

ORDINANCE OF THE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBAL COUNCIL  
OF THE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE  
(An Unincorporated Tribe)

ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING "ALTERNATIVE A - THE STRONGHOLD UNIT - HIGHWAY TO HIGHWAY", AS RECOMMENDED PER THE "SOUTH UNIT: BUFFALO EXPANSION FEASIBILITY STUDY" PROJECT, COMPLETED UNDER CONTRACT BY RANCH ADVISORY PARTNERS, TO REINTRODUCE BUFFALO INTO THE NATION'S FIRST TRIBAL NATIONAL PARK ON THE PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION.

WHEREAS, the Oglala Band has been the guardian of the people, air, land and water of its traditional homelands since time immemorial, and

WHEREAS, the Oglala Sioux Tribe adopted its Constitution and By-Laws by referendum vote on December 14, 1935 in accordance with Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (25 USC, Section 476), and

WHEREAS, Article IV of the Constitution establishes the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council as the governing body of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 1(a) authorizes the Tribal Council to negotiate with federal, state and local governments, and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 1(l) authorizes the Tribal Council to purchase, under condemnation proceedings, land for public purposes, and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 1(s) authorizes the Tribal Council to promulgate and enact resolutions and ordinances it's legislative powers, and manage all economic affairs and enterprises of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, and

WHEREAS, the Land Committee is a standing committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and has been delegated the power to oversee land matters on behalf of the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council and the Oglala Oyate, and

WHEREAS, the Land Committee has reviewed the *South Unit Buffalo Expansion Feasibility Study*, which addresses the reintroduction of Buffalo into the pending Tribal National Park (TNP), completed under contract by the Ranch Advisory Partners for the Oglala Sioux Tribe, via the Oglala Sioux Parks & Recreation Authority, and Finalized on May 17, 2013, and

WHEREAS, the *South Unit: Buffalo Expansion Feasibility Study* establishes the first option, "Alternative A: *The Stronghold Unit - Highway-to-Highway*", as the Preferred Alternative, which most closely matches the ideal of a free-roaming low maintenance buffalo herd, and proposes to utilize Grazing Units #501; #503; #504; #505; #506; #507; #508; #510; #515; #518; and #536. . This option includes roughly 100,000 acres, 59,601 of which are graze able acres, which establishes a year-round carrying capacity of 1,072 Animal Units and the need to construct 74 miles of buffalo fence, a Buffalo handling facility, an education/observation facility, nominal water improvements, and complete all NEPA compliance requirements, and

WHEREAS, Alternative A presents the greatest advancement toward the vision and objectives of this effort, it would be the easiest to implement from a managerial perspective, yet blends the greatest revenue per buffalo cow with the cheapest cost per cow because buffalo are a low maintenance native species, while achieving the vision of creating a preserve/reserve that would increase the amount of native habitat available to wildlife by running over 1000 free roaming buffalo, and most closely establishes the ideal of a large self-sustaining, free-roaming, economically feasible, conservation herd, and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the creation of the first Tribal National Park in the United States, construction of Alternative A's 74 miles of required buffalo fence will begin in 2014, and the range units within the South Unit of the Badlands National Park under Alternative A will effectively end cattle grazing with the expiration of Grazing year 2015 on October 31, 2015, and buffalo will be reintroduced into the South Unit as early as Fiscal Year 2016, and

WHEREAS, land sales and exchanges within and adjacent to the Alternative A grazing units will be prioritized at favorable prices and exchange rates, with appraisal waivers and timelines, to accommodate the transition to the enactment and implementation of the Tribal National Park, and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service will help identify and work with donors to establish a nationally visible fundraising campaign for implementing Alternative A, and

WHEREAS, the Badlands National Park and National Park Service donors, as a show of good faith to aid in the creation of the Tribal National Park, will pay the final year grazing permit fees of the affected permittees and landowners within the Alternative A option, which will total in excess of \$250,000, the final year being November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015, now

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THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council does hereby direct the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to create the Stronghold Buffalo Grazing Unit within their range management system, consisting of those units in *Alternative A - Highway to Highway* (Grazing Units #501; #503; #504; #505; #506; #507; #508; #510; #515; #518; and #536), as recommended in the Final Range Management Study entitled; '*South Unit: Buffalo Expansion Feasibility Study*' for the grazing year 2016, which begins on November 1, 2015, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, the Oglala Sioux Tribe directs the BIA to notify all permittees and landowners of the creation of the Stronghold Buffalo Grazing Unit within the South Unit of the Badlands National Park, the pending legislation to create the first Tribal National Park in the United States, and the development of strategies and timelines associated therein, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, all land sales and exchanges within and adjacent to the Alternative A grazing units will be prioritized at favorable prices and exchange rates, with appraisal waivers and timelines, to accommodate the transition to the enactment and implementation of the Tribal National Park, and

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED, that the President is hereby directed to execute the appropriate documents to implement this decision.

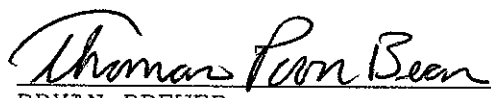
C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

I, as undersigned Secretary of the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by a vote of: 15 For; 2 Against; 0 Abstain; and 0 Not Voting, during a SPECIAL SESSION held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of JUNE, 2013.



RHONDA J. TWO EAGLE  
Secretary  
Oglala Sioux Tribe

A-T-T-E-S-T:

for   
BRYAN BREWER  
President  
Oglala Sioux Tribe

