

# PRESS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Division of Boating and Waterways | Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division | Office of Historic Preservation

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## Office of Historic Preservation Makes Climate Heritage Mobilization Videos Available

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - California's Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) today released recordings from the [2018 Climate Heritage Mobilization](#). The videos, edited from the original live stream into sections, will help practitioners better understand opportunities for their own climate action and also serve as a way for partners to better understand the intersectionality of cultural and climate action.

On Sept. 12, 2018, more than a hundred colleagues gathered in San Francisco, with hundreds from across the globe via live stream, to participate in the first convening of Climate Heritage Mobilization, an officially affiliated session of the Global Climate Action Summit. Conversations focused on the intersection of cultural heritage and climate change for greater ambition towards meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement. Organized under the auspices of OHP, this side event was devoted to advancing cultural heritage-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation while utilizing cultural as a mechanism to communicate climate action opportunities. The presenters from around the world included climate scientists, architects, members of indigenous groups, artists, and heritage management officials, all working towards the common goal for greater outcomes.

In addition to knowledge sharing, among the goals of the convening, were to lay the foundation for the Climate Heritage Network and introduce California's Cultural Resources Climate Change Task Force. One of the first tasks for the task force was to develop the Climate Heritage Mobilization videos. You can find [videos listed in the Climate Heritage Mobilization Agenda](#).

Below you will find some of the topics covered in the videos:

- [Five Perspectives on the Intersection of Climate Action and Cultural Heritage](#) with Professor Karima Bennoune, UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights, Kenneth Kimmell, Union of Concerned Scientists, and James Grabert, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) were among those providing keynote talks to open the session.

- [Queen Quet](#), Gullah/Geechee Nation, presented on the topic of cultural competency and capacity building in adaptation and resilience mobilization.
- [The Talanoa Dialogue and International Roundtable video](#) included The Honorable Paul Wheelhouse, Member of Scottish Parliament, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands, Government of Scotland; The Honorable Mohamed Sefiani, Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco, and Martina Otto, United National Environmental Program.

Climate Heritage Network is a voluntary, mutual support network of local, city, state/provincial, regional, indigenous and tribal, and national arts, culture and heritage governmental agencies as well as non-governmental organizations, universities, and businesses committed to aiding their communities in tackling climate change and achieving the ambitions of the Paris Agreement. Its focus is to provide support to organizations from jurisdictions that have made concrete climate action pledges, such as those in the Under 2 Coalition and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate Energy.

California's Cultural Resources Climate Change Task Force, led by OHP in conjunction with state and non-governmental partners, is charged with creating an overall strategy for non-traditional ways to address cultural resources before they suffer irreversible effects of climate change. In line with the Paris Agreement, major sub-themes such as models to value loss and damage to cultural heritage and ecosystems, the role of heritage in social cohesion, integration and equity, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, are among the issues in need of further research and design.

Many meetings and conversations have ensued in the past year. Momentum has turned to action as the Climate Heritage Network Launch convenes on Oct. 24-25, 2019, Edinburgh, Scotland. Co-Chaired by Historic Environment Scotland and the OHP with the support of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and an esteemed international steering committee. The two-day network will serve as a key catalyst for accelerating the ambition of the arts, culture, and heritage actors to help communities in which they live and work into delivery of the ambitions of the Paris Agreement. Opportunities to participate in person or via live stream and join the network by sign the Memorandum of Understanding are available by visiting [www.ClimateHeritage.org](http://www.ClimateHeritage.org).

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**Office of Historic Preservation**

Responsible for administering federally and state mandated historic preservation programs to further the identification, evaluation, registration and protection of California's irreplaceable archaeological and historical resources under the direction of the State Historic Preservation Officer, a gubernatorial appointee, and the State Historical Resources Commission. Learn more at [ohp.parks.ca.gov](http://ohp.parks.ca.gov).

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