



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

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Executive Council of the Central Council  
TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 24-35

Title: Authorization to Apply for U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation America the Beautiful Challenge

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 37,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Article X of 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, our lands and waters are of tremendous and unique cultural, ecological, subsistence, economic, and recreational value; and

WHEREAS, the conservation and restoration of our traditional lands and waters is crucial to maintaining our way of life and is an expression of our sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida's Stewardship Department programs, including the Seacoast Indigenous Guardians Network (SIGN), create opportunities for the collaboration of Southeast Alaska Native communities, Tribal governments, federal government agencies and non-government agencies in efforts to conserve, connect, and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife upon which we all depend; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Tlingit & Haida's Stewardship programs are to support Alaska Native communities in expressing their inherent sovereignty by applying their traditional knowledge and sustainable ways of living to monitor, protect, restore, and manage their homelands and waters; and

WHEREAS, through these services, we enhance our Tribal capacity for the co-management of Alaska Native homelands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has announced the availability of \$119,000,000 in funding through the America the Beautiful Challenge for projects that seek to restore lands, waters, and wildlife, through anticipated cooperative agreements from the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service, and matches are covered by Native Americans in Philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is eligible to apply for up to \$2,000,000 to develop co-stewardship programs that foster workforce development, tribal capacity, climate adaptation and restoration projects throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is further eligible to apply for up to \$1,500,000 of funding for National Forest Grants to bolster our collaborative efforts with the U.S. Forest Service to carry out restoration projects on National Forest System land, while taking part in the planning and development of the new Tongass Forest Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida intends to apply for up to \$3,500,000 in funds from the U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to support our Stewardship Department programs and the ongoing work to steward our traditional homelands and waters;

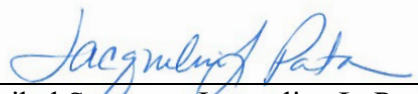
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby authorizes the Tlingit & Haida President, or designee, to submit, negotiate, execute, and administer any and all documents, including any subsequent amendments, that are required by the U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and partners for granting funds to Tlingit & Haida for the proposed America the Beautiful Challenge projects.

ADOPTED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2024, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

**CERTIFY**

  
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President Richard J. Peterson

**ATTEST**

  
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Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata