



Smith River Rancheria

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Russ Crabtree
Tribal
Administrator

November 30, 2009

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

Re: California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group Nomination for Appointment

Nominee Name and Contact Information:

Russ Crabtree, Tribal Administrator
Smith River Rancheria
140 Rowdy Creek Road
Smith River, CA 95567
Work Phone: 707 487-9255 ext 3220
Cell: 707-218-7727
Email: russ.crabtree@tolowa-nsn.gov

First let me introduce myself, I am a lifetime resident of Southern Oregon and Northern California. For the past five (5) years, I have had the distinct honor and pleasure of serving the Tolowa Dee-ni' (people) of the Smith River Rancheria and before this, I spent twenty-five (25) years working in the maritime industry with the commercial and recreational fishermen of our region. I am a highly visible and effective Tribal Administrator motivated by a strong sense of community service and am result oriented. I would bring an intimate knowledge in working with at all levels of government and the community to the Regional Stakeholders Group. Combined I have over thirty (30) years experience working with the tribal, commercial fishing, recreational fishermen and the community for the benefit of all concerned.

1. I have a strong background in strategic planning, personal accountability and as a skilled highly effective lobbyist for preserving economic viability of the region. I am a powerful leader and advocate for Tribal rights and fisheries preservation. I have always been willing to professionally deal with and persuade community groups and government agencies to protect the interest and welfare of the tribe and the community. I have expedited and built numerous maritime facilities and tribal infrastructure that continues to provide useful, long-term economic value to Northern California and Southern Oregon.

2. I have over thirty (30) years as a community leader with a solid background in planning with a hands-on management style with highly developed negotiation skills and experience cultivating long-term partnerships. I will maintain a well-balanced perspective and knowledge of all impacts regarding California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) to the region.

*Waa-saa-ghithl-'a~ Wee-ni Naa-ch'aa-ghithl-ni
Our Heritage Is Why We Are Strong*

3. I am willing to express fundamental interests of all stakeholder groups and willing to consider the concepts of all user groups in our region with a direct transparent approach and open mind.
4. I am able to access and skilled at using efficiently the electronic media to communicate in this process. In addition, I am willing to dedicate the time needed to meet with others in person to discuss issues and seek a collaborative view on MLPA topics. I believe communication is imperative in this process and will ultimately determine if we have effectively represented the views of our community stakeholders. These stakeholders are the tribal governments, business community, commercial and recreational fishermen throughout the North Coast.
5. I am committed to all responsibilities required to be a member of the NCRSG. I understand the meeting schedule and am aware of the critical timeframes. I will endeavor to insure the north coast communities are provided the most appropriate representation within this group structure. I bring numerous years of expertise and knowledge based upon always working towards achieving consensus on some of the most complex marine issues that may well affect the social and economic viability of my community.
6. It is within my capacity as Tribal Administrator and previous experience in the ports that I gained the expertise to work with all levels of tribal, federal, state, and local governments. I am acutely aware of the public process and familiar with federal and state legislation that affects Native people directly as well as their cultural and archaeological resources.
7. I know I can work with the Initiative staff and others as I have already proven these abilities in the past years working with diverse interest groups on conservation, harvest and allocation of the marine resources. One other note is that I served on the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council under Governor Roberts to develop the first State Ocean Territorial Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of my request for appointment to the Regional Stakeholders Group.

Sincerely,



Russ Crabtree
Tribal Administrator