



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
EDWARD K. THOMAS BUILDING
9097 Glacier Highway
Juneau, Alaska 99801 - 6922

Executive Council of the Central Council
TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC/ 14-45

Title: Supporting the Right of Ahtna Region Member Tribes to Contract/Compact and Co-
Manage Resources

WHEREAS, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is federally recognized tribe of more than 29,000 tribal citizens worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the shared interests among Alaska's federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act corporations and Alaska native organizations are their tribal citizens, shareholders and constituents, each of whom seek solutions to remedy the societal, cultural, economic and nutritional hardships suffered by Alaska Natives rules and policies depriving them of their native foods through an arbitrary and capricious interpretation of Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act commonly known as "subsistence", and preferentially known as customary and traditional fishing, hunting and gathering, which is the way of life that has sustained our people from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Central Council member tribes have long supported and advocated for the right to food as a human right, and the right of Alaska Native tribal governments to be fully engaged in the management of their native food and wildlife resources that they depend upon for their lifeways, including the right to contract/compact or co-manage fisheries and wildlife in the waterways and on the lands within are aboriginal territories, including a role for contributing to fish and wildlife management plans that affect traditional use areas, and including all applicable domestic and international conventions and accords; and

WHEREAS, a consensus among Alaska Native governments has developed supporting the concepts for tribal government contracting/compacting and co-management, which was the subject of recent hearing in the House Sub-Committee on Indian and Alaska native Affairs, as expressed through numerous resolutions adopted by the Alaska Federation of Natives and many other Alaska Native organizations; and

WHEREAS, Central Council recognizes the hardship of the Ahtna people in losing their opportunity to continue their customary and traditional hunting way of life under the current laws and the ineffective system of dual federal and state regulation of their traditional hunting practices; and

WHEREAS, the uncoordinated and expensive dual management system also impact the health and conservation of the wildlife population that know no boundaries and are suffering under the impact of global warming; and

WHEREAS, the tribes within the Ahtna region continue to represent their traditional and local knowledge;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Central Council member tribes hereby express full support for executive action by the President and his administration, or federal legislation, that empowers tribal government self-determination that protects the customary and traditional fishing, hunting and gathering way of life for all Alaska Natives by enabling Alaska Native tribal governments which include the tribes within the Ahtna region to: 1) contract/compact to manage fisheries, wildlife and other environmental resources under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; and 2) co-manage fisheries, wildlife and other environmental resources with federal agencies in their capacity as trustee and pursuant to their federal trust obligation and the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

ADOPTED this 28th day of August 2014, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5 yeas, 1 nay, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

CERTIFY


President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST


Tribal Secretary Jolene Edenshaw