

KARUK TRIBE
LETTER OF INTENT FOR CANDIDACY



Paula McCarthy

Name of Candidate: Paula L. McCarthy
Tribal Roll #: 2672
Candidate For: Happy Camp District Member at Large, 2020-2024

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My name is Paula L. McCarthy, and I am running for Happy Camp District Member at Large. I have lived on the Klamath River my entire life. I was born in Hoopa and spent my early years at Forks of Salmon, where my father worked for the Forest Service building roads. My family and I moved to Happy Camp in the 1940s, and I have lived here ever since.

I am an active supporter of tribal sovereignty and rights. When the Karuk Tribe was first seeking federal recognition in the 1970s, I volunteered my services to support our people. From 1979 to 1987, I worked for Karuk Tribal Health. From 1987 to 1997, I worked for the USFS Klamath National Forest, where I was nominated as Native American liaison. As the liaison, I was able to aid conversations between the Forest Service, the Karuk, and other area tribes to reintroduce prescribed burning to our forests, supporting our way of life, basketweaving, and a healthier forest for plants and wildlife. I have also worked for the Karuk Community Development Corporation, assisting with the economic development of our tribe. Additionally, prior to my most recent term representing Happy Camp, I served on the Tribal Council for 12 years. During that time, I participated on the Tribal Health Board and the Tribal Housing Board, helping to build the programs that are important to our people today. I also went to many meetings at the Department of Natural Resources to support our tribal rights to dip-net fishing.

I have been honored to serve on the Tribal Council since February 2020. This year has been one of the most difficult years for our people because of the worldwide Corona virus pandemic. As a Council Member at Large for Happy Camp. I have been working tirelessly to keep our clinics safe and open for emergencies for our communities. I have advocated for our members and descendants to make sure that their jobs remain secure, and that our people have the funding that they need to weather this unprecedented health crisis.

As the Happy Camp District Member at Large, I my goal is to ensure that our Health and Dental programs are fully funded and staffed, working to expand the clinic in Happy Camp. I also prioritize Education programs and will work hard to make sure tribal members to get the education they need and deserve. Finally. I have been a basketweaver for over 40 years, so I know first-hand the importance of cultural programs, like weaving and language. As your Council Member I continue to do my best to help fund these programs and our cultural center, the Karuk Tribe People's Center. so that we preserve these for our future generations.

I am honored to serve our people on the Tribal Council, and I hope to continue to work for you through these difficult times. Please remember to vote for me on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Yôotva!

Signature:

Date: