

# The Da'luk



The Official Newsletter of the Wiyot Tribe

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## A Message from Your Tribal Administrator

I extend warm greetings from the Wiyot Tribal Administrator's office. It is my hope your summer has been going well and you're looking forward to the fall. Tribal staff have been working diligently to restructure office processes and procedures as well as complete an updating of staff positions and evaluations.

We have been working on the negotiations for the return of Indian Island and

are hopeful this transfer will be completed in the very near future.

We are preparing for Wiyot and Elder Day (September 5<sup>th</sup>) in addition to making preparations for Wiyot General Council on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please note Wiyot General Council agenda items need to be submitted to Council Support (Madison Flynn at 707-733-5055 ext102 or by email at [madisonf@wiyot.us](mailto:madisonf@wiyot.us))

by Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be mailing Council agendas on Friday September 4<sup>th</sup>.

It is a privilege and an honor to serve the Wiyot citizens. Please know you are all always most welcome to visit the Tribal offices as well as learn more regarding Tribal services and programs.

Extending my hand in gratitude and in friendship,

Respectfully,

Dr. Jacquelyn Bolman

## Soulatluk (Wiyot Language) Updates

by Lynnika Butler  
[lynnika@wiyot.us](mailto:lynnika@wiyot.us)

### Language Calendar Workshops

Thursdays, 4:00-5:00 p.m.  
Cultural Center

On July 23, we held our first workshop to begin planning the 2016 language calendar. Attendees decided on a theme of "family", so we are looking for contributions of family photos (these could be old photos from your family album or new photos taken especially for the calendar project). Our group is also interested in original artwork with a family theme, or designs (borders, etc.) to accompany family photos.

The calendar workshops will be held every Thursday at 4:00 p.m. for the next 2-3 months (reminders will be posted on the Tribe's Facebook page). We are able to offer regular participants (anyone who attends 5 or more workshops) a small gift/stipend at the end of the project, as well as a free copy of the finished calendar.

In addition, the Language Program has a digital camera which can be loaned to any participant who would like to take photos for the calendar but who does not have a good camera at home. (If you usually take photos with your cell phone, please check out the camera, as it will take higher quality photos, which will look much better in the calendar.)

Youth and families are especially encouraged to participate in the calendar workshops, whether you want to contribute artwork, help decide which Wiyot words and phrases to include in the calendar, or work on design and formatting. Snacks are always provided!

If you are not able to attend the workshops in person but would like to contribute photography and/or artwork, please contact Lynnika (all contributors will receive a free copy of the 2016 calendar).

**New Language feature: Wiyot Word of the Day**

Beginning this month, I have

begun posting a Wiyot Word of the Day, with an audio recording and explanation, on the Tribe's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/Wiyot-Tribe](http://www.facebook.com/Wiyot-Tribe)). Each week will have a theme such as weather, food, animals, counting, etc. Please let me know of vocabulary themes that you would like to see featured (and keep in mind that "vocabulary" does not need to be limited to nouns/names of things; it could be phrases, adjectives, verbs, etc.). For the time being, I will focus on shorter words and phrases which are easier to learn (though if you really need to know how to say "Stop scratching your head!" I will be happy to help you practice saying shougoubichgashunigh—just email or call me!).

As always, please contact me with any language-related questions, suggestions, or requests.

Hou' (thank you)!

## Wiyot Tribe Wetland Program Development Grant

The Tribe's Natural Resources Department (NRD) is thrilled to have been awarded a grant to assist in developing a program plan for its wetland resources. In 2015 the Tribe was awarded a two year grant under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Clean Water Agency (CWA) 104(b)(3) to map, delineate, and fully assess the wetlands located on Table Bluff Reservation, Indian Island, and Cock Robin Island. This thorough assessment will be used to develop protocols to be used in a wetland program plan in which ongoing surveys will be used in an effort to increase the quality and quantity of the Tribe's wetland resources. While the NRD has conducted water quality and biological monitoring of these sites, they have yet to be fully assessed. The CWA 104(b)(3) grant will also enable the Tribe to build learning capacity through personnel training, education, and outreach to the Tribal community, especially Tribal youth. In addition to landholdings on the Table Bluff Reservation and Indian Island,

the Tribe holds fee status parcels on Cock Robin Island, covering approximately 100 acres. The Cock Robin Island parcels contain forested riparian woodland, vegetated gravel bar, and a portion of the Eel River. Little time has been spent studying these habitats on the Cock Robin Island property. The Tribes NRD will now have the opportunity to survey vegetation to fully understand the plant diversity as well as any culturally important plant species occurring on the Island. Macroinvertebrate surveys will also be conducted to determine which insect species occur. Insects can be a very useful tool in determining the health of wetlands. The presence or absence of certain insect species can be an indicator of water quality which has a direct impact on the health of the adjacent wetland. In order to assess the Tribes wetlands we must first know the exact boundaries of those wetlands. NRD staff will determine the boundaries of the Tribes wetlands through a process called "wetland

delineation". Wetland delineation is a tool to be utilized to determine the boundaries of our wetlands through the examination of soil conditions and presence or absence of hydrophytes (plant species known to occur in wetlands). NRD Technicians Eddie Koch and Adam Canter traveled to San Diego this past October for wetland delineation training. Adam and Eddie both completed their training and are now certified in the delineation of wetlands under Army Corps of Engineers standards thereby expanding the Tribes knowledge base as well as Tribal capacity.



Technician Eddie Koch on the job

## BIA Geospatial Ethnobotany Grant Award

The Wiyot Tribe's Natural Resources Department is grateful to receive significant funding from the BIA to map, inventory, and describe culturally important plant species and communities. This grant was written by the Tribe's botanist, Adam Canter, who has been enthusiastically exploring and researching culturally significant plants in and around Table Bluff and Humboldt Bay.

Recent changes in land use, climate, and wildfire cycles have altered the types and compositions of plant communities that were once found in Wiyot territory, before western contact. For example, oral history includes stories of Wiyots harvesting hazelnuts on

Table Bluff in the past, while only a handful of remnant patches are known from the Bluff today. Further research on the coastal hazelnuts at Table Bluff suggests that this is a rare vegetation type of "coastal hazelnut scrub", which has only been described from a few other locations, further south on the California coast. Other plants, particularly geophytes (Indian potatoes), show signs of being cultivated on sites formerly known to be Wiyot villages, such as Ma-l'el village.

This project will serve to both identify sites where important cultural plant species are located and inform the condition and ecological integrity of plant populations. This baseline botanical mapping data will be a

great asset in helping the Tribe to prioritize species and populations of cultural interest for preservation and continued sustainable harvest for use in traditional basket making and food production. Best of all, by learning more about the plants that are important the Tribe, we can ensure that these resources are protected and identified for future generations of Wiyots to come.

## **Gou'wil da lalouluwuk "Taking Care of People"**

### **Back To School**

School Clothes/School Supply Vouchers are now available to Tribal membership children who are currently enrolled in Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. In order to apply please complete the attached form and submit with attached enrollment verification to the Health and Human Service Department. Please note that only legal guardians of Tribal Member children may apply and once the application is submitted the funds will be released the following Friday after the application has been deemed complete by the Health and Human Service Director. The Legal Guardian must return receipts for the full \$125.00 which shows the funds were expended for school supplies and/or School clothes within two weeks (14 days) from the date the check was released. Failure to submit the receipts within 14 days will result in ineligibility for the program in future years. Receipts may be submitted by fax to (707) 733-5601, email to [michelle@wiyot.us](mailto:michelle@wiyot.us), and by mail to 1000 Wiyot Dr., Loleta, CA 95551.

**PLEASE WRITE THE CHILD'S NAME ON THE RECIPITS AND RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

### **Community Assessment Drawing**

The Wiyot Tribe will be holding the opportunity drawing for the completed surveys that were returned by the deadline at the Elder's luncheon on Wednesday August 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm. You do not need to be present to win, but anyone is welcome to attend. The assessment will be used to apply for Center for Disease control funding. Thank you to everyone in the community who completed the survey. Each and every one will aid in the guidance of our action plan, and provide the support to address community needs.

### **Traditional Healer**

Traditional healer Dr. Ruben will be available for appointments on September 5<sup>th</sup> during Wiyot day. Please contact Michelle to schedule an appointment. [Michelle@wiyot.us](mailto:Michelle@wiyot.us) or (707) 733-5055 ext 119.

### **Motherhood is Sacred/Fatherhood is Sacred**

The Tribe will be offering Motherhood is Sacred/Fatherhood is Sacred Classes beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 5-7 pm for 5 weeks. Our approach is based on a culturally rich model that inspires and motivates fathers and mothers to devote their best

efforts in teaching and raising children to develop their potential and the attributes needed for success in life. The curriculum offers participants the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of responsible fatherhood as reflected in Native American values and beliefs. There is an immediate need to bring Native American men and women back to strengthening families— they are the greatest untapped resource. Fathers and mothers are the solution to the problems that face Native communities and must take the leading role in keeping their families together! All participants who complete the course will earn a certificate and t-shirt upon graduation. Class space is limited so please sign up ASAP. Contact [Michelle@wiyot.us](mailto:Michelle@wiyot.us) or (707) 733-5055 ext 119 to enroll.

### **Wiyot Parent Committee**

The Wiyot Parent Committee will be meeting again on Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1 pm. Items on the Agenda will include 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter fundraiser for Youth Activities, California Indian Day, Teen nights, Toddler Time and the Table Bluff Reservation Playground.

## Hunting, Fishing, and Gathering Rights- A Message from the Cultural Department

While the Wiyot Tribe has never surrendered its rights to hunt, fish, and gather in Wiyot ancestral territory, tribal citizens should be made aware of their recognized rights to engage in these traditional activities. Hunting and fishing remain an important part of the culture for many Wiyot people. Unfortunately, there are no special provisions for hunting or fishing, and enrolled tribal members are required, by California law, to

follow all applicable rules and regulations. Certain tribes retain rights on tribally owned land, but those rights only apply to enrolled members of that tribe. The tribe continues work to have our ancestral hunting and fishing rights recognized by the State of California.

In some areas we have had success. In the South Humboldt Bay State Marine Recreation Management Area and the Samoa

State Marine Conservation Area, Wiyot Tribal citizens are exempt from the area and take regulation, but are required to comply with other existing regulations and statutes.

Plant gathering is a more complicated matter, and is governed mostly by the policy of the different federal, state, local and private property owners. As a result, the rights to gather are dependent of where you are,

with regulations varying from no gathering at all to full rights to gather. However, California State law does allow for subsistence gathering of plant material on Forest Service and BLM property to all federally enrolled Tribal Citizens. Typically, this is defined as a "backpack's worth of

materials" There are some exceptions to this law, such as at Headwater's Forest Reserve, which is run through a joint agreement between the BLM and California.

The Tribe is always working to expand legal recognition of our rights in Wiyot territory. Wiyot

people who are interested in learning more about relevant hunting, fishing, and gathering laws, or would like to bring certain issues to the Tribe's attention, should contact the Tribe's Cultural Department at 707-733-5055 ext.107.

## Introducing Newest Staff Member Madison Flynn

Hello, my name is Madison Flynn and was recently hired on as Council Support for the Wiyot Tribal Council. I am a Wiyot Tribal Member and grew up on the Table Bluff Reservation. I recently graduated from Humboldt State University with a degree in Business Administration and I am currently attending Humboldt State as a graduate student to obtain my Masters in Business Administration with an emphasis in Strategic Sustainability. It is an honor and privilege to come back to Table Bluff and work with and for my people. I look forward to working for Table Bluff Wiyot Tribe and its citizens.

### REMINDER

WIYOT DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER  
5<sup>TH</sup>

12 PM to 10 pm

TABLE BLUFF  
RESERVATION

LOLETA, CA