

Improving Waste Management Through Partnerships:

Northern California Tribes, Federal, State and County Agencies, and Non-profit Organizations Working Together to Clean Up Tribal Lands and Establish Sustainable Waste Management Practices

Multi-Agency Sustainable Infrastructure Resource Forum

February 7, 2011

Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino

Michelle Baker

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



A Common Issue:

Unsustainable Waste Disposal Practices

Throughout California and tribal lands, illegal dumping of solid and hazardous waste is an issue.



A Common Objective:

Improve Waste Management Practices and Infrastructure



Region 9 Home
Region 9 Waste Home
Laws & Regulations
Hazardous Waste
Brownfields
Recycling & Solid Waste
Underground Storage Tanks
Pollution Prevention
Cleanups
Organics
Databases & Information Access
State & Local Partnerships
Tribal Waste

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 9: Waste Programs

Serving Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Pacific Islands, and Tribal Nations

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Regional Coordination –

Tribes Continue to Work to Improve Waste Management Practices after Major Solid and Hazardous Waste Clean-Ups

U.S. EPA Region 9 recently awarded \$86,350 in Resource Conservation Fund (RCF) grants to the Yurok and Karuk Tribes in Northern California. The Tribes will use the grant funds to increase material reuse and recycling, and improve solid waste management practices on their lands.

These awards follow large, multi-organization, solid and hazardous waste clean-up efforts that included the Yurok, Hoopa and Karuk Tribes, California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), U.S. EPA, Indian Health Services (IHS), United Indian Health Services (UIHS), California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) and Humboldt Waste Management Authority.

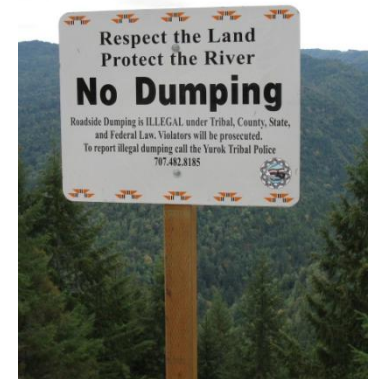
Efforts to clean up major illegal dumps in the region gained significant momentum in August 2008, when the CIWMB approved \$800,000 in funding to clean up three large illegal dump sites on the Yurok Reservation. The dumps posed significant threats to residents of the Yurok Reservation, other



Abandoned vehicles and scattered debris at Tully Creek. (Photo courtesy of CIWMB, 2008)

Successful Waste Management Efforts – Yurok, Karuk and Hoopa Tribes:

Moving Away from Open Dumping Towards Sustainable Waste Management Programs



Successful Waste Management Efforts – Collaboration and Partnerships

- Yurok Tribe
- Karuk Tribe
- Hoopa Tribe
- State of California – CalRecycles (CIWMB)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Indian Health Services
- Humboldt Waste Management Authority
- United Indian Health Service
- California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.



Successful Waste Management Efforts – Collaboration and Partnerships, Cleaning Up Open Dumps



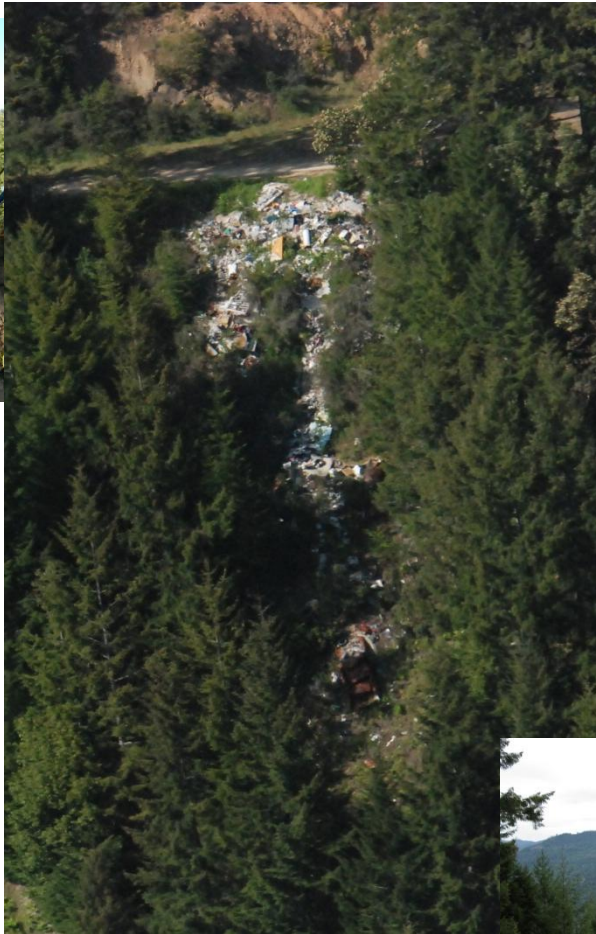
THE YUOK TRIBE



Over 200 tons of solid and hazardous waste were removed from creeks, including tires, appliances, batteries, flammable and toxic solids, and electronic wastes.



Successful Waste Management Efforts – Collaboration and Partnerships, Cleaning Up Open Dumps



This site is approximately 2,500 ft above Mettah Creek which flows into the Klamath River. Mettah Creek is designated as critical salmon habitat.

Successful Waste Management Efforts – Collaboration and Partnerships, Removing Abandoned Vehicles

June 2009, over
400 vehicles were
removed from
the Klamath River
Watershed



THE YUOK TRIBE



Successful Waste Management Efforts –

Collaboration and Partnerships, Removing Household Hazardous Waste

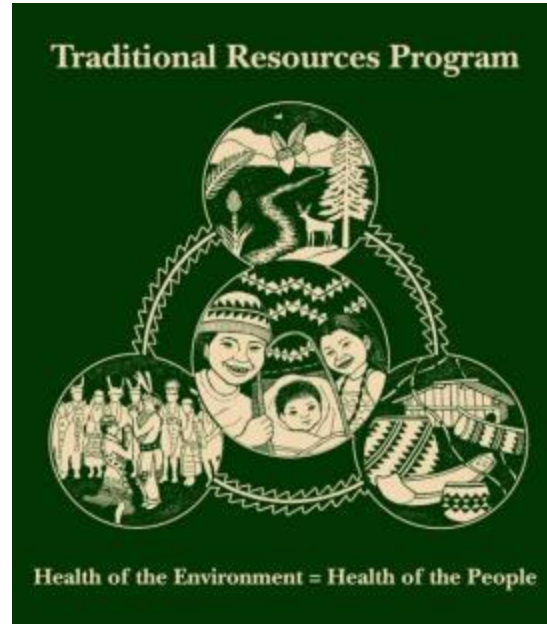
In the Fall of 2009, the three Tribes conducted household hazardous waste collection.



THE YUOK TRIBE



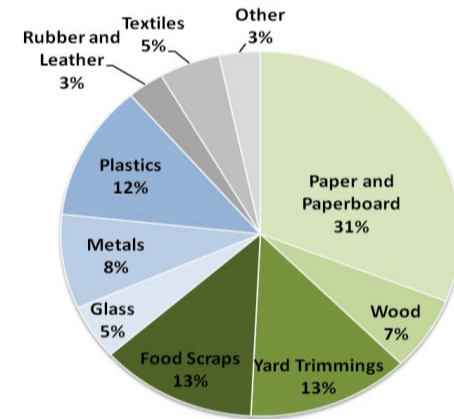
Successful Waste Management Efforts – Collaboration and Partnerships, Community Outreach



Education and Outreach about the dangers of improper disposal of wastes

Successful Waste Management Efforts – Continuous Learning, Improvement and Innovation

Waste Characterization Study



Maintaining Partnerships



Modified Trailer



Successful Waste Management Efforts – Continuous Education, Leading by Example and Having Fun!!

