

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
FIELD SERVICE

Sacramento Indian Agency  
California

July 20, 1937

*DME*  
*7/27*  
JUL 24 1937  
47637

To: Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Subject: Indian Organization

Sir:

Answering Mr Daiker's letter of June 30th:

1. While originally I opposed the idea of forcing small California rancherias to vote on the reorganization act, having persuaded them so to do I am unable to see on what grounds we can deny them the right to incorporate, if they so desire. Wilton and Big Valley have applied for charters of incorporation.

2. The Hopland constitution certainly should be ~~released~~ released at the earliest possible moment.

*eng*  
3. The Pinoleville constitution should not be held indefinitely, but should be held until Mr Marmon can straighten out the question of membership, i.e., the inclusion or exclusion of those Indians who live on the privately owned land adjacent. All are away from the rancheria during the summer; nothing can be done with them until they return from the harvest in October.

4. Tule River, Bidwell, and Cogvelo all can profit by incorporation at an early date.

5. Manchester is, as you say, completely organized; but utilization of credit hinges entirely on the completion of purchase of the Iverson ranch. This drags interminably.

Very truly yours,

*Roy Nash*

Roy Nash,  
Superintendent

cc-Mr Marmon

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Asst. Commr. WZ  
27521-37

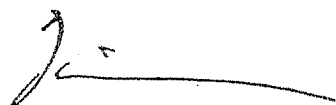
WASHINGTON

July 30, 1937.

MEMORANDUM to Mr. Collier:

For a number of months action has been delayed on requests for charters by a number of the smaller California Rancherias. It has always been my personal view that it would be a mistake to charter the smallest of these groups. I have discussed this question at some length with Mr. Daiker and others and have come to the conclusion that we could easily justify a decision to incorporate no group with fewer than 50 members. In effect, this limitation would be the same as the Oklahoma provision authorizing the formation of cooperatives with a minimum membership of 10. I believe that the primary and perhaps the sole justification for incorporating these smaller groups is to enable them to receive loans. That being the case, their needs could probably be supplied from the regular reimbursable funds. *(total population)*

The minimum requirement of 50 may be too low. I foresee numerous administrative difficulties in dealing with these many small groups once they are incorporated. My personal preference would be for a larger minimum, perhaps 100, but I suggest 50 because it can be easily justified by comparison with Oklahoma.



Assistant Commissioner.

file attached.  
ah

re banker - Aug 2, 1957

Mr Zimmerman & I are  
agreed that we should  
in the present issue  
charter only to 50 -  
or - more - member corporations  
supplying the credit need  
in these other cases  
from intricate  
unimbrassable & A letter  
should be prepared for  
asst. Secy. approval.

Wheeler

September 30, 1937

Memorandum for Mr. Daiker:

I have reviewed this file and am in accord with the idea of limiting the issuance of charters to groups of less than 50. I feel that 50 may be too small a group. In fact, I would recommend 100 as the minimum.

As to chartering the Wilton group it should be avoided if possible. "One drink leads to another." We must draw the line somewhere. Couldn't we avoid the necessity of chartering by having a study of this group made to determine their objectives and the possibility of meeting them some other way? If that is not possible then we will have, in my opinion, a defense for chartering this particular small group.

*H. M. Critchfield*  
H. M. Critchfield

Mr. Danker - See  
my note concerning  
group charters for  
ranchers. What's your  
opinion?  
W.V.W.

Oct 5  
Mr. Worshie  
See your  
note. Suggest  
you follow it  
up with TRA  
forces.  
JL

- ..... Extension
- ..... Extension (Credit)
- ..... Health
- ..... Forestry
- ..... Irrigation
- ..... Land
- ~~..... Fiscal~~
- ..... Construction
- ..... Statistics
- ..... Library
- ..... Emergency Conservation
- ..... Roads
- ..... Mails and Files
- ..... Purchasing Office

I don't see that a  
group of 40: Calif. are  
in a much different  
position from some of our  
small Okla. corps.  
JH

Mr. Collins:  
Isn't it legally  
possible to follow the  
Minnesota lead and  
incorporate half a dozen  
or a dozen ranchers  
in order to make the R. Loan  
fund available? This possibi-  
lity should be explored before  
we deny the small ranchers  
access to credit facilities.  
10/4 W.V.W.

OCT 8 1937

Mr Wackelhe.

I am with you 100% and urged that course months ago. Particularly in our land purchases for these small bands + which indirectly or directly was responsible for Stewarts conference out there which you attended x

There may be a real legal question as to where several groups are organized as is true whether they can combine under one charter

Legally several may organize as one + then receive a charter as in the case of the Munn groups -

We might get an informal opinion as to whether Solicitor would approve a consolidated charter for several organized bands.

If not then this letter should go in my opinion

Darke

The Wilton

Rancheria is the only rancheria organized that has less than fifty population - we probably should not organize any more rancherias of less than 50.

Since Wilton is the only one organized with less than 50 - should we not go ahead with incorporation

and elimin<sup>2</sup> the charge of broken faith - the question could be eliminated in the future.  
J.D.