



NEWS RELEASE

## Service of Yocha Dehe Fire Dept. and Regional Public Safety Partners Honored at Annual Event

**Brooks, CA (April 19, 2018)** – The Tribal Council and citizens of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation joined Yolo County community members and leaders today to salute the firefighters of the Yocha Dehe Fire Department (YDFD) and its regional partner agencies. They gathered at the Fire Station in Brooks for the ninth annual YDFD Awards Luncheon.

In his welcoming remarks, Yocha Dehe Tribal Secretary and Fire Commission Chairman James Kinter commended all of the firefighters for their unwavering bravery and commitment, especially during the challenging and dangerous 2017 fire season. He noted the importance of teamwork in their consistent performance.

“We’re blessed to have such a dedicated and committed team, working together for the benefit of all of us,” said Secretary Kinter. “Thank you for your unwavering dedication and for your service to our communities.”

The luncheon featured the presentation of YDFD’s annual awards. Fire Chief Gary Fredericksen presented the Chuck Garton Leadership Award to Battalion Chief Terry Krout. Paramedic Damen Snow was named Firefighter of the Year. The annual awards are determined by a vote of YDFD firefighters.

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*(Caption for attached photo (L to R): Burnam R. Lowell, Sr., Yocha Dehe Tribal Council Member; James Kinter, Tribal Secretary; Paramedic Damen Snow, Firefighter of the Year; Battalion Chief Terry Krout, Chuck Garton Leadership Award recipient; Gary Fredericksen, Yocha Dehe Fire Chief; Anthony Roberts, Tribal Chairman)*

*Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation is an independent, self-governed nation that supports our citizens and the Capay Valley, California community by strengthening our culture, stewarding our land and creating economic independence for future generations. ([www.yochadehe.org](http://www.yochadehe.org))*

*Yocha Dehe Fire Department (YDFD) provides full service fire and life safety response for its local community and beyond. It is the only internationally accredited tribal fire department in the world. The department has 32 uniformed and three administrative employees and a full complement of equipment. In addition to fire suppression and emergency medical services, YDFD performs technical rescues, including swift-water, trench, confined-space, low-angle, vehicle extrication and specialized search and rescue. ([www.yochadehe.org/tribal-government/yocha-dehe-fire-department](http://www.yochadehe.org/tribal-government/yocha-dehe-fire-department))*

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