

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION CY15-33**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE GUSTAVUS CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF  
THE DUDE CREEK CRITICAL HABITAT AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the community of Gustavus has long had an interest in protecting the Dude Creek wetlands for their value to wildlife and other traditional uses, and

**WHEREAS**, the State legislature, in response to a community initiative, established the Dude Creek Critical Habitat Area (CHA) in 1988, and

**WHEREAS**, the objectives, as set out in the legislation and accompanying intent language, were to protect Sandhill cranes and other wildlife habitat in the CHA while allowing traditional uses to the degree not in conflict with crane and other wildlife habitat protection, and,

**WHEREAS**, after years of CHA management without a formal plan, a planning process headed by the Fish and Game Habitat and Wildlife Conservation divisions was completed in 2011, with input from the City of Gustavus, several State agencies, The Nature Conservancy and other interested parties, including the general public, and

**WHEREAS**, the draft CHA management plan arising from that effort was quashed in 2012 by the then-current State administration and replaced with a much altered document that diluted or removed most protections agreed to by participants in the original draft, and

**WHEREAS**, this altered document was met with much criticism and never adopted into regulation, and

**WHEREAS**, under the present State administration, a draft plan has now been reissued, on 10/30/15, that fully reflects the protections agreed to previously, and

**WHEREAS**, this draft plan has the following goals (paraphrased here), as follows:

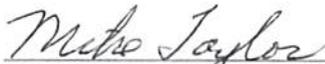
- 1) