United Tribes of Michigan

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Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director

RESOLUTION # 036 02-11-2015

<u>United Tribes of Michigan Opposition to Removal of Protections</u> for the Great Lakes Gray Wolf

WHEREAS, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve federally recognized tribes located in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides a forum for the Tribes in Michigan to address issues of common concern and is committed to join forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign Indian Tribes of Michigan throughout the next seven generations; and

WHEREAS, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the wolf has a great significance to our community and has an important place in our culture, and

WHEREAS, wolves are an invaluable part of Michigan's ecosystem and are only now beginning to recover after being hunted to the brink of extinction, and

WHEREAS, wolves in the Great Lakes region were recently put back on the list of Endangered and Threatened wildlife under the Endangered Species, because the species is still recovering from decades of unsustainable trophy hunting, and

WHEREAS, wolves are not appropriate for a consumptive harvest, and there is no scientific evidence to suggest this socially complex and pack animal is able to be hunted for sport or recreation in a sustainable manner, and

WHEREAS, members of Congress are currently considering removing federal protection of wolves in the Great Lakes and Wyoming, making hunting seasons on the wolf almost certain across the Great Lakes region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of Michigan opposes removal of federal protections for the Great Lakes gray wolf by an act of Congress or by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Adopted by a vote of _8_in favor, __0_against, __0_abstaining, at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on 2-11-2015.

Chairman Homer A. Mandoka
UTM President