



ANB – ANS
JUNEAU, ALASKA – September 2015

Resolution #15-

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Title: Providing Restitution for damages to allottees harmed by actions of the Forest Service

WHEREAS, during the 1940s, a new concept of Native rights was adopted by the Department of the Interior. This was an interpretation of possessory rights giving to the Indians lands or waters on which their ancestors had hunted or fished; these would include virtually all of southeastern Alaska; and

WHEREAS, several land laws were passed with application to Indian rights. Indians were entitled to take up land under the Forest Homestead Act of June 11, 1906. In addition, an act of May 7, 1906, permitted the Secretary of the Interior to make allotments of up to 160 acres to Indian family heads. No money was appropriated, however, to carry on the survey work; and

WHEREAS, a Tongass timber bill was introduced into Congress that provided that the Secretary of Agriculture might make contracts for timber sales but that receipts from the sales be put in a special fund to remain untouched until the issue of Native claims was settled was passed on July 27, 1947; and

WHEREAS, due to the Homestead Acts and the Wheeler Howard Act, thousands of Alaska Natives applied for Native allotments; and

WHEREAS, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Forest Service worked to deny or ignore these application, thousands of denied and ignored applications were ordered to be reopened and reviewed; and

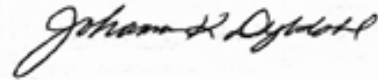
WHEREAS, in the interim the Forest Service allowed for taking of resources and damaged the allotments that were later reviewed and awarded to applicants or their descendants; and

WHEREAS, these claims are eligible for restitution for the taking of resources and damage to the allotments under the 1947 Tongass Timber Bill and Pursuant to Federal law (25 USC, Section 3106(a);

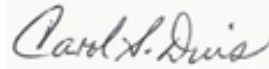
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANS Camp 2 and the ANB & ANS Camp 70, assembled in a joint meeting in September 2015, request Grand Camp assembled in October 2015, the Centennial Year of the ANS, support allotment stakeholder's claims for damages to allotments, from the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs



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