

# TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

A DYNAMIC CONVERSATION  
ABOUT NATIVE RESOURCES  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

CSU, CHICO PRESENTS AN ADVANCED LABORATORY FOR VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY PRODUCTION  
A FILM BY MAIJA GLASIER-LAWSON "TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE"  
EDITED BY ROBERT STEVENS DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY SYDNEY KERKHOVE AND HANNAH BOTTENFIELD  
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY MAIJA GLASIER-LAWSON AND ROBERT STEVENS AND MATTHEW RITENOUR  
TECHNICAL ADVISOR DAN BRUNS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BRIAN BRAZEAL PRODUCED BY BRIAN BRAZEAL DIRECTED BY MAIJA GLASIER-LAWSON



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## OFFICIAL PRESS KIT

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# PRESS KIT

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**ALVA** | ADVANCED  
LABORATORY for  
VISUAL  
ANTHROPOLOGY

27 MINUTES  
SHORT LENGTH | DOCUMENTARY | 2013  
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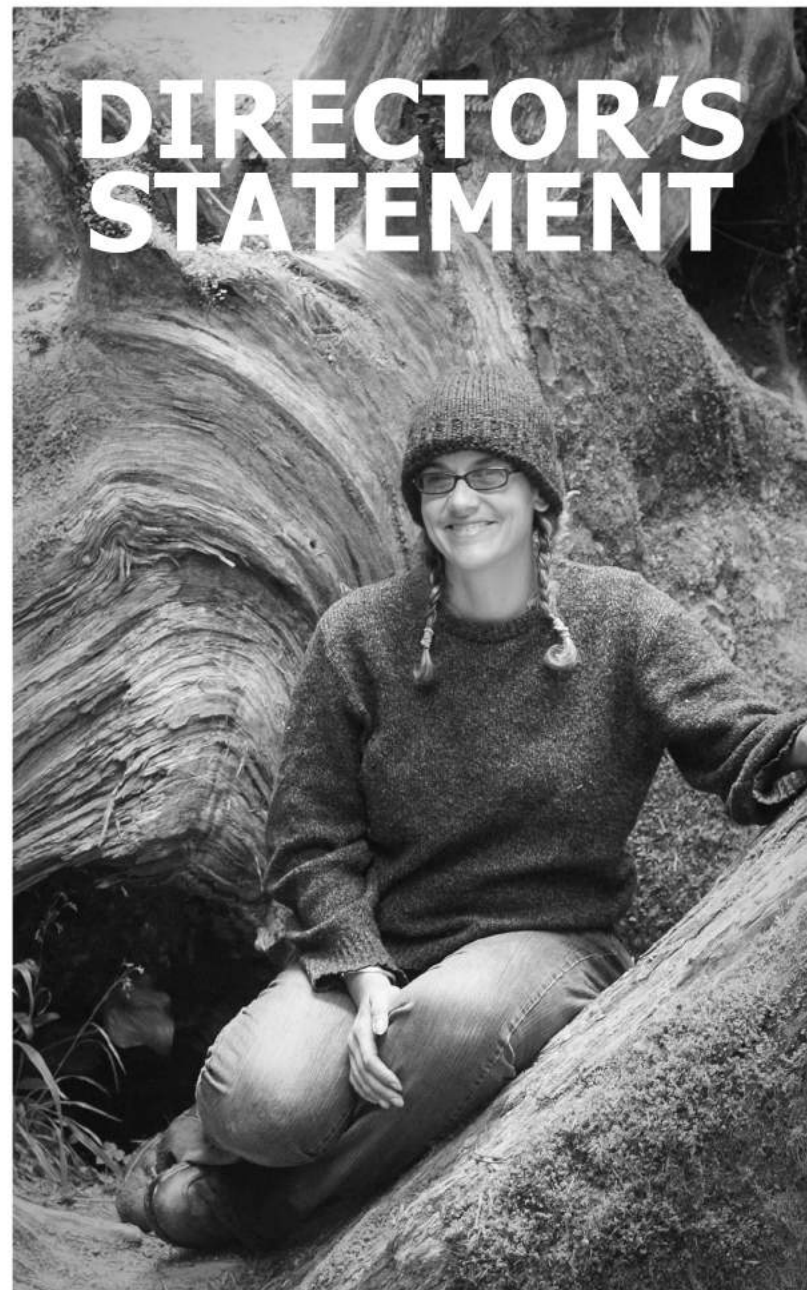
[WWW.CSUCHICO.EDU/ALVA](http://WWW.CSUCHICO.EDU/ALVA)

This project evolved out of numerous conversations with California Indians on traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and my own interest in environmental stewardship and public education. After talking with friends, colleagues, and professors it became clear that many people did not really have an idea of what TEK and when I went to explain it to others my definition kept changing as I learned more about it. This film attempts to show that though TEK is rooted in centuries old traditions opening up our hearts and minds to this wisdom will be a vital component to moving forward toward a sustainable future.

Through the process of making this film I was able to explore the many facets of TEK and came to realize that it cannot be reduced to a set of methodologies, ideas, or rules. I came to realize that TEK is a philosophy; it is a conscious choice to recognize and honor the interwoven relationships that exist in the natural world and to better understand the large-scale, long-term role that humans play. Listening to the people who were kind enough to share their wisdom and stories with us during the filming process made me more conscious of the bigger picture and that what I do today will matter 200 years from now. I hope that their words move you as they moved me. Enjoy!



**Maija Glasier-Lawson**  
Director



# SYNOPSIS

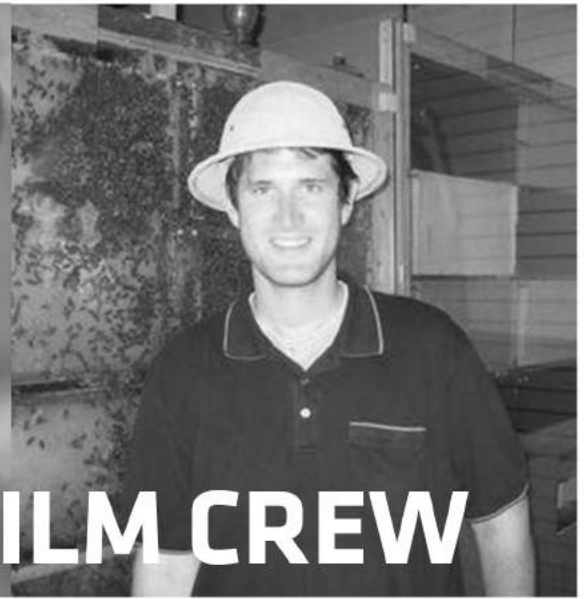
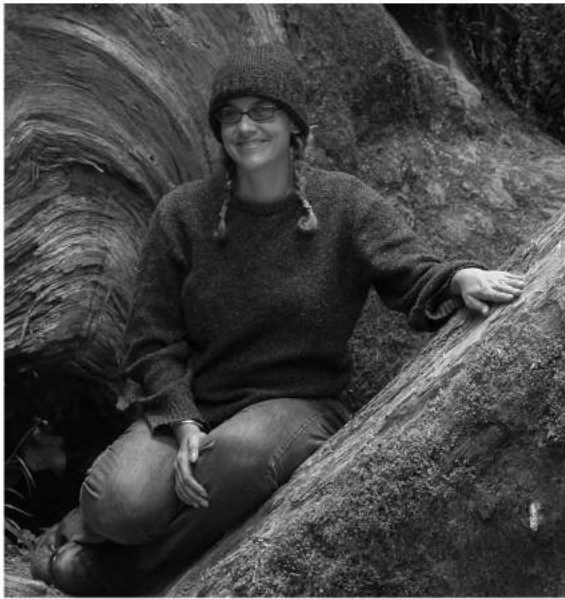


**The voices of Native Americans, academics, and community members are woven together to create a dynamic conversation about native resources, environmental stewardship, the connection between Tribal members, their land, their history, and their culture, as well as the challenges faced by those who wish to practice traditional ecological knowledge today.**

**The poignant dialogue coupled with stunning cinematography creates a film that is both thought provoking and beautiful.**

**In an effort to provide a model for future stewardship endeavors and encourage collaboration with indigenous communities we proudly present, Traditional Ecological Knowledge.**





## FILM CREW

### **MAIJA GLASIER-LAWSON** **DIRECTOR**

Working as an archaeologist, public anthropologist, and educator Maija hopes to continue to use film as means of addressing current social and environmental issues.

