



INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA, INC.

680 GREENBRAE DR., SUITE 284 • SPARKS, NV 89431
P.O. BOX 7440 • RENO, NV 89510
PHONE (775) 355-0600 EX. 138 • FAX (775) 284-3407

RESOLUTION NO. 17-ITCN-19

RESOLUTION OF INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA, INC.

Support for Reform of the 1872 Mining Law to Protect Sacred Sites and Water Resources of the Great Basin Tribes (ITCN)

BATTLE MOUNTAIN
BAND COUNCIL
CARSON COLONY
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRESSERVILLE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DUCK VALLEY
SHOSHONE-PAIUTE
BUSINESS COUNCIL
DUCKWATER
SHOSHONE
TRIBAL COUNCIL
ELKO BAND
COUNCIL
ELY SHOSHONE
COUNCIL
FALLON BUSINESS
COUNCIL
FT. McDERMITT
PAIUTE-SHOSHONE
TRIBES
GOSHUTE BAND
COUNCIL
LAS VEGAS PAIUTE
TRIBAL COUNCIL
LOVELOCK TRIBAL
COUNCIL
MOAPA BUSINESS
COUNCIL
PYRAMID LAKE
TRIBAL COUNCIL
RENO/SPARKS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
SOUTH FORK
BAND COUNCIL
STEWART
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
SUMMIT LAKE
PAIUTE COUNCIL
TE-MOAK TRIBAL
COUNCIL
TIMBISHA SHOSHONE
TRIBE
WALKER RIVER
PAIUTE TRIBAL
COUNCIL
WASHOE TRIBAL
COUNCIL
WELLS BAND
COUNCIL
WINNEMUCCA
COLONY COUNCIL
WOODFORDS
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
YERINGTON PAIUTE
TRIBAL COUNCIL
YOMBA TRIBAL
COUNCIL

- WHEREAS,** the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., is organized and operates in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, amended November 1974; and
- WHEREAS,** the purpose of the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc. (ITCN), are stated in its Constitution, Preamble; and
- WHEREAS,** the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., Executive Board, a body comprised of the twenty-seven (27) elected representatives of the member tribes in the State of Nevada, and whose charter is ratified by these same tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., has continuing interest in the health, education and well-being of the Indian People; and
- WHEREAS,** the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., (ITCN) thoroughly acknowledges that tribes have a fiduciary and a trust relationship with the United States Federal Government and for this purpose; acknowledges that tribes have a government-to-government relationship with the State of Nevada and the United States Federal Government; and
- WHEREAS,** the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., (ITCN) recognizes there are social, economic and environmental impacts on Tribal Nations from the policies made by municipalities, county, state, and federal governments; and
- WHEREAS,** the Great Basin Tribes (ITCN) of Nevada are recognized tribes whose lands belong to Western Shoshone, Goshute, Washoe, Northern and Southern Paiute ancestral and territorial lands encompassing over 110,000 square miles delineated within the State of Nevada and outside of contiguous boundaries; and
- WHEREAS,** the Trust Responsibility of the United States Government to the Great Basin Tribes (ITCN) requires the Department of Interior to directly and actively consult with the tribal leaders of the Great Basin; and
- WHEREAS,** the Great Basin tribes (ITCN), as Indigenous People, hold extreme and solemn relations with the land, water, and animals; and

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- WHEREAS,** these traditional lands contain irreplaceable spiritual, religious, cultural and archaeological significance; and
- WHEREAS,** the Great basin tribes (ITCN) have never ceded lands to the United States Government; and
- WHEREAS,** the 1872 Mining Law was nearly written 150 years ago and still governs the mining of hardrock minerals such as gold, silver, copper, uranium and other metals; and
- WHEREAS,** the 1872 Mining Law favors hardrock mining over all other land uses, effectively limiting the ability of the Department of Interior to balance mining with competing uses, including the protection of sacred sites; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), hardrock mining is the number one source of toxic pollution and pollutes 40% of Western headwaters; and
- WHEREAS,** the 1872 Mining Law has insufficient environmental standards which do not adequately protect water or wildlife habitats; and
- WHEREAS,** current law creates no independent hardrock dedicated funding source to clean-up the estimated 500,000 abandoned mines in the United States, which threaten both public health and safety, and will cost an estimated \$50 billion dollars to clean-up, and
- WHEREAS,** the Great Basin tribes believe the 1872 Mining Law poses a serious threat to the Great Basin tribes land, water, cultural resources, traditional properties, and lifeways.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Great Basin tribes (ITCN) have been given the responsibility to be the Caretakers of their ancestral homelands and surrounding areas; in as such, call upon the Congress of the United States to pass robust legislative reform of the 1872 Mining Law and enter into direct and active government-to-government collaboration and consultation with Great Basin tribal leaders on all aspects of the 1872 Mining Law, including but not limited to monitoring/assessment on surface and groundwater contamination within all impacted watershed, air quality protection, human cell protection, meaningful consultation for religious, cultural, spiritual, traditional and sacred sites and properties, and the origin stores related thereto, environmental resources, radiological criteria and standards development, remediation, international peace agreements, environmental



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justice concerns, public health and safety, threatening and endangered species, cell-based life protection;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Great Basin tribes (ITCN) further resolve that reform of the 1872 Mining Law would facilitate the consultation described above and ease implementation of other Federal laws applicable to trust Federal lands which include mitigation of violations of the Native American Graves Repatriation Act, Freedom of Religion Act, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, National Environmental Protection Act, Public Lanes Protection Act, and National Wildlife Refuge Protection Act.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc.'s Executive Board, on the 26th day of September, 2019 by a vote 12 FOR; 0 AGAINST; and 0 ABSTENTIONS.


Chad Malone, Secretary
ITCN Executive Board

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