**ELECTION EDITION 2022** 



## **2022 Tribal Election Information** *PECWAN DISTRICT* • *EAST DISTRICT* • *SOUTH DISTRICT*

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENTS**

### **PECWAN DISTRICT**

Melissa Starr Myers Mindy Natt (Incumbent) Matthew Leroy Sylvia

### **EAST DISTRICT**

Wes Crawford Lucas Garcia Lori L. Hodge (Incumbent)

### SOUTH DISTRICT

Madison Green Lana M. McCovey (Incumbent)





# **PUBLIC NOTICES**



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 19, 2022

CONTACT: Krystel Patapoff-Pruitt (707) 482-1350 X1320 krystel@yuroktribe.nsn.us

YUROK ELECTION BOARD ANNOUNCES THE CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PECWAN, EAST AND SOUTH DISTRICTS

The following candidates were certified to run for Tribal Council Seats:

#### PECWAN DISTRICT

Melissa Starr Myers Mindy Natt (Incumbent) Matthew Leroy Sylvia

#### EAST DISTRICT

Wes Crawford Lucas Garcia Lori L. Hodge (Incumbent)

#### SOUTH DISTRICT

Madison Green Lana M. McCovey (Incumbent)

Primary Election Day is scheduled for October 12, 2022. All Yurok Tribal Members who will be 18 years of age by Election day, must register to vote by August 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

# Yuroks Vote!

Exercise your right to vote in the upcoming Yurok Tribe Primary Election on October 12, 2022

If you would like to register to vote or for more information please contact the Yurok Tribe Elections Office at (707) 482-1350 ext. 1320.



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### On The Cover

*This photo was taken from the Condor Aviation plane, during a flight to collect data on the Klamath.* 







I-yue-kwee. I am Melissa Starr Myers, I am humbled by the opportunity to be a candidate for the Pecwan District. In this role I would like to make myself available to the membership, to work with the community to find solutions to our most critical needs. I know we need to focus on housing, the environment, and direct community support. I know that safe and stable housing can be the key element to an individual's success and mental health. I see houselessness, I see homes still without electricity and families in need. I see a need for housing for the next generation, and community infrastructure for a youth like a playground and public restroom.

I care about the environment. I care about drinking water, the air we breath, our land we live on, the land that should belong back to us. I care about how much water we use and how much more water we need. I care about fire, both wildland and structural. We need more brushing and cleaning around our schools. We have to make sure schools and community buildings have defensible space. We need to continue to fight for our river.

I care about our community. I care about those who have come before us, those here with us and now and those yet to be. Because our community lacks telephones our message boards are critical. These message boards need to be upgraded and need to be a reliable source of updated information for our community. Our parks need continued maintenance and infrastructure, like a public restroom, shade and benches. Our cemeteries needs maintenance too, we really have ensure we are taking care of the whole community.

I am a well rounded candidate, as I have worked with forestry, watershed, administration, social services and food sovereignty. Throughout all my time of employment I have remained a dedicated first responder, volunteer firefighter and community advocate. I am passionate about working to make our communities safer and healthier. I want to be the District Representative because I care about the people, and I've never been afraid to help out.

I commit to learning as council representative the best ways our Tribe can serve our community. It will be an honor to represent my community- I've been waiting my whole life for this opportunity to serve. I consider myself to be a life-long learner and always take opportunities to gain new skills. I look forward to serving the community in this role and bringing my insight and solutions.





#### **PECWAN DISTRICT** CANDIDATE STATEMENT



Aiy ye kwee'

My name is Mindy Natt, I'm the incumbent and running for re-election of the Pecwan District. I am the daughter of Cindy Niles-Moon and the late Donald "GT" Natt Jr. I currently reside on Pecwan hill with my son Andrew Lewis V. I come from the village of Kenek, Regua, Surper and Wahsekw. I received my "AA" degree at College of the Redwoods and my bachelor's degree in Native American Studies at Humboldt State University. It has been a great honor and privilege to represent the Yurok Tribe and membership over the past three terms. The nine years of tribal experience has provided me with the institutional knowledge to improve the Pecwan District. I'm passionate about protecting our Natural Resources like our watershed, land management, and ancestral territory. I would like to see the tribe move forward with acquiring additional land back on the other side of the river from Pecwan. Further, the Yurok Tribal Council secured funding

#### PECWAN DISTRICT CANDIDATE STATEMENT



Matthew Leroy Sylvia

Aiyekwi Hello 'n-ewolek My name is Matthew Leroy Sylvia I am from the village of Caw-tep my mother was Alberta Reva Sylvia my father was Donald Leroy Sylvia the grandson of Thomas Reed and Lena Gray, a father of two and grandfather of four. Growing up in a traditional dance family has provided the honor to participate in the White deerskin dance, Jump dance and the Brush dance ceremonies. These teachings taught me to sing a few songs to respect my elders, right from wrong, to fish. gather basket materials and medicine. Being raised in the Pecwan district

from the American Rescue Plan Act with this funding, I advocated to replace the Kepel Head Start building, expand Morek Won Facility, and to purchase HVAC system to the Wautec Fire House. I was instrumental in providing funding for Cal Poly University Schatz Energy program, that will be installing solar panels on tribal member homes that are off the electricity grid. Recently, I advocated partial funding that was approved by Tribal Council from the NOAA fisheries Coronavirus Response for two new ice machines for Kepel and Wautec area. Other funding was approved to purchase a new playground for Wautec basketball court. Additionally, I pursued road improvements to pave the Lower Cappel, Jack Norton School, and McKinnon Hill Roads. As the Pecwan District Council Representative, I plan to advocate for additional paved roads and already planned projects like the Wautec beautification. I will continue to advocate for critical infrastructure like cell towers, broadband and electricity. Also, I have been advocating for an elders advocate position for the Pecwan District, so that our elders who live the rural area like the Pecwan District can be checked on. I want to continue to advocate for the food sovereignty program and housing project in the Pecwan District. I will continue to be a voice for this district tribal members. I look forward to serving you for another term. I want to take this opportunity to ask you for your vote on October 12, 2022. I would like to thank the Pecwan District tribal members for the continued support.

has instilled great respect for the people that call this part of the reservation home...Over the past seven years I have worked with elders and youth in Hoopa for the Yurok Indian Housing Authority as the onsite manager of the Trinity River Elder Village and for the Hoopa Valley Tribe with the Tribal Civilian Community Corps. Currently a full-time counselor with the Hoopa Yurok Vocational Rehabilitation Program. One of my passions have been practicing food sovereignty. For the past seven years coordinating growing gardens for the elders and teaching youth the importance of growing and preserving food. My education is in business I earned a AA degree in small business management in 2015 then went on to earn a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration 2018. Holding a full-time job and earning good grades through college has taught me a great work ethic which I know will serve me well as a council representative. I am not a perfect person I have made many bad choices growing up and if I have ever offended you in any way I am deeply and truly sorry. I am not

Pecwan Dist. candidate Sylvia continued on next page





#### Pecwan Dist. candidate Sylvia from previous page

that person today. I am a very spiritual person I pray to Creator and am thankful for each day that I have an opportunity to be the best version of myself I am deeply honored for the chance to represent the People of the Pecwan district. I think that we the people can make the necessary changes, to live in a good way. I would like to apologize if I haven't made it to your home for a visit and to ask you what you would like to see in a representative. I am extremely proud of some things that have been accomplished by council representatives past and present. The cultural fires, the increase in TERO funds for vocational training. The Pregonessh project. Releasing Condors in our ancestral lands. As well as the restoration of salmon habitat the dam removal. Also, reclamation of place like the Sumeg Park renaming. Attending this event provided the honor of transporting elders to this important event. As we look to the future my thoughts and education speak loudly of sustainability. This is very difficult thing to achieve presently, but not impossible by any means. Our ancestors achieved it and thrived for many generations with it. I would like to see us excited about alternative energy sources such as solar powered homes.





#### Hello,

My name is Wes Crawford and it is my intention to be your next East District Representative for the Yurok Tribe. I respectfully ask for your vote and support.

I was born and raised within the East District. I recall the beginning of the Yurok Tribal Government and the dedicated Yurok men and women who fought and worked so diligently to produce one the

These should first be provided to elders and the disabled, then to every Yurok home. I would like to represent the peoples voice that reside in the Pecwan district. I have some great teachers, mentors' good neighbors, family, friends and community to help guide me in the right direction as a representative. My focus is on what Pecwan district needs first and foremost. During my survey and visits the language centered on making time to communicate with the community. More community events and activities. More services for the youth and creative things for them to do. We have a small population of youth in our district but they have the same needs as the larger districts and should be a priorituy, as they represent our future. Then I want to see what our needs are as a whole. Food sovereignty is something we as a whole should pay attention to. I am a firm believer in recovery and think our tribe as a whole can benefit greatly from more of these types of services. I want to see affordable housing services throughout our entire membership. I want to invest further into our future with sustainable energy. sources for our homes and businesses So, if you reside in the Pecwan district vote Matthew Leroy Sylvia for the Pecwan District. Together we can make our District a better place in a good way. Wah-Klow- Wah-Klow Wah-Klow

most in-depth and beautiful Tribal Constitutions in this nation! My promise to you is to continue utilizing our powers as a Tribe to grow positively in the various areas we hold dear: elder care, education, environment, employment and continued cultural preservations.

Those of you who know me, know I have been a teacher at Hoopa Elementary and Hoopa High School for that last twenty six years. Our tribal education program is doing some great things and I would like to help continue that.

Elder care and assistance during the Covid Pandemic in the East District was very good. I was very proud of those who delivered food, water, wood and medical supplies to our elders. I think this type of caring should be the norm and not just during a pandemic. Lastly, I want to ensure you that I will be available and will respond back to you with any concerns that you may have. I will utilize social media, email and cell phone to create and maintain effective communication with you.

Again, I would appreciate your vote! Thank you. Respectfully, Wes Crawford









Aiy-yah-kwee Ne-tom-meyr,

Nek new' R. Lucas Garcia, Hoopa okw', Tsurai me-wo-mey-chok. Peech-o-wos aawok Axel Lindgren II es-see Ne Kue-chos wew' aawok Bonnie Lindgren. Neyp-sech wew' Rico Garcia es-see nechek wew' Connie Lindgren.

I am humbly asking for your vote on October 12, 2022, to secure the East District Representative seat on the Yurok Tribal Council. I grew up in Arcata, CA where I graduated from Arcata High School. I then went on to earn my Associate Degree and a certificate in Small Business Management from College of the Redwoods. I also received a certificate in Geospatial Science through Cal Poly Humboldt, and I am currently an undergraduate enrolled in the Geography program. I reside on the Hoopa Reservation with my wife and children and, although my occupation and schooling keep me rather busy, spending time with my family gives me the greatest joy.

I am presently employed as the Environmental Resource Officer (ERO) for the Yurok Tribe Environmental Department (YTED); Enforcement, Response, and Education (ERE) Division. My job requires ensuring compliance of Yurok Tribal Ordinance Title 21: Environmental Protection within the exterior boundaries of the Yurok Reservation; spill response & prevention; and educational outreach.

As Yurok people, the environment makes us who we are. Therefore, the Land Back movement is so important for our people. From the river and streams to the ocean and beach fronts that make up our villages within our traditional ancestral land. With my background in defending our environment and protecting our cultural resources, I plan to be a strong advocate of these issues both on and off the reservation. The Yurok Tribe is growing, and so is the acquisition of our traditional territory. This is an important step forward in ensuring our sacred sites off reservation are protected as well.

Traditionally speaking, decisions within the village were made by consensus. To move forward within our district in a good way, we can draw from our own cultural values of making sure all voices are heard. As your East District Representative, I will strive to hold monthly meetings to promote input from you and seek your guidance in the decision making of Council. I view this position as a District Representative, not as my voice being louder than anyone else's, but as my responsibility to make sure that my District's voice is heard.

Our most sacred resource is our culture. It has guided our way of life since the beginning of time and taught us how to live in relative peace with one another, and the planet. Straying away from Yurok laws and values has brought us many problems, so I intend to use what I know to guide my decisions as East District Representative.

I want to commend the Tribal Council for their hard work and tenacity in moving the Tribe toward the goal of true sovereignty. We are only as sovereign as we allow ourselves to be. A large part of being truly sovereign is our ability to move away from relying on the government to fund our Tribal programs. While Council has been working hard to do this, we need to make sure we are still accountable to our membership and our budget is transparent. Membership needs to be included in the decisionmaking process before businesses are purchased and our unique culture is used to promote things like sales.

No matter what my own ideas may be, my primary goal as your East District Representative is to listen to you, the membership. Through monthly meetings, I will hear your needs, concerns, ideas, and goals. I will then use your guidance and advocate for the East District at the Council level. I was taught that a head man was responsible for all those who followed him. It will be my responsibility to make sure your voices are heard and to be accountable to membership.

Thank you for your consideration, Wok-hlew, R. Lucas Garcia









(Incumbent)

Aiy-yu-kwee' nu tom'-meyr.

Nek-'new Lori Hodge, from the village of Requa. My father is Otto Hodge, Sr. My great grandmother aaawok Alice Spott and grandmother aaawok Alice Spott Lewis were from Requa. As a child my family lived in Weitchpec, then moved into Hoopa where I attended Hoopa Elementary School.

I am honored to be your current East District Representative, and am very proud to be a part of this team and to join in the hard work for, among other things, Dam Removal, Land Acquisition and Salmon Restoration. The dams are going to come down. The timeline is on track for 2024, but the work continues far beyond that with Salmon Restoration. The Yurok Tribe's fisheries and environmental teams are among the very best there is. There will be no problem accomplishing this work. Land Acquisition is one of the main things we are constantly working on. If we can't own it, we should be managing it.

I graduated from College of the Redwoods with an AA degree in business law. I went on to take the state testing and became a certified shorthand reporter for 23 plus years. When my daughter was two I went to work for the Yurok Tribe as Excutive Assistant to the Chairperson. There I learned a lot about Tribal Government, and loved working with my people.

With my daughter and son in shool at TVES I became active in their education. I was on SITE Council for five years. I am curently on the Indian Policies and Procedures Task Force and participate in Indian Education.

I am concerned about the education of our young Tribal members. I believe the Tribal Council needs to give our Education Director as strong a voice as possible with the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District's Board of Education. There is a lot of turmoil going on there right now and they tend to ignore many of our concerns, which have been voiced by the Indian Policies and Procedures Task Force. Educating our children is of utmost importance in keeping a strong hold on our Tribal sovereignty. Our children need to learn our history and understand the power of our sovereignty so they can grow up to be our future leaders.

Humboldt County's foster care system is still taking our children and placing them with non-Native families whenever they can get away with it, which is often. I will continue to do my best to bring more awareness of this problem to the powers within the Tribe where we can advocate to make changes at not only the county level, but also the state level.

The last two years have been challenging for all of us. Covid-19 threw a monkey wrench in everything. But I think the Yurok Tribe came together in an awesome way and reached out to our people, especially our elders, like never before. And that care to our people and elders will be expanded and continued. Our YHHS department is working very hard to stay in contact and to address the needs of our membership who are in crisis. The recent fires in the Willow Creek and Salyer area are a good example of our YHHS team reaching out and helping under difficult circumstances.

This brings me to our Yurok Fire Department. What an incredible fire department the Yurok Tribe has. I couldn't be more proud of that team. Chief Mendes headed up the night shift with our Yurok crew on these recent fires in Willow Creek and Salyer. They all were truly amazing. We as a Council need to make sure that our Yurok Fire Department has everything it needs to continue this great work.

Remodeling the old Umpqua Bank property in Willow Creek is underway. When completed we will be able to offer Tribal sevices right here in Willow Creek, which will benefit many Tribal members and employees who live in and travel through the East District on a regular basis. This is very exciting and just the beginning. I'm also working on housing and community revitalization.

During my tenure, I have been honored to work with our Tribal Corporations. Economic sovereignty can only be achieved by the success of the corporations. Our dedicated staff do an incredible job of staying on point and looking for ways to move our Tribe forward.

I humbly ask for your vote and the honor of continuing this work for the betterment of the East District and our entire Tribe.

Wok-hlew









Aiy-ye-kwee'

My name is Madison Green. My Grandmother is Aawok Bonnie Green, my Grandfather is Richard Green Sr., and my Father is Gerald Green. Growing up as the eldest grandchild, I was fortunate to see my grandma's passion for South District, and the Yurok People as a whole. I remember countless days as a child on our way to the Tribal office in Eureka, (yes, the 6th Street location) where after picking up Happy Donuts for the attendees, my cousins and I would run around entertaining ourselves while she held her district meetings.

When school was out and summer was on, we were my grandma's entourage during all of the events and meetings. I remember thinking, "All of these adults must be talking about really important things because they are talking for so long!"

Years later, I would come home from the Air Force to visit her at the house, and she wouldn't be there- because she was in Klamath, busy working into the late hours of the night. That is just who she was, and that was the demonstration of her commitment in a nutshell.

Inspired by the standard she set, I would be extremely honored and thankful to be selected as the Yurok Tribe's next South District Councilperson. Our district deserves leadership that produces results. To deliver the ideals of my platform I have developed a 4-point strategy to give the South District the representation we deserve and need, including • Communication- We deserve to have open and honest communication. I believe it is my role to provide the South District with enough information to provide feedback. If elected, your feedback is exactly what I will use at Council. I believe it is my job to ensure I have provided as much information as possible to you- the good, the bad, and the in between. Anything currently and potentially impacting the South District, as well as the Tribe, we should be well informed. I plan on utilizing physical mailers, website, and social media to consistently communicate with you.

Advocacy- We have gone too long without our voices being heard. We need strong leadership, advocacy, and healthy relationships with fellow Councilmembers. I believe I would be a good balance with Council in achieving constitutional endeavors. Our South District members need employment, housing, infrastructure, and cultural gatherings. Just because we do not "live" on the reservation, does not negate our existence or how we were relocated as native peoples- this was an act of colonization, but we are still here, and will continue to fight for our survivance. Our district deserves to be heard. When the Yurok Tribe received Cares Act funding and American Rescue Plan funding (two separate funding allocations), the largest contributor in determining our allocations was the number of tribal enrollment numbers and tribal employees. I understand the reason we received as much funding as we did, was because of district enrollment numbers like ours. We received the least amount of funding and support out of any other district. That's a problem. We deserve better representation. We are Yurok people- all of us matter; regardless of what district we are in.

• Innovation- We have to be creative in evolving with the current climate. In my adult life I have seen fish kill, war, pandemics, economic impacts, various other constraints; yet, we have received minimal support in our district for opportunities of resilience- jobs, access to culture, and educational and vocational opportunities that bring our people home. For example, the pandemic demonstrated the use of technologies, paving the way for remote job opportunities, where we can access tribal careers and balance our work-home lives- the South District should be capitalizing on this.

• Sustainability- We are roughly a 95% grant funded tribe. We are at the mercy of the funder, and have little to no choice in how we should best utilize funds. We should NOT have to explain or plead our case to the government about how funding is allocated. Our ancestors have proven we are stewards of the land, and we can live sustainable lives. Throughout history, the US government

South Dist. candidate Green continued on next page





#### South Dist. candidate Green from previous page

demonstrated we could not trust them to hold their end of our trust agreements. If we engage in economics, strategic planning, and business growth opportunities, investment opportunities, we are taking a step towards self-sufficiency, meaning we have





Aiy-yu-kwee,

My name is Lana McCovey and I am the current Yurok Tribe South District Councilmember. It has been a privilege to serve as your representative for the past 3 terms. I have dedicated many hours of service to the South District. Making decisions that affect every member of the Tribe, wherever you may live, is an extremely important duty. It involves reading, discussion, and the ability to understand complex issues. I am accountable to the South District, and I do not take my position lightly.

I know that every council vote that I make should not be based on my personal opinion, but on the benefits to the South District and the Yurok Tribe. I know that I am accountable for every Yes/No/ Abstention vote that I make, and I should be able to support my decisions. This means providing and obtaining information from South District members. I can always be contacted to hear your questions, concerns, thoughts and ideas. I make myself available by different forms of communication via telephone; e-mail; Facebook; and District Meetings. In the near future, I will also have an office and hours in Eureka.

This past term has proven to be the most difficult, not just for me but for the entire Council. COVID-19 is a pandemic that forced the Tribe to make many decisions for situations we never faced before. It forced many people to face new technology that they were not prepared for. It also showed us how resilient we can be. a voice of what to do with funding, and not at the mercy of a colonized government

Wok-hlew' Madison Green

Tribal business did not stop. Council Members and essential workers kept the government running with limited staff. We accomplished this by learning how to work from home, rotate schedules, and practicing safe work habits. As for me, my workload increased considerably. All government meetings were conducted online, including Council's. As a result, all Council meetings are now held in person and online (hybrid).

During COVID we kept serving our tribal members. When the first funds came out there was no question that all tribal members, regardless of where they lived should receive monetary assistance. We also provided all youth an Apple computer and printer, and provided generators to all elders/disabled members who requested them in order to help comply with "Stay at Home" orders. Food boxes and gift cards were also distributed.

During this time the Federal government changed leadership. With this change came additional funds and opportunities for native Tribes. The Federal government made it a priority to consult with Tribes on all areas of government. I made sure that I was on many calls, giving the Yurok Tribe a voice in many areas.

In the South District area, staff numbers have increased steadily. The current facilities cannot accommodate the current workforce. Because of this, the South area purchased an office building. This purchase will help give a safe workspace to many of our workers. Also, the South area is in the initial stages of developing an Educational/Workforce Training Facility; with an intention to assist youth, adults, and elders in learning computer skills, educational skills, telehealth, and occupational training. A new facility will also serve as a community/emergency center. The South area continues to have "drive-through" events for Back-to-School and Winter Celebration. In the coming year, providing it is safe, we will have other in-person activities. This will include the summer camps for youth, and elder related services.

I continue to serve as the tribal liaison to and sit on the board

#### South Dist. candidate McCovey continued on next page





#### South Dist. candidate McCovey from previous page

of United Indian Health Services. For the past five years, I have been instrumental in helping the UIHS Board make decisions to purchase additional buildings in Eureka to provide medical/ dental services, as well as additional space needed for COVID activities. This site should also provide enough revenue to assist the outlying clinics. Another intention of this site, is to bring specialized medical services to Humboldt County, instead of sending clients out of the area for the services. Healthcare is a very complex area, which requires a lot of attention. As part of my duties I regularly meet with the federal agencies that fund and make decisions for Native American healthcare.

#### 30 Day PUBLIC NOTICE RECOMMENDATION FOR YUROK TRIBE RESIDENTIAL LAND ASSIGNMENT PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS

The following Tribal Members have applied for a Land Assignment on the Yurok Reservation. Any Tribal Member wishing to comment on any of the following land assignment applications may submit written comments to the Yurok Tribe's Planning & Community Development Department. All comments must be in writing and include the name, address and signature of the person making the comments. Comments must specify which land assignment they are addressing and must be received by the Planning Department by September 23, 2022. If you have any questions, please call Samantha Myers at (707) 954-3741 or (707) 482-1350 ext. 1361.

- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Ranold Pearson Sr</u> Yurok Tribe # WTPC-003 BIA # HRP-660 Prior Assignee (Awok) William Eric Pearson Jr, Located in Weitchpec.
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Jessica Allen</u> Yurok Tribe # WSR-007 Prior Assignee (Awok) Florence White Located in Weitchpec St. Rest.
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Florenia Logan</u> Yurok Tribe # WTV-017 BIA# Unk Prior Assignee (Awok) Arlene Kentta located in Wautec Village.
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Dennis Waggoner</u> <u>Yurok Tribe # WTV-015 BIA# Unk Prior Assignee (Brother) Ellis Waggoner</u> <u>Located in Wautec village.</u>
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Bobbylee Tatum</u> <u>Yurok Tribe # NCK007 BIA #HRP-503 Prior Assignee Jackie Wallace</u> <u>Located in Notchko Brushy Prairie.</u>
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Vincent McCovey</u> <u>Yurok Tribe # MCKH-020 Prior Assignee (Awok) John Logan Jr</u> <u>Located on McKinnon Hill.</u>
- <u>(Category B) Transfer Land Assignment: Cristina Robbins</u> <u>Prior Yurok Tribe# MCKH-002 BIA # HRP-408 Prior Assignee Elmer Johnson</u> <u>Located on McKinnon Hill.</u>

Submit all written comments by the above deadline to the following address:

Attention: Samantha Myers Planning & Community Development Department P.O. Box 1027 Klamath, CA 95548 My participation in these areas help secure the funding of the Programs that offer the community events that tribal members can participate in, as well as many other health related services.

If re-elected, I will remain focused on my obligations as a Councilmember.

I humbly ask for your vote to continue as your South District representative.

Thank you for your time and vote, Lana M McCovey



# **TWO CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUMS**

#### **REFERENDUM #1—RELINQUISHMENT CRITERIA**

"Article II, Section 4(b), 4(c) – Limitations on Membership- To amend the limitation on Membership to allow former members of the Yurok Tribe who relinquish their membership to qualify for Membership in the Yurok Tribe only once."

A vote "Yes" means that an adult (18 and older) who relinquishes membership in the Yurok Tribe will only be eligible to return to membership in the Yurok Tribe one time as long as they meet eligibility requirements. Any additional reapplications for membership shall be denied.

A vote "No" means that you want to keep the current requirement. A person may relinquish membership in the Yurok Tribe and then return to Yurok membership an unlimited number of times.

#### **REFERENDUM #2—LAND ASSIGNMENT/LEASE AMENDMENT**

A vote "Yes" means that the Tribal Council may approve a land assignment or lease tribal lands for a period up to 50 years.

A vote "No" means that you want to keep the current requirement. The Tribal Council may approve land assignments or lease land for a period up to 20 years.

### **IMPORTANT TRIBAL ELECTION INFORMATION**

During the last Tribal Election, the Yurok Enrollment/Elections Office modernized the Tribe's voting system and it measurably increased voter turnout. We want to provide a refresher on the voting process because it is so new. Here's how it works.

Every registered voter will receive a ballot by mail with pre-paid postage.

#### Voters may choose to do one of the following:

- Mail in Your ballot with the paid postage provided
- Drop it off or designate someone to drop it off at the Elections Department in Klamath by 5pm on Election Day.
- Drop it off or designate someone to drop it off at the Weitchpec Libby Nix Community Center by 5pm on Election day.
- Drop if off or designate someone to drop it off at the Aawok Bonnie Green Building-South Site by 5pm on Election day.

If you misplace or destroy your ballot, you can have a new one issued by calling, emailing or coming into the Klamath Main office.

#### Why are we doing this?

We want to make it as convenient as possible for people to vote for the purpose of increasing voter turnout. The turnout for the polls was significantly less than in previous years and by offering prepaid postage and drop boxes, voters can ensure their ballots make it in time for the election.

Offering pre-paid postage and drop off box locations streamlines the election process.

Ballot Tracking Software has been installed to scan and verify signatures and enter mail ballots as they come in and they will only be opened on election night. The Yurok Election staff and the Election Board are certified in signature comparison training. These trained individuals will still review each ballot on election night.

The Tribe will livestream the ballot count on election night. Tribal citizens may also watch the ballot count in person at Yurok headquarters.

For more information, contact Yurok Tribe Enrollment/Elections Director Krystel Patapoff-Pruitt at (707) 482-1350 Ext. 1320





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



Thousands of people enjoy the Yurok Tribe's 58th Annual Klamath Salmon Festival.