

OCTOBER EDITION



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

TRIBE AIDS IN TRINITY REHAB

TRINITY RESTORATION PROGRAM PUTS \$4 MILLION INTO FISH HABITAT

SEE STORY ON PAGE 4



GOVT. SHUTDOWN IMPACTS TRIBE

Employee furloughs likely to continue until Congress finds resolution • see story on page 3



**VICE CHAIRPERSON
SUSAN MASTEN**



Dear Tribal Members,

This column is meant to keep you updated on the activities of the Tribe. Please let me know what type of information you want or concerns you may have about our Tribal government, programs or services. You will also be able to see this column on the Tribes website and Facebook page in an effort to reach out and provide information to you in a timely way.

1. **Federal Government Shut Down Impacts:** I'm sad to report that the federal government's shutdown, caused by Congress' inability to approve the 2014 budget, has forced the Tribe to make some tough decisions, including the furlough 60 Tribal employees as of Monday, October 7th and to stop travel and purchases until the new budget is approved. If the Federal Government does not pass a budget by October 28th we will be looking at further employee furloughs. This was a very difficult but necessary decision that Council had to make and it is all due to the budget crisis created because of Congress' failure to pass the 2014 budget. As soon as the budget is passed employees will return to work.

2. **Tribal Council Ordinance:** This Ordinance has been adopted into law and represents a major step forward, holding the Tribal Council to high standards with penalties for violations. This ordinance is more comprehensive than most other Tribes' have adopted for their Councils. You can view the final Ordinance on the Tribes website at www.yuroktribe.org. Again, thank you to all the Tribal members who strengthened this Ordinance by providing input during the Public Hearing process.

3. **Hotel:** Framing is completed for the first two floors and they are working on the third level as I'm writing this article. We are now ahead of schedule on construction. For employment opportunities call the TERO office at (707)482-1350 x 1388.

4. **2013 Commercial Fishery:** The commercial fishery is complete and 52,250 salmon were caught, which is well below our set aside of 75,000 commercial fish. Many Tribal members had a great fishing season and were able to benefit from the \$5.00 pound for salmon this summer. As most of you know, the River became very constricted due to ocean currents and lack of rain, and in order to protect endangered Coho salmon the fishery was closed. We experienced some problems with this year's season and will be working on solutions over the next couple of months. We will be coming to you for your input in the near future, so we can ensure that we have a safe and productive 2014 commercial season.

5. **Yurok Indian Housing Authority Ordinance:** The Yurok Indian Housing Authority Ordinance is going out for public hearing scheduled for October 21, 2013. The main change is putting the Housing Authority under the Tribe in order

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On The Cover

YUROK HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR DWAYNE PROCTOR DEPOSITS SPAWNING GRAVEL INTO THE TRINITY RIVER. THE YUROK TRIBE IS PART OF THE TRINITY RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM COMPLETED \$4 MILLION WORTH OF FISHERIES RESTORATION WORK THIS YEAR ON THE TRINITY RIVER.

to improve coordination and planning for meeting housing needs of our members. The Authority receives Tribal funds that are allocated from the federal government to the Tribe and the Tribe is ultimately responsible for these dollars. With such a large waiting list for housing and limited dollars, it is critical that the Tribe and the Authority have a great working relationship so that we can maximize resources, staffing and funds to meet Tribal Members' needs. Please give your input on the proposed changes. You can get a copy of the ordinance from our website www.yuroktribe.org or you can call Nathan Voegeli at the Klamath office at 707)482-1350 x 1408 or email nvoegeli@yuroktribe.nsn.us.

6. Controlled Substance Ordinance: The draft Controlled Substances Ordinance is going out for public hearing scheduled for October 21, 2013. This ordinance is designed to address the proliferation of illegal marijuana cultivation and drug production on the Yurok Reservation. It will also protect the health and safety of Reservation residents and Yurok lands. It establishes civil offenses for illegal marijuana cultivation and drug production. The ordinance also seeks to address related problems, such as damages to the Tribe's fish and wildlife resources, stream diversions, and destruction of forest lands. It establishes clear penalties, including forfeiture of personal property and land connected with drug production. You can get a copy of the ordinance from our website www.yuroktribe.org or you can call Nathan Voegeli at the Klamath office at 707)482-1350 x 1408 or email nvoegeli@yuroktribe.nsn.us.

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and spirits. We also send our prayers and thoughts to each of you who may have lost a loved one during this time. Wok-hlew ❄

Tribe hit by govt. shutdown

The Yurok Tribal Council was forced by the federal government shutdown to put a plan in motion to furlough 46 employees, starting October 7, 2013.

"This was a very hard call to make," said Yurok Tribal Chairman Thomas P. O'Rourke. "I am deeply concerned about how this will affect our tribal employees, their families and, especially, the tribal people who depend on us."

In addition to putting 15 percent of the tribal workforce on furlough, the shutdown has cut off access to funding for the General Assistance Program, which serves 20 of the Tribe's neediest families. The Tribe was forced to halt its Childcare Program, which provides care for 40 children of income-eligible parents, who either work or attend school. Educational scholarships for 150 higher education students were also suspended. If the shutdown persists for more than two weeks, the Tribe will no longer be able to fund the Food Distribution Program, which is the main source of sustenance for 450 people.

"This situation is no joke. Soon, people aren't going to be able to feed their families, they could lose their homes," said Chairman O'Rourke.

In addition to furloughing employees, the Tribal Council's plan includes several cost-saving measures, such as limiting purchases, tribal vehicle use and travel, that will remain in place until the shutdown is over.

The federal government shutdown began at midnight on Monday, October 1, as a result of Congress' inability to pass a full or temporary budget for the coming fiscal year. The Yurok Tribe, the most populous tribe in California, receives a significant amount of funding from the federal government and with more than 300 employees is one of the larger employers in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.

The Yurok Tribe's Executive Office sent out a notice Tuesday informing the tribal workforce of the looming furloughs. The Tribal Council, Executive Office, Human Resources and Fiscal Directors did the painstaking work of going through the tribal budget, person-by-person, to verify which tribal employees will have secure funding, during the shutdown. The Tribe has identified 125 positions that have firm funding regardless of how long the shutdown lasts.

"We are doing everything we can to keep people employed," said Chairman O'Rourke.

Tribal administrators met with tribal employees to discuss in detail the ramifications of the government shutdown. The Yurok Tribe operates more than a dozen individual departments, ranging from social services to watershed restoration and public utilities to environmental protection. Once a budget or resolution is passed, tribal employees will return to work, according to the Tribal Council's plan. Furloughed employees will continue to receive health benefits and have access to their 401K. In order to provide assistance during these challenging times, the Tribe's Human Resources Department will help furloughed employees sign up for unemployment assistance.

If the shutdown continues for three weeks, the tribal plan calls for the furlough of 79 more employees on October 28, 2013. Remaining in service to the Tribe will be those that protect health and human safety and the safety of tribal facilities.

"I believe that Congress needs to forget about their politics and put the people first. They need to pass a budget today," concluded Chairman O'Rourke.



Pot growers not welcome on Yurok land

Tribal cops team up with BIA, Hoopa Tribe to eradicate large grows

A large-scale, outdoor marijuana bust, executed recently at eight privately owned properties on the Yurok Reservation, is the first in a far-reaching effort to eradicate illegal marijuana grows and growers from tribal lands.

“The Yurok Reservation is no longer a safe haven for pot growers,” said Yurok Chairman Thomas P. O’Rourke. “We will do everything we can to arrest growers and confiscate their land.”

The more than 2,000-plant raid on the non-Indian owned properties is a prime example of a growing problem on the Tribe’s land. In recent years, the Yurok Tribe has observed a large number of non-tribal members purchasing land on the Reservation for the sole purpose of starting up clandestine cannabis operations. These eight properties are just a small percentage of the parcels non-Indians are currently using to illegally grow marijuana. These unlawful pot growers and many others have been witnessed clear cutting forests, pumping water from fish bearing creeks and applying pesticides harmful to wildlife. Some have even perpetrated violence and threatened violence toward Reservation residents.

“Eradicating these eight gardens was a huge success and it is the first of many to come. In addition to the pot growers, we are also going after dealers of other illegal drugs, like methamphetamine, heroin and opiate-based pharmaceuticals,” said interim Public Safety Chief Leonard Masten. “These pot gardens are produced by people who come here to conduct illegal activity and leave. The environmental, social and cultural damage they create is unbelievable. As tribal employees it is our job to make Reservation residents feel safe. That is what Public Safety and our new task force is going to do.”

The recent raid was accomplished by the Yurok Public Safety Department, in conjunction with the following agencies: Hoopa tribal police, BIA Division of Drug Enforcement, and the

U.S. Forest Service. The Yurok Tribe is joining forces with these and other law enforcement agencies to take out more illegal operations in the weeks and months to come.

While Yurok Public Safety’s investigation is ongoing, criminal charges are pending against several people present at the illegal pot plantations. All eight pot growing properties were located near the community of Tulley Creek, a residential area on east end of the Yurok Reservation. At several of the grow sites, swaths of forest were clear cut. Water from salmon-critical creeks was tapped to irrigate the cannabis plants. In addition to the plants, hundreds of yards of plastic piping, plastic pots and other trash will have to be removed the sites. Cleaning up these sites is time consuming and expensive.

The Yurok Reservation is comprised of more than 50,000 acres of densely forested, mountainous terrain. The rugged landscape and the diminutive size of the Tribe’s Public Department make the Reservation an ideal place to grow pot undetected. The new, tribally led marijuana task force is going to make it nearly impossible for illegal marijuana growers to remain outside of the lens of law enforcement.

The Yurok Tribe has a Zero Tolerance Policy toward all illegal drugs and does not recognize California’s Proposition 215. The Tribe has the ability to confiscate land used to grow pot, along with all other ill-gotten gains relating to the drug trade.

Most streams on the Reservation sustain multiple fish species, including the federally listed coho salmon. These large marijuana grows have substantial negative impacts upon the water quantity and quality necessary to sustain these fish populations. Many of these operations dry up and pollute our streams, and introduce toxins into our ecosystem with no regard for the fish and wildlife of the Yurok Reservation. There is no regulatory process these folks comply with prior to diverting streams, or spreading large

“ THE YUROK RESERVATION IS NO LONGER A SAFE HAVEN FOR POT GROWERS. ”

THOMAS P. O’ROURKE • YUROK CHAIRMAN

quantities of rodenticides, pesticides, and fertilizers across the landscape. While the Tribe is involved with numerous activities to restore the ecosystem that Yurok people rely upon, these illegal grows are destroying our environment with one motivation in mind: greed.

The creeks being impacted by these grows are also a source of drinking water for Reservation residents. If these creeks become contaminated with pesticides and herbicides the isolated communities will have no other source of water. In addition to the monetary, social and environmental costs, the illegal growers are taking a toll on Yurok cultural resources. The cannabis growers put in jeopardy a myriad of invaluable native plants that tribal members have sustainably gathered from the forests, which also support a diversity of wildlife, since time immemorial.

“We are going to stop these people responsible for damaging to our homeland,” concluded Chairman O’Rourke.

To report an illegal grow or other illegal activity on the Yurok Reservation, please call the Yurok Public Safety Department at (707) 482-8185. Public Safety will protect the identity of those who report crimes. ✨

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 draft legislation:

- **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ORDINANCE:** a new ordinance for the purpose of regulating and establishing penalties for controlled substance use, possession, distribution, and production within the Yurok Reservation, including marijuana cultivation, and establishing procedures for civil forfeiture of property for violations.
- **HOUSING AUTHORITY ORDINANCE:** an amended ordinance to clarify the status of the Yurok Indian Housing Authority as a political subdivision of the Tribe and to provide greater accountability and oversight by Tribal Council of Tribal housing funds

The Yurok Tribal Council has referred the above draft legislation to public hearing in accordance with the Yurok Tribal Public Hearing Ordinance. A quorum of the Tribal Council may be present, however, no Tribal Council action will be taken. Public hearings are scheduled for:

October 21, 2013 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Klamath Office Administration 190 Klamath Blvd. Klamath, CA	October 21, 2013 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Weitchpec Office Hwy 96 Weitchpec, CA	October 21, 2013 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. Former Worthington School 3400 Erie St Eureka, CA
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DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Copies of the draft ordinance are available through the Tribe’s website at www.yuroktribe.org and hard copies will be available at the public hearings. To obtain a hard copy prior to the public hearing, please contact Nathan Voegeli in the Klamath office of the Office of the Tribal Attorney at 707-482-1350 x1408, or email nvoegeli@yuroktribe.nsn.us to request an electronic copy.

REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTS, COMMENTS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The Yurok Tribe is interested in receiving comments from Yurok Tribal members regarding all aspects of the draft legislation. Oral comments can be made during the public hearings. Comments may also be submitted in writing. All comments must be received by **5:00pm on Friday, October 25, 2013.**

Comment letters may be submitted by email at nvoegeli@yuroktribe.nsn.us, by fax at (707) 482-1363, 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, “**Comment Letter—Controlled Substances Ordinance.**”

NIGHT CLOSURE OF US HIGHWAY 101 AT KLAMATH RIVER BRIDGE

Caltrans has announced there will be a full overnight closure of US Highway 101 at the Klamath River Bridge, also known as the G. H. Douglas Memorial Bridge, near Klamath in order to allow for the removal of equipment from beneath the bridge.

When: 10PM, Sunday, October 13, through 4AM, Monday, October 14, 2013

A second full nighttime closure may be necessary from 10PM, Monday, October 14, through 4AM, Tuesday, October 15. If this second closure becomes in effect, it will be announced, and electronic signs will be used to alert motorists beginning the morning of Monday, October 14.

Why: The Klamath River Hinge Project is replacing three hinges on the bridge in order to extend the service life of the structure. A hinge is a vital part of a bridge that allows it to expand and contract with changes in temperature.

Questions: Resident Engineer Karen Sanders, 707-498-4009

For the most current road information on all State highways, please call 1-800-427-7623 (1-800-GAS-ROAD) or visit www.dot.ca.gov.

2013 Election Schedule

OCTOBER 18 - LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL FOR RUN OFF (14 DAYS)

***ONLY IF YOU DID NOT REQUEST AN ABSENTEE FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION**

OCTOBER 18-MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR RUN OFF (19 DAYS)

OCTOBER 30-LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE FOR RUN OFF (5 DAYS)

NOVEMBER 6, 2013 RUNOFF ELECTION

Watersheds, Fisheries team up on Trinity

Restoration projects will help fish and wildlife for years to come

On a recent sunny day, Watershed Restoration Program Manager Rich Nelson stood atop an alcove connected to the Trinity River, studying a giant swarm of baby salmon.

“I think it’s working,” said Nelson, a Yurok tribal member, to his senior heavy equipment operator, Dwayne Proctor, who is also a member of the Tribe.

The marshy pool, which not only contained hundreds of juvenile salmon, but three western pond turtles and a few adult spring salmon, is a man-made structure that represents just a tiny fraction of the restorative work the Trinity River Restoration Program is doing for the river.

The Trinity River Restoration Program is a partnership between the Yurok Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribe, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources and Trinity County.

This summer, the program installed hundreds of fish-friendly features, designed to create habitat that’s been lost since the construction of Trinity Dam. Much of the \$4 million project was overseen by Yurok Fisheries Biologist Aaron Martin and partly constructed by the Yurok Watershed Restoration Program crew.

The Trinity River Restoration Program is guided by the 2000 Trinity River Record of Decision and Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Environmental Impact Statement. The aim of the restoration effort is “not to create pre-dam conditions; rather, the goal is to create a smaller, dynamic alluvial channel exhibiting all the characteristics of the pre-dam river, but at a smaller scale.”

“We are giving this river the same diversity of features that one would encounter on an undammed, healthy river,” Nelson explained. “The goal is make the Trinity function like a natural river, which is the absolute best way to ensure plentiful salmon, steelhead and lamprey populations for generations to come.”

Prior to each construction season, highly skilled fluvial geomorphologists, hydrologists and fisheries biologists, like Martin from the Yurok Fisheries Program, carefully plan where to construct the new features, so that each function effectively under the post dam conditions on the river.



(right) The Yurok Watershed Program’s senior heavy equipment operator Dwayne Proctor and manager Rich Nelson review last year’s restoration work.

Some of the many salmon/ steelhead savvy features the Program added to a section of river known as “Lorenz Gulch”, located 25 miles downstream of the dam, include: side channels, the installation of hundreds of trees and logs in the form of log jams, digging out more alcoves, strategically placing more than 200 large boulders to create resting places for adult salmon and steelhead, and implementing a revegetation plan that calls for planting more than 8000 native plants.

The Trinity functions differently than a free flowing river and each habitat enhancing project has to take this fact into account. For example, in some winters, prior to the dam’s installation, heavy rains could create huge geomorphic events that would knock down trees, build new channels and replenish gravels throughout the mainstem. The natural gravel supply, which used to create spawning beds, is now blocked by the concrete barrier.

As a remedy, the team adds gravel below the dam on an annual basis depending on how much was transported down river in the previous year. This year, the Yurok Watershed Department constructed a large gravel bar, anchored by a log jam, which will gradually meter out more of the important, spawning sediment from the rocky beach into the river.

Prior to the formation of the Trinity River Restoration Program, the post-dam river was largely devoid of the diversity

of habitat characteristics, such as shallow edge water and side channels, that enable juvenile salmon to flourish. Large engineered log jams are an example of one kind of feature the program now uses to promote fish favorable attributes similar to those found on unimpeded river systems. The wood structures consist of several strategically placed, large wooden poles, pounded in with crane. Slash was embedded between the log pilings to provide shelter for small salmonids from predators.

In response to the placement of a 60 ft -wide structure, the river will naturally scour a deep hole, perfect for adult fish to rest. The rocks and sand from the fresh holes will wash ashore a short distance downstream of the jam, forming a new river bar. To further secure the structures, provide shade for fish and a new source of wood for the foreseeable future, the crew placed cuttings of cottonwood trees, a large riparian hardwood, in the new structures.

“Within weeks of construction, these cuttings were sprouting and new cottonwood trees are growing in this living wood jam,” Yurok Fisheries Biologist Aaron Martin said.

A second log jam was constructed using 80 large wood pieces, slash and 10 wood piles driven into the substrate by the crane. Its purpose is to restrict flow into the old river channel and help force water into a newly constructed channel. This feature is called a ‘split channel’. The center of the split channel consists of the old river’s edge with mature trees and vegetation on it. By having two channels where there once was only one, this feature doubled the quantity of salmon rearing habitat on this stretch of river.

Along with planting willow trees on the river banks, nearly 100 small log jams or habitat structures were built along the newly constructed edges throughout the site. Also a pond was excavated which connects to one of the new side channels. This pond will provide a variety of habitats ideal for juvenile Chinook and coho salmon as well as turtles, frogs and birds.

The Program also built several other alcoves, similar to the one noted previously. The backwater-type habitats, which are laden with large woody debris, provide a calm-water sanctuary for juvenile salmonids to hide out.

The alcoves and pond make ideal locations for native, wetland-type vegetation, like sedges and rushes to be planted. These habitats quickly turn into bug-filled buffets for fish to feed and find cover from predators.



Aaron Martin

Large boulders were placed in the river to create places for migrating salmon to rest.

On the banks of all of the projects, habitat appropriate native trees and shrubs are now being planted to benefit fish and wildlife for many years to come.

During all of the in-river construction, a portion of which was accomplished by Yurok tribal members, the Restoration Program applied environmentally focused, best practices, such as placing sediment curtains around each project to catch silt that the heavy machinery churned up. Each river alteration, when complete, is assessed to insure maximum benefit for fish. These in-depth studies are also used to inform future projects.

The Trinity Restoration Program has been working to restore the river for more than a decade. The Program’s work from years’ past is evident throughout the section of river below the dam. These new features benefit, not only fish, but native wildlife as well.

In the coming winter, migratory waterfowl such as mallard ducks and Canadian geese will no doubt visit the new wetlands. The cottonwood and cedar will provide perches from which the kingfisher can hunt for prey. Seasonal song birds will find forage in the new marshlands. Otter and beaver will use the log jams as dens to raise their young.

“We are doing the best we can to put this corner of the world back into balance” concluded Nelson. ✨

• SEE PHOTOSPREAD ON NEXT PAGE



1. The Trinity River Restoration Program builds a wood jam. The log jams create habitat for salmon and steelhead.

2. Yurok Fisheries Biologist Aaron Martin (boat operator) and Matt Smith-Caggiano, a Fisheries Technician for US Fish and Wildlife Service conduct surface elevation measurements for two dimensional model calibration.

3. The new log jam is constructed on the Trinity River.

4. A large boulder is dropped in the Trinity. The large boulders create places for migrating salmon and steelhead to rest.





October is domestic violence awareness month and the staff of the Yurok Tribe DV/SA program would like to bring awareness to the topic of DV and share about our program and services. This year has seen a lot of growth and change and with this our capacity to service the membership has increased. Our program services tribal members in both Del Norte and Humboldt County and collaborates with agencies throughout both counties. Some of the services we provide are Peer Counseling, transportation assistance to a safe location, restraining order assistance, and emergency shelter, clothing and supplies. We also put on various community awareness and prevention activities throughout the year. If you or a loved one suspect abuse or would like someone to talk to please contact our program and regardless of specifics we would be happy to listen and provide support in whatever way possible.

For further information call our Victim Advocate at (707) 954-8938 or 1(855) 945-4357. All services are provided in a safe, non-judgmental, and confidential manner

Keep up to date on upcoming events in October on our Facebook and Twitter pages.



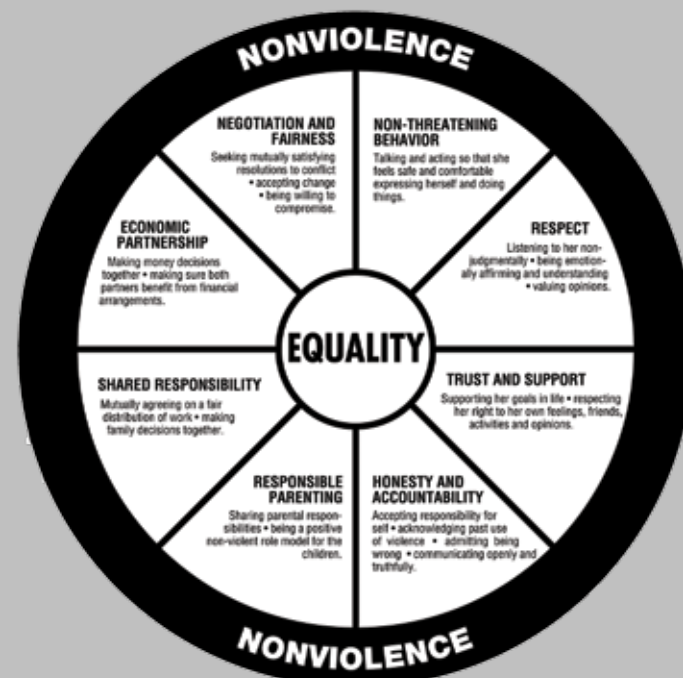
<https://twitter.com/YSSDVSA>



Yurok Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Program

Useful tips:

Out of the various forms of abuse verbal and emotional abuse leave the longest lasting scars. Everyone has the right to be loved, respected and live in peace. When dealing with difficult topics or discussion conflicting opinion may cause



Yurok hotel and casino receive names

The Yurok Tribal Council recently voted unanimously in favor of names for the new hotel and the casino. The exciting tribal enterprise will be called Redwood Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Redwood Casino. The new name was selected to maximize web search-ability, which will be a major driving factor in the success of the project.

Currently, the third floor of the hotel is taking shape. The exterior of the resort-type business will model Yurok-specific architecture and the interiors of both the hotel and casino will include interpretive areas that showcase Yurok language and traditional stories.

The hotel and casino is situated on the Yurok Reservation, between the northern and southern boundaries of Redwood National and State Parks and will be the first resort in such proximity to the world renowned nature reserves.

The Yurok Tribe custom-designed the eye-catching Holiday Inn Express Hotel to reflect the natural beauty of the redwood-studded coast and traditional Yurok architecture. The hotel will include: 60 rooms, an indoor swimming pool, a gift shop, a breakfast space, exercise room, meeting room and high speed internet. The modest casino, located a few short steps away from the hotel, will house 99 slot machines, a 50-seat restaurant with a sports bar and an outside patio.

The Redwood Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Redwood Casino are part of a larger plan to restore the economy in the region. The Yurok Tribe recently purchased the Klamath Jet Boat Tours, a previously successful business that offers guided excursions on the Klamath River. The Tribe will also soon be constructing a visitor's center to promote tribal and regional

businesses. The plan also includes a blueprint to revitalize the Klamath townsite with retail stores, a promenade and plaza.

More hotel and casino jobs coming soon.



The third floor of the hotel gives rise.

The opening of the new resort in May means more jobs for Tribal members. These new jobs will include a range of entry level and supervisory positions. Since the new facility is a highly regulated business, employees will need a GED and must pass a high security gaming background check, which includes a credit and criminal history. Any member who needs assistance in completing their GED to prepare for these

opportunities should call the Education Department at (707) 465-8305. More details will be announced in the very near future. A Yurok Tribal member job fair is planned for January. However, members who need to complete their GED or need assistance with preparing for completing a Yurok Tribal Gaming packet should contact TERO Officer Donald Barnes, who is also encouraging members to update their TERO profile.

If interested in employment, please contact the Yurok Tribe's TERO Officer Donald Barnes at (707) 482-1350 or visit www.yuroktribe.org/resort. ✨

Yurok enterprise wins business award

Yurok family owns Yurok Electric Inc. on Pine Ridge Reservation

Every year the Murdock family travels to the Yurok Reservation from Pine Ridge to visit family and fish salmon.

This year, the Murdocks, Wa-tec descendents, arrived bearing great news. The family owns a business, Murdock Electric Inc, and it was named “2013 Best Minority-Owned Business of the Year” by the Small Business Administration of South Dakota.

“We are a very proud, hundred percent, Yurok-owned business,” said Murdock Electric’s Vice President and Yurok tribal member, Frank Murdock Jr.

The Pine Ridge Reservation-based business has operated for the past three decades. Murdock Inc. President Frank Murdock Sr. started the electrical business from the back of his truck in 1983. Now the enterprise has nearly 40 employees, and has completed many large projects including hospitals, schools and even a Holiday Inn Express.

“The development and growth of Murdock Electric Inc. over the past 25 years is an extraordinary achievement, and has greatly benefitted our state,” said U.S. Senator Tim Johnson (D-South Dakota), in a letter to the family. “Your years of dedication and hard work serve as a model for other small businesses to emulate and I am delighted that your accomplishments are being publicly recognized.”

Frank Murdock Sr. was born on the Yurok Reservation. As a young man, he moved south to San Francisco to find work. It was there where he met his wife, Marjorie, a Lakota woman, who he followed back to the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Murdock Inc. is truly a family-owned business. Frank Murdock Sr.’s wife Marjorie is the business manager. Frank Murdock Jr.’s wife, Carrie, is the assistant business manager and is currently being groomed to take over the manager position when Marjorie Murdock, a former IHS Director of Nursing, retires. Frank Murdock Jr.’s brother Joe performs a leadership role as well.

Frank and Joe Murdock both started at entry level positions and have since learned every aspect of the company from basic electrical work to incorporating the business. The brothers helped their father transform the business from Sole



Yurok Tribal Members Frank Murdock Sr. and Frank Murdock Jr. recently won Small Business Administration’s “Business of the Year Award”.

Proprietorship to a Corporation in 2006.

“The Murdock family represents the best of South Dakota and we are proud to be recognizing their achievements,” SBA’s South Dakota District Director, John L Brown told the Lakota Country Times. ✨

Annual meeting format ups transparency

To increase transparency into the tribal government, the Yurok Tribal Council developed a new format for the 2013 Tribal Membership meeting.

The new meeting structure involved several break-out groups based on specific issues, which enabled tribal members to ask questions, face-to-face, to tribal staff. This new configuration was also designed to increase communication between the membership and staff.

The topics included: Revenue Distribution Sharing, Illegal Drug Activity on the Reservation, Accountability/ Tribal Council Ordinance, Yurok Language, Land Acquisition,

Klamath River Fish and Water Issues, Tribal Budget 101, Social Services, Redwood National Park/US Forest Service, Yurok Indian Housing Authority, Health Care and Yurok Economic Development Corporation.

Each discussion took place at a table staffed with knowledgeable tribal employees.

Below is a breakdown of comments and questions tribal members put forth at the meeting.

Yurok Social Services

- Better communication with elders.
- Tribal members need to take responsibility for themselves, not the Tribe.
- Youth Development
- Parenting class for young kids and positive classes for men
- Better monitoring of elder's care
- Youth center for recreation
- More transportation
- More money for emergencies
- Clear, open gender roles
- Offer more money for staff
- Story book development about who we are.
- Seek out and publish traditional children's stories
- Teach pride in abstinence
- Advertise for service workers
- Holding families accountable (drug testing) that receive TANF/GA
- Put on more community gatherings and celebrations
- Education for earlier prevention
- More cultural activities – specifically in East District
- More outreach and awareness programs
- Foster care training regarding behavior and development
- Engage fathers more in families where children are removed.
- Intensive parenting support
- Life skills for families
- Positive mentors for families
- After school activities
- Coordination with outside health care programs
- Offer positive activities for men
- Offer cultural groups for women
- Offer recognition for women
- ICWA Program is doing a good job.

Yurok Language Program

- More community language gatherings/opportunities to speak
- Find more first Yurok language speakers who are out there and utilize them
- Language needs to be a priority in everyday life
- Make language archive more accessible to tribal members
- Digitize all recordings
- Include language/culture in Indirect cost because it's a constitutional mandate
- Incorporate language into all aspects of the Tribe
- Reinstitute phrase of the week
- Publish beginner-level, children's books in Yurok
- Straighten out hawk words
- The Language Program is doing a great job
- Put language on t-shirts, magnets, pencils, cups and other household items.
- Would like to see language taught in all k-8 schools that serve Yurok population
- Reinstitute language celebration day
- Teach mini-Yurok lessons at Annual Membership Meeting
- Teach language in a more natural way
- Produce language software that checks pronunciation
- Hire more language staff to work on editing recordings and developing computer programs
- Reinstate language pods
- Independent study for those who live off the Reservation
- Create year-long immersion programs
- Bring back master apprentice program
- Create online language classes
- Produce interactive, language-based video games
- Council and staff need to use more language

Health Care

- Lack of continuity-too many transitions
- Limited hours @ Klamath
- Saying no contract health at Weitchpec and Arcata for referred to Hoopa
- Pharmacy services-can there a pharmacy on Reservation-Federal and State location
- Case manager/need advocate for patients for their care and questions and answers
- How are Yurok patients being notified of medical changes
- Transportation if limited hours, need transportation to other facilities
- Services are limited in Klamath
- Where did Community Block grant funds go?-for dental services
- Lapsed time for medication-3-7 days without meds
- No full time doctor in Crescent City
- Why is UIHS full-time in Smith River but not Crescent City?
- There is a complicated phone/recording system-hard to understand Need the option to speak to a person
- Need long term elder care, including for persons with disabilities
- Ambulance issue-need to support Hoopa or develop UIHS ambulance service- also need to improve response time
- What services are there for tribal members out of the area or out of the state? Contract health services
- Develop in-home care with list of potential CNAs who are certified to provide care to membership
- Need representatives for long term elder care
- No MediCare-in home care services delivered to upper reservation
- Elder care is very easily considered "over income" and ineligible for services
- It is difficult to get a medical and dental appointment
- There are inadequate counseling services in Weitchpec.
- Need more counselors for grade school children
- Potowot pharmacy staff members are not helpful, rude and make you wait a long time.
- Need trained staff regarding nutrition
- UIHA board members should be mandated to attend/make reports at district meetings

Yurok Indian Housing Authority

- Amount of homes built, acquisitions and programs are impressive
- Bring back student rent vouchers
- Ownership of land should be with individual. If losing land is a concern, policies could be put in place to protect the assets.
- More housing is needed on upper Reservation for low rent and mutual help
- Should not treat land assignments differently, whether they are on or off the Reservation.
- Housing staff needs to be more empathetic to the needs of tribal

members.

- Policies are too strict for low rent and mutual help clients, and the UIHA Board relies on evictions to solve too many problems.
- Housing staff should have comment cards regarding their individual service.
- Long-term elder/disability care facility is needed.
- Housing Board representatives should meet with Paul Reicke at his monthly, long-term elder care meetings.
- The Board needs to address the policies that are culturally biased and not appropriate for the way we live.
- Staff needs to be accountable for illegal activity.
- Need single family homes upriver.
- Implement term limits for board members.
- What is the status of the Student Rental Assistance Program for tribal members living outside the service area?
- Is the mission of the Housing Authority to only assist low income tribal members?

Land Acquisition

- What is the BIA doing with small interests in allotments?
- Start a program for tribal members to donate or sell allotment interests to the Tribe.
- Can the Tribe help members draft wills?
- Deal with non-Indians squatting on tribal land.
- What is the Tribe doing about environmental enforcement on tribal land, specifically at Johnson's Creek?
- There is a need for a road from Highway 169 to highway 101.
- Develop housing, water and roads on the Phase 1 Acquisition.
- How are we addressing non-appropriated water?
- Does the Tribe help manage tribal member-owned trust lands off the Reservation?
- What is the Tribe doing about buying allotment interests from people who want to sell?
- Can the Tribe force non-tribal sport fishers to buy a fishing license from the Tribe?
- What's an Indian will?
- Are the acquisitions being paid for with cash or credit?

Revenue Distribution Plan

- Money for higher/ vocational education
- Use money for more language education
- Invest in more economic opportunities
- Increase funding for housing and food commodities
- Provide more employment opportunities
- Sponsor more activities that encourage people to be self-sufficient
- Per capita payments
- The money should be used to strengthen people and encourage our values and principles
- Develop a goals and plan toward self sufficiency
- Create small grants for boats and motors so people can get on

- their feet
- Have more family/age appropriate activities/facilities on the Reservation
- Provide care for the growing number of Yurok elders
- Keep up with and prepare for technology advancements
- Leverage the funds
- Before money goes to a program the program should be free from waste or unnecessary costs

Tribal Budget 101

- It seems like \$90,000 is too much for a CPA in Del Norte and Humboldt County
- Why is it so hard for employees to get the receipts reimbursed?
- Are checks and balances in place to ensure embezzlement never happens again?
- We want a top to bottom director in Fiscal
- Increase Culture Committee stipend
- How many tribal members are served/benefit directly from each program?
- Is the fish plant in operation with all of the necessary equipment in place?
- Will there be funds for elders from the Tribe, not from a settlement?
- Is our funding impacted by the number of tribal members?
- Has our funding been increasing?
- Do tribal programs take away from money that could go to elders and tribal members?

Illegal Drug Activity on the Reservation

- Why don't tribal police have drug dogs?
- Why don't we have drug recognition officers?
- There is a Zero Tolerance Policy on the Reservation. Why doesn't the Tribe doing anything about illegal grows
- 95546 is a cancer hotspot – it was speculated that it could be from drugs and/or chemicals in the water
- NOAA may be interested in water impacts in the ocean from illegal grows
- Everyone up river knows where the illegal grows are
- Bust grows early before they pollute the water
- Illegal drugs are bringing criminals to the Reservation
- Illegal growers negatively impact our quality of life
- Need BIA to step up and help eradicate the pot farms and meth dealers. The problem is too big for tribal police
- Why can't we go after pot growers' money?
- Protect water sources and eliminate diversions
- Need to recover money from growers for environmental damages
- Need an ordinance to ban restricted use pesticides
- We need to follow through
- Children and elders are at-risk and fear being in the wood because of the potential of confrontations, booby traps etc.

- Public Safety needs to be more aware and proactive
- Alcohol is a drug too and has many devastating impacts
- Education and community activities will keep kids out of trouble
- People are scared of the drug cartels
- Set up a tribal anonymous tip line
- Land seizures will make pot growers think twice about doing business on the Reservation
- Protect our water
- Publicize environmental impacts so people know the impacts on the community
- Stop all pesticide use on the Reservation
- Need anti-drug coalition and funding for training for Public Safety
- Elders want more Public Safety presence up river
- Fertilizers also contaminate water
- Need check points on roads to stop growers
- There are dangerous people cultivating cannabis in the woods. It is unsafe in some areas to hunt, gather and conduct ceremonies
- Need a tip line to stop illegal fires.
- Can the Tribe inspect/track large land purchases on the Reservation?
- Green Diamond Resource Company needs to police its lands more
- Consider using male pollinators to ruin crops.
- Protect wildlife too.

Klamath River Fish and Water Issues

- Propose side-step legislation to remove on dam (secretly)
- Support the recognition of Humboldt County's 50,000 acre feet of water from the Trinity River
- Develop an "Adopt a Tributary" program, which would include reinforcing connectivity between the tributary and the river, documenting inappropriate water use and testing for toxins in the water based on set water quality standards. It could also include monitoring to protect water quality.
- Concerned about fish carcasses and offal being thrown in the river
- Keep advocating to remove the dams
- Use all available tools including business and ESA to remove the dams
- Would like to see the store at Requa back up and running
- Why don't we have a fish hatchery? It could be used to education school-age kids.
- Our fishing season should be structure to be more favorable to sportsman
- Enforce existing sturgeon conservation measures
- Work with Hoopa Tribe to get them to support KBRA/KHSA
- Pray for restoration of the river and dam removal
- Need to educate people so they can realize and attain their common goals.

Yurok Economic Development Corporation

- Everything is cool
- Need an assisted living facility
- Create a casino bus tour
- When is the fish plant opening?
- Invest in creek restoration for coho salmon
- Build an upriver lodge that includes horseback rides and wildlife viewing

Tribal Council/Accountability Ordinance

- Create a place on the website for “tribal member only” information
- People want to report wrongdoings-need a hotline
- Schedule Salmon Festival and Annual Meeting closure to make it easier for tribal members who live out of the area to attend
- Practice Yurok etiquette at Council meetings
- Incorporate Yurok language into Council meetings

Redwood National Park/US Forest Service

- Research division
- Cultural significance
- Acquiring Redwood logs
- Gathering
- Timber harvest
- Road map
- More law enforcement directed at marijuana grows
- Trails
- Fishery Management/rights
- Hunting
- Fire management
- Repeats of the previous topics
- Dance grounds
- Elk
- Rebuilding hatchery in Orick
- Hostel

Public Comments

- We need a super market on the Reservation because there is not enough fresh food available locally.
- Put up posters and billboard education people of the Tribe’s Zero Tolerance Policy
- Youth need transportation to healthy activities
- Don’t encourage alcohol and drugs
- We need a community place to solve issues/tension
- When is Morek Won opening up?
- We need more activities for youth/ young parents

Answers to tribal member questions compiled in this article will be answered in future editions of Yurok Today. ✘



Q and A with Employee of the Month Fisheries Technician Chay-gee Sylvania.

1. **What is your title?** Fisheries Technician
2. **Why did you decide to work for the Tribe?** I like to be a part of and contribute to my community. I like working for my people.
3. **What is the most satisfying part of your job?** Being on the river. That’s the best part about it.
4. **How does your position serve the tribal membership?** Without accurate counts, the fishery cannot be correctly managed. A well-managed fishery will ensure that we have fish for all future generations.
5. **What do you like to do outside of work?** I’m an out outdoors kind of guy. I like hunting and fishing. I recently got into exercising. I don’t like to sit around. I like to stay active. ✘



Yurok Tribe

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RESIDENTIAL LAND ASSIGNMENT 30 DAY PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL YUROK 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 November 7, 2013. If you have any questions please call Samantha Myers at (707) 482-1350 ext. 1361.

- **(Category A) New Land Assignment: Janet Bates**
Yurok Tribe # 534-074-024 WTV-012 Township 11, North Range 3 East, Section 7 of the HM, CA Located on Jack Norton School Rd in Wautec Village.
- **(Category A) New Land Assignment: Preston Ruiz**
Yurok Tribe # 533-074-024 WTV-016 Township 11, North Range 3 East, Section 7 of the HM, CA (Awok) Carrie Turner prior assignment located in Wautec Village.
- **(Category A) New Land Assignment: Benjamin Hunsucker**
Yurok Tribe # 533-074-024 WTV-002 Township 11, North Range 3 East, Section 7 of the HM, CA (Awok) Patricia Hunsucker prior assignment located in Wautec Village.
- **(Category A) New Land Assignment: Alexis Garcia**
Yurok Tribe # 533-074-024 WTV-002 Township 11, North Range 3 East, Section 7 of the HM, CA (Awok) Patricia Hunsucker prior assignment located in Wautec Village.

(Category A) New Land Assignment: Andrew Hunsucker
Yurok Tribe # 533-074-024 WTV-002 Township 11, North Range 3 East, Section 7 of the HM, CA (Awok) Patricia Hunsucker prior assignment located in Wautec Village.

Submit all written comments by November 7, 2013 to the following address:
Attention: Samantha Myers Planning & Community Development Department
P.O. Box 1027 Klamath, CA 95548