

Kumeyaay Diegueno Land Conservancy
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Application for Nomination to the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

Name:

Mervin "Louie" Guassac, Executive Director
Kumeyaay Diegueno Land Conservancy
5459 Sycuan Road, El Cajon, CA 92019
PH: 619-445-2613

Kumeyaay historically are Ocean, Mountain, and Desert people our lifestyle has changed only in recent times since the establishment of federal Indian reservations, Kumeyaay Ocean life is duly noted in our language having name for varieties of fish life and creatures of the ocean as well as plant life.

Recently, Kumeyaay Bands developed a land conservancy to assist with protection and preservation of former use areas as well as sacred sites. Our knowledge of the Ocean and the life from this area is important to our people our goals to protect and preserve and work collaboratively with entities with similar goals and ambitions is key for aligning our goals and efforts collectively for the benefit of all interests that will learn that preservation of the ocean areas is good and can be done with all interested parties and will serve as a learning tool for all. KDLC executive director has extensive knowledge of the former use sites and applications of these sites, and will be able to help protect and preserve certain sites with knowledge of the former use areas and importance of area.

Executive Director is willing to work collectively for the benefit of all in order to preserve and protect ocean areas.

Mr. Guassac is a tribal historian for the Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians and has actively researched National Archives, Regional Archives, Private collections, Church records and was trained by the late Dr. Florence Shippek for researching records. Mr. Guassac also completed the first Submerged Cultural Resources Law Enforcement Class hosted by Biscayne National Park,

Archaeological Resource Investigations, National Park Service, Submerged Resources Center and NOAA Marine Sanctuary Program.

Mr. Guassac has served as the lead contact for the KDLC to improve awareness and education for Kumeyaay use of Ocean areas and was key person for passing State Law AJR 60 that recognizes the aboriginal territory of Kumeyaay/Diegueno Lands including Ocean areas.

Mr. Guassac is committed to serving as much time necessary to serve the Kumeyaay Bands interest with the areas of his expertise for positive input to the goals and objectives of MLPA.

Mr. Guassac will be reporting to the Kumeyaay Diegueno Land Conservancy the Kumeyaay Diegueno Unity Group and Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association ensuring broad communications for the Southern Region.

Mr. Guassac will be using email, hard mail, and oral communications to deliver the MLPA experience for all to learn about and will use all avenues of communications to serve the interest of Kumeyaay and other Bands.

Mr. Guassac has been trusted with oral history of elders that relate to the Ocean area and has extensive knowledge of the Ocean area and purposes and uses of his ancestors.

Sincerely,



Louis Guassac, Exe. Dir.
KDLC