

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA
AND
CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, hereinafter referred to as the Tribe, and the California Tahoe Conservancy, hereinafter referred to as the Conservancy.

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to establish and maintain a formalized government-to-government relationship. The MOU defines the terms and conditions under which the Tribe and Conservancy will communicate and coordinate on projects and programs at Lake Tahoe.

II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFITS AND INTERESTS:

The Tribe is a sovereign entity, and its members have lived upon their aboriginal lands for centuries and were the first stewards of certain lands now managed by the Conservancy contained within that aboriginal territory. The Washoe are the original inhabitants of *Da ow aga* (Lake Tahoe) and all the lands surrounding it. Tahoe is a mispronunciation of *Da ow*, meaning "lake." Washoe ancestral territory consists of a nuclear area with Lake Tahoe at its heart, and a peripheral area that was frequently shared with neighboring tribes.

The Tribe and the Conservancy recognize a mutual benefit of a more formalized process for communication for land and resource management decision making and for other governmental relations. The Tribe and Conservancy have a strong interest in protection of social, biological, and tribal cultural resources at Lake Tahoe and both parties recognize that close collaboration and cooperation is the best course in achieving their respective goals. The Tribe and Conservancy have implemented a formal consultation process on Conservancy projects where the Tribe has provided valuable input on scientific, archaeological, and tribal cultural resources. Regular communication, as articulated through this MOU, will provide an opportunity for the Tribe and Conservancy to discuss any issues that arise through formal consultation and to mutually determine the process for implementation of legislative changes to the consultation process.

III. THE TRIBE AND CONSERVANCY SHALL:

1. Commit to hold regular meetings between the Tribal Chairman and the Conservancy Executive Director to ensure open and transparent dialogue on activities, opportunities, and issues of mutual interest.
2. The Conservancy shall seek to identify opportunities for Tribal participation and coordination in Conservancy projects.

3. The Conservancy will continue to seek consultation with the Tribe for individual Conservancy projects, including, but not limited to, consultation required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. The Tribe will let the Conservancy know when it wishes to engage in consultation.
4. The Conservancy will ensure that all communications with the Tribe is through the Chairman.
5. The Conservancy will periodically update the Washoe Tribal Council on Conservancy projects and programs, including at the beginning of each new Council's four year term.

IV. IT IS MUTALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:

1. Either party, in writing, may terminate this instrument in whole or in part, at any time.
2. Any information generated under this agreement shall, at the request of either party, be kept confidential.
3. All communications relating to this MOU between either party shall be deemed given when delivered in writing by email, or by default or request through mail to such party as follows:

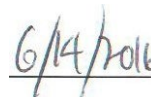
Tribe: Office of the Chairman
 919 U.S. Highway 395 South
 Gardnerville, NV 89410

Conservancy: Patrick Wright, Executive Director
 1061 Third Street
 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96120

In witness whereof, this MOU between the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and the California Tahoe Conservancy has been executed by the parties hereto as of the last date written below:



NEIL MORTIMER
 Chairman, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California



Date



PATRICK WRIGHT
 Executive Director, California Tahoe Conservancy



Date

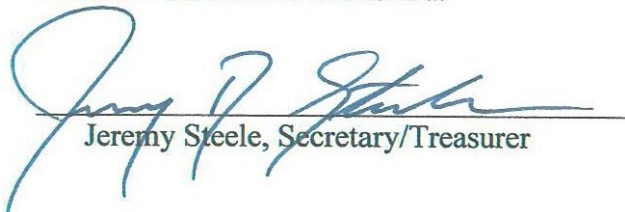
**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE
WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA**

- WHEREAS,** the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California is organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended, to exercise certain rights of home rule and be responsible for the general welfare of its membership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe is governed by the Washoe Tribal Council (the "Tribal Council") pursuant to the Tribal Constitution adopted by the Tribe and Approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and the Tribal Council is empowered to establish Tribal policies, enact tribal laws and act for the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council has the power and duty pursuant to Article VI, Section {1}(a) of the Washoe Constitution to negotiate with the Federal, State and local governments, and to execute contracts and agreements with these and other associations, corporations, or individuals, and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has been working with the California Tahoe Conservancy (the "Conservancy") on projects like the restoration of Meeks Meadow and Blackwood Creek, and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council and the Conservancy now desire to formalize their government-to-government relationship and have developed a proposed Memorandum of Understanding to increase communication for land and resource management decision-making, given the Tribe's connection to the lands the Conservancy now manages and the common interest in protection of social, biological, and tribal cultural resources at Lake Tahoe

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Washoe Tribal Council hereby approves the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Tribe and the Conservancy and authorizes the Tribal Chairman, the Vice-Chairwoman or the Secretary/Treasurer to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the Tribal Council of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, composed of twelve (12) members of whom **nine (9)** constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly held on the **10th** day of **June, 2016**, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of **seven (7)** for, **zero (0)** against, and **two (2)** abstentions, pursuant to the authority contained in Article VI, Section 1(a) and (c), of the Amended Constitution of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.


Jeremy Steele, Secretary/Treasurer

6/13/16
Date

