



ANB – ANS
JUNEAU, ALASKA – September 2015

PROPOSED RESOLUTION GC 2015 - 30

Title: Alaska Native Sisterhood in Opposition of Herbicide/Pesticide Spraying within Customary and Traditional areas on Prince of Wales Island

WHEREAS, the planned use of herbicides/pesticides by the Alaska Department of Transportation along Prince of Wales Island's roads and highways is a subject of great concern amongst the members of the Alaska Native Sisterhood; and

WHEREAS, public and private lands and waterways adjacent to Prince of Wales Island's roadways provide habitat for fish, wildlife, berries, and other natural resources that Prince of Wales Island's residents rely on for food, economic security, and cultural sustenance; and

WHEREAS, the abundance of surface water and rain in Prince of Wales Island leads Alaska Native Sisterhood members to conclude that herbicides/pesticides applied on Prince of Wales Island will inevitably find their way into fish-bearing streams and lakes through, including, but not limited to, spraying on stream banks that may leach toxins into the waters, spraying above groundwater and water well resources, and treated roadsides; and

WHEREAS, members rely on fish harvested from Prince of Wales Island's waterways and demand that such fish be free of contaminants; and

WHEREAS, the reputation of Alaska's fish as uncontaminated is key to the ability of Prince of Wales Island's commercial fishermen to successfully market their catch, and herbicide/pesticide runoff threatens the reputation of Alaska fish as pristine; and

WHEREAS, the risks involving the use of herbicides/pesticides and the possible harmful effects on Prince of Wales Island's Traditional way of life outweighs the cost effectiveness of the State of Alaska spraying herbicides/pesticides; and

WHEREAS, the public roadsides involved are Prince of Wales Island's road system and the Alaska State Scenic Byway; and

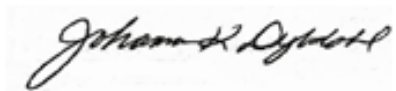
WHEREAS, Alaska Native Sisterhood members believe that herbicides/pesticides should only be used when mechanical and non-chemical methods have been exhausted, and even then, only after public consultation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood in Grand Camp assembled in October 2015, the Centennial Year of the ANS, is in opposition of Herbicide/Pesticide Spraying within Customary and Traditional areas on Prince of Wales Island.

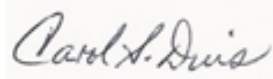
NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Alaska Native Sisterhood urges the State of Alaska to amend its regulations covering the use of herbicides/pesticides on Prince of Wales Island in order to allow for public comment and consultation with communities prior to spraying and to ensure adequate protections for Prince of Wales Island fish and waterways



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