



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2010:011

USET SUPPORT OF THE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF NORTHWEST INDIANS RESOLUTION 09-38

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) is a regional organization, representing and advocating on behalf of Tribes in 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,** the Tribes of the Northwest have for many years spent countless hours and funds protecting and re-establishing the ecosystem from degradation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribes of the Northwest are home to over 20,000 head of unclaimed/feral horses that are overgrazing and destroying the rangeland of the northwest reservations that are damaging spring developments, stream bank restoration, fish habitat and culturally significant plants; and
- WHEREAS,** various political co-sponsors have introduced and reintroduced legislation into the United States House of Representatives (H.R. 503) and Senate (S 727) amending the 1970 Horse Protection Act (HPA) to prohibit the showing, transport or sale of horses that have been subject to any painful process to accentuate their gate; and
- WHEREAS,** the Federal Government has a trust responsibility to protect the interest of Indian Tribes as well as a duty to implement laws passed to benefit those Tribes, yet it failed to consult or communicate with any Tribes prior to taking position on H.R. 503; and
- WHEREAS,** the horse market represents a significant market that reservation horse producers need to sustain their livestock operations, in the productive utilization of Tribal and allotted lands; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northwest Tribal Horse Coalition (NTHC) is adopted as a subcommittee of the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) and requests the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs provide a funding source for horse management practices; and
- WHEREAS,** the ATNI has passed resolution 09-38 "Opposition to Any/All Horse Slaughter Acts, Also Supporting a Tribal Amendment Allowing Tribes to Establish Horse Slaughter Facilities Within Their Jurisdiction"; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors supports the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Resolution 09-38, "Opposition to Any/All Horse Slaughter Acts, Also Supporting a Tribal Amendment Allowing Tribes to Establish Horse Slaughter Facilities Within Their Jurisdiction."

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 11, 2010.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribe, Inc.

Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”