

California Intermountain Food

There was a lot of food in the north part of this region. There were

mountains , rivers , and forests . Deer

, buffalo , mountain sheep , and antelope 

lived in the forests. In the rivers there were fish , otters ,

and beavers . These Indians also ate plants ,

fruits , and nuts.

In the rest of the region things were different. It was hard to find food

there. These Indians had to move around to find food. They gathered

grasses , seeds, and acorns  to eat. They were diggers.

They dug up plant roots  and ate them. They were hunters, too.

They hunted small animals. Sometimes they hunted small animals that

lived underground . They did this by trying to “drown them

out.” They would pour water into the hole. When the animal came out,

another Indian would shoot it.

California Intermountain Shelter

Indians in the north part of this area had winter houses and summerhouses. In the winter, they lived in round houses. These houses were sunken into the ground and covered with earth. This helped keep them warm. In summer, they lived in mat houses. Mat houses were made from grasses and tree branches.

Indians who did not live in the north moved around all the time to find food. They made their homes from tree branches, grasses, and twigs



. They bent tree poles to make a frame. Then they covered it with grasses and twigs. These homes were only used until it was time to move to find more food.

California Intermountain Art/Recreation

These Indians were great basket weavers



. They made all

kinds of baskets



. Some were up to 3 feet wide. Others were

as tiny as a thimble



. Feathers



and shells



were used

to decorate the baskets. These Indians also wove hats



, baby

carriers, trays, and mats



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California Intermountain Transportation

Indians who lived here traveled a lot by foot . They made rafts

out of tall grasses . The rafts were light. They were easy to carry.

In southern California some of the Indians made plank boats .

They cut down trees . Then they split the wood from the trees

into planks . A plank is a long, thin piece of wood. They made little holes in the sides of the planks and sewed them together.

They used strips of leather or strong plant roots as thread. Finally, they spread tar over the cracks so water would not get in.

California Intermountain Physical Surroundings, Location, and Climate

In the north, this region included parts of Idaho, Oregon, Washington,

and Montana. There were many mountains covered with forests



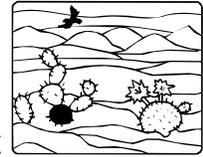
Valleys of grass lay between the mountains. Rivers



flowed. Winters

were cold . Summers were mild. The rest of the land was between

California and the Rocky Mountains. It was mostly desert



There were large hills with valleys. It was hot and dry all year long. This made it

hard to grow plants

