



2010 Annual Conference Spokane, Washington

RESOLUTION #10 - 53

“SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN AS A PRIORITY LARGE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY’S FY 2011-2015 STRATEGIC PLAN”

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 to 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 the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the EPA has issued a draft FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan that does *not* include the Columbia River Basin as a priority Large Aquatic Ecosystem in Goal 2, Protecting America’s Waters; and

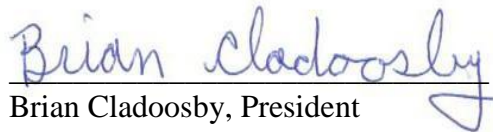
WHEREAS, numerous issues (and opportunities) remain, including continued ESA listings of many fish species, plummeting lamprey populations, ongoing federal hydrosystem litigation, relicensing of major non-federal dams by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty between the United States and Canada, climate change, development of the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Action Plan by EPA Region 10, and introduction of the Columbia River Restoration Act of 2010 in Congress; and

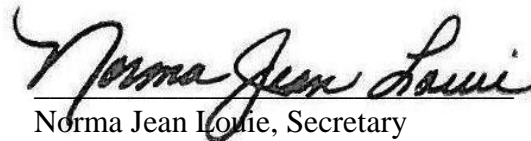
WHEREAS, including the Columbia River Basin in the FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan is a validation of the importance of this watershed to the Pacific Northwest and the people who depend on it and its health, and would help in better integrating all the many actions and activities underway to address regional Basin problems and issues more broadly and comprehensively; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI asks that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency amend its draft FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan to *include* the Columbia River Basin as a priority Large Aquatic Ecosystem in Goal 2, Protecting America's Waters.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2010 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino in Spokane, Washington, September 20-23, 2010 with a quorum present.


Brian Cladoosby, President


Norma Jean Lorie, Secretary