Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria (Tribe)
and
Chico State Enterprises (CSE)

The primary purpose of this MOU is to facilitate communication, collaboration, and an ongoing partnership between the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria and Chico State Enterprises, while also continuing to strengthen the working relationship between both parties.

A. the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria ("Tribe") and Chico State Enterprise ("CSE"), an auxiliary of California State University, Chico (collectively the "Parities" and individually, a "Party") enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to (i) establish clear and ongoing communication between parties, including access, research, and educational activities on Butte Creek Ecological Preserve (BCEP) owned and managed by the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria; (ii) during all CSE lead programming and events acknowledgment that BCEP is the Tribes traditional territory and the cultural significance of the land will be conveyed to participants; (iii) Upon request from the Tribe, CSE will consult and partner on projects conducted on BCEP; (iii) when research is conducted on BCEP, CSE will provide a copy of that research to the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria Director of Environmental Planning & Protection and to the Mechoopda Cultural Resource Preservation Enterprise (MCRPE) Director (Appendix A); (iii) CSE will utilize an internal reservation system to coordinate research and educational activities with faculty and the Tribe

B. In reference to the MOU the Butte Creek Ecological Preserve, is ninety-three (93) acres along the middle section of Butte Creek. (Appendix B)

C. This MOU is not intended nor will it be so interpreted to be a waiver of sovereign immunity of the Tribe, their employees, officials and agents

D. The Tribe and CSE understand and will comply with all laws, rules, regulations, policies produced, and easements that are administered by the Tribe. Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves Coordinator will notify the MCRPE Director with any request to access BCEP by all California State University, Chico (Chico State) and its auxiliaries through written request fourteen (14) days prior to the formal Request (Appendix C).

E. The parties agree to review and sign all confidentiality forms regarding cultural artifacts sites. If additional sites or artifacts not in current records are discovered by Chico State and/or its auxiliaries during any trip or events the Tribe will be immediately contacted (Appendix D). The Director of Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves will contact the Tribe’s Tribal Historical Preservation Officer ("THPO").
F. Each party will be responsible for any and all liability, loss, expense, attorneys’ fee or claims for injury or damages. Each party will procure insurance or programs of self-insurance in amounts sufficient to meet the indemnification obligation of this MOU.

G. The signature of the representative on the dates indicated below that the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria and Chico State Enterprises do formally endorse and accept this Memorandum of Understanding and agree to review the MOU every five (5) years from the date signed unless earlier terminated by either party, which termination shall take effect thirty (30) days from the date written notice is provided to the other party.

Steve Perez,  
Chico State Enterprises  
Board of Directors, President  

Date: 6-20-2023

Dennis Ramirez, Chairman  
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria

Date: 8-4/03/2023
Appendix A

b. All academic research, publication, and studies performed by California State University, Chico, and its auxiliaries at the BCEP will be submitted and reviewed by the Tribe before official publication. The Tribe may provide feedback and corrections if necessary to ensure accurate representation of the Tribe and their administered lands in academic publication. Final drafts of all research, publication, and studies will be first submitted to the BCCER Coordinator, the BCCER Coordinator will then submit documents to the Director of MCRPE to be disseminated to the MCRPE Board.

c. MCRPE Board has thirty (30) days to respond and present feedback to the requester. Once feedback has been approved by MCRPE Board the Director of MCRPE will then send documents back to the BCCER Coordinator. The BCCER Coordinator will then provide feedback from MCRPE Board to the requester.

d. The order of communications between the BCCER Coordinator and the Tribe is provided below:

1. Undergraduate/Graduate Student, and faculty submit research proposal to be conducted on BCEP.
2. Director of MCRPE submits research proposal to MCRPE Board for review.
3. MCRPE Board reviews documents and returns it to Director of MCRPE.
4. Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves Receives request.
5. Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves Submits paperwork to Mechoopda Cultural Resource Preservation Enterprise (MCRPE) Director.
6. Director of MCRP returns the documents with revisions to Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves Coordinator.
7. Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserves Coordinator returns documents to researcher.
BUTTE CREEK ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE

YOU CAN HELP
- Pack out garbage
- Take out only what you bring in
- Control and clean up after pets
- Respect wildlife

Enjoy Your Visit!

Restoring Nature for Wildlife

- Allow geese to raise their goslings undisturbed
- Native plants provide habitat, food, and shelter for many species
- Keep pets on leashes
- Do not feed wildlife
- Leave food scraps for wildlife
- Keep trails clear

NO HUNTING  NO FISHING
NO CAMPING  NO FIRES

Building rock structures in creek obstructs fish migration and disturbs breeding habitat

Salmon Spawning Area

- Do not disturb salmon
- Do not approach salmon
- Do not feed salmon
- Do not throw objects into salmon
- Do not leave objects near salmon

- Keep water clean
- Do not litter
- Do not abuse flora or fauna
Appendix C

a) Once written request has been sent to the MCRPE Director by the BCCER Coordinator, The MCRPE Director has 14 business days to respond to the request by either written approval or denial of visits to BCEP hosted by the California State University, Chico and its auxiliaries.

b) Tribal Council members, MCRPE Board members, MCRPE Director, THPO, and Director of Environmental Planning & Protection may attend any and all trips and events hosted by the California State University, Chico and its auxiliaries.
Appendix D: Treatment of Cultural Artifacts and resources

a) Nothing in this MOU shall be a waiver of or limitation of any of the Tribe’s rights in law, in equity, or otherwise under CEQA, Section 106 of the NHPA nor its sovereign rights as a federally recognized Indian Tribe participating in government-to-government consultation with a government agency on a project. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this MOU is intended to make any laws or regulations applicable where such laws would otherwise be inapplicable to the Tribe.

b) Prior to visit to BCEP, all California state University, Chico and its auxiliaries will review and sign confidentiality forms regarding cultural sites and artifacts provided and approved by the Tribe.

c) CSE may not disclose cultural artifacts that are specifically designated and approved by the Tribes Tribal Council for educational use. All other sites and artifacts may not be discussed with any California State University, Chico and its auxiliaries’ staff, faculty, and students.

d) CSE shall promote avoidance and non-disturbance measures as the preferred treatment of cultural resources where feasible.