



TRIBAL GOVERNMENT CHALLENGE PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM



KARUK TRIBE ÁHISH ÁAH (TURN ON THE LIGHT) PROJECT

AN INITIATIVE FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Project Manager: **Shawn "Shay" Bourque**

Award Amount: **\$250,000**

The Áhish Áah Project meaning "turn on the light" will identify sustainable pathways for rural California communities to become climate smart and reduce their carbon footprints through mitigating catastrophic wildfire and accelerating clean energy with a particular focus on Indigenous communities. Through collaborations with research partners at Humboldt State University, University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University as well as community collaborations with the Western Klamath Restoration Project partnership, a consortium of tribal, federal, state and non-governmental organizations and landowners committed to maintaining resilient Klamath ecosystems, communities and economies.

Through its four main project objectives, this project will strengthen the Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources, build community capacity, and advance the energy independence and ecosystem resilience of the Karuk Aboriginal Territory.

1. Karuk Eco-Cultural Revitalization and Climate Resilience Monitoring;
2. Karuk DNR and Orleans Community Alternative Energy Planning and Feasibility Studies;
3. Klamath Hydroelectric Facility Removal Social-Economic Impact Assessment and Community Energy System Resilience Planning; and
4. K-12 and Higher Education Climate Resilience Programming.

Achieving these objectives will give the Karuk Tribe better information to support current goals for developing local microgrids, elaborate community visions for clean energy opportunities, and provide STEM skills for Indigenous youth.