



KOI NATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

January 9, 2024

Dear Friends,

As we begin the new year, we reflect on the Koi Nation of Northern California's (Koi Nation) many achievements and accomplishments of 2023.

The Koi Nation's effort to place land into trust continues to progress through the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) administrative process. This effort is the foundation for our proposed Shiloh Resort & Casino project in unincorporated Sonoma County, California.

In 2023, the Koi Nation earned support for the Shiloh project from a broad cross-section of current and former elected officials, public agencies, labor unions, tribal governments, and members of the public.

The coalition of supporters share a recognition of the project's immense economic potential for the surrounding community *and* the moral imperative underlying our effort to address the historical mistreatment of the Koi Nation and reestablish for our people a tribal land base.

As of the date of this letter, the proposed Shiloh Resort & Casino project has won the support of:

- California State Treasurer Fiona Ma
- The Northern California Carpenters Union
- Lake County Sheriff Bryan Martin (ret.)
- Santa Rosa City Councilmember Tom Schwedhelm (ret.)
- Sonoma County Fire District (letter of intent)
- Actor and environmentalist Peter Coyote
- Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Tribe
- Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
- Ione Band of Miwok Indians
- San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
- Robinson Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
- Guidiville Indian Rancheria
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Tejon Indian Tribe
- Jamul Indian Village of California
- Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria
- Chicken Ranch Rancheria
- Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation
- Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
- Redding Rancheria
- Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Yurok Tribe
- Big Lagoon Rancheria

As part of the rigorous review required under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Shiloh Project met essential milestones in 2023, including the completion of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project. Acorn Environmental, a highly esteemed environmental planning and analysis firm, prepared the EA for the project, utilizing subject matter experts in traffic control, fire prevention and suppression, groundwater hydrology, stormwater management, and numerous other technical fields. Biological and cultural studies were performed as well. As required, these experts conducted extensive studies of all potential environmental impacts in order to identify any needed mitigation of the project's impacts. The Shiloh Project's comprehensive EA is available to view [here](#).

The Koi Nation is also pleased by the high public engagement enabled and supported by the project's environmental review process. On September 12, 2023, the DOI's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) issued a Notice of Availability for the EA, initiating a 60-day public review period, including a virtual public meeting on September 27, 2023. Although the public meeting was not mandatory under federal law, the Koi Nation strongly supported the BIA's outreach as a means of providing members of our shared community ample opportunities to learn the facts of the project and have any questions regarding the project addressed.

The public review period ended on November 13, 2023, with nearly 200 citizens having publicly urged support for the project. The Nation now awaits the BIA's review of public comments and, ultimately, its determination as to whether the EA is approved.

Anyone who wishes to join in solidarity with the Koi Nation is encouraged to visit www.KoiNationSonoma.com/support to submit a letter to DOI in support of the Shiloh project.

We send our best wishes in the new year.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darin F. Beltran". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Chairman Darin Beltran
Koi Nation of Northern California