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# RESIGHINI RANCHERIA

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## RESOLUTION 2021-11

**ADOPTED: May 26, 2021**

### RESOLUTION SUMMARY: STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR DROUGHT

- WHEREAS,** the Resighini Rancheria is a federally recognized Indian Tribe and exercises tribal powers of self-governance under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 9670); and
- WHEREAS,** the Resighini Rancheria is eligible for all rights and privileges afforded to federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the Resighini Rancheria; and
- WHEREAS,** the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council has a duty to protect the health and wellbeing of our Tribal Citizens and the natural and cultural resources within our ancestral territory and Tribally owned lands; and
- WHEREAS,** the ancestral lands and waters of the Tribe include the lower Klamath River Basin, coastal areas from Damnation Creek to Little River, and the Pacific Ocean offshore; and
- WHEREAS,** the ancestral lands and waters of the Tribe are facing extreme drought conditions, which have persisted in recent years and are not projected to resolve in the near future with climate change; and
- WHEREAS,** these drought conditions are causing significant impacts to the Tribe, our Citizens, and Tribal trust resources that cannot be addressed with existing Tribal resources; and
- WHEREAS,** these impacts include, but are not limited to water supply challenges, groundwater availability for domestic and government uses, poor water quality and quantity in the Klamath River and tributaries, ongoing fish kill of juvenile salmon, increased fish disease outbreaks and likelihood for associated adult salmonid fish kill, negative impacts to future fish runs, harmful algal blooms in the Klamath River and tributaries, negative impacts to threatened and endangered species, negative impacts to Tribal trust resources, negative impacts to terrestrial wildlife and plant species, water reliability for wildfire and residential fire protection, impacts to Tribal beneficial uses associated with water, potential negative impacts to ocean water quality and marine resources, economic impacts to our RV



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Park and Campground from reduced recreational opportunities associated with tourism, increase in wildfire potential, negative impacts to forest resources including merchantable timber, as well as negative impacts to Yurok culture, ceremonies, subsistence, and cultural lifeways that are inextricably tied to the waterways and lands within our ancestral territory; and

**WHEREAS,** all of these impacts directly and/or indirectly impact the health, wellbeing, political and economic security, and cultural lifeways of our Tribal Citizens and our Tribal nation; and

**WHEREAS,** it is necessary to expeditiously respond, monitor, and mitigate the potential impacts of the drought in the Klamath Basin, our ancestral territory, and our Tribally owned lands to seek to minimize the impacts to the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 pandemic increases the difficulties of responding and mitigating the potential drought impacts and, therefore, increases the negative impacts to the Tribe from the drought; and

**WHEREAS,** the Resighini Tribal Council, in its capacity as the governing body and pursuant to its inherent and Constitutional authority, finds it necessary to declare a State of Emergency to minimize and mitigate the effects of the drought onto the Resighini Rancheria and our Tribal Citizens, to make Tribal resources available, and help formalize emergency actions already underway within the Tribal government; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe does not have the financial resources or internal capacity to mitigate this threat to our Tribal government and Tribal Citizens alone and will require federal, state, and local assistance; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council hereby declares a State of Emergency due to severe drought facing our Tribal nation and enacts emergency authorities under the Tribal authority to mitigate this threat; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council does hereby authorize and approve the Chairperson, or in their absence, the Executive Director, to authorize, activate, and enact emergency measures of the Resighini Rancheria Emergency Operations Plan, and to delegate authority to the Chairperson and Incident Commander to utilize Tribal resources, including personnel and equipment, to mitigate the effects of this emergency for the protection of the Tribe; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council will seek assistance from federal,



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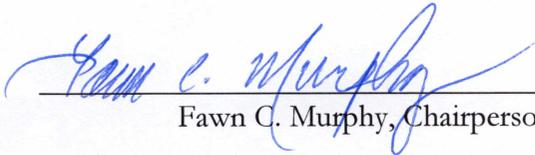
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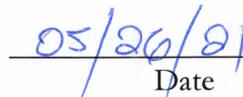
state, and local entities to respond and mitigate drought impacts; and

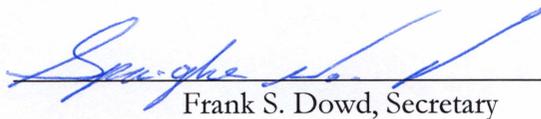
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council of the Resighini Rancheria does hereby adopt this resolution, and that the Chairperson and Secretary of the Resighini Rancheria Tribal Council are hereby authorized to sign this resolution and any and all other documents which are necessary to effectuate the intents and purposes of this resolutions.

### CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a duly called poll vote of the Resighini Rancheria held on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021 in Klamath, California, at which 5 Tribal Council members responded to constitute a quorum, by a vote of 5 For, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions and 0 Absent.

  
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Fawn C. Murphy, Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank S. Dowd, Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date