



# USET

SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION FUND

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## USET SPF Resolution No. 2025 SPF:004

### **SUPPORTING BIA TPA ROAD MAINTENANCE FUNDS FOR USET SPF MEMBER TRIBAL NATIONS**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nations' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** road maintenance and infrastructure are vital components of economic development and the health and safety of Tribal communities, and these issues require consistent and equitable distribution of resources; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) provides Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) Road Maintenance funds to support the upkeep of Tribal roadways, which are essential for the mobility, safety, and access of Tribal citizens and visitors; and
- WHEREAS,** the general allocation formula for TPA Road Maintenance funds by BIA Region involves dividing the number of BIA roads in a given region by the number of roads in the entire BIA inventory to determine the percentage of available funds provided to each Region, resulting in inequitably small allocations for the BIA Eastern Region; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2002, USET member Tribal Nations reached a consensus that each participating Tribal Nation in the TPA Road Maintenance Program served by the BIA Eastern Region would receive, at minimum, \$10,000 of TPA funding annually, after which the previously existing TPA distribution formula would be used; and
- WHEREAS,** USET's support for this formula was memorialized via resolution 2003:050, but current BIA Eastern Region employees are refusing to implement the formula; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a need to reaffirm and formalize the funding formula to ensure fair and efficient allocation of resources across all member Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the USET SPF Board of Directors hereby formally adopts and reaffirms the previously agreed-upon formula for the distribution of Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) Road Maintenance funds; and be it further

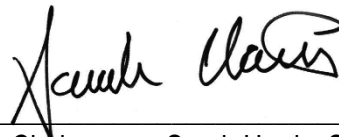
**RESOLVED** that the USET SPF Board of Directors directs the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to implement the funding formula in a timely and equitable manner, ensuring that all member Tribal Nations receive their fair share of road maintenance funds.

**CERTIFICATION**

This resolution was duly passed at the remote USET SPF Annual Meeting at which a quorum was present on October 8, 2024.



Chief Kirk E. Francis, Sr., President  
United South and Eastern Tribes  
Sovereignty Protection Fund



Vice Chairwoman Sarah Harris, Secretary  
United South and Eastern Tribes  
Sovereignty Protection Fund