

## United South and Eastern Tribes, inc.

## USET Resolution No. 2002:048

## PITHLACHOCCO/NEWNAN'S LAKE

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 comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and

whereas, in Alachua County, FL, Newnan's Lake or *Pithlachocco* ("the home of the long boats") has been found to contain the single largest cache of Indian dugout canoes in the world, including at least 120 boats ranging in age up to 5,000 years; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2001:05, the USET Board of Directors called upon the State of Florida to protect this irreplaceable material culture heritage; and

WHEREAS, despite the objections of USET, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) once again proposes to permit destructive activities on this lake, and

WHEREAS, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has failed to defend these rare artifacts; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors calls upon the FDEP and the SHPO to act swiftly in order to secure the full protection of this lake and its rare canoes by placing it permanently off limits to earth-disturbing activities of any kind.

## **CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., Thursday, January 31, 2002.

Keller George, President

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly M. Wright, Secretary

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