

# A sample acknowledgement

## Context

*At the Diversity and Inclusion committee meeting on 12 Nov, committee members suggesting developing a land acknowledgement that committee members could use in the sessions they are part of. This is a draft.*

## Sample Acknowledgement

This meeting is held on the unceded territory that are the original homelands of Ohlone peoples and the Coastal Miwok. Today, this land has a rich indigenous history - California was once home to over 300 Native American Dialects as many as 90 languages. This land has a rich indigenous presence. The bay area is currently home to one of the largest population of Indigenous Indians in the US. California continues to be the home to 200 tribes.

As a society of Earth and space science, we recognize and welcome the scientific knowledge embodied in the practice and traditions indigenous peoples in the bay area and around the globe. Indigenous peoples actively interact with and care for landscapes in ways that enhance biodiversity, ecological stability, and resilience.

In acknowledging the land, the history of the land, and the knowledge of the peoples who lived and still live with these lands, we also pledge to welcome and grant rightful place to indigenous voices, stand in solidarity with local indigenous communities, and learn and respect local protocols.

## Some tips on how to deliver the acknowledgement

1. Let people know you are going to begin with an acknowledgement, and give them a moment. If you want to provide context, you can point out that Land acknowledgement date back a long time for indigenous people, even though they may be new to non-indigenous people. Land Acknowledgements are a a small but important step toward reconciliation.
2. Don't rush, "these words should be offered with respect, grounded in authentic reflection, presence, and awareness."
3. Practice is never a bad idea
4. Accept that it might feel a little uncomfortable if you haven't done this regularly or at AGU before.

## Sources:

<https://sfsuais.sfsu.edu/content/land-acknowledgement>,

<https://www.slideshare.net/KanyonSR/bay-area-native-solidarity-in-ohlone-territory>

<https://www.northwestern.edu/native-american-and-indigenous-peoples/about/Land%20Acknowledgement.html>

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/other/indigenous-community/land-acknowledgement.html>