

Violet Sage Walker, Chairwoman of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council (NCTC), is the Nominator of the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. With 35 years of experience in cultural resource management and over a decade working on the marine sanctuary campaign, her expertise guides NCTC's multifaceted work in California and beyond. She has traveled the world sharing her knowledge on collaborative management, social justice and equity. Her leadership is backed by an understanding of what it means to take care of our place, be good stewards, and foster community. Chair Walker's connection to the ocean remains at the heart of all she does – her compass is set to the sea.

P. J. Webb is a public interest attorney, focusing on marine conservation, wildlife advocacy, and environmental justice. Recognized by the national marine sanctuaries, Webb has worked to protect coastal waters on the Pacific Coast of California along with national organizations and community organizations such as the Northern Chumash Tribal Council, Santa Lucia Sierra Club and Suffers. Together we are working towards the ultimate designation of a Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary in central California and ocean protection efforts all around the globe.

Gianna Patchen is the campaign manager for the Northern Chumash Tribal Council (NCTC) and their proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary (CHMS). She joined the Chumash Sanctuary campaign team before the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) initiated the Chumash Sanctuary's public scoping period for the designation process in November 2021. With a background in ecology and environmental communications, she supports the NCTC team throughout their intersectoral work. She has helped re-establish their CHMS outreach program both virtually and in person. She is now working closely with local to global partners to help guide the sanctuary campaign in its final and defining year.