



YUROK TRIBE

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Yurok Tribe Language Program Sustainable Strategic Plan

LANGUAGE RESTORATION STRATEGY

The long-range strategy of the Yurok Language Restoration Plan is directed towards moving the Yurok language from the status of a language well into the obsolescent stage to the status of a healthy flourishing language.

Based on an assessment of the barriers outline in the 2019 Yurok Language Restoration Community Survey, the status of the Yurok language and the priorities established by the language survey, the following strategy has been designed to ensure the survival and continued vitality of the Yurok Language.

1. *Promote The Value And Activate The Use Of The Yurok Language In The Community.*
 - A. Articles in Yurok Today newspaper
 - B. Community language meetings designed to activate the use of the Yurok Language. These gatherings will be designed to encourage speakers to begin speaking the language again.
 - C. The community gatherings will also contain activities which address barriers which stand in the way of people learning the language.
 - a. Lack of knowledge to find language resources and materials
 - b. Lack of time to join language activities
 - c. Lack of access due to Distance and Location factors

2. *Develop A Core Of New Fluent Speakers to Become The Teachers Of The Next Generation*

The Master/Apprentice Language Learning Approach, wherein an advance fluent speaker works intensively with an apprentice learner to bring the apprentice to fluency, will be used not only to halt the immediate loss of the language but to provide for a core of teachers to begin the instruction component of the language restoration project. Apprentices will also have access to online learning resources which will be the tools to help them on their language path to fluency.

Currently there are three elementary schools on the reservation and three tribal preschools that would like to offer Yurok language. Elementary and middle schools in McKinleyville, Eureka, and Arcata have also requested Yurok language classes. In addition, there have been many requests for community language classes in the Crescent City, Weitchpec, Pecwan, and Eureka areas. However, they have been unable to find teachers.

3. *Provide Training for Language Teachers*

Existing teacher training program includes a series of monthly workshops, an 8-day language institute, and 4-day summer immersion camp, and immersion pods. Workshops focus on grammar syntax of the language and specialized trainings on language teacher development (i.e. classroom management, teaching methods, lesson planning). Immersion pods are also an important component to assess the learner's proficiency.

There is a need to expand the development of the current teacher training program to incorporate distance learning methods, language journals, transcription of language audio, and lastly the master apprentice language learning approach.

4. *Development of Curriculum Materials*

The development of current curriculum materials began with the development of an approach to teaching the Yurok language. Lesson plans and materials will continue to be developed to provide language teachers with guidance in teaching the language.

The need for the development of distance learning curriculum is significantly growing. Various types of online platforms will be provided so learners near and far will have access to learning Yurok language and practice at their own pace.

Online Curriculum Including:

- A. Development of Beginner, Intermediate, and Advance sequential lessons for online classes
- B. Creating language learning Videos
- C. Creating Interactive online lessons

5. *Provide Yurok Language Instruction*

Due to the current status of the language and the lack of trained teachers at the present time, language instruction will be at the low level during the early states of the language restoration project. The long-range goal is to provide daily language instruction in the reservation schools and community centers as soon as language instructors are available. A language nest program will be implemented as the core of language teachers grows.

Strategies and supporting activities to implement this plan for the first three years of the program are contained in the following table:

STRATEGY	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE
1) Promote the value of the Yurok Language and activate the use of the language in the community	a) Conduct 6 Community language meetings b) Publish regular articles in tribal newspaper, and on online social media sites c) Establish Official tribal language celebration day on the lower reservation	d) Continue Community language meetings e) Continue regular articles in tribal newspaper, and online social media sites f) Hold tribal language celebration day on reservation, and expand to the upper reservation area	g) Continue community meetings h) Continue regular articles in the tribal newspaper, and online social media sites
2) Develop A Core Of New Fluent Speakers to Become The Teachers Of The Next Generation	a) Select 6 Master/Apprentice teams b) Apprentices complete 320 hrs of language immersion c) Apprentices will utilize sequential online language lessons to study independently	d) Provide teams with training in language teaching techniques. e) Provide monthly monitoring of teams f) Apprentices will utilize sequential online language lessons to study independently	g) Provide teams with training in language teaching techniques h) Apprentices will utilize sequential online language lessons to study independently i) Provide supervised teaching assignments
3) Provide Training for Master/Apprentice Teams/Language Teachers	a) Provide teams with training in effective language learning techniques b) Provide trainings on distance learning methods, and transcribing language audio c) Provide monthly check-in with teams	d) Provide teams with training in effective language learning techniques e) Provide trainings on distance learning methods, and transcribing language audio f) Provide monthly check-in with teams	g) Provide teams with training in effective language learning techniques h) Provide supervised teaching assignments
4) Development of Curriculum Materials	a) Develop 20 Yurok	d) Develop 20 additional	g) Develop 20 additional

	<p>Language lessons</p> <p>b) Develop a series of online/in-person language games</p> <p>c) Develop series of 10 language CD's with accompanying written material</p>	<p>Yurok Language lessons</p> <p>e) Develop second series of online/in-person language games</p> <p>f) Develop second series of 10 language CD's with accompanying written material</p>	<p>Yurok Language lessons</p> <p>h) Develop third series of online/in-person language games</p> <p>i) Develop series of 10 additional language CD's with accompanying written material</p>
<p>5) Provide Yurok Language Instruction</p>	<p>a) Provide a series of 20 language classes in a minimum of six locations</p> <p>b) Develop 20 lessons for distance learning and independent study</p> <p>c) Conduct immersion camp for tribal members</p>	<p>d) Provide a series of 20 language classes in a minimum of ten locations</p> <p>e) Develop additional 20 lessons for distance learning and independent study</p> <p>f) Conduct immersion camp for tribal members</p>	<p>g) Provide two series of 20 language classes in a minimum of ten locations</p> <p>h) Develop additional 20 lessons for distance learning and independent study</p> <p>i) Conduct immersion camp for tribal members</p>