



## YUROK TRIBE

### PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

**WHEREAS** on March 13th, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist for the Yurok Tribe as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** in a short period of time, COVID-19 has rapidly spread throughout California, necessitating updated and more stringent guidance from federal, state, and local public health officials; and

**WHEREAS** for the preservation of public health and safety throughout the Yurok Reservation, I find it necessary for all residents to heed the Yurok Tribe and State public health directives from the Yurok Tribe's Incident Commander and the California Department of Public Health.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODNEY MENDES**, Deputy Incident Commander for the Yurok Tribe, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the delegation of power from Tribal Council, and the Constitution of the Yurok Tribe do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

To protect public health, the Yurok Tribe orders all individuals living on the Yurok Reservation to stay home or at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the Tribal Government. In addition, and in consultation with the Yurok Tribe Office of Emergency Services, I may designate additional sectors as critical in order to protect the health and well-being of all Yurok Reservation Residents.

This order is to go into effect immediately and shall stay in effect until further notice.

The federal government has identified 16 critical infrastructure sectors whose assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, economic security, public health or safety, or any combination thereof. I order that residents of the Yurok Reservation working in these 16 critical infrastructure sectors may continue their work because of the importance of these sectors to the health and well-being of Yurok Reservation Residents.

This Order is being issued to protect the public health of residents of the Yurok Reservation. The Yurok Tribe looks to establish consistency across the Reservation in order to ensure that we mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Our goal is simple, we want to bend the curve, and disrupt

the spread of the virus.

The supply chain must continue, and Yurok Reservation Residents must have access to such necessities as food, prescriptions, and health care. When people need to leave their homes or places of residence, whether to obtain or perform the functions above, or to otherwise facilitate authorized necessary activities, they should at all times practice social distancing.

- 1) The healthcare delivery system shall prioritize services to serving those who are the sickest and shall prioritize resources, including personal protective equipment, for the providers providing direct care to them.
- 2) The Incident Commander through Office of Emergency Services is directed to take necessary steps to ensure compliance with this Order.
- 3) This Order shall be enforceable pursuant to Yurok Tribe law, including, but not limited to, the Yurok Constitution.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in Council Records and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against Yurok Tribe, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.



Rodney Mendes, Deputy Incident Commander

Dated: 3/19/2022