### **BRIAN BRAZEAL** **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

An award-winning filmmaker and photographer, Brian is the founder and director of the Advanced Laboratory for Visual Anthropology where researchers use the tools of professional digital cinema.

### **ROBERT STEVENS** **EDITOR/COMPOSER**

Robert is an Emmy-award winning composer. He both wrote the score and edited the film. He has graduated as an anthropologist at CSU, Chico.



**Q&A WITH  
DIRECTOR  
Maija Glasier-Lawson**

*“This was a great project that allowed me to both learn traditional methods of taking care of the environment and to give the information to the the public in a medium that they respond to.”*

*Maija Glasier-Lawson*

**What was your most interesting discovery about X issue while filming TEK?** One of the more interesting things to come out of the interviews for me was Gregg Castro’s comment on the fact that the government was putting sites such as solar and wind projects on top of cultural sites. As an archaeologist I know that cultural sites are supposed to be protected and managed so it was interesting to hear that environmental projects were sometimes able to be green lighted over tribal protests. It was not a surprise per se but it made me conceptualize a few things.

**Where was TEK filmed?** This film relied on the natural beauty of springtime in Northern California. As you will see in the film, this region is blessed with a number of ecological communities from sandy beaches to rugged mountains, lush riparian zones, and its famous fertile valleys. Two of my favorite locations were Fern Canyon on the Northern California coast and the foothills outside of Chico, California.



# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

*TEK is often handed down through traditional songs, stories, and beliefs.*

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

**Total Running Time - 27:36**

**MPAA - Not rated**

**Aspect Ratio - 16x9, pixel size 4K 3840x2160p**

**Year - 2013**

**Website - [www.csuchico.edu/alva/projects/2013/traditional-ecological-knowledge.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/alva/projects/2013/traditional-ecological-knowledge.shtml)**

**Production Company - The CSU, Chico**

**Advanced Laboratory for Visual Anthropology**

**Television Standard - NTSC**

**Shooting Format - R3D**

**Sound Format - Stereo**

**Framerate - 23.976fps**

**Subtitles - English**





# IN THEIR OWN WORDS



*"There's got to be a voice from the past that cares."*

**ALI MEDERS-KNIGHT  
MECHOOPDA TRIBE**

*"Its about being who you are supposed to be and treating the land how it is supposed to be treated."*

**GREGG CASTRO  
T'ROWT'RAAHL SALINAN**



# IN THEIR OWN WORDS



***“We can start to rebuild that knowledge and share that knowledge to build better partnerships and build a better future for everybody.”***

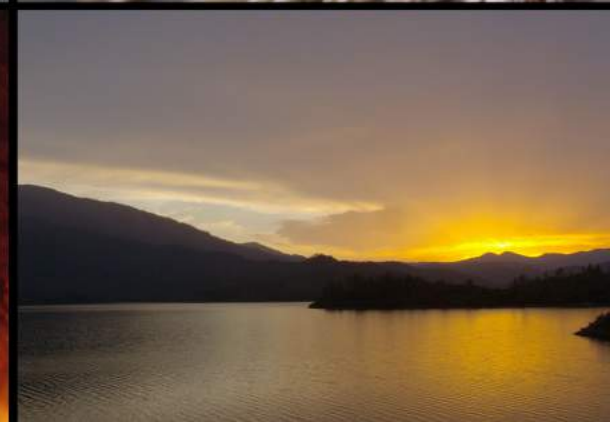
**DON HANKINS  
PLAINS MIWOK**

***“In my heart I feel that there’s a healing process taking place.”***


**WADE MCMASTERS  
WINTU TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**



# GALLERY







ALVA | ADVANCED  
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AN ALVA PRODUCTION 2013

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