

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: 8/2/21D

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE WISCONSIN FALL MA''IINGAN (WOLF) KILL AND ESTABLISHING A LITIGATION FUND

- WHEREAS: the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized under a constitution adopted April 18, 1936, and approved June 1, 1936, pursuant to Sec. 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, said Constitution having been amended by the Band on January 28, 1991, and said amendments approved by the Secretary on July 2, 1991, in accordance with the provisions of applicable federal law; and
- WHEREAS: the Tribal Council is the governing body of the Band; and
- WHEREAS: Ojibwe teachings instruct that Ma''iingan is a brother to Native people and that the health and survival of Ojibwe people will always be tied to that of Ma''iingan; and
- WHEREAS: the Red Cliff Band and all Wisconsin Ojibwe have been consistent and unified in their desire to protect the existing wolf populations both on their reservations and within the ceded territory; and
- WHEREAS: in March of 2019 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service removed Ma''iingan from the list of protected species, paving the way for a Wisconsin wolf kill in accordance with the requirements of state law; and
- WHEREAS: the Red Cliff Band and the other Wisconsin Ojibwe bands expressed their unified desire to protect Ma''iingan and declared half of the established quota in a further effort to protect Ma''iingan prior to the Spring of 2021 (February) Wisconsin wolf kill; and
- WHEREAS: the February 2021 Wisconsin Ma''iingan kill was an absolute disaster, with the State far exceeding the established total quota of 200 Ma''iingan and state-licensed hunters and trappers reported taking 218 wolves, 99 wolves (83%) more than the 119 wolf-quota set by the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board; and
- WHEREAS: the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has now notified the Tribes of a planned November 2021 wolf kill despite its inability to properly manage the February Ma''iingan kill; and
- WHEREAS: the Wisconsin Bands have once again declared half of the recommended total quota of 130 Ma''iingan in advance of the planned kill in a further effort to protect Ma''iingan; and
- WHEREAS: the Band has now joined in litigation with others against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in *Defenders of Wildlife et al v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service et*

al in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California in an effort to reverse the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's decision to remove Ma'iingan from the list of endangered species protected by federal law; and

WHEREAS: the Band expects additional litigation either on its own behalf or by third parties in connection with the planned November (Fall) Wisconsin Ma'iingan kill in the event that the *Defenders of Wildlife* suit is not successful; and

WHEREAS: the Band wishes to put itself in a position to move quickly in an effort to best situate itself in connection with litigation to protect Ma'iingan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Red Cliff Band restates its opposition to any state-sanctioned Ma'iingan kill whatsoever; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Band hereby establishes a litigation fund with an initial allocation of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from the Band's discretionary revenue fund; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED: that the Tribal Attorney is directed to work with outside counsel to develop a coordinated litigation strategy and report back to Tribal Council prior to filing or joining any state court litigation in advance of the planned Wisconsin November Ma'iingan kill.

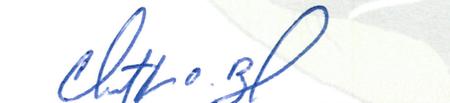
CERTIFICATION

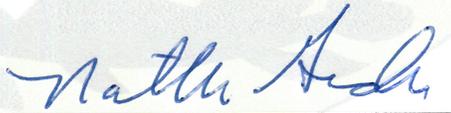
I, the undersigned Secretary of the Red Cliff Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the council is composed of nine members (9), of whom 9 were present at a meeting duly called, convened and held this 2nd day of August, 2021, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 8 members for, 0 against, and 0 members abstaining for the vote, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in anyway.



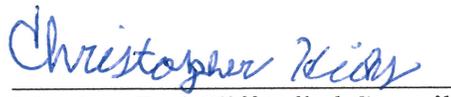
Laura J. Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council

AFFIRMED:



Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

Vince Busetto

Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

[Signature]

Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

