



BLACKFEET NATION

AMSKAPI PIKANI

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Timothy Davis, Chairman
Iliff "Scott" Kipp, Vice-Chairman
Stacey Keller, Secretary
Tinsuwellia Bird Rattler, Treasurer

BTBC RESOLUTION 385 2019

Passed unanimously by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council September 2019

Supporting All Efforts by the Montana Congressional Delegation for the Enactment of Federal Legislation for the Permanent Protection of the Badger-Two Medicine and the Interests of the Blackfeet People

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, protect and advance the views, interests, education and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and

WHEREAS, The enumerated powers of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, contained in Articles IV, section 1(a) of the Blackfeet Constitution, include negotiations with the Federal, State, and Local Governments, on behalf of the Blackfeet Tribe and to advise and consult with representatives of the United States Interior Department on all activities of the Department that affect the Blackfeet Tribe, and

WHEREAS, The Badger-Two Medicine is within the traditional territory of the Blackfeet Tribe, and was set aside as part of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, by the Lame Bull Treaty of October 17, 1855, and

WHEREAS, The Badger-Two Medicine has been one of the most culturally and religiously significant areas to the Blackfeet People since time immemorial, and

WHEREAS, The Badger-Two Medicine is sacred land and water, a cultural touchstone, a repository of heritage, a living cultural landscape, a hunting ground, a refuge, a wildlife sanctuary, a place of refuge for wild nature, and an important part of both Tribal and Non-Tribal Community Values, and

WHEREAS, The Badger-Two Medicine is a stronghold for wild nature, isolated from and unmarred by development, where natural process continue to function, and relatively uncommon plant and animal communities continue to exist, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribe has been vigilant in safeguarding the Badger-Two Medicine, including its cultural, natural, and religious significance to the Blackfeet Tribe and the Blackfeet People(s) as well as our Treaty Rights therein, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribe has taken many steps to protect the Badger-Two Medicine including longstanding and steadfast opposition to oil and gas development, and support for the designation of the entire area as a Traditional Cultural District under the National Historic Preservation Act, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribe believes that if left unprotected, the Badger-Two Medicine and its life giving waters remain threatened by industrial development and exploitation that would significantly and negatively affect the cultural and religious properties of the Treaty Rights of the Blackfeet Nation, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribe continues to seek both the removal of remaining oil and gas leases in the Badger-Two Medicine area as well as the establishment of permanent protections for its cultural, ecological, and other values, for the benefit of the Blackfeet Nation and general public, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribe remains committed to ensuring that the Blackfeet people's interests in the Badger-Two Medicine are fully heard and represented and that the cultural, religious and other rights of the Blackfeet Tribe are fully and permanently protected, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council will neither consent to nor approve any industrial development within the Badger-Two Medicine and will continue to vigorously oppose any proposals for such development.
2. The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council encourages and supports all efforts by the Montana Congressional Delegation and their colleagues to enact federal legislation that permanently protects the Badger-Two Medicine and the interests of the Blackfeet People, legislation which includes, but is not limited to, the following provisions:
 - a. Protection of Blackfeet reserved rights, including established Treaty Rights on off-reservation lands, and
 - b. Protection of the values, attributes, and integrity of the Badger-Two Medicine Traditional Cultural District, and
 - c. Protection of the Cultural, Ecological, scenic and recreational values of the area, and
 - d. Preservation of access by the Blackfeet People for traditional and cultural practices, and
 - e. Preservation of access for the general public for hunting, fishing, grazing, and traditional recreational uses, and
 - f. Establishment of cooperative land management arrangement, including an advisory board with Blackfeet Tribal representation, and
 - g. Creation of a management plan for the area, with Blackfeet as a cooperating agency,
 - h. Establishment of US Forest Service consultation requirements with the Blackfeet Tribe in order for the Tribe to determine management compatibility with the Traditional Cultural District, as well as consideration of proposed or expanded use activities in the area, and
 - i. Prohibition of construction of new roads, except temporarily to protect public health and safety, and
 - j. Prohibition of motorized or mechanized vehicles, except for administrative or emergency uses, and
 - k. Prohibition of commercial timber harvest, and
 - l. Prohibition of construction of new permanent structures.



STACEY A. KELLER
Secretary



TIMOTHY F. DAVIS
Chairman