

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND PRESERVATION

Weyada Wilakda Chemes



THE YOCHA DEHE WINTUN NATION is committed to preserving and protecting its history and culture. The Tribe's Cultural Resources Department works to protect historic and sacred burial sites within Yocha Dehe's ancestral territory, creates cultural media, plans community events and supports Native language revitalization.

Cultural Resource Protection

Yocha Dehe is a national leader in the protection and preservation of indigenous cultural sites and resources. This role has been expanded with the establishment of the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. Yocha Dehe works closely and cooperatively with other tribes on the efforts and programs to protect sensitive sites.

In addition to site protection, the Cultural Resources Committee oversees the rebuilding and revitalizing of the Patwin language among the tribal citizens. Yocha Dehe is also developing a history program and has created the largest Patwin archival document and photograph collection.

Language Revitalization

Living Language Circle is an annual California Native Language Teachers Conference that Yocha Dehe sponsors to build and strengthen the relationships among Native language teachers in California. The program is led by teachers who are uniquely focused on tribal language programs, including a Yocha Dehe citizen who is the first ever Native American teacher to be certified by the State to teach a Native language. Through this collaboration, Yocha Dehe learns and shares with neighboring tribes to collaboratively enhance each other's strengths as Native language teachers.

