The Hualapai Tribe, “People of the Tall Pines,” are a federally recognized Tribe in northwestern Arizona. The Hualapai Reservation was established by executive order in 1883.

In 1874, the United States military forcibly relocated hundreds of Hualapai to the Colorado River Indian Reservation in Parker, Arizona (called La Paz). Many died on the two week march or later due to disease and starvation during their yearlong internment. In 1975, survivors escaped imprisonment and returned to their lands in Northwestern Arizona. Each year, the Tribe holds the Hualapai La Paz Trail of Tears Run to commemorate those survivors and their perseverance.

According to the 2010 decennial census, approximately 1,335 individuals live on the Hualapai Reservation in Arizona.
SOCIAL AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS*  

According to the American Community Survey, 21.8 percent of the Hualapai Tribe living on the Reservation are under the age of 18. Significantly, there are just 5 males and 50 females over the age of 65 on the Reservation. The median age for the tribe is 35.3, which is comparable to the median age for the State of Arizona.

Approximately 58.4 percent of the occupied housing units on the Reservation are owner-occupied.

Hualapai households are very diverse: More than half of Hualapai households have children under the age of 18. Traditional husband-wife families make up 37.5 percent of all households, and households headed by a single female are 28 percent of all households.

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Hualapai families have a significantly high poverty rate (50.4 percent). Female-headed households with children are highly likely to live in poverty (73.5 percent of female-headed households with children under 18 have income below the poverty level). The median household income for the Hualapai Tribe is $31,750.

In terms of occupation, Tribal administration, public schools, and state/federal government provide the majority of full-time employment.

ENTERPRISES

The primary economic activity of the Tribes is tourism, cattle ranching, and arts and crafts.

The location of the Reservation is prime for hunting, fishing, and river rafting. The tribe sells big-game hunting permits, and operates Hualapai River Runners, the only Indian-owned and operated river rafting company on the Colorado River.

The Tribe also operates Grand Canyon West- a tourist location that includes “Skywalk,” a glass bridge that allows tourists to walk beyond the rim of the Grand Canyon at 4,000 feet above the Colorado River.

*All statistics on this page are from the 2010 Decennial Census or the 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.
Articles of the Hualapai Tribe’s Constitution that may pertain to institutional research protocol:

Article VI -- Powers of the Council

(a) To represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this Constitution and bylaws or the Constitution and Statutes of the United States.
(b) To negotiate and make contracts with the federal, state, and local governments.
(f) To protect and preserve the wildlife and natural resources of the Tribe; to regulate hunting and fishing on the Reservation.
(g) To cultivate Indian arts, crafts, and cultures.
(o) To enact ordinances, subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior, establishing and governing Tribal courts and law enforcement on the Reservation; regulating domestic relations of members of the Tribe, but all marriages shall be in accordance with State laws; providing for appointment of guardians for minors and mental incompetents; regulating the inheritance of real and personal property of members of the Tribe within the Reservation; and providing for the removal or exclusion from the Reservation of any non-member of the Tribe whose presence may be injurious to the people of the Reservation.

Federal

42 USC § 3515b requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to adopt appropriate regulations for the use of federal funds to pay for any research program or project or any program, project, or course which is of an experimental nature, or any other activity involving human participants that present a danger to the physical, mental, or emotional well-being of a participant or subject.

45 C.F.R. § 46.101 requires that research is supported by a federal department or agency (defined by 45 C.F.R. § 46.102(e)) must be reviewed and approved by an institutional review board.