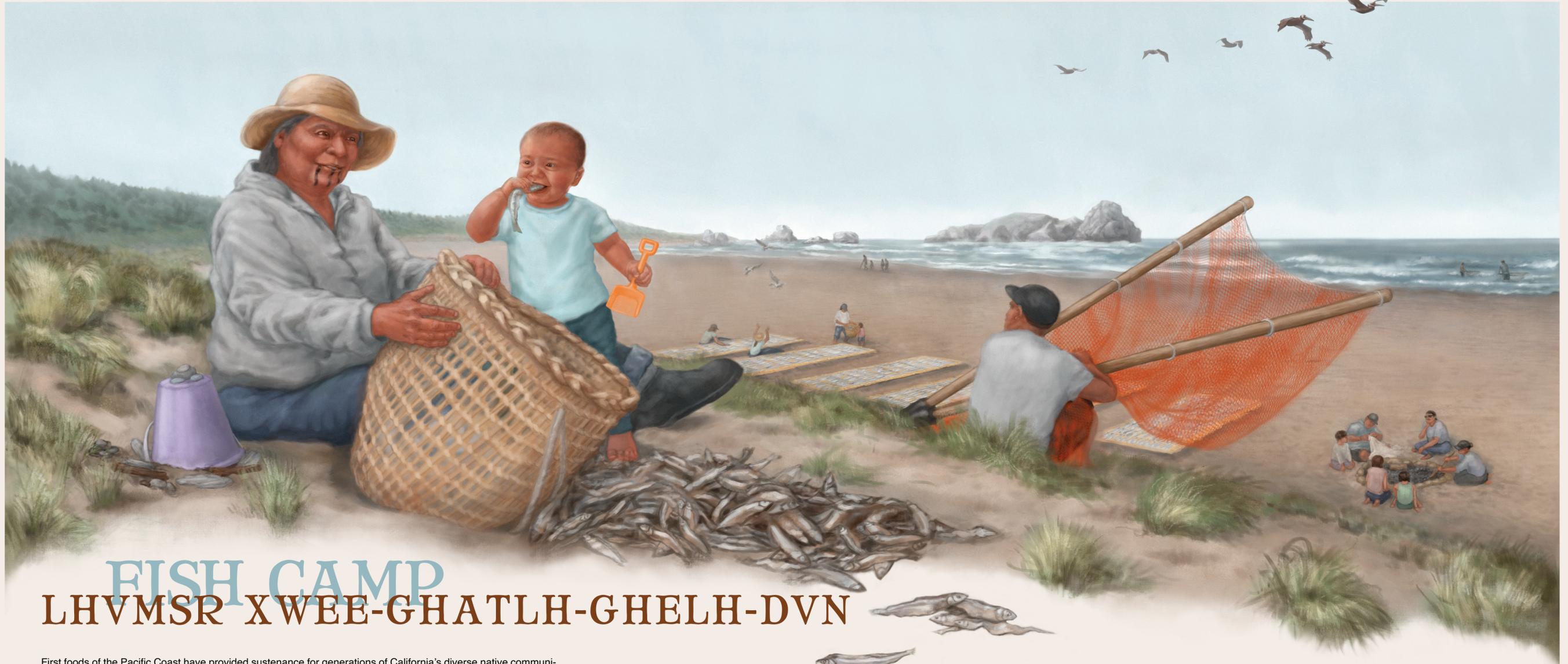


ARCHAEOLOGICAL GATHERINGS: FOODWAYS AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



FISH CAMP LHVMSR XWEE-GHATLH-GHELH-DVN

First foods of the Pacific Coast have provided sustenance for generations of California's diverse native communities. Fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering, and other forms of harvesting are central to subsistence, cultural, and religious existence.

The Tolowa Dee-ni' aboriginal territory encompasses over 100 miles of coastal shoreline, approximately 2.87 million square acres of land, and adjacent marine waters in northern California and southern Oregon. These homelands offer bountiful resources nestled among the majestic redwoods and encompassed by the Pacific Ocean.

Annual camps, for harvesting lhvmsr (surf smelt), are located along a coastal traditional cultural landscape, where the Tolowa Dee-ni' continue these practices, undeterred by more than 169 years of colonialism. Camps are hubs for intergenerational knowledge transmission of subsistence practices, culinary techniques (fishing, drying, cooking, preserving), physical and spiritual wellness, and for reaffirming connections to the land.

Archaeology informs our understanding of the historical ecology of marine habitats and provides compelling evidence of long-term sustainable use of coastal resources by Indigenous peoples. Fish camps include cooking features packed with fire-affected rock, charcoal, and varied dietary residues such as fishbones, shellfish, burned nuts and seeds, and bird and mammal bones. Artifacts include needles for mending nets, fishing hooks and net weights, and arrowheads and harpoons for hunting terrestrial and sea mammals.

The Tolowa Dee-ni' genesis account provides protocols for being active Indigenous stewards, perpetuating the community as an active and integral part of a balanced ecosystem. Current conservation efforts are based on genesis and interpreted according to traditional laws. Preservation of cultural traditions and resource stewardship is accomplished through partnerships with Indigenous communities, educational institutions, federal, state, and local agencies. Efforts include: establishment, assessment, and monitoring of baseline data for habitat, keystone species, Marine Protected Areas, biotoxins, climate change, and cultural resources. This collective knowledge informs policy decisions while maintaining a resilient and adaptive community.



Lhvmsr
Surf smelt
Hypomesus pretiosus



Met'-e
Pacific razor clam
Siliqua patula



Lat / duu-ma
Red jabol laver seaweed
Porphyra lanceolata /
Giant green sea anemone
Anthopleura xanthogrammica



Sa'-lkh'i
Horse neck clam
Tresus nuttallii



Dee-lhat
California mussel
Mytilus californianus



Lhvmsr wee-she' / naa--k'vt mii--sdvm
Smelt eggs in beach gravel



Xwvvn' / see-'e' / me-'ee-'luk
Fire features and fire-affected rock with cooking paddle



Me'sr-xat see-'e'
Stone net sinkers for weighing down gill nets



Srvtlh-pvlh / tee-me' st'vs
Bone needle and iris fiber thread for net repair



Ch'ee-t'a-'a
Harpoon for hunting sea mammals



Ch'aa-ghu'
Bone fish hook



Tr'uu-luu-k'wvt MPA
Pyramid Point Marine Protected Area

