



ANB/ANS Grand Camp

Ketchikan, AK October 2018



Resolution 18-03

Title: **Protect Transboundary Rivers**

WHEREAS, The transboundary rivers of the Northwest British Columbia and Southeast Alaska region, including the Taku, Stikine and Unuk rivers, are of tremendous and unique ecological, cultural, and recreational value and are some of the most productive salmon rivers on the entire North American west coast; and,

WHEREAS, Mining and power generating projects can produce toxins that affect water quality, and industrial development upstream in British Columbia may harm us in Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, Protecting waters is a responsibility of federal and tribal governments, who must work together in order to address threats of pollution and damage from accidents, spills, dam breaches, acid mine drainage, and habitat fragmentation; and

WHEREAS, The Boundary Waters Treaty states “waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other” and provides a mechanism to address transboundary river concerns, known as the International Joint Commission;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, The Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood, in Grand Camp assembled in October 2018, urge Alaska Native tribes, First Nations Groups, Alaska Native organizations, and the State of Alaska to work together to encourage federal, state, and local action to eliminate pollution and ensure Southeast Alaska and Canadian watersheds remain free of pollution thus protecting fish and wildlife, drinking water, and human health, to insist on an enforceable agreement, and to urge Alaska’s Congressional delegation to seek international oversight of transboundary mining under the Boundary Waters Treaty to ensure mining in Canada doesn’t harm Alaska’s waters and communities.

/s/ Sasha Soboleff, Grand President,
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Cecelia Tavoliero, Grand President
Alaska Native Sisterhood

/s/ James A. Llanos Jr, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Brotherhood

/s/ Carol Duis, Grand Secretary
Alaska Native Sisterhood