SUPPORT OF A MINIMUM BUFFER ZONE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal 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 comprises delegates from the member Tribes’ leadership; and

WHEREAS, the protection of human remains, associated grave goods, sacred sites, and historic properties are of critical importance to the USET member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the encroachments of development are so constant as to pose a continuous threat to these sites; and

WHEREAS, the determination of the physical parameters of such sites has been made almost entirely by archaeologists and others not representing the cultural concerns of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, it is the position of USET that the protection of such sites requires the establishment of standardized site buffer zones, in order to protect the physical and visual integrity of such sites; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that USET considers that a buffer of 35 meters constitutes the minimum distance necessary to maintain the integrity of a cultural site; and, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED that this distance should be established as a radius measured from the outside perimeter of the site, as defined by standard archaeological procedures.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present in Marksville, LA, on Thursday, May 24, 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"