



Buffy McQuillen

[Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria](#)

Buffy McQuillen is an enrolled citizen of the Round Valley Indian Tribes (Yuki, Nomlacki, Pomo) and a lineal descendant of Yokayo Rancheria Pomo Indians. She serves as the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer (THPO) for the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and has served in this capacity for more than ten years, and collectively in the field of repatriation and sacred site protection for more than twenty years.

As the Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer (THPO) for the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (Tribe), Ms. McQuillen actively engages in government-to-government consultation with state, federal and local agencies for the core purpose of identifying and evaluating sacred sites and protecting them on behalf of the Tribe. In 2021, California's Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Ms. McQuillen to serve as a member of the California Native American Heritage Commission, which is the primary state agency responsible for protecting sacred sites, human burials, cultural items and preventing interference with the expression of Native American religious rights in California. She currently serves as the Vice Chairperson of the NAHC.