



Yurok Today

The Voice of the Yurok People

50TH ANNUAL KLAMATH SALMON FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18





Celebrate the 50th Salmon Festival

The Yurok Tribe is pulling out all the stops for the 50th Annual Klamath Salmon Festival.

Attendees of the all-day, free event will have an opportunity to learn more about Yurok culture, dance to live music, shop for authentic handmade gifts from more than 100 vendors and enjoy a delicious, traditionally cooked salmon feast.

The ten dollar dinner includes a hunk of fresh salmon, bread from Brio in Arcata, a delicious salad from Ocean Air Farms in Fort Dick, homemade beans and a slice of fruit.

The legendary Merv George Band and Good Shield Aguilar will be rocking Reservation with mix danceable tunes. Does Merv George need an introduction? The Hoopa-fronted rock n’ roll band plays a high energy mix of choice, classic tunes.

Good Shield just finished a 5-week stint playing his soulful and vibrant selection of original tunes for the fine folks of the Netherlands. The Turtle Island Native Oglala Lakota and Pasqua Yoeme man has a deep bag of musical tricks ranging more traditional drumming to acoustic melodies with spoken word, from funky dance grooves to hard rock. Aguilar is a multi-instrumentalist, playing drums, guitar, bass, banjo, mandolin, flute, and piano.

The Salmon Festival is also the venue for an annual highly competitive Stick Game Tournament, once again sponsored by LACO and Associates.

A traditional Indian Card Games Tournament and a number of cultural demonstrations will be on hand. The Tribe is also putting on a 5k Ney-Puy Run. The run is free to enter and will start at 8a.m.

Automobile enthusiasts from throughout the region will be showing off their vehicles at the “Classic Car Show”. Yurok tribal member and vintage vehicle owner George Smoker is organizing this event, which is sure to be a hit with car buffs.

The winners of the Noo-rey-o-won-ee (Beautiful girl inside and out)/Keet-ko (Strong/Able boy) Contest will be honored and awarded beautiful traditional gifts for their generous charitable contribution to the Tribe’s new marine program.

The Tribe is also putting on a Salmon and Pie Baking Contest, a compliment to the full menu of festival activities. The competition will determine the best fish smokers and bakers in region.

There will also be a cribbage tournament for the first time. Yurok tribal member, Robert R. Kinney will be overseeing the

THE LEGENDARY MERV GEORGE BAND AND GOOD SHIELD AGUILAR WILL BE ROCKING RESERVATION WITH MIX DANCEABLE TUNES.

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On The Cover

Yurok Tribal Member Larry Sillaway created the art for the Yurok Tribe’s 50th Klamath Salmon Festival.



Good Shield Aguilar plays in a three-piece band that will make you dance.

card game.

