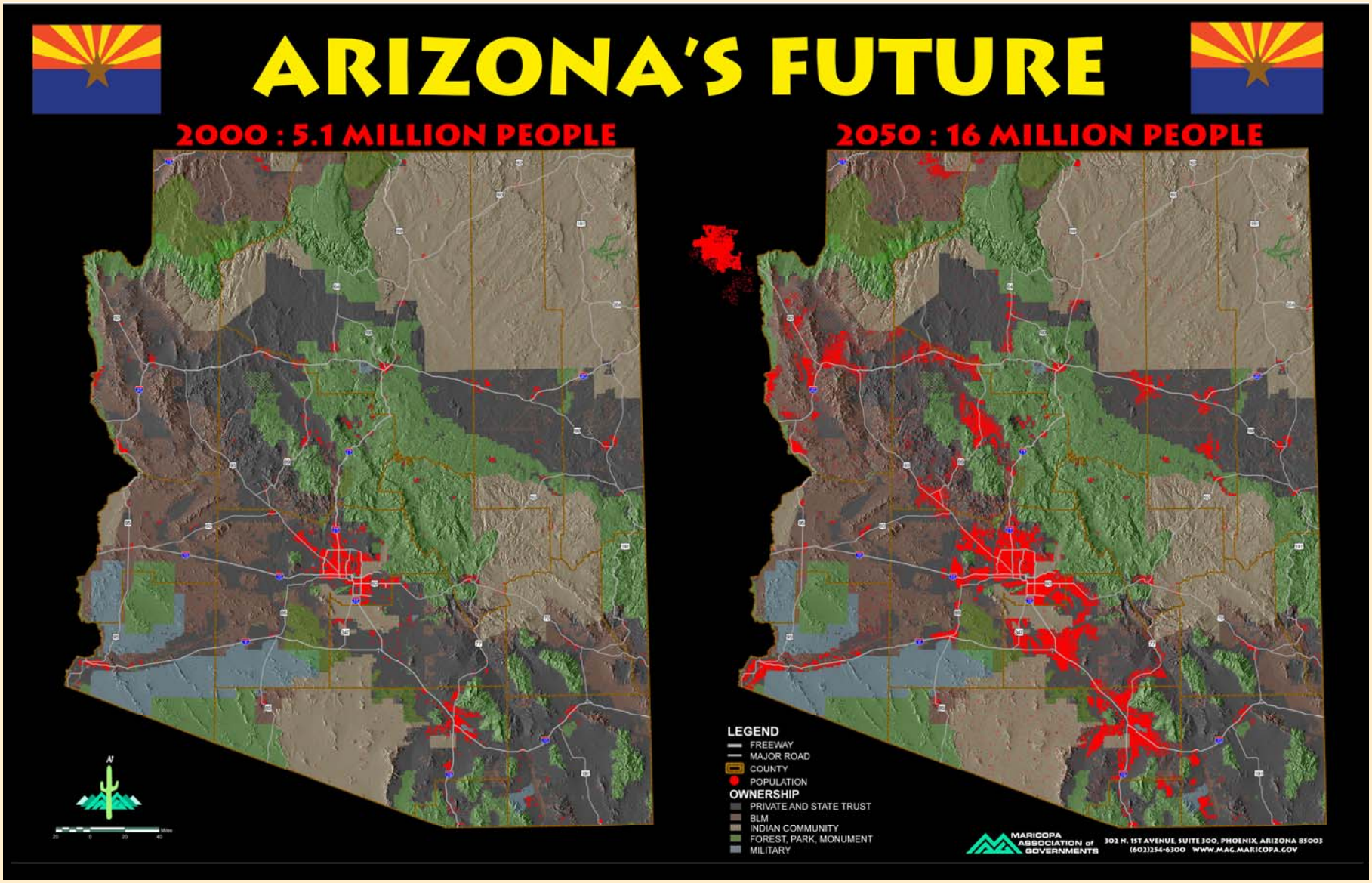
American Indian Nations & the Growth Challenge:
A Brief Overview

Presentation to

MAG Planners Stakeholders Group

October 21, 2008

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS


ARIZONA'S FUTURE
2000 : 5.1 MILLION PEOPLE
2050 : 16 MILLION PEOPLE
LEGEND
FREEWAY
MAJOR ROAD
COUNTY
POPULATION
OWNERSHIP
PRIVATE AND STATE TRUST
BLM
INDIAN COMMUNITY
FOREST, PARK, MONUMENT
MILITARY
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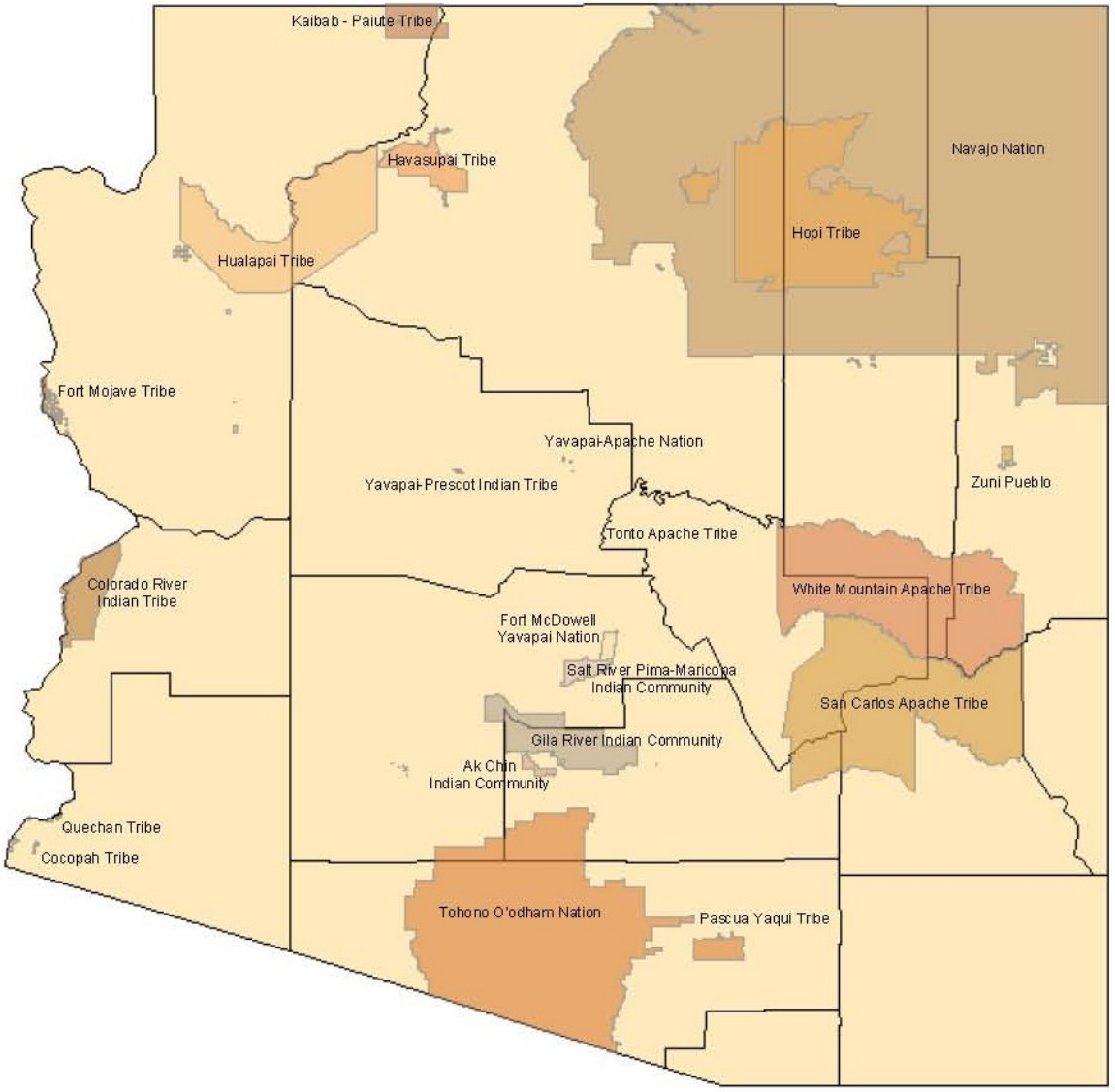
Kaibab - Paiute Tribe
Havasupai Tribe
Hualapai Tribe
Navajo Nation
Hopi Tribe
Fort Mojave Tribe
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescot Indian Tribe
Zuni Pueblo
Tonto Apache Tribe
Colorado River
Indian Tribe
White Mountain Apache Tribe
Fort McDowell
Yavapai Nation
Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Gila River Indian Community
Ak Chin
Indian Community
Quechan Tribe
Cocopah Tribe
Tohono O'odham Nation
Pascua Yaqui Tribe

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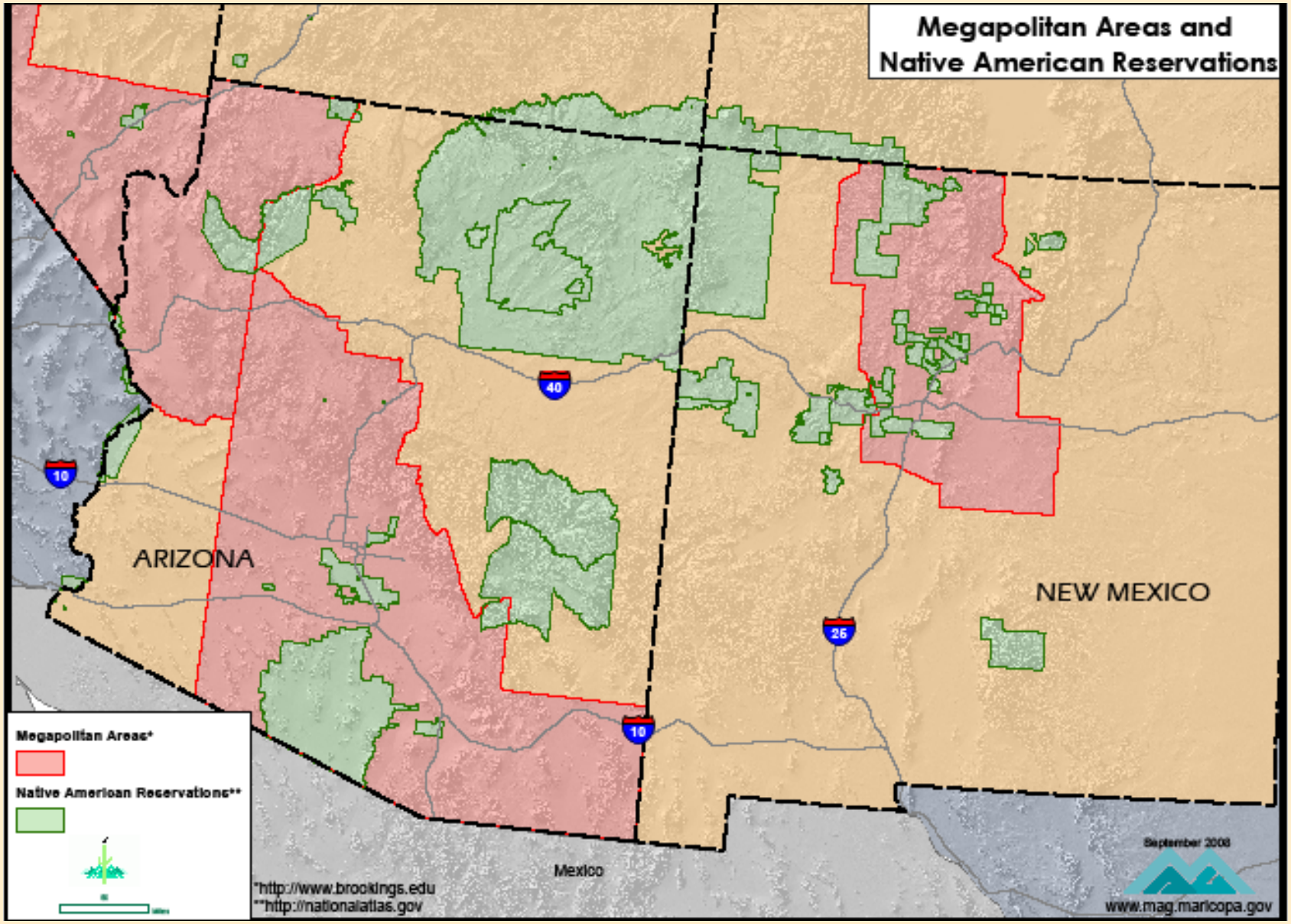

What is Sovereignty?

Tribal Sovereignty in the United States

Basis	Chronology	Distribution
Law (sovereignty as a legal matter)	c. 1830…	Over time, all federally recognized Native nations
Policy (sovereignty as a formal federal policy)	c. 1975…	All federally recognized Native nations
Practice (de facto sovereignty: genuine self-rule)	c. 1970s…	Self-selected Native nations

Tribes Exercise Control Over:

- Citizenship
- Governmental Form
- Law Making and Enforcement
- Dispute Resolution (Court Systems)
- Civil Affairs
- Some Criminal Matters
- Taxation
- Lands and Natural Resources
- Environmental Regulation
- Business Permitting and Regulation
- Cultural and Religious Affairs
- And other societal affairs

What does Sovereignty have to do with Growth?

- Enables tribal governments to:
  - Develop and pursue community & economic goals
  - Build effective governing institutions
  - Pursue their intergovernmental agenda
  - Be responsive and accountable to their communities and members

The Standard Model of Reservation Economic Development

- Short-term; Non-strategic
- Views Development as Primarily an Economic Problem
- Lets others set the Development Agenda
- View Indigenous Culture as an Obstacle to Development

Nation Building Model of Economic Development

- Sovereignty in practice
- Effective governing institutions
- Cultural Match
- Strategic Orientation
- Good Leadership

Current & Ongoing Challenges

- Managing positive outcomes
- Building and maintaining capable governing institutions
- Protecting tribal sovereignty

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