



## UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

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USET Resolution No. 2005:034

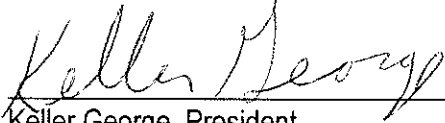
### SUPPORT OF THE PENOBSCOT RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

- 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 Penobscot Nation is a member-in-good-standing of USET; and
- WHEREAS,** the Penobscot Nation has entered into an agreement with the Federal Government, the State of Maine, American Rivers, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Audubon Society, Trout Unlimited, the Natural Resources Council of Maine and Pennsylvania Power and Light to purchase, decommission and remove the Veazie and Great Works Dams and to remove or bypass the Howland Dam, for purposes of native fisheries restoration in the Penobscot River watershed; and
- WHEREAS,** the Penobscot Nation has joined with the American Rivers, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Audubon Society, Trout Unlimited and the Natural Resources Council of Maine, to form the Penobscot River Restoration Trust (PRRT) to carry out the dam removals and/or bypass; and
- WHEREAS,** the environmental and natural resources mission of each entity within the PRRT reflects a common goal and complements the Tribal traditional, natural and spiritual value of life; and
- WHEREAS,** the PRRT has estimated the cost of the Penobscot River Restoration Project to be \$50 million; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Congress has made a fiscal year 2005 appropriation of \$991 thousand to begin the process of purchasing the dams for removal and/or bypass; and
- WHEREAS,** the removal and/or bypass of these dams on the Penobscot River, the home of the Penobscot Nation, a riverine Tribe, is a major task and warrants considerable cooperation of all entities, governments and organizations; and
- WHEREAS,** this partnership of federal, state and tribal governments, natural resources and environmental organizations and the hydropower industry is of national and international significance and importance to Indian Country; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors commends and supports the Penobscot Nation in its efforts to restore the native fisheries to the Penobscot River watershed; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors supports this precedent setting agreement among governments, natural resource and environmental organizations and the hydropower industry in this historic river restoration agreement; and, be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the USET Board of Directors calls on the United States Congress to provide additional federal appropriations needed to purchase the Veazie, Great Works and Howland Dams and to implement and carryout the Penobscot River Restoration Project.

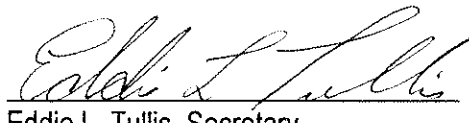
*“Because there is strength in Unity”*

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, Thursday, February 10, 2005.



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



Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.