



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

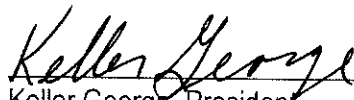
USET Resolution No. 2002:076

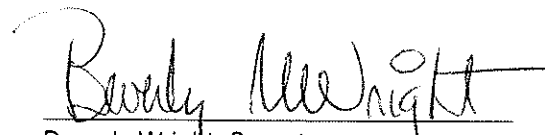
NARRAGANSETT TRIBE AND THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

- 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,** the Narragansett Indian Tribe, through its Tribal Historic Preservation Office, has sought a cooperative working agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), for the sole purpose of acquiring, protecting, and managing a parcel of land in the state of Rhode Island known as the Great Salt Pond Refuge; and
- WHEREAS,** this property is an ancestral habitation and ceremonial area of the Narragansett Indian Tribe, known to contain human remains, and archaeologically confirmed as such; and
- WHEREAS,** the US Senator from Rhode Island, Jack Reed, sponsored an earmarked appropriation of \$500,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2002, expressly for the purpose of acquisition of this land, but these monies were not appropriated; and
- WHEREAS,** the USFWS has neither adequately defended nor explained this failure in the appropriation process; indicating, rather, that the National Park Service may provide a more appropriate venue for the preservation of this important parcel; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors calls upon the USFWS to resubmit the earmarked funding proposal and to work with the Narragansett Indian Tribe, in a good-faith effort either to secure the funding for this project or to see to it that the funding is secured through a federal agency of comparable interests, such as the National Park Service, in order that this irreplaceable part of Narragansett Indian history may be adequately preserved and protected.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.


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


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