



*Native Village of Hooper Bay*  
*P.O. Box 69*  
*Hooper Bay, Alaska 99604*  
*PH: (907) 758-4915 FX:(907) 758-4066*

**Resolution 22-007**

**IN OPPOSITION OF BUILDING A ROAD WITHIN THE IZEMBEK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (NWR)**

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of Hooper Bay is the federally recognized Native Village of Hooper Bay, a village in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (Y-K Delta), and supports the endeavors of its members; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the Y-K Delta are primary stakeholders of waterfowl, and our customary and traditional use of birds has long been part of our diet and culture, and because the destructive development and habitat loss conducted by those in areas of the Pacific Flyway throughout the 1960's, '70's and '80's significantly affected waterfowl population and resulted in curtailing our subsistence hunters and gatherer's practices; and

**WHEREAS**, for decades the people of the Y-K Delta and the Association of Village Council Presidents' Waterfowl Conservation Committee have aggressively advocated international and national migratory waterfowl concerns for white-fronted, black brant, Canadian and cackling geese that nest in the Spring and Summer in the Y-K Delta through the Y-K Delta Goose Management Plan, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDF&W), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W), and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDF&G); and

**WHEREAS**, a portion of the road to link the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay would go through the Refuges' primary eelgrass feeding ground, which are among the largest eelgrass beds in the world that migrating waterfowl feast on to sustain their energy and to continue on to their nesting grounds in the Y-K Delta; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2013 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange/Road Corridor Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) analysis found that a road through the Izembek Refuge wilderness and isthmus would have major effects on black brant, Emperor geese and tundra swans, and would allow greater human access and hunting pressure and disturbance for birds causing displacement from feeding or nesting areas (FEIS, p. 2-64); and

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers', "King-Cove – Cold Bay: Assessment of Non-Road Alternatives", found that there are viable alternatives other than the proposed road for medical evacuation and other transportation purposes out of King Cove, including a marine ferry, which at 99.2% dependable is the most dependable option, is comparable in cost and would not impact Refuge waterfowl feeding areas and should be considered; and

**WHEREAS**, Izembek Refuge's eelgrass is important for maintaining a healthy ecosystem, supporting vital subsistence resources for the people of the Y-K Delta, sustaining biodiversity, mitigating climate impacts,

and providing foraging areas and shelter for young fish and invertebrates, food for migratory waterfowl, and spawning surfaces for certain fish species, and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Y-K Delta are experiencing increased food insecurity from environmental impacts due to climate change and other commercial interests resulting in restrictions to our fishing opportunities and access in addition to limited goose hunting opportunities; and

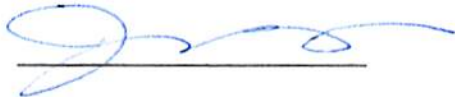
**WHEREAS**, we believe these damages impacts, deleterious forces and restricted access to our subsistence resources are threatening our livelihood and ultimately will cancel our culture.

**THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Native Village of Hooper Bay respectfully asserts our opposition to the proposed King Cove to Cold Bay Road on the grounds that there is scientific evidence that habitat and migrating geese would be significantly impacted by a road connecting the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska, and there are other viable transportation options, including for medical evacuation and other purposes, such as a ferry, out of the community of King Cove.

Adopted by Native Village of Hooper Bay, on this day 18, May 2022



Vice Chief Eric C. Olson Sr.



Secretary Jorene Joe



## SEA LION CORPORATION

P.O. Box 87  
Hooper Bay, Alaska 99604  
907-758-4015/4415 - Telephone  
907-758-4815 - Fax Line

### RESOLUTION 2022-02

**Title: IN OPPOSITION OF BUILDING A ROAD WITHIN THE IZEMBEK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (NWR)**

WHEREAS the Sea Lion Corporation of Hooper Bay is the Alaska Native Village Corporation of Hooper Bay, a village in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (Y-K Delta), and supports the endeavors of its members; and

WHEREAS the people of the Y-K Delta are primary stakeholders of waterfowl, and our customary and traditional use of birds has long been part of our diet and culture, and because the destructive development and habitat loss conducted by those in areas of the Pacific Flyway throughout the 1960's, '70's and '80's significantly affected waterfowl populations and resulted in curtailing our subsistence hunters and gatherer's practices; and

WHEREAS for decades the people of the Y-K Delta and the Association of Village Council Presidents' Waterfowl Conservation Committee have aggressively advocated international and national migratory waterfowl concerns for white-fronted, black brant, Canadian and cackling geese that nest in the Spring and Summer in the Y-K Delta through the Y-K Delta Goose Management Plan, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDF&W), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W), and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDF&G); and

WHEREAS a portion of the road to link the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay would go through the Refuge's primary eelgrass feeding grounds, which are among the largest eelgrass beds in the world that migrating waterfowl feast on to sustain their energy and to continue on to their nesting grounds in the Y-K Delta; and

WHEREAS the 2013 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service *Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Land Exchange / Road Corridor Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)* analysis found that a road through the Izembek Refuge wilderness and isthmus would have major effects on black brant, Emperor geese and tundra swans, and would allow greater human access and hunting pressure and disturbance for birds causing displacement from feeding or nesting areas (FEIS, p. 2 – 64); and

WHEREAS the 2015 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers', "*King Cove – Cold Bay: Assessment of Non-Road Alternatives*", found that there are viable alternatives other than the proposed road for medical evacuation and other transportation purposes out of King Cove, including a marine ferry, which at 99.2% dependable is the most dependable option, is comparable in cost and would not impact Refuge waterfowl feeding areas and should be considered; and

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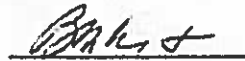
WHEREAS Izembek Refuge's eelgrass is important for maintaining a healthy ecosystem, supporting vital subsistence resources for the people of the Y-K Delta, sustaining biodiversity, mitigating climate impacts, and providing foraging areas and shelter for young fish and invertebrates, food for migratory waterfowl, and spawning surfaces for certain fish species; and

WHEREAS the people of the Y-K Delta are experiencing increased food insecurity from environmental impacts due to climate change and other commercial interests resulting in restrictions to our fishing opportunities and access in addition to limited goose hunting opportunities; and

WHEREAS we believe these damaging impacts, deleterious forces and restricted access to our subsistence resources are threatening our livelihood and ultimately will cancel our culture.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sea Lion Corporation of Hooper Bay respectfully asserts our opposition to the proposed King Cove to Cold Bay Road on the grounds that there is scientific evidence that habitat and migrating geese would be significantly impacted by a road connecting the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska, and there are other viable transportation options, including for medical evacuation and other purposes, such as a ferry, out of the community of King Cove.

Adopted by Native Village of Hooper Bay, on this day 18 , May 2022



Bosco Olson, Sr. Chairman



Katherine Brower, Secretary

ATTEST

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# Native Village of Paimiut

To honor our ancestors, our lands and bring hope to future generations.

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PO Box 240084  
Anchorage, AK 99524

Office: 907-561-0304  
Fax: 907-561-0305

## Resolution 24-05-04

Support for the Protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge for Black Brant Conservation

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Paimiut is one of the 573 federally recognized Tribes in the United States of America, and one of the 227 federally recognized Alaska Tribes by the United States Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Paimiut Traditional Council is the governing body of the Native Village of Paimiut and serves at the pleasure of the Tribal Members of the Native Village of Paimiut; and

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Paimiut is fully authorized to act on behalf of the Native Village of Paimiut Tribal members in matters arising under the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975, P.L. 93-638, as amended, 25 U.S.C. 450 et. Seq (hereby the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Paimiut, as a sovereign Tribal government, holds a deep respect for the natural environment and recognizes the importance of preserving ecosystems for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, located in the Alaska Peninsula and encompassing critical habitat for wildlife, including the black brant (*Branta bernicla nigricans*), serves as a vital migratory stopover and breeding ground for numerous avian species; and

WHEREAS, the black brant, a species of concern, relies heavily on the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge during its annual migration, utilizing the refuge's rich intertidal habitat for feeding and resting, thereby playing a significant role in the ecological balance of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge faces various threats, including proposed development projects and changes in land management practices that could negatively impact the refuge's ecological integrity and disrupt the black brant's habitat; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the Native Village of Paimiut to advocate for the protection and preservation of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and its critical importance for black brant conservation, in alignment with Tribal values and stewardship principles;

WHEREAS, the Native Village of Paimiut prioritizes the marine alternative over any other alternatives to the proposed road;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Traditional Council of the Native Village of Paimiut, that:

# Native Village of Paimiut

To honor our ancestors, our lands and bring hope to future generations.

PO Box 240084

Office: 907-561-0304

Anchorage, AK 99524

Fax: 907-561-0305

Section 1: The Native Village of Paimiut reaffirms its commitment to the protection and preservation of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge as a critical habitat for black brant and other wildlife species.

Section 2: The Traditional Council hereby expresses its strong support for measures aimed at conserving and maintaining the ecological integrity of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, including opposing any development projects or land management practices that could harm the refuge's wildlife habitat.

Section 3: The Native Village of Paimiut calls upon federal, state, and local authorities, as well as relevant stakeholders, to prioritize the long-term protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and to collaborate with Tribal governments and conservation organizations in efforts to safeguard this vital ecosystem.

Section 4: The Native Village of Paimiut strongly urges all involved to consider the marine alternative to be the best option.

Section 5: The Traditional Council authorizes the Tribal Administrator to transmit copies of this resolution to appropriate government officials, agencies, and entities to convey the stance of the Native Village of Paimiut on the protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

Section 6: This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

Certification:

I hereby certify that the Native Village of Paimiut adopted this resolution on May 24, 2024 with a quorum being established. This resolution was passed by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstain.

Estelle Thomson 5/24/24 Colleen Timmer 5/24/2024  
Estelle Thomson, President Date Colleen Timmer, Tribal Administrator Date



## CHULOONAWICK NATIVE VILLAGE

Resolution No. 2024-05

### OPPOSITION TO A ROAD THROUGH THE IZEMBЕК NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND SUPPORT FOR THE PROTECTION OF BLACK BRANT AND EMPEROR GEESE

WHEREAS, Chuloonawick Native Village is the sovereign governing body of the community of Chuloonawick, a federally-recognized Native Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Since time immemorial, Alaska Native people in the Yukon River watershed and surrounding areas of the Bering Sea have depended on healthy land, healthy water, and healthy fish and wildlife resources, which are integral to our traditional indigenous way of life;

WHEREAS, Alaska Native people from the Y-K Delta have depended on waterfowl subsistence resources that make up a substantial percent of our diet, including Pacific brant and Emperor geese, that depend on Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to feed and build fat reserves at critical junctures in their life cycles; and

WHEREAS, Chuloonawick Native Village and other villages in the Y-K Delta have worked for decades to restore Pacific brant, Emperor geese and other waterfowl populations, by restricting hunting and egg collection and protecting habitat; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project would allow the construction of an access road intended to provide a transportation corridor between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay through a Congressionally designated Wilderness and one of the most important wetlands complexes on the globe; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project and associated activities are expected to cause widespread and permanent damage to the designated Wilderness, extraordinary wetlands, waterfowl habitat, waterfowl populations, eelgrass beds, spawning areas, fish habitat, other wildlife and wildlife habitat, water, rivers, ponds, lakes, vegetation, cultural resources, sacred sites, and other resources essential to maintaining our traditional way of life; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project would set a precedent that threatens all National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska with development projects, including the Y-K Delta National Wildlife Refuge and all other lands protected by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act; and



# CHULOONAWICK NATIVE VILLAGE

WHEREAS, The community of King Cove has other viable transportation alternatives to access Cold Bay, such as marine and air transport, as underscored by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s announcement on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, highlighting that \$43,376,746 have been allocated for the design, permitting, and construction of a new dock in Cold Bay, “designed and built to accommodate commercial use, freight and fuel transportation, private vessel use, and public uses like emergency medical services and public transportation through the Alaska Marine Highway System”<sup>1</sup>; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chuloonawick Native Village opposes the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project and we urge Tribal and other partners to continue their work to protect future generations from harmful impacts of the proposed Land Exchange and Izembek Road Project and associated activities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chuloonawick Native Village expects to be consulted with throughout the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and National Environmental Policy Act process for the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chuloonawick Native Village expects to be invited and included in **all permitting matters** associated with the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project, related exploration permitting and all permitting associated with the project.

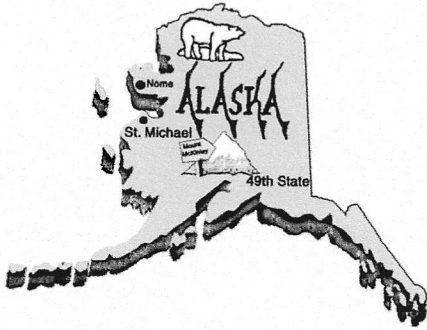
### CERTIFICATION:

Passed on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024 with a quorum of 5 For, 0, Against, and 0, Abstaining.

Thomas Myomick  
Thomas Myomick, President

Naomi Akers  
Naomi Akers, Secretary





# Native Village of Saint Michael

PO Box 59050, Saint Michael, Alaska 99659  
Phone # (907)923-2304/2405 FAX # (907)923-2406

## **Resolution 24-08-08**

### **Support for the Protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge for Black Brant Conservation**

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of St. Michael is one of the 573 federally recognized Tribes in the United States of America, and one of the 227 federally recognized Alaska Tribes by the United States Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of St. Michael is the governing body of the Native Village of Paimiut and serves at the pleasure of the Tribal Members of the Native Village of St. Michael; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of St. Michael is fully authorized to act on behalf of the Native Village of St. Michael Tribal members in matters arising under the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975, P.L. 93-638, as amended, 25 U.S.C. 450 et. Seq (hereby the "Act"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Village of St. Michael, as a sovereign Tribal government, holds a deep respect for the natural environment and recognizes the importance of preserving ecosystems for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, located in the Alaska Peninsula and encompassing critical habitat for wildlife, including the black brant (*Branta bernicla nigricans*), serves as a vital migratory stopover and breeding ground for numerous avian species; and

**WHEREAS**, the black brant, a species of concern, relies heavily on the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge during its annual migration, utilizing the refuge's rich intertidal habitat for feeding and resting, thereby playing a significant role in the ecological balance of the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge faces various threats, including proposed development projects and changes in land management practices that could negatively impact the refuge's ecological integrity and disrupt the black brant's habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon the Native Village of St. Michael to advocate for the protection and preservation of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and its critical importance for black brant conservation, in alignment with Tribal values and stewardship principles;

**Now, therefore**, be it resolved, by the Traditional Council of the Native Village of St. Michael that:

**Section 1:** The Native Village of St. Michael reaffirms its commitment to the protection and preservation of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge as a critical habitat for black brant and other wildlife species.

**Section 2:** The Traditional Council hereby expresses its strong support for measures aimed at conserving and maintaining the ecological integrity of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge, including opposing any development projects or land management practices that could harm the refuge's wildlife habitat.

**Section 3:** The Native Village of St. Michael calls upon federal, state, and local authorities, as well as relevant stakeholders, to prioritize the long-term protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and to collaborate with Tribal governments and conservation organizations in efforts to safeguard this vital ecosystem.

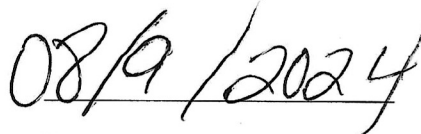
**Section 4:** The Traditional Council authorizes the Tribal Administrator to transmit copies of this resolution to appropriate government officials, agencies, and entities to convey the stance of the Native Village of St. Michael on the protection of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

**Section 5:** The Native Village of St. Michael formally requests the USFW to fully analyze the marine alternative in the Izembek Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and the Native Village of St. Michael formally opposes a road through the Izembek Refuge; and we support the selection of the marine alternative as it is least impactful to the fragile habitat within the Refuge.

I hereby certify that the Native Village of St. Michael adopted this resolution on August 8, 2024 with a quorum being established. This resolution was passed by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstain.



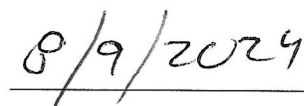
President, Native Village of St. Michael



Date



Secretary



Date



## **Chevak Traditional Council**

**P.O. Box 140**

**Chevak, Alaska 99563**

(907) 858-7428 fax (907) 858-7812

chevaktc@gmail.com

### **OPPOSITION TO A ROAD THROUGH THE IZEMBЕК NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND SUPPORT FOR THE PROTECTION OF BLACK BRANT AND EMPEROR GEESE**

Resolution No. 2024-0822-001

WHEREAS, Chevak Native Village is the sovereign governing body of the community of Chevak, a federally-recognized Native Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Since time immemorial, Alaska Native people in the Yukon River watershed and surrounding areas of the Bering Sea have depended on healthy land, healthy water, and healthy fish and wildlife resources, which are integral to our traditional indigenous way of life;

WHEREAS, Alaska Native people from the Y-K Delta have depended on waterfowl subsistence resources that make up a substantial percent of our diet, including Pacific brant and Emperor geese, that depend on Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to feed and build fat reserves at critical junctures in their life cycles; and

WHEREAS, Chevak Native Village and other villages in the Y-K Delta have worked for decades to restore Pacific brant, Emperor geese and other waterfowl populations, by restricting hunting and egg collection and protecting habitat; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project would allow the construction of an access road intended to provide a transportation corridor between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay through a Congressionally designated Wilderness and one of the most important wetlands complexes on the globe; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project and associated activities are expected to cause widespread and permanent damage to the designated Wilderness, extraordinary wetlands, waterfowl habitat, waterfowl populations, eelgrass beds, spawning areas, fish habitat, other wildlife and wildlife habitat, water, rivers, ponds, lakes, vegetation, cultural resources, sacred sites, and other resources essential to maintaining our traditional way of life; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project would set a precedent that threatens all National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska with development projects, including the Y-K Delta National Wildlife Refuge and all other lands protected by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act; and

WHEREAS, The community of King Cove has other viable transportation alternatives to access Cold Bay, such as marine and air transport, as underscored by the U.S. Department of Transportation's announcement on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, highlighting that \$43,376,746 have been allocated for the design, permitting, and construction of a new dock in Cold Bay, "designed and



**Chevak Traditional Council**

**P.O. Box 140**  
**Chevak, Alaska 99563**  
(907) 858-7428 fax (907) 858-7812  
chevaktc@gmail.com

built to accommodate commercial use, freight and fuel transportation, private vessel use, and public uses like emergency medical services and public transportation through the Alaska Marine Highway System "1 ; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chevak Native Village opposes the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project and we urge Tribal and other partners to continue their work to protect future generations from harmful impacts of the proposed Land Exchange and Izembek Road Project and associated activities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chevak Native Village expects to be consulted with throughout the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and National Environmental Policy Act process for the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chevak Native Village expects to be invited and included in all permitting matters associated with the proposed Izembek Land Exchange and Road Project, related exploration permitting and all permitting associated with the project.

**CERTIFICATION**

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY A CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE CHEVAK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL ON THIS 22nd DAY OF August 2024, BY THE VOTE OF \_\_\_ FAVOR, \_\_\_ OPPOSED, AND \_\_\_ ABSTAINING.**

**ATTESTED:**

1<sup>st</sup> Chief,  
Esther Friday

Secretary/Treasurer,  
Charlotte Nayagak