



Wiyot Tribe

July 27, 2007

Tom Hofweber
County of Humboldt
Planning Division
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501

RECEIVED

JUL 31 2007

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING DIVISION

Dear Tom Hofweber,

Subject: Humboldt County General Plan Update

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Humboldt General Plan Update. As I noted in my comments at the July 26th Planning Commission meeting, the Wiyot Tribe supports the comments drafted by the Humboldt Heritage Professionals Network and submitted by Janet Eidsness. I have enclosed a copy of the Tribal Resolution #07-10 to that effect.

The Tribe urges the County to include language in the General Plan defining the legal framework for its project review and decision making process. Clear commitment to a well defined process will benefit all stakeholders involved. The Tribe also encourages acknowledgement of the County's responsibility to initiate formal government to government consultation with federally recognized tribes early in the planning process on specific projects. Finally, the Tribe encourages the County to either provide training in cultural resource law to a designated Native American liason, or to create a position with these qualifications included.

As the THPO for the Wiyot Tribe, I have been given the responsibility of the protection of cultural resources on Tribal lands, and the ability to advise and assist in preservation of native resources on Wiyot ancestral lands. This goal is best achieved with the collaboration between the scientific/archaeological community and local indigenous perspectives and knowledge. These paradigms are neither incompatible nor mutually exclusive. Although there were abuses during a very different cultural context and bias, attempts to further polarize the two perspectives is both inaccurate and counterproductive, and will only hinder proactive dialogue. Therefore, I request that you delete the following language in Section 15.1.1 of Cultural and Scenic Resources – *"Any scientific archaeological interest in such sites must be subordinate to and respectful of the cultural and religious significance they may hold."*

Thank you for your continued support and interest in preserving our common heritage, and in consulting with the Wiyot Tribe. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Helene Rouvier
Cultural Director/THPO
Wiyot Tribe
Enclosure (1)

HR/hr
cc: Maura Eastman



Wiyot Tribe

Resolution of the WİYOT TRIBAL COUNCIL

RECEIVED

JUL 31 2007

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING DIVISION

RESOLUTION NO: #07-10

DATE APPROVED: June 23, 2007

SUBJECT: Humboldt County General Plan Update, Cultural and Scenic Resources

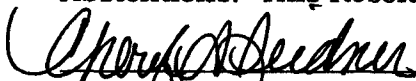
- Whereas:** the Wiyot Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe eligible for all rights and privileges afforded to recognized Tribes; and,
- Whereas:** the Wiyot Tribal Council is the governing body of The Wiyot Tribe under the authority of the Constitution of the Table Bluff Reservation; and,
- Whereas:** the Wiyot Tribe, as a sovereign Indian Nation, wishes to make decisions about the historic and cultural resources of its Tribal Lands; and,
- Whereas:** the Wiyot Tribe is concerned for the protection of Native American cultural and scenic resources in Humboldt County for their importance to the on-going cultural identities and heritage of its Tribal citizens; and,
- Whereas:** the Wiyot Tribe recognizes that the County of Humboldt is updating its General Plan to provide guidance for the next 20 years, and is setting forth goals, policies, standards and implementation measures to guide the County in identifying and protecting significant cultural and scenic resources as prescribed by various California and Federal laws.

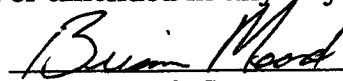
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby supports adoption of the Cultural Resources Chapter and comments submitted by Janet Eidsness on June 13, 2007 and available as part of the public record for the General Plan update process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this support shall remain in effect until rescinded by action of the Tribal council

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

This is to certify that Resolution #07-10 was approved at a regularly scheduled continuance meeting of the Wiyot Tribal Council on July 23, 2007, at which a quorum was present and that this Resolution was adopted by a vote of 7 HIH (yes), 0 KIYOWL (no), 0 Abstentions. This Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.


CHERYL A. SEIDNER, Chairwoman
Wiyot Tribe

ATTEST: 
Brian Mead, Secretary
Wiyot Tribe