



## Organized Village of Kake

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**(Federally Recognized Tribal Government serving the Kake, Alaska area)**

Resolution No. 2017-31 – Support of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska’s proposal numbers: 99, 105 and 106 for Sitka Sound Herring Egg Harvest

- WHEREAS, the Organized Village of Kake (hereinafter OVK) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under federal law and is empowered under its *Constitution & By-Laws* to execute agreements and contracts with the United States to benefit its members; and,
- WHEREAS, OVK is organized pursuant to the authority of the Federal Indian Reorganization Acts (hereinafter IRA) of 1934 & 1936 with the IRA Council as the duly elected governing body formed under its *Constitution & By-Laws*; and,
- WHEREAS, The Lingit people of Southeast Alaska have harvested herring eggs for traditional uses since time immemorial and the importance of herring eggs to the Lingit people is well documented in their oral narratives, geographic place names, personal names, artwork and culture; and,
- WHEREAS, Lingit people from all over Southeast Alaska, regardless of their clan or Kwaan affiliations, harvest and receive herring eggs from Sitka Sound one of the only remaining places to harvest herring eggs and this food is an important item of traditional barter and trade throughout the state of Alaska; and,
- WHEREAS, The State of Alaska, Board of Fish released their 2018 predicted return of herring into Sitka Sound which is anticipated to be 55,637 tons, of which 11,128 tons would be commercial; and,
- WHEREAS, Considering the historical numbers of harvest over the years, the allowable 20% of the harvest of the herring biomass coming back to Sitka is proving to be unsustainable and will be fished out in a matter of years; and,
- WHEREAS, The Sitka Tribe of Alaska (hereinafter STA) has historically submitted proposals to ADF&G to conserve the herring population for a sustainable future for everyone, getting many tribes to support their efforts, that have included OVK; and,
- WHEREAS, STA’s proposal numbers 99, 105, and 106 to the State of Alaska’s Board of Fish address the concerns of dwindling herring biomass in the Sitka Sound region, with the long-term goal of increasing the number of herring that return to the region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the OVK IRA Council supports the Sitka Tribe of Alaska’s proposals to State of Alaska’s Board of Fish to ensure that the herring biomass is conserved at a rate of 10% maximum harvest, and to close two commercial harvest areas that were previously known as historical area of subsistence harvest so that herring can go back to those places and reproduce.

### CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly adopted at an IRA Council meeting held this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2017 by a quorum of 6 (includes president as non-voting chairperson except in case of tie vote) with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstaining.

Joel M. Jackson, President  
Joel Jackson, President

Patti Handy  
Attested by