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**Karuk Community Health Clinic**

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# Karuk Tribe

**Administrative Office**

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May 25, 2017

Ms. Rose Kwok  
USEPA Headquarters  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Av, NW  
Mail Code: 4502T  
Washington, DC 20460  
[CWAwotus@epa.gov](mailto:CWAwotus@epa.gov)

**Re: Formal Request for Government-to-Government Consultation on a forthcoming proposal to revise the definition of “waters of the United States” (Clean Water Rule: Definition of “Waters of the United States”; Final Rule, 80 Fed. Reg. 37,054 (June 29, 2015))**

Ayukii Ms. Kwok:

Pursuant to federal law and Executive Order 1375, the Karuk Tribe is writing to request a Government-to-Government Consultation with the US Environmental Protection Agency regarding a forthcoming proposal to revise the definition of “waters of the United States” (Clean Water Rule: Definition of “Waters of the United States”; Final Rule, 80 Fed. Reg. 37,054 (June 29, 2015)).

The opportunity for Tribal consultation is anticipated to extend from April 20, 2017, to June 20, 2017.

The Karuk Tribe is keenly interested in this ruling particularly in regards to Clean Water Act jurisdiction and the interpretation of navigable water ways. The Karuk Tribe is actively involved in natural resource management, monitoring, and research in the Klamath Basin. The main-stem Klamath River along with several tributaries including the Shasta, Scott, Salmon, and Trinity Rivers have total maximum daily loads (TMDL's) adopted and in the implementation phase. These waterbodies provide critical habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, Pacific lamprey, and ESA listed coho salmon. All of these fish are Karuk tribal trust resources.

We would like to meet with you and relevant staff reviewing this forthcoming proposal as soon as possible. I ask that you coordinate a meeting time and place with our Water Quality Manager, Susan Fricke, who can be reached at 530-598-3414 or [sfricke@karuk.us](mailto:sfricke@karuk.us).

We look forward to entering into consultation with your agency to discuss our concerns.

Yootva,

Russell “Buster” Attebery  
Chairman