



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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Resolution No. USET 2002:008

**PRESERVATION OF THE CONLY SITE**

**WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) 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 is comprised of delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and

**WHEREAS,** the Conly Site (16B119) is a nationally significant Indian cultural site located on Loggy Bayou in Louisiana, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and under consideration for designation as a National Historic Landmark, dating 7,500 – 8,000 years ago, and comprising the oldest-known human burial site in the state; and

**WHEREAS,** the construction of Lock and Damn No. 4 of the Red River Water Way, by the Vicksburg District of the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE), permanently has raised the level of Loggy Bayou, and consequently, the Conly Site is actively being destroyed by inundation and geochemical change, resulting in the exposure and destruction of human remains, habitation features and artifacts; and


**WHEREAS,** the COE and the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) disagree that the COE's undertaking has caused an adverse effect under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; the state arguing that it has, and the COE that it has not; and

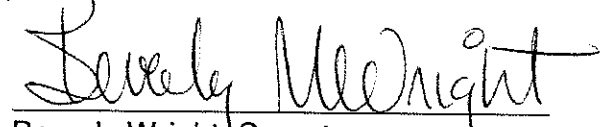
**WHEREAS,** Robert Cast, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and Archaeologist for the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma and Kenneth H. Carleton, THPO and Archaeologist for the Mississippi Choctaw, concur with the Louisiana SHPO that the destruction at the Conly Site is an adverse effect of the construction of Lock and Damn No. 4 of the Red River Water Way; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors urges the Corps of Engineers, at its highest level, to work with the tribes, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Louisiana SHPO, other interested state and federal agencies, and the land owner to devise a plan to permanently preserve or mitigate the adverse effects to the Conly Site, a nationally significant Indian cultural site.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Miami, FL, on Thursday, October 25, 2001.

  
Keller George, President  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

  
Beverly Wright, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*