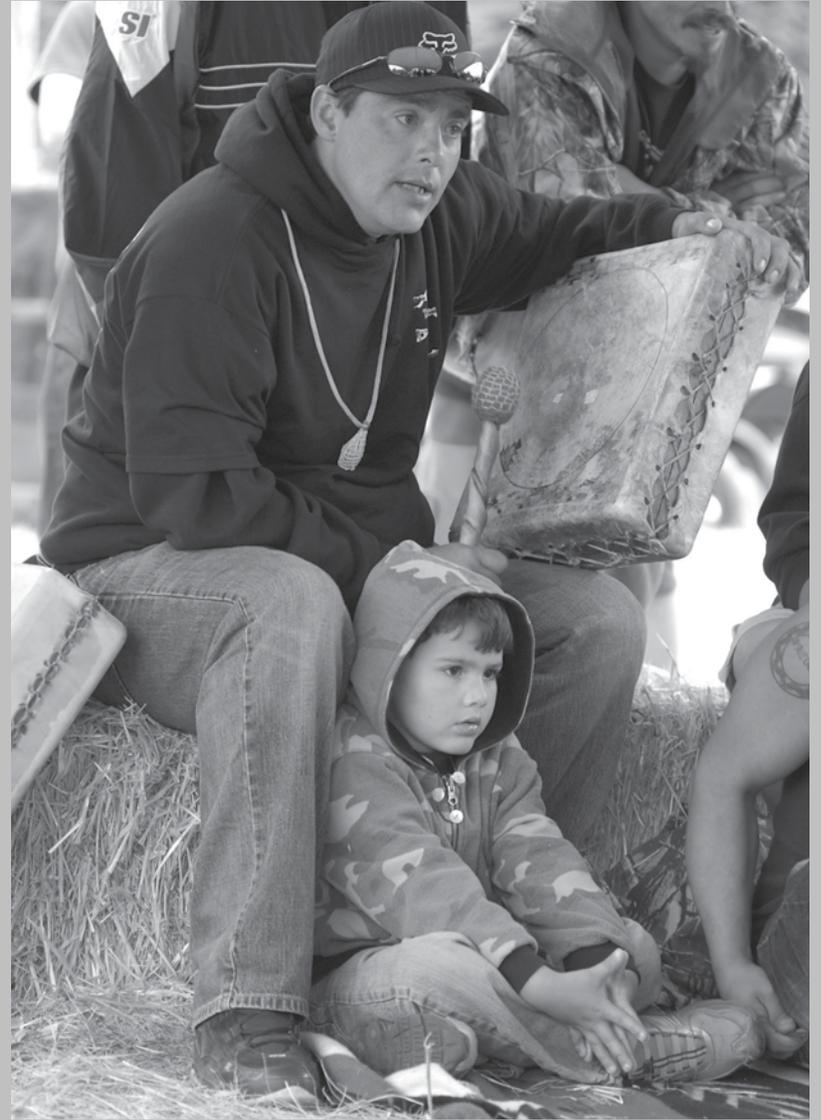
This year, the Tribe has added several new activities for families to participate in together. Yurok tribal member Kim Mamaradlo is organizing a painting project. Families or individuals will be painting life-size salmon which will be used to decorate the Tribe's new fish processing plant. Staples, such as a bounce house, games and face painting will also be on hand at this year's festival.

The Klamath Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a breakfast free for veterans and open to all.

The Veteran's breakfast will start at 8 a.m. at the Klamath Community Center on Salmon Blvd. The breakfast will be followed by a parade at 10 am. The famously delicious salmon lunch will start at 11:00 a.m.

To reserve vending space, contact Forrest Gregg at (707) 482-1350 ext. 1385. To participate in the Parade reach Jeremiah Swain at (707) 482-1822 or jswain@yuroktribe.nsn.us. To sign up for the Cribbage tournament contact Robert Kinney at (530) 625-4130 or rkinney@yuroktribe.nsn.us To sign up for the Ney-puy run contact Dean Baker at (707) 482-1350.

For more information contact Matt Mais at (707) 482-1350 ext. 1306 or visit www.yuroktribe.org/salmonfestival ✨



Paul Kuska and his son Mettah play Indian cards.



Merv George is the frontman for a high intensity rock band playing the festival.

Tribe takes proactive role for fish

Tribal fisheries biologists secure more water for largest run on record

With a record-breaking run of fish expected this year, the Yurok Tribe is taking action to ensure that there is not a repeat of the 2002 fish kill this year. During recent months, Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program (YTFP) staff developed a proposed a flow regime to decrease the risk of another fish kill similar to that of 2002. The Trinity Fall Flows Workgroup backed the Yurok Tribe's proposal to bolster flows in the lower Klamath River, and the end result is that the Federal Government is now proposing to deliver approximately 48,000 acre-ft of additional water to the lower Klamath River to prevent another fish kill; they have also proposed to provide an additional 44,000 acre-ft in an emergency flow release if certain criteria indicate that a disease epidemic is underway.

"The Trinity fall flow group agreed with our analysis showing that a flow of 3,200 cfs is needed in the lower Klamath River during the fall run to reduce the risk of a serious fish kill." said senior Yurok Fisheries biologist Mike Belchik. "The additional flows are a precautionary measure to help protect these fish from deadly diseases by breaking up the life cycle of the disease organisms."

Based on this recommendation, the Federal Government is preparing to increase flows from Trinity Dam so that flows in the lower Klamath will reach the 3200 cfs threshold. The function of this flow is to increase the water velocities in the river, which interferes with the ability of the Ich pathogen to locate and attach to a host fish during its free swimming infectious stage.

