



**2017 Annual Convention
Spokane, WA**

RESOLUTION #17 - 54

**“OPPOSITION TO THE CONTINUED OPERATION AND PROPOSED EXPANSION OF
NON-NATIVE FINFISH AQUACULTURE IN COASTAL WATERS”**

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, on August 19, 2017, net pens, containing over three hundred thousand non-native Atlantic salmon, failed and led to the release of tens of thousands of non-native fish into the waters of the Salish Sea; and

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2017, three days after the release, Cooke Aquaculture finally notified the public that this environmental disaster occurred; and

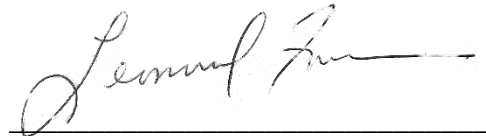
WHEREAS, the Tribal fishermen of the Salish Sea mobilized their fishing fleets in an attempt to mitigate the impacts of this disaster and protect vital cultural and economic resources; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of non-native Atlantic salmon into our coastal ecosystem can have devastating impacts on wild salmon populations through the introduction of disease, predation of juvenile wild salmon and competition for food; now

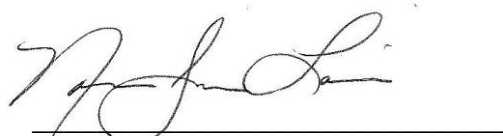
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby call on Northwest Coastal states and United States Federal authorities to ban non-native salt water finfish aquaculture in the waters of the Pacific Northwest.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane, Washington on September 18-21, 2017, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary