



In 2020 CEPA had the opportunity to work with Dr. Lluvia Flores-Renteria and Megan Jennings, Ph.D. Both ladies were knowledgeable of our *Quercus agifolia* and *Quercus engelmannii* oak species. Three locations on the Campo Reservation were selected for acorn collection. During the time of collection Lluvia would help point out which acorns were healthy and ready for picking. She also helped identify the characteristics of the unhealthy ones. This would include the acorns that were black or greyish in color. Holes in the acorns signified the entry of larvae. As our acorns will come in a variety of colors, the ones we want to pick are either green or a golden brown.

During that time, we collected over 300 acorns. The acorns were placed in a greenhouse called Evolutionary Plant Ecology at SDSU. These acorns/seedlings were to be researched for drought resilience. Campo was given the data last year, in

November, and was pleased with the results of the study. Out of the 300 acorns, only 270 seedlings were returned to Campo.

Which leads us to our February 8th 2023 planting party with the SDSU students/ Lluvia and Megan...

CEPA set up at the Campo Tribal Office at 9am and ended with lunch from 1-2pm. With assistance from SDSU, and volunteers from the Climate Science Alliance (a total of 15 people), we were all able to plant 100 oaks in the 2017 Burn Area Restoration (BAR) zone. Seedlings were planted in 10'x10' spaces near other small shrubs and vegetation in order to provide some shade and protection from any major weather events. An additional 30 oak seedlings were planted in the days following, as the weather permitted. Since then, we have had a lot of rain/snow and plan to plant the remaining 80 seedlings in April or May. Sixty of the seedlings have been given out to Campo Tribal members to foster.

