



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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Resolution No. USET 2000:14

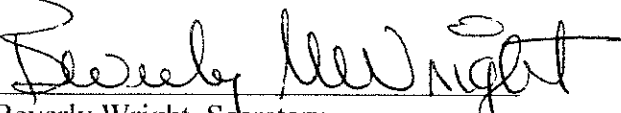
### PROTECTION OF SACRED AND CULTURAL SITE INFORMATION

- WHEREAS**, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprising twenty-three (23) 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 National Park Service awarded a grant to the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma for the creation of an informational system, to be available on the Internet, regarding the aboriginal and historic locations of federally recognized Tribes in the contiguous forty-eight states; and
- WHEREAS**, this system will provide site sensitive maps which will purport to indicate aboriginal or historically occupied areas of American Indian Tribes; and
- WHEREAS**, by use of this system, an agency or others would have ready access to sensitive information that may or may not be accurate nor serve the best interests of a Tribe(s); and
- WHEREAS**, USET strongly objects to the National Park Service award of a grant which will make available to the general public site sensitive information which would identify a federal tribe's sacred and cultural sites; and
- WHEREAS**, the court claims maps are not applicable to many, if not most American Indian Tribes, nor do treaties always accurately define tribal, historical or aboriginal boundaries; and
- WHEREAS**, this is an intrusion into a tribe's inherent right to protect and care for these sacred and cultural sites; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED**, that the USET Board of Directors requests that the National Park Service and the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma cease their efforts to have tribes identify areas, aboriginal and historical, as this forces a premature and unwarranted declaration of tribal interests and limits any pending or future land claim or other legal action; be it further
- RESOLVED** that this information is kept from becoming public record, with each tribe using their authority as a sovereign nation to protect and preserve their past, present and future sacred sites and traditional cultural properties, which are an integral part of who we are as a people, and is shared only at the discretion of a tribe.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Board of Directors Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Verona, NY Thursday, October 28, 1999.

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

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

*“Because there is strength in Unity”*