



Decriminalize Nature

Decriminalize Nature
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August 22, 2021

Dear Decriminalize Nature Local Group,

We hope this letter finds you and your team in good health and spirits.

As our movement grows into maturity, with local groups throughout the United States successfully organizing for resolutions to decriminalize entheogens, we are working hard to ensure the ethos on which the movement was founded stays core to the work we do. The long-term success of our movement will be based on our ability to stay focused on protecting our sovereign rights to the sacred plants of our ancestors, and to always remember that we are here to advocate for compassion toward the most vulnerable members of our community.

As such, Decriminalize Nature™ will be ensuring the use of the name, the trademark of which we own, is not misused or abused by groups not adhering to our core principles, including but not limited to:

- **Transparency** (open dialogue and availability and accessibility of pertinent information)
- **Open-Source** (generously giving away intellectual property to other DN groups)
- **Decentralization** (not seeking to consolidate power and control among few people but instead training and supporting others to emerge as leaders in the movement)
- Ensuring **equitable access** to sacred plants by the most vulnerable in our communities *without limits*.
- Always advocating for **full decriminalization of entheogens** in supporting the Grow-Gather-Gift-Share model, *including decriminalization of peyote cultivation to prevent its extinction in its native habitat*.
- We advocate for the **protection of community-based ceremony models** of healing
- **Cooperation between DN national and DN local** groups toward a higher goal of decriminalization of entheogens and liberation of consciousness.

On September 19 at 12 PM PST and October 5th at 4 PM PST, we will be holding webinars where we will invite local DN groups to attend one of these meetings. In these meetings, we will present the basic rules of operation and governance to ensure compliance with the DN ethos, policy positions, as well governing compliance requirements. We will also be reaching out to groups individually to speak with the leadership directly about the importance of adherence to the basic DN ethos, as well as compliance with organizational requirements.

We will provide as much guidance and support as reasonably possible to enable local groups to become compliant in the circumstances where they are not. In the rare case where a local group refuses or fails to comply with the operating requirements, policy positions, or ethos of DN, despite the support offered, we will take such action as we, with advice of counsel, deem appropriate. This may include the suspension of the use of the name “Decriminalize Nature™” by the local group. This may be necessary to prevent undue risk to all the other groups that have worked hard to bring integrity and good reputation to their local efforts and to the national movement. Note that we will only sanction (permit) new local groups if they similarly confirm their commitment to these principles. As many know, there are always those determined to challenge or subvert the efforts of those trying to make bold change. We are resolute to ensure that all those with the right to use the DN name will be supporting our national goals and methods of operation.

We look forward to working with each of you to ensure our movement continues to thrive.

Sincerely,

Carlos Plazola, as Chair
On behalf of the Decriminalize Nature National Board