



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE
CENTRAL COUNCIL OF THE TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 26-84

Title: Authorization to Apply for the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's
Pacific Salmon Coastal Recovery Fund

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 38,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Tlingit & Haida Constitution, the Executive Council is the governing body of Tlingit & Haida when the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Lingít (Tlingit) and ȷaadás (Haida) peoples have stewarded the salmon-bearing rivers, estuaries, and marine ecosystems of Southeast Alaska since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, Pacific salmon are foundational to the cultural identity, subsistence way of life, food sovereignty, economic well-being, and self-determination of Southeast Alaska Tribal communities; and

WHEREAS, salmon populations throughout the Gulf of Alaska and Southeast Alaska have experienced long-term declines and increasing environmental pressures associated with climate change, marine heatwaves, changing ocean conditions, altered hydrology, habitat degradation, and cumulative ecosystem impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Alaska Chinook Salmon Status Review (2026), Alaska Salmon Research Task Force Final Report and Recommendations (2024), Southeast Alaska watershed resilience and climate adaptation studies, and other recent scientific assessments have identified the need for expanded monitoring, climate adaptation planning, Indigenous Knowledge, habitat conservation, and increased Tribal leadership in salmon recovery and fisheries management; and



WHEREAS, Southeast Alaska Tribes possess generations of Indigenous Knowledge regarding salmon abundance, habitat conditions, watershed stewardship, environmental change, and sustainable fisheries management, yet often face capacity limitations that constrain participation in fisheries conservation, recovery planning, monitoring programs, and policy development; and

WHEREAS, the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) provides competitive funding to support Tribal governments and Tribal-serving organizations in advancing marine stewardship, climate resilience, Indigenous knowledge integration, fisheries and coastal resource management, food sovereignty, habitat conservation, community engagement, and Tribal participation in natural resource governance; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida seeks to establish a dedicated Tribal fisheries program to support salmon recovery, fisheries monitoring, restoration planning, Indigenous stewardship, youth workforce development, and Tribal engagement in fisheries governance throughout Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida intends to seek approximately \$3.3 million over a five-year period from PCSRF and such funding includes the full amount of Tlingit & Haida's federally negotiated indirect cost rate; and

WHEREAS funds would be used to support implementation of the Southeast Alaska Salmon Resiliency Initiative, including personnel, community engagement, monitoring, youth workforce development, restoration planning, strategic planning implementation, and Tribal stewardship activities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Southeast Alaska Salmon Resiliency Initiative will establish a Regional Fisheries Coordinator position, support a Stewardship Policy and Research position and youth internships within Tlingit & Haida's Indigenous Stewardship Program to support salmon recovery planning, monitoring coordination, Indigenous Knowledge integration, restoration project development, Tribal engagement, and intergovernmental collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the project will support development of a regional tribally led network and strengthen ocean and fisheries partnerships among Southeast Alaska Tribes, Tribal organizations, federal and state agencies, academic institutions, First Nations, commercial and subsistence fishing communities, and conservation partners; and

WHEREAS, the project will expand community-based fisheries stewardship and monitoring through collaboration with the Seacoast Indigenous Guardians Network and Traditional Food Security teams by creating opportunities for Tribal citizens to participate directly in fisheries monitoring, habitat assessments, climate adaptation planning, and watershed stewardship activities; and

WHEREAS, the project will support the Alaska Youth Stewards initiative through the establishment of annual internships, workforce development opportunities, mentorship programs, and youth engagement activities designed to cultivate the next generation of Indigenous fisheries professionals and stewardship leaders; and

WHEREAS, the project will identify priority watersheds, monitoring needs, climate vulnerabilities, and habitat restoration opportunities affecting Chinook and other Pacific salmon populations important to Southeast Alaska Tribes, thereby creating a pipeline of future habitat restoration and salmon recovery projects; and

WHEREAS, the project will advance planning and preparedness for future Pacific Salmon Treaty discussions and transboundary fisheries management issues affecting the Taku, Stikine, Unuk, and other Southeast Alaska salmon-producing watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the project directly supports Tlingit & Haida's strategic priorities related to Indigenous stewardship, fisheries governance, climate resilience, food sovereignty, youth leadership development, Tribal self-determination, and the long-term sustainability of culturally important salmon populations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby authorizes the President of Tlingit & Haida, or designee, to submit, negotiate, execute, and administer any and all applications, agreements, contracts, amendments, and related documents necessary to secure and administer funding for the Southeast Alaska Salmon Resiliency Initiative; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, if awarded under acceptable terms, Tlingit & Haida will execute and administer the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration program to implement the Tribe's Southeast Salmon Resiliency Initiative.

ADOPTED this 29th day of June 2026, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 1 absence.

CERTIFY


President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST


Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata