



**2026 Annual Convention
Snoqualmie, Washington**

RESOLUTION # 2026 – 047

**“CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO PROTECT THE
TRIBAL NATION’S RIGHTS ON FEDERAL LAND BY KEEPING THESE
LANDS IN FEDERAL OWNERSHIP INCLUDING LANDS WHICH
COULD BE RETURNED TO TRIBAL NATIONS”**

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, 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's Tribes and All Tribes and Alaska Natives whose lands were taken, today still rely on use of lands beyond reservations including most importantly federal lands; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal citizens need and use these lands to support Tribal lifeways and cultures; and

WHEREAS, these lands are often utilized to fulfill treaty right and trust obligations for fishing, hunting and gathering and sovereign inherent rights; and recognize the specific reserved treaty rights to open and unclaimed lands as stated in the supreme law of the land (treaties); and

WHEREAS, these lands contain invaluable cultural and sacred sites; and

WHEREAS, despite very public and supported opposition to the loss of these lands the administration is determined to sell these lands to private interests who do not share our values regarding the use of these lands; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these lands would represent a permanent loss to all the peoples of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a trust responsibility to protect Tribal lands, waters, natural resources, and the health and welfare of Tribal citizens, arising from treaties, statutes, executive orders, and the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Tribal Governments, including obligations under Executive Order 13175 on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments; and the sale of these lands breaks that trust responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) affirms the rights of Indigenous peoples to free, prior, and informed consent in matters affecting their lands, territories, and resources, and the federal government's pursuit of these sales and transfers directly affects Tribal Nations, and the Administration has proceeded without the consent of the Tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, ATNI member Tribes have consistently affirmed in past resolutions that the protection of intact ecosystems, sacred places, and Indigenous homelands is inseparable from the exercise of Tribal sovereignty, the fulfillment of the federal trust responsibility, and the cultural and physical survival of Indigenous peoples; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on the United States Congress to hold hearings regarding proposed permanent legislation on the protection of federal lands with respect to Tribal cultural and traditional rights; and

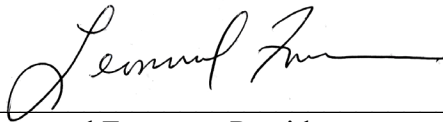
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI encourages coordination with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), and other regional and national Tribal organizations to advance complementary resolutions and joint advocacy in defense of federal lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the United States and appropriate federal agencies, the Alaska and Northwest Congressional delegations, and the National Congress of American Indians; and

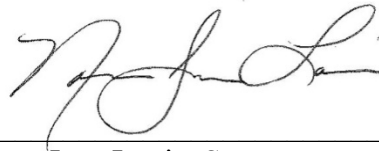
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution(s).

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2026 Annual Convention held at the Snoqualmie Casino and Hotel in Snoqualmie, Washington, on September 13-17, 2026, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary