



2024 Midyear Convention Canyonville, Oregon

RESOLUTION #24 – 22

“ENHANCING TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT AND CO-STEWARDSHIP IN BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) AS IT IMPLEMENTS THE FINAL RULE ON CONSERVATION AND LANDSCAPE HEALTH”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a final rule on Conservation and Landscape Health, which acknowledges the importance of conservation and ecosystem resilience as part of its land management practices; and

WHEREAS, the final rule includes significant provisions for Tribal engagement, the protection of intact landscapes, and the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge in decision-making processes; and

WHEREAS, these provisions are in line with the priorities of ATNI, yet require further emphasis on direct co-management opportunities and consistent application across all BLM regions to effectively protect Tribal interests; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ATNI calls on the BLM to implement the final rule with a strengthened commitment to Tribal co-management, ensuring that Tribes are not just consultants but active partners in the management of public lands for the benefit of future generations of Tribal nations with historical connections to traditional lands and resources now managed by the Bureau; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI urges the BLM to develop clear, detailed guidelines for the integration of Indigenous Knowledge in land management practices, ensuring this knowledge is respected and utilized in a manner that protects sensitive information and cultural heritage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI demands the BLM ensure that the processes for designating and managing Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) include direct Tribal involvement to protect culturally significant lands and resources effectively; and

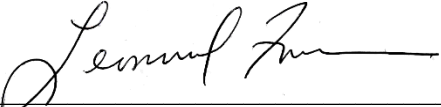
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ATNI demands the BLM ensure the Trust relationship is maintained and that the processes for designating and managing restoration and mitigation leases outlined in the final rule include prioritizing Tribal lease agreements and direct Tribal involvement to protect culturally significant lands and resources effectively; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution, ensuring that the Tribal nations' voices are paramount in decisions affecting their traditional lands and resources; and

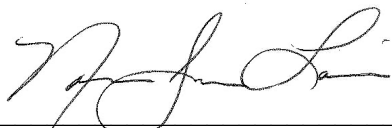
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the National Congress of American Indians.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Midyear Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Seven Feathers Casino, Canyonville, OR, May 20 – May 23, 2024, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary