

A History of Native CA Lunch Series

Ch. 2: Beach Encounters: Indigenous People and the Age of Exploration, 1540--1769

January 16, 2026

Takeaways and Resources

During the *A History of Native California Lunch Series: Chapter 2*, Professor Bauer discussed the following three questions:

- How and why did the Spanish and British explore the Pacific in the 16th century?
- How did California Indians establish relationships within and outside of their communities?
- How and why did California Indians interact with Spanish and English explorers and pirates?

The following resource(s) were shared during the webinar:

- [Register](#) for the next lunch session on February 20: Chapter 3: “Our Country before the Fernandino Arrived Was a Forest”: Native Towns and Spanish Missions in Colonial California.
- Native people in California spoke a number of languages—this book can help you learn more about California Native languages:
 - Hinton, Leanne. *Flutes of Fire: An Introduction to Native California Languages, Revised and Updated*. Heyday. 2022.
<https://www.heydaybooks.com/catalog/flutes-of-fire-an-introduction-to-native-california-languages-revised-and-updated/>

Selected resources relating to this chapter for additional reading:

- Voyles, Traci Brynne. *The Settler Sea: California's Salton Sea and the Consequences of Colonialism*. Nebraska Press, 2021.
<https://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/nebraska/9781496216731/the-settler-sea/>
- Lutz, John Sutton. *Myth and Memory: Stories of Indigenous-European Contact*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2007.
<https://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/M/bo70079609.html>
- Zappia, Natale A. *Traders and Raiders: The Indigenous World of the Colorado Basin, 1540-1859*. University of North Carolina Press, 2016.
<https://uncpress.org/9781469629933/traders-and-raiders/>
- Gamble, Lynn. *The Chumash World at European Contact: Power, Trade, and Feasting Among Complex Hunter-Gatherers*. University of California Press, 2011.
<https://www.ucpress.edu/books/the-chumash-world-at-european-contact/paper>
- Kelly, William. *Cocopa Ethnography*. University of Arizona Press, 2015.
<https://uapress.arizona.edu/book/cocopa-ethnography>

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- Preston, William. "Serpent in Eden: Dispersal of Foreign Diseases into Pre-mission California," *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology*, 18, no. 1 (1996): 2-37.
https://escholarship.org/content/qt0524s3kx/qt0524s3kx_noSplash_57eb3ed0d3102d41c400a1976306248d.pdf