

Tribal Council

Tune 11, 2024

Anthony Roberts Chairman

Yaminah Durham Secretary

Leland Kinter
Treasurer

Yvonne Perkins Member

Seth Lowell *Member* President Joseph R. Biden

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, we write to express deep thanks and appreciation for expanding Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include California lands known as Molok Luyuk ("Condor Ridge" in our Patwin language) and to request your help with an urgent matter.

We thought you might also be pleased to know that our Tribe recently finalized a co-stewardship agreement with the Bureau of Land Management for Monument lands, as directed in your Proclamation of May 2, 2024. The co-stewardship agreement will once again give our Patwin people a meaningful opportunity to help protect and manage these sacred lands for future generations.

Indeed, nothing is more important to us than our ancestral homelands. That is why Tribal Secretary Mia Durham also appreciated the opportunity to share with you in the Oval Office our deep concerns about the ongoing, unexplained, and thoroughly inappropriate exclusion of federally recognized Patwin tribes from Bureau of Indian Affairs decision-making about their ancestral lands in Vallejo, California – a situation that is especially unjust and hurtful because the Bureau's decision purports to address "restoration" of those same Patwin homelands.

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You have made it clear that you expect your administration to deal honestly and fairly with *all* federally recognized tribes, and to ensure they are protected in their ancestral homelands. We ask for your help to bring the Bureau of Indian Affairs in line with your policy to honor tribes, and to include tribes in all administrative proceedings that affect them.

Wile bo,

Anthony Roberts
Tribal Chairman

Mia Durham Tribal Secretary Leland Kinter Tribal Treasurer

Yvonne Perkins

Member-at-Large

Seth Lowell

Member-at-Large

cc: Deb Haaland, Secretary, Department of the Interior Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior