



YUROK TRIBE

190 Klamath Boulevard • Post Office Box 1027 • Klamath, CA 95548

November 4, 2009

NOV 23 2009
RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: NCRSG Nominations
MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

Aiyukwee':

The Yurok Tribal Council would like to nominate Megan M. Rocha to participate on the North Coast Regional Stakeholders Group (NCRSG) convened under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative for the North Coast Region. Megan was raised in the region and has firsthand knowledge of the marine environment. She holds a Master's Degree in American Studies with an emphasis in Federal Indian law and has worked primarily on natural resource and environmental protection projects for the Tribe.

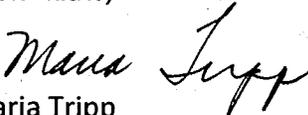
As the Assistant Self Governance Officer for the Yurok Tribe, Megan has been involved in the MLPA process since it arrived on the North Coast. She has attended every meeting held by MLPA Initiative staff and has travelled to Long Beach to participate in the South Coast Region's final Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting. She is representing the Tribe in a number of work groups, including the newly formed Tri-County work group focused on a region-wide collaborative approach to Marine Protected Area (MPA) proposal development. Megan is a level headed individual and has the ability to both listen to the needs of others while strongly voicing the position of the Yurok Tribe.

The Yurok Tribe received a grant from the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation (RLFF) to do outreach and provide some technical assistance to North Coast Region tribes to make sure that each distinct nation has a voice in the MLPA process. Megan was instrumental in securing the grant and is a huge part of the Yurok Tribe's team charged with organizing the tribal coalition meetings. The Tribe realizes that there is a possibility that not all tribal interests will retain a seat on the NCRGS. Megan Rocha's participation would assure that tribal voices continue to be heard through the Yurok Tribe's work with the tribal coalition.

Additionally, Megan Rocha is the wife and mother of traditional tribal gatherers and understands the responsibility of native peoples to take care of ancestral lands. She possesses a strong knowledge of traditional and cultural uses of marine resources and has participated in such activities with her family. Her combination of tribal knowledge, regional knowledge, localized knowledge and her ability to understand complex issues of science, law and policy make Megan the best candidate to represent the Yurok Tribe on the NCRSG.

Please accept the nomination of Megan Rocha to the NCRSG. You will not be disappointed. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call our Tribal Headquarters in Klamath, CA.

Woh'-klaw,


Maria Tripp
Chair

Megan's contact information is below:

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