

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-064

**Title: California Tribes Affected by the California Federal Bay-Delta
Restoration Project**

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American 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 the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the Cortina Indian Rancheria of California is a federally recognized tribe; and

the Department of the Interior (DOI) is currently involved in a joint project with the State of California, which is called the California Federal Bay-Delta Restoration (CALFED) Project, that has federal funding to study the feasibility of one of the largest ecosystem restoration projects in the United States, and the California tribes have had no technical assistance to study the impacts on the California tribes trust resources; and

the Department of the Interior and the Federal Government have failed to act in the best interest of the California tribes, even when asked by the Tribal leaders to do so, and that as of this time their has been Federal Legislation and appropriations of funds that could be used to allow the California tribes to participate on a Government to Government level within the project and provide the much needed technical assistance that is so badly needed by the California tribes; and

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technical/legal assistance that is needed by the tribes to evaluate the impacts to the Federal/Tribal resources and the tribal communities that they have a responsibility for; and

the California tribes still support the NCAI Resolution put forth #STP-00-106 during last years annual conference.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

expertise to help the Tribes to create meaningful decision making with data based decisions, which will help in the consultation process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

inquire on the behalf of the California tribes to the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior in regards to the issues listed above and the past NCAI Resolution #STP-00-106 in regards to the CALFED projects; and

that NCAI members stand unit with the California tribes, who are asking again to participate in the CALFED project on a Government to Government relationship that is meaningful to the California tribes, so they can bring an indigenous perspective to the environmental projects that are planned; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 58th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001 with a quorum present.

Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Cawston, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 58th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001.