

“To gather our seaweed, pick abalone from the rocks, dig for mussels, to surf fish, take the sea palm: that is why we meet at the ocean, together, as large tribal families. If Fish & Game or State Parks is successful in taking that away from us – limiting what we can gather as tribal people, imposing zero takes on what you call ‘nori’, or the abalone – like they did with sea palm – and begin to vigorously enforce harsher and harsher limits against tribal people, using as the excuse the protection of ‘endangered resources’; in the process, we will disappear as tribal families in any meaningful way. We, what we have remaining of our indigenous culture, will become extinct. Because we will have no reason to congregate as families.”

Atta Stevenson, Solstice Seaweed Protest, Saturday, June 21, 2003, at the place now known as Howard Beach, 4 miles north of Westport