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December 9, 2024

House Natural Resources Committee Members U.S. House of Representatives Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives,

Greetings. I am Benjamin Clark, Chairman of the Mooretown Rancheria of Concow Maidu Indians. I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your unwavering efforts to safeguard and maximize the benefits of our shared natural resources.

I am writing today to support California Congressman Jared Huffman as he seeks the esteemed position of Ranking Minority Member on the House Natural Resources Committee. Mr. Huffman has dedicated decades to forest resiliency and water policy-related matters. His consistent understanding of the crucial role of Indigenous communities in managing and protecting our natural resources is truly commendable.

The Mooretown Rancheria has established a significant natural resources agency, and we actively engage in millions of dollars of forest fuels reduction, watershed enhancement, and wildfire remediation initiatives in partnership with the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service. Our Tribe was the first in California to sign a Co-Stewardship agreement with the Bureau of Land Management. Our tribal members proudly work in the forests and meadows of California and Nevada alongside other Tribes, contributing to the preservation of our natural heritage.

Representative Huffman has our unwavering support because of his proven track record of advocating for the interests of indigenous communities and his deep understanding of the complexities of natural resource management.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Devin Rhinerson at (858) 527-2052. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chairman Benjamin Clark

"Concow - Maidu"