



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

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

Resolution EC 25-72

Title: Acceptance and Review of Title 11, Chapter 04 – Rights of Transboundary Rivers

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, 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, Tlingit & Haida has historically prioritized the protection and stewardship of its lands, waters, and natural and cultural resources in alignment with its inherent sovereignty and the traditional values of Haa Kusti and Tlagw íitl' xínangaa Gíidang; and

WHEREAS, the Ninetieth Tribal Assembly recognizes the importance of safeguarding the transboundary rivers that are fundamental to Tlingit & Haida's way of life, cultural identity, and food sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, the Eighty-Ninth Tribal Assembly previously adopted Resolution TA 24-18, directing the development of a draft statute to recognize the legal rights of transboundary rivers within Tlingit & Haida's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, in response to Resolution TA 24-18, Tlingit & Haida has developed Title 11, Chapter 04 – Rights of Transboundary Rivers, a proposed addition to the Tribal Code that enshrines legal personhood for transboundary rivers and establishes protections against degradation, pollution, and harm; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of Title 11, Chapter 04 requires careful review, consultation, and refinement to ensure that it is comprehensive, enforceable, and aligned with Tlingit & Haida's legal framework, traditional knowledge, and governmental authorities; and

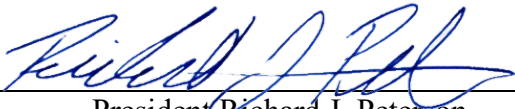
WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida has the inherent and sovereign right to enact and enforce its own laws to protect our homelands, waters, and natural resources from external threats, and must take decisive actions to defend our territories and well-being of our citizens; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby accepts the draft Title 11, Chapter 04 – Rights of Transboundary Rivers, and directs that it undergoes a comprehensive review process throughout the coming year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida shall establish a working group, inclusive of Delegates, legal and policy experts, culture bearers, and environmental advocates, to refine and finalize the statutory language for presentation at the Ninety-First Tribal Assembly in 2026 to ensure the statute reflects the collective wisdom and priorities of the Tribe.

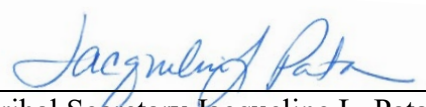
ADOPTED this 16th day of May 2025, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

CERTIFY



President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST



Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata