



The Da'luk

Generation. Restoration. Transformation?

Wigi (Humboldt Bay) has stunning landscapes. Marsh flats emerge from the tides each day before retreating beneath the waves, sand dunes take shape in the wind, and estuary channels connect like many hands toward forested hills. Here fish find refuge, ospreys soar gracefully overhead, diverse species of plants display colorful and aromatic inflorescences, shore birds congregate to probe the shore for their next meal, and people come together to protect the land for cultural, social, and economic vitality. The region harbors unmatched advocacy. Diverse groups of people from many walks of life find commonalities in the beauty and the resources of the Wigi. The treasures that abound here are hard to miss, but another local feature often goes unnoticed by many.

PG&E's former nuclear power plant atop Jurouk Higuchguk (Buhne Point) generated electricity for the Humboldt Bay region for thirteen years (1963-1976) before being decommissioned due to findings of severe earthquake risk. Over forty years passed before the site was fully restored to meet criteria for "*Residential Farming*", a status that enjoys stringent standards for human use at a former industrial site. Much of the restoration success is attributed to the hard work of the Community Advisory Board (CAB) who ensured that the community would be protected from radiation hazard throughout decommissioning.

While some insist that we have room to breathe, the storage site, along with its 37 tons of high-level radioactive spent fuel rods, may be at future risk from bluff erosion, wave surge, earthquake, and tsunami run-up, particularly as climate change and rising seas compound these risks. PG&E reports that the material complies with Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations, is completely safe in steel and copper-clad canisters encased in an underground concrete vault until at least 2065, and that regardless, the Department of Energy owns legal title to the spent fuel. This 'out of sight, out of mind' mentality might not hold up to the test of time, especially as climate change increases in pace and magnitude. If the casks are ever removed from the coast, adaptation, forward thinking, and flexibility are key.

We are curious: how long will the casks *really* remain on site; how will the casks be removed if the site becomes an island; along what route(s) will they be transported if an alternative site ever becomes available; what strategies can protect the casks in the near-term and how do we know when they need to be implemented; who else besides the Nuclear Regulatory Commission should direct conversations about responsible spent fuel management at the site; do people feel like their concerns and values are being represented by PG&E, the federal government, and the CAB; how can the community learn about and plan for all likely outcomes, good or bad?



Waves at high-tide crashing against the base of the spent nuclear fuel storage site (Photo by Aldaron Laird, 2021)

Shawir Darrudaluduk “We Belong to the Wilderness”

Generation. Restoration. Transformation?

It may be difficult to leverage the input of Tribes and the community on an issue characterized by uncertainty, technical complexity, and legal hurdles. As researchers at Cal Poly Humboldt, we are aiming to engage members of the Humboldt Bay community in the “right” conversations. We are convening Tribes, community members, experts, and agencies to discuss steps moving forward. In combining our collective understandings, we hope to explore innovative solutions, create productive partnerships, and ensure that all people’s concerns are fully heard and considered. Instead of shutting down in the face of fear and the unknown, we hope to support our communities to embrace uncertainty through empowerment, shared learning, collaboration, and action-oriented planning. **Please join us for a public gathering on the Shoreline Trail beneath the site at King Salmon beach on Thursday, June 23 at 10 am (1281 King Salmon Ave, Eureka, CA 95503).** This gathering will kick off a two-day series of workshops on the topic of responsible management of the spent nuclear fuel on *Wigi*. We hope this gathering will be the first step toward a legacy of engagement with Tribes and the community to better understand the risks, include all interested and affected voices in the conversation, and apply more holistic planning. By transforming the way spent nuclear fuel is discussed and managed, we desire to come together in our shared value of protecting the resilience of Humboldt Bay’s Tribes, communities, and ecosystems.

For more information on this project, the history of PG&E’s former nuclear power plant, and nuclear waste in the U.S., please visit [44 Feet \(44feetabovesealevel.com\)](https://44feet.com).

For any questions or concerns, please contact Alec Brown, Graduate Research Assistant, Cal Poly Humboldt at ab709@humboldt.edu or Jennifer Marlow, Assistant Professor, Cal Poly Humboldt at jim182@humboldt.edu Or please reach out to the WNRD if you would like to be more involved in visioning future realities for the nuclear waste currently stored in this vulnerable site on the Wigi. Stay tuned or contact our thoughtful researchers above or adam@wiyot.us

Water system Updates

April 14th we had Steve’s Septic come and fully pump one of the 10,000 gallon tanks. It is important to fully pump septic tanks and get the sludge that settles at the bottom to keep the septic system running.

Smart Meters

Tribal Council approved the purchase of cellular endpoints to attach to the residential water meters to help with tracking water usage. When these are installed to the houses on Table Bluff Reservation the residents will be able to monitor their water usage and get alerts of leaks with the online application, Eye On Water. These will help staff with checking meters as it will all be electronic, eliminating the need to walk house to house. <https://helpeyeonwater.com/>

Backup Generators

We recently installed a generator and propane tank at Well #2 at the front of the reservation. The second generator will be arriving to be installed at the septic lift station August 2022. These were made possible with the help from IHS, Indian health Services. These generators will automatically turn on in the event of a power outage to ensure our water and wastewater system can run off the grid.

Tuluwat

The Natural Resources Department purchased custom “No Trespassing Signs” to place around Tuluwat and other Wiyot landholdings.

Shawir Darrudaluduk “We Belong to the Wilderness”

Greetings from the Natural Resources Department and Happy May!

Some updates for you this month include the Natural Resources Department’s collaboration with CDFW and McCulloh construction on the “Ocean Ranch Restoration Project”, Environmental eDNA sampling kits, and Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund project updates.

The Natural Resources Department has been working closely with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on the Ocean Ranch Restoration Project which will enhance the saltmarsh and dune habitats within a 850-acre portion of the Ocean Ranch unit of the Eel River wildlife area. Restoration and expansion of estuarine functions will be accomplished by implementing actions that increase the tidal prism, improve connectivity between the restoration area, McNulty Slough and North Bay, Increase habitat complexity, and control invasive plants. During the month of March, the Wiyot Natural Resources Department was able to take a walking tour of the proposed project area to see where the tidal prism expansion will occur, what dykes will be taken out, and how much of the area will be closed for the construction period. The NRD will continue to work with CDFW and McCullough Construction

for any consulting recommendations or Tribal member concerns that may arise during the life of the project. In regards to access and construction in the project area

James Ray, the Senior Environmental Scientist for CDFW, says that “the beginning of construction is anticipated for mid-April (conditions permitting). We do not anticipate needing to restrict access to the sand road as soon as construction begins because the work will start in Areas C and B. However, at this point it is unclear exactly when closure will be necessary. We will stay in close communication with you as the timeline evolves. Additionally, we’re going to be reaching out to you about planting schemes for native plants and fish monitoring work in the coming weeks. Finally, if you have any questions, concerns, ideas, please feel free to contact us any time. We are very excited to see how this restoration project will improve the estuarine wildlife habitat over time.

The NRD has also recently received environmental DNA kits from the Water Resources Control Board and Jonah Ventures research company. These were given to the NRD to carry out our own environmental DNA sampling on the South Fork River which can include micro invertebrate biomass sampling, water quality, and toxic and hazardous algal bloom sampling. We hope to do

more training with eDNA and use these test

kits on the South Fork Eel River for water quality and hazardous algal bloom data for long term water quality monitoring on the watershed, especially during the warmer, low flow seasons where the river has suffered from deteriorated water quality.

During the month of April, the NRD had its bi-annual Pikeminnow Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC), where the Wiyot NRD and the Still Water Science crew can provide project and field work updates, from the previous summer, to CDFW and other partnering agencies who have helped assist the ongoing PCSRF Pikeminnow project. This tac meeting has presenters from CDFW and UC Berkley discussing other Pikeminnow monitoring and movement happening elsewhere in the Eel River, and beyond. These bi-annual meetings allow the NRD and Still Water teams to shed light on what’s been done, planning for this coming 2022 field season, plans for completion of the project, and future monitoring goals. The next TAC meeting will occur in the Fall to discuss what was completed in 2022 and looking forward to 2023 and beyond.



Figure 2: Project Area for the Ocean Ranch Restoration Project



Figure 1: NRD Walking Tour of the Ocean Ranch Restoration Project Looking Towards McNulty Slough

Lhatsik Houmoulu'l "House of Tradition"

Submitted By: Ted Hernandez



Our culture is a living spirit that must continue to thrive. Our culture is essential to our community; it is a living spirit that must continue to thrive. We must continue to teach our youth the traditional ways and learn the stories from our elders. An example of one of our stories as told by the elders and an important one is "That the Wiyot People have never given up our rights to fishing, hunting, gathering, and practicing our ceremonies in our ancestral territory. We have been practicing these since time and memorial That we should always know this and never let any government official tell us that we did."

Cultural Department

The Cultural department Continues to work with our local Tribal THPOS, Local cities, Federal and County Governments on consultation projects, Section 106, Native Americans: California Environmental Quality Act (AB52), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and timber harvest plans (THP). This department has also been sending our tribal monitors on projects in Wiyot Ancestral Territory. During July, this department received and commented on thirty projects. We also had three tribal monitoring projects going on in July. We are also focusing on the removal of the Potter valley Dam project. Our Eel (Wiy'ot) river needs to have its water restored to come back to health for our salmon and eels.

The Department is also assisting agencies with Traditional Land Acknowledgement language when they bring it to us for review before they post. We very are excited that communities in Wiyot ancestral territory are recognizing that they live and work on Wiyot land. There is so much happening in Wiyot territory.

Our culture is a living spirit that must continue to thrive. Our generation must carry on with the traditional ways and the stories from our elders and ancestors that have gone before us.



The Cultural Department is in the process of finishing up the necklaces and sashes for the 2022 graduating class. We would like to thank the parents and guardians for getting your orders in before the March deadline. We want to congratulate our graduates for their accomplishments they have achieve in 2022.



Lhatsik Houmoulul' "House of Tradition"

Submitted By: Ted Hernandez



The 2022 Dugout Project

We are excited to announce that we will start working on our dugout this May–June at Richardson Grove State Park. We will be working with Master builder Robert McConnell on constructing these boats. As well as our boat, Mr. McConnell will be assisting Bear River and Wailaki with their canoes. The canoes teams will be working during the weekends of May and June. It is exciting all three tribes will be learning this together.

We would also like to recognize the CA. State Parks for donating these old-growth redwoods to all three tribes for his fantastic project. The State Parks have set aside an area for camping for families to volunteer or watch the process. Spots will be limited because we have three tribes working on these.

If you are interested in volunteering, there will be waivers to sign at the site. We ask that you be 15 years of age or older to work on the canoes. Each canoe will have a team assigned to its boat. The team will have a crew of no more than five dedicated men during the construction of the canoes.

If you are under 18, you will also need a consent form from a parent or guardian, and at least one parent or guardian must be with you during this event because there will be dangerous equipment in use during this project. The teams need to focus on the construction of these canoes.

If families are coming out to watch, there are other things to do. There will be a river next to the project site if you want to take a quick swim. We may also have some dugouts there so families can try them out. We are working on this now, but we cannot guarantee they will be there. These are just one of the activities we are trying to arrange. There will also be some storytelling going on as well. All three tribes ask that you come with good spirits, medicine, and thoughts to these events. Also, remember that since our project is grant-funded, we will also have to follow the rules and regulations of this fund. This event will be a alcohol and drug free event and a safe place to work and to share stories.

We are looking forward to seeing you there.



Soulatuk Hougougou' wurruwisugu'l "brining the Wiyot language back to life"

Submitted By: Lynnika Butler

Ha'wa'lou everyone!

As both Marnie and Lynnika announced last month, we have begun recording virtual Soulatluk classes at the Da Gou Rou Louwi' Cultural Center (2nd & 4th Thursdays from 4-5pm @ <https://bit.ly/3qnbAIB>). If you want to participate now or in the future, please let us know (lynnika@wiyot.us and/or matkins@wiyot.us) what vocabulary, phrases, and topics you would like to practice so that we can prepare to meet your needs! You can check out our first two recorded lessons on the Soulatluk YouTube channel (link at <https://qrco.de/bcp2NB> or scan the YouTube QR code above). Please join an upcoming lesson and/or watch recorded lessons and let us know what you think!



In April, Cal Poly Humboldt inaugurated the new Gutswurak Student Activities Center, which was named in consultation with the Wiyot Tribe. The word gutschurak is a verb meaning 'many people gather,' and you can hear Wiyot youth and adults pronouncing it at <https://qrco.de/bcwgei> (or scan the QR code at left).

Meanwhile, your Linguist/Language Program Manager continues to edit draft conversations to the Rou Soulatlouy Conversation Book. As always, you can check project progress, ask questions, download draft conversations, and post requests/suggestions/feedback at <http://www.wiyot.us/336/Rou-Soulatlouy-conversation-book-project> (or scan the QR code at right to link to the project page).



We still need tribal members of all ages to record audio for these conversations in the coming months. We can do this in person OR via Zoom 😊 If you are interested (we'll coach you on pronunciation, give you a credit in the book, and provide hiwechk (money: a small honorarium) for your time; we'll also edit out any hesitations & mistakes!), please contact Lynnika (lynnika@wiyot.us / 707-798-1949 x302).

Below is a draft conversation about hunting. Do you have any questions, comments, or edits you'd like us to make? Let Lynnika know at lynnika@wiyot.us!

Wanaqh va lali' I'm going hunting	
1. Wanaqh ya halit?*	Do you hunt?
2. Hi', swawi dishgamu' rrou du laligh. [AR-gr]*	Yes, I really like hunting.
3. Qalhda ya rriyuvoumut?*	Did you kill any [animals]?
4. Jechach rriyuwou'm. [JJ-gr]	I killed an animal.
5. [Me'luqh / halhuqh] hi niyuvou'm. [AR-gr]*	I killed it [elk / deer].
6. Halhuqh rriyuwou'm siswupdi'lu. [??-ak]	I killed a black deer.
7. Halhuqh [tsou'mu/ dou'mu/ rrikou'm]. [EB-gr]	I killed [one/two/three] deer.
8. Wanuqh halilh. [DP+MB-gr]	S/he is a hunter / s/he hunts.
9. Wanaqh du lalilh. [DP-kt]	S/he is/was hunting.

Soulatuk Hougougou' wurruwisugu'l "brining the Wiyot language back to life"

Submitted By: Lynnika Butler

Wanaqh va lali' I'm going hunting	
10. Rriyuvou'milh. [EB-gr]	<i>S/he killed it [animal].</i>
11. Hi niyuvoumilh, tamilh. [JJ-gr]	<i>S/he killed it and butchered it ('cut it').</i>
12. Wanaqh ga gou lalih. [JJ-gr]	<i>S/he doesn't/didn't hunt anymore.</i>
13. highchayuqh [EB-gr]	<i>a man who goes hunting from wife without being purified</i>

As always, please contact Lynnika if you have any questions about this or any other Soulatluk words and phrases!

Rra'dutwas ('I respect/think highly of you' = respectfully),
Lynnika Butler
Linguist
lynnika@wiyot.us

Our Cultural Center is located at 417 Second Street, Suite 101, Eureka.
Watch our monthly Newsletter for ongoing updates!

We are open to tribal members by appointment! No more than 24 people are allowed in the space at one time. Please contact Marnie Atkins at matkins@wiyot.us or (707) 798-1949 to schedule a time to visit. Covid protocols are expected to be followed by all visitors, so please wear a mask and social distance as best you can.

As with daily life these past two years of the pandemic, our expected opening dates have been pushed back multiple times due to Covid and construction hurdles. We continue to work through each challenge as they arise and have every hope to hold a larger grand opening in the spring. If you would like to be part of the grand opening, please contact Marnie to discuss how you would like to be involved. And watch the Tribe's Newsletter and website for more information.

The Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center is our space to come together to build community, learn from each other, speak Soulatluk, and perpetuate our cultural practices while learning from our shared history - no matter where we live. Virtual programming will be an ongoing feature of the Cultural Center so that people who live near and far will have the opportunity to learn and interact with other Wiyot people.

During the month of May, the Soulatluk learning program and the Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center will partner on presenting a virtual Soulatluk learning demonstration on May 12 and May 26 from 4pm-5pm (Pacific time zone). The link to the virtual presentation is: <https://bit.ly/3qnbAIB>.

On May 16, the DGRGCC will hold a virtual workshop for interested Tribal Citizens. Subject matter to be determined. The workshop will be held on Monday, May 16 from 4pm-5pm (Pacific time zone). The link to the virtual presentation is: <https://bit.ly/3Jz71m0>. Check the Tribe's Events Calendar for updates.

Da gou rou louwi' "the ongoing return of all" (lit. 'continuous again all the returning')

Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center

Submitted By: Marnie Atkins

When naming our new Cultural Center, Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center, we wanted a name that described that this place would house the ongoing return of all thoughts, items, ideas, and initiatives that are important to Wiyot people. This includes sacred and ceremonial practices, Soulatluk (the Wiyot language), lifeways, cultural traditions, traditional forms of community building, healthy land, water, air, plants, and animals, the return of our Ancestors from museums so they can be laid to rest, a voice in our collective history, and a stronger, more cohesive Wiyot Community. Da gou rou louwi' encompasses these ideas and goals.

If you have questions about our Cultural Center or would like more information beyond what I provide in our Newsletter, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at matkins@wiyot.us or (707) 798-1949.

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Do you know how to weave (medallions, baskets, fishing nets, etc.)? Make eel hooks? Do you know how to gather plants for weaving, food, and/or medicines? Are you a storyteller that would like to mentor others in storytelling? Maybe you know some of the history of the Wiyot People and Tribe and want to share it with others? Are you a song maker and would like to mentor other song makers? Have you made regalia, dresses, and other ceremonial and/or dance items and would you like to teach others? Maybe you are an inspired jewelry maker and want to teach others?

If you answered "hi" (yes) to any of these questions, the Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center needs you and your expertise! We are looking for teachers and mentors who have traditional cultural knowledge and/or traditional ecological knowledge to share with others. All levels of experience and ages will be taught through small workshops. Some workshops will be more intensive than others and may include a series of workshops to better convey the knowledge you wish to share. In some cases, we will offer honorariums for your gift of knowledge.

Do you have questions or want more information? Please contact Marnie at matkins@wiyot.us or at (707) 798-1949. Hou' and I look forward to hearing from you!

**The Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center Staff
want to hear from you!**

Please take a few minutes to fill out the Take the Da gou rou louwi' Cultural Center Survey. We want to hear your thoughts about the Cultural Center and how you want to see the space utilized.

Survey link here: <https://forms.gle/vMfAjBeU8pQTERFP6>



Here is a QR Code to the survey:

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Virtual Soulatluk Class 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Pacific) https:// bit.ly/3qnbAIB	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Virtual Soulatluk Class 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Pacific) https:// bit.ly/3qnbAIB	27	28
29	30	31				

All classes, workshops, presentations, etc. will be held virtually, unless indicated otherwise. When events are offered in-person, masks, temperature checks, and social distancing measures will be in effect. Showing proof of vaccination status is encouraged. Please be safe and stay healthy during these difficult times.

****Watch the Tribe's online calendar for updates.****

Gock Wuck "Knowledge"

Submitted By: Fawn Lopez



Did you move and forget to change your address? You can fax 707-733-5601 or email address-change@wiyot.us This will help in getting your mail to you in a timely manner, if your address isn't up to date then this will slow your RSTF, newsletter and other important Tribal mail in getting to you. Please note there is a \$25.00 charge for a stop payment for RSTF checks, our policy has always been Tribal members need to wait 90 days from the date the checks were mailed out to reissue another RSTF check. It is very important to keep an updated address on file, you can call the Tribal Office to



COVID-19 VACCINE AND TESTING CLINIC

**AT TABLE BLUFF RESERVATION
ADMINISTRATION PARKING LOT**

From 11 AM to 1 PM

Starting 5/27/2021 and every other week, until further notice

Wiyot Tribal Council

Ted HernandezTribal Chairman (2020-2024)
Brian Mead.....Vice Chairman (2018-2022)
Marnie Atkins.....Secretary (2021-2025)
rrawuraghu'miyuk Linda Lange.....Treasurer (2019-2023)
Vanessa Rios.....Council Member (2021-2025)
Hazel Garcia.....Council Member (2019-2023)
Aaron StephensonCouncil Member (2020-2024)



Da Rou Gawok “Everyone working Together”

Michelle Vassel.....Tribal Administrator
Fawn Lopez...Executive Assistant to TA/Council Clerk
Lisa Stephenson.....Enrollment Clerk
Vanessa Rios.....Receptionist
Heather Blevins.....Emergency Operator
Aaron Stephenson...Maintenance Technician
Melvin “Junior” Farmer...Maintenance Assistant
Sebastian Rios Moreno.....Grounds Keeper

Hiwechk “Money”

Farzad ForouharFiscal Technician
Jack Kennard.....Fiscal Technician



Gou'will da lalouluwuk “Taking care of People”

Robert Pitts Jr.....Health & Human Service Director
Alicia Morgan..Laqilh Haluni Assistant
Gary Markussen Sr.....ICWA Advocate
Vacant.....Transportation Driver
Peggy Orcutt.....Social Work Advocate
Dr. Rita Wafler.....Licensed MFT
Jennifer Boak.....Counseling Mental Health

1000 Wiyot Drive
Loleta, California 95551

Phone:

707.733.5055/800.388.7633

Fax: 707.733.5601

Lhatsik Houmoulu'l “House of Tradition”

Ted Hernandez.....Cultural Director
Hazel Garcia.....Cultural Assistant
Dr. Lynnika ButlerLinguist
Vacant.....Language Specialist
Marnie Atkins.....Cultural Museum Manager

Tsek Houdagh “Where the Children are”

Jennifer OakleyYouth Program Manager
Margaret Card.....Johnson O'Malley Coordinator
Grant Bryant.....Youth Program Assistant



Shawir Darrudaluduk “We belong to the Wilderness”

Adam Canter.....Natural Resources Director
Dr. Bill Matsubu.....Fisheries Biologist
Bri Philips.....Natural Resources Technician
Hilanea Wilkinson...Natural Resources Technician
George Buckley.....Water Operator

Change of Address Request Form

This is to confirm that my new mailing address is as follows:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: () _____

Previous Names Used: _____

Children who will be effected (legal name and Date of Birth:

Signature: _____

Wiyot Tribe
1000 Wiyot Dr
Lolita, CA 95551

