



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

Klamath River salmon run in crisis

Tribe forced to cancel commercial fishery to protect fish

See story on page 3





**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 May 31, 2017. If you have any questions please call Samantha Myers at (707) 482-1350 ext. 1361.

- **(Category B) Transfer of an existing assignment: Lineal Descendant (Grand Daughter) Rebecca Donahue: Prior Assignee (Albert Owen Jr. Yurok Tribe # MCKH-012 APN:534-132-013-13 Located on McKinnon Hill.**
- **(Category B) Transfer of an existing assignment. Lineal Descendant**
- **(Cousin) Constance Norris: Prior Assignee (Aawok) Charles Sorrell Yurok Tribe # WTV-006 APN: 533-074-024 Located in Wautec Village.**

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



YUROK TRIBE

190 Klamath Boulevard • Post Office Box 1027 • Klamath, CA 95548
Phone: 707-482-1350 • Fax: 707-482-1377

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Yurok Tribe will hold three public hearings to accept comments from Yurok Tribal members on the following legislation:

- **YUROK FAMILY CODE:** an existing ordinance enacted to guide the relationships of the Yurok Tribe and those within its jurisdiction, including sections on marriage, dissolution, child custody, child support, guardianships, and more. No changes to the code are being proposed at this time, however, Council seeks your input on the Code in its current form.
- **YUROK PESTICIDE ORDINANCE:** a proposed ordinance restricting harmful pesticides within the territory and jurisdiction of the Yurok Tribe. The ordinance prohibits any person, corporation, or entity from producing, transporting, selling, releasing or disposing of pesticides within Yurok territory and jurisdiction.

The Yurok Tribal Council has referred the above legislation to public hearing in accordance with the Yurok Tribal Public Hearing Ordinance. Public hearings are scheduled for:

Wednesday, May 24, 2017 5:00pm – 6:00pm Former Worthington School 3400 Erie St Eureka, CA	Thursday, May 25, 2017 Lunch Hour during Council Action Meeting (around 12PM) Weitchpec Office Hwy 96 Weitchpec, CA	Friday, May 26, 2017 Lunch Hour during Culture Committee Meeting (around 12PM) Klamath Office Administration 190 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548
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DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Hard copies of the draft ordinances will be available at the Weitchpec, Klamath, and Worthington Site offices. You can also get a hard copy by contacting Cheyenne Sanders at 707-482-1350 x1397 or email csanders@yuroktribe.nsn.us to request an electronic copy.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

The Yurok Tribe is interested in receiving comments from members of the Yurok Tribe and Yurok Reservation community regarding all aspects of the draft legislation.

All comments must be received by 5:00pm on Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

Comment letters may be submitted by email at csanders@yuroktribe.nsn.us, by fax at (707) 482-1363, by phone at (707) 482-1350 x1397, or by mail addressed to: Public Comment, Yurok Tribe Office of the Tribal Attorney, PO Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548. Please indicate in your comment the draft legislation and specific section, if any, to which the comment is directed. For example, **“Pesticide Ordinance – Prohibited Activities.”** If leaving a comment by voicemail, please leave your full name and a callback number.

Important Dates

May 10- Council (Planning) 10am Klamath

May 11 - Council (Action) 10am - Klamath

May 15 - Jetboat Tours reopens

May 16 - UIHS Diabetes Clinic - 2pm-3:30pm - Klamath

May 23 - Council (Finance) 1pm - Klamath

May 24- Council (Planning) 10am Klamath

May 25 - Council (Action) 10am - Weitchpec

May 29 - Memorial Day - Offices Closed

*** All Yurok Tribal Council agendas are posted in advance of the meetings at www.yuroktribe.org under the tab that says Tribal News**

Contents

Page 5.....Salmon fishery to close in CA & OR

Page 8.....Wrestling tourney photos

Page 10.....Yurok makes sacrifice to fight pipeline

On The Cover

(left) Pete Thompson and Bob Ray throw out a drift net in the Klamath Estuary. This year, a record low salmon run forced the Tribe to forgo the commercial fishery.



Disaster looms on the Klamath River

Fisheries failure threatens tribal economy, community, and culture

The Yurok Tribe is bracing for the far-reaching economic, cultural, and social challenges created by what is expected to be the most catastrophic fisheries collapse in the Klamath River's history.

The number of fall Chinook salmon predicted to return to the river in 2017 — approximately 11,000 fish — is the lowest on record, a result of two consecutive, juvenile fish disease outbreaks and other contributing factors. The Tribe's 2017 allocation, set by the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, is less than one fish for every 10 Tribal members. In response to the all-time low forecast, the Yurok Tribe will not have a commercial fishery for a second year in row to protect salmon stocks.

"This is a nightmare. I have never in my life dreamed that it could get this bad," said Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr., Chairman of the Yurok Tribe. "This is devastating to our people, not only economically but emotionally. It's saddening and hard to believe."

The bleak 2017 forecast is linked to a three-punch combination, comprised of two straight years of extremely elevated juvenile fish disease levels, diminished river conditions and poor ocean health. In 2014 and 2015, when juveniles from this year's projected return of adult salmon were rearing in the river, 81 percent and 91 percent of sampled juvenile salmon were infected by the pathogen *Ceratonova shasta*, a parasite that is often fatal for fish and favors warm, slow-moving water.

In 2016, the Yurok Tribe had no commercial salmon season because there were not enough fish to meet subsistence and ceremonial needs. Selling fish, when there are so few, is antithetical to the Yurok Constitution, which mandates that the Tribe "manage and prudently harvest" salmon from the Klamath River. In January 2017, the US Department of Commerce officially declared the 2016 Yurok fishery a "commercial fishery failure".

Back-to-back years' of extremely small salmon runs negatively affects the Yurok economy, community, and culture. For many Tribal families, the fall commercial fishery typically means having dependable food and financial security. Chinook salmon is a staple on the Yurok Reservation, where there are no grocery stores and many tribal members continue to subsist on fish and other traditionally harvested foods. The lack of salmon undermines the Tribe's ability to pass on cultural and religious traditions to the next generation. The loss of salmon also harms Tribal member and tribal-owned tourism businesses, which provide numerous jobs on the reservation.

"In Yurok Country, two years without a commercial fishing season has an impact that is similar to a plant shutting down in a one-company town," Chairman O'Rourke said. "We are doing everything in our power

to find ways to help our people to supplement their lost income. We have people who haven't been able to catch up on bills for two years."

The Yurok Tribal Council recently held a special work session to begin developing a strategy to make up for the loss of fish and fishing income.

"We are in crisis mode. The Klamath is our grocery store, our church and our main highway. It's our lifeline. We will leave no stone unturned in search of additional short-term and long-term solutions to address the most terrible fisheries disaster in the Tribe's history," said Chairman O'Rourke.

Tribe takes additional actions to protect Klamath River salmon.

In the past few months, the Tribe has won two lawsuits, both of which produced new protections for Klamath salmon. In one of the cases, the Tribe, in collaboration with other tribes and conservation groups, brought an Endangered Species Act challenge against the Bureau of Reclamation and National Marine Fisheries Service over the extremely high *C. shasta* infection rates in 2014 and 2015. On February 8, 2017 a federal district court judge agreed with the Tribe's claim and ordered BOR to develop a strategic water release plan to combat the fish disease. Using the Tribe's scientific recommendations, the judge granted a tactical increase in winter and spring flows designed to markedly reduce infection rates among young salmon.

The second fish friendly decision came out of the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, where the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and Westlands Water District challenged BOR's ability to release water from the Trinity River Division to combat fish disease — and prevent another fish kill — in the lower Klamath River. On February, 21, 2017, a panel of three judges, in agreement with the Tribe, determined that the BOR "had the authority to implement the...release of Trinity River water" to avert another fish kill.

While these victories will have real benefits for fish, the salmon runs will continue to struggle until the lower four Klamath dams, which are a primary driver of the juvenile disease problem and water quality issues, are removed. A March 2016 agreement between the Tribe, States of California and Oregon, as well as dam owner PacifiCorp and other stakeholders, planned the removal of the dams by 2020. The Tribe is working hard to ensure the dam removal process continues as planned and salmon can finally return to the upper reaches of the river. If the dams are removed it will be a major step toward the restoration of the Klamath River, however it does little to address the direct social consequences attached to the looming salmon disaster. ✨

California salmon fishery faces closure

Near Total Closure of CA, OR & Tribal fisheries linked to Klamath River

Sacramento, CA – California and Oregon tribal, commercial, and sport fishing communities recently received the final decision on this year’s salmon season, which includes a near total closure of California and Oregon’s coast is inevitable.

“This is the worst year in history for Klamath salmon,” says Amy Cordalis, a Yurok Tribe attorney and commercial salmon fisher. “There is no mystery as to why. The effects of an unprecedented drought were exacerbated by dams and diversions. This year, Yurok, Karuk and Hupa people will have little to no salmon for the first time in history. Although the fish are important economically, they are more important as an irreplaceable part of our identity as people who care for the river.”

The disaster stems from a crash of Klamath salmon stocks, but in order to protect the few Klamath fish that are in the ocean, fisheries regulators had little choice but to close or nearly close the economically valuable commercial and sport fishing seasons along the length of the Northern California and Oregon coastlines. This will impact tribal and non-tribal families alike.

According to Noah Oppenheim, Executive Director of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations (PCFFA), the consequences of this catastrophe will be widespread. “When you combine a five-year drought with terrible water management, this is what you get,” says Oppenheim. “Many fishing families will suffer this summer. It’s been one fisheries disaster after another. Even if Klamath stocks were healthier, we would likely see fishing restrictions due to below average returns to California’s Central Valley. Salmon, the West’s original water users, are paying the highest price for this tragic water management failure.”

Although the outlook for 2017 is grim, Tribal and commercial fishermen do have some cause for optimism. Water managers are currently developing a plan to increase river flows to mitigate for fish disease outbreaks, and last year, Berkshire Energy (operating locally as PacifiCorp) proposed an ambitious plan to remove the lower four Klamath River Dams. Many consider this the largest salmon restoration project in history.

“PacifiCorp’s dam removal plan gives me hope for the future. They

know that dam removal is in the best economic interests of their shareholders and customers.” explains Leaf Hillman, Natural Resources Director for the Karuk Tribe. “And I know they are in the best interests of the Karuk Tribe.”

Hillman lives downstream of the dams and notes that the Klamath dams, “generate relatively small amounts of electricity, provide no irrigation diversions, and offer little in the way of flood control.”

The dam removal plan requires no federal spending; PacifiCorp is contributing \$200 million and California’s Proposition 1 committed up to \$250 million in additional funds as needed. The dam removal proposal is now awaiting approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If all goes as planned, dam removal would occur in 2020. A multitude of studies, including a 2012 Environmental Impact Statement concluded that Klamath dam removal is safe and would dramatically benefit Klamath fisheries and water quality

For some, this season is reminiscent of 2006 when over 700 miles of the California and Oregon coasts were off limits to salmon fishermen. Many small businesses and salmon

fishermen went bankrupt that year. Estimated economic damage from that closure was over \$100 million.

The Secretary of Commerce is expected to declare the Klamath fishery a disaster for the second year in row.

“This announcement means we’re going to have to fish for other species in order to make a living, that’s a fact,” said Tim Klassen, captain of the charter fishing vessel Reel Steel, fishing out of Eureka. “The long term health of salmon is more important than just one season. We’ve been through this before and it hurts, but if we don’t do something soon to improve our salmon runs, we will be the last generation of salmon fishermen in California.” ✨



Will-Bear Carlson holds a salmon in the Klamath estuary.

First Yurok Tribal member tapped to lead Office of the Tribal Attorney

Amy Cordalis is the first Yurok Tribal member to serve as the Tribe's lead attorney, completing a goal she set in her youth. Starting at an early age Amy's family, the Mattz-Brooks family, impressed upon her the importance of knowing Yurok culture and history. Cordalis parents, Bill and Diane Bowers, made sure Cordalis and her four siblings knew her family's history, spent time fishing on the Klamath River to develop an appreciation for the River, and participated in tribal ceremonies. Her experiences on the River instilled a deep love and passion for Yurok culture, people, and our homeland.

It also made clear the historical injustices and the need to continue to fight to protect our rights. Her family has a history of fighting for Yurok rights through the legal system. The Rek-woi descendant vividly recalls stories from the fishing wars of the 1970s, about the intense clashes between tribal members—including many in her immediate family—and federal agents. Her great uncle, Raymond Mattz is the plaintiff in the United States Supreme Court case *Mattz v. Arnett*, a pivotal lawsuit filed to defend the Tribe's fishing rights from state intervention. To Cordalis, the case was a clear illustration of how the legal system can be used to create positive change on the Yurok Reservation. "I knew that Yurok people had fought for so much, yet, we still struggled to continue our traditional lifeway of fishing and being on the River. I wanted to help" said Cordalis.

In 2002, Cordalis was an undergrad and was working as a summer Fisheries Program intern when the fish kill occurred on the Yurok Reservation. The fish died from a prolific disease outbreak, stemming from the federal government's mismanagement of the river and abandonment of its trust responsibility to supply enough water for salmon to survive. Standing on the banks of the Klamath during the Fish Kill, Cordalis felt a clarion call to take action.

"As a Yurok person whose family has a long history of protecting this land and stewarding the water and the fish, I felt a responsibility to try to prevent a fish kill from ever happening again," Cordalis said. "That is when I decided to go to law school with the hope of one day representing my Tribe."

After finishing the Fisheries internship, Cordalis completed her bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in environmental science at the University of Oregon. Cordalis went straight into law school, where she earned a Juris Doctorate, with an emphasis on




Yurok Attorney Amy Cordalis educates California Governor Jerry Brown about the Klamath River and its importance to the Yurok people.

Federal Indian from the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law. In the same year, she was hired by the Native American Rights Fund ("NARF"), the oldest and largest Native law firm in the United States. NARF takes on many of the most complicated legal challenges in Indian Country. NARF provided Cordalis the perfect platform from which to delve deeper into Federal Indian Law, as well as an opportunity to contribute to a diverse collection of high profile court cases.

After six years at NARF, the dynamic orator went to work for Berkey Williams LLP, a top tier Indian law firm representing tribes across the nation. In October of 2014, the Yurok Office of the Tribal Attorney hired Cordalis as a staff attorney, where her work primarily focused on legislation to reacquire the Tribe's land base, large land purchases, and the removal of the lowest four Klamath dams.

Cordalis became General Counsel for the Yurok Tribe, leading the Tribe's Office of Tribal Attorney in late August. The Yurok Office of the Tribal Attorney provides legal representation for the Tribe, Yurok Economic Development Corporation, and the Yurok Indian Housing Authority. The office works closely with the Tribal Council, tribal court, and is responsible for leading the Tribe's court and legislative efforts at the state and federal level.

In only six months, Cordalis has already racked up several



significant achievements, all of which have spawned long-lasting benefits for the Tribe and the Klamath River. For example, she successfully argued in a high stakes case initiated by the politically connected San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and Westlands Water District in the United States 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The wealthy water districts filed the suit to halt the Bureau of Reclamation (“BOR”) from ever again releasing additional water to prevent another fish kill on the Klamath River. The Tribe intervened in the lawsuit to protect Yurok fishing and water rights. A panel of three judges, agreeing with Cordalis’s argument, determined that the BOR “had the authority to implement the 2013 release of Trinity River water from Lewiston Dam.” The panel also reversed a previous district court decision, determining that “the Act of August 12, 1955 gave the BOR the authority...to protect fish in the lower Klamath River” and prevent another epizootic disease outbreak, according to the judges’ opinion filed on February 21, 2017.

“To be able to do that on behalf of my Tribe and behalf of my people, was one of the highlights of my career,” Cordalis said. “The ruling in this case is going to be critical to providing water to the Klamath River and preserving our fishery. Wanting to become a lawyer to prevent another fish kill and then arguing before the 9th circuit court to prevent another fish kill was amazing — I felt honored and blessed for the opportunity.”

The Tribe, thanks to Cordalis’s Office of the Tribal Attorney and Fisheries Program, also won a second seminal case. The Tribe filed this lawsuit against the BOR and National Marine Fisheries Service, the two agencies charged with administering flows on the Klamath River, after juvenile salmon were hit with back-to-back years of sky high disease rates. The Tribe sought to force the federal agencies to implement a water management regime to reduce the chances of another disease outbreak. Agreeing with the Tribe, a United States District Court judge ordered the BOR and National Marine Fisheries Service to immediately take steps to protect juvenile salmon. The agencies have already begun releasing more water in the river to alleviate the conditions that led to the elevated infection rates.

“What happened on the river in 2014 and 2015 just like the 2002 fish kill, except that the baby salmon died, so it doesn’t have the same visual impact as the 2002 kill,” Cordalis said. “The work we did on this case resulted in almost 100,000 acre feet of more water being released to preserve salmon. That is meaningful.”

These are just a few examples of the accomplishments that have occurred during Cordalis’s leadership. “My goals for this office are to strengthen Tribal sovereignty and build our nation in a way that is consistent with our cultural values,” Cordalis said. “It is a gift from the Creator to be a Yurok person and to be blessed

with the responsibility of taking care of this land and nurturing our culture. I’d like to see the Office of the Tribal Attorney work on developing and asserting our tribal sovereignty in a way that facilitates our tribal members having a good life rooted in our culture.”

Cordalis speaks highly of her staff, noting Deputy General Counsel, Cheyenne Sanders, also a tribal member, along with support staff, create a strong legal team. “It is an exciting time to work for the Tribe. Many tribal members are coming home and are eager to lead the Tribe, practice our traditions, and make a positive impact in the community. I know that with so many hearts and minds set on these goals, Yurok country and people are going to get better and better.”

It is rare in Indian Country for a member of a respective tribe to serve as her Tribe’s general counsel. The immense upside of having a Tribal member in this position is at the same time straightforward and subtle. Cordalis represents an opportunity to construct Tribal laws, develop legal strategies, and create legislation that is consistent with the Tribe’s traditional customary laws. What is less obvious, but equally powerful is the fact that when Cordalis represents the Tribe in court the judge and/or jury will see a Yurok person speaking her Tribe’s truth, and is personally invested in the outcome.

“I’m grateful that we, the Yurok people, have Amy taking up our issues on fish, water, and land. Wok-hlew,” said Jackie Winter, a Yurok Tribal member and mother of Aawok Troy Fletcher, one of the most influential people in the Tribe’s modern history.

In addition to her numerous roles as General Counsel, Cordalis hopes to empower and be a role model for Yurok people interested preserving, protecting, and exercising Yurok cultural and legal rights. She generously gives Yurok students’ actionable advice on what it takes to become an attorney.

“For people interested in law it is important to read. Read as much as you can. That helps build reading comprehension and writing skills,” Cordalis said. “Reading sets the foundation for the mind to think like a lawyer.”

On a recent March afternoon, Cordalis was doing an interview with a filmmaker creating a short documentary explaining how the conditions on the Klamath impact Yurok people. He had never spoken to a Native American person before and asked Cordalis about her role as General Counsel. Her answer speaks volumes about her character and commitment to serving her people.

“The Creator put us here to bring balance to the world. If I am not adhering to our cultural values and doing everything I can to protect the river, what good am I to our people,” concluded Cordalis. ✨

CULTURE CORNER

The Culture Committee was quite pleased with the work of the Yurok Tribal Court's Danielle Vigil-Masten, the first facilitator of a new women's group in Weitchpec.

At the time of the late February meeting, Vigil-Masten and the group of Yurok women of all ages had over a six month period, gone on numerous educational excursions, including a trip to the sacred high country. They have been gathering traditional resources, taking trips to spiritual sites and participating in other wellness-related activities. They have also delved deeply into difficult-to-talk-about personal challenges and met with spiritual teachers. The purpose of the group is to empower individual women to heal from past traumas. It is also a support system for its members, according to Vigil-Masten.

"We've been talking about burdens. We pack a lot of burdens, a lot of stress. These are things you cannot see," Vigil-Masten told the Committee. "I tell the women some of the things that you pack are bringing you down. We are trying to empower them and make them feel good about themselves. This is about trying to strengthen families."

The group has been gathering everything from spruce root on the coast, swamp tea around Weitchpec and juniper berries from the Mount Shasta area. Whenever they visit another Tribe's land, they call ahead for permission and bring gifts for their hosts.

"We travel with a pure mind and pure thoughts," Vigil-Masten said. "We have been experiencing a lot of cool things."

In addition to creating new experiences and gathering traditional materials, Vigil-Masten leads the group in talking about difficult experiences and past traumas.

"We don't judge each other. What's discussed in group stays in group," she said.

One of the most challenging trips was one taken to Doctor Rock. The crew, led by lifelong ceremonial practitioner and Yurok Tribal member Chris Peters, walked through rain, sleet and snow to make it to the final destination.

"A lot of things happened up there," Vigil-Masten said. "They let things go. When they came back I saw a huge transformation. They were stronger and you could see it."

While Daniel Vigil-Masten handed the reins of the group to a new leader, the Committee was very impressed by her presentation and contribution to the community. After she finished speaking, the committee praised her work.



"I thought that was wonderful. I think you for sharing that with us," said Committee member Maria Tripp. "You have to put people together so they can help each other."

The new women's group facilitator is Lisa Sanderson, who is based out of the Weitchpec office.

The Cultural Discussion at the February meeting was about the customary rest period for gathering traditional resources. The Yurok Tribe Environmental Program is working on a Climate Change Plan, a section of which features traditional foods. YTEP sought the Committee's guidance on the customary rest period, which is also a time when the spiritual people gather. The 11th moon represents the beginning of the period which is called Kaa-mes hey-gor. Committee member Walt Lara noted that the "rest period" wasn't only for gathering resources, but involved staying inside unless it was necessary to go outside.

The remainder of the meeting was primarily of a procedural nature, but important work happened. The Committee put pressure on Redwood National Park to fix Alder Camp Rd, so that Tribal members can access Split Rock. Karin Grantham from RNP reported that Alder Camp Rd., between Johnson Creek and Split Rock, completely failed and will not be fixed because there is "no way to repair it." Many Committee members voiced their disapproval of the closure, saying that there are important cultural resources in that area and the road needs to be repaired.

RNP is starting the compliance process for the Tribe's acquisition of redwood logs near Marshall Pond, located off of Klamath Beach Blvd. Most likely the wood will be accessible starting on July 1, the beginning of the dry season.

The committee approved graduate student Justin Rhodes request to use research materials made by Dr. Thomas Gates when he worked for the Tribe. Rhodes is working on a master's thesis at Prescott College about traditional trails. ✨

Klamath & Downriver Wrestling



Wrestling Club Tournament Photos



Yurok sacrifices to go to Standing Rock

This story is the second in a series about the Yuroks who fought DAPL

Within the first few days of her trip to Standing Rock, Yurok Tribal member Onna Joseph knew that the experience would permanently change her life in a positive way.

“I went there because I felt a calling in my heart. I couldn’t think of anything else,” Joseph said. “I remember coming over the hill and seeing all the teepees and thinking how amazing it is to see all of these Native Americans in one place. It just made your heart feel full of love right then and there.”

The hard-working, humble, yet outgoing Yurok woman gave two weeks’ notice in November at a job she really liked with the United Indian Health Service, giving up the comfort of gainful employment and the perks of a regular paycheck to join the fight against the Dakota Access Pipeline.

She and the thousands of other indigenous water protectors knew early on that the protracted battle on Standing Rock Sioux lands was about more than stopping a fracked oil pipeline or preserving a vital water source or even saving a sacred burial ground. The project put in danger something much bigger — the Tribal sovereignty, water rights and sacred sites in all of Indian Country. If one slick corporation could literally bulldoze its way through a burial ground in North Dakota, one of many identical companies would surely try the same thing on another Tribe’s land. This perspective could not have been more accurate. Similar projects have recently been proposed all over the United States, including one that requires a 223-mile clear cut from Coos Bay, OR to Malin, OR on the Klamath River, an area which is already heavily impacted by other extractive industries.

When Joseph was arranging her affairs for the November voyage, she heard some distressing news about her brother

Thomas, a dynamic activist, writer and media maker, who was already at Oceti Sakowin with some of her other family members. He was picked up by police and put in a jail, along with 140 other people on October 27th, the night when police pitched stun grenades, streamed tear gas and shot rubber bullets at the peaceful water protectors. Thomas was managing one of the most prominent Facebook livestreams, featuring the terror

tactics employed by law enforcement and Energy Transfer Partners private paramilitary force against nonviolent men, women and children of all ages. At the time, there were very few mainstream media outlets covering the story, which made Thomas’s courageous work of informing untold numbers of citizens even more important. Rather than her planned November 9 departure date, Joseph hit the

road with her friend Beavi McCovey on Nov 1, hauling as fast as possible to free her brother.


“Telling this story now makes my heart race and brings tears to my eyes,” she said.

Thankfully, Thomas was able to get out on bail before Joseph arrived, after spending three days behind bars in a backwoods detention facility.

Since childhood, Joseph has participated in Tribal ceremonies. One of her favorite jobs is to work in the kitchen, which feeds the attendees and dancers. This experience inspired her and her step mother Patty to assemble a team to construct the California Kitchen, which became a huge eating area that fed two hot meals a day to nearly a thousand hungry souls.



Onna Joseph, the third woman from the right, stands in the snow in North Dakota.



“We figured we have to eat too and we didn’t want to be a burden on anyone,” Joseph said. “We wanted to be self-sustainable.”

On Thanksgiving, Joseph and her crew cooked 19 turkeys and all of the sides. After serving 1,200 grateful protectors, they stopped counting.

“The most amazing thing for me was how everybody came together as a community and worked together for the same goal,” Joseph said. “There was no negativity in the camp. People were there to work together and left their egos at the gate. One thing that made the camp function so harmoniously was the fact that there were no drugs or alcohol.”

In addition to preparing food, one of Joseph’s jobs was to collect and inventory donations. Pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables flowed in from Humboldt County farms and home gardens. One family from Orleans even spent 3 straight days canning veggies and other foods.

On a regular basis, Joseph witnessed inspiring acts of kindness, whether it was in the camp or from one of the many outside supporters like this Humboldt family.

“Everyday something amazing would happen. There was healing going on, individual healing. People were having self-revelations, opening up to other people, opening up to that way of life,” she said.

There were too many compassionate instances to list. For example, one individual with a modified ice cream truck delivered filtered water to the entire camp for much of the occupation.

“I would see him working at 7am and again at 11pm and he would still be working,” Joseph said.

During Joseph’s two-month trip, the behavior of law enforcement and private security staff completely transformed from mostly peaceful to patently hostile. Intermittent acts of aggression turned into to a fulltime campaign of violence. Daily, the actions of the heavily armed troops put the lives of water protectors in jeopardy. The one-sided attacks on those who stood, in prayer, against the pipeline left many scars that won’t soon heal.

“It was outrageous and out of hand,” Joseph said. “There was no need for it, any of it. It was completely obvious that the water protectors were unarmed. It is astounding to me that none of the Energy Transfer Partners security were arrested for their many crimes.”

During Joseph’s stint in Standing Rock she met a high spirited 16-year-old, who was one of the notorious horse

riders. While she was there police knocked him off of his horse, injuring the boy and causing a fatal wound to the animal. Now, “he suffers inside and refuses to talk about it,” she said.

Another boy she met underwent a similar change after enduring a blow from a rubber bullet, exposure to clouds of tear gas and getting drenched by a police water cannon in subfreezing weather.

“When I first met him he was all smiles and happy-go-lucky. After suffering so much abuse from the police, he became sad and withdrawn,” Joseph explained. “Immediately, you could see the PTSD. I felt like I just wanted to hug everybody and tell them it’s going to be alright. Thankfully, he’s doing better now.” Joseph was in Oceti Sakowin for the big blizzard that rocked the camp in December. Dealing with the cold was almost as difficult as it was to cope with the police violence, 24-hour surveillance and other military tactics.

“When it started snowing sideways, it was pretty much about keeping each other warm, making sure everybody had proper heaters and enough sleeping bags,” Joseph said. “It was about survival.”

The historic resistance against the oil pipeline, and the damage it will cause to the local community, was started by young people, who had hoped to stop a suicide epidemic on Sioux lands. It grew into the largest gathering of Tribal nations in world history. As a result, it is now nearly impossible for unscrupulous corporations to do whatever they please, without regard for human, environmental and cultural consequences.

“The movement was started by youth and they stayed there for months, even when there were feet of snow on the ground. They believed in their hearts that they wouldn’t go home until they beat the black snake,” Joseph said.

While a new presidential election paved the way for the pipeline to proceed, the water protectors achieved lasting change in Indian Country and far beyond. There are similar actions popping up all over the world because of people like Joseph, who sacrificed so much to fight the massive injustice inflicted upon the Standing Rock Sioux.

“It was the youth who started this. They asked people to come out there and pray with them,” Joseph said.

Joseph returned home on December 24, feeling empowered by the experience and grateful that she listened to her inner voice.

“I suggest that anyone else who has that calling should listen to it and go where it takes them,” Joseph concluded. ✨



Violet Aubrey (right) and her daughter Alona Rangel (9) work on regalia at a recent Social Services Department-sponsored event in Weitchpec.



Annelia Hillman (far right) discusses home gardening at a Youth Wellness Workshop called Hoo-lekl-ek (I plant seeds). Workshop participants learned how to construct a raised bed and make vegetable starts for the upcoming planting season. Following the instructional part of the event, the group watched Food Inc. and discussed the major themes of the movie.

SAVE THE DATE

THE ANNUAL TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2017. ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

The Yurok Enrollment Dept. will be closed from May 1-5. The staff will be attending a Tribal enrollment-related conference.



2017 YUROK TRIBE ELECTION NOTICE

TO ALL YUROK TRIBAL MEMBERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO RUN FOR THE FOLLOWING SEATS:

**NORTH DISTRICT
REQUA DISTRICT
WEITCHPEC DISTRICT**

Any Yurok Tribal members that are interested in running for Election as a Representative for the Yurok Tribal Council may pick up Nomination papers beginning **June 19, 2017**, at the Yurok Tribal Office in Klamath.

All Candidates must be 25 years of age for a district seat as of October 11, 2017. There is a \$105 filing fee due when you pick up the Nomination forms and background check packet. Fingerprinting will also be done at the time you turn in your background check packet.

The Nomination Period closes **July 21, 2017**.

For More Information, Please call the Election Office at (707) 482-1350.

More than 60 use Clean Slate service

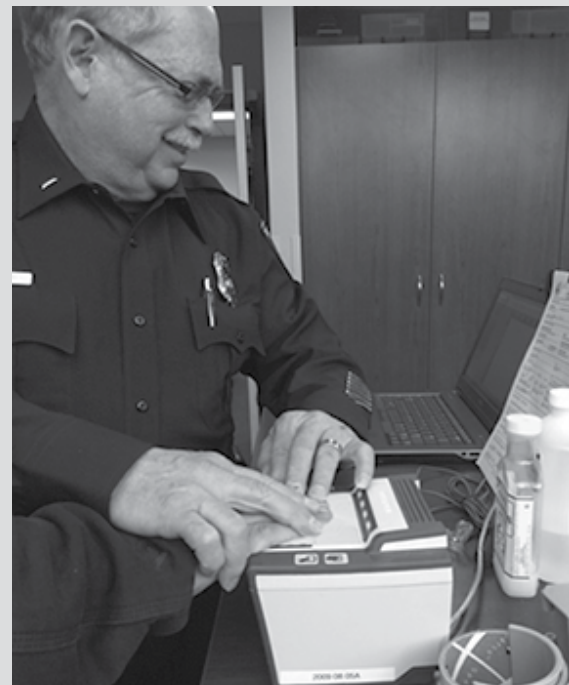
Tribal Court teams up with two nonprofits to clear old records

Laura Woods
YTC - Paralegal

KLAMATH, CA - The Yurok Tribal Court in partnership with two non-profit organizations, OneJustice and Root and Rebound, held free criminal record clearance workshops recently in Klamath and Eureka.

During the course of the workshops, over 60 individuals met one-on-one with volunteer law students to complete their criminal record expungement applications and Prop. 47 reductions, all at no charge.

LiveScan fingerprinting was available for people to retrieve their rap sheets, also at no charge during this special event. Future workshops will be announced soon and will include the Weitchpec area. Watch the Yurok Today newspaper for announcement of those upcoming dates. For more information call Yurok Tribal Court 707-482-1350 ext. 1395. ✨



On March 24, Yurok Vice Chairperson David Gensaw Sr. addressed a group mourning the tragic loss of two local community members. The Yurok Tribal Court put on the event at the Cultural Knowledge Park to help individuals process the untimely passing of Timothy Thompson and Sunni Jo Grant. Both were innocent victims of two separate murders that happened in the early morning hours of March 20th. Those suspected to be responsible for the killings were apprehended on the same day and subsequently charged in Del Norte Superior Court for the alleged crimes.

YUROK TRIBE 2017 ELECTION SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 11, 2017	PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 8, 2017	RUNOFF ELECTION

JUNE 19 (8:30AM)	FIRST DAY TO ISSUE NOMINATION PAPERS FOR COUNCIL OFFICE
JULY 13 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO REGISTER WHEN MOVING INTO A DIFFERENT DISTRICT (90 DAYS)
JULY 21 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO FILE NOMINATION PAPERS
AUGUST 11 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO FILE INITIATIVE(S)
AUGUST 11	PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ELECTION (60 DAYS)
AUGUST 18 (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR THE SAMPLE BALLOT (250 words) AND NEWSLETTER (750 words)
AUGUST 25	LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ELECTION (47 DAYS)
AUGUST 28-30	ELECTION BOARD CERTIFICATION OF NEW REGISTRANTS
SEPTEMBER 1	MAIL OUT SAMPLE BALLOTS TO REGISTERED VOTERS (40 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 8	MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS (35 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 27	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL (14 DAYS)
OCTOBER 10	LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE (1 DAY)
OCTOBER 11, 2017	PRIMARY ELECTION
OCTOBER 25	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL FOR RUN OFF (14 DAYS) <i>ONLY IF YOU DID NOT REQUEST AN ABSENTEE FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION</i>
OCTOBER 20	MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR RUN OFF (19 DAYS)
NOVEMBER 7	LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE FOR RUN OFF (1 DAY)
NOVEMBER 8, 2017	RUNOFF ELECTION

2017 VOTING DISTRICTS
NORTH, REQUA, AND WEITCHPEC

OST looking for you if you're on this list

The Office of the Special Trustee (OST) for American Indians, an entity under the U.S. Department of the Interior, was established by the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994, Public Law 103-412 (Reform Act) to improve the accountability and management of the Indian funds held in trust by the federal government. As the trustee, the department of the Interior (DOI) has the primary fiduciary responsibility to manage tribal trust accounts and Individual Indian Money (IIM) accounts, in addition to accounting for the trust funds that are deposited and disbursed from these accounts.

OST will also be the Primary contact to Individual Allotment Owners who may be interested in being a "Willing Seller" in the upcoming Land Buy-Back program (LBBP) coming to the Yurok Reservation starting in late 2017 all "Willing Sellers" are encouraged to contact the OST or Marion R. Frye LBBP for more information at (707) 482-1350 X 1373

It is important for individual Indian people to keep the primary contact information up to date with the OST Trust Beneficiary Call Center At 1-(888)675-6836 or online www.doi.gov/ost/fto in order for the OST to provide direct service to the individuals. ✨

Tribe seeks elders over 100

The Yurok Tribe is looking for photos and names of Yurok Elders/Ancestors who lived to be 100-years-old or greater. The pictures will be framed and posted in Tribal office buildings to honor them.

Please contact Krystel Patapoff at (707) 482-1350 Ext. 1320 or by email at krystel@yuroktribe.nsn.us

ADAMS	CHRISTINA	FERRIS	SHIRLEY	MARTIN	NANCY
ALCARAZ	JOSE A	FINNERUD	MARYLOU	MARTIN	RICHARD MUSSELWHITE
ALVARADO	DIANE	FITCH	ANITA	MATA	WILMA
ARIAS	DENISE DIANE HURST	FRANK	PAMELA	MAUSER	SHIRLEY
AUPPERLE	LAVERNE	FRANK JR	WILLIAM	MC CALLUM	MONTY
BARNES	JANICE	FRYE	DAVID JULIUS	MCCOVEY III	WILLIAM
BASTAIN	CRYSTAL	GALLO	MARY	MCDONALD	JILL
BAUER	FREDERICK P	GEORGE	LAURA ELAINE	MCDONALD	RITA
BEEBE	DELORES	GEORGE	LEROY RAYMOND	MCKENZIE	JOANN M
BEEBE	IRENE JACKSON	GEORGE	TAWLOWAEWEYO M	MERTIE	OLA
BISHOP	TANYA	GOMES	EUGENE R	MESNER JR	HAROLD
BLAKE	RICHARD CARL	GOODMAN	JESSIE LORRAINE	MEYER	MIKA L
BRAHNELE	DOROTHY IRENE	GOOSELAW	ELLEN KERR	MICHEL	HOWARD P
BRENNAN	JIMINEY F	GREENE	Jennifer	MILLER	ALLEN
BRISTOL	JESSIE /DOROTHY/	HAMMOND	ARLENE	MILLIER	GERTRUDE
BROOKS	RICHARD C	HANCORNE	CHARMAINE JESSIE	MOCK	LENAIRE CHRISTINE MITCHELL
BUENDIA	ANGELIQUE	HANCORNE	VIRGINIA	MOON	ALFRED CARL
CAMPBELL	LETHA	HAYES	CATHERINE	MYERS	KRISTINE
CASTON	MELVIN ANTHONY	HENDRIX	LINDA A	NANCE	RAYMOND LEROY
CHASE JR	FRANIS	HENRY	EYVONNE	NELSON	ELAINE WALKER
CLAGGETT	DARRELL HARVEY	HILL	DONNA HURST	NIELSEN	CARL HANS
CLAGGETT	LAWRENCE EUGENE	HODGE	ADAM M	NIX	MAURICA G
CLARKE	JOYCE	HODGE JR	OTTO	ODEN	MARILYN J
COLEMAN	CARMEN YOUNG	HURST	ROBERTA	ONEILL	MONNA FRANCINE
COMSTOCK	PETER	JACKSON	LEON KLAMATH	OWNSBEY (GREEN)	BARBARA
COOKE	ALLISON	JACKSON	WILLIAM MERRITT	PATTERSON	ROGER DALE
COOKE	BERNARD WAYNE	JAKE	STANFORD W	PRESTON	ANNA SIERRA
COOPER	BRIANA K	JAMES	ALAN MOORE	QUINN	ARLINE MAE
COOPER	HENRY	JAMES	DALILA ANN	QUINN	SHANNON
CRAWFORD	EUGENE	JAMES	ROBBIN MARIE	QUINN	WILLIAM
CREMER	BEULAH M MELVIN	JEFFERY	SHELLY J	REDNER	MICHAEL RAY
CREPEAU	GINGER	JENNINGS	GLENDA KAY	REDNER	RAYMOND J
DAVIS	LEYNA S	JOHNSON	ADAM L	REDNER	ROSANNE MARIE
DELGADO	RHODA RENEE	JOHNSON	RICKY	REED	LAVONNE LEE
DOE	GLENNA	JORDAN LARSON	VIRGINIA	REYES	HELEN ELAINE
DONAHUE	ROBERT L T	JORDAN MORRIS	CATHERINE	REYNOLDS	BECKY CASTON GAY
DONAHUE	SHEILA SADIE	KARTH	EDWIN P	STOODOLA	HEATHER D
DOWNS	ANNABEL	KEISNER	EDWARD C	SULLIVAN	EDA A
DOWNS	RALPH EUGENE	KELLER-CASTON	KELLY MARIE	SUTHERLAND	STACEE
DOWNS JR	RALPH	KERWIN	JESSIE M	TAYLOR	BARBARA REED
DOYLE	ROBERTA	LATHAM	DUSTIN	TAYLOR	KATHERINE JUNE
DRYDEN	DENNIS DALE	LEE	NONNIE JAMES	TAYLOR	LORRAINE
DRYDEN	HARRIET	LILLY	OSCAR	TOM	CHARLES ROBERT
DUALAP	JESSE	LITTLE	WILLIAM HERBERT	WIBUSH	BETTY JEAN
DUGAN	PATRICIA COLLEEN	LONG	JOSEPHINE JOANNE	WILDER	MARGARET
EAGLE	JAMES L	LOPEZ	NOONIE WINTOONA	WILDER	THEODORE G
EDWARDS	EUGENE	LOWDEN	ROCHELLE L	WILKE	DORA CHRISTIAN
ERICKSON	JOHN	MAHACH	SYLVIA ANN	WILLIAMS	GEORGE JAMES
ERICKSON	LESLIE	MARKUSSEN	PATRICIA D	WILLSON	WILLIAM
FERRIS	FRANKLIN M	MARKUSSEN	ROBERT	WILSON	WILLIAM LESLIE
FERRIS	FREDDY ALLEN	MARTIN	HENRY JR	WOOD	JOSEPH
FERRIS	ILENE NANCY	MARTIN	JEAN	WYATT	CAREY LYNN CASTON
				YOUNG	BERNARD CYRUS

This unit is a fair market rental and is located at 1909 Harrison Ave, Unit B Eureka, CA
 The townhome is 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Very clean and well maintained. Great Location.

*** Tribal Member Deposit \$850.00**

*** Tribal Member Rent \$1050.00**

If you have any questions or are interested in the unit, please contact Rachel Provolt at
 (707)482-1506 ext. 1005



YUROK TRIBAL COURT PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548 (707) 482-1350 phone (707) 482-0105 fax	Court File Number: <u>YT-CV-2017-26</u> Case Type: <u>FAMILY CODE</u> RECEIVED YUROK TRIBAL COURT APR 12 2017 Yurok Indian Reservation (707) 482-1350
In re: <u>DENALI NEPEWESHNEG KEEN SCOTT</u> (Write current name of person's to be changed)	NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. PETITIONER: Joseph Scott and Kathleen Larson has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 a. Present Name: DENALI NEPEWESHNEG KEEN SCOTT
 b. Proposed Name: DENALI NEPEWESHNEG KEEN MARRIJO

2. THE COURT REQUIRES that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

3. HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE (At least 90 days from filing date):
 a. Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017
 b. Time: 10:00 AM
 c. Location: YUROK JUSTICE CENTER, 230 KLAMATH BLVD., KLAMATH CA 95548

4. NOTICE: A copy of this NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.

5. ISSUED:
 Clerk of the Court: [Signature]
 Date: 4/12/2017

YUROK TRIBAL COURT PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548 (707) 482-1350 phone (707) 482-0105 fax	Court File Number: <u>YT-CV-2017-284</u> Case Type: <u>FAMILY CODE</u> RECEIVED YUROK TRIBAL COURT APR 12 2017 Yurok Indian Reservation (707) 482-1350
In re: <u>JOSEPH BARLUO SCOTT JR</u> (Write current name of person's to be changed)	NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. PETITIONER: JOSEPH BARLUO SCOTT JR has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 a. Present Name: JOSEPH BARLUO SCOTT JR
 b. Proposed Name: JOSEPH BARLUO MARRIJO

2. THE COURT REQUIRES that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

3. HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE (At least 90 days from filing date):
 a. Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017
 b. Time: 10:00 AM
 c. Location: YUROK JUSTICE CENTER, 230 KLAMATH BLVD., KLAMATH CA 95548

4. NOTICE: A copy of this NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.

5. ISSUED:
 Clerk of the Court: [Signature]
 Date: 4/12/2017

YUROK TRIBAL COURT PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548 (707) 482-1350 phone (707) 482-0105 fax	Court File Number: <u>YT-11-2014-92</u> Case Type: <u>FAMILY CODE</u> FILED YUROK TRIBAL COURT MAR 27 2017 YUROK INDIAN RESERVATION (707) 482-1350
In re: <u>SINIW KAOS SWAIN</u>	NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. PETITIONER: RICHARD BATES II has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 a. Present Name: SINIW KAOS SWAIN
 b. Proposed Name: SINIW KAOS BATES

2. THE COURT REQUIRES that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

3. HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE (At least 90 days from filing date):
 a. Date: FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017
 b. Time: 9:30 AM
 c. Location: 230 KLAMATH BLVD., KLAMATH, CA 95548

4. NOTICE: A copy of this NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.

5. ISSUED:
 Clerk of the Court: [Signature]
 Date: 3/22/2017

YUROK TRIBAL COURT PO Box 1027 / 230 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA 95548 (707) 482-1350 phone (707) 482-0105 fax	Court File Number: <u>YT-CV-2017-74</u> Case Type: <u>FAMILY CODE</u> RECEIVED YUROK TRIBAL COURT APR 12 2017 Yurok Indian Reservation (707) 482-1350
In re: <u>SITEN RYVYR DENALI ROE-TOH SCOTT</u> (Write current name of person's to be changed)	NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. PETITIONER: Joseph Scott and Kathleen Larson has filed a petition with this court for decree changing a name as follows:
 a. Present Name: SITEN RYVYR DENALI ROE-TOH SCOTT
 b. Proposed Name: SITEN RYVYR DENALI ROE-TAH MARRIJO

2. THE COURT REQUIRES that all persons interested in this request shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least three (3) court (business) days before the hearing date and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

3. HEARING DATE, TIME AND PLACE (At least 90 days from filing date):
 a. Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017
 b. Time: 10:00 AM
 c. Location: YUROK JUSTICE CENTER, 230 KLAMATH BLVD., KLAMATH CA 95548

4. NOTICE: A copy of this NOTICE OF PETITION for Change of Name shall be published in TWO (2) consecutive issues of the Yurok Tribe Newsletter.

5. ISSUED:
 Clerk of the Court: [Signature]
 Date: 4/12/2017



Yurok Tribe

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

Yurok Today
190 Klamath Blvd.,
Klamath, CA 95548

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Permit No. 76

www.yuroktribe.org



Yurok wrestler David Gensaw pins his opponent in less than 2 minutes at the Del Norte tournament in early April. This was one of his many pins during the 2017 wrestling season.