



Kashia Band of Pomo Indians *of the Stewarts Point Rancheria*

Mark Gold
Executive Director
Ocean Protection Council

Re: Kashia Band of Pomo Indians Letter of Commitment for Tribal Marine Stewards Network

Hello Mr. Gold,

On behalf of the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria, a federally recognized Indian Tribe, located within the redwood forest belt of Northern California, we are providing a letter of support for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) Project funding application. Kashia plans to actively participate in the TMSN Project and progress towards building our own coastal monitoring and management plans. We are excited to collaborate on this project that will establish a Tribal Marine Stewards Network pilot composed of Tribes working in collaboration with the State of California towards common goals.

As a project partner, we will work with all partner Tribes, the State of California and other partners, who acknowledge Tribal inherent rights and knowledge to protect, and/or restore marine resources for the cultural, spiritual, and physical health of all people and future generations. This work supports improved management of shared resources for all beings through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation.

This is an important project that should be funded due to its scientific merit, conceptual innovation, and extensive collaboration as it establishes an opportunity for partner tribes to continue to be or become involved with MPA monitoring within their ancestral territories. It will provide support and capacity building for Kashia to maintain and monitor marine resources along the North Central Coast. This work supports improved management of shared resources for all beings through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. We commit our Environmental staff to this project.

Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria is dedicated to ensuring a healthy and balanced environment that sustains Kashia life ways and the earth.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this proposed work and to briefly explain how this collaboration can benefit all involved.

Yahwee (Thank you),

Reno Keoni Franklin
Tribal Chairperson

cc: File



September 23, 2022

Mark Gold
Executive Director
Ocean Protection Council

miSmin tuuhis (Hello) Mr. Gold,

We are writing to express our continued support for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) project funding application submitted to the Ocean Protection Council.

The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band is a continuous and historic Indian Tribe, recognized by the State of California, with over 600 BIA-registered members who trace their ancestry to Indigenous peoples taken to the Santa Cruz and San Juan Bautista missions, along the central coast of California. Amah Mutsun Land Trust is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established by the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to serve as a vehicle for Amah Mutsun-led research, resource protection, and stewardship. Through the Amah Mutsun Land Trust, the Amah Mutsun are regaining our role as environmental stewards of our ancestral territory.

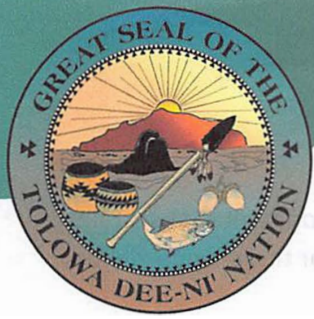
As a project partner already actively involved, we look forward to continuing to work with other Tribes on coastal stewardship and monitoring in our ancestral territory and stewardship area so that we may protect and restore marine resources for the cultural, spiritual, and physical health of all people and future generations.

Continuing support for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network demonstrates support from the State of California and other partners to acknowledge Tribal inherent rights and knowledge. This work supports improved management of shared resources for everyone through a model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. We commit our program staff to this project, which would complement our current efforts to establish our own marine stewardship program through other funding sources.

The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band is dedicated to ensuring a healthy and balanced environment that sustains Indigenous lifeways and the earth. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this proposed work.

tumsan-ak kannis, (Thank you),

Valentin Lopez, Chairman
Amah Mutsun Tribal Band



Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation

12801 Mouth of Smith River Rd. Smith River, CA 95567

707-487-9255 www.tolowa-nsn.gov



Mark Gold
Executive Director
Ocean Protection Council

Jeri Lynn
Thompson
Chairperson

Scott D.
Sullivan
*Vice -
Chairperson*

Debbie
Boardman
*Council
Secretary*

Jaytuk
Steinruck
*Council
Treasurer*

Dr. Joseph
Giovannetti
*Council
Member*

Amanda
O'Connell
*Council
Member*

Dorothy
Wait
*Council
Member*

Dv-laa-ha~ (Hello) Mr. Gold,

On behalf of the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, a federally recognized Indian Tribe, located in the Pacific Northwest, with aboriginal lands and territory in Northern California and Southern Oregon, and organized pursuant to the duly adopted Constitution of the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, we wish to provide a written letter of support for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) Project funding application. The Nation plans to continue to participate in the TMSN Project and progress toward incorporating the program into our coastal monitoring and management plans. We are excited to be moving forward with this project that will strengthen the Network composed of Tribes working in collaboration with the State of California towards common goals.

As a project partner, we will work with all partner Tribes, the State of California and other partners, who acknowledge Tribal inherent rights and knowledge to protect, and/or restore marine resources for the cultural, spiritual, and physical health of all people and future generations. This work supports improved management of shared resources for all beings through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. The Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation has been at the forefront of this type of monitoring since 2014 and the opportunity to continue to expand it into the future is the logical next step.

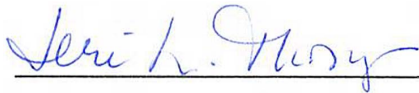
This is an important project that should be funded due to its scientific merit, conceptual innovation, and extensive collaboration as it establishes an opportunity for partner tribes to continue to be or become involved with MPA monitoring within their ancestral territories. This work supports improved management of shared resources for all beings through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. We commit our Marine Division staff to this project, which would complement our own stewardship program through other funding sources.

WAA-SAA-GHITLH-'A~ WEE-NI NAA-CH'AA-GHITLH-NI

OUR HERITAGE IS WHY WE ARE STRONG

Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation is dedicated to ensuring a healthy and balanced environment that sustains Dee-ni' lifeways and the earth. Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this proposed work and to briefly explain how this collaboration can benefit all involved.

Shu' shaa nin-la (Thank you),



Jeri Lynn Thompson

Tribal Chairperson on behalf of Tribal Council



RESIGHINI RANCHERIA

P.O. Box 529 • Klamath, CA 95548
Tel (707) 482-2431 • Fax (707) 482-3425

September 20, 2022

Secretary Wade Crowfoot
Chair, Ocean Protection Council
California Natural Resources Agency

Subject: Letter of Commitment to Participate in the Tribal Marine Stewards Network

Dear Secretary Crowfoot:

The Resighini Rancheria is a federally recognized Tribe of Yurok people, located on the Klamath River and Pacific Coast of northern California. As the people Indigenous to this land, we work to take care of and steward the natural and cultural resources within our ancestral territories and waters. This includes the management and monitoring of the marine environment which we rely upon for subsistence, ceremonial, cultural and other customary uses.

We are so excited to continue our work as a Partner Tribe in the Tribal Marine Stewards Network. Previous support from the Ocean Protection Council has helped us build our marine resource management capacity and strengthen relationships with our State allies and Tribal Partners. We will continue to work in collaboration and toward common goals.

As a Tribal Partner, we are committed to working with the State of California, Partner Tribes, and other nongovernmental organizations to expand our capacity and management capabilities, to conduct work that supports conservation and improved management, to support a model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaboration, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. Our work has been incredibly successful to date and should continue to be funded due to its innovation, extensive collaboration, and the enhanced opportunities it provides for our Tribe to take a more active role in managing our lands and waters.

This letter demonstrates our true commitment as a Partner Tribe in the Tribal Marine Stewards Network and our Tribal Government's enthusiastic support for this effort. Please contact Megan Rocha, Executive Director at megan.rocha@resighinirancheria.com for any additional questions or information about this letter.

Respectfully,

Fawn C. Murphy
Chairperson



SANTA YNEZ BAND OF CHUMASH INDIANS

P.O. BOX 517 · SANTA YNEZ · CA · 93460

Tel: 805.688.7997 · Fax: 805.686.9578

www.santaynezchumash.org

September 9, 2022

Mr. Mark Gold
Executive Director
Ocean Protection Council

Re: Kashia Band of Pomo Indians Letter of Commitment for Tribal Marine Stewards Network

Hello Mr. Gold,

On behalf of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, a federally recognized Indian Tribe, located within the Central California, we wish to provide a written letter of support for the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) Project funding application. The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians plans to actively participate in the TMSN Project and progress towards building our own coastal monitoring and management plans. We are excited to collaborate on this project that will establish a Tribal Marine Stewards Network composed of Tribes working in collaboration with the State of California towards common goals.

As a project partner, we will work with all partner Tribes, the State of California and other partners, who acknowledge Tribal inherent rights and knowledge to protect, and/or restore marine resources for the cultural, spiritual, and physical health of all people and future generations. This work supports improved management of shared resources through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation.

This is an important project that should be funded due to its scientific merit, conceptual innovation, and extensive collaboration as it establishes an opportunity for partner tribes to continue to be or become involved with MPA monitoring within their ancestral territories. It will provide support and capacity building for the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians to maintain and monitor marine resources along the Central Coast. This work supports improved management of shared resources for all beings through a proposed model for sustainable partnerships, equitable Tribal/State collaborations, and enhanced information gathering and interpretation. We commit our Environmental Department staff to this project.

The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is dedicated to ensuring a healthy and balanced environment that sustains Chumash resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this proposed work supporting the Tribal Marine Stewards Network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K Kahn', written in a cursive style.

Kenneth Kahn
Tribal Chairman



RESOURCES LEGACY FUND
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS. LASTING RESULTS.

September 28, 2022

VIA Electronic Transmission

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources
Chair, Ocean Protection Council
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Item #5: Consideration and Approval of Disbursement of Funds to the Tribal Marine Stewards Network

Dear Chair Crowfoot and Members of the Ocean Protection Council:

Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) offers our strong support for the proposed disbursement of up to \$3,610,000 to the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) under consideration at your October 6, 2022 meeting.

Tribes and Tribal communities have stewarded California's natural environment since time immemorial. Despite colonization's history of violence, displacement, and dispossession, California Tribes continue to play a leading and active role in ocean and coastal stewardship. The TMSN is an important collaboration that advances Tribal-led monitoring, education, outreach, and organizational priorities around marine protected areas and the ocean and coastal environment, with significant opportunity for future expansion across the state.

RLF has been honored to partner in the conceptual stage of the TMSN and to provide philanthropic match funding to the participating Tribes throughout the initial, pilot effort. We commit our continued support for this important effort and to elevate the TMSN to our philanthropic partners.

The TMSN is significant not only for California Tribes who seek to exercise their inherent right to and traditional stewardship of state lands and waters; it is also part of a growing global movement to elevate indigenous leadership as a critical means of advancing effective, equitable resource management. The Ocean Protection Council's support of this funding item demonstrates the State of California's commitment to advancing Tribal leadership in stewarding ocean and coastal resources.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

81DFE3FC0A3E40B...
Kaitilin Gaffney

Director of Ocean, Coast, and Fisheries



October 4, 2022

California Ocean Protection Council
715 P St., 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Ocean Protection Council October 6, 2022 Meeting Items 5 - SUPPORT

Submitted electronically via COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov

Dear Secretary Crowfoot and Honorable Council Members:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, all members of the MPA NGO community with decades of combined experience working on MPAs, we are writing in support of the disbursement of up to \$3,610,000 to the Tribal Marine Stewards Network partner tribes. This funding will facilitate more meaningful engagement of partner tribes in coastal and marine stewardship efforts across California.

California tribal communities have been systematically and violently displaced from their traditional coastal and marine spaces over hundreds of years and continue to experience the immediate and legacy impacts of dislocation and exclusion. California's Tribes remain original stewards of the coast, relying upon these special places for food, medicine, ceremony, and traditional customary uses. Funding will enable engagement of the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) and the participating Tribes (Resighini Rancheria, Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, and Santa Ynez Band of Chumash) in coastal and ocean leadership.

This investment will fund monitoring and community engagement of Tribal partners at a crucial time to inform management decisions about use of coastal and marine resources. Importantly, this funding will also allow expansion of the Network to include a fifth tribe from southern California to participate in the TMSN's resource management decision-making. Our MPA NGO partners work extensively with tribal communities across the state to ensure their input, values, needs and recommendations are incorporated into planning for the future. This funding will support Tribal communities statewide to consider their rights, perspectives and traditional knowledge related to marine and coastal resources, and our cohort of local and statewide NGOs look forward to continued partnership and collaboration with the TMSN. Given the breadth of California's MPA-related research, monitoring, community science, outreach, education and

compliance projects, this funding will have far-reaching consequences in incorporating Tribal perspectives into MPA management.

We fully support approval of funding, and applaud the OPC recognition of the need to facilitate engagement of tribal communities across the state.

Sincerely,



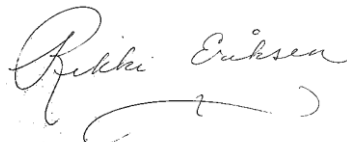
Angela Kemsley
Conservation Director, WILDCOAST



Emily Parker
Coastal and Marine Scientist
Heal the Bay



Laura Walsh
California Policy Manager,
Surfrider Foundation



Rikki Eriksen, PhD
Director Marine Programs
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation



Anupa Asokan
Senior Oceans Advocate
Natural Resources Defense Council



Chelsea H. Tu
Executive Director
Monterey Waterkeeper



Michael Quill, Ph.D.
Marine Programs Director
Los Angeles Waterkeeper



Ashley Eagle-Gibbs, Esq.
Legal and Policy Director
Environmental Action Committee of West
Marin



CMSF CALIFORNIA
MARINE
SANCTUARY
FOUNDATION

October 4, 2022

California Ocean Protection Council
715 P St., 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Ocean Protection Council October 6, 2022 Meeting Items 5 - SUPPORT

Submitted electronically via COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov

Dear Secretary Crowfoot and Honorable Council Members:

On behalf of the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation, we would like to express our support of disbursement of up to \$3,610,000 to the Tribal Marine Stewards Network. This funding is crucial for meaningful engagement of partner tribes to build and protect resilience in the face of climate change, manage our MPA Network, plan for responsible offshore wind, and address a suite of looming coastal issues.

As original stewards of our coast, California's Tribes rely on healthy marine ecosystems for food, medicine, ceremony, and traditional customary uses. CMSF has worked extensively with many tribal communities, including the Tribal Marine Stewards Network (TMSN) to help implement our statewide MPA Network. They conduct MPA education and outreach, assist with compliance and enforcement, identify pressing policy needs, and are intimately linked to the resources they depend upon.

Dedicated funding to the TMSN allows meaningful engagement of partner Tribes (Resighini Rancheria, Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, and Santa Ynez Band of Chumash) in pressing coastal issues. This investment by the State demonstrates the importance of inclusive decision-making with local communities and brings hope for meaningful, sustained engagement and collaboration with partner Tribes.

Historically, coastal management has failed to account for the rights, perspectives and traditional knowledge held by California Native American Tribes. This investment is an applaudable first step towards righting these wrongs, and will go a long way, at a critical time. It will allow expansion of the TMSN to include a key South coast tribe, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash, located adjacent to the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. It will fund monitoring of intertidal habitats, which will be key to adaptive management as sea level rises. And, it allows for traditional knowledge to be collected to inform decisions along our coast.

CMSF has a long history of working successfully with Tribes, offering MPA education and outreach resources, collaborating to create Tribe-specific resources like signs and posters,



CMSF CALIFORNIA
MARINE
SANCTUARY
FOUNDATION

helping to write grant proposals, and collecting tribal stories to share with Californians. CMSF plans to collect social resilience data- Tribal perspectives, values, and connections of coastal resources- to plan for climate impacts. This funding will help ensure that participation is robust and inclusive. Given the breadth of California's MPA-related research, monitoring, community science, outreach, education and compliance projects, this funding will have far-reaching benefits in incorporating Tribal perspectives into MPA management.

We fully support approval of funding and applaud OPC's recognition of the importance of tribal engagement across California.

Sincerely,

Rikki Eriksen

Rikki Eriksen, PhD
Director Marine Programs
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation