

### LAW OFFICES OF LETTY LITCHFIELD

716 D Street Marysville, CA 95901 (530) 673-4616 (916) 485-4253 FAX (530) 742-8576

APRIL 26, 2010

JOHN NICOLETTI Supervisor-District 2 Yuba Co. Board of Supervisors 915-8<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 109 Marysville, CA 95901

Re: Request for County Board of Supervisors Resolution

on behalf of the Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe

Dear Supervisor Nicoletti:

Thank you for meeting today with Tsi-Akim Maidu tribal Chairman, Don Ryberg, and I, about our request that the Board of Supervisors issue a Resolution of recognition and support for the tribe. As you know from the documentation that Chairman Ryberg shared with you today, many of the tribe's ancestors lived in Yuba County.

As we discussed, I am assisting the Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe (formerly known as "Taylorsville" of the Taylorsville Rancheria in Plumas County) in their quest to have their tribe returned to the list of Federally Recognized tribes. In doing so, it is not necessary to have local and state support, but we believe that every little bit helps. Therefore, the tribe has been gathering Resolutions from various County Boards of Supervisors and other organizations.

These Resolutions are nothing more than a showing of support for the tribe's continued existence, and their desire to preserve their heritage, culture, language and religion. It should be noted that the tribe is very moved by such Resolutions, and views them as a form of apology for the many atrocities that occurred during the Gold Rush era, including near annihilation of the Maidu people.

This tribe, which now has a living cultural village site just outside of Nevada City in Nevada County, has made it a goal to actively participate in coming together with Non-Indian communities for healing of the people, as well as healing of the land and waters. The Gold Rush left significant amounts of Mercury toxins throughout Northern California's lands and waters. Our Yuba River and its watershed areas stand much to gain from this tribe being

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Federally Recognized. Indeed, the Tsi-Akim Maidu were consulted on, and supported, the very recent collaborative effort that resulted in Western Aggregate agreeing to put three miles of its land from the Parks Bar Bridge downstream into a Conservation Easement for a wild Chinook salmon restoration project.

On behalf of the Tsi-Akm Maidu, we greatly appreciate your time spent in listening to our request, and we appreciate you forwarding this request to the Board.

Towards that end, I am attaching a list of the numerous governing bodies and organizations that have signed Resolutions for the tribe, and I have provided actual copies of some of those Resolutions.

I am also attaching a copy of an 1840 map that shows the Maidu Tribal lands in Northern California, a copy of an historical photograph of the Tsi-Akim (Ch'akom) village in Taylorsville, and a sheet with chronological information on the tribe's Federal Recognition status.

Thank you very much for your interest in this tribe as a People of our state that is very historically significant, and for whom we should all be acting to help preserve their continued existence and well-being.

Sincerely,

Letty Litchfield

Enclosures

Cc: Chairman, Don Ryberg

Tsi-Akim Maidu

# The Tsi-Akim Maidu have gathered formal Resolutions of Recognition and Support from the following organizations:

California Heritage Commission

California State Archives

**Nevada County Historical Society** 

**Nevada County Land Trust** 

**Nevada Irrigation District** 

**Nevada County Board of Supervisors** 

**Plumas County Board of Supervisors** 

Sierra County Board of Supervisors

The Yuba Watershed Institute

South Yuba River Citizens League

**Friends of Deer Creek** 

The Sierra Fund

**American Rivers** 

Foothills Lions Club of Grass Valley

Sierra Nevada Deep Ecology Institute

**Shingle Springs Rancheria** 

Sierra Friends of Tibet

**Wolf Creek Alliance** 

**KVMR Radio Station** 

California State University, Chico

Colfax/Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe

**Placer Land Trust** 

Maidu Summit Consortium
Consisting of:
Maidu Culture & Development Group
Roundhouse Council
Susanville Indian Rancheria
Tsi-Akim Maidu
Maiduk We'ye
Greenville Indian Rancheria
Mountain Maidu Preservation Association
Tasmam Koyom Cultural Foundation
United Maidu Nation



### **BACKGROUND:**

THE TSI-AKIM MAIDU TRIBE OF THE TAYLORSVILLE RANCHERIA WAS ONCE ON THE FEDERAL REGISTER, AND IS SEEKING TO HAVE ITS NAME RETURNED TO THE FEDERAL REGISTER.

- -In May 1923, the Department of Interior purchased the Old Allick Allotment, establishing the Taylorsville Rancheria as a home site for a band of homeless Indians of the Taylorsville area.
- -In June, 1935, the approved voting members of the Taylorsville Rancheria voted to have the Indian Reorganization Act apply to the tribe.
- -On November 7, 1966, the Federal government sold the tribe's Taylorsville Rancheria lands to Plumas County. While there is no evidence of an Act of Congress terminating the tribe, and there has never been any notice to the tribe that it was terminated, its name disappeared from the Federal Register.
- -The Plumas County Board of Supervisors has signed a Resolution supporting the tribe's ongoing mission to preserve their heritage, culture and language, and to be returned to the Federal Register.
- -The tribe is represented by a seven-member Tribal Council that has adopted a Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance listing its members. And, the tribe has a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit incorporation status.

# **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

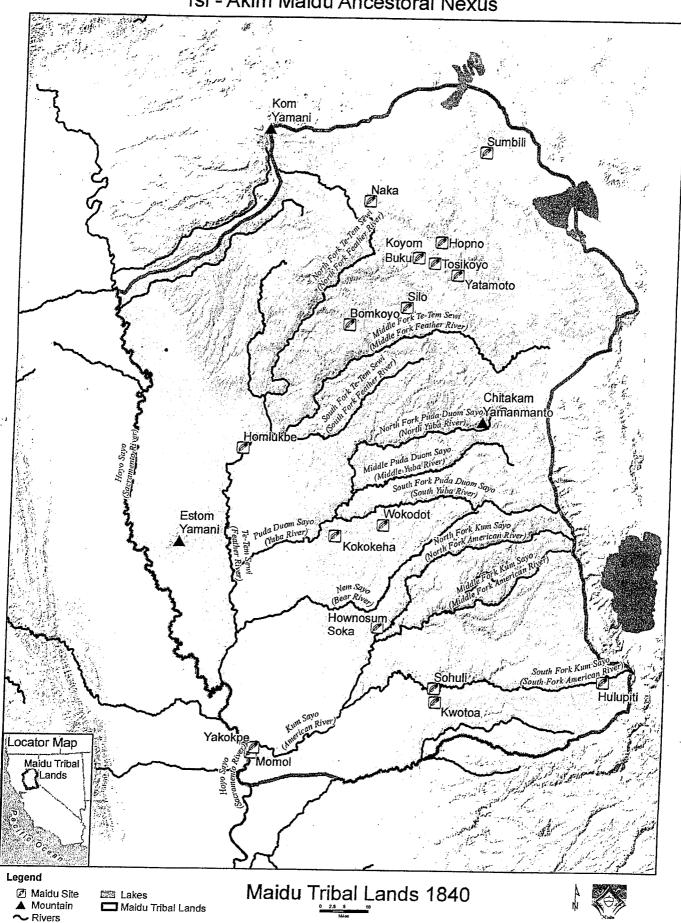
Chairman, Don Ryberg 1275 E. Main Street Grass Valley, CA 95945 Office of Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe: (530) 274-7497

Cell: (530) 559-8595



Ch'akom-duka Village aka: Taylorsville Rancheria
Courtesy of Dorothy Hill Collection CSU Chico

Tsi - Akim Maidu Ancestoral Nexus



## BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF YUBA

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF	)
SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY	)
OF YUBA RECOGNIZING THE	)
TSI-AKIM MAIDU TRIBE	) RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe is a tribal organization of the indigenous Native Americans that inhabited the Yuba County region for thousands of years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribe claims Yuba County is a part of the traditional tribal homeland to the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe, and is their current home, and is where their dead lie buried; and

WHEREAS, the current members of the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe are descendants of this once great Native American Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of its people's language, culture, history, heritage, religion and spirituality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe is represented by a five member Tribal Council that has adopted a Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance listing its members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe is currently pursuing official Federal recognition so that their members and future generations can enjoy the rights and privileges that they are legally entitled to, including housing, health care, elder care, and education.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Yuba County Board of Supervisors does hereby:

Recognizes the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe and further recognizes the importance and contribution of their history, and present cultural heritage in Yuba County; and

Formally supports and endorses the efforts of the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe to pursue Federal recognition so the tribe can further develop the cultures of which they were deprived; and

Formally supports the continuing efforts of the Tsi-akim Maidu Tribe to preserve their heritage, culture, language and religion.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this	day of	, 20,
by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Yuba, by the		
AYES:		
NOES:		
ABSENT:		
ABSTAIN:		
		CHAIR
ATTEST: DONNA STOTTLEMEYER CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS		

APPROVED AS TO FORM: COUNTY COUNSEL ANGIL MORRIS-JONES

Par Decourse, Chief Deputy