

## **North Fork Mono Tribe**

### **Land Stewardship Donee Proposal: Manzanita Planning Unit Willow Creek Planning Unit Kerckhoff Lake Planning Unit**

#### **Contact Information**

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[REDACTED]

**Executive Director:**

Ron W. Goode

**Project Manager:**

Richard Lavell

**Tribal Consultant:**

Stan Dandy

#### **Organization Information**

The North Fork Mono Tribe is a tribal non-profit organization that is a public charity exempt from federal taxation under Section 509 (a) (2); qualified to do business and in good standing in the State of California.

North Fork Mono Tribe  
13396 Tollhouse Rd.  
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The Tribe is a recognized aboriginal tribal group. The Tribe has jurisdiction over several Indian Allotments. At one time the tribal members had 65 Allotments and homesteads. The Tribe reorganized for Federal Recognition Clarification Status in 1983. The Tribal Non-Profit was formed in 2002 and became permanent in 2007. IRS Employer Identification Number is: [REDACTED]

**Home Land Background:**

The Tribe's home land territorial boundary is the eastern section of Madera County, a portion of southwest Mariposa County and the northeastern area of Fresno County. The Tribe's Home Land is in a three sided geographical heart shape of approximately 75 x 75 x 75 miles (home land maps forthcoming). The Tribe works with all of its neighboring tribal groups. The Tribe has been engaged in the relicensing process for Pacific Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison companies since 1978. Our previous project proposals to the Stewardship Council included all of the stakeholders who have an interest in our lands and resources (see stakeholder addendum). The Tribe has been very active in restoration of the watershed, regeneration of cultural resources and the protecting our archaeological resources as well. These three parcels of the Willow Creek Watershed are lands that our ancestors lived on and we still utilize today. These parcels have not been cared for under PG & E maintenance and it is our intent to restore, regenerate these lands.

**Land Interest Sought:**

The North Fork Mono Tribe is seeking the ownership of the Willow Creek Planning Units that which includes, Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek & Smalley Cove.

The Manzanita Lake Planning Unit is 390 acres in size. It located off the Old Central Camp Road. Road 222 travels through the western side of the property. Road 274 is to the east of the property. The north fork of Willow Creek runs north south through the center of the property.

This property has a tribal burial ground on it and is a sedge root gathering area for local Mono basket makers. The land use prospect is conducive for resource restoration and recreational campsites. Fishing, hiking, camping, and horse trails are potential non-disturbing activities on the land.

There is a lot of fuel management that needs to be implemented. This can be done via mechanical, hand labor, and or pile burning. A restoration of the land will enhance the wildlife and cultural vegetation. The film industry is always on the lookout for accessible picturesque property. For the Tribe this is an enterprising Planning Unit.

The Willow Creek Planning Unit is two parcels of 41 and 44 acres in size. The north parcel has limited access but is accessible from both the west side and northeast side. On the northeast side the this parcel adjoins the North Fork Cemetery. A portion of the Cemetery was given to the Mono people by the original owner who also was of Indian heritage. The most attractive use of this ground is to expand the Native American burial ground. Besides the contentious Indian burial ground at the North Fork Cemetery, the Tribe has 25 private family burial grounds. Yet, the North Fork Mono tribe is one of the largest tribes in the Central Valley/Mountain region. Therefore, numerous tribal members do not have a place for the loved ones who have passed on. Because this parcel

touches the existing Cemetery, this would be an expansion and not a new burial ground. The burial ground would be a natural enclosed cared for cemetery and not one that had expensive maintenance.

The south 44 acre parcel also has limited access but follows the Willow Creek downstream to the U. S. Forest Service property. Several Allotments are and were in this general area. Several Mono families have utilized this segment of the Creek for many generations over the past three centuries. Sedge root was the most prominent cultural resource gathered in this region. With appropriate "right of way" access regeneration of the sedge root on this parcel would generate the basket makers and basket making culture of the North Fork Mono Tribe. Currently for good sedgeroot tribal members have to travel to the Kings River the visit the Dunlap Mono in-order to have quality root for their coil basketry. The Tribe's project goals on these two Planning Units would enhance the management of the donated P G & E lands.

The Kerckhoff Lake Planning Unit is 155 acres in size. This portion of land is located around the northwestern edge of the Lake. The Tribe would be interested in another segment of the land not currently openly up for donation. Both segments of the said lands contains portions of the Mono Trail transecting around the north portion of the Lake. The Mono Trail went from the Valley floor following the San Joaquin River on the north side all the way to Lake Ediza on the eastern slope of Mt. Ritter and Mt. Banner. Along the way are several creation spots, numerous villages and burial grounds. In the Kerckhoff Lake area over three dozen archaeological sites exist and following the Horseshoe Bend Trail which connects to the eastern portion of the P G & E lands over twenty arch sites are recorded. This was a major gathering area and trading ground with neighboring tribes. Not only is this area a major prehistoric and protohistoric era but it includes an era of ethnohistory with the current viability of the land tenure which includes Mono Indian Allotments and Homesteads.

Keeping with the six "value's" of the land, the Tribe would continue with current grazing leases and ranching enterprises. This land was a primary cattle ranching enterprise for some one hundred years by Mono families from the late 1800's to the mid 1900's. The original intent for the land has not changed as the grounds accessibility and usage is limited. However, enhancement of management would include an expansion of campsites, development of hiking trails that don't disrupt the grazing; vegetation restoration regenerating the cultural resources that are abundant but have not been maintained. Watershed management would enhance the agri practices and aquafie the fishery and wildlife habitat. This would give more open space to the land allowing for additional outdoor activities and recreation as well as an educational component which with a well thought out land design could include a native Mono village

## **Rationale For Applying:**

The North Fork Mono Tribe has been an active participant with the hydroelectric licensing process for the Crane Valley Hydroelectric Relicensing since 1982-2004. The Tribe was a stakeholder and active participant in the archaeological, ethnographical and ethnobotanical research for the relicense process [1982-1984]. The Tribe continues to be an active stakeholder participant on the Cultural Resources Committee meetings held quarterly in North Fork.

The Manzanita Lake Planning Unit is an area that the Tribes' members have inhabited for many generations. There are numerous archaeological and ethnographic sites, sacred areas, burial grounds, resource gathering areas, hunting, fishing and other subsistence has all been an integral part of the North Fork Mono Tribe's way of life. A number of Indian Allotments still exist around the Lake area and many Mono families have ties to the Lake.

Manzanita Lake (known as waza-gut') area has been utilized in movies where many of our people played a role as extras in movies such as Hiawatha, Deer Slayer, Rifleman and others. The school children who visit North Fork utilize the Lake as a place to picnic after their stops at the Sierra Mono Museum and or the old Mill site when it was operating. The Township of North Fork promulgates the Manzanita Lake area to the public and the North Fork Mono Tribe will continue this tradition. The Lake is a great recreational area for picnicking, fishing, gatherings, weddings, etc.

Willow Creek Planning Unit, is at the confluence of both north and south forks of Willow Creek. This area was a favorite swimming and fishing spot for the Mono. For the lower segment of the Willow Creek Planning Unit there are numerous cultural resources including sedge root which is used by the basket makers. This resource has not had access for many years and therefore needs to be regenerated. Gold was and is still extracted by Tribal members from this Willow Creek area and has been for the past century. From 1887 to the 1950's several Indian Allotments existed along this stretch of watershed land. Homesteads and some Allotments still exist in the proximity of this said Planning Unit.

Smalley Cove also known as tso-ba-te-bau (river crossing) is a place of ancient history for the Nium (Northfork Mono). The Smalley Cove Planning Unit is the primary sought after proposed donated lands by the North Fork Mono Tribe.

The North Fork Mono Tribe has been an active participant with the hydroelectric licensing process for Kerckhoff Reservoir and Wishon Powerhouse since 1978. The Tribe was a stakeholder and active participant in the archaeological, ethnographical and ethnobotanical research for the relicense at Kerckhoff [1978-1984]. The campground is a result of recreational needs supported by FERC. The Tribe has since been an active stakeholder in SCE's relicensing of Powerhouse BC #4 south of Kerckhoff [1995-2002]. As well as with the Crane Valley Hydro Relicensing [1982-2004]. As of recent the Tribe is nearing conclusion of the ALP Relicensing of several other SCE hydro's on the upper San Joaquin River Drainage [2000-2008].

This parcel of the Crane Valley Watershed is utilized by native animals as well as cattle ranchers. Previously, North Fork Mono cattle ranchers utilized this ground and took care of the land. Recreationally, a baseball field was built in 1957 by a North Fork Mono P G & E employee. Swimming, fishing, gathering, hunting, rite of passage and other social and spiritual ceremonies have been a continuum of activities by the Mono on these said grounds.

The North Fork Mono Tribe has been utilizing the Smalley Cove land for many centuries and over the past decades has renewed its ties to the land even though the land is privately held by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. An ethnographic accounting was recorded and sent to Washington DC and the Bureau of Indian Affairs with the Tribe's Federal Acknowledgment Document in 2007 (copy is included in this information packet). There are over three dozen archaeological sites recorded around the Kerckhoff Lake area.

In 1971, the North Fork Mono Tribe's members built the Sierra Mono Museum. In 1984 the Museum was designated by Madera County as the #1 tourist attraction in Madera County. The Museum owns and houses two of the finest Mono Indian Basketry and Mounted Animal collections in the Western United States. The Museum is a repository and archival for federal, state and tribal archaeological finds. In 2006 the Museum met the Federal Standards for federal curation. The Museum houses the artifacts from the Kerckhoff and Bass Lake excavations conducted in 1978 and 1984.

The following is a listing of the collaboration with those who have an interest in the Smalley Cove Watershed Usage:

#### STAKEHOLDER

##### AGENCIES

Pacific Gas & Electric  
 Fed. Energy Reg. Commission  
 United States Forest Service  
 CA Dept. of Fire & Prevention  
 State Water Control Board  
 CA Dept. of Water Resources  
 CA Dept. of Fish & Game  
 CA Dept. of Parks & Rec.  
 CA Dept. of Food & Ag  
 State Historic Preserv. Office  
 NA Heritage Commission  
 United States Fish & Wildlife  
 State & Federal EPA  
 Madera, Fresno, Mariposa Co.  
 Sierra Mono Museum  
 North Fork Rancheria  
 Big Sandy Rancheria  
 Dumna Tribe  
 North Fork CDC  
 N. F. Chamber of Commerce

##### RELATED INTEREST

Hydro/Dam/Lines/Lands  
 Hydro License/HPMP/Water/Recreation  
 Surrounding Lands (North & East)  
 Surrounding Lands (West & South)  
 River, Creeks, Waterways  
 Water & Waterways  
 Fishery/Game  
 Parks / Recreation /Cultural Resources  
 Agricultural / Ranching / Farming  
 Cultural Resources  
 Archaeological /Cemeteries  
 Plants/Wildlife  
 Environmental  
 Roads/Bridges/Development etc.  
 Cultural Preservation  
 Cultural Resources  
 Cultural Resources  
 Cultural Resources  
 Tourism / Business  
 Tourism / Business

## **Tribal Capacity:**

The Tribe has six different projects, all in and around the Willow Creek Watershed Lands (see restoration projects). These said lands have been and are ethnographic and traditional use lands by the Tribe and its people for centuries. The Tribal Council is the main governing body of our tribal non-profit. Our tribal members and council members are experts in the environment as we lived on the land and for thousands of years were the stewards of the land. Today we actively teach and guide County, State and Federal agencies in the proper and appropriate care of the land and watershed. The Tribe is very active and one of the lead stakeholders in all lands, whether within our territorial boundaries or in our neighboring counties. Areas where our people once traded and some of our people live today. The Tribe actively participates in collaboratives and relicensing with the USFS, US Fish and Wildlife, CA Fish and Game, CA Dept. of Fire, CA Dept. of Water Resources, as well as Madera, Fresno, Mariposa, Tulare and Kings Counties.

### **Restoration, Regeneration, Re-creation Projects**

The North Fork Mono Tribes' Mission is the preservation of the North Fork Mono Tribe's traditions, resources and lands through education, culture, religion and conservation.

The Tribe has several restoration projects on-going in the foothills to the High Sierra's, in Mariposa, Madera and Fresno Counties. Restoration projects are highly valued as they restore the cultural resources for the Tribal members to carry on their generations of traditional living. Many of the Tribal members make their living from native plants. It is important for the basket makers, gatherers and cultural traditionalist to keep their practices and trades alive.

The tribal members and the Tribe's leaders are some of the front runners when it comes to preservation, restoration and enhancement of the lands and watersheds. When the Mono lived on the land they took care of the land. Now the land is mostly privately owned or controlled by governmental entities.

In 2008 to 2009 the Tribe's leaders participated with the CA Department of Water Resources in the development of the 2009 CA Water Plan Update. In 2009 the Tribe led the way for an historic Water Summit between 175 California Tribes and some 30 plus State and Federal Agencies. Out of the 2009 Water Plan Update a new chapter on Meadow Restoration was developed with one of the Tribe's Council member leading the way and the Chapter was dedicated to him.

The following are some of the ongoing projects the North Fork Mono Tribe is working on. Includes Watershed, County, Project, Partners, Tribal Leader and date project started:

Lost Lake Trail & Deergrass Restoration - Date: Trail, 1985; Deergrass, 2007  
Partners: Fresno County Parks & Recreation; Dumna Tribe; San Joaquin River Trust; California Multicultural Center; CIBA members  
Volunteers: (20) Fresno Co. Community Service; (60) Carver Academy  
Tribal Members: R. Goode, L. Conner/S. Jones - Dumna  
County: Fresno, Lost Lake, Friant, CA  
Watershed: San Joaquin River, below Millerton Dam  
Resource(s) Restoration: sedge root, soap root, blackberries, alder, gray willow, wormwood, miners lettuce, etc.

Jensen Ranch Native American Garden - Date: 2008 one acre; 2009 five acres  
Partners: San Joaquin River Trust & Conservancy; Am Indian Movement; Haslett Basin Band of Mono;  
Volunteers: (30) CSUF, Native Am Studies;  
Tribal Members: R. Goode/L. Wass - AIM, R. Alec - Haslett Basin  
County: Fresno County, N. of Woodward Park, Fresno, CA  
Watershed: Lower San Joaquin River Flood Plain  
Resource(s) Re-creation: 1 acre traditional resources garden donated to Native Community- increased to 5 acres with conceptual plan

Jackass Meadow and Sedgeroot Restoration - Date: 2006  
Partners: USFS, Botanist; SCE Hydro; NF Rancheria; Big Sandy Rancheria  
Volunteers: (20) Forest Volunteer Trail Crew; (60) Madera High School  
Tribal Members: Formally M. Carmen; R. Goode  
County: Fresno County, Florence Lake, CA  
Watershed: Upper Southfork of San Joaquin River  
Resource(s) Restoration: meadow, sedge root, mountain sage, etc.

Crane Valley Native Plant Regeneration - Date: 2003  
Partners: USFS Bass Lake Ranger District  
Volunteers: (100) Adopt-a-watershed; (15) SNF; (20) NF Mono Tribe  
Tribal Members: R. Goode, L. Conner, R. Lavell  
County: Madera County, Crane Valley Rd, Bass Lake, CA  
Watershed: Crane Valley, Willow Creek, San Joaquin River  
Resource(s) Regeneration: 24 plus resources includes berries, sedgeroot, deer grass, yarrow, peppermint tea, soap root, wild rose, etc.

Horseshoe Bend Historic Mono Trail - Date: 2002

Partners: SCE Hydro; USFS Trail & Arch; FERC; Pacific Legacy  
Volunteers: N. Fork Mono Tribe; CSUF Botanist; North Fork Rancheria  
Tribal Members: Formally M. Carmen; R. Goode/G. Lee-NFR  
County: Madera County, between Redinger and Kerckhoff Reservoirs  
Watershed: Willow Creek and the San Joaquin River  
Resource(s) Restoration: cultural sites, elderberry, coffee berry, ground  
spring runoff, historic Mono trail, & aquatic mussels in the river

Mariposa Creek Deer grass & Sour berry Regeneration - Date: 2007

Partners: Kirk/Goode family; Mariposa Williamson Act  
Volunteers: (30) gatherers from Mariposa to Auberry;  
Tribal Members: R. Goode, L. Conner, M. Kirk-Goode-Choctaw  
County: Mariposa County, Buckeye Road, Mariposa, CA  
Watershed: 400 acres of private property  
Resource(s) Regeneration: sourberries, elderberries, & deergrass

Over the past thirty years, the Tribe has been involved in the Relicensing process for P G & E and SCE. Settlements on the hydro projects have included restoration of meadows, trails, and gathering areas. Access, identification and protection of native plant resources, ancestral sites, artifact curation, and historical archiving. Hydro projects destroyed over 100 ancestral sites and continues to damage or eradicate the sites all together. There has been no settlement for the damage done to these sites.

Tribal Members

Land Managers/Occupations

Fallow Deer Ranch Owner

50 plus herd, meat marketed to restaurants, 25 plus years of business

PBR Rodeo Bull Ranch Owner

Over 25 bull rodeo stock used on the Professional Bull Riders Events

Cattle and Horse Ranch Owner(s)

Several Ranchers on Fee, Homesteads, and Allotments run 20 to 50 head of beef cattle as well as horses

Wood Cutters/Loggers

Many tribal members make or supplement their living from wood cutting or wood products, the Mono have been engaged in the logging or milling aspect of the woods since the late 1800's

Land Managers/Cultural Resources

Basketry is a main stay for the Mono tribal people, the Mono are highly involved in restoration and resource/land managing

U. S. Forest Service Employee(s)

Over the past century many Mono have been employed as fire and trail crew and crew leaders with the USFS

Tribal Chairman

Vice Tribal Chair

Tribal/Council Members

Tribal/Council Members

Tribal/Council Members

Tribal/Council Members



U. S. Forest Service Tribal Partnership/Collaborative(s) Tribal Members  
 The Tribe participates on collaboratives re: forest restoration and sustainabilities  
 this includes preservation of resources as well as wildlife and aquatic habitat  
 P G & E and SCE Hydro Utility Employee(s) Tribal Members  
 Several Mono have been employed with the two hydro companies in many  
 capacities over the past six to ten decades

#### Tribal Land Tenure Capacity

Early 1900's, 72 heads of families had land in one manner or other  
 Over 10,000 acres of land still under Tribal members control

<b>Land Jurisdiction:</b>	<b>Acreage:</b>	<b>Time Frame:</b>
High Sierra's	3000 ft and up	8000 B. P.
Ancestral Lands	Over 10,000 Archaeological Sites	4000 B. P.
Tribal Homeland	75 m x 75 m x 75 m	1700 to 2011
All of Eastern Madera Co., a portion of SE Mariposa Co. & NE Fresno Co.		
Cemetery Lands	Over 25 Burial Grounds	1700's to 2011
These burial grounds are in Eastern Madera County, and under the Jurisdiction of the North Fork Mono Tribe.		
Homestead Lands	Approx. 20 Homestead Lands	1800 to 2011
80 to 160 acre parcels, includes: Homestead, Range, Williamson, fee lands		
Allotment Lands	15 to 20 Allotments Under Trust	1887 to 2011
35 to 160 acre parcels, North Fork Mono Tribe had the most Indian Allotments of all tribes in California. Over 2000 acres still held in Trust by the United States Government Under the Trust and Responsibility of the U. S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Allotment application says, applicant is a Mono of North Fork and that they are members of the North Fork Mono Tribe.		
North Fork Rancheria	80 acres of Trust Land	1916 to 2001
Fully established in 1932, Terminated 1959 to 1979, Reinstated 1983, Eligible for Indian Service 1991. Deed says members belong to the North Fork Band of Mono Indians. The Rancheria is Federally Recognized.		
Sierra Mono Museum	3 1/2 acres of Land	1971 to 2011
Built by members of the North Fork Mono Tribe. The Museum is a County, State and Federally acknowledged Museum and Repository. Value of the Facility and contents is in the Millions. North Fork Mono Tribe Council Members are also Museum Board of Directors. Several of the Council, Tribal Members, and Tribal Elders are consultants, advisors, tour guides and ambassadors for the Mono Museum.		

**Narrative of Organizational Finances:**

The 2008-09-10 audited tax returns are included. In 2008 the Tribe participated in the 2009 California Water Plan Update. During 2009 and 2010 the Tribe engaged with the California Department of Water Resources and the Tribal Water Summit with California Tribes as the fiscal agent for the historic event. The Tribe remains the fiscal agent and again is a member of the Tribal Advisory Council for the 2013 California Water Plan Update. A second Water Summit is a part of the Advisory Council's itinerary.

A current financial report from the Tribe's Treasurer and an annual budget are also included. The Tribe reorganized in 1983 and has never had a deficit. Since the establishment of the Tribal Non-Profit in 2003 the Tribe has always maintained a deficit free checking account with a saving account that continues to grow annually even as the annual budget gets expanded with an increase of endeavors and raising cost factors.

The Tribe's main source of funds comes from contributions and fundraisers. Grants are continually sought after and small cultural and language grants have graced the Tribe's project endeavors. Not only is the Tribe maintaining its fiscal agent role, but its restoration projects are attracting new partners especially those of ecological presences such as Stanford University, Sacramento State, Canada College, Prescott College, Chico State, San Diego State, UC Davis and California State University, Fresno. Professors from these higher level institutions are sending students out on the land for community service projects and several are proposing scientific studies which will enhance their programs and benefit the Tribe as well. Scientific data is essential for successful grant writing.

Currently a Professor from Prescott College in Arizona and the Land Tenure Foundation from Minnesota have partnered with the North Fork Mono Tribe and the San Manuel Reservation to produce a new land tenure curriculum for the State of California. Coupled with this curriculum project and the Tribe's involvement with the Department of Water Resources new maps of the Tribe's Homeland and State-wide Tribal Trust Lands in conjunction with California geography and watersheds have been produced.

The North Fork Mono Tribe is in the process of renewing its interest in producing story books for the children as well as historical books. Professors from UC Davis continue to produce books from studies with the Mono regarding their cultural practices on the land. The Sierra Mono Museum is currently working on their website and involved in cultural curriculum. Native Voices out of Fresno produced DVD stories on several Elders in the area which included three Mono Elders.

While the current financial state of the Tribe is not fiscally elaborate, the financial portfolio and future prospectus is auspiciously enterprising.

**References:**

Endorsement Letters from neighboring tribes (Big Sandy Rancheria), Madera County (Board of Supervisor's) and cattle leasees (La Donna Reed and Robert "Bob" Dennis) are included in this packet. A partnership commitment from the Sierra Foothill Conservancy to monitor these said Planning Unit Lands we are applying for is also included in this packet.

## **Stewardship Planning Unit Lands**

### **Executive Summary:**

The North Fork Mono Tribe has been involved in this P G & E Land donation process from day one of the last seven years. The original parcel(s) and their respective numbers have changed as P G & E made continual changes to what lands they would retain from the outset of what lands were to be available.

The Tribe is now seeking donation of the following Planning Units:  
Manzanita Lake - Willow Creek and Kerckhoff Lake

The “RFP” requests comments to questions why the donee would want the lands; how the Council would know the extent of retention of the lands once the donee was in control of them? Other questions regarding financial stability and investment prospectus will be addressed here in the executive summary.

These are good questions for organizations but not so for governmental entities such as the North Fork Mono Tribe.

In the proposal the Tribe's Capacity describes the Tribes' longevity on the land for thousands of years. During those thousands of years the Tribe established their homeland which amounts to over 1.4 million acres. The Nium took such good care of their homeland that when American's John Fremont and John Muir arrived they described the land as a “garden of eden.” The Mono had over 95 food products for subsistence and close to 200 resources they used for their cultural traditions. Today, even Forest Service Officials acknowledge the era of when the Indians burned on the land and how the land looks since the government took over in 1910.

P G & E has been one of those owners from the early 1900's taking over hydro from previous hydro owners. Yet, one look at their lands today and you immediately see the same suppression attitude the federal and state forestry/ land managers practiced. So, the Stewardship Council wants to know how the Tribe is going to maintain the lands as P G & E did? We're Not! Our plans are to restore and regenerate the ecological health of these said lands.

The Stewardship Council wants assurance of a continual retention of the lands by the donee. In the proposal the Tribe's Capacity indicated that the Tribe still maintains jurisdiction over their tribal members who have over 10,000 acres of Allotment, Homestead, Williamson and Range lands. These lands are all within the Tribes' Homeland and have been in tribal family possession since the 1800's. While the aforementioned land terms formalized ownership, these said families lived on those respective lands for eight generations dating back to the early 1700's.

To be more precise, as said in the proposal the sought after lands are lands our ancestors lived on as evidenced by the archaeological sites and burial grounds on and adjacent to the proposed Planning Units. Once the lands are returned to the Tribe, the North Fork Mono Tribe will not be relinquishing the donated lands.

Where as the Tribe is applying for the lands under our non-profit status it is a tribal non-profit. The 509 (a) 2 is not a separate entity from our Tribal Council. A number of Federally and State Recognized Tribes and Allotment owned Tribes are utilizing the IRS Tribal Non-Profit for donation and business purposes.

Which leads to the Tribe's financial stability and investment prospectus. The Tribe's budgets indicate a low cash flow. However, the cash flow has never been in the "red." The Tribe is engaged as a fiscal agent for the State of California Water Resources Department, Water Summit Event. The Tribe was selected out of six other Native tribal organizations statewide. A second Water Summit is forthcoming in the next two years.

The Tribe recently participated in a "Trail of Fire" workshop with the Martu of Australia hosted by Stanford University Archaeology Department. The group made a trip over to Bass Lake to visit our meadow restoration project located off Crane Valley Road and visit our prestigious Sierra Mono Museum. The University folks were highly impressed with our work on the land and have orally committed to a partnership involving grant funds and course study collaboration. Other Universities including CSU, Fresno American Indian Studies have sent volunteer students out to help the Tribe. Canada College and Sacramento State University are bringing their students out on the land to help our basket makers.

Prescott College of Arizona and the Land Tenure Foundation out of Minnesota are involved with the Tribe via a \$450,000 grant from San Manual Reservation to produce a statewide Land Tenure K-12 Curriculum. This Curriculum will be on-line by the end of this summer.

While the Tribe's investment portfolio is promising, the Tribe feels the 70 million P G & E has available for land conservation needs to be used first and foremost for the conservation projects proposed by the donee(s). The Stewardship Council constantly speaks of what funding the Donee is bringing to the table as if they want to hang on to the 70 million. If mapping, surveying, fences, transference and taxes are the essential aspects then they should so be designated up front by the Stewardship Council. The impression we as donee(s) have is the Stewardship Council is wanting to see what donee's have to offer first.

We've reviewed the tax table the Stewardship Council has put forth. It is very unrealistic. These said Planning Unit lands will be placed under "easement." Land taxes are very minimal under the Conservation Easement.

The Stewardship Council should pay the taxes initially, down the road the Tribe would easily handle the Conservation Easement Taxation. The North Fork Mono Tribe has a commitment from the Sierra Foothill Conservancy to handle the easement on the donated P G & E lands.

Respectfully,

*Ron W. Goode*

Hon. Ron W. Goode  
Tribal Chairman

# STANFORD UNIVERSITY



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DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for Mr. Ron Goode's proposal on behalf of the North Fork Mono Tribe to obtain ownership and stewardship rights over the Willow Creek planning units (Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek & Smalley Cove). Based on their vested interest and knowledge of the land, the North Fork Mono Tribe is in an ideal position to care for these lands.

Over the coming years, I plan to work with the North Fork Mono Tribe and collecting ecological data examining the effects of traditional tribal land use patterns on biodiversity - comparing those areas that are a part of the Tribe's restoration projects with those that previously managed by government agencies. These projects will provide ecological data on the benefits of such restoration projects which can also be used to inform future land management policies. These projects will also provide opportunities to train undergraduate students, improve K-12 curriculum and develop public outreach materials.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Coddling

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Coddling".

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7 July, 2011

I am writing this letter in support of the North Fork Mono Tribe's efforts to regain ownership of their traditional lands comprised of the Willow Creek Planning Units including Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek and Smalley Cove. Over the last year I have had the great pleasure to begin working with the Tribe on issues related to fire ecology and cultural resources. In June, members of the Tribe, along with scholars from numerous US and Australian institutions, other Indigenous Californians, and Traditional Owners from Australia, participated in a week long workshop at Stanford University and the Sierra Nevada. The goal of the workshop was investigate drivers and consequences of transitions in land use practices, livelihoods and biodiversity in areas continuously occupied by Indigenous Australians and American Indians. The North Fork Mono Tribe organized and hosted a number of the workshop sessions dealing with habitat restoration and traditional burning practices in their homelands. Their stewardship of these homelands, inclusive of the Willow Creek watershed detailed in this proposal, is fundamental to the survival and vitality of Nuim society, livelihood and culture. Their continued settlement, subsistence, and craft practices are in turn vital in the maintenance of a diverse montane ecosystem. The natural and cultural resources of these lands, when cared for by the Traditional Owners, constitute the essence of life and heritage for the North Fork Mono Tribe. I look forward to a long working relationship with the Tribe in their efforts to restore the vitality and ownership of their homelands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Douglas W. Bird".

Douglas Bird  
Senior Research Scientist



## THE CENTER FOR MULTICULTURAL COOPERATION

July 6, 2011

Vanessa Parker-Geisman, Regional Land Conservation Manager  
Pacific Forest & Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
1107 9th Street, Suite 501, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Letter of Support: Land Stewardship Proposal by North Fork Mono Tribe

Dear Ms. Parker-Geisman:

The **Center for Multicultural Cooperation** (CMC) is a 501(c)(3) corporation, which provides hundreds of underserved youth in the Fresno and Sacramento regions with opportunities for civic education, service-learning, youth media, history and multicultural cooperation. The mission of CMC is to provide quality youth leadership and service experiences that connect generations, cultures and communities.

CMC has worked with Ron Goode and the North Fork Mono Tribe for the past 4 years, including a recent plant restoration project at their Bass Lake site. We bring underserved youth from Fresno to learn about wilderness and tribal culture, as well as engaging them in service learning projects. We hope to find more opportunities to give urban youth meaningful experiences in wilderness areas.

The Center for Multicultural Cooperation will partner with the North Fork Mono Tribe to engage Fresno middle and high school students in building trails and making durable interpretive signs in the Willow Creek Planning Units, that includes Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek and Smalley Cove.

CMC strongly supports the Land Stewardship Proposal by North Fork Mono Tribe.

Sincerely,

Executive Director  
Center for Multicultural Cooperation  
PO Box 27442  
Fresno CA 93729





# Prescott College

For the Liberal Arts, the Environment, and Social Justice

July 12, 2011

Vanessa Parker-Geisman, Regional Land Conservation Manager  
Pacific Forest & Watershed Lands Stewardship Council

## **Letter of Support: Land Stewardship Proposal by the North Fork Mono Tribe**

Dear Ms. Parker-Geisman,

I strongly support the Land Stewardship Proposal for the Willow Creek Planning Units (including Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek, and Kerckhoff Lake) that you recently received from Ron Goode and the North Fork Mono Tribe. Drawing on the Tribe's long history and expertise in stewardship, Goode has collaborated with me to produce a K-12 Native American lands curriculum, "Lessons of Our California Land." This summer we have begun to disseminate the lessons throughout the state of California. The goals of this \$450,000 curriculum development program are to build partnerships that draw on the expertise of tribes and schools to create dynamic lessons and learning experiences for K-12 students; to help California's students understand the history and meaning of California land; and to increase student academic achievement.

The North Fork Mono Tribe has actively restored Sierra Nevada meadows and conserved culturally and ecologically important resources throughout the region. I look forward to continuing Prescott College's collaborative relationship with the Tribe and its other partners far into the future. Considering Tribal members' ability to exchange ideas with Indigenous people in the United States and Australia and to collaborate with researchers from major institutions such as Stanford University and the Australian National University, it is not too much to state that the Tribe's stewardship and educational efforts could have great impact both within and far beyond California's borders.

I urge the Stewardship Council to approve the North Fork Mono Tribe's Land Stewardship Proposal. Please contact me with any questions at [jaldern@prescott.edu](mailto:jaldern@prescott.edu).

Sincerely,

Jared Dahl Aldern, Ph.D.

Project Director

The Land Tenure Education and Restoration Project

## **THE LAND TENURE EDUCATION AND RESTORATION PROJECT**

*A PRESCOTT COLLEGE PROGRAM BASED IN CALIFORNIA*

2658 E. ALLUVIAL AVE., UNIT 103 • CLOVIS, CA 93611

Mobile phone: (760) 533-5700 • [www.jareddahldern.net](http://www.jareddahldern.net) • [www.prescott.edu](http://www.prescott.edu)





September 16, 2008

North Fork Mono Tribe  
C/O Ron Goode, Tribal Chair  
13396 Tollhouse Rd.  
Clovis, CA 93619

Dear Ron,

Thank you for the opportunity to partner with the North Fork Mono Tribe to help protect and preserve the Willow Creek Watershed properties in Eastern Madera County. We support the Tribe's acquisition of these important ancestral lands from PG&E and the Stewardship Council and it would be an honor to work together with the North Fork Mono Tribe on this important Project.

Sierra Foothill Conservancy (SFC) currently owns and manages nearly 6,000 acres and has twenty-one conservation easements with landowners throughout Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa counties. SFC is familiar with the proposed properties and has already protected lands one mile downstream from Kerckhoff Reservoir. The Conservancy has the capacity and the commitment to work with the North Fork Mono Tribe to help ensure the conservation of natural and cultural resources of the site.

Sincerely,

Chuck Peck  
Sierra Foothill Conservancy

La Donna Reed  
Robert (Bob) Dennis  
P.O. Box 63  
Prather, Ca. 93651

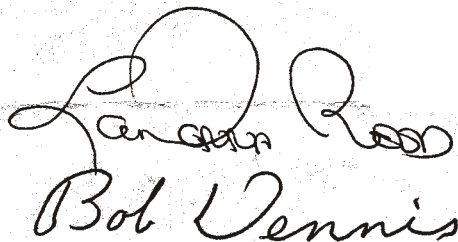
North Fork Mono Tribe  
c/o Ron Goode, Tribal Chair  
13396 Tollhouse Rd.  
Clovis Ca. 93619

~~September 25, 2008~~

Dear Ron Goode; We would endorse the North Fork Mono Tribe taking over the donee position on the land that includes our lease in Smalley Cove. I have always admired and agreed with tribal beliefs for the land. The partnership that would follow would only have a positive effect for the areas and its land use. I have felt for many years that the land use has been discouraged or totally ignored. The crime in the area is also something that's been continually ignored. Any improvements were impossible to work towards as they would be destroyed or taken. Trees have been cut down by parties unknown with nothing done to curtail or stop it from happening again.

The tribe will care for the land and its history with improvements and activities in the area. This will help bring back the land use issues and bring back the culture that was in the area. With this increase in land use it will help us all.

We love our stewardship of the land and our cattle history for this area. We abuse neither of these, the tribe will honor our love of both.



La Donna Reed  
Bob Dennis



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF MADERA

MADERA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
200 WEST FOURTH STREET / MADERA, CALIFORNIA 93637  
(559) 675-7700 / FAX (559) 673-3302 / TDD (559) 675-8970

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TANNA G. BOYD, Clerk of the Board

September 30, 2008

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
15 North Ellsworth Ave., Suite 100  
San Mateo, CA 94401

RE: Willow Creek Watershed Properties

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Madera County Board of Supervisors, I would like to offer our support of the North Fork Mono Tribe becoming a donee of the Willow Creek Watershed properties in Eastern Madera County. These lands are old tribal lands that the Tribe has utilized for many centuries despite the lands being privately held by PG&E.

The North Fork Mono Tribe has been an active participant on these lands with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing project both for Kerckhoff Reservoir and Crane Valley Hydroelectric Projects. The Tribe's proposals reflect their continuous commitment to honor all leases, licenses, cultural resource protections and stakeholder interests.

As a Tribal Non-Profit, the North Fork Mono Tribe's proposals truly reflect their dedication to education, cultural preservation and environmental conservation. As further testament of their desire to preserve their culture, the Tribe operates the Sierra Mono Museum in North Fork. This museum houses two of the finest Mono Indian Basketry and Mounted Animal collections in the Western United States. The museum is also a repository and archival for federal, state and tribal archaeological finds.

For many years now, Madera County has worked collaboratively with the North Fork Mono Tribe. I can not think of a more qualified and deserving donee for these lands.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Dominici".

Ronn Dominici  
Chairman





## **BIG SANDY RANCHERIA**

October 17, 2008

Elizabeth Kipp  
Chairperson

Ron Goode, Tribal Chair  
North Fork Mono Tribe  
13396 Tollhouse Rd.  
Clovis, CA 93619

Miles Baty  
Vice Chair

Dear Mr. Goode,

Regina Riley  
Secretary

This letter is in support of the North Fork Mono Tribe and their efforts to protect native lands near the Kerckhoff Reservoir and Crane Valley Projects. We support your ambitions toward education, cultural and environmental conservation, as well as the spiritual respect for these areas. We wish you all the best in achieving your goals and hope that we may be of service or support to you and your tribe in the future.

Johnny Baty  
Treasurer

Pearl Hutchins  
Member-At-Large

Respectfully,

Elizabeth D. Kipp  
Tribal Chairperson

*North Fork Mono Tribe  
Proposed Projects & Budgets for Planning Units  
[Proposed budgets reflect cost of materials, labor & mileage]*

<i>Dvelpmnt Priority</i>	<i>Proposed Projects</i>	<i>Proposed Budgets</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>Project(s) No. (X) =</i>	<i>Budget Costs</i>
<i>Upper Willow Creek:</i>					
	<i>Build Indian/Veteran's Cemetery</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>Construction work 20 days/man + equipment]</i>				
	<i>One Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>		<i>Five Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$ 40,000</i>
<i>Kerckhoff Lake Unit:</i>					
	<i>Develop Indian Village</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 20,000</i>
	<i>1 village area/20 structures / \$1000 per structure [days/man hrs/vehicles]</i>				
	<i>Develop Mono/Hiking Trails</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>20 days x \$50 per man [mapping / brushing / trail work]</i>				
	<i>Bridge Enhancemnt Fish Ck</i>	<i>\$ 25,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 25,000</i>
	<i>existing bridge needs shoring for visitor crossing [safety &amp; securing]</i>				
	<i>Portable Rodeo Arena</i>	<i>\$ 40,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>cowboying is our way of life/metal gates/heavy post/digger/chutes/etc.</i>				
	<i>One Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$105,000</i>		<i>Five Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$125,000</i>
<i>Manzanita Lake Unit:</i>					
	<i>Develop Trail(s)</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 20,000</i>
	<i>20 days x \$50 per man [mapping / brushing / trail work]</i>				
	<i>Build Group Camp Site</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 20,000</i>
	<i>power/covers/big tables/water/bbq etc.</i>				
	<i>Build Day Camp Sites</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 30,000</i>
	<i>new areas/each site: tables-trail-bbq</i>				
	<i>One Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$ 50,000</i>		<i>Five Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$ 70,000</i>

*North Fork Mono Tribe  
Proposed Projects & Budgets for Planning Units  
[Proposed budgets reflect cost of materials, labor & mileage]*

<i>Dvelpmnt Priority</i>	<i>Proposed Projects</i>	<i>Proposed Budgets</i>	<i>(X)</i>	<i>Project(s) No. (X) =</i>	<i>Budget Costs</i>
<i>Kerckhoff / Manzanita / Willow:</i>					
	<i>Develop Roadway(s)</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 30,000</i>
	<i>10 days x \$1000 per man [mapping/brushing/road work]</i>				
	<i>Brushing &amp; Landscaping</i>	<i>\$ 15,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 45,000</i>
	<i>15 days x \$100 per man x 10 man [brushing/horticulture/landscaping]</i>				
	<i>Land Survey &amp; Mapping</i>	<i>\$ 40,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>• cost can be incurred by the Stewardship Council</i>				
	<i>Fence Work</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 30,000</i>
	<i>\$5-\$6 per ft @ 50 ft per day x 10 days /\$100 man + material</i>				
	<i>Develop Parking Areas</i>	<i>\$ 5,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 15,000</i>
	<i>grading \$100 per operator/\$100 equipment per hr/\$1,000 per day x 15 days</i>				
	<i>Plant Restoration</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>\$ 30,000</i>
	<i>advisors/elders/consultants/material &amp; tools [\$1000 per day x 20 days]</i>				
	<i>Build Camp Sites</i>	<i>\$ 40,000</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>3 new areas/5 sites per area/ea site tables-parking-bbq/\$4000 per site</i>				
	<i>Restrooms/Portable</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>	<i>5</i>		<i>\$ 50,000</i>
	<i>portable restrooms will be needed for construction, villages &amp; camp sites</i>				
	<i>Water Wells/Storage Tank</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>	<i>2</i>		<i>\$ 40,000</i>
	<i>two water wells &amp; a large water storage tank needed for project areas</i>				
	<i>One Yr. Total:</i>	<i>\$160,000</i>	<i>Five Yr. Total:</i>		<i>\$320,000</i>

*North Fork Mono Tribe  
Proposed Projects & Budgets for:  
Manzanita Lake, Willow Creek, & Kerckhoff Lake  
Planning Units*

<i>ANNUAL FEES &amp; EXPENSES</i>	<i>1 Year</i>		<i>5 Years</i>
<i>Property Taxes</i>	<i>\$3,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 15,000</i>
<i>Liaibility Insurance</i>	<i>\$3,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 15,000</i>
<i>Accounting Fees</i>	<i>\$4,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 20,000</i>
<i>Elders &amp; Advisors</i>	<i>\$5,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 25,000</i>
<i>Web Master</i>	<i>\$2,500 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 12,500</i>
<i>Legal &amp; Consultant Fees</i>	<i>\$3,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 15,000</i>
<i>JAdvertising</i>	<i>\$5,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 25,000</i>
<i>One Yr Total:</i>	<i>\$25,500</i>	<i>Five Yr:</i>	<i>\$127,500</i>

<i>PERSONNEL For PROJECTS</i>	<i>1 Year</i>		<i>5 Years</i>
<i>Project Director*•</i>	<i>\$35,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$175,000</i>
<i>Caretaker *•</i>	<i>\$20,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>Maintenance Worker *•</i>	<i>\$20,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>Construction Manager*•</i>	<i><u>\$25,000</u> x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i><u>\$125,000</u></i>
	<i>\$100,000</i>		<i>\$500,000</i>

<i>Workman's Comp •</i>	<i>• Each position is a variable percentage</i>		
<i>Payroll Taxes (12%) *</i>	<i>\$12,000 x 5 years</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>\$ 60,000</i>
<i>One Yr Total:</i>	<i>\$112,000</i>	<i>Five Yr:</i>	<i>\$560,000</i>

*Proposed Grand Total:    1 Year    \$472,500                      5 Year    \$1,242,500*