



A STATEMENT FROM COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (CCA) OF CALIFORNIA
May 4, 2026

CCA California expresses our unequivocal condemnation of the insensitive and unacceptable comments made during a recent CA Fish & Game Commission Tribal Committee meeting by an individual claiming association with CCA California. We offer our sincere apology to all those impacted, especially California's Native American Tribes. This was not a minor misstep. Alluding to our previous email, the remarks were egregious, harmful, and fundamentally at odds with the values we expect of our members and the broader community of recreational anglers we seek to serve. We were shocked and deeply dismayed by this conduct. We have begun the process of addressing the individual's membership status.

CCA California is a mission-driven organization representing anglers of all ages, experiences, backgrounds, and cultures. We are built on a core set of values that include consideration for people, stewardship of our natural resources, and a commitment to science-based decision-making which includes constructive, civil, and inclusive engagement in public processes. These values are not aspirational - they are expectations. We call on all current and future members to conduct themselves in every setting, including public meetings and policy discussions, in a manner that reflects mutual respect, responsible conduct, and integrity. Our work depends on trust, and that trust is only maintained when our actions align with these principles.

We deeply regret that this incident occurred, for the offense it caused, and that it detracted from the science-based and community-driven approach critical to effective fisheries management. We will take ongoing future action to reinforce the standards we expect within our community. We are committed to ensuring that our organization is one where all individuals are treated with dignity, and where all ideas, values and cultures are welcomed, heard and respected, and where dialogue, even when difficult, is grounded in respect.

CCA California has been and will continue to be committed to working alongside all communities who care passionately for California's coastal marine resources. We sincerely hope that this moment may open new pathways to partnership and understanding between environmental advocates and tribal stakeholders, and look forward to the conversations to come.

We will continue to hold ourselves and our membership accountable to the values we represent.

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