# Tribal Learning Center Update

Ad Hoc Culture and Education Committee

September 5, 2025



In mid July, members of Kai Poma, Bernadette Rafanan, Mayor Godeke and Engineering Technician, Kevin McDannold installed the Basket Round and the Interpretive Panel









Panels and Signage





### Vice Mayor Rafanan and community members planted California native plants



- -Achillia millefolium/ Yarrow
- -Salvia mellifera/ Black Sage
- -Clinopodium douglasii/ Yerba Buena





-Salvia leucantha/ Mexican Sage

### Vice Mayor Rafanan and community members planted California native plants



Aralia californica/ Elk's Clover?



Salvia apiana/ White Sage



Diplacus aurantiacus/ Sticky Monkey Flower



Salvia mellifera/ Black Sage

City of Fort Bragg Public Works and IT staff, Kai Poma staff, and Mayor Godeke have worked hard to transform the interior



Picture rail installed, ready for hanging pictures and artwork



New flooring, heater, and furniture

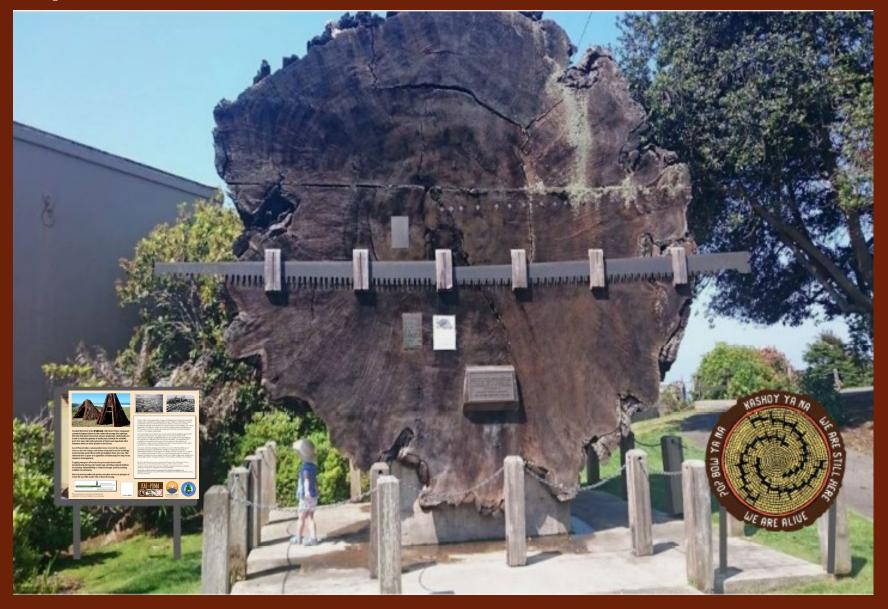
Community member Ron White restored and upgraded old City picnic tables to improve their appearance and ensure compliance with ADA standards.





Both tables will eventually be installed atop a concrete pad

### Proposed Panels at the Redwood Round



## First Draft of Interpretive Panel at the Redwood Round



Coastal Redwood trees k'asil xale (Northern Pomo language) connected generations to the redwood canopy that springs life into this interconnected ancient landscape. Redwoods are home to endemic species of medicines, habitat for wildlife, part of a vast, intricate network of roots and mycelium that connects them to other plants in the forest.

Local Pomo Indian communities have revered the ancient trees as sacred beings, and when using the bark for buildings and weaving would do so with permission from the tree. The redwood tree is part of a symbiotic relationship for long-term resource management.

Logging was part of extractive processes that would dramatically change the landscape, altering salmon habitat, increasing vulnerability to climate change, and increasing wildfire occurrences.

Several nearby redwood groves can give visitors a glimpse of what life was like under the redwood canopy.





"Many of the most respectable citizens of Mendocino County have testified before your committee that they kill Indians, found in what they consider the hostile districts, whenever they lose cattle or horses; nor do they attempt to conceal or deny this fact. Those citizens do not admit, nor does it appear by the evidence, that it is or has been their practice or intention to kill women or children, although some have fallen in the indiscriminate attacks of the Indian rancherias.

The testimony shows that in the recent authorized expedition against the Indians in said county, the women and children were taken to the reservations, and also establishes the fact that in the private expeditions this rule was not observed, but that in one instance, an expedition was marked by the most horrid atrocity; but in justice to the citizens of Mendocino County, your committee say that the mass of the settlers look upon such act with the utmost abhorrence...

Accounts are daily coming in from the counties on the Coast Range, of sickening atrocities and wholesale slaughters of great numbers of defenseless Indians in that region of country. Within the last four months, more Indians have been killed by our people than during the century of Spanish and Mexican domination. For an evil of this magnitude, someone is responsible. Either our government, or our citizens, or both, are to blame..."

The Joint Special Committee was comprised of Jasper O'Farrell (Sonoma, Marin, Mendocino), and W.B. Dickinson (El Dorado), as the Senate Committee.

Joseph B. Lamar (Mendocino, Sonoma), William B.Maxon (San Mateo) and Abner Phelps (San Francisco) comprised the House Committee.

From: Don A. Allen, Legislative Sourcebook: The California Legislature and Reapportionment, 1849-1965, (Sacramento: Assembly of the State of California, 1965), 364, 374, 450, 456.



This panel was created in collaboration with members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians.











### Proposed Panels at Noyo Harbor Beach



## First Draft of Interpretive Panel at Noyo Harbor Beach







#### **Noyo River**

Noyo River **Xa'beda No-yow** (Northern Pomo language) has undergone many changes over the last century. The dredging of the river and construction of a jetty to develop the commercial port have transformed the river mouth and **xa'mu** (beach).

Every place has a story. Each space has a purpose. The symbiotic relationship of the rivers and the oceans is part of the rhythm of nature. Every hamlet, beach, and terrace retain importance to the people that still call Noyo home. This place is the only oceanfront location continuously occupied by Pomo people up to the present time on the Mendocino Coast.



This panel was created in collaboration with members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo







Coast Domo



Susanna Morgan





