



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Pacific Regional Office  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825

RECEIVED  
APR 04 2011  
BY: [Signature]

Honorable John Laird  
California Secretary of Natural Resources  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

MAR 29 2011

Dear Mr. Laird:

This letter is to recognize and support your advocacy of California Tribes' and tribal communities'; to assure uninterrupted hunting, fishing, and gathering of ocean resources for traditional, non-commercial subsistence, ceremonial, cultural and stewardship uses. I am hopeful that your directive to the California Department of Fish and Game and the Blue Ribbon Task Force to develop a proposal for the North Coast Study Region will result in formal adoption of a separate "tribal uses" category in the regulations developed for each Marine Protected Area. A "tribal uses" category along with development of co-management agreements under the Marine Life Protection Act between tribes, tribal communities, and the State of California would help to protect and preserve the traditional cultural practices and heritage of California Indian tribes and tribal communities.

We encourage the State to continue consultation with the tribes to better understand tribal concerns regarding the use of ocean resources.

Should you have any questions, Douglas Garcia, Regional Water Rights Specialist, at (916) 978-6052 or me at (916) 978-6000.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amy L. Dutschke

Regional Director

cc: Governor Brown, State of California  
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Tribal Chairpersons  
Superintendents, CCA, NCA, SCA