



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

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

Resolution TA 18-43

Title: Support Subsistence Disaster Funding

By: Juneau 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, subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering have provided food to Alaska Natives for thousands of years and continue to be critical to the survival of residents in today's villages in rural Alaska —for Natives and non-Natives — and is recognized in both federal and state law as the priority use of Alaska fish and game resources; and

WHEREAS, subsistence constitutes not only the nutritional, but also the spiritual and cultural foundation of Alaska's indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, the right to continue to harvest wild renewable resources and live a traditional subsistence way of life was one of the commitments Congress made to Alaska's Native Peoples when it enacted Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) in 1980 that provides express protections for the physical, economic, traditional and cultural existence of Alaska's villages by giving a rural priority to local subsistence users on most federal lands and waters in the state; and

WHEREAS, subsistence fish, wildlife, birds, plants and other resources provide the basic food security for rural residents; and

WHEREAS, rural communities are economically depressed and the sale of arts and craft produced from subsistence byproducts are the only means of cash for many rural residents; and

WHEREAS, subsistence harvests in many rural areas have been adversely affected by multiple factors including climate change, competing harvests and the elephant ivory ban leaving many rural residents without basic food security and resources to generate cash income through the sale of arts and craft; and

WHEREAS, severely reduced subsistence harvests threatens the very survival of remote villages through outmigration of people who can no longer afford to live in their own homelands, creating a corresponding social and economic crisis in urban Alaska; and

WHEREAS, disaster funds have been made available for commercial fisheries, but not for subsistence harvests; and

WHEREAS, Subsistence Disaster Funds are vitally needed to insure the food security for rural residents and to ensure the health of elders and children, who are especially vulnerable without a good quality diet;

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, urge the State of Alaska and the federal government to immediately implement a special subsistence relief program and to revise existing economic disaster programs to include disaster funds for communities suffering severely reduced subsistence harvests.

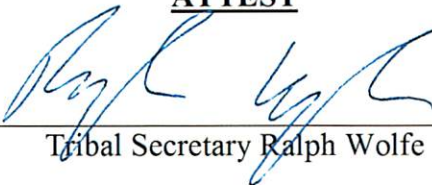
ADOPTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018, by the Eighty-Third Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

**CERTIFY**



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President Richard J. Peterson

**ATTEST**



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Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe