



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
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**USET Resolution No. 2010:028**

**FEDERAL COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 106 CONSULTATIONS  
RESPONSIBILITIES ON THE MISSISSIPPI CANYON OIL SPILL**

- 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,** on April 20, 2010, an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon offshore deepwater drilling rig, under lease to BP p.l.c., destroyed the rig and led to the worst oil spill in United States history; the oil spill is of unknown size but is already at least tens of millions of gallons of oil and has or will affect the entire U.S. shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico either directly or indirectly; it has the potential to effect the Atlantic Coast line of the U.S. as well; thus far oil has made land-fall in the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Coast Guard has been named the Lead Agency for the effort to stop the oil leaking from the deep-sea well and for the clean-up of the oil in the waters and the oil which comes ashore; and
- WHEREAS,** the clean-up of oil has the potential to disturb or destroy American Indian/Alaska Native archaeological and/or cultural resource sites both directly through removal of the oil and/or indirectly due to other clean-up activities such as road building, staging areas for equipment, personnel and related response efforts; and
- WHEREAS,** there has only been one direct contact to Indian Tribes from the U.S. Coast Guard to date in the form of a letter which stated that they were the lead agency for the oil spill clean-up process; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon on the U.S. Coast Guard to fully comply with their legal responsibilities to initiate consultation directly on a government to government basis with Indian Tribes in all stages of the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors further calls on the United States Coast Guard to fully comply with their legal responsibilities to identify historic properties, both those already known and those unknown, that may be affected by their actions to clean up the oil in the waters and on federal, state and private land.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mobile, AL, on Thursday, June 17, 2010.

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

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