

**ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBES**  
*A Sovereign Nation of Confederated Tribes*

TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICE  
77826 COVELO ROAD  
COVELO, CALIFORNIA 95428  
PHONE: 707-983-6126  
FAX: 707-983-6128



LOCATION: ON STATE HWY 162  
ONE MILE NORTH OF COVELO  
IN ROUND VALLEY  
TRIBAL TERRITORY SINCE TIME BEGAN

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION ESTABLISHED 1856

December 9, 2024

**Sent via Email**

Honorable Raúl Grijalva  
Honorable Grace Napolitano  
Honorable Gregonio Killi Camacho Sablan  
Honorable Jared Huffman  
Honorable Ruben Gallego  
Honorable Joe Neguse  
Honorable Mike Levin  
Honorable Katie Porter  
Honorable Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Honorable Mary Peltola  
Honorable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Honorable Kevin Mullin

Honorable Val Hoyle  
Honorable Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Honorable Seth Magaziner  
Honorable Nydia Velázquez  
Honorable Ed Case  
Honorable Debbie Dingell  
Honorable Susie Lee  
Honorable Melanie Stansbury

**Re: Support for Rep. Jared Huffman's Appointment as the Ranking Member on the House Natural Resources Committee**

Dear Honorable Members of Congress and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee:

On behalf of the Round Valley Indian Tribes, I am writing to express the Tribes' support for Rep. Jared Huffman to succeed Rep. Raúl Grijalva as Ranking Member on the House Natural Resources Committee. Rep. Huffman has been a steadfast ally to Indian Tribes and a fierce advocate for tribal sovereignty, tribal fishing rights and protection of the environment. His respect for us as a sovereign Indian Nation has been accompanied by a similarly strong regard for the interests of his non-Indian constituents; natural resources are valuable to all of us. He has proven throughout his long career his dedication to the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources. He will surely go above and beyond the call of duty as Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Committee.

The Round Valley Indian Tribes are a sovereign confederation of Indian tribes in Northern California that includes the Yuki, Pitt River, Concow, Wailaki, Nomlackingi, and Pomo

Tribes. Our ancestral territory includes the Upper Eel River and its several tributaries and our reservation today borders on the mainstem, the North Fork and the Middle Fork of the Eel River.

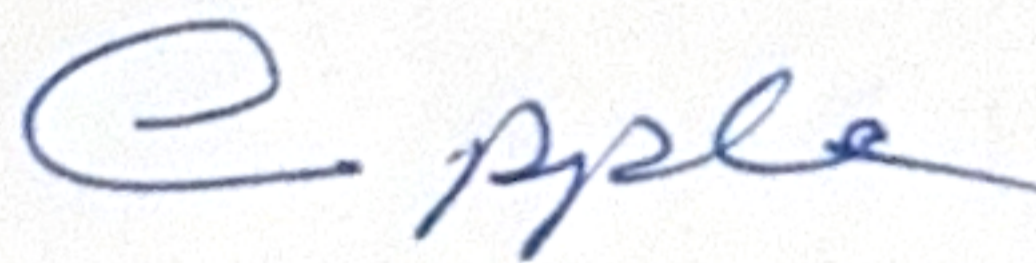
The Eel River is the lifeblood of the people of the Round Valley Indian Tribes, and its health is essential for our survival. Rep. Huffman has been a tireless advocate of the Tribes' water and fishing rights on the Eel River. He played a key role in bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders, including Indian tribes, to plan for a future that would maintain a reliable water supply for the region's water users while also remove two dams on the Eel River that currently block the passage of endangered salmon and steelhead to the headwaters of the Eel River. We are fortunate to have a partner like Rep. Huffman who is committed to upholding the U.S. trust responsibility to Indian tribes while working together with our non-Indian neighbors to protect our most critical resources for future generations.

Outside of the natural resource context, we have worked with Rep. Huffman on a number of issues of importance to the Round Valley Indian Tribes. He toured our Health Center and engaged with us on accessing additional funding to improve tribal access to health care services and facilities. He toured our broadband system and offered his support for expanding the Tribes' capacity to provide much needed broadband connectivity to our rural tribal community.

Outside of the state of Alaska, Rep. Huffman represents more Indian tribes than any other member of Congress. He has the experience and leadership skills, including the ability to work across the aisle, to lead the Committee through the upcoming session. We are pleased to endorse Rep. Jared Huffman for Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Committee.

Thank you for consideration of the Round Valley Indian Tribes' views.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Whipple". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Lewis Whipple  
President