



2014 Winter Convention Ferndale, WA

RESOLUTION #14 - 08

“OPPOSING THE INTRODUCTION OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SALMON”

PREAMBLE

We the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, salmon is now and has always been central to the culture, religion and society of the ATNI and the Indian people of the Pacific Northwest, and the continued harvest of salmon is critical to maintaining the culture, society and religion of those Indian people; and

WHEREAS, salmon is an integral and important part of the subsistence and diet of the members of ATNI as well as Indian people of the Pacific Northwest and as a result Indian people

consume greater amounts of salmon than does the general public resulting in greater risk that Indian people will be adversely affected by any impact of genetically engineered salmon; and

WHEREAS, Indian people engage in salmon harvest as part of their federally protected right to take fish reserved in treaties negotiated between Indian tribes and bands and the United States, and the introduction of genetically engineered salmon will likely adversely affect this treaty right to take fish; and

WHEREAS, should genetically engineered salmon escape into the wild habitat, those genetically engineered salmon will adversely affect wild salmon, salmon upon which Indian people are dependent, by, at a minimum: competing with wild salmon for food and rearing locations, and by inbreeding with wild salmon which could result in the extirpation of wild salmon, and studies to date have not ruled out these two possible adverse impacts of genetically engineered salmon on wild salmon; and

WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration is now and has been for some years considering an application to allow the introduction and sale of genetically engineered salmon into the United States; and

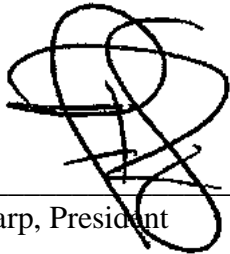
WHEREAS, given the disproportionate impact genetically engineered salmon would have on the health of Indian people in the Pacific Northwest, their culture and society and the continued meaningful implementation of their treaty right to fish; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI strongly opposes the United States Food and Drug Administration approving the introduction of genetically engineered salmon into the United States for consumption, research or production; and

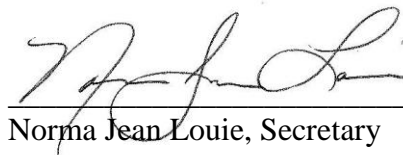
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the United States Food and Drug Administration have meaningful government-to-government consultations pursuant to Executive Order 13175 in regards to this issue.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2014 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Silver Reef Hotel Casino Spa, Ferndale, WA on February 17 - 20, 2014, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary