

AGNES GONZALEZ
TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON

IDA RIGGINS
VICE CHAIRPERSON

JOLIE GEORGE
TRIBAL SECRETARY



BRANDY MCDANIELS
TRIBAL TREASURER

RUSSELL ELECK
RECORDING SECRETARY

ANDREW MIKE
SERGEANT AT ARMS

ELEVEN AUTONOMOUS BANDS

36970 Park Ave

Burney CA 96013

Phone: (530) 335-5421

RESOLUTION NO: 22-05-03

DATE: MAY 27, 2022

SUBJECT: MEDICINE LAKE NATIONAL MONUMENT CAMPAIGN RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting efforts to pursue “National Monument” status for sacred Medicine Lake Highlands and authorizing Brandy McDaniels to serve as the tribal liaison to work with the Medicine Lake Working Group, the Stanford Environmental Law Clinic, the Resources Legacy Fund, and Wild Spaces on those efforts

WHEREAS: the Pit River of California (includes the XL Ranch, Big Bend, Likely, Lookout, Montgomery Creek and Roaring Creek Rancherias) is a federally recognized Indian tribe organized under Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), codified at 25 U.S.C. 476, et seq., as amended, by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378); and

WHEREAS: the Pit River Tribe, California (“Tribe”) is composed of eleven autonomous bands located in Northeastern California since time immemorial as follows: 1) Atwamsini, 2) Atsugewi, 3) Astarawi, 4) Aporige, 5) Ajumawi, 6) Hewisedawi 7) Illmawi, 8) Itsatawi, 9) Kosealekte, 10) Hammawi, and 11) Madesi; and

WHEREAS: the Tribe is represented and governed by the Pit River Tribal Council (“COUNCIL”), a body who is duly elected under the Constitution of the Pit River Tribe, adopted on Sunday, 16 August 1987, and approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior-Indian Affairs, on Thursday, 3 December 1987; and

WHEREAS: the Council is empowered by Articles VII of the Constitution to enact all ordinances and resolutions, which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into effect the tribal council’s powers and responsibilities, contracting with federal, state and tribal agencies, private enterprises, individuals and organizations; and

WHEREAS: the area of the Medicine Lake Highlands is highly significant to the cultural and religious ways of the TRIBE as a whole; and

WHEREAS: geothermal development would ultimately threaten the underlying aquifer, which is California’s largest pure spring system and flows into the Fall River, which joins the Pit River and winds into the Sacramento River before reaching the San Francisco Bay; and

MADESI

ATWAMSINI

ATSUGEWI

ASTARAWI

APORIGE

AJUMAWI

HAMMAWI

HEWISEDAWI

ILLMAWI

ITSATAWI

KOSEALEKTE

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A I W A M S I N I

A I S U G E W I

A S I A K A W I

A F U K I G E

A J U M A W I

H A M M A W I

H E W I S E D A W I

I L L M A W I

I S A I A W I

K O S E A L E K I E

WHEREAS: geothermal development would require injection of large amounts to toxins, such as arsenic, mercury and hydrogen sulfide that are known to cause cancer or birth defects; and

WHEREAS: geothermal development would have devastating impact on the habitats of animals and migration routes; on the trees and plants and on the visual and air quality; and

WHEREAS: environmental analysis has determined that the Medicine Lake Highlands are not commercially developable and historic preservation documents state unequivocally that impacts of geothermal projects on Native American cultural values in the Medicine Lake Highlands would be significant and adverse; and

WHEREAS: the Medicine Lake Highlands as a whole have been designated as a Traditional Cultural District that is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS: under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the United States and all its agencies must obtain the free, prior and informed consent before the approval of any geothermal development that so profoundly affects our lands, territories and Sacred Waters; and

WHEREAS: the TRIBE has pursued appropriate litigation against federal agencies and lessees in order to protect the Medicine Lake Highlands from geothermal development; and

WHEREAS: such litigation has been successful to date in invalidating certain geothermal leases and two proposed geothermal development projects but will not necessarily ensure that the area is permanently protected from development; and

WHEREAS: the TRIBE desires to move forward with opportunities to permanently remove the Medicine Lake Highlands from development and to create long-term protection for the area; and

WHEREAS: in taking this additional action, the TRIBE wishes to continue collaborating with the existing Medicine Lake Working Group and the Stanford Environmental Law Clinic and to partner with the Resources Legacy Fund and Wild Spaces,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the COUNCIL authorizes Brandy McDaniels to act as the TRIBE’s liaison, through her current role as the TRIBE’s representative on the Medicine Lake Working Group, in a new campaign to pursue National Monument status for the Medicine Lake Highlands, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the COUNCIL authorizes the Stanford Environmental Law Clinic to serve as a legal consultant to the TRIBE in connection with this campaign an to coordinate these campaign efforts with the ongoing federal court litigation and potential settlement of that litigation.

MADESI

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C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

I, the under-signed Tribal Chairperson, Agnes Gonzalez of the Pit River Tribe, do hereby certify the Pit River Tribal Council is composed of eleven autonomous bands of which 11 were present, constituting a quorum at a regular scheduled, noticed, convened and held meeting this May 27, 2022, and 11 Tribal Council present, to approve this resolution adopted by a vote of 7 yes 0 no 4 abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded in any way.

Agnes Gonzalez 5-27-22
 Agnes Gonzalez, Tribal Chairperson Date

Jolie George 5-27-2022
 Jolie George, Tribal Secretary Date

Tribal Council Member Signatures:

Ajumawi: [Signature] Date: 5/27/22

Aporige: [Signature] Date: 5-27-22

Astarawi: _____ Date: _____

Atsugewi: [Signature] Date: 5/27/2022

Atwamsini: [Signature] Date: 5.27.2022

Hammawi: [Signature] Date: 5/27/22

Hewisedawi: [Signature] Date: 5/27/22

Illmawi: [Signature] Date: 5-27-2022

Itsatawi: _____ Date: _____

Kosealekte: _____ Date: _____

Madesi: _____ Date: _____

MADESI

AIWAMSINI

ATSUGEWI

ASTARAWI

AFORIGE

AJUMAWI

HAMMAWI

HEWISEDAWI

ILLMAWI

ITSATAWI

KOSEALEKTE