

PROTECT HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TCC REGION VILLAGE RESIDENTS

- WHEREAS,** Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is an Alaska Native tribal health and social services consortium established by the Interior Alaska tribes and tribal communities, to provide a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development and culture of the Interior Alaska Native; and
- WHEREAS,** Alaska Natives have been stewards of the land, animals, fish, and birds and honor each with respect, care, and not wasting any part of the animal, fish, bird, and plant; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal stewardship of fish and wildlife is essential to all Tribal communities in Alaska for food security, food sovereignty, community well-being, and cultural identity; and
- WHEREAS,** An increase of outside hunters visiting our traditional local hunting areas limits the opportunity for local resident hunters, leading to less food for village residents including elders; and
- WHEREAS,** TCC villages utilize their Native corporation lands, Native Allotment lands, Bureau of Land Management lands, and National Wildlife Refuge lands; and
- WHEREAS,** The practice of hunters not properly caring for meat in a timely way and allowing it to spoil occurs too often; and
- WHEREAS,** Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Title VIII, Section 801 states, "The Congress finds and declares that— (1) the continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses by rural residents of Alaska, including both Natives and non-Natives, on the public lands and by Alaska Natives on Native lands is essential to Native physical, economic, traditional, and cultural existence and to non-Native physical, economic, traditional, and social existence; and (2) the situation in Alaska is unique in that, in most cases, no practical alternative means are available to replace the food supplies and other items gathered from fish and wildlife which supply rural residents dependent on subsistence uses. . . ."; and
- WHEREAS,** Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Title VIII, Section 804 states, "Except as otherwise provided in this Act and other Federal laws, the taking on public lands of fish and wildlife for nonwasteful subsistence uses shall be accorded priority over the taking on such lands of fish and wildlife for other purposes. Whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of populations of fish and wildlife

on such lands for subsistence uses in order to protect the continued viability of such populations, or to continue such uses, such priority shall be implemented through appropriate limitations based on the application of the following criteria:

- (1) customary and direct dependence upon the populations as the mainstay of livelihood;
- (2) local residency; and
- (3) the availability of alternative resources"; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Natives and tribal citizens continue to be criminalized in practicing our ancestral tribal ways of life when tribal customs are in conflict with state and federal regulations, while trespassers and urban residents face only slaps on the wrist.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors directs staff to advocate and consult with the Federal Subsistence Board, Office of Subsistence Management, Alaska U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game on tribal co-management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors directs staff to pursue funding to establish Natural Resource Protection officers to patrol Native lands, expel trespassers, and document hunting-fishing-trapping violations to be reported to state and federal officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors directs staff to advocate and request village corporations and Doyon, Limited take appropriate action in protecting their lands from trespassers.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this resolution was duly passed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors on March 16, 2022 at Fairbanks, Alaska and a quorum was duly established.



Charlie Wright
Secretary/Treasurer

Beaver Village Council

References:



FINAL RESOLUTION 2022 - 02
Tanana Chiefs Conference Full Board of Directors



State of Alaska. *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act; PUBLIC LAW 96-487 - DEC. 2, 1980.* PDF file. December 2, 1980.

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/opmp/anilca/pdf/PublicLaw-96-487.pdf>

State of Alaska. *Field-to-Freezer Meat Care.* February 2, 2022.

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=hunting.meatcare>

AS 16.30.010.