



**ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES
2015 ANNUAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION 15-2**

TITLE: CALL FOR ADVANCEMENT OF MEANINGFUL ALASKA NATIVE CO-MANAGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR ALL OF ALASKA

WHEREAS the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska, and its membership includes 165 federally-recognized tribes, 146 village corporations, 12 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run federal and state programs; and

WHEREAS the mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and

WHEREAS Alaska Native hunting and fishing practices, including the harvesting and sharing of fish, game, and other resources and the ceremonies that accompany these practices are essential to the social, cultural, spiritual, and economic wellbeing and survival of the Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS Alaska Natives have served as stewards for thousands of years maintaining healthy and productive ecosystems; and

WHEREAS Alaska Natives and their tribal governments, tribal consortiums, non-profits, and Corporations have immense knowledge, skills, and abilities to effectively and productively manage traditional fish and wildlife resources for the improvement of habitat and resource populations which will undoubtedly benefit all of Alaska; and

WHEREAS Alaska's current federal-state dual management is failing to adequately manage resources to meet the traditional and customary needs and practices of Alaska Native peoples; and

WHEREAS the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Alaska Congressional Delegation, and the Governor of Alaska have recognized that meaningful Alaska Native participation in the management of traditional wildlife resources can provide for improved health of ecosystems and fish and wildlife populations, and they have called for the advancement and increase in co-management in Alaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates of the 2015 AFN Annual Convention that AFN calls for the state of Alaska and the Department of Interior to provide for an Alaska Native equal role in management of traditional fish and wildlife resources through the advancement of an increase in implementation of co-management projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the policy of AFN until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

SUBMITTED BY:
COMMITTEE ACTION:
CONVENTION ACTION:

COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ALASKA NATIVES
PASSED
PASSED AS AMENDED



Julie Kitka

President