

Statement –

I am honored to be here today to speak about the importance of fire on the ground, we as indigenous people know what it takes to live with the earth, how to restore our homelands, our rivers, our foods, and medicines.

We are taught from a very early age what is required of us as human beings, and where we fit in the greater scheme of life. We follow directives given to us from our elders and the creator. None of us is greater than the whole, the earth requires us all to do our part.

As indigenous people we have responsibilities to care for all beings, the trees, water, animals, all of which cannot speak for themselves.

Allowing Tribes to restore their homelands with fire the greatest tool left to us by the creator, we will ensure that future generations have clean water, healthy food, and medicines which has sustained us since the beginning of time.

Cultural Fire Management Council has been working with Cal Fire, BIA, USFS, the Yurok Tribe. As well as local, and state air quality agencies to continue our work in our ancestral territory, the permitting policies are a necessary part of ensuring we have all documents, and permits in place to safely burn with all necessary resources to ensure the communities safety.

Allowing Indigenous Fire Practitioners to assist our governing bodies to help clean 100 years of fire suppression debris, will help us to slow and eventually rid the earth of wild fire disasters.

We partner with The Nature Conservancy, Fire Learning Network, and Indigenous Peoples Burning Network.