



COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES

Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation • Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon • Crow Creek Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe • Fort Belknap Indian Community • Hopi Tribe • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation • Mescalero Apache Tribe • Muscogee (Creek) Nation • Navajo Nation Northern Arapaho Tribe • Northern Cheyenne Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • San Carlos Apache Tribe • Shoshone-Bannock Tribes • Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe • Spirit Lake Nation • Spokane Tribe Standing Rock Sioux Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe • Ute Mountain Ute Tribe • Walker River Paiute Tribe

Resolution: 12-10-2025 Resolution # 14-2025 (WR-Las Vegas)

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE SALE OF FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AND DEMANDING MEANINGFUL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION PRIOR TO AUTHORIZATION FOR ANY SUCH SALES

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) was formally established in early April 2011, and is comprised of Tribes with large land bases, including the Blackfeet Nation • Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe • Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation • Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon • Crow Creek Sioux Tribe • Crow Nation • Eastern Shoshone Tribe • Fort Belknap Indian Community • Hopi Tribe • Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation • Mescalero Apache Tribe • Muscogee (Creek) Nation • Navajo Nation Northern Arapaho Tribe • Northern Cheyenne Tribe • Rosebud Sioux Tribe • San Carlos Apache Tribe • Shoshone-Bannock Tribes • Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation • Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe • Spirit Lake Nation • Spokane Tribe Standing Rock Sioux Tribe • Ute Indian Tribe • Ute Mountain Ute Tribe • Walker River Paiute Tribe; and

WHEREAS, COLT was organized to provide a unified advocacy base on all issues affecting tribes that govern large trust bases and that strive to ensure the most beneficial use of those lands for tribes and individual Indian landowners. COLT tribes encompass more than 50 million acres of land across their reservations; and

WHEREAS, the sovereignty and self-determination is disrespected when there is a lack of meaningful government-to-government consultation by Congress or Executive Branch agencies on issues related to the sale of federal public lands; and

WHEREAS, COLT member tribes have stewarded the lands now encompassed by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation, since time immemorial, maintaining these ecosystems through traditional ecological knowledge and management practices for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS, the federal government manages approximately 640 million acres of land, with the majority (606.5 million acres) managed by four main agencies: the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) 244.4 million acres, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) 192.9 million acres, the National Park



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Service (NPS) 79.9 million acres, and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) 89.2 million acres. Together, these four agencies manage around 95% of all federal land; and

WHEREAS, in May 2025, Representatives Mark Amodei (R-NV) and Celeste Maloy (R-UT) proposed an amendment to a House budget reconciliation bill that would have authorized the sale of more than 500,000 acres of federal public lands in Nevada and Utah. The proposal was met with significant backlash and was ultimately removed from the final House bill before it passed the full chamber. Congressmen Amodei and Maloy's proposed public lands sale was done without government-to-government tribal consultation; and

WHEREAS, in June and July 2025, Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) inserted language into the Senate version of the budget reconciliation bill to mandate the sale of over 3 million acres of federal public lands. Senator Lee then revised the proposal four times in 10 days, ultimately landing on the forced sale of up to 1.2 million acres of BLM lands across 11 Western states—all while claiming it was needed for “housing.” Senator Lee’s proposed public lands sale was done without government-to-government tribal consultation; and

WHEREAS, the mass sale of federal public lands by congressional action was attempted without prior consultation with tribal governments or even any hearings at which COLT tribes could have submitted testimony on the proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Large Tribes appreciates the efforts of key Republicans and Democrats in Congress to avert the sale of federal public lands during the 2025 budget reconciliation process, including: Rep. Ryan Zinke (R-MT); Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID); Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA); Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-OR); Rep. David Valadao (R-CA); Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA); Senators Daines & Sheehy (R-MT); Senators Crapo & Risch (R-ID); Senator John Hoeven (R-ND); Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM); and

WHEREAS, federal public lands within our ancestral territories encompass:

- Sacred sites essential to our spiritual and ceremonial practices
- Traditional cultural properties and cultural landscapes
- Subsistence hunting, fishing, and gathering areas protected by Treaty rights
- Watersheds providing clean water for our communities



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- Habitat for culturally significant species
- Traditional use areas for medicinal plants and cultural materials
- Burial sites and areas of cultural patrimony; and

WHEREAS, COLT member tribes rely on innumerable plant species from these forests for food, medicine, ceremony, and traditional practices, knowledge passed down through generations; and

WHEREAS, the selling of federal public lands would result in:

- Irreparable harm to sacred sites and cultural resources
- Degradation of subsistence resources essential for food security
- Violation of Treaty-protected hunting, fishing, and gathering rights
- Increased wildfire risk from human-caused ignitions along new roads
- Loss of carbon sequestration capacity critical for climate resilience
- Contamination of water sources from road construction and logging
- Disruption of wildlife migration corridors and habitat connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has binding legal obligations to tribes under:

- United States Constitution
- Federal trust doctrine
- Antiquities Act of 1906
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA)
- American Indian Freedom of Religion Act (AIFRA)
- The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
- The Tribal Forest Protection Act
- And many other federal statutes and policies



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WHEREAS, the attempt—by a tiny handful of members of Congress—to sell millions of acres of federal public lands via unvetted, rushed appropriations language in 2025 failed to provide meaningful government-to-government consultation and opportunity for tribal input on matters directly affecting tribal sovereignty, Treaty rights, and cultural survival. The limited process that occurred was totally legally inadequate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the COALITION OF LARGE TRIBES (COLT):

1. OPPOSES the sell-off of federal public lands by congressional action without prior consultation and approval by tribes that are connected to said lands by ancestors, culture, and Treaty rights;
2. DEMANDS immediate and meaningful government-to-government consultation on an proposed sale of federal lands, consistent with the federal trust responsibility, including:
 - Face-to-face consultation sessions with members of Congress who propose selling federal public lands; and
 - Written responses addressing how tribal concerns will be addressed;
3. REQUIRES that any sale of federal public lands by Congress must:
 - Obtain free, prior, and informed consent from affected tribes
 - Include tribal co-management provisions
 - Protect all Treaty and subsistence rights
 - Preserve sacred sites and cultural resources
 - Maintain ecosystem integrity for future generations;
4. DIRECTS that copies of this resolution be transmitted to:
 - All members of Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
 - All members of House Committee on Natural Resources
 - Secretary of Agriculture Hon. Brooke Rollins
 - Secretary of the Interior Hon. Doug Burgum

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of COLT until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.



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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was enacted at meeting of the Coalition of Large Tribes held December 10, 2025 at which a quorum was present, with the resolution approved unanimously.

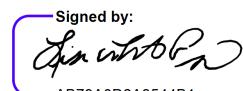
Dated this December 10, 2025.

Attest:

 Signed by:

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J. Garret Renville, Chairman, Coalition of Large Tribes

 Signed by:

AB79A0D2A3544B1...

Lisa White Pipe, Secretary / Treasurer, Coalition of Large Tribes