



2026 Midyear Convention Ferndale, Washington

RESOLUTION # 2026 – 030

“RE-AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR OREGON’S CLIMATE PROTECTION PROGRAM”

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 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 the representatives and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and Indian tribal governments 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, ATNI adopted Resolution #2025-13, “Defending Oregon’s Climate Protection Program (CPP) to Safeguard Tribal Sovereignty, Public Health, and Future

Generations,” affirming strong support for Oregon’s Climate Protection Program and recognizing the disproportionate impacts climate instability poses to Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, ATNI previously participated as amicus curiae in defense of Oregon’s Climate Protection Program before the Oregon Court of Appeals, articulating the unique and disproportionate harms climate instability causes Tribal Nations and emphasizing the importance of greenhouse gas reductions, Tribal consultation, and climate investments benefiting Tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, ATNI’s prior amicus brief documented that climate instability threatens Tribal treaty rights, First Foods, air quality, cultural resources, salmon habitat, and Tribal public health, while also increasing wildfire severity, drought, flooding, and ecosystem disruption throughout the Northwest; and

WHEREAS, Oregon’s Climate Protection Program remains one of the state’s most significant and comprehensive climate policies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from major fossil fuel suppliers while directing investments into environmental justice communities, including Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations in Oregon are intended beneficiaries of investments generated through the Climate Protection Program, including the commitment that at least fifteen percent (15%) of Community Climate Investment funding benefit Tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Business & Industry, Northwest Natural and others have filed a new lawsuit seeking to challenge and undermine Oregon’s Climate Protection Program, threatening progress toward greenhouse gas emissions reductions, environmental justice investments, and climate resilience for Tribal communities and future generations; and

WHEREAS, attacks on the Climate Protection Program threaten not only Oregon’s climate goals, but also Tribal interests in clean air, healthy ecosystems, cultural preservation, public health, treaty-protected resources, and Tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations possess unique sovereign, cultural, legal, treaty-reserved, and trust-protected interests that may not otherwise be fully represented in litigation concerning climate and natural resource protections; and

WHEREAS, Tribal participation in advocacy affecting Tribal rights, environmental justice, climate protections, and natural resources is critical to ensuring Tribal voices, expertise, and lived realities are represented before the courts; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Justice is defending the Climate Protection Program against these legal challenges and is carrying out an important responsibility in protecting the public interest, environmental justice communities, and the integrity of Oregon’s climate policies; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby re-affirms its strong support for the full implementation and defense of Oregon’s Climate Protection Program as a critical mechanism to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, advance environmental justice, and protect Tribal health, sovereignty, homelands, treaty rights, and future generations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI expresses appreciation to the Oregon Department of Justice for its continued defense of the Climate Protection Program and its efforts to uphold Oregon’s climate commitments and environmental justice obligations in the face of ongoing legal challenges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI encourages impacted Tribal Nations, Tribal organizations, and Tribal leaders throughout the region to evaluate opportunities to intervene, participate, or otherwise engage in advocacy efforts related to the defense of the Climate Protection Program where Tribal rights, resources, and interests may be affected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI supports continued Tribal consultation, co-governance, and meaningful Tribal participation in the implementation and evolution of climate and environmental justice programs throughout the Northwest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI shall communicate this Resolution to the Governor of Oregon, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the Oregon Department of Justice, relevant state and federal agencies, and ATNI Member Tribal governments; and

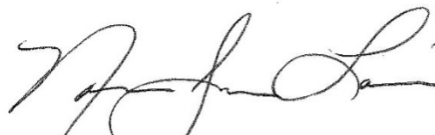
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution(s).

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2026 Midyear Convention held at the Silver Reef Casino Resort in Ferndale, Washington, on May 17-21, 2026, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary