



Native Village of Eklutna

Tribal Government

Resolution 2019 -11

**Łiq'a nagh qinqtudel - We are hopeful the salmon will return to us.
Eklutna River Restoration and Vision**

NVE's Traditional Tribal Council supports, authorizes and advances the restoration and enhancement and cultural value of the Eklutna River ecosystem. (An affirmation and update to Native Village of Eklutna Resolution 2000-33.)

WHEREAS, Native Village of Eklutna is a distinct, independent political community and as such is qualified to exercise powers of self-governance by reason of its original tribal sovereignty as passed down from ancestors since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, *Idlughet Qayeht'ana* utilized their collective indigenous sovereign powers to re-organize into a Tribal Council form of government in 1961, named "*Native Village of Eklutna*" that is neither a profit nor non-profit corporation; and

WHEREAS, Native Village of Eklutna is a traditional tribal government recognized by citizens, tribes, ANCSA Corporations, and others; it is federally recognized as "*Eklutna Native Village*" by the United States in 26 U.S.C. section 7871, Indian Tribal Governmental Tax Status Act of 1982, confirmed by Congress in the 1994 Tribal List Act; and

WHEREAS, the *Constitution of Native Village of Eklutna*, approved by the Eklutna Tribal Membership on January 27, 1996, and amended on January 29, 2000, designates the Tribal Council as the governing body, with the sovereign powers of Eklutna vested in "*the Council*" including specific and general powers; and

WHEREAS, NVE Resolution 2000-33 declares that Eklutna River has provided nutritional and cultural benefit to Eklutna Dena'ina throughout time immemorial, but its productivity has been degraded in recent years. And Eklutnas' wish to restore the Eklutna River for fish and wildlife habitat, traditional subsistence uses, and sustainable natural resources development; and

WHEREAS, The 1991 Eklutna Snettisham Agreement was to address impacts on fish and wildlife from the Eklutna hydro-electric project and the project owners (the three area power companies) have initiated studies to advise mitigation of these impacts earlier than required in the Agreement; and

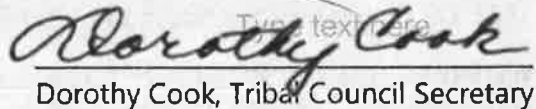
WHEREAS, NVE has conducted many such studies, and is working with others including Eklutna, Inc., resource management agencies, conservation organizations, and the power companies, to restore Eklutna River salmon runs by restoring water to the River from Eklutna Lake, where it is diverted for electricity generation (90%) and secondarily for Anchorage water needs (10%), leaving insufficient flows for salmon in eight miles of the river between Thunderbird Creek and the Lake, and access blocked to the lake, which once supported a run of red salmon and to the River above the lake. and

WHEREAS, the old lower Eklutna dam was removed last summer by Eklutna Services with major funding from The Conservation Fund allowing spawning salmon access to the lake in the advent or sufficient restored flows at rates to be informed by field research; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Native Village of Eklutna Traditional Tribal Council affirms supports, authorizes and advances studies to inform and to conduct restoration and enhancement of salmon habitat, and other processes to promote the natural productivity, cultural value, and appropriate uses of the Eklutna River. Łiq'a nagh qinqtudet - We are hopeful the salmon will return to us.

By a vote of 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent, this resolution was duly approved with a quorum established on this 29th day of October, 2019


Aaron Leggett, Tribal Council President


Dorothy Cook, Tribal Council Secretary