Large Run, low Water:

Nearly 400,000 fall-run Chinook salmon are predicted to return to the Klamath basin, which is experiencing a slightly



A Yurok fisher pulls in a fish on the Klamath River.

below average water year. This spawning migration is nearly double the largest since run size estimates were first recorded in 1978. The big run, combined with the low water conditions, created concern that a fish kill could occur unless preventative measures were taken.

Low flow conditions are due to below average snowpack and runoff conditions combined with a fast snowmelt this spring. Iron Gate Dam flows are, however, nearly full natural flows for this time of year.

This July, the Federal government proposed to provide the increased flow, an action that is now undergoing an environmental review process. This proposed action is based upon a technical report prepared by Yurok Biologists and supported by peer-reviewed studies conducted by the Tribe, supporting an increase in flow to 3,200 cfs at Klamath

“THE TRINITY FALL FLOW GROUP AGREED WITH OUR ANALYSIS SHOWING THAT A FLOW OF 3,200 CFS IS NEEDED IN THE LOWER KLAMATH RIVER ”

Mike Belchik ~ *senior fisheries biologist*

throughout the main portion of the salmon run.

“While we can’t be 100% certain that we won’t have a fish kill, the preventative flow release drastically puts things on our side, the side of the fish,” said Yurok Fisheries Manager Dave Hillemeier. “With these flows, we believe that a repeat of the 2002 fish kill is now extremely unlikely.”

What if there is a fish kill?

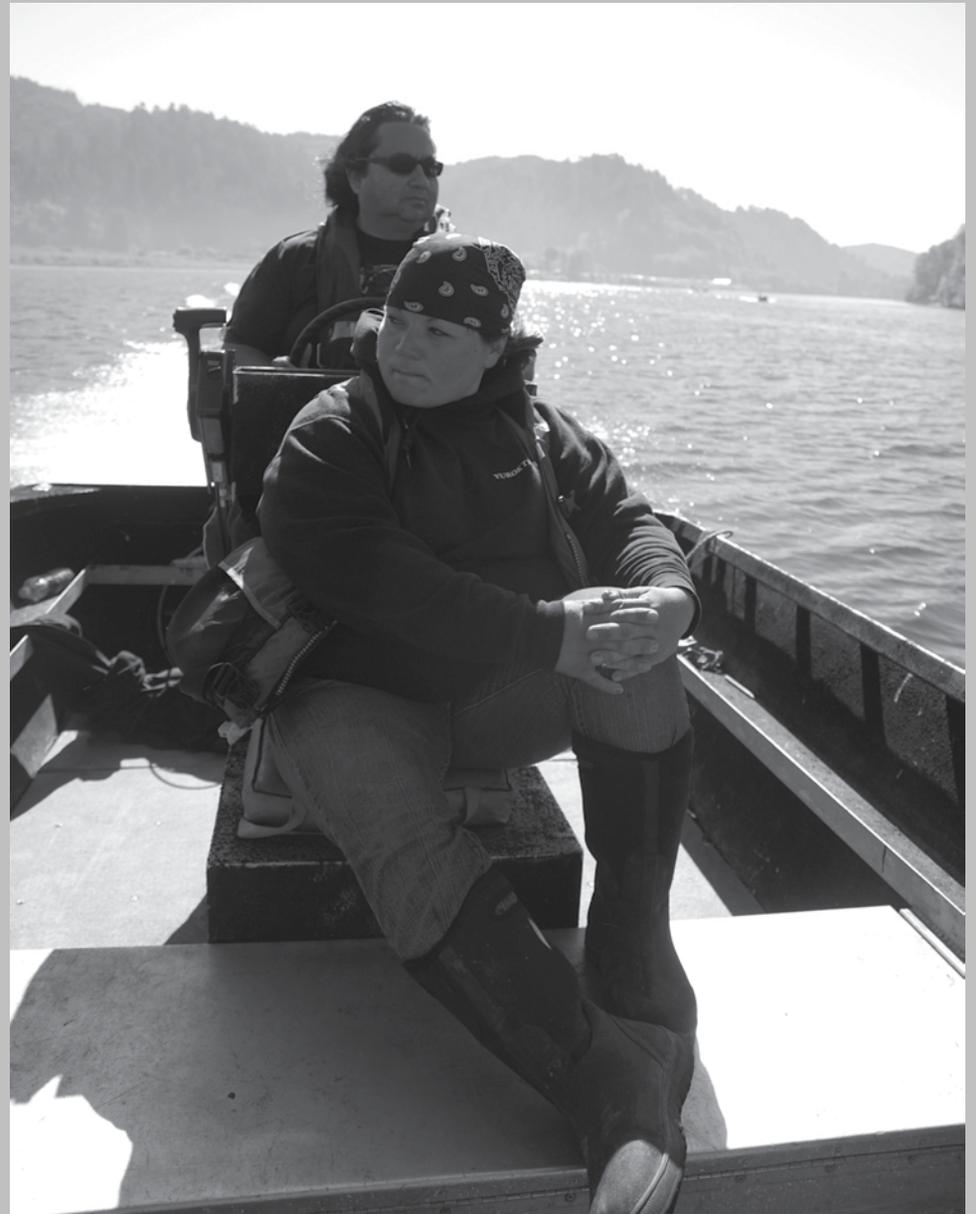
The Fisheries Program is also conducting a project that assess early signs of disease problems. Known as the Adult Pathology Project, this project involves capturing adult migrating fish and examining the gills on the spot for signs of Ich or columnaris, the pathogens that caused the fish kill in 2002. This allows managers to be aware of potential disease problems prior to a full-blown epidemic. This information will be one of the criteria considered in regard to the use of the 44,000 acre ft. of emergency flows, All fish captured for this project are donated to Tribal elders.

The Yurok Tribe’s Fisheries and Environmental Programs are members of the Klamath Fish Health Assessment Team (KFHAT). This multi-agency team has a plan in place to collect real-time data from Iron Gate to the mouth throughout the duration of the Chinook run. The information will be used to identify potential indicators of a possible fish die off and to inform the water resource-related decision making process.

In the event of an actual fish kill, the Klamath Health Team’s Fish Kill Response Plan, which includes an incident command center, will kick into gear. The plan is to collect as much biological evidence as possible to determine the cause and prevent yet another large-scale adult fish mortality event. If the unthinkable happens on the Yurok Reservation the Fisheries Program is the lead agency. If it occurs elsewhere Fisheries staff would respond as well.

If a fish kill does occur, there are two things that will happen right away.

1. An emergency release from the Trinity and/or Klamath Rivers will happen. The flows in the lower river will be dramatically increased, up to 6,000 cfs. This is intended to provide for higher water velocities which will break the life cycle of the infectious organisms.
2. The Fisheries Program, working with Public Safety and our Disaster Preparedness experts will set up an incident command post, such as happens for large-scale natural



Veteran Fisheries Technician, Arnie Nova and his assistant monitor the 2010 commercial fishery.

disasters. The intent is to capture as much information as possible so strategies for avoiding future fish kills can be implemented. If the fish kill is in the lower Klamath, the Yurok Tribe will take the lead. If it happens elsewhere, we stand ready to lend major assistance.

How can the public help?

We need people to be vigilant. Some salmon mortality is normal and occurs every year. However, if “large” numbers of dead or dying fish are observed, or even if the number of dead fish is small but increasing, call CALTIP @ 1-888-334-2258; press “3” for an attendant. We have been coordinating with CALTIP, and they have the correct contact information so that the Yurok Tribe can take immediate action. To learn more about the Klamath Fish Health Assessment Team visit: <http://www.kbmp.net/collaboration/kfhat>. ✨

Tribe lands \$2.5 mil for Bald Hills project

Once the new project is finished the road will be paved to the boundary with Redwood National Park

The Yurok Tribe secured a \$2.5 million U.S. Department of Transportation grant to pave a significant section of the steep, rough gravel road that connects the geographically split Reservation.

“Tribal employees, travelers and public safety officers use the winding and rugged Bald Hills Road every day of the year,” Yurok Tribe Chairman Thomas P. O’Rourke Sr. said. “Paving the road will decrease response time for emergency responders, shorten the trip across the Reservation and make visiting our beautiful land a more enjoyable experience.”

Bald Hills Road mazes through Yurok Territory, Humboldt County and Redwood National Park Land. The thoroughfare connects both sides of the Yurok Reservation and is frequently used by tribal members, federal agencies, tourists and law enforcement.

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) said, “I am very pleased that the Yurok Tribe will benefit from this important grant from the Department of Transportation, which will provide a safe travel route linking communities across the reservation.”

“I commend the Yurok Tribe for its efforts to make Bald Hills Road safer for the Yurok people and visitors of Redwood National Park,” said Congressman Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena). “This project is part of a larger effort to improve the tribe’s infrastructure. It will create jobs, enhance safety and improve the quality of life for the Yurok Tribe.”

During the summer months Yurok families traverse the throughway to attend ceremonies either on the coast or in Weitchpec area. Tribal employees commute to Yurok Tribal Headquarters year round via Bald Hills Road. Throngs of tourists from around the globe take



Thanks to the Yurok Tribe, another large section of Bald Hills Road is getting paved.



A large portion of Bald Hills Road is now paved.



The Yurok Tribe's Transportation team is made up of (left) Planner Isaac Kinney, Transportation Manager Joe James, and Planner Jeff Hodge.

the road to hike through one of the last stands of old growth redwood in the Lady Bird Johnson Grove, and to view the rare oak studded prairies that give the road its name. The Redwood National Parks employees constantly utilize this roadway as well.

The invaluable thoroughfare is also the primary road Yurok Public Safety officers' use to patrol the Reservation. Every section that is paved reduces emergency personnel's response time significantly. A fully paved road could realistically mean the difference between a person's life and death.

CalFire uses it to respond to wild land fires in eastern Humboldt County.

The Yurok Tribe and Humboldt County recently completed a \$1.8 million dollar transportation project to pave a different section of Bald Hills Road. The recently asphalted section of road is owned by Humboldt County and is part of the Tribe's Scenic Byways route. After this project is complete, the entirety of Bald Hills Rd. running through the Yurok Reservation, Humboldt County's portion will paved. The

remaining part is located within Redwood National Park boundaries.

"Humboldt County's partnership with the Yurok Tribe is making a positive difference in the lives all community members in this region," said Humboldt County's Fifth District Supervisor Ryan Sundberg. "It is also putting Humboldt County residents to work doing living wage jobs."

"Investments in transportation projects like these create jobs right away in communities across the country, and lay a foundation for future economic growth," said U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "Thanks to these grants, states, cities and local communities can move forward with the transportation projects Americans need to reach their destinations more safely, quickly and efficiently."

"We look forward to working with our partners to make the Bald Hills Road a reliable and pleasurable route for all who use and depend on it," concluded Joe James, the manager of the Tribe's Transportation Department. ✨

"I am very pleased that the Yurok Tribe will benefit from this important grant from the Department of Transportation, which will provide a safe travel route linking communities across the reservation."

~ U.S. SENATOR BARBARA BOXER

New Court Program offers fresh start

Kee cha-e-nar Program will help people clean up most criminal records

On the onerous path to sobriety there is often more to overcome than simply abstaining from drugs and alcohol.

Those who sustain sobriety remain straight because they work hard to become emotionally, mentally and spiritually strong.

Even after accomplishing these life-balancing labors, there is one more serious obstacle to overcome for some former addicts—a criminal record.

It is much more difficult to get a job with a wrap sheet, which is why the Yurok Tribe's nonprofit, Hoh-Kue-Moh, is starting its own Clean Slate Program Kee cha-e-nar (It will be new). The Program — opening in Fall — will help eligible tribal members expunge or reduce criminal records, obtain a certificate of rehabilitation, seal juvenile records, request early release from probation and in certain scenarios get previous convictions overturned.

“This program aligns with our traditional moral code,” said Yurok Chief Judge Abby Abinanti. “Customarily if a Yurok committed an offense he or she would pay a proportional debt to the victim and the issue would be resolved for good.”

“The Clean Slate Program will open the door to a successful life for a lot of people,” added Yurok Wellness Court case manager Lori Nesbit. “I imagine there are some folks who feel like they are in a dark hole. We are trying to create a ladder out.”

In addition to making landing gainful employment exceptionally more challenging, an arrest record and criminal convictions can also create barriers to receiving public services like food stamps, financial aid for higher

education and housing assistance.

While the Clean Slate Program is not limited to those in recovery, it does go hand in hand with the Yurok Tribe's Wellness Program, which helps tribal members with drug-related criminal offenses achieve lasting sobriety through a myriad of culturally appropriate methods.

“People who are employed are much less likely to relapse,” said Yurok Chief Judge Abinanti. “I believe this program will help Yuroks who have turned their lives around succeed at living a deeply satisfying life.”

Through the lens of the law, an expunged record is viewed the same as having charges dismissed. In other words, it's as though the conviction never occurred and the barrier to employment is removed under most circumstances. According to California Labor Code 432.7, “No employer...shall ask an applicant for employment to disclose...information concerning an arrest or detention that did not result in conviction....Nor shall any employer seek from any source whatsoever, or utilize, as a factor in determining any condition of employment including hiring, promotion, termination...any record of arrest or detention that did not end in a conviction.”

The Tribe's Clean Slate team will be scheduling a date in October to meet individually with all Yuroks who may be qualified for the program. Typically, those eligible to have a record completely expunged committed misdemeanors or felonies, but served time in county jail rather than state or federal prison. Those qualified must also have finished probation, paid fines, restitution or court ordered reimbursements and not be currently serving another

“THIS PROGRAM ALIGNS WITH OUR TRADITIONAL MORAL CODE.”

CHIEF JUDGE ABBY ABINANTI ~ *Yurok Chief Judge*



The Yurok Tribal Court team includes:(left to right) Ron Bates, Kim Yost, Jennifer Burgess,Danielle Vigil-Masten, Lori Nesbitt, April Day, Katelyn Sanderson Jessica Carter, Jolanda Ingram-Obie, Anthony Trombetti.

sentence or charged with an additional offense.

In a situation where state prison time was served there is still a variety of options to move in a positive direction in terms of cleaning up a criminal record.

“I encourage people to participate even if they are unsure or don’t think you qualify for a full dismissal,” said case manager Ron Bates. “It is very likely that we can help you in some way.”

Yurok Clean Slate is asking those interested to start gathering the necessary information to get the process started before the October meeting.

Please collect the following:

- Your case or docket number(s).
- Your dates of conviction(s) and section number(s) you were sentenced for.
- The Code name(s) and section number(s) you were sentenced for.
- Note whether there was a jury trial or a “guilty plea” or “no contest” plea was entered.
- Were you on probation? If so, what was the duration?
- Which prison or jail did you serve time in?
- What date were you release?
- When did your parole end?

This information can be obtained from court papers received at the time of the conviction, the attorney for the case, the court or the California State Department of Justice.

Those having trouble gathering the documents prior to the meeting can contact **Danielle Vigil-Masten at (707) 269-0695** for assistance.

The Clean Slate staff, which includes Yurok attorney Jolanda Ingram-Obie, will help fill out the proper paperwork at the October meeting. The participant will then contact the attorney who worked on the original case and request that he or she set a hearing in front of a judge who will decide if the conviction can be dismissed. The attorney who represented the participant in the original case is required to represent the client again in the new hearing, except in rare circumstances.

There are some people who have felony convictions and either work for themselves or at a place that is open-minded enough to hire a person with a felonious record. In California and on the Yurok Reservation, due to Public Law 280, felons cannot possess a firearm, which makes subsistence hunting a freedom-ending proposition.

Through the Yurok Clean Slate Program tribal members can get the ball rolling to receive a Certificate of Rehabilitation. The certificate does not remove anything from a person’s record, but it does enable the legal purchase and possession of a gun. To qualify, a person must be a resident of California for five years and have been out of prison for seven. ✨

“IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT WE CAN HELP YOU IN SOME WAY.”

~ RON BATES, WELLNESS COURT CASE MANAGER



Make reservations now at the Yurok Tribe's newly purchased and freshly renovated Cats RV Park. The RV Park was given a fresh coat of paint on all buildings and the host living quarters was remodeled. Unsightly brush, trees and invasive species were removed. Also, new boat docks were built to accommodate fishing. The setting is idyllic for tribal fishers looking for a quiet place out of the bustle and fog. It is also the perfect family retreat complete with a swimming access, breathtaking scenery and the calming sound of the magnificent Klamath River. To make reservations call (707) 482-0657.



The Yurok Tribe Public Safety Officers seized the following nets at the locations listed below.

COURT CASE: YTCV12-130 Public Safety complaint # 20120181

SEIZURE LOCATION: Lower Klamath River across from Chinook RV Park (100' gill net)
APPROXIMATE DATE: 5/25/12

COURT CASE: YTCV12-131 Public Safety complaint #20110260

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River at Starwein (100' gill net)
APPROXIMATE DATE: 7/14/11

COURT CASE: YTCV12-132 Public Safety complaint # 20110261

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River at Sugar Shack (100' gill net)
APPROXIMATE DATE: 7/16/11

COURT CASE: YTCV12-133 Public Safety complaint # 20110262

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River at Starwein (100' gill net)
APPROXIMATE DATE: 8/14/11

COURT CASE: YTCV12-134 Public Safety complaint # 20110263

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River at Riffles
APPROXIMATE DATE: 8/14/11

COURT CASE: YTCV12-135 Public Safety complaint # 20110264

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River- Above the Bridge
APPROXIMATE DATE: 7/24/11
Description: 100ft gill net

COURT CASE: YTCV12-137 Public Safety complaint # 20110265

SEIZURE LOCATION: Klamath River – Below the Klamath Bridge
APPROXIMATE DATE: 7/25/11
Description: 100ft gill net

These nets were seized in accordance with Yurok Tribe Fishing Rights Ordinance Section 7(b). The nets will be forfeited if no claim or appearance is made. You may be held liable or charged for a violation of YTCFO Section 7(b) upon claiming ownership of the nets.

To claim ownership, immediately notify: The Yurok Tribal Court: P.O. Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548. Phone (707) 482-1350.

Hearing for the above Cases will be held:

DATE: Thursday, August 16th, 2012; 10AM

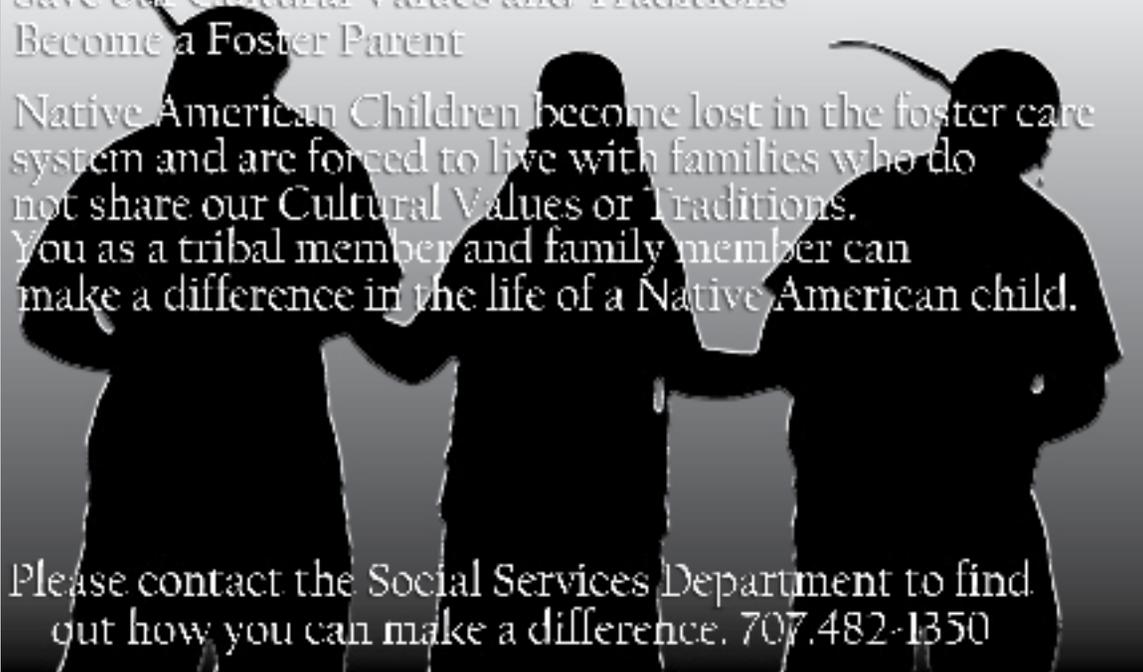
PLACE: Yurok Tribe Council Chambers
190 Klamath Boulevard, Klamath, CA

AFTER THE HEARING DATE NETS MAY BE FORFEITED AND SOLD!

You are needed
Save our Cultural Values and Traditions
Become a Foster Parent

Native American Children become lost in the foster care system and are forced to live with families who do not share our Cultural Values or Traditions. You as a tribal member and family member can make a difference in the life of a Native American child.

Please contact the Social Services Department to find out how you can make a difference. 707.482-1350



THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED TO RUN FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL:

CHAIRPERSON

**James Dunlap
Otto Hodge, Jr.
Gary L. Markussen, Sr.
Frank L. McCovey
Raymond W. McQuillen
Thomas P. O'Rourke, Sr.
Dave Severns**

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

**Marjorie Donahue Buckskin
Susan Masten**

ORICK DISTRICT

**MaryDawn Childs
Larry Hendrix**

2012 Election Schedule

OCTOBER 10, 2012 PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 7, 2012 RUNOFF ELECTION

AUGUST 10, (5:00PM)	LAST DAY TO FILE INITIATIVE(S)
AUGUST 10	PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ELECTION (54 DAYS)
AUGUST 15	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR THE SAMPLE BALLOT (250 words) AND NEWSLETTER (750 words)
AUGUST 24	LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR PRIMARY ELECTION (47 DAYS)
AUGUST 27-29	ELECTION BOARD CERTIFICATION OF NEW REGISTRANTS
AUGUST 31	MAIL OUT SAMPLE BALLOTS TO REGISTERED VOTERS (40 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 14	MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS (26 DAYS)
SEPTEMBER 20 (14)	LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL (DAYS)
OCTOBER 3	LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE (5 DAYS)
OCTOBER 10, 2012	PRIMARY ELECTION

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

OCTOBER 31 LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE FOR RUN OFF (5 DAYS)

NOVEMBER 7, 2012 RUNOFF ELECTION

2012 Polling Locations

East District
Hoopa High School
Hoopa, CA

Requa District
Yurok Tribal Office
190 Klamath Blvd
Klamath, CA

North District
Yurok TANF Office
207 Price Mall (Cross Streets –
Front & K Street – Behind Library)
Crescent City, CA

South District *New location*
Yurok Tribal Office
3400 Erie Street
Eureka, CA

Orick District
Orick Elementary School
Orick, CA

Weitchpec District
Libby Nix Community Center
Weitchpec, CA

Pecwan District
Wautec Fire Station
Johnson's, CA

For more information, please contact the Election Department at (707) 482-1350.

Make reservations today

Spaces are filling up fast at the Yurok Tribe-owned Cats RV Park.

The river view resort is quiet, family-friendly and out of the reach of the coastal fog on most days. There is also a boat dock and excellent swimming access. It's the perfect getaway even for locals.

To make reservations contact the Yurok Economic Development Corporation at (707) 482- 0657.



Yurok Tribe

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

Yurok Today
190 Klamath Blvd.,
Klamath, CA 95548

Address Service Requested

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US Postage
PAID
Eureka, CA
Permit No. 76

August • 2012 • Yurok Tribe



The Yurok Youth Trail Crew is comprised of (left) Brittnee Thompson, Anthony W. Obie, Cecilia Moore, Treffery Sylvia, Nicole Peters, Brook Thompson, Tribal Councilmember Larry Hendrix, Trail Crew Leader Harold Jones and Justin Gensaw.