1. Record Nr. UNINA9910779116603321 Autore Lightfoot Kent G. <1953-> Titolo California Indians and their environment [[electronic resource]]: an introduction / / Kent G. Lightfoot and Otis Parrish; contributions by Lee M. Panich ... [et al.] Berkeley,: University of California Press, 2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-99554-8 9786613767158 0-520-94228-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (513 p.) California natural history guide series;; no. 96 Collana Altri autori (Persone) **ParrishOtis** PanichLee M Disciplina 979.4/01 Soggetti Indians of North America - California - Social life and customs Indians of North America - Hunting - California Hunting and gathering societies - California Human ecology - California - History Indigenous peoples - Ecology - California California Environmental conditions History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- VISUAL GUIDE TO NATURAL RESOURCES -- CALIFORNIA INDIAN USES OF NATURAL RESOURCES -- Notes -- General References -- Resource References by Region and Type -- Art Credits -- Index -- More Advance Praise Sommario/riassunto Capturing the vitality of California's unique indigenous cultures, this major new introduction incorporates the extensive research of the past thirty years into an illuminating, comprehensive synthesis for a wide audience. Based in part on new archaeological findings, it tells how the California Indians lived in vibrant polities, each boasting a rich village life including chiefs, religious specialists, master craftspeople, dances, feasts, and ceremonies. Throughout, the book emphasizes how these

diverse communities interacted with the state's varied landscape,

enhancing its already bountiful natural resources through various practices centered around prescribed burning. A handy reference section, illustrated with more than one hundred color photographs, describes the plants, animals, and minerals the California Indians used for food, basketry and cordage, medicine, and more. At a time when we are grappling with the problems of maintaining habitat diversity and sustainable economies, we find that these native peoples and their traditions have much to teach us about the future, as well as the past, of California.