

SOVEREIGN COWLITZ TRIBE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COWLITZ TRIBE ASSEMBLED IN GENERAL COUNCIL THIS DATE, April 6, 1973, in the full exercise of the Tribe's Aboriginal Sovereignty—that in order to protect its most important land base which is being threatened by the TRIBE NOT HERETOFORE WIELDING ITS SOVEREIGNTY IN A MANNER THAT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD BY OUR WHITE BROTHER WHO ASPIRES TO TAKE OUR LAND WITHOUT OUR CONSENT—IT IS HEREWITH DECREED:

SECTION 2. Be it known by all civilized Nations of the World that the following title of property (land) to wit:

- that portion of Cowlitz County of the State of Washington identified by the United States as Gifford Pinchot National Forest,
- that portion of Skamania County of the State of Washington identified by the United States as Gifford Pinchot National Forest,
- that portion of Lewis County of the State of Washington identified by the United States as Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and Snoqualmie National Forest,
- that portion of Klickitat County of the State of Washington identified by the United States as Gifford Pinchot National Forest,
- that portion of Yakima County of the State of Washington identified by the United States as Gifford Pinchot National Forest,
- and the total stream or lake which may form a boundary:

IS VESTED in the Sovereign Cowlitz Tribe who shall as Sovereign continue to exercise the superior right to be custodian of the land records which shall be superior to any other non-aboriginal title plants which may contain records pertaining to the same portion of this Planet Earth. Provided further, this decree in no way implies that the Sovereign Cowlitz Tribe shall not have the authority to issue additional decrees establishing its Sovereign Authority over ancestral land not covered by this decree.

SECTION 3. Be it known by all civilized Nations of the World that the Sovereign Cowlitz Tribe has never ceded any of its ancestral land to any other Sovereignty.

SECTION 4. The title Plant for the maintenance of the superior land records of the Tribe's ancestral land shall contain the superior land records and shall be maintained in a "Book of Deeds" and the authority to post title changes shall be vested in the Council of Chiefs who shall have the authority to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the intent of this Act.

SECTION 5. The Council of Chiefs shall be an elected Tribal Entity empowered with the full authority to wield all the legislative authority of the Tribe necessary to completely define and perfect the complete sovereign autonomy of the Cowlitz Tribe. Provided however, that the authority herein granted shall continue to be subject to the discretionary intervening superior amendatory and legislative authority of the General Council of the Cowlitz Tribe. At the inception, the Council of Chiefs will be a five-man elected body whose term of Office will be established subject to the approval of the General Council—the size of the Council of Chiefs shall be subject to changes made by the General Council.

SECTION 6. The Cowlitz Tribe herewith grant and cede to Chief Mow-ee, an Indian from a friendly Tribe, the authority to select a ten mile by ten mile portion of land or an equivalent—but contiguous—area of land and he shall proclaim exclusive sovereignty over the land selected with the full right to establish a title plant for the maintenance of superior land title records of the selected area, provided further, all persons acquiring rights within the ceded area shall have egress and ingress rights to reach the ceded area.

SECTION 7. The Chairman of the General Council is authorized and directed to proclaim this Act by reading it in public places, having it posted on the land in question, filing it in the "Book of Deeds" of the Counties that cover the land in question, filing it in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Title Plant and in the Bureau of Land Management Title Plant.

CERTIFICATION

I, Donald J. Cloquet, Elected Chairman of the General Council of the Cowlitz Tribe attest to the fact that the above enacted "Act—Decree" was introduced, discussed, and enacted by a majority vote of the General Council of the Cowlitz Tribe assembled in General Council this April 6, 1973.

*Donald J. Cloquet*  
DONALD J. CLOQUET, Elected Chairman  
General Council, Cowlitz Tribe

