



CENTRAL COUNCIL
Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Edward K. Thomas Building
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT AND HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA
Eighty-First Annual Tribal Assembly
April 20-22, 2016
Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA/ 16-22

Title: Request the State of Alaska to Cap the Sitka Sound Sac Roe Fishery Harvest Rate at 10% and Develop an Integrated Ecosystem Based Management Plan

By: Sitka Tlingit and Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Central Council) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 30,000 tribal citizens; and

WHEREAS, the customary and traditional, i.e. subsistence, gathering and harvesting of herring eggs constitute our nutritional, spiritual, and is a cultural foundation for Central Council tribal citizens since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971, addressing Alaska Native claims to ownership of Alaska's lands, based on "aboriginal use and occupancy"; and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act (ANILCA) TITLE VIII enacting Federal legislation granting subsistence priority for rural residents over the priority harvest of all fish and game; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska continues to aggressively promote, enhance and develop their own fish policies, procedures and management that vigorously attempt to extinguish our aboriginal way of life; and

WHEREAS the subsistence use of herring eggs is a statewide tradition for Alaska Natives, as eggs are shipped throughout the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, herring are the life support of our ecosystem, nourishing the salmon, halibut, and marine mammals we depend on; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Division of Subsistence has documented that in six out of the last 14 years, the amount necessary for subsistence, herring egg harvest needs have not been met; and

WHEREAS, the Sitka Tribe of Alaska has worked many years to ensure the cultural and traditional harvest of herring eggs has both reasonable access and levels for subsistence in the Sitka Sound area; and

WHEREAS, despite extensive efforts by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska to utilize administrative processes, through the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Department of Fish & Game, to amend the

way the Sitka Sound area herring stock is managed, historically risky management practices that primarily benefit the commercial sac roe industry remain in place; and

WHEREAS, the existing single species model used to manage the Sitka Sound herring stock fails to take into account the actual ocean survival of juvenile herring and is slow to react to decreases in survival rate brought on by increased predation from the growing humpback whale population in Alaska and the effects of changing ocean conditions caused by climate change.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-First Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska convened in Juneau, Alaska on April 20-22, 2016, requests the State of Alaska cap the Sitka Sound Sac Roe Fishery harvest rate at 10% and begin managing the Sitka Sound herring stock under an integrated ecosystem based management plan.

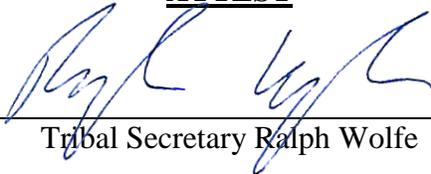
ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2016, by the Eighty-First Tribal Assembly of Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Ralph Wolfe