



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Eighty-Third Annual Tribal Assembly
April 18-20, 2018
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 18-32

Title: Support of Sitka Tribe of Alaska's Efforts on Herring in Sitka Sound

By: Sitka Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 30,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, Sitka Tribe of Alaska is the federally recognized tribal government for the Sitka area and is responsible for the health, safety, and culture for its more than 4,400 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, Sitka Tribe of Alaska attempted to conserve herring by bringing proposals before the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries several times over a period of twenty years, with the most recent three proposals considered by the Board of Fisheries in January 2018; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries approved one of Sitka Tribe of Alaska's proposals but not one of the most critical proposals to reduce the amount of herring taken by the Commercial fishery in Sitka Sound; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game in conducting the fishery for 2018 indicated as of March 27, 2018 "no large biomass was found" in the surveys conducted by the R/V Kestrel; and

WHEREAS, Sitka Tribe of Alaska requested, via letter dated March 29, 2018, for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to take the measures necessary to safeguard the vital herring stock in the Sitka area, up to and including closure of the 2018 Sitka Sound sac roe fishery – due to conservation and subsistence concerns; and

WHEREAS, Sitka Tribe of Alaska requested, via letter to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, on April 3, 2018 that they act to protect the viability of the herring stock and subsistence harvest, and that they inform the Tribe how they intended to provides a reasonable opportunity to subsistence herring egg harvesters under the conditions present in the Sitka herring fishery; and

WHEREAS, the Sitka Sound herring stock is the last herring stock in the State of Alaska that provide a viable subsistence herring egg harvest that is shared as far north as Barrow, as far west as Bethel and throughout the rest of the United States;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Third Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska delegation convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 18-20, 2018, hereby continues to support Sitka Tribe of Alaska in their efforts on herring; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, this resolution be directed to the Alaska Board of Fish to revise regulations and management plans and for the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game to implement them, and should include adopting the proposals advanced by Sitka Tribe of Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon these revisions of regulations and management plans, Tlingit & Haida calls on the State of Alaska Department of Fish to ensure a reasonable opportunity and priority for meeting the Sitka Tribe of Alaska's Tribal Citizens nutritional and cultural needs; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, we call on the Governor and Lt. Governor to require the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to take a more conservative approach to herring and implement the proposals submitted by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska to the Board of Fisheries that were not approved in January 2018.

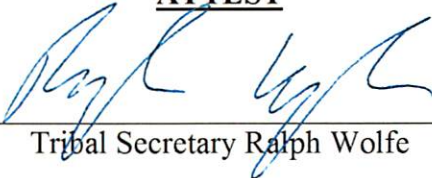
ADOPTED this 20th day of April 2018, by the Eighty-Third Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe