

Karuk Tribe

Spring 2024

64236 SECOND AVE • HAPPY CAMP, CALIF. • 96039 • 530-493-1600



Copco 2 Dam Removal
Photo by: Shane Anderson, Swiftwater Films



AYUKÎ

Greetings from your Tribal Council



Russell Attebery
Happy Camp
Chairman

TERM: Nov. 2023-Nov. 2027



Kenneth "Binx" Brink
Happy Camp
Vice-Chairman

TERM: Nov. 2022- Nov. 2026



Scott Quinn
Happy Camp
Secretary/Treasurer
TERM: Nov. 2023-Nov. 2027



Aaron "Troy" Hockaday
Happy Camp District
Member at Large
TERM: Nov. 2020-Nov. 2024



Kristen King
Orleans District
Member at Large
TERM: Nov. 2021-Nov. 2025



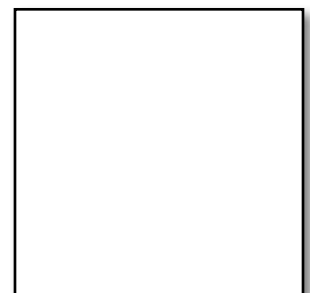
Jennifer Goodwin
Happy Camp
Member at Large
TERM: Nov. 2022-Nov. 2024



Eli Hensher Aubrey
Orleans District
Member at Large
TERM: Nov. 2023-Nov. 2027



Arch Super
Yreka District
Member at Large
TERM: Nov. 2021-Nov. 2025



Vacant
Yreka District
Member at Large
TERM:

Table of Contents

Tribal Council	2
Notes from the Chairman	4
Message from Vice Chairman	5
Enrollment	6
Summer Youth Gathering Announcement	7
Notice of Election	8
Public Works/Land Specialist.	9
Emergency Manager	10-11
Higher Education Grants	11
Department of Transportation	12-13
Information Technology Department	14
Final Phase-Health Complex	14
Aan Chuuphan Fiber Project	15
Karuk Tribe Housing Authority	16-18
Employee Benefits Roll Out.	18
Kahtishraam Wellness Center	19
Basket Weaving Classes.	20
Karuk Head Start	21
Klamath River Resort Inn	22
Mechanic Maintenance Shop	22
Telemedicine.	22
Education Department.	23
GIS Division Collaborative	24-25
Fish in the Klamath.	26
Karuk DNR Expansion Plans	27
Air Quality Sensing.	28
Karuk Community Computer Center	28
Low Income Assistance Program	29
Ramona Meinert Celebrates 104!	30
Wallace Sherman Orcutt Obituary	31
Member/Descendent Success Stories.	31

Do You Have An Article For The Newsletter?

Attention Karuk Tribal Members & Descendants, if you have news, articles, events or announcements you wish to submit for publication in the Karuk Newsletter, please send information to newsletter@karuk.us. Submissions are preferred in digital format; however hardcopies are also accepted by mailing articles to Newsletter Articles, P.O. Box 1016 Happy Camp, CA 96039. All submissions must include your name and address as no anonymous articles will be accepted.



Notes From The Chairman

Ayukii, koovura,
I hope all is well with Tribal Members and Descendants. What is Tribal sovereignty and how is it important to the Karuk Tribe? At its core, Tribal sovereignty is the inherent right of Indian Tribes to manage their lands and activities on those lands. Tribal sovereignty is also the political status of Indian Tribes as governments. The Karuk Tribe Council has had to fight to get other government entities to recognize that we are sovereign and we know best how to make decisions that impact our Tribal People and communities.

Tribal sovereignty is not a new concept. Indian Tribes governed their lands long before contact from other nations. When the Europeans arrived, they acknowledged Tribal sovereignty when they entered into treaties with Native Nations to secure peace and build trade relationships. Upon its formation, the United States likewise recognized the governmental status of Indian Tribes and engaged in several hundred treaties for the same purposes. The U. S. Constitution acknowledges Tribal sovereignty in several provisions.

This early respect for Tribal sovereignty was sadly followed by a series of misguided federal policies that forced the removal of Tribal governments from their homelands, resulting in dozens of trails of tears. The next policies fostered the taking of Indian lands and stealing Native children from their families-where they were forced into federal boarding schools and forbidden from speaking their language or practicing their religion.

However, our ancestors persevered. They fought and many made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our sovereignty and our way of life. This, as then President Richard Nixon proclaimed, is a “record of endurance, of survival, adaptation and creativity in the face of overwhelming obstacles”. Then on July 8th 1970 President Nixon did away with all those failed policies and renewed the respect for Tribal sovereignty by ushering in the current federal policy of supporting Tribal governments self-determination.

So, what does this mean for the Karuk Tribe? It means that we now have the opportunity to manage our own lands, starting with Co-management. Co-management means that we are willing to work with our federal partners but we must be able to take the lead in the management process.

Since time immemorial the indigenous people living along the Klamath River managed their forests and waterways with cultural burning and Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) that

was passed down from generation to generation. More than 100 years ago those management practices were outlawed by the federal government without consulting with the people who lived there. The federal government now realizes this was a big mistake. They are coming to Indian Country and listening to Tribes tell their stories about how they were able to avoid the devastating fires we have today. Stories about how to manage our forests that will enhance our creeks and streams not destroy them. Stories about how our Elders observed the ways Mother Nature took care of these lands and passed that knowledge to the next generation.

Where do we go from here? Now that we have their attention, we do not ask but we demand that the federal government live up to their trust obligations and make sure that whenever there is a project needed in Indian Country, Tribes not only have a front row seat at the table, but there is consensus on how to move forward after the meeting is over and that the Tribes receive equal funding. Funding so we can implement Tribal Ecological Knowledge, funding that is equal to United States Forest Service or the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Then, and only then, will we be able to manage our forests and waterways in a way that protects and preserves these resources for our next generations.

I recently attended the Tribal/Department of Interior Budget meetings in Washington D. C., I listened to our federal partners tell Indian Country that they did not have the funding to fulfill their trust obligations to Indian Country. I reminded them of the fact that Indian Country receives 1/10th of 1% of the funds that go to foreign countries, and that this is unacceptable because foreign countries cannot make America a stronger nation but Native Nations can. 🏹

Suva nik

Chairman Attebery



Message from Vice Chairman

Ayukii I continue to learn the programs, the policies and procedures in the Housing Authority the Gaming Authority, the Enrollment and the Health Department. I also sit on a few different committees.

The Housing Authority by itself is a huge program and I am very happy to be involved with this program. I have been on multiple training opportunities with housing and I am very happy to report that our Housing Authority compared to other Housing Authorities is doing very well. I know that we have a very large waiting list and we will continue to work together to alleviate housing shortages and battle homelessness. The Karuk Tribes housing authority staff is doing a great job and we all should be respectful of their efforts.

Also, our Department of Natural Resources is really leading the way in their fields. The Fish and Fire Departments have been the frontline in restoration efforts on the Klamath

River. We continue to strive for traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) to be implemented and recognized as a valuable resource for the health of our communities.

Folks can go online and look up the great work the Department of Natural Resources has been doing, including Dam removal and the good fire reports. We should be very proud of our Department of Natural Resources.

I got to meet with the Congressman and the Governor. We discussed co-management, restoration efforts and how we need to get back to logging, not clearcutting, but changing the name of logging to restoration for removal of forests fuels is restoration at this point. We really need to think about how we can preserve our forests because currently the forest management just lets the forests burn down. They get big money to let it burn and we have to put a stop to that or our future generations will not see conifer forests.

I will continue to fight for our rights as Karuk people to manage our lands the way Creator intended us to. 🏹



Chairman Attebery, Governor Newsom, and Vice Chairman Brink at California Tribal Summit

Ayukîi from the Enrollment Office,

We currently have 3,642 Enrolled Tribal Members and 5,996 Enrolled Descendants.

Our Enrolled Member numbers have actually been dropping in the last few years due to under reporting of deceased family members that were found during attempts to update addresses during the stimulus period so we would like to ask families to please keep us informed of any passing of loved ones with our deepest sympathies and condolences and also to

Please keep us informed of any address or name changes at your earliest convenience so you won't miss out on any future mailings. Yootva

Enrollment Committee



Mildred Grant
Chair



**Jeanerette
Jacups-Johnny**
Vice Chair



Sammi Jo Jerry
Secretary



Charlene Naef
Member At Large



Kenneth Brink
*Council
Vice Chairperson*

 ur office offers an array of services.

- Enrollment/Descendancy applications for the Enrollment Committee.
- Issue Tribal Verification's for enrolled Members and Descendants.
- Collect Census Data on all **Tribal Member** households (we do not release any personal information only non-identifying information). Please update your census with our office every three years.
- Process mail lists for Tribal Mailings; please make sure your address is up to date so you don't miss out on important mailings or the newsletter.
- Issue Free California Fishing License Applications. (Income Eligible)
- Issue Family Trees
- Issue ID cards.
- Issue DMV/Sales Tax Exemption forms to Tribal Members living on Trust Land.

Please feel free to contact our office at (800) 505-2785 Ext. 2028 & Ext 2039. You can also reach us by email at rattebery@karuk.us & ccook@karuk.us 

Robert Attebery
Enrollment Officer



2024 SUMMER YOUTH GATHERING

YÁAN'IIFTIHAN
IKYÁVAANSA

JUNE 24TH - 28TH

HAPPY CAMP, CA



KARUK CULTURE/LANGUAGE KARUK YOUTH TEAM CHAMPION TOURNAMENT
ISHKÊESH ADVENTURES KA'TIM'IIN SITE VISIT SURPRISE GUEST SPEAKERS

Karuk Youth Leadership is hosting the
2024 Yáan'iiftihan ikyávaansa 'youth builders'
Summer Youth Gathering. Please go to www.karuk.us for more
information.

SAVE THE DATE! MORE INFO COMING SOON!

telephone:
(530)-493-1600

email:
summeryouth@karuk.us

Election Committee of the Karuk Tribe

Karuk Voters Registration Office
P.O. Box 815
Happy Camp, CA 96039

Notice of General Election

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: that on **Tuesday, November 5, 2024** the Karuk Tribe will conduct a General Election. Candidate packets will be available at Tribal Administrative offices in Happy Camp (Admin), Yreka (KTHA Office), and Orleans (DNR) on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024.**

Polling places will be open from **7 AM to 7 PM** at the following locations:

Happy Camp: Pithvuyram Center (Old Gym), 64236 Second Avenue;

Yreka: Kahtishraam Wellness Center, 1403 Kahtishraam; and

Orleans: DNR Community Center, 39051 Highway 96.

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE: you must be an enrolled member of the Karuk Tribe, who is eighteen years old, and has registered with the Karuk Tribe Election Committee (*you may register to vote before the election or at the polling place on Election Day, you must bring a valid form of ID to register at the poll place*).

SUBJECT MATTER OF ELECTION:

Happy Camp Member at Large

TERM: November 2024 – November 2028

Happy Camp Member at Large

TERM: November 2024 – November 2028

Yreka Member at Large

PARTIAL TERM: November 2024- November 2026

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: Absentee Ballots are scheduled to be mailed out no later than **September 11, 2024** to registered absentee voters. **The last day to request an absentee ballot is Tuesday, October 22, 2024 by 5 PM.** Please submit your **written** requests for absentee ballots with a current return address if you would like to vote by mail. If you are already an absentee voter, **it is your responsibility to make sure your address is up to date** with the Enrollment Office to ensure you receive an absentee ballot.

It is highly recommended that absentee ballot requests be received by the Karuk Tribe Election Committee before the above due dates for those members who live outside the Aboriginal Territory due to the amount of time it takes for the mail to reach Happy Camp. Contact the Enrollment Office at (530) 493-1600 ex: 2039 or email ccook@karuk.us to obtain required form(s).

Send Absentee Ballot Requests to:

Karuk Tribe Election Committee

PO Box 815

Happy Camp, CA 96039

CANDIDATES: Must submit their completed candidate packet and pay the \$75 processing fee to the Karuk Tribe Election Committee by **Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 5 PM.** An appointment must be arranged in advance with the Human Resources Office in Happy Camp to have fingerprints taken and submit to a drug screening test **PRIOR to 5 PM, Tuesday, June 25, 2024.**

Karuk Public Works Department

Ayukii from the Department of Public Works. Our current crew consists of the following:

Jack Lantz, Director of Public Works
Eric Cutright, Information Technology
Misty Rickwalt, Department of Transportation
Robert Perez, Construction Manager
Darrell Frost, Emergency Services
Ashlee King, Lands Specialist

As Director of Public Works, for a little over a year I can honestly say this management crew has been productive and hard working in all three communities. The growth is amazing to be a part of, and to support. Often times we are put in places that may seem uncomfortable, but the support we offer each other keeps us strong. Behind the scenes, not often talked about, are multimillion-dollar projects that require miles of foot work and as always, a ton of paperwork. I am proud to be home working for my people and am grateful to work with so many great individuals.

A project that the Karuk Department of Transportation Director and I have been working aggressively on is the Ishkeesh Bridge build in Happy Camp. At first the possibility seemed impossible, until the Tribal Liaison from the Army Corps of Engineers, came to Happy Camp and heard our request for support. In February 2024, we submitted a \$11 million dollar grant for the studies and design. If this opportunity comes to fruition accessibility and advancements in Food Sovereignty, Housing, Economic Development, Cultural and Traditional uses of our land will become a reality. 🏹



Yreka Community Garden Project Moving Along



Site of future bridge to Ishkeesh Ranch in Happy Camp

New Tribe Land Specialist...

Ayukii, My name is Ashlee King, after eighteen years with the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority I have transferred over to the new Land Management Specialist with the Karuk Tribe. It has been quite intriguing to learn about the Karuk Tribe Lands and the plans for the future of those lands. One of the main objectives of the Karuk Tribe Lands department is to put Tribal parcels into Tribal Trust. Tribal trust land establishes the Karuk Tribe jurisdiction and broadens Tribal Sovereignty. The Karuk Tribe has worked diligently over the past 30 years to acquire and place lands into Trust for the Karuk Tribe.

The Lands Management Department has been working on yearly water rights reports for all Karuk Tribal properties. There have been ongoing land applications that continue to go thru the process from fee to trust. I have recently completed training in Geographic Information System. This

type of software is great to learn in order to understand geospatial information. I am also currently working on obtaining my Real Estate license.

I have been placed with the task of developing and creating a Karuk Tribe Workforce Policy. As the Tribe continues to grow and operate the need for housing becomes evident. The Karuk Tribe Workforce Policy will help ensure that housing needs are being met for new and current employees.

I am enjoying this new position and look forward to helping maintain the Karuk Tribe Lands. 🏹

Yootva,
Ashlee King



News from Karuk Tribe

Emergency Manager

Karuk Emergency Management is here to serve and protect life and property, through education and training in preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery (All Hazards Approach). It has been a busy first year for your Emergency manager, Darrell Frost who came to the Karuk Tribe from a diverse background in local Fire Service, Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management. He has been busy with several projects including an Emergency Water Grant that is providing clean drinking water to the communities of Orleans and Happy Camp, CPR and First Aid training to Staff, our tribal communities, and Fire service.

We had our first Community Disaster Preparedness Academy in Orleans on February 3rd with well received success. Last Summer, the Emergency Services Department was extremely busy during the last Fire Season doing Emergency Evacuations in Scott Bar and Hamburg, delivering emergency medications through road blocks for our Clinics, and providing direct services to Tribal communities, including Generators, Fuel, and real time weather updates. The holiday season included some fun activities, like the Shop with a Cop Program. We were able to assist with providing transportation to the event in Yreka and back home to Orleans for area youth along with Tribal housing. Darrel Frost is honored to serve the Karuk People and communities as our Karuk Tribe Emergency Manager. 🏹



CPR Class at Yreka Housing Office



Disaster Academy Graduates



Left: CPR Class at Yreka Housing Office

Above: Water Delivery during Orleans Boil Notice

2024-2025 Higher Education Grant

(Application Due Date is July 26, 2024)

The Karuk Tribe is very proud of your initiative to succeed through higher education. Your effort to attain a college degree will not only provide you opportunities for higher paying jobs and increase your interpersonal skills and knowledge; but will also increase tribal and community capacity for generations to come. We appreciate your courage, respect your ambition, and look forward to your unique contribution to the future of our tribe.

Grant eligibility requirements and application can be found at www.karukeducation.com



Karuk Department of Transportation (KDOT)

Ayukii from the Karuk Department of Transportation! We've been super busy working on multiple projects and plans. Here's a list of just a few of them. We're also going to be working on our Long Range Transportation Plan update. Please join the community meetings to provide your valuable input when the dates and times are announced.

Orleans/Somes Bar Projects

Call Box installations – Humboldt County Association of Governments Technical Advisory Committee, at KDOT's request, initiated and paid for a project to install eleven Emergency Call Boxes along SR96 from Willow Creek to Somes Bar; six of which are between Bluff Creek and Somes Bar. These call boxes will allow for calls for help to be placed in times of emergency, and/or if someone's vehicle breaks down in a location where there's no cell service.



New Call Box in Orleans

Orleans Beautification Project (Clean California) – KDOT has been working with Caltrans District 1 staff on implementing a Clean California project for Orleans. The project elements include dual language welcome signs (Orleans/Panamnik), 10 lights with changeable decorative banners, and an enhanced crosswalk with a tribal pattern. These project elements were chosen by the community of Orleans via survey and at a well-attended meeting last fall. Project completion date is expected by the end of March 2024.



Part of Orleans Panamnik Beautification Project

Orleans Bicycle and Pedestrian Path – this project is still in the early planning stages. We recently held an Open House meeting, which many community members of all ages attended. This project would potentially provide a multi-use path through Orleans, from Camp Creek to Peach Creek. Unfortunately, we have had at least five traffic related fatalities within the project area over the years. Our plan with this project is to slow traffic through town with additional lighting, a path on one side of the highway for kids and adults to safely walk and bike, as well as other traffic calming measures.

Somes Bar Capital Maintenance Project (CAPM) – Karuk DOT has been collaborating with Caltrans District 2 on a project from postmile 0.0 to 12.0 in Siskiyou County (Somes Bar). This project will include improved drainage, installation of guardrails, signage, striping and paving. There is also planning in the works for a future project to make additional safety improvements the entire length of SR96. When you notice places along this route that need guardrail, or other safety enhancements, please shoot me an email with a postmile number so I can report it to Caltrans.

Happy Camp Projects

Happy Camp Parking Expansion Project – Karuk DOT anticipates the paving and striping for the new medical and dental centers in Happy Camp to be completed by mid-June when warmer weather and asphalt plants start back up again. In the meantime, compaction and ADA parking standards were met, and the buildings are absolutely beautiful!



Open House Happy Camp Complete Streets

Happy Camp Complete Streets Project – After the Tribe was awarded \$9.9 million dollars in Active Transportation Program funding, there were several community meetings



Chairman Attebery and Megan Dahle Happy Camp Complete Streets Project

held in October of 2022 and September of 2023, with great attendance from community members, tribal staff, California State Representatives (Megan Dahle & staff), Siskiyou County transportation representatives and business owners from within the project limits. Interactive maps were displayed for people to mark-up with their comments, concerns and suggestions. Caltrans District 2 took the information gathered and are incorporating as many of the changes as are feasible. Construction is scheduled to

begin in summer of 2024/2025. Sending out a special Yootva to Partner's Deli for providing a delicious meal for those who attended the last open house meeting.

RAISE Grant application – After months of preparation and hours of staff time compiling information, meeting with internal and external stakeholders and grant writers, Karuk DOT and the Karuk PWD submitted a proposal to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program for the planning of a bridge outside of Happy Camp, which would stretch across the Klamath River from State Route 96 to “the Ishkeesh Ranch”. The Tribe plans to develop the property in the future and this bridge would be instrumental in allowing that to happen in a more achievable manner.

Yreka Projects

Yreka Roads Safety Project – KDOT applied for, and was awarded \$673K in grant funding from the US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund for a safety project, which includes elements such as additional permanent speed bumps, signage, guardrail, utility relocation, and curbing. There have been at least three or more crashes along Apsuun Road, two of which tragically resulted in fatalities. This project aims to slow traffic and create safer routes of travel within tribal housing. We also plan to build trails and walking paths in the area as a future phase of the project.

Yreka KDOT Shop & offices – In 2023, the Tribe purchased a small piece of property off of Oberlin Road for the Department of Transportation. After years of not having a place of our own in Yreka, we now have a shop and offices for our KDOT staff. We are so excited, and would like to thank tribal council for making this happen.



KDOT Employees Bucky Lantz and William Setzer

Other Projects & Road Maintenance

Transit Project – Karuk DOT was recently awarded two highly-competitive grants to develop a transit program. We will be conducting a feasibility study, hiring a transit coordinator, and eventually purchasing a van, and hiring a driver to facilitate transit services between Orleans and Happy Camp, and beyond.

Road Maintenance – Whether it be weed-whacking, clearing drain inlets, cleaning sidewalks, crack-sealing, re-painting parking areas, fixing potholes and broken curbs, maintaining equipment, or replacing signage; the crew is always busy. As always, if you see a tribal road maintenance concern, please reach out to us or fill out the maintenance form online and email it to mrickwalt@karuk.us

As always, if you have questions, comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time - Misty Rickwalt, Transportation Director, at (530) 627-3016 or mrickwalt@karuk.us Yootva! 🏹



Orleans Trail Project open house

Happy Camp IT - Expansion and Modernization

Ayukii from the Happy Camp IT Department. Our department over the past six months has seen substantial growth with the addition of a new IT Lead Technician, (Regis Jerry) as well as a new IT Apprentice, (Anthony Thomas).

With the assistance of our new members as well as the more experienced team members, Kyle Day and Josh Hillman, we have been able to increase our ability to support the other departments across the board. With Josh leading projects installing new cameras in tribal locations for added security. As well as Kyle taking point during the final transition from the old Dental/Medical to the new and improved Hillside locations.

With the new Health/Medical buildings comes room to grow with updating technology and modern amenities. In the coming months we will be working with the Dental Department to add in screens for our patients to be able to view something relaxing while in the chair. It should help those who aren't a fan of the dentist to be able to relax fully and make the overall experience more enjoyable. 🏹



Happy Camp IT Department – Left to Right: Kyle Day (IT Tech), Anthony Thomas (IT Apprentice), Regis Jerry (Lead IT Tech), Josh Hillman (IT Security Tech)

Karuk Tribe Hillside Medical Complex Nears Final Phase



Dental Facility part of Medical Complex in Happy Camp is now open



Medical Facility entrance

In December 2023, the Happy Camp Community received state of the art Medical and Dental facilities. The Karuk Tribe has been working towards this goal for more than two decades, to serve the community and membership with the best environment possible to receive health care. The facilities that were constructed give each department room for growth. The new Medical Clinic will soon have the capability of offering medical x-rays to the community of Happy Camp, something that hasn't been done for about 25 years. The community of Happy Camp has shown that they greatly appreciate the new facilities.

In summer of 2024 the Karuk Tribe will start the construction of the New Medical Administration building located on Hillside Road. This facility will be the final construction in the build out of the new Health Care Complex in Happy Camp. The new facility will allow for all of the medical administration employees to be housed in the same building, on the same compound as the rest of the medical facilities. this will make everything easier for the membership and community members to be able to access all of their medical needs in one location. 🏹

Áan Chúuphan to Build Fiber-Optic Internet Access in Panamnik

In 2015 the Karuk Tribe launched an Internet Service Provider (ISP) in Orleans. Áan Chúuphan, which translates from Karuk to English as Talking Line, has been providing unlimited broadband to homes and businesses in the Panamnik (aka Orleans) community using wireless (Wi-Fi) technology. Residents currently only have the choice of Áan Chúuphan or satellite Internet access. Unlike satellite service, Áan Chúuphan Internet access has no data cap, meaning that subscribers can utilize the service non-stop without metered access and with no overage fees. Sadly, the bandwidth that Áan Chúuphan can offer over wireless technologies is not meeting the new high-speed broadband needs of the community, especially after the rise of video conferencing during the Covid-19 pandemic.

To address this need, the Karuk Tribe is planning two expansions to the Áan Chúuphan service. The first expansion is a project call the Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative (KRRBI). This project will build fiber optic cable from Orleans all the way to McKinleyville, and to tie into neighboring broadband providers along the way. This project will provide redundancy to the entire community, and will allow for lower bandwidth costs, since Áan Chúuphan will be able to select the most cost-effective upstream bandwidth provider. The

Karuk Tribe may also be able to add additional customers in areas that are currently unserved with high-speed broadband.

The second expansion is to build Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) in Orleans, where an underground fiber-optic cable will be installed to every home and business in the great Orleans community. This project is currently in the planning stages, with a grant received in 2023 from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. This grant will aid the Karuk Tribe to plan for FTTH, including environmental studies and engineering plans. The Karuk Tribe has applied for over \$25 million in funding to build this project, and is waiting to hear back from the grant agencies whether this funding will be approved.

In addition to home internet access, the Orleans Computer Center and Panamnik Library offers computers for use by the public at no cost. Please stop by the center to check your e-mail or look into getting a GED or college degree online. The Computer Center is located at 459 Asip Rd.

For more information, or if you would like to subscribe, please call 530-627-3695. You may also visit www.aanchuuphan.net. 🏹



Karuk Tribe Housing Authority



YREKA
1836 Apsuun
(530) 842-1644



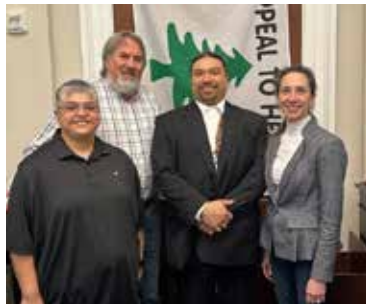
HAPPY CAMP
635 Jacobs Way
(530) 493-1414



ORLEANS
37960 Highway 96
(530) 627-3703

Advocating in Washington, DC

In February, Kenneth Brink, Sherile Grant, and Sara Spence traveled to Washington, DC to advocate for the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority with Congressional Representatives, HUD, and FEMA. This is an annual trip to the Capitol to remind them of their Trust obligation to the Native American Tribes and let them know that the Tribal Leaders will hold them accountable for their obligations. Housing programs are vastly underfunded and have not kept pace with inflation so the dollars don't go as far as they used to with everything rising. Every dollar obtained as a result of these visits impacts and improves the lives of the Tribal Members who are served by the KTHA programs.



Sherile Grant, Doug LaMalfa (CA-R), Kenneth Brink and Sara Spence visit the Hill in DC

the past 10 years. His fellow co-workers offered the following comments with their nominations: *Randy is a true TEAM player; always willing to take on something new, and help those in need. Randy looks for creative ways to implement projects, and takes his work very seriously. Randy gets along with everyone and is always supportive of his coworkers. Randy has established meaningful partnerships with outside agencies and secured over \$20 million in new grant funds for impactful projects that improve the quality of life for KTHA Tenants.*

Ruth Bain Retires

Ruth Bain retired from her position as Clerical Assistant/Purchasing Clerk on December 8, 2023 after 8 years with KTHA. Ruth will be greatly missed and was an incredible asset to the KTHA Team while she was there. Beyond her "regular" duties, Ruth cooked all of the meals for the Happy Camp Board of Commissioners Meetings and is an amazing cook. Everyone will miss Ruth's kindness, hard work, and definitely her home cooking. Most importantly, KTHA hopes that Ruth is enjoying her Golden Years with her husband and best friend, John, because she deserves it!



Ruth Bain retires from KTHA



Randy White KTHA 2023 Employee of the Year

KTHA Employee of the Year

KTHA held their Annual Holiday Banquet on 12/1/2023 where Randy White was honored as the KTHA Employee of the Year for 2023! Randy is KTHA's Security Officer I / Emergency Services Manager, and has been employed with KTHA for

Grant Work and Projects Underway Orleans, Happy Camp, and Yreka

Work is wrapping up on the Department of Energy (DOE) Grant to add solar panels and battery backups to 39 Elder units in all three communities as well as the Wellness Center

in Happy Camp. Work began in May starting with Orleans first, due to their unreliable electric service. These systems will provide uninterrupted, clean energy, via batteries, to serve the needs of Elder tenants during outages. At this time, all solar panels, batteries, and inverters have been mounted and installed. The systems will be fully activated and started as full clearance is received from the utility providers.

Orleans

HUD Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Competitive Grant funds are being used to construct eight (8) two-bedroom, single family units on the property previously known as the Pines RV Park. Demolition has been completed at the site and construction permits were finally issued! The next step will be advertising for the infrastructure, followed by construction of the homes. This project had a very slow start due to Humboldt County permitting requirements, but it is very exciting to finally be ready to start construction.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding is being used to replace all wood fencing throughout the Orleans community with powder coated chain link and privacy slats, to mitigate fire risk. This work began March 18 and will continue until complete.

Happy Camp:

American Rescue Plan (ARP) IHBG fundin is being used to construct seven (7) two-bedroom single family units in the Happy Camp community along Second Avenue. The Force account crew has been braving the rain, sleet, and snow to continue making steady progress on the framing, sheathing, and trusses for these homes to get them dried in. ***Keep an eye out for an article highlighting KTHA's Force Account Crew in the upcoming Summer Edition.***

FEMA is funding a grant to install four (4) generators at multiple locations throughout Happy Camp, to ensure continuity of services. Unfortunately, there is a long lead time on production of the generators, so progress has been slow on this project.

Yreka:

Work continues on the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) grant to retrofit the exteriors of the Yreka units to mitigate wildfire danger. The project is being done in phases over several years from multiple funding sources to accomplish all of the tasks. This first phase includes siding/painting/decks on the apartments, siding on the 30 homes, and painting/decks for the Elder units. The second phase will be funded by FEMA BRIC and Cal OES and includes: metal roofing and fence replacement for the apartments/30 homes/

elder units, and the updated decks for the 30 homes. The defensible space and fuels reduction work has already been completed and looks fantastic!

KTHA also continues renovating all 63 Yreka apartments which are now over 30 years old! The kitchens, bathrooms, and flooring are all being replaced along with other non-routine repairs such as LED light upgrades and replacing exterior security lights and faucets. Although it is frustrating to see so many vacant apartments, we ask everyone to understand that those units are not move-in ready, they have been fully stripped to complete the work. Once the first batch is complete, the complex process of transferring existing tenants into their newly renovated apartments will begin, and continue until all units are renovated. This pairs nicely with the exterior retrofitting being done to the units. The dumpster gates were recently replaced, and look much better now. After the exterior work is complete, all of the apartments will be landscaped with eco-friendly synthetic lawns to finish off this long project, which will greatly improve the curb appeal of the Yreka apartments.

Programs and Applications

The Karuk Tribe Housing Authority offers Low Income and Elder Rental Units in Yreka, Happy Camp, and Orleans to income eligible Tribal individuals and families. KTHA also offers the following assistance to income eligible Karuk Tribal Members: First-Time Homebuyer Loans, Down Payment Assistance Grants, Mortgage Relief Grants, Student Rent Vouchers, Elder Rent Vouchers, and Temporary Rent Vouchers, Home Replacement Grants, Home Rehabilitation & Weatherization Grants and Loans, and Home Improvement Loans.

Samantha White, Admissions/Loan Specialist, receives and processes all applications for KTHA assistance. We encourage Tribal Members who have any unmet housing needs to SUBMIT AN APPLICATION! The income limits that determine eligibility are not as low as you may think; many working families are still at or below 80% of US Median Family Income Limits set by HUD. Samantha can be reached at (530) 493-1414, Extension 3108 or smwhite@karuk.us We remind all applicants that a current, **complete**, application is required in order to determine eligibility for KTHA assistance. Applications are available from any KTHA Office or online at www.ktha.us/

Please be patient as you go through the application process and understand that everyone's experience will be unique. There is a checklist on the application listing mandatory

items that must be included for all applications, including all of them at the time of application makes the process much faster. Additional documents may be requested depending on your individual circumstances while processing the application. All applicants will be notified if there is missing documentation, or if additional information is needed, in order to continue processing the application, as well as when the application is deemed complete. Processing times are different depending on the program applied for due to the necessary documentation, research, and third-party verifications required for each individual program.



KTHA Board of Commissioners

Board of Commissioners

The current KTHA Board of Commissioners are: Kenneth Brink, Dolores Voyles, Arch Super, Sherile Grant, Deborah Whitman, Charlene Naef, and Wilverna Reece. The Board of Commissioners Tenant Meetings are held the first Monday of the month, beginning at 10am. The location rotates between the three KTHA communities as follows: January, April, July, and October in Orleans; February, May, August, and November in Yreka; March, June, September, and December in Happy Camp. 🏹



New and Improved Employee Benefits Rolled Out in 2024

Payroll Teams are excited to announce some NEW and IMPROVED Employee Benefits that went into effect this Benefit Year:

Life Insurance Increase - Effective this plan year, the face value of the Karuk Tribe's Employee Life and ADD Insurance was raised from \$15k to \$25k. There's NO change required by employees as the increased amount is seamless in design. However, HR and Payroll recommends that each employee should review their beneficiary designations and make sure they are up to date and per their wishes.

This change was implemented to acknowledge the significant costs that families and beneficiaries face when they suffer the loss of a loved one and it also puts us in a stronger competitive position among our peers. The Karuk Tribal Council believes this is one of the many ways they are able to express how much each employee means to them and is a gesture of care and compassion for those left behind.

Karuk Family Leave - As announced earlier, the Karuk Tribal Council approved their Karuk Family Leave, unlike the Family Medical Leave, Karuk Family Leave (KFL) was created for those employees who have completed their initiation period but not yet attained a full year of employment. KFL provides qualified applicants with up to 8 weeks of KFL for qualifying events such as their own serious health needs, care of family members (as defined), the birth, adoption or fostering of a child(ren). To learn more about these and other employee benefits, contact Human Resources, #530-493-1600, Ext. #2038 (Taylor Downey) or Ext. 2041, Annelle Lerner. 🏹

Kahtishraam Wellness Center

We are excited to share the latest updates and news from our community activities. Here's what's been happening at the Kahtishraam Wellness Center:

Cultural Heritage: Our elders through Beading, regalia and me time, they have been actively preserving and passing down traditional knowledge through workshops on creating exquisite traditional regalia. These workshops not only enrich our cultural tapestry but also provide invaluable learning opportunities for our youth.

After-School Program Success: We're delighted to announce the success of our after-school program, offering academic tutoring, mentorship, and cultural awareness workshops. This program is tailored to meet the diverse needs of our community, fostering holistic growth and development for all participants.

Title VI Program: Our schools are embracing Karuk language, words, and visuals through the Title VI program, promoting cultural understanding and collaboration between teachers, staff, and native students.

Friday Night Live (FNL): Our Karuk language class also includes discussions on healthy student lifestyles as part of the Friday Night Live program, building partnerships for positive youth development and engagement. As part of FNL, Betting on Our Future (BOOF): Our collaboration with Siskiyou Works and Marie Caldwell has empowered young people to raise awareness of problem gambling through a multimedia campaign. We've created t-shirts with traditional symbols, connecting students positively to their culture.

Gym Floor Expansion: We're thrilled to announce the completion of our gym floor expansion, featuring two basketball courts, volleyball courts, and six pickleball courts. Stay tuned for more leagues and tournaments!

Empowering Our Youth and Families. Richard and Shauniece have hit the ground running, wasting no time in spearheading a wide range of activities in both Happy Camp and Orleans. Celebrating our cultural heritage to basketball camps for aspiring athletes, open gym sessions for all to enjoy, and festive holiday dances, there's something for everyone to participate in and enjoy.



Orleans Ribbon Skirt Workshop. Our ribbon skirt workshop taught material layout, sewing techniques, and tool use. Participants made beautiful skirts, reminders community and gifts from the tribe.

Orleans Basketball Camp. The panámniik basketball camp kicked off with great enthusiasm, thanks to the efforts of Richard Billingsley Skillen and Bubba King, who made it all possible, and Nartell Briley, who ensured everyone was well-fed with delicious meals. The camp was a huge success, with kids diving into intense training sessions. This two-day, eight-hour intensive camp, ensuring a rewarding experience for all participants.

Happy Camp Holiday Dance. At the Valentine's Day Dance in Happy Camp, 46 energetic kids had fun together. They filled the Wellness Center Gym with excitement, making lasting memories while dancing.

We are thrilled about the upcoming exciting activities and eagerly anticipate the participation of everyone in our community. Your involvement is key to making these events successful! Whether you have knowledge to share, are interested in volunteering during activities, or have creative ideas to contribute, we welcome your input. Don't hesitate to reach out to any member of our team. Together, let's make our community events truly memorable and enjoyable for all!

KWC Team: Florraine Super, Wellness Center Director; Barbara Wilson, Facilities Attendant; Bernie Burns, KWC On-Call Clerk; Richard Billingsley, Youth & Families Activities Coordinator (YFAC); and Shauniece Polmateer, YFAC Assistant. 🦋

Florraine Super, Wellness Center Director
530-842-5238 | florrinesuper@karuk.us

Karuk Basket Weaving Classes

Traditional Karuk Basket Weaving classes are held weekly in the Orleans and Happy Camp communities. Classes are sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources Pikyav Program to foster intergenerational learning and promote Karuk culture. Although not a requirement, attendees are encouraged to bring their own materials for weaving. 🦅



Wilverna Reece- Teacher

(Panamnik) Orleans Class:

- **When:** Fridays, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- **Where:** Panamnik Center, 459 Asip Road, Orleans
- **Instructor:** Wilverna Reece, Karuk

(Athithufvunupma) Happy Camp Class:

- **When:** Sundays, Noon to 1:00 pm
- **Where:** People's Center Museum, 64236 Second Avenue, Happy Camp
- **Instructor:** Brittany Souza, Karuk



Panamnik Class



Happy Camp class gathers Hazel sticks



Finished plate



Completed wall mat

Karuk Tribe Head Start

Our Karuk Tribal Head Start school year is in full swing. The winter months were cold, and we experienced a great deal of sickness, but that didn't bring our teaching staff down as they turned their classrooms into doctor's offices. The students learned the importance of hand washing, and were able to listen to each other's heartbeats with their very own stethoscopes. The students made their own traditional medicine and couldn't have been prouder to crack acorns and grind them for xuun.

We enjoyed indoor time with stories from Crystal and James Richardson in Karuk language. Ask any Karuk Tribal Head Start student where red dirt comes from and they will be happy to tell you. The three classrooms have been welcoming guests from the community to share their occupations and have taken many trips to the wellness center gym to get those winter time wiggles out.

As spring nears, the Karuk Tribal Head Start partnering with Karuk Tribal Court Child Advocate Program are taking walks for "kindness". Our annual kindness march will be happening around our schools. So, if you see us out there, give us a honk or a wave for kindness.

We are always accepting applications for both native and non-native families with children ages 3-5. 🏹



March for Kindness 2024



Grinding Acorns



Taay pa xurish



Xurish

Klamath River Resort Inn Renovation

The Karuk Tribe purchased the resort in 2022 with HUD Indian Community Block Grant American Rescue Plan Act. The resort is located next to the Klamath River, and was previously called the Anglers Motel. When the Karuk Tribe acquired the property, the resort was renovated and updated to make the facilities more comfortable and COVID safety measures were completed for program clients and other guests. New roof and gutters, water system, laundry facility upgrades, windows for better ventilation, modern energy efficient heating and cooling systems, an emergency generator and distribution panels, and numerous other items will make it a safer and more pleasant stay. 🏹



*New roof on Karuk Tribe's
Klamath River Resort Inn*

Mechanic, Maintenance Shop Acquisition



*Part of new site
for Mechanics and
Maintenance*

The Karuk Tribe acquired the tire shop winter 2023 located in the community of Happy Camp. The intended use of the land purchased is to relocate the mechanic shop, so that it's more accessible to the tribal employees. The shop is going to take some renovations to make it a suitable space for our employees to work. The building also consists of the community laundromat, which the tribe is keeping open for the public. There will also be some renovations needed to the laundromat in the near future. The Karuk Tribe continually strives to make our communities a better place for the membership and community members. 🏹



*Site of new Mechanics,
Maintenance and
Laundromat in
Happy Camp*

New Telemedicine program now available at Yreka Clinic!



The Karuk Tribal Human Services and Telehealth Department launched a new program called TeleMed2U. This program is designed to provide the right level of support and care you need to improve your health. Their physicians will work with the patient's primary medical team to provide ongoing management of acute and chronic diseases including co-management of psychoactive medication. Partnership patients will have the convenience of virtually consulting with their provider in a relaxing and confidential setting at

the Karuk Human Services location in Yreka. February 20th was the first day when patients utilized the Embedded Clinic. Launching and operating the program is attributed to Amy Lantz (Telehealth Coordinator), who works with the staff in the Human Services Office. TeleMed2U is provided through Partnership at no cost to Partnership patients. Referrals to TelMed2U are made through your medical provider or as a self-referral. For more information please call Amy Lantz at 530-842-9200. 🏹

Karuk Education Department's Youth Cultural Practitioner Program

Ayukii koovura,

In collaboration with Cultural Practitioners, Jackson Street School, and Karuk Education, students of Jackson Street School were given the opportunity to learn about the Karuk Cultural tradition, the Brush Dance. The Brush Dance is a Karuk Traditional dance and ceremony where participants gather to sing, dance, and heal a sick child. Students from grades 4th through 8th learned songs, lining up, and demonstrative regalia, including the significance of dentalium, abalone, basket hats, quivers, and also learned how to introduce themselves in Karuk.

All students also had the chance to make a triple stranded necklace to take home with them at the end of the program. The Karuk Brush Dance class also marked the onset of the Karuk Education Department's Youth Cultural Practitioner (YCP) program, established to create opportunities for teen youth to participate in learning and teaching Karuk culture to the younger generation. The YCPs are learning how to work with the younger generation while also learning more about their culture and working towards life goals.

Throughout the program, Cultural Practitioners provided instruction and support to the YCPs during the Karuk Brush Dance Class. The students and cultural practitioners worked for 3 consecutive weeks to prepare for a presentation to their school during each grade's awards assemblies to show their families, school staff, and peers what they learned.

The YCPs assisted the Cultural Practitioners by demonstrating lining up, jumping center, and learned two songs. One song was introduced by Franklin Thom, and the other by student Harlee Moore. Harlee Moore presented her song to the class, which became a highlight of their presentation during the awards assembly. The Brush Dance class was the first of its kind to be conducted at Jackson Street School, marking a monumental milestone for integrating Karuk Culture into the school.

This Brush Dance Class, like many more to come, has opened the door for establishing Karuk cultural identity, acceptance, revitalization, and introduction to Karuk culture for non-native youth. The Karuk Education Department is determined to establish Karuk culture as an equal in the classrooms across the Karuk territory and service areas, normalizing Karuk practices. 🏹



Youth Cultural Practitioners and JSS students with Frank Thom



Learning how to 'jump center'



Josephine Smith teaching students to make iikiv (necklaces)

GIS Division within Collaborative Stewardship Program

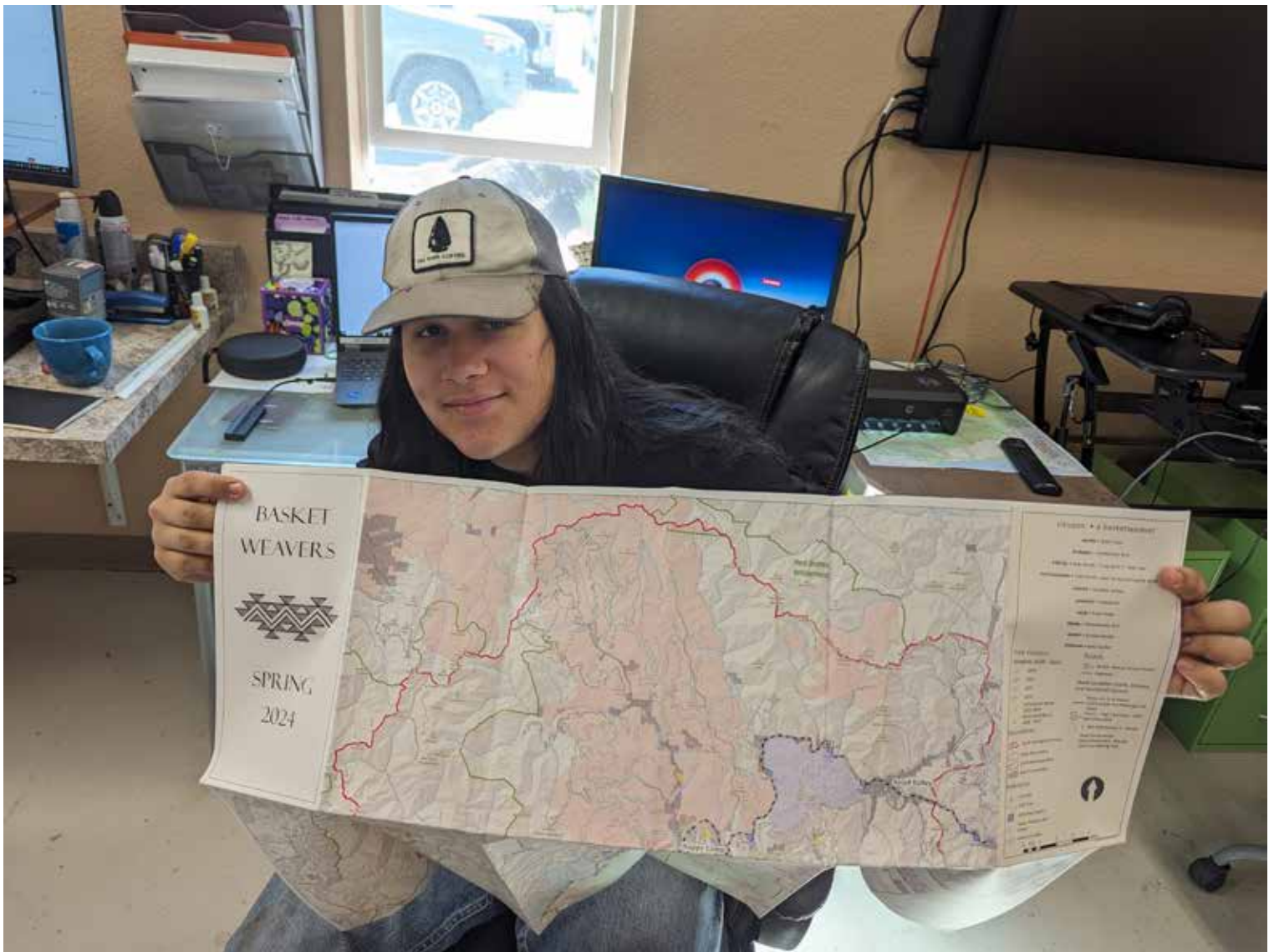
Ayukîi koovúra! Hello, everyone!

We are the GIS Division within the Collaborative Stewardship Program at the Karuk Department of Natural Resources (KDNR). We provide broad **GIS** support for all the many Programs and Divisions within KDNR, as well as our many collaborators and other Tribal departments when able. From customizing and troubleshooting **GPS** data collection tools for field staff, creating and printing beautiful custom maps (if we do say so ourselves), maintaining large **geospatial** datasets in an organized and secure environment, becoming trained and certified drone pilots to collect **aerial imagery** for our ecocultural restoration project areas, and more, we stay busy throughout the year! We have been able to share our

important work with youth in the schools, demonstrating use of our **Simtable** sand table, and more with youth and college-aged interns. We are very interested in bringing more tribal youth into the exciting world of GIS, and hope to be able to have more opportunities to do this in 2024! You can reach us GIS@karuk.us 🏹

Yootva, thank you!

Will Bruce, GIS Division Coordinator
Christopher Weinstein, GIS Specialist
Chaas Hillman, GIS Technician



Chaas Hillman holding a map he helped create

Some GIS Terms to Know:

GIS - Geographic Information Systems

What is GIS? This is probably the most asked question posed to those in the GIS field and is probably the hardest to answer simply. GIS is a technological field that incorporates geographical features with tabular data (otherwise known as attribute data) in order to map, analyze, and assess real-world problems.

GPS - Global Positioning Systems

Method for identifying locations on earth using triangulation calculations of satellite positions. The Global Positioning System (GPS) is more than a handheld device that tells you where you are. The entire system is the receiver device, a number of ground stations, and the network of Earth-orbiting satellites.

Geospatial data

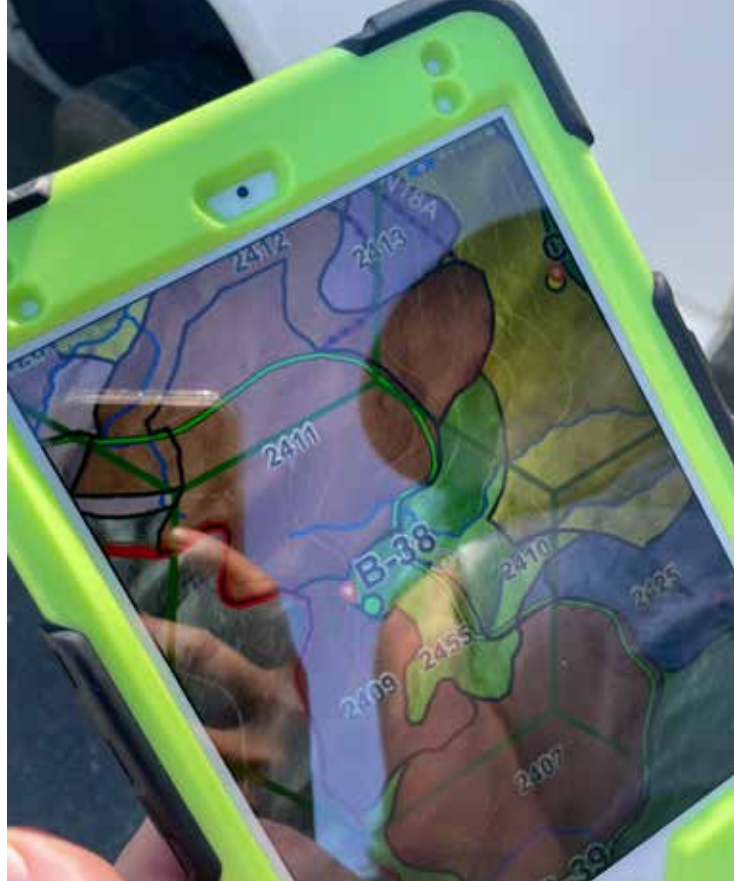
The word geospatial is used to indicate that data that has a geographic component to it. This means that the records in a dataset have locational information tied to them such as geographic data in the form of coordinates, address, city, or ZIP code.

Aerial imagery or photograph

A photograph of the earth's surface taken from an aircraft, satellite, or other remote platform. Aerial photography is often used as a cartographic data source for basemaps, to locate geographic features, and to interpret environmental conditions.

Simtable

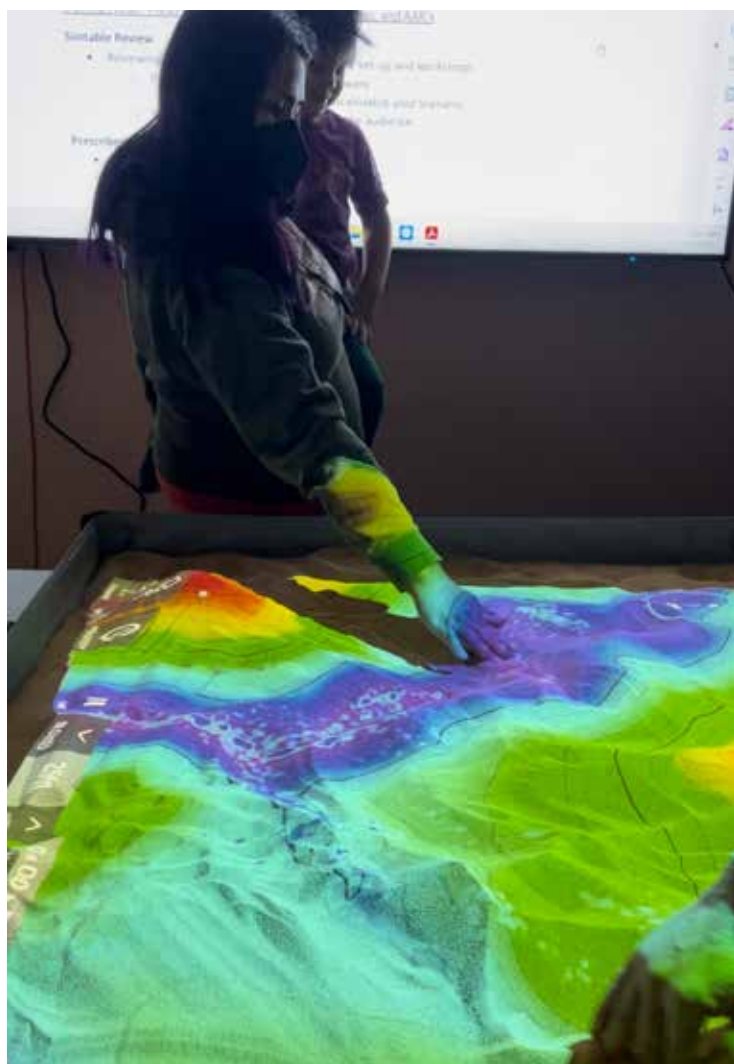
Simtable is a company that provides digital sand tables and custom simulation models to the wildland fire, emergency management, and educational communities.



Project map on field tablet



GIS crew test flying their new drone



Simtable demonstration

Fish are doing well in the Klamath River

It has been about 6 weeks since drawdown of the reservoirs on the Klamath River in preparation for removal of J.C. Boyle, Copco 1, and Iron Gate Dams. A lot has happened to the River downstream during the days and weeks since the drawdown was initiated. As 100 years worth of sediment and dead algae held back by the dams was released, decomposition of these sediments used up the available oxygen in the water, leading to low dissolved oxygen levels in the river downstream of Iron Gate Dam. This low oxygen persisted for approximately 24 hours killing many fish and invertebrates in the reach immediately downstream of Iron Gate Dam.

Water quality conditions improved downstream as tributaries diluted the muddy and low oxygen water. Despite this, the effects of this low dissolved oxygen resulted in a fish die-off event that was evident as far downstream as Seiad Valley. It was not a fun day to be a fish biologist when I was washing mud off of dead juvenile salmonids in order to identify them. Any large scale fish die-off can be tragic and difficult to witness, but this event was anticipated and planned to do the least harm possible while still allowing for the fastest removal of the dams.

Drawdown was initiated in Mid-January to have the least impact on wild salmonids in the Klamath River. Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon have typically completed their spawning activities by January and most Coho Salmon spawning occurs in tributaries outside out of the mainstem Klamath River. Juvenile fish occupancy in the river is also lower in January than in any other month of the year, minimizing risk to juvenile salmonids.

It is known that some Coho Salmon juveniles use the Klamath River as winter habitat, so an effort was undertaken in the month of December by the Karuk Tribe in collaboration with RES to capture as many of these fish as possible and move them to off-channel habitats that would be unaffected by water quality conditions in the main river. Approximately 500 Coho salmon juveniles were captured and moved during this effort.

It is impossible to know how many juvenile Coho Salmon may have been affected by drawdown, but investigations enumerating mortalities in the most impacted reaches did not observe any dead Coho juveniles. As fish surveys ramp up for the season, we are out capturing fish in the mainstem

river including in the zone where water quality was the worst. As of the first week of March, healthy Chinook Salmon fry have been captured by seining in locations downstream of the mouth of the Shasta River.

Routine seasonal monitoring of juvenile salmon outmigration in Spring is done using traps deployed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in collaboration with the Karuk Tribe. This year's effort has begun, and fish captured the first week of March in the reach upstream of the Scott River look healthy.

We expect turbidity (a measure of water clarity) levels to be higher than we are accustomed to as the newly uncovered river stabilizes in the old reservoir footprints. While there is uncertainty in how soon water clarity gets to a level we would find aesthetically pleasing, turbidity levels are already stabilizing at levels that are acceptable to fish survival and are only expected to improve as time goes on.

One can't expect to fix a one hundred year old problem without some risk or uncertainty. So far, the effort to remove dams in the Klamath River is proceeding as expected. Water quality measurements of dissolved oxygen levels have improved and turbidity levels are improving faster than many expected. It appears the plan to initiate drawdown at a time to minimize risk to Salmon and Steelhead was successful and I am looking forward to the Juvenile salmon currently migrating out of the Klamath being able to return to an unblocked river. 🐟

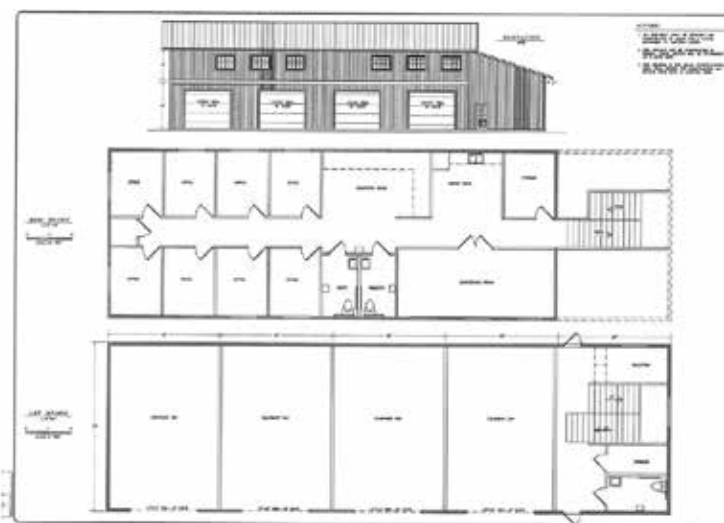


Healthy Coho Salmon captured 3.6.24 at Klamath Kinsman trap site, approximately 1 mile upstream of Scott River Mouth

Karuk Department of Natural Resources Plans for Expansion

The Karuk Department of Natural Resources' (KDNR) office is located in Orleans, California but services all of the Karuk Aboriginal Territory. This Department has grown from 2 employees and a budget of \$150,000 in 1989 when it began as a Fisheries Program, to 85 employees (and growing) across 10 program areas with an annual operating budget of at least \$10 million. We are in an excellent situation for growth and expansion, but currently held back by our small facility and limited office spaces. Thanks to funding from the Department of Conservation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and an anonymous donor, the Karuk DNR is planning an expansion project to serve the needs of our natural/cultural resources and our people and communities. Going off of preliminary plans drawn up in 2015 (pictured), we will be updating and expanding these to meet current and foreseen growth.

One building in the works is Taayvávan Iptáamax (many people stoke the fire), a climate resilience/prescribed fire training center. As we know, fire has been a part of our landscape since time immemorial and the removal of it and our cultural burning practices are what has led to the fuel heavy forests that surround our communities today and create high-risk of severe fire effects. This center is planned to be an evacuation center, clean air center, training center, and a place for gathering to learn, prepare, and build community resilience.

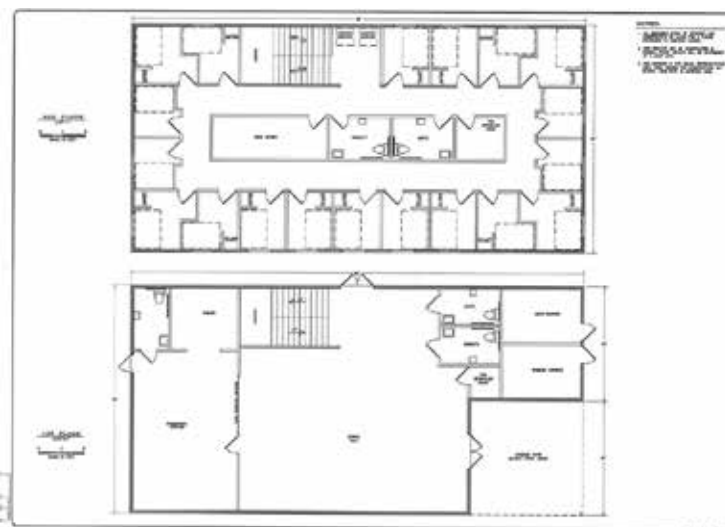


Preliminary design from 2015 for Fisheries. This design will be updated and used to replicate for the Fire and Fuels program as well as expansion into Happy Camp and Yreka when funding and staff are available.

The Karuk Tribe is a leader in the realm of cultural and prescribed fire and our training exchanges (TREX) have brought fire practitioners from around the world to learn. We are also on the forefront of policy change and lawmaking around cultural burning practices and bringing those decisions back into the hands of Tribal people. Having Taayvávan Iptáamax will help us build up our TREX programs and also train more Karuk people to steward our lands safely.

Taayvávan Iptáamax was the starting idea for DNR expansion, but with such a facility we need all of the other infrastructure to support it. We need office spaces for our ten programs, storage and processing space for traditional foods, fibers, and medicines to share with the community, places to host intergenerational learning gatherings, labs and equipment bays, IT support, and also housing for the staff it takes to build up these functions. All of these things are being supported by the funding previously mentioned, along with land purchases that will make these things possible.

We expect to have the engineering and design completed by Summer 2025 for an add on to the current DNR building, Taayvávan Iptáamax, and at least two other buildings, possibly more. Construction will come after that with the securing of the next step in funding for this project. We will be designing some of these facilities with the intention that in the future, they can be replicated in other areas in Karuk Territory to align with our plans to expand. 🏹



Preliminary design from 2015 for Prescribed Fire Training/Climate Resilience Center. There will be some major changes to this design to make it more functional and to fit the space identified for it. This gives a very general idea of the functions.

Air Quality Sensing

Ayukii koovúra
Do you have breathing problems? Would you like to prepare for wildfire season? Karuk Department of Natural Resources in collaboration with the Blue Lake Rancheria and the Schatz Energy Research Center at Cal Poly Humboldt is working on a project to improve air quality monitoring in the area. Our goal is to provide community members and organizations with free PurpleAir monitors that can be used to monitor indoor and outdoor air quality. With these PurpleAir monitors, you can see real-time air quality conditions. This allows individuals and families to see the smoke or particulate exposure in their environments and make decisions regarding when to seek shelter, and when it may be safer to stay indoors and avoid smoke.

Hosting a sensor means that you can see the air quality in your home or outdoor local environment in real-time. The sensor is small and easy to install but it needs two things: a Wi-Fi connection and a power outlet. The Wi-Fi connection

allows the sensor to send the data to the network, so you can see it on a map. You can also scan the QR code below to access the Purple Air map. The power outlet provides electricity to the sensor, which uses very little energy (about \$2 per year).

If you are interested in hosting a sensor, or if you have any questions, please contact me by email or phone. We will send you a registered sensor with detailed instructions on the easy installation process. All you'll need to do is plug it in and connect your Wi-Fi, and you'll be contributing to a community-built air quality network. 🏹

Evauna Grant
egrant@karuk.us
530-340-5219



Karuk Community Computer Center



Ayukii, Nanithvuy
aum (my name is)
Frank Snider, Workforce Coordinator for the Karuk Tribe. I work at the Happy Camp Community Computer Center and have for the past several years, I enjoy this job very much and am thankful for all the opportunities the Karuk Tribe has provided me. The Happy Camp Community Computer

Center is a great place to meet new people take on new challenges.

The Happy Camp Community Computer Center is located at 25 fourth Ave. and we have open hours from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, we have an average of 125 -150 visits a month. We provide internet access with over

sixteen new and up to date computers, we also have printing, faxing and scanning capabilities and we are adding new equipment to meet the community's needs.

The Happy Camp Community Computer Center offers a number of assistances including life skills courses, GED testing and online educational classes, Job seekers will be assisted with applications, resumes and interviewing tips. Internet access also provides you with a wide variety of job search opportunity.

Karuk language class Instructed by Julian Lang will be provided to those who wish to learn from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm on Thursday nights and is a great way to become involved in Karuk culture.

The Happy Camp Community Computer Center is here to serve the tribal and community members of Happy Camp and we look forward in assisting you in all your computer needs weather it be internet or WIFI access, printing out a document or browsing the internet for fun. We are here to serve our community.

Yootva! 🏹

Low Income Assistance Programs (LIAP)

Below are the Low Income Assistance Programs (LIAP) offered by the Karuk Tribe. Please note that all programs have income requirements that must be met before providing services and LIAP has 30 days to process complete applications.

- **Safety Net Services (CSD)** - This program helps low income families with food, shelter, and clothing. The applicant must be a Karuk Tribal Member or Descendant. The maximum amount of assistance provided is up to \$500.
- **Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** - This program provides energy assistance to eligible tribal households with electricity, propane, wood, and minimal weatherization. The maximum amount of assistance provided is up to \$500.
- **General Assistance (GA)** - This program provides low income families with food and/or clothing, shelter, burial and emergency assistance. This program is for Karuk Tribal Members and Members of Federally recognized Tribes only. The maximum amount of assistance for food, shelter, and clothing requests is up to \$500.
- **Adult Care Services** - Adult care assistance provides payment to caregivers for non-medical care for eligible elders. Background checks for providers are required and a home assessment will be completed to determine eligibility.

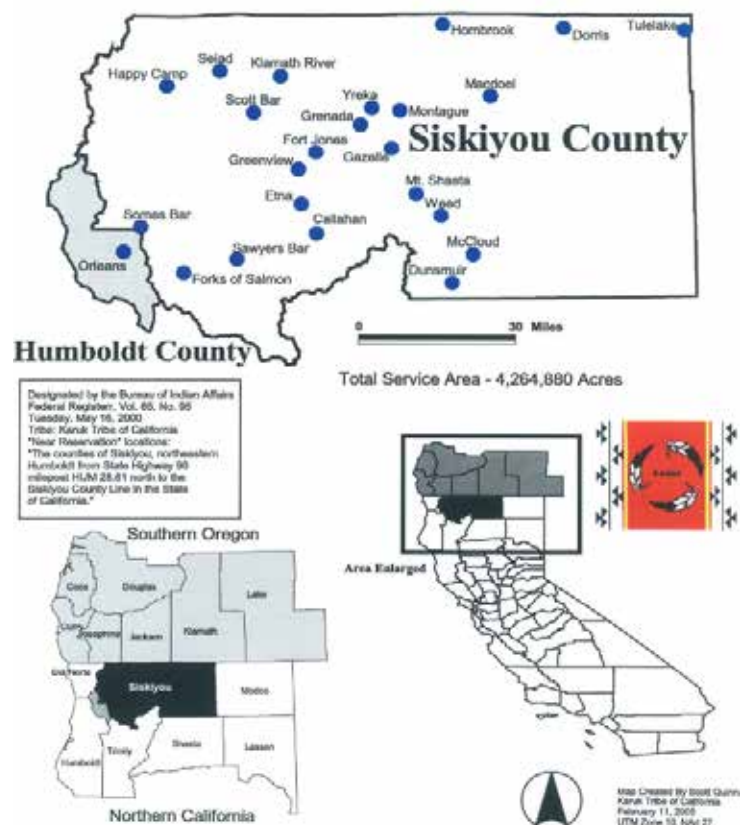
As a general reminder: assistance will be offered on a first come, first served basis until program funding is depleted. Qualifying low income households applying for LIHEAP, CSD, and GA will be awarded a maximum amount of up to \$500 in assistance. To receive assistance for rent and utilities, you must have a balance due to receive services. Credit will no longer be applied to accounts with a current zero balance.

ATTENTION!!! Apply for the CARE program offered by PP&L and PG&E. This program gives you a discount on your utility bill. If you need an application please call and request the CARE application be sent to you! Let's save energy and our budgets!

For more information contact our LIAP Department at 530-493-1600 ext. 2025.

Maximum Annual Income Guidelines for all LIAP Programs	
Household Size: 1	\$34,594
Household Size: 2	\$45,238
Household Size: 3	\$55,882
Household Size: 4	\$66,527
Household Size: 5	\$77,171
Household Size: 6	\$87,815

Karuk Tribe “Near Reservation” Service Area



Ramona Meinert Turns 104!

The extended family of tribal member Ramona (Mona) Grant Meinert wishes to honor her for the amazing achievement of celebrating her 104th birthday!! The undisputed Eldest Elder of the Karuk Tribe!! We are so proud of her and all of us are proud of the strong Karuk blood that keeps her going! It's also her strong daughter, Cathy, that is keeping up with her that contributes to Mona's longevity! Yootva Cathy!

Mona was born to Peter and Susie Grant in Happy Camp on April 8, 1920 and went to school there until she was old enough to go to the Sherman Institute at Riverside, CA. She attended Sherman along with some siblings but returned to Happy Camp after a short time due to health concerns. Before she left Sherman, she was highlighted in the 1935 annual yearbook by having a Karuk story she wrote placed in it. (See photo courtesy Sherman Institute) In addition to Mona being the Eldest Elder could she also be the first published Karuk person? We are so proud of her and love her so much! We would love for Mona to receive as many well-wishes from the tribal membership as is possible so if you have a few minutes and a stamp, please send a happy note to Mona! 🇺🇸

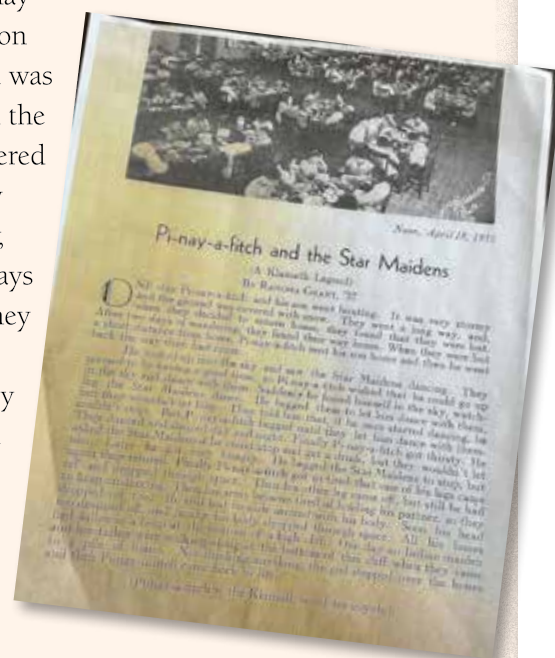
Ramona Meinert
General Delivery
Happy Camp CA 96039

Yootva!



Pi-nay-a-fitch and the Star Maidens (A Klamath Legend) By Ramona Grant, '37

One day Pi-nay-a-fitch and his son went hunting. It was very stormy and the ground was covered with snow. They went a long way, and, after two days of wandering, they found their way home, when they were but a short distance from home, Pi-nay-a-fitch sent his son home and then he went back the way they had come.



He looked up into the sky and saw the Star Maidens dancing. They seemed to be having a good time, so Pi-nay-a-fitch wished that he could go up in the sky and dance with them. Suddenly he found himself in the sky, watching the Star Maidens dance. He begged them to let him dance with them, but they wouldn't let him. They told him that, if he once started dancing, he couldn't stop. But Pi-nay-a-fitch begged until they let him dance with them. They danced and danced day and night. Finally Pi-nay-a-fitch got thirsty. He asked the Star Maidens if he could stop and get a drink, but they wouldn't let him. Later he got very hungry. He begged the Star Maidens to stop, but again they refused. Finally Pi-nay-a-fitch got so tired that one of his legs came off and dropped through space. Then his other leg came off, but still he had to keep on dancing. Then his arms became tired of holding his partner, so they dropped off too. He still had to slide around with his body. Soon his head too dropped off, and finally his body dropped through space. All his bones had fallen in a heap at the bottom of a high cliff. One day an Indian maiden and her father were walking along at the bottom of this cliff when they came to a pile of bones. Not thinking anything, the girl stepped over the bones and then Pi-nay-a-fitch came back to life.

(Pi-nay-a-fitch is the Klamath word for coyote). (Story edited by Sherman Institute)

Wallace Sherman Orcutt



It is with great sorrow that we announce that Wallace Sherman Orcutt, 84, proud member of the Karuk Tribe passed away on March 10, 2024 in Yreka, CA. Wally was born on December 19, 1939 in Yreka to Alvin Orcutt Sr. and Bessie Orcutt (Bennett) of Forks of Salmon. He was raised in Forks of Salmon and graduated from Happy Camp High in

1958. He joined the USAF where he became an Air Force Police Officer and served honorably for 4 years.

In 1962, he married the love of his life Wanda Lee Johnson in Happy Camp where they had five children. Wally went to work as a surveyor for the USFS, attended trade school and held several positions which include McCullough Corporation in Southern California as a computer programmer and security officer. He then relocated his family to LaGrande, Oregon where he was respected by the community.

Wally began his long-held career with Union Pacific Railroad starting on the maintenance of way crew called "The Gang". He worked his way up to conductor where he retired after 25 years. In his free time Wally enjoyed camping in

Sumpter, Oregon, where his family and close friends gathered around a bonfire for memorial weekend. He enjoyed cutting down trees, watching his grandkids ride their ATV's and mushroom hunting with his family and dogs. There wasn't a place that didn't include his beloved German Shepherds but most importantly, Wally enjoyed dancing to Elvis Presley with his beautiful wife, Wanda.

Wally is preceded in death by his parents, Alvin Orcutt Sr., Bessie Orcutt (Bennett) his brother, Butch Orcutt (Alvin Orcutt Jr.) his sisters, Arlene Stewart and Gloria Turley and his son "Bubba" Clinton Stroud. He is survived by his wife, Wanda Orcutt and daughters Brenda Flowers, Sherri Patereau, Melody Hayden, and Stephanie Orcutt. Wally leaves behind 15 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild & nieces & nephews.

Wally left us all with lasting memories and full hearts. He was smart, funny, kind and loved his family with all of his heart. Wally's legacy lives on through the love and memories shared by his family and friends. His jokes, laughter, and the lessons he imparted remain with us, guiding us to take care of each other, to be strong, and to maintain our sense of humor through life's challenges.



Karuk Member Success Story

I was wanting to further my job opportunities and get my CDL. I reached out the Karuk Tribal TERO Department to see if any help was available. It was agreed upon me completing the course that financial assistance would be available. I completed my goal and obtained my CDL. This is a great opportunity available for tribal members needing assistance. Thank you Michelle and Dion! 🏆

Gordy Watkins, Karuk Tribal Member



Gordy Watkins graduates truck driver academy

Karuk Descendant to NAL Team

Skyler McLane, a registered Karuk Tribe Descendant was selected by the Northern Athletic League (NAL) for All League Player for Varsity Boys Basketball for Yreka High School in Yreka California. Only ten student athletes are selected for the NAL, so this is a great achievement, especially for a Junior in high school. 🏆



Karuk Tribe

Post Office Box 1016
Happy Camp, CA 96039-1016

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 110
MEDFORD OR



Clockwise from upper left: Karuk Youth Leadership with Sharice Davids, US Representative in Washington DC; Karuk Youth Leadership at Winter Executive Session in Washington DC; Council Member Jennifer Goodwin with Karuk Youth Leadership Council members in Washington DC; Karuk Youth Leadership with Nathan Solorio, Youth Representative for UNITY.