

## VICKY HUTCHINSON

## MEMBER-AT-LARGE, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HABEMATOLEL POMO OF UPPER LAKE

Vicky Hutchison is a Member-at-Large for the Executive Council of the the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, a federally recognized Native American Indian Nation located in Upper Lake, California. Member-at-Large Hutchison was first elected to the Tribe's seven-member Executive Council in the summer of 2022. Member-at-Large Hutchison was born in Lakeport, CA and grew up in Sonoma County and currently resides in Lake County near the shorelines of Clearlake Oaks, CA. She is a proud mother of 3 adult children and 3 beautiful grandchildren, all of whom are enrolled Tribal Members of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Tribe.

Prior to the election, Member-at-Large Hutchison served on the Tribe's Grievance Review Board (GRB) until being elected in June 2022. She is currently continuing to serve as a committee member of the Tribe's Tribal Garden Project, as well as the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC).

Member-at-Large Hutchison has worked in various roles within the Tribe since 2018, beginning with managing the transportation department – this included maintaining Tribal vehicles, managing rentals of Tribal vehicles, and transporting Tribal youth and other Tribal Members to various functions. From there, Hutchison transferred to the environmental department as a solid waste technician coordinating and facilitating the proper collection/ removal and disposal of large recyclable items, contributing to a cleaner, greener planet. Hutchison views all Tribal lands as sacred, therefore should be cherished and honored as Mother nature intended. In early 2022, she was promoted to the Tribe's interim environmental director, overseeing the entire department which included managing personnel and reporting of federal grants., Moreso Hutchison was an integral part of the department's "Saving the Clear Lake Hitch" (Lavinia exilicauda) tagging program that aided in the preservation of this endangered species, a species that is only found in Northern California's Clear Lake and tributaries and which plays a vital part of the lake's ecosystem. For our ancestors Hitch was and still would be (if not endangered) an important food source not only to its People, but for the habitat (birds, other fish, and wildlife). The preservation of tribal territories, land, water, and air are a fundamental way of life for Native people and is something held near and dear to Hutchison's heart.

With over 30 years of experience in a male dominated field, Member-at-Large Hutchison brings her expertise and knowledge of construction and general contracting to the table. Hutchison has persevered and proven she can do whatever she sets her mind to. Hutchison intends to invest her experience, time, and efforts towards the Tribe's economic benefit and will be working closely with the property management department in property, structure, and land development.

Member-at-Large Hutchison knows as a strong Native woman with a voice, it can be challenging to always be heard and understood. Hutchison wants to ensure that Tribal Members know, she hears your voice and will continue to listen and understand with an open mind and an open heart.

Hutchison aspires to be a part of elevating the Tribe indefinitely to the next level, to its fullest, whether that be culturally, financially, or spiritually. Hutchison tributes the ancestors before us, for all that they have taught us and given us for that Hutchison is thankful!



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