



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

Joseph L. James Elected Chairman

There will be a run-off election for Vice Chairperson and Orick District seats





OCTOBER 2018 PUBLIC NOTICES



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 2018

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YUROK ELECTION BOARD CERTIFIES PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS :

The Yurok Election Board today took formal action on the Primary Election held October 10, 2018 and issued formal certification of the primary results for all Districts.

The Election Board on October 16, 2018, certified the election of the following people:

CHAIRPERSON

Lavina Brooks	106 (10.14%)
James E. Dunlap	251 (24.02%)
Joseph L. James	532 (50.91%)
Emery W. Mattz, III.	156 (14.93%)

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Laura A. Borden	138 (13.06%)
Jewel Frank	51 (4.82%)
David L. Gensaw, Sr. (Incumbent)	213 (20.15%)
Susan Masten	250 (23.65%)
Jack Mattz	58 (5.49%)
Frankie Joe Myers	250 (23.65%)
Ryan Ray	97 (9.18%)

ORICK DISTRICT

Wendy Lee Kull	5 (20.83%)
Sherri Provolt	11 (45.83%)
Laura White Woods	8 (33.33%)

Constitutional Amendments:

Referendum #1 Blood Degree Amendment

Did Not Pass YES 503 (49.27%) NO 518 (50.73%)

Referendum #2 Relinquishment Criteria Amendment

Did Not Pass YES 647 (63.49%) NO 372 (36.51%)

Referendum #3 Election Background Check Requirements and Qualifications

Passed YES 841 (82.29%) NO 181 (17.71%)

Referendum #4 Selling Land Outside of Yurok Ancestral Territory & Leasing Land to Tribal Members & Tribal Entities for a Period Longer Than 20 Years

Did Not Pass YES 424 (42.74%) NO 568 (57.26%)

Referendum #5 Medical Marijuana

YES 607 (59.34%) NO 416 (40.66%)

There was one challenge for the Council position of Chairperson for the Primary Election that was resolved by the Election Board. There will be a Run-off for Vice-Chairperson and Orick District Representative. The Vice-Chairperson will be between Susan Masten and Frankie Joe Myers. The Orick District will be between Sherri Provolt and Laura White Woods.

The Run-off Election is on November 7, 2018.

Yurok Tribal Elections 2018

The following candidates will be in the Run-Off for Tribal Council Seats.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Susan Masten
Frankie Joe Myers

ORICK DISTRICT

Sherri Provolt
Laura White Woods

Run-Off Election Day is scheduled for November 7, 2018.

For more information regarding the election, call the Election Department at (707) 482-1350 or the tribal website: www.yuroktribe.org.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Anne Jeannette Vaughn has filed a case at the Yurok Tribal Court to change the present legal name of Petitioner, Anne Jeannette Vaughn to the name Anne Jeannette Hughes. The hearing will be held at The Yurok Justice Center 230 Klamath Blvd, Klamath, CA 95548 on: January 10th at 10:00 AM.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within ten (10) days after the last date of the last publication of this Notice.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARGARET ELOISE ROBBINS has filed a Petition with the Yurok Tribal Court to change the present legal name of Petitioner, DELEYANA ROSEMARIE AGUILERA to the name ROSE MARIE ROBBINS. The hearing will be held at The Yurok Justice Center 230 Klamath Blvd, Klamath, CA 95548 on DECEMBER 12, 2018 at 10:30 AM.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within ten (10) days after the last date of the last publication of this Notice.

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On The Cover

Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James earned 50.91 percent of the vote in the primary election, which happened on October 10.

Tribe completes pivotal power project

Last public school in CA to run on a generator receives grid electricity

The Yurok Tribe recently completed an extraordinarily important project involving the expansion of the electrical grid to reach residents living in the middle of the Highway 169 corridor, as well as the last public school in California to run on a generator.

“Skuy’ so-nee-ne-pek’ (I feel good),” said Thomas P. O’Rourke Sr., the recently retired Chairman of the Yurok Tribe. “In addition to Jack Norton Elementary School, many Yurok families and elders will have access to affordable electricity for the first time.”

Yurok and non-Indian residents, living in the center of the Yurok Reservation, are now able to enjoy all of the benefits of being connected to the grid, such as not having to drive for an hour and half to fuel up the generator to cook food, wash clothes, or take a hot shower.

“Having access to grid power will create opportunity and elevate the quality of life for our people in a meaningful way. This is a game-changer for our community,” Chairman O’Rourke said.

Since Jack Norton Elementary School opened its doors in 1959, the school has had to rely on a costly and noisy, diesel generator to run everything from the lights to computers. Now, Jack Norton Elementary School students can learn in a quiet classroom and will no longer be exposed to air and noise pollution from the generator.

“We are thrilled to get power at Jack Norton Elementary School. Jack Norton is a special place in a special community. It is a great improvement for the students to not have to worry about noise or air pollution. It is a historic event for us,” said Jeff Landry, the Klamath-Trinity School District’s River Schools Principal.

Building a power and telephone line between Ryerson’s Ranch Road and Wautec represents a significant stage of a much larger project that is still not complete. For the better part of two decades, the Yurok Planning and Community Development Department, under the leadership of the Yurok Tribal Council, has worked tirelessly to fundraise, as well as obtain all of the necessary permits and easements required to complete the long-term undertaking of bringing electrical power to the community.

The more than thirty mile-long, electrification project, reaching from Weitchpec to the end of the highway, is the single most important factor in the Tribe’s effort to exponentially expand the amount of community-supporting infrastructure on the east half of the reservation. The installation of the electrical grid is what made it possible for the Tribe to open multiple municipal facilities, including: the Tulley Creek Fire House, Neil McKinnon Community Center, Kepel Head Start, and the Libby Haripop-Nix Community Center, which houses a United Indian Health Service clinic and Yurok Social Services



Military contractors construct one of the first sections of the power line.

Department staff. In these buildings, the Tribe offers to local residents numerous services, ranging from child care to counselling. All of these essential resources were developed in the last 15-years and the Tribe is nearing the implementation phase of additional capacity-building projects in the remote region.

How the electrification project came to fruition

In 2000, the Yurok Planning and Community Development Department started seeking grant dollars to fund the first phase of the electrification project. Simultaneously, the department also worked with Pacific Gas and Electric to design the first segment of power line. The first physical installation of electrical infrastructure began in 2001, when a line was put in from Weitchpec to Martin’s Ferry Bridge on the north side of the Klamath River and from the bridge to the community of Tulley Creek to the south.

“The Yurok Tribe would like to sincerely thank PG&E and the California Public Utility Commission for their enduring commitment to our community,” said Chairman O’Rourke. “I would also like to give kudos to our own Planning Department for persistently working on this project for almost two decades.”

Additional sections of line were completed in stages. At each stage, the Tribe was required to obtain easements from numerous local landowners, including from individuals living overseas, in long-term care facilities and from illegal cannabis growers, who were often reluctant to grant access to their properties. To speed up this process,

the Planning Department helped staff members obtain notary licenses, so they could authorize easements.

“This has been a very challenging project, in that funding, environmental and right-of-way concerns had to be addressed at every turn. The most difficult and time consuming part of the project was obtaining utility easements,” said Peggy O’Neill, who has invested more than 18 years into this project as the Director of the Yurok Tribe’s Planning and Community Development Department.

Obtaining right-of-way agreements was not the only obstacle associated with assembling a new power grid on the mountainous, forested reservation. The electrical line follows the path of Highway 169, which sits on steep slopes that curve in unison with the course of the Klamath River. The rugged topography added layers of complexity to the project. Also, there was only funding available to install segments of the line at a time, a circumstance that drove up the cost and slowed construction.

The installation of the actual power grid was done by different entities over the past two decades. Private contractors, the US military, and PGE installed separate portions of the line.

The USDA Rural Utility Service was the primary funding source for the overall project, but the Tribe also received grants from the following organizations: US Department of Housing and Human Development, Indian Community Development Block Grant, the Yurok Indian Housing Authority, California Public Utility Commission, and an energy trust fund that Pacific Gas and Electric founded for the Tribe. The Planning Department also sought funding to retrofit old homes to safely receive power.

While the highway section of the corridor is now complete, there is a small number homes that were too far from the roadway to connect to the new line. The Tribe is currently seeking funding to bring power to the remaining un-electrified homes, allowing them to also receive grid electricity. ✨

Tribe leads large heli-restoration project

Fish habitat restoration project is the first on South Fork Trinity River

The Yurok Tribe and the Watershed and Research Training Center, in partnership with Columbia Helicopters and local landowners, recently implemented a history-making fish habitat restoration project on the South Fork Trinity River, where spring Chinook salmon stocks are on the cusp of collapse.

The spring salmon population on this major Klamath River tributary is currently less than 1 percent of its former size, a consequence of severely impaired ecological conditions in the watershed.

“The salmon of the South Fork Trinity and the Klamath as a whole are in serious trouble,” said Richard Nelson, the Director of the Yurok Tribe’s Watershed Restoration Program, Yurok Tribal member and subsistence salmon fisher. “Nue-mee ney-puy (Spring Chinook salmon) have sustained the Yurok people since time immemorial and if we don’t do something now, we are certain that these culturally important fish will cease to exist in the very near future.”

The South Fork Trinity Heli-Wood Loading Project will accomplish several objectives, ranging from improving water quality to creating new habitat for juvenile and adult salmon. Over four days, a Columbia Helicopter team worked with Yurok fisheries biologists and engineers to place approximately 300 whole trees in predetermined locations within a five-mile stretch of the river. The logs, up to 150-feet in length, were positioned



Yurok Watershed Restorationist and traditional salmon fisher, Daniel McQuillen, harvested the fire-killed trees that were used in this project.

individually and in configurations, which mirror the big wood features found in healthy river systems. This proven biomimicry technique will facilitate the formation of wetlands, new side channels as well as many additional fish friendly features currently absent from the South Fork.

The South Fork Trinity River, the longest undammed river remaining in California, is one of the four tributaries that produce



Yurok Watershed Restorationist and traditional salmon fisher, Tony Alameda, also harvested the fire-killed trees that were used in this project.

the majority of the salmon on the Klamath River. Prior to just 1964, more than 12,000, spring Chinooks used to return to the South Fork each year. This year, only 12 of these fish made the migration back to the federally designated Wild and Scenic River. The South Fork's federally listed Coho and fall Chinook salmon are also struggling.

"In a half century, humankind has nearly wiped out these crucial fish runs," said Nelson. "This is completely unacceptable. While we did not create this problem, we could not sit idle while these fish hover on the brink of extinction."

Central to this project was the use of the aircraft to precisely place whole trees, weighing up to 25,000 pounds, at strategic sites throughout this remote stretch of the South Fork Trinity River, located near Hyampom, Ca.

"Establishing these complex structures in the system, with no artificial anchoring, will emulate the natural ebb and flow of wood into the river, providing diverse and constantly evolving habitat for fish and wildlife," said Joshua Smith, the Watershed and Fisheries Program Director for the Watershed Research and Training Center.

Large wood features were common in the South Fork until in 1964, when a catastrophic, 100-year flood event washed out many these salmon sustaining structures. During the 1950s and 1960s, most of the forests surrounding the South Fork were clear cut, which drastically reduced the potential for natural wood recruitment and made it possible for heavy rains to send giant loads of sediment into the watershed. The river's previously numerous, cold pools, a critical habitat type for both adult and

juvenile salmon, are filled in with silt. Former salmon spawning grounds are also blanketed in the fine material.

Depending on their placement, these wood formations, whether constructed by nature or fish biologists, can promote numerous positive, in-river responses, including enhanced water quality, the creation of deep water habitat and the dispersal of salmon-suffocating sediments from the river bed on to the bank, where the fertile substrate will support the development of much-needed, wetlands. The log configurations also create places for juvenile fish to take shelter from predators and supply a source of food for the colonies of insects that baby salmon subsist on during the most vulnerable part of the fish's lifecycle.

The absence of these critical, wood-based components is significantly restricting salmon production on the South Fork. The river no longer has the diversity of features that salmon need to thrive. The intent of the South Fork Trinity Heli-Wood Project is to begin the lengthy process of reinstalling these fundamental elements within the once prime salmon spawning stream.



The Yurok Tribe partnered with the Watershed Research and Training Center on this project. Josh Smith, the organization's Fisheries Program Director, braces for the helicopter's rotor wash.

The South Fork Trinity is a significant distance from the Yurok Tribe's ancestral territory. After seeing that there was not a coordinated effort to rehabilitate this critical salmon spawning stream, the Tribe reached out to the Watershed Center, the US Forest Service and multiple local land owners to form a formal partnership for the purpose of initiating this project.

"We are very excited about this new collaboration with the Watershed Center, the Forest Service and local landowners," concluded Yurok Watershed Program Director Nelson. ✨

Ponds sustain thousands of baby eels

Hamilton Ponds have the best lamprey habitat on the Trinity River

The little-known Hamilton Ponds offer some of the Klamath Basin's best rearing habitat for Pacific lamprey, a culturally invaluable fish species.

The two, human-made water bodies, connected to the Trinity River via Grass Valley Creek, are home to thousands of baby lampreys as well as other types of juvenile anadromous fish, such as Chinook and Coho salmon. The verdant pools are a haven for river otters, as well as migratory and resident waterfowl, too.

"The Hamilton Ponds are a beautiful paradise, but very few people are aware of their existence, let alone know how important they are in terms of lamprey production in the Lower Klamath Basin," said Yurok Tribal citizen Yadao Inong, a Yurok Fisheries Department staff member and traditional culture bearer. "In addition to the prolific juvenile lamprey population, I've seen beavers in the ponds, rainbow trout, deer, ducks, geese, raccoon tracks — it's everything you'd want in a restoration site."

Hamilton Ponds, owned by the California Department of Water Resources, serve as the largest lamprey nursery in the entire Trinity River Basin. The extraordinary abundance of juvenile lampreys, called ammocoetes, is what makes the small lakes so significant to the Yurok Tribe, which has a reciprocal relationship with the species that dates back to time immemorial. Specifically, upper Hamilton Pond has some of the most densely populated ammocoete habitat in the Trinity River basin. In September of 2018, researchers from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Western Fishes found, in the space of one square meter, concentrations of up to 81 ammocoetes, representing several year classes. Those are only the juvenile eels that came to the surface and many more are presumed to have remained underground.

"What we've done, with some help from a colony of beavers, is create some of the most productive lamprey habitat on the Trinity," said Damon H. Goodman, a fisheries biologist with US Fish and Wildlife Service, who worked with Inong on project involving the Hamilton Ponds. "The off-channel ponds provide a really unique habitat type, and a home for a diverse assemblage of fish, mammal and bird species."

Prior to the installation of the dams and the bygone mining era, when the Trinity River had a natural flood regime and access to its floodplain, riverine habitats were more diverse. For example, the watershed had many areas with roughly the same fish-friendly characteristics as the ones that currently exist in Hamilton Ponds. Dams and agricultural diversions, in combination with alterations made by historic mining operations, are responsible for a degradation

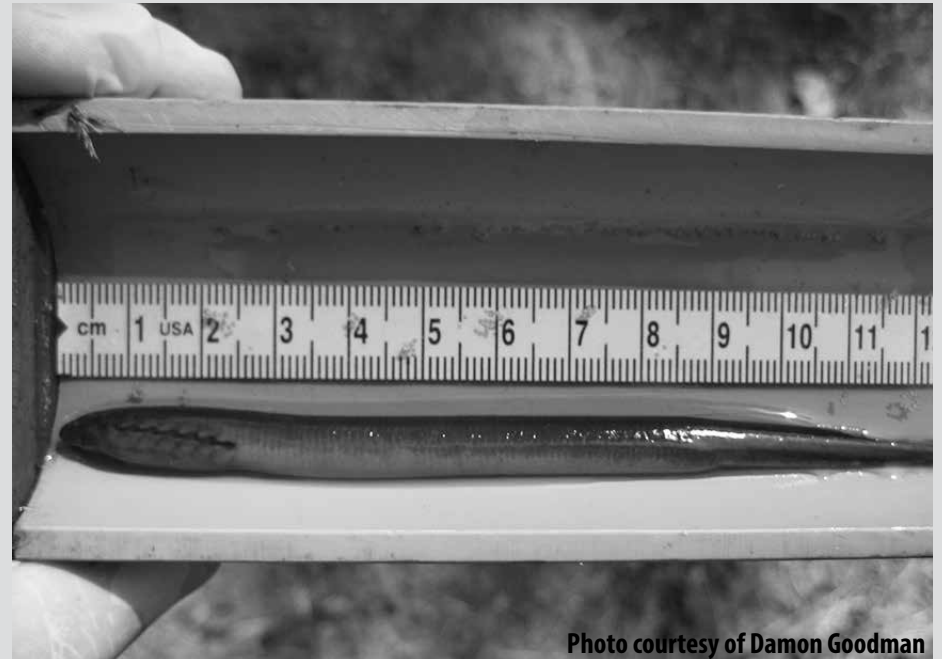



Photo courtesy of Damon Goodman

of the river's aquatic habitats and a reduction in the abundance of wetlands, side-channels and ponds.

"The Trinity River restoration effort is reintroducing the diversity of riverine habitats similar to those found at Hamilton Ponds," said Goodman, who supports conservation of Pacific Lamprey throughout California.

The Pacific lamprey bears a comparable likeness to the oceanic eel, but is not a true eel as it has a sucker disc rather than jaws. The serpent-shaped species has one of the most complex lifecycles of any creature on earth. In a nutshell, adult lamprey lay up to 200,000 eggs in nests comprised of the small cobble stones that line the riverbed. Once hatched, the tiny eels move to places with less current, preferring locations like the Hamilton Ponds, where there is an ideal blend of oxygenated silt and organic material. Lacking eyes, juvenile lampreys live as filter feeders in this sandy substrate for up to seven years and are nocturnal. The eyes and circular rows of teeth develop over a two month-period, prior to when the fish heads out the ocean to complete the final stages of the maturation process. For up to four years, lampreys survive in the sea by sucking the blood of large fish and marine mammals, before heading back to fresh water to reproduce. Unlike most other anadromous fish, adult lamprey do not necessarily return to the river of their birth. The lamprey that spawn in Grass Valley Creek may have been born in any one of six major waterways on the Far North Coast or even in rivers outside of the region.



In the early 1980s, Grass Valley Creek was determined to be responsible for dumping immense loads of fish habitat-smothering sediment into the Trinity River, the largest Klamath tributary and a major producer of salmon and steelhead in the Klamath Basin. Hamilton Ponds were constructed in 1984 and 1991 to capture the salmon-suffocating silt coming down from Grass Valley Creek. Prior to the installation of the catchment system, this fine material caused several other problems for salmon, steelhead and lamprey, such as filling in deep holes, and artificially warming the water. Starting in 1941, industrial timber companies aggressively clear-cut the forests in the Grass Valley watershed, which allowed winter rains to send the slide-prone, decomposing granite soil into the creek and then the river.

The Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Task Force-constructed system did a fantastic job of reducing sediment inputs on the Trinity River. Over a period of about 10 years, the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) also completed such an extensive revegetation and soil stabilization effort in the slopes surrounding Grass Valley Creek that very little silt currently enters the stream. Also during this time period, native plant and fish species started to populate Hamilton Ponds.

For many years, the waterbodies were periodically dredged to make room for more silt. In 2007, when the Yurok Watershed Program was awarded a contract to excavate the impoundments, a heavy equipment operator saw hundreds of juvenile lampreys in the first scoop of silt and immediately stopped work. The whole project was cancelled shortly thereafter to protect the eels.

In early October of 2018, a new, eel-friendly plan was slated to be implemented with a goal of reducing the now moderate amount of sediment in the upper pond. The Yurok Tribe was again awarded funds to do the work. Following the current best practices in ammocoete relocation, the scientific preparation work began. This entailed population and distribution studies, including a provision to relocate the ammocoetes to an area away from the heavy equipment work scheduled to begin the following week. In general, the idea was to slowly lower lake levels at night, the time when eels typically move, in an attempt to emulate a natural cue foreels to swim to deeper water, so the remaining high ground could be safely excavated. Over the course of days numerous attempts to trigger movements were proven unsuccessful. After the water level was decreased, the ammocoetes stayed underground, burrowing deep in their holes. The lamprey likely remained in their burrows because there are other factors involved in their decision to decamp, such as the season, water temperature and flows, according to Inong.

“We, Yurok Fisheries staff members, along with the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s Damon Goodman and Stewart Reid — biologists with 15 years of lamprey experience — advised the team that the project should be scrapped if there is a potential to harm the eels,” said Inong, who was assigned to the endeavor along with others from the Yurok Fisheries Department. “This was not allowed in the permit and the entire project was called off because the slight benefits of moderate

sediment removal did not justify the potential loss of tens of thousands of baby eels. I want to give credit to Damon and Stewart of USFW, the Trinity River Restoration Program and TRRP Executive Director Caryn Hunt DeCarlo for the help in protecting and enhancing the population of this culturally important species.”

The Hamilton Ponds can be employed as model for eel habitat restoration sites throughout the Klamath Basin and the entire Pacific Northwest.

“I think the Hamilton Ponds should be protected,” Inong said. “This is a place that should be celebrated for the success story that it is.”

Yurok relationship with eels

Yurok people have depended on key'-ween (eel) for survival, since time immemorial and the fish play an integral role in the Tribe's culture. Inong, a lifelong ceremonial practitioner, shared one of many traditional, Yurok stories about key'-ween. It starts with Woh-pek-ue-me'w, who was on a journey walking along the river, creating the world for people yet to come. He thought it would be difficult for Yurok to thrive in the winter time, when salmon are not available and other foods are scarce. To provide an ample wintertime food source, he cut off pieces of his body and threw them in the river. The appendage became key'-ween, a species that was abundant in the Klamath River system until only just recently.

Prior to the installation of the dams on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers, mining and the widespread deforestation in both watersheds, these fish used to return in astounding numbers from November until April, when the spring salmon, another traditional food, enter the river. Compared to salmon, the nutritious and rich-tasting eel meat has three times more healthy fats. For millennia, Yurok people sustainably harvested enough eels for all of the villages along the river.

“Eels have all of that good fat, which is important in the cold of winter,” Inong explained.

Today, Yuroks continue this practice, but at a much smaller scale. Key'-ween are collected in different ways, including with hooks, dip nets, baskets and trigger nets. The hooks and dip nets are used at the mouth of the Klamath and the baskets, long hooks, dip nets and trigger nets are used upriver.

The lamprey's precipitous decline is directly linked to the destruction of the majority of the fish's rearing habitat, as well as losing access to large sections of river because of dams on the Klamath and Trinity. Productive environments, such as Hamilton Ponds, are now a rarity on the Trinity River and in the Lower Klamath Basin in general. The Yurok Tribe, US Fish and Wildlife Service and Trinity River Restoration Program, in conjunction with partners in the Trinity Management Council, are working diligently to improve the conditions on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers for eels and other anadromous fish species.

“Key'-ween have helped us survive for thousands of years and now we are helping them,” concluded Inong. ✨

YUROK TRIBE SHINES AT GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT



(Left) Rev. Lennox Yearwood Jr., President and CEO of the Hip Hop Caucus stands with Yurok Office of Self Governance Director Javier Kinney.

The Yurok Tribe's renowned forest and river restoration initiatives were a major highlight at the 2018 Global Climate Action Summit, as well as several ancillary meetings associated with the event. International indigenous groups, governmental and non-governmental heads as well as business leaders and celebrities participated in the week-long summit. The Tribe's cutting-edge blend of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and western science was identified as a key solution in the fight against climate change.



Yurok Natural Resource Division Director, Tim Hayden (left), and Yurok General Counsel Amy Cordalis (far right) with UN special rapporteur Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (center left) and Ruth Alipaz the Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin.



Yurok Office of Self Governance Director Javier Kinney (left) Mary D. Nichols, the Chair of the California Air Resource Board, Acre, Brasília, Governor Tião Viana, Ryan Ray, the Yurok Tribe's Requa Rep. and Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James (far right)

CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT IN SAN FRANCISCO



Yurok Chairman Joseph L. James speaks at the Governor's Climate and Forest Task Force meeting, which was attended by indigenous advocacy groups, government representatives and non-governmental organizations from all over the world.



California Governor Jerry Brown invited Yurok representatives to a special meeting at the Global Climate Action Summit to discuss collaborative strategies to restore forests and reduce global warming.



Yurok wins national wrestling title

Neveah Cassidy overcomes tremendous adversity on path to championship

Nevaeh Cassidy is the first Yurok Tribal member to win a national wrestling title.

In July, the elite-level grappler won the USA Wrestling cadet freestyle wrestling championship, the most competitive tournament in the United States.

“It is still surreal when I hear people call me a national champion,” Cassidy said. “It is amazing to be able to say that I am part of that small group.”

There are many top ranking Yurok wrestlers of the past and present, including former regional and state champions, which is an incredible feat considering that they compete in the most populous state in the United States. Cassidy, a Washington resident, is also the first high school student from her home state, regardless of gender, to obtain the cadet national title. In the most recent wrestling season, the 16-year-old also took home the coveted triple-crown in the State of Washington, which includes earning first place finishes in folkstyle, freestyle, and Greco roman divisions.

Cassidy’s most difficult match in the national tournament in Fargo, North Dakota came in the semifinal. She was down 13 to 8 in the latter part of the match with an Iowa State champion named Jayden Bentley. Cassidy recalled telling herself to remain calm and to remember her training. Shortly thereafter, she pulled out one of her signature moves, a technique that involves hurling the opponent over her shoulder with tremendous force. After completing the grand amplitude throw, she pinned Bentley, putting a decisive end to the back-and-forth bout.

The championship match was mostly a one-sided affair with Cassidy handily beating another decorated wrestler in Sydney Manos of Illinois 14 to 7. The Yurok wrestler employed the notorious throw multiple times, earning four points on each occasion. After the referee lifted Cassidy’s hand and she completed the post-win formalities, her facial expression, comprised of an outstretched smile overlain by dual streams of tears, illuminated how extremely hard she worked to become one of the best in the nation.

“It was so emotional,” she said. “Seeing my dad smiling ear to ear. It was the perfect moment.”

The dominant, yet humble competitor, attributes her rarified wrestling abilities to her father, Nathan, who is her trainer and a proud Yurok Tribal member. As a coach, Nathan, takes a positive approach to teaching athletes how to become better wrestlers. He identifies his students’ strengths and uses positive reinforcement to help them learn new skills.



Nathan Cassidy coached his daughter Neveah to a national wrestling title.

“He was the reason I even got into wrestling and felt confident enough to compete against boys in the beginning,” Neveah explained. “He’s always been right by my side through all the highs and lows of my wrestling career. It was such a special moment to have him in my corner when I won my national title and to have him hand me my award on the top of the podium.”

Nathan, a former Del Norte Youth Wrestling coach, has spent countless hours working with his daughter on the development of her skills and travelling with her to wrestling tournaments all over the country. The highly principled man also encourages his pupils to practice discipline and “embrace the grind,” both of which are attributes that can also be applied to achieve success outside of sports.

“He is always willing to give me advice and encouragement to help me get to the next level,” Neveah Cassidy said. “He still rolls around on the mat with me and lets me beat up on him. I am so grateful that he is always willing to travel with me all over the northwest and the country so that I have the best training and competition opportunities. I don’t think I would be anywhere close to where I am without him.”

As should be obvious by now, one of Neveah Cassidy’s best assets on the mat is her ability to toss her opponent to the canvas. She has practiced this high-scoring maneuver hundreds of times with her 250 pound dad, who is built like a brick house.

“She has the strength to throw me around the mat with ease,” Nathan Cassidy said.

Nevaeh cut no corners in her preparation to compete in the national championship tournament. Whether it’s in the weight room or on the wrestling mat, she is constantly working on perfecting wrestling moves and performing at her physical peak. As a freshman at Union High School, she was selected to be on the varsity team and participates on a travelling squad, a mandatory minimum to become a member of the national team.

“I not only wrestle at school, but I go to club practices 3 times a week. During high school season, I will put in almost 5.5 hours of practice a day,” Cassidy said. “When high school season ends, we have extra training three times a week and then we go to club practice and work outs. Once I made it on the national team, we have weekend camps almost every weekend and sometimes for 5 days at a time as we get closer to nationals. I do a weight lifting routine at home with my dad in the off season as well. It is all worth it when you can see that your conditioning and endurance gives you an edge that can make the difference in a match. My championship match went a full six minutes of hard wrestling and I know that my strength and conditioning carried me through that.”

The path to the national podium was never easy and there was one obstacle that challenged Cassidy to her core. A few years ago, the driven Yurok teen was diagnosed with a serious eating disorder, which was so severe that she had to be hospitalized. Her experience is all-too-common among male and female wrestlers, who sometimes get caught in a trap of overly obsessing about weight.

“My biggest challenge that I’ve had to overcome is my struggle with an eating disorder. In a sport that is so focused on weight, it is easy to fall into bad habits,” Cassidy said. “I was even hospitalized and forced to sit out of wrestling and any physical activity for 6 months while I healed. I had to go to an outpatient clinic once a week for 4 months. It was a dark time for me and my family.”

Sitting on the sidelines was acutely painful for Cassidy, but after bringing her mind and body back into balance, her wrestling results topped even her own elevated expectations.

“I was driven not just to get healthy, but to compete at a higher level. I wanted to show everyone that I could do it, that it is possible to come back from a horrible eating disorder and be stronger than I was before. I wanted to be able to be a survivor story to inspire others,” Cassidy said.

Cassidy draws inspiration from the female wrestlers who came before her in the sport. One of her primary sources of motivation is Mellissa Simmons, a woman her dad coached in high school and later went on to become a national champion at the university level.

“She really laid a lot of the groundwork for women’s wrestling in Washington and the country,” Cassidy said. “Women like Melissa,



Nevaeh Cassidy stands atop the championship podium.

Adeline Gray and Helen Maroulis are on the ground floor of our sport which is still growing. They are putting in work and committing themselves to making a name for USA women’s wrestling in the world.”

Cassidy would like to pay forward the positive role that Simmons played in her life. She has some great advice for those interested in pursuing greatness in sport or any other demanding endeavor.

“Make sure that you surround yourself with the right people. You need people who are positive and encouraging at all times and see the best in you. You need people who will invest in you and see your potential and help you achieve your goals,” she said. “There were times when I wondered if it was worth it, but when they raised my hand, I knew it was. And now I am a national champion and no one can ever take that away from me.”

This year, Cassidy wants to help her high school team earn a championship and already has her eyes on a second national title.

“I plan on returning to my high school team this year and looking for a state championship and hopefully to lead us to a team championship as well. I will be going back to Fargo next year to compete in the junior division. I want another national title,” she said.

After she completes high school, Cassidy has set lofty goals for herself in athletics and in life. She hopes to one day wrestle on an international level and is dead set on obtaining a university degree. Despite only being a junior at Union High School, Cassidy has already been offered several scholarships to colleges on the west and east coasts.

“I have aspirations to do great things with my life, whether it is in wrestling or in other aspects. I still hope to someday wrestle for my country on the world stage. I am willing to put in the work to make it happen,” concluded Cassidy. ✨

Tribe opposes Humboldt's Measure M

Below is a letter from the outgoing Chairperson about the controversial statue

To the Voters:

The Yurok Tribe is the largest Tribe in California with over 6,200 members and enjoys the second largest Indian reservation in the State. The Yurok people have lived in what is now called Humboldt and Del Norte Counties since time immemorial. Our Tribal members live on and off the reservation with major populations residing in McKinleyville, Arcata, and Eureka. As the original inhabitants of this area, our history is inextricably tied to the history of this Country. We urge you in November to vote NO, to vote against Measure M which will keep the McKinley statue in place.

McKinley never revered Indigenous Peoples. He was a proponent of assimilation. In his last address to Congress in December, 1900, McKinley stated:

In dealing with the uncivilized tribes of the islands, the Commission should adopt the same course followed by Congress in permitting the tribes of our North American Indians to maintain their tribal organization and government, and under which many of those tribes are now living in peace and contentment, surrounded by a civilization to which they are unable or unwilling to conform. Such tribal governments should, however, be subjected to wise and firm regulation, and, without undue or petty interference, constant and active effort should be exercised to prevent barbarous practices and introduce civilized customs.

McKinley was also a promoter of allotment, a tool of assimilation, which led to Native Americans losing much of their homelands. The Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, Seminole and Cherokee, all told, lost 90 million acres of land during the years after enactment of the Curtis Act of 1898, an amendment to the Dawes Act to purposely bring the five nations under the allotment rule.

McKinley was as an ardent crusader of Manifest Destiny, a doctrinal justification for expansion wherein the U.S. government purportedly had a God-given duty, right and destiny to expand its borders and Christianize "uncivilized" peoples. As the Miller Center reported,

The annexation of the Hawaiian Islands was one illustration of how the United States emerged on the world stage in new and unprecedented ways during the presidency of William McKinley.

His aggressive policy on Hawaii, coupled with America's seizure of the Philippines, brought the United States squarely into the increasingly competitive realm of power politics in the Pacific.

McKinley is an Ohioan who never set foot in Arcata or anywhere in this region for that matter. What did find track and traction in this region where irreverent ideas of assimilation, allotment and Manifest Destiny, which had deleterious effects towards Indigenous Peoples, specifically Native Americans. McKinley perpetuated these ideas using the presidential pulpit.

For those who revere McKinley by keeping his statue in place, is it not reverence enough for him to have a presidential memorial library and a tomb in his birthplace at Niles, Ohio? Must we resurrect his revenant ideas of the past in Arcata?

Our people, the Yurok Tribe, has lived near the Pacific since time immemorial and so have our sisters and brothers in the tribes found in this region. We are still finding out about the full impact of inter-generational trauma and the solutions to end its vicious cycle. The McKinley statue, erected in 1901, symbolizes a huge part of the causes of our traumatic experiences. The removal of the statue is a start in ending a vicious cycle of insidiously resurrecting in our psyche the harmful thoughts of assimilation, allotment and Manifest Destiny. We urge the registered voters of Arcata to vote NO in November, to vote against Measure M. ✨

Are you interested in helping provide heat to Yurok Tribal Elders and other families this winter?

Yurok Social Services is in need of Wood Vendors to provide services for the LIHEAP Program.

Vendors needed in Northern, Southern, and Eastern Areas of the Yurok Tribal Service Area. All vendors must be able to provide 1 cord of seasoned wood per eligible household and must be able to stack wood for elders and disabled households.

****Interested parties, please apply no later than October 31st.**

For more information, please contact:

**Jeannette Bain
(707) 482-1350 ext. 1417**

How does Yurok feel about Suicide?



86% knew someone who considered or completed suicide

**9 OUT OF 10 FEEL
DRUGS AND ALCOHOL
INCREASE RISK**



95%, nearly everyone, feels it is important to limit access to firearms in crisis

3 out of 4 say suicide is preventable

PLEASE, LOCK UP YOUR FIREARMS AND ASK FOR HELP. YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

If you need help for yourself or someone else, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: **1-800-273-TALK (8255)** or www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

The Yurok Tribe performed this survey to better inform an ongoing and successful effort to prevent suicides on the reservation. The data highlights what Yurok citizens have identified as the most common risk factors, as well as the actions that can be taken to minimize the potential for self-harm. For example, the survey results show that easy access to firearms is an issue. To reduce this risk factor, the Indian Health Service provided the Tribe with financial assistance to purchase gun safes for local firearm owners.

In late 2015, the Tribe issued a state of emergency declaration after local residents sounded an alarm, via a petition, in response to the loss of seven loved ones in an 18-month period. A list of proposed actions, aimed at addressing the tragedy, was also included in the document. As a result of the Tribe and the local community working together to develop and implement these solutions, there have been no suicides on the reservation in the past three years.

Question, Persuade, Refer

A Suicide Prevention Training

All Community Members Welcome!

Question: There are several ways to ask if one is suicidal. You can begin by acknowledging the person's distress.



Persuade: Persuading someone not to end his or her life and to get help begins with the simple act of listening. Listening can be life saving. Listen first, then persuade.



Refer: The best referral is when you personally take the person you are worried about to a mental health provider or other appropriate professional.



When: Thursday
November 8th, 2018
5:30 - 7:30 pm

Where:
Yurok Tribal Office,
Weitchpec, CA 95546

Brought to you by United Indian Health Services', Ko'l Ho Koom' Mo, Youth Suicide Prevention Project & the Yurok Tribe. For more information contact Eric Ruiz at eric.ruiz@crihb.org (707) 825-4148 or Celinda Gonzales at cgonzales@yuroktribe.nsn.us (530) 625-4130 ext 1610.

“talk to me”

you are not alone. you have options. help is available.

National
Suicide
Prevention
Lifeline
800.273.8255

Crisis
Text
Line
Text START
to 741-741

Veterans
Crisis
Line
800.273.8255
press *1 text
838255

It's getting chilly outside! It is time to prepare the heat source in your home for the winter. During regular servicing, old fuel, like petrol and kerosene, or oil and lubricants may need to be recycled or properly disposed of. Not sure where to go? Use the guide below for drop off locations and hours in your area.



Yurok Tribe Environmental Program
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
Area Resources

YUROK TRIBE-WEITCHPEC

Weitchpec Transfer Station, HWY 169, Weitchpec, CA 95546

The Weitchpec Transfer Station accepts motor oil, latex paint and batteries free of charge Friday-Sunday. For more information, please contact Yurok Tribe Weitchpec Tribal Office: (530) 625-4130

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

Hazardous Waste Facility, 1059 West Hawthorne St, Eureka Ca 95501

Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA) household hazardous waste collections are held the first Saturday of every month from 9:00 am to 2:00pm. Appointments are available Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm, call (707) 441-2005 for availability.

For more information, please contact HWMA: (707) 268-8680

Hazardous Waste Hotline: (707) 441-2005

Website: <http://www.hwma.net/facilities/hazardous-waste-facility>

DEL NORTE COUNTY

Del Norte County Transfer Station, 1700 State Street, Crescent City, CA 95531.

Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority (DNSWMA) accepts common household hazardous wastes daily. This program is **FREE TO DEL NORTE COUNTY RESIDENTS.**

For more information and a full list of accepted items, please contact DNSWMA: (707) 465-1100

Website: <http://www.recycledelnorte.ca.gov/hazardous-waste/>

Some Common Household Hazardous Wastes:

Solvents	Battery Acids	Varnishes
Oxidizers	Batteries	Wood Stains
Pesticides & Poisons	Oil Filters	Paraffin Oil
Non-organic Fertilizers	Paints	White gas
Household Cleaners	Finish and Paint Strippers	Spot Removers
Air Fresheners	Wood Preservatives	Petroleum Jelly
Automotive Waxes	Stains and Finishes	Drain Cleaners
Disinfectants	Automotive Fluids	Fiberglass Resins
Metal Polishes	Swimming Pool Chemicals	Grease
Adhesives	Bases	Methanol
Bleach	Polishes	Organic Solvents
Turpentine	Aerosols	Iodine
Makeup	Photographic Chemicals	Medical Waste
Fingernail Polish	Herbicides & Weed Killers	Ceramic Glazes



Not sure if something is hazardous?
Call 465-1100 for information on proper disposal.

NOTICE OF HEARING

YTCV 2018-06

YTCV 2018-07

YTCV 2018-08

YTCV 2018-09

YTCV 2018-12

YTCV 2018-13

YTCV 2018-14

YTCV 2018-15

YTCV 2018-16

TO: Unknown Tribal Members

Yurok Tribal Court Case #'s: YTCV 2018-06- YTCV 2018-10, YTCV 2018-12- YTCV 2018-16

A Complaint of Violations of the 2018 Harvest Management Plan (nets within 100 yards of the River or in boats during a closure), and unmarked nets, have been filed by:

Office of Tribal Attorney, in the Yurok Tribal Court, on behalf of the Yurok Tribe.

The hearing will be held in the Yurok Tribal Justice Center as follows:

Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Court Address: 230 Klamath Boulevard, Klamath, CA 95548

If you object to the forfeiture of this net, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections. Your appearance must be in person.

You may receive a copy of the Complaint. To do so, please contact the Office of Tribal Attorney whose address is listed below.

Attorney for the Petitioner:

Office of Tribal Attorney

Yurok Tribe

190 Klamath Boulevard

Klamath, CA 95548

(707) 482-1350

YTEP receives grant to fix septic systems

Environmental Program needs assistance, permission to enter properties

Submitted by the Yurok Tribe Environmental Program

Non-point source pollution does not originate from one single place or source. It is commonly associated with increased rainfall that drives pollutants off the land and into the waterways, which makes tracing the pollution back to the source rather difficult. Common classes of non-point source pollution include: sediment, nutrients from agriculture, heavy metals, and pathogens.

It is quite clear that the Yurok Reservation suffers from many of these contaminants, quite a few of these being legacy pollution from previous industries. Roads associated with logging have helped to add sediment to our creeks and our river. Legacy mining impacts the Klamath River, adding poisons to our water. Run-off from agricultural practices add nutrients to the river, shifting the natural balance and allowing toxic algae to grow.

Some sources of non-point source though, are closer to home. Nutrient run off from illegal cannabis grows are a problem on our small creeks. E.coli and coliforms plague our creeks, which should be holistically managed to not even need treatment in order to drink from. In 2016 and 2018, the Yurok Tribe Environmental Program (YTEP) sampled 45 creeks on the reservation for E. Coli. all of the sites had the bacteria in them at some point. To be clear, this is untreated water, not water that is part of the public drinking water system. Out of 144 samples taken, 133, or 92% had some E.coli in them. YTEP later performed bacteria source tracking on 10 creeks, basically to see where the E.coli is coming from. 10 out of 10 creeks had the source listed as human influences, with one creek also having Bovine influence.

As far as we can infer, that means that either there are an unknown number of outhouses that are on our creeks, adding E.coli to our water, or there are old failing septic systems that are contributing to our E.coli problem. The best way that we sought to fix this problem, was to go out and physically pump septic systems, to start a record keeping of their locations and state of repair, and to provide enzymes for the community to add to their septic systems.

This year, YTEP applied for and received the US Environmental

Protection Agency's Non-Point Source Pollution grant, which will enable us to assist residents in resolving septic issues. We didn't receive enough money to do all the septic systems, so we prioritized. Tributaries with the worst problems and the highest number of homes are where we are going to concentrate first. But we need help from community members. We need permission to enter private land to test the water. We need permission to take a truck up to people's homes. We need people to identify the location of the septic tank, and to clear the opening, and to know the size of the septic systems. All of these can save money for the program, and possibly provide more services to more people. If this round is successful with the EPA we hope to apply again next year, and then we can really begin to fix this problem.

If anyone has a septic system on the following creeks please provide the information to YTEP via email to mhanington@yuroktribe.nsn.us or sfluharty@yuroktribe.nsn.us. Or call 707-482-1822 and speak to someone at YTEP. The better job we do documenting this year's work, the more likely we will receive funding in the future.

Tributaries we are looking for Septic System Information:

Burill
Chiqui
Gist
Kennick
Kapel
Lewis Gulch
Mareep
Mahwah
Miners
Owl
Rock Chute
Rube
Rube Ranch
Saints Rest ✨



Yurok Tribe

Office: (707) 482-1350
mmais@yuroktribe.nsn.us
www.yuroktribe.org

Yurok Today
190 Klamath Blvd.,
Klamath, CA 95548

Address Service Requested

Presort Standard US Postage PAID Eureka, CA Permit No. 76

www.yuroktribe.org



A juvenile bald eagle flies across the sand spit at the mouth of the Klamath River.