STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION

RESOLUTION

of the

YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO:  20-28

DATE APPROVED:  MARCH 13, 2020

SUBJECT:  STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND IMMINENT THREAT IMPACTING THE YUROK TRIBE’S ABILITY TO ADEQUATELY PROVIDE CRITICAL SERVICES TO TRIBAL MEMBERS ON AND OFF THE YUROK RESERVATION.

WHEREAS:  The Yurok Tribe is a federally recognized Tribe,

WHEREAS:  The Yurok Tribal Council is the governing body of the Yurok Tribe under the authority of the Yurok Constitution of 1993,

WHEREAS:  The Yurok Tribe is eligible for all and privileges afforded to federally recognized tribes,

WHEREAS:  The Yurok Tribal Council has a duty to protect life and property of the Yurok tribal members and the Yurok Reservation by mitigating threats from natural or manmade disasters,

WHEREAS:  The Yurok Tribe has jurisdiction over the lands of the Yurok Reservation,

WHEREAS:  The COVID-19 Pandemic affecting Humboldt County, the State of California, the United States of America, and globally, has created a Public Health Emergency and Imminent Threat on the Yurok Reservation and ancestral territory and region, resulting in the health and safety of Yurok people, property, and our environment being seriously impacted and threatened,

WHEREAS:  The COVID-19 Pandemic is expected to immediately overwhelm limited tribal resources in the event of any community-spread outbreak, as well as compromise the Yurok Tribe’s ability to provide critical services to tribal members, thereby increasing the ongoing health and safety risks to our people, property and environment, and
WHEREAS: It is necessary that all federal, state and local emergency management agencies and tribal personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest level of emergency response to this ongoing Public Health and Safety Threat.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Yurok Tribal Council declares a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and that the Yurok Tribal Council does enact emergency authorities under the Yurok Tribal Constitution to mitigate this threat and protect the people, lands and resources of the Yurok Reservation and surrounding areas,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Yurok Tribal Council is the Tribal Emergency Response Committee as required by SARA Title III,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: All Tribal Departments are directed to prepare and report resources as needed or directed by the Yurok Office of Emergency Services Manager (Incident Commander) to support emergency response efforts,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Yurok Tribe will seek assistance from all federal, state, local tribal and volunteer resources to include funding resources available to assist in responding to this emergency,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the County of Humboldt, Director of Emergency Services and the County of Del Norte, Director of Emergency Services,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Governor of California and all others in order to advise him that there is a request that he proclaim the Yurok Reservation to be in a state of emergency,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the President of the United States of America requesting that he issue a Presidential Declaration of Emergency for the Yurok Reservation,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That nothing in this resolution shall be construed as a waiver of the Yurok Tribe’s sovereign immunity, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Chairperson is hereby authorized to sign this resolution and to negotiate all matters pertaining hereto and that the Council Secretary is authorized to attest.
This is to certify that this Resolution Number 20-28 was approved at a duly called meeting of the Yurok Tribal Council on March 13, 2020, at which a quorum was present and that this Resolution Number 20-28 was adopted in accordance with Tribal tradition and Article V, Section 6 and was adopted by a vote of 7 for and 0 opposed and 0 abstentions. This Resolution Number 20-28 has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

DATED THIS 13th DAY OF MARCH, 2020

Joseph L. James, Chairman
Yurok Tribal Council

ATTEST:

Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary
Yurok Tribal Council