**Help Create a Tesla Reserve – Deadline December 31, 2023**

**Send email to State Parks urging Tesla be Classified as a Reserve at** **info@alamedateslaplan.com**

Please email the State Parks planning team urging they classify Tesla as a Reserve. Send email to info@alamedateslaplan.com before December 31, 2023.

Following is a sample email which you can use, edit or compose your own.

Email To State Parks Staff – info@alamedateslaplan.com

As a concerned citizen, I appreciation the collective efforts that led to the protection of the Alameda-Tesla property and the prohibited off-highway vehicle use on Tesla. This allows classification of Tesla as a State Reserve, a designation that would protect Tesla’s extraordinary and sensitive features while allowing for low-impact public access for enjoyment, education, and research.

Tesla, covering about 3,100 acres, holds immense natural and cultural significance. It is a vital habitat for golden eagles, tule elk, red-legged frogs, tiger salamander, mountain lions, numerous rare plants and so many more rare biologic resources. It is at the choke point of a critical linkage habitat corridor and within a botanical priority protection area. It contains important spiritual and cultural sites for Indigenous communities and bears the historical legacy of an abandoned mining community. Tesla embodies the unique natural and cultural heritage of our region.

I support the Save Tesla Park coalition's vision to name the Reserve "Hismet Warep," reflecting the sacred significance of the land to Indigenous people. This land can be managed in a way that respects the relationship of Native Peoples with the land, preserving all of its natural and cultural landscape intact. It would be a travesty to simply give the site a Native American name and then not fully protect it as a Reserve.

To minimize the impact on the Reserve, facilities, such as visitor kiosks or center, restrooms and parking can be located State Parks-owned parcels along Tesla Road. This will ensure that the heart of the Reserve and its wildlands remain fully protected. Repurposing existing State Parks-owned structures along Tesla Road for an Interpretive Center and a Native American Cultural Center would enhance the visitor experience. Impactful recreational activities, like mountain and e-biking and camping, can be located in neighboring Carnegie SVRA and the approximate 300 acres of other State Parks property along Tesla Road to protect the Reserve's ecological integrity.

By designating Tesla as a State Reserve, we can strike a balance between protecting our irreplaceable natural and cultural treasures and providing opportunities for education and enjoyment.

Please demonstrate your commitment to preserve the important natural and cultural heritage and the beauty of our region by classifying Tesla as a Reserve. Thank you.