

MARINE PROTECTED AREA STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP TEAM – TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Background

The [MPA Statewide Leadership Team](#)¹ is an advisory body that promotes active and engaged communication among entities with significant authority, mandates, or interest in California's MPA network. The Leadership Team also informs regulatory bodies such as the Fish and Game Commission. The members of the Leadership Team recognize the inherent importance of California tribes' traditional and current participation in ocean stewardship, and strongly encourage and welcome tribal engagement in the MPA Statewide Leadership Team with this invitation.

In late 2016 and early 2017, through formal meetings and presentations, as well as informal information gathering, the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) reached out to the Northern and Southern Tribal Chairmen's Association, Intertribal Councils, and other tribal associations throughout the state to help inform the development of a process for filling Tribal seats on the MPA Statewide Leadership Team. This process: 1) outlined the roles and responsibilities of regional Tribal representatives; 2) clearly laid out how information will be conveyed and received from regional Tribes to and from representatives; and 3) established the term and election/appointment process. OPC also solicited input from tribes on how the regional representation should be delineated geographically. Eight Regional Tribal Representative seats were created, with one Primary and one Alternate Representative for each of the following regions: North Coast – California/Oregon border to Mattole River; North Central Coast – Mattole River to Golden Gate Bridge; Central Coast – Golden Gate Bridge to Point Conception; South Coast – Point Conception to US/Mexico border.

Representatives were selected through a 90-day open call sent to all members of the Native American Heritage Commission contact list. In 2018, the Secretary of Natural Resources appointed three Primary Seat Regional Tribal Representatives to the MPA Statewide Leadership Team: Ms. Megan Van Pelt (North Regional Tribal Representative; Natural Resources Director for the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation), Mr. Reno Keoni Franklin (North Central Regional Tribal Representative; Chairman Emeritus, Kashia Pomo Tribe), and Ms. Roberta Reyes Cordero (South Regional Tribal Representative; Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation).

However, all four Alternate Representative seats remain vacant, and the Primary Representative seat for the Central Coast region remains vacant as well. In partnership with California's tribes and tribal Governments, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team is now re-opening the call for nominations to fill the vacant Central Coast Primary Representative seat and the four vacant Alternate Representative seats.

¹ <http://www.opc.ca.gov/programs-summary/marine-protected-areas/partnerships/>

Eligibility

Tribal Representatives from tribes listed on the California Native American Heritage Commissions Coastal Associated Tribal List are eligible for nomination. It is preferable that the Primary and Alternate Representative seats for each region are from different tribes, to broaden perspectives and representation.

Term

Tribal Representatives serve three-year terms. There is no limit on the number of terms that may be served by a Tribal Representative.

Responsibilities

Tribal Representatives agree to:

- Be fair and provide equal representation of all tribes in their respective regions, and not serve solely for the purpose and interests of their own tribe.
- Promote and advocate for the well-being of all tribes.
- Uphold tribal sovereignty while representing the collective tribal voice.
- Commit to consistent attendance at meetings.
- Be open, honest, and transparent in all issues.

Time commitment

Time commitment includes MPA Milestones meetings in Sacramento each March and September, plus all meetings of the MPA Statewide Leadership Team working group (at least 4 times per year) and any additional meetings as required. Remote attendance at these meetings is available but not preferred. Additional phone and email correspondence as required.

Nomination process

Step 1: Fill out this Google form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeITUKYAKFs4QH1iBcGmfMqaiV6Pc6IckMhVjHTuXc54rWWNQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

This form will require you to provide answers to the following questions:

- Name of nominee
- Email address
- Phone number
- Name of Tribe
- Seat being nominated

- Why do you believe you can provide fair and equal representation for all Tribes in your region?
- What will be your approach to ensuring Tribes in the region you represent have their views represented at the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, and that information from the Team is conveyed back to the Tribes you represent?

Step 2: Send a formal letter or resolution from tribal official supporting nomination (including name, title, phone, and email of official) to Michael.Esgro@resources.ca.gov.

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