

NORTH PACIFIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION-TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE PROPOSAL

PROJECT/BUDGET PERIOD: October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013

Grantee: Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

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Project: Southeast Alaska Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Time Frame: October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013

Estimated Cost \$12,000.00

Date Submitted: June 27, 2012

INTRODUCTION

A. INTRODUCTION & SCOPE OF WORK:

The Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska is a federally recognized Indian Tribe that serves 22 villages and communities spread over 43,000 square miles within the Alaska Panhandle. The region encompasses 525 miles of coastline and interior waterways, and is bordered by Canada on the north, south, and east and the Gulf of Alaska on the west.

Our efforts to protect our environment are an inherent responsibility. This responsibility is also written in our Southeast Traditional Values is states “we are stewards of the land, air, and sea. This is often challenging when it comes to state and federal policies and now we are challenged to determine how to incorporate traditional knowledge into climate science policy.

The Tlingit and Haida Nations traditional knowledge has historically passed through generations through clan house stories. These stories can only be told by the specific clan houses and through clan leaders. This poses a problem for how we will gather and sustain traditional knowledge.

Through the NPLCC funding CCTHITA will work with her 18 Tribes to determine the best approach that is grassroots, respectful and

sensitive. The communities, elders and youth will determine who will be involved in the design, gathering and sharing Southeast Alaska traditional knowledge.

Southeast Alaska houses 18 sovereign Tribes within its region. All of which Central Council has good working relationships. Each of our Southeast Alaska Tribes administers Indian General Assistance Programs. Central Council coordinates and hosts monthly web meetings with the Tribes as well as coordinates and hosts an annual Southeast Environmental Conference. All of which will contribute to the success of this proposal. In 2011 the Southeast Tribes identified Climate Change as one of their top three priorities in their strategic plan. Thus a Southeast Alaska Tribes (SE Tribes) Climate Change Committee was established.

At the 2012 SE Tribes Environmental Gathering the Central Council worked the SE Tribes through a consensus process on what SE Tribes need to ensure Southeast Traditional knowledge were included in policy. What came from this process was more than consensus but a clear understanding that due to the sensitivity as well as the confusion around traditional ecological knowledge the SE Tribes need time to develop respectful processes for:

- 1) Tribal Community Awareness of climate change
- 2) Clarification of traditional ecological knowledge
- 3) Tribal Community information gathering
- 4) Feedback processes that ensure correct information is shared

Thus Central Council proposes to work with the SE Tribes Climate Change Committee to develop the processes for gathering SE Tribes Traditional Ecological knowledge.

B. SCOPE

Central Council intended to enhance the initial work of the SE Tribes Climate Change Committee Consensus on Priorities by developing action plans for each of the priorities. Thus creating useful work plans for all Southeast Tribes to follow when initiating information gathering of TEK in their communities. The SE Tribes Climate Change Committee will meet face to face to support, review, and guide the process of Kasaan's NPLCC TEK grant.

- We will meet face to face to continue work plan development of the SE Tribes Consensus Priorities document
- Central Council will support the development of the Kasaan Project
- Will identify 2-3 other Tribes who have Climate Change in their IGAP work plans to begin implementing SE Tribes Actions for gathering TEK

The final product of this project will be developed work plans to support tribes in gathering traditional knowledge in local communities.