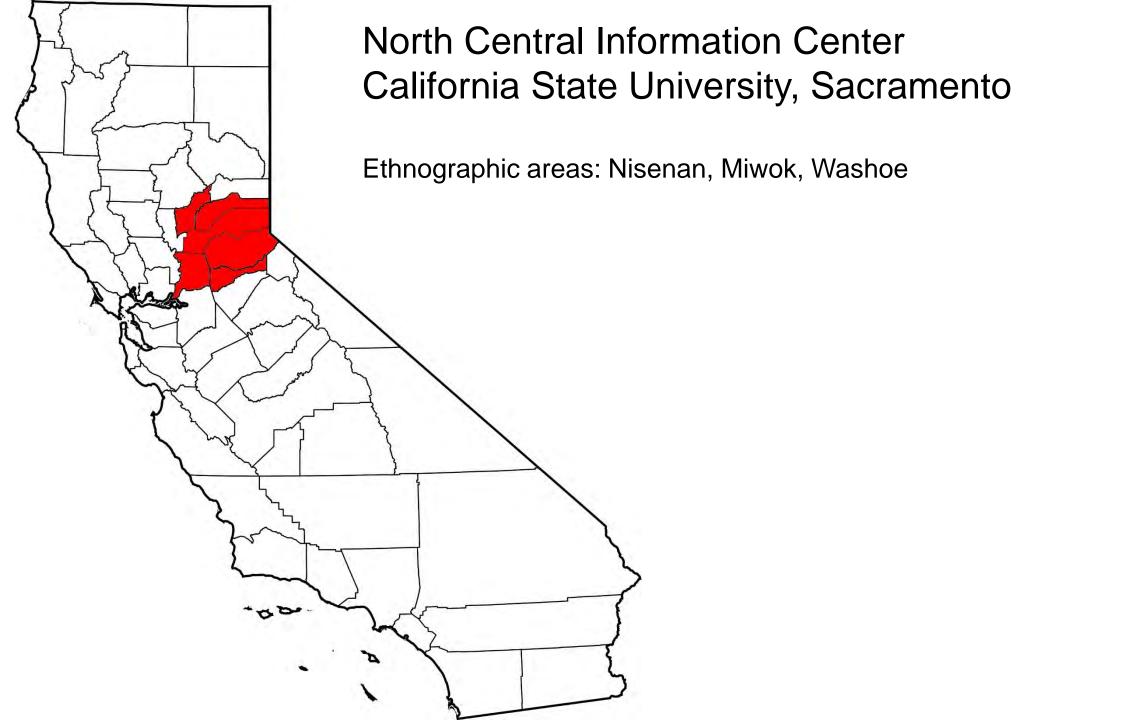
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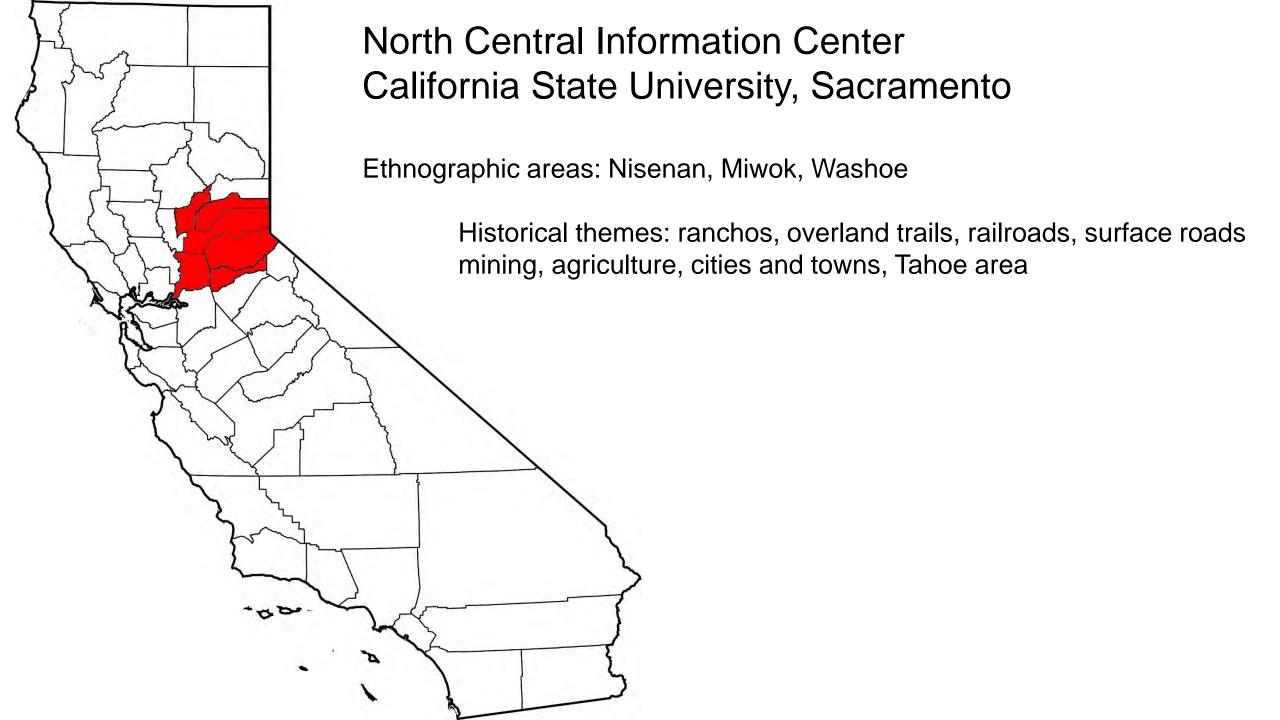
IC Roster:

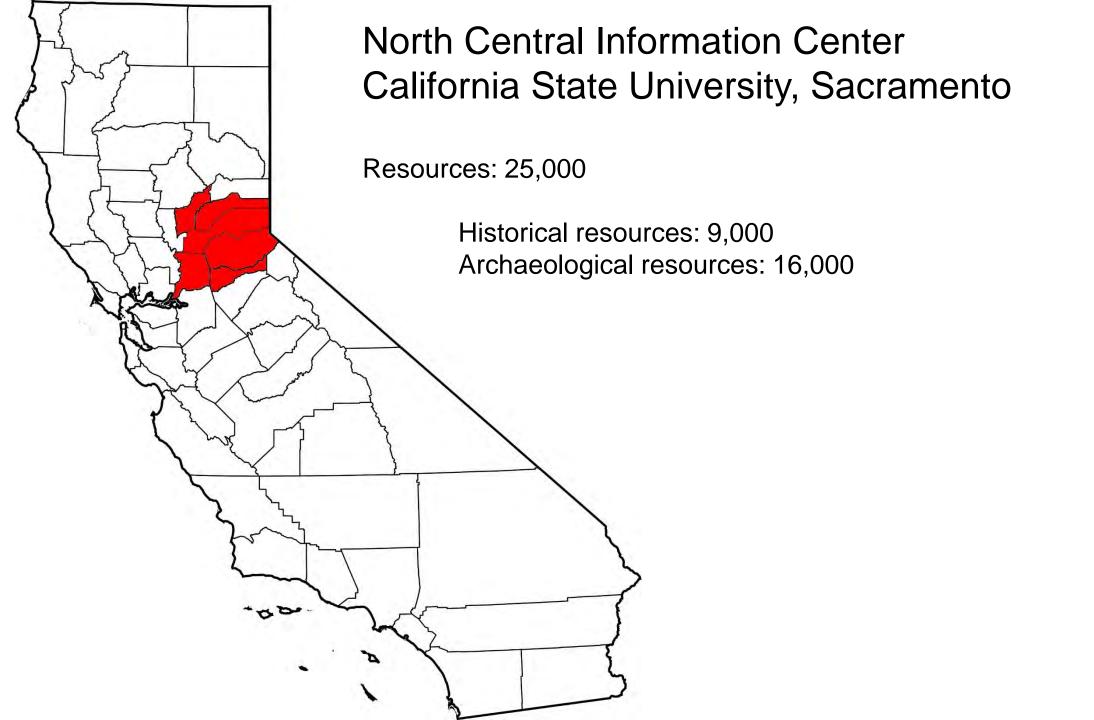
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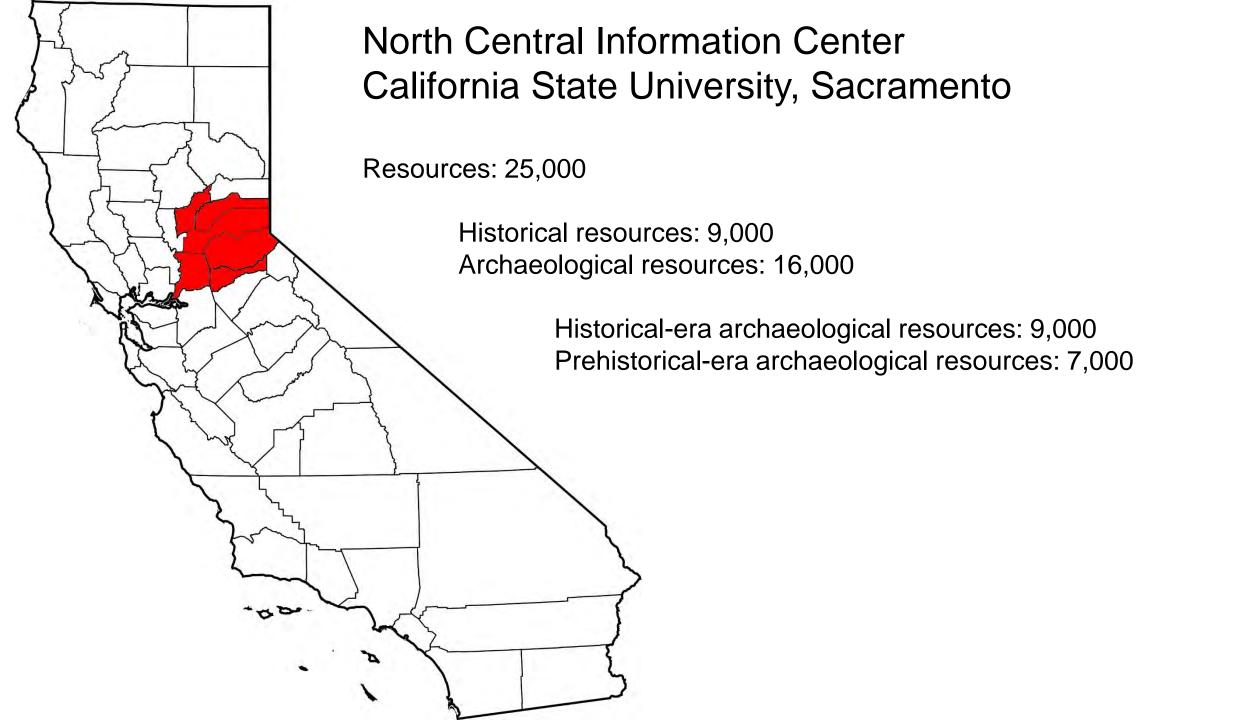


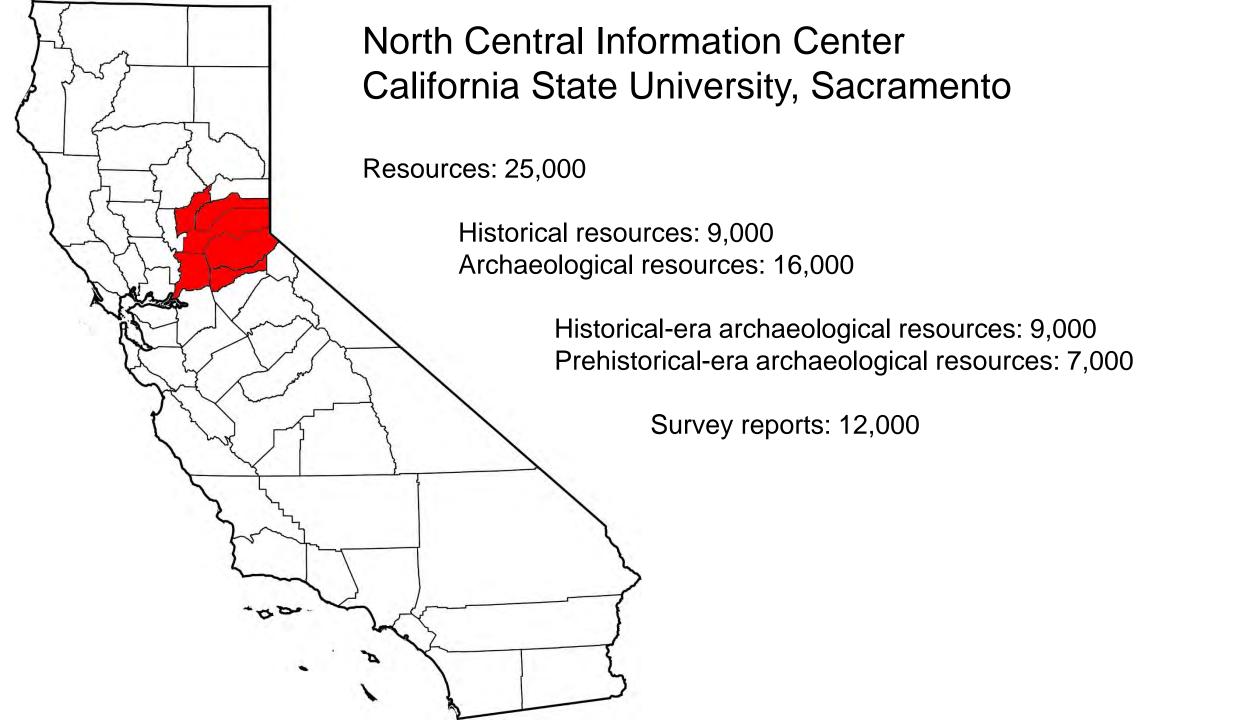








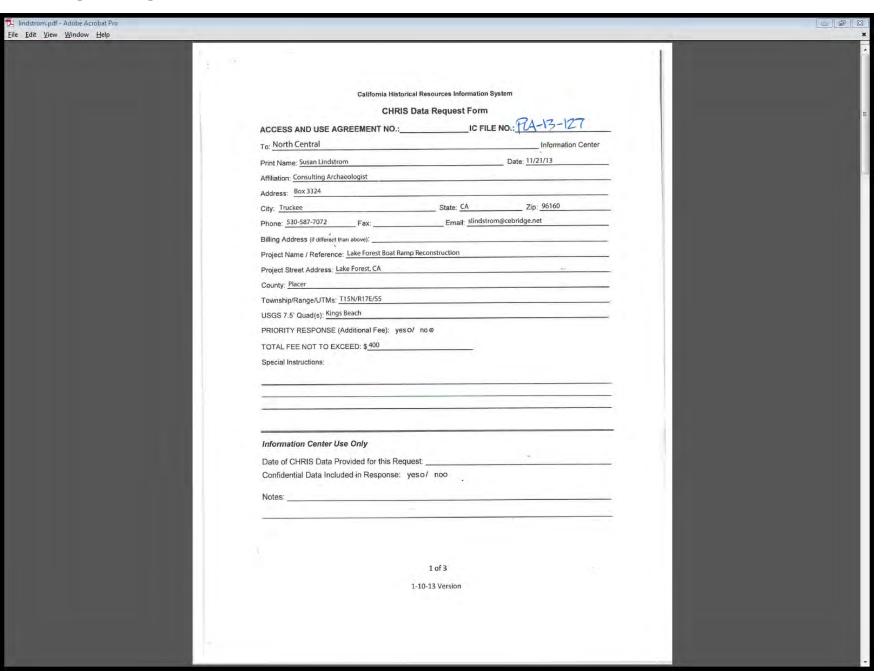


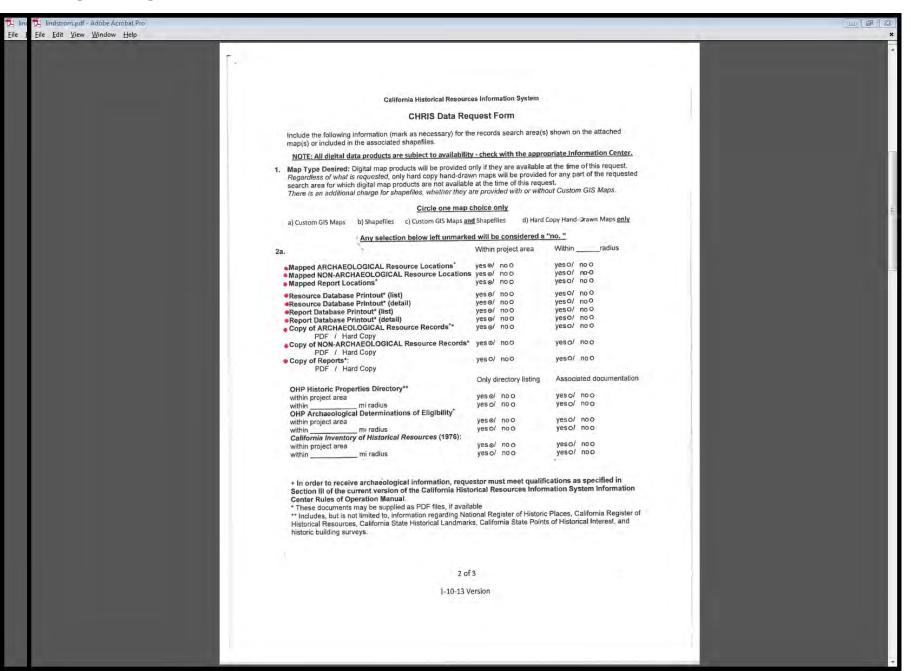


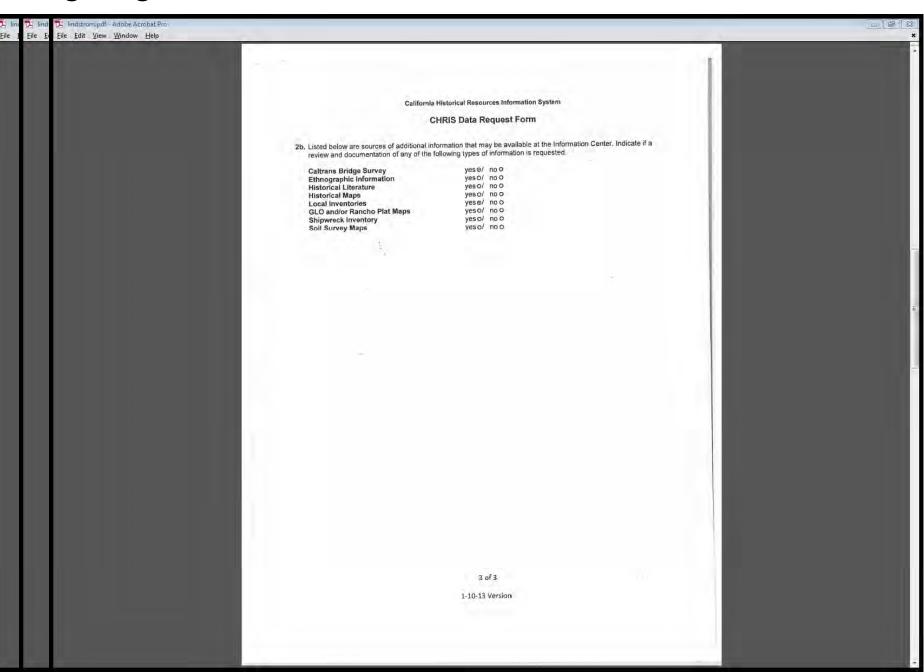


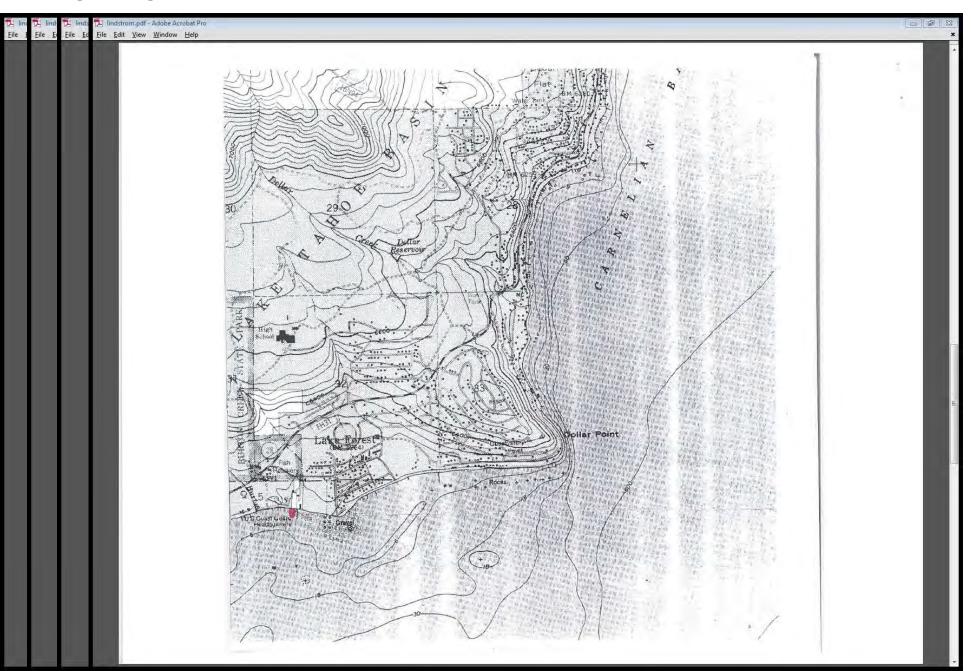


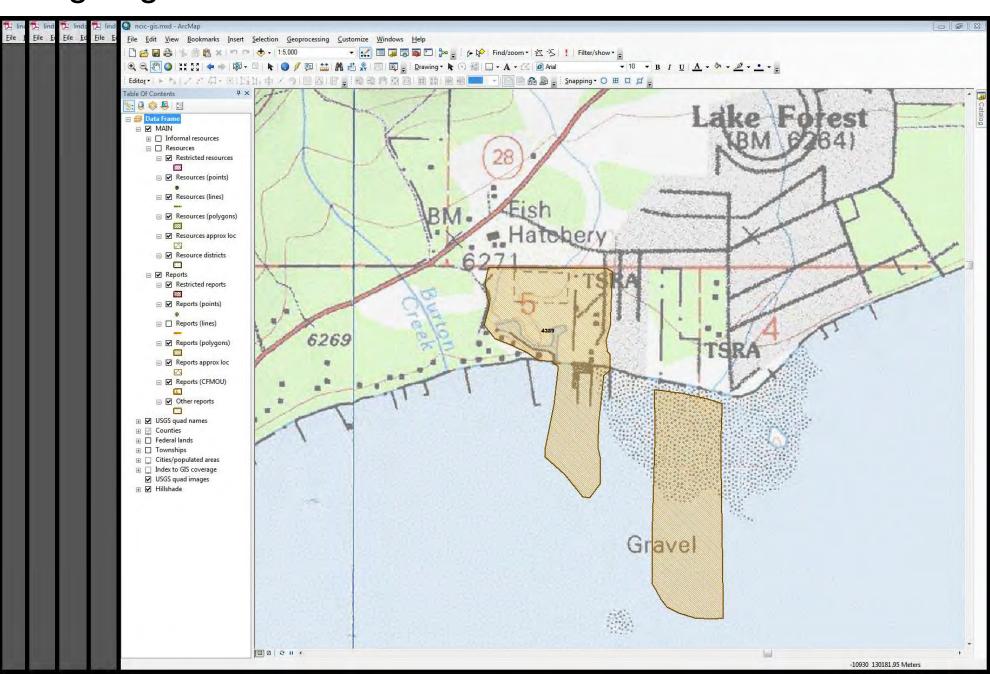


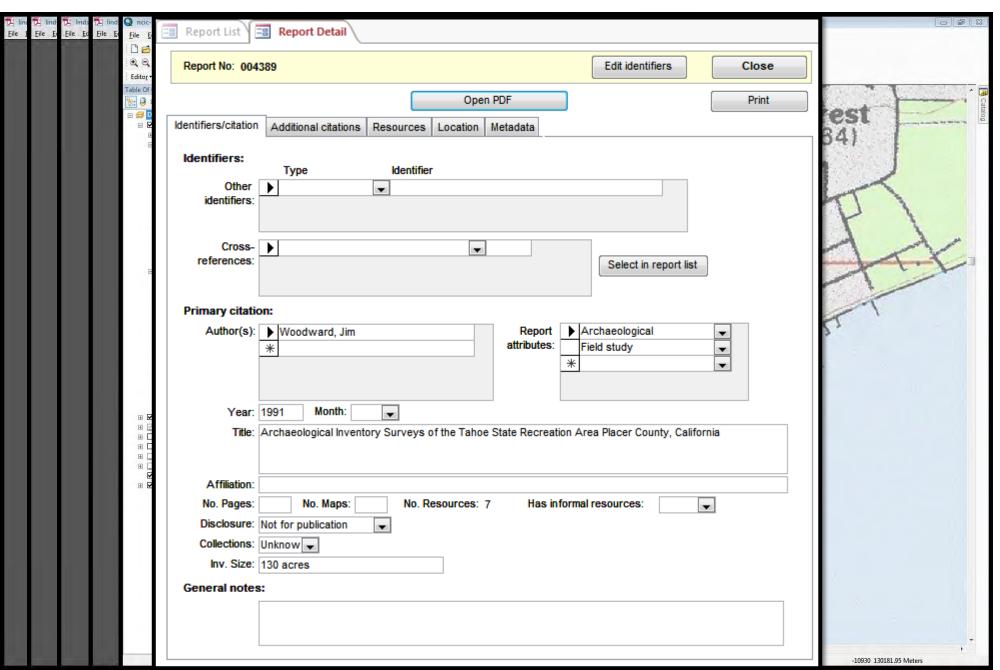


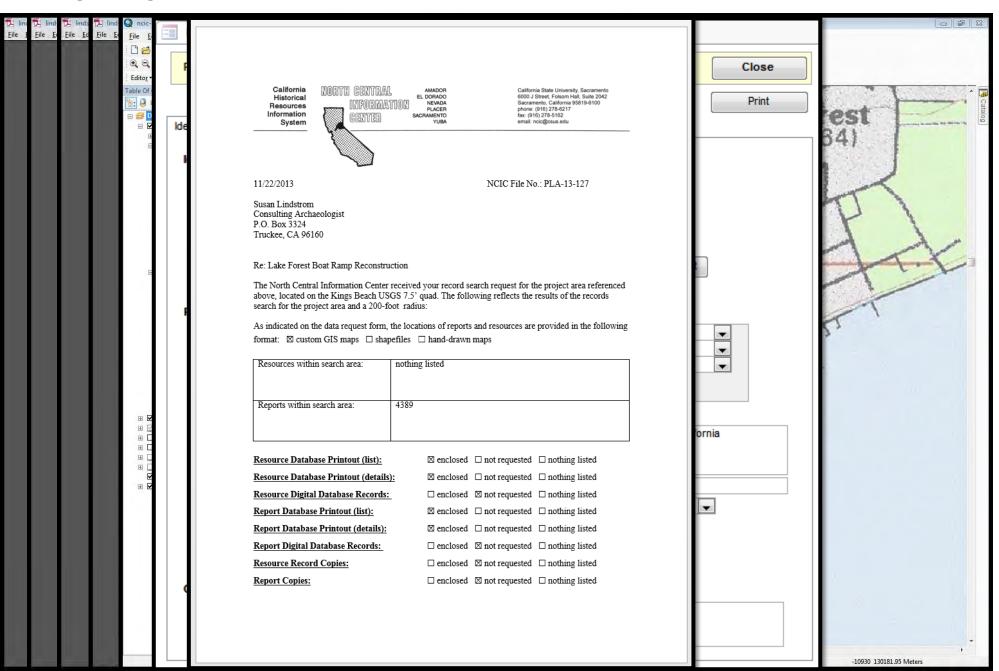














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