

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
PROPOSED TRUST ACQUISITION OF FOUR FEE PARCELS
HABEMATOLEL POMO OF UPPER LAKE RANCERIA
LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Pacific Regional Office, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), dated May 2007, for the proposed trust acquisition of four parcels encompassing a total of 55 acres (the site), by the United States for the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Rancheria (Tribe). The site is located within portions of Sections 7 and 18, Township 15 North, Range 9 West, of the "Upper Lake California" U.S. Geological Survey 7.5' minute topographic quadrangle. The site is located within unincorporated Lake County, immediately south of the community of Upper Lake, adjacent to and south of State Route (SR) 20, and east of SR-29. Based on the analysis and impacts discussed in the EA and comments received during this public review period, the BIA will decide whether to reach a Finding of No Significant Impact, direct further work on the EA, or initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

The proposed Federal action is the fee-to-trust transfer of four parcels totaling 55 acres and subsequent development of a gaming/hotel facility. The purpose of the proposed action is to restore the Tribe's land base, to improve the Tribe's socio-economic status and assist the Tribe to move toward economic self-sufficiency. The Tribe proposes to develop an approximately 76,750 square-foot gaming and hotel facility; approximately 40,000 square feet is proposed for the casino area consisting of a casino floor, food and beverage areas, entertainment lounge, casino support areas, a retail area, administration and security areas. Additional supporting infrastructures are planned including access roads and parking areas.

Public comments regarding the EA will be accepted until **July 2, 2007**. For information or to obtain a copy of the EA, please contact Patrick O'Mallan, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825, telephone (916) 978-6044. Written comments should be mailed to Clay Gregory, Regional Director, at the above address.

Copies of the EA are also available for public review at the following locations: Upper Lake Rancheria Tribal Office, 375 East Hwy 20, Suite I, Upper Lake CA 95485, telephone (707) 275-0737; Upper Lake Library, 310 - 2nd Street, Upper Lake, CA 95485, telephone (707) 275-2049, Lakeport Library, 1425 North High Street, Lakeport, CA 95453, telephone (707) 263-8817; an electronic version of the EA may be viewed at <http://www.upperlakeea.com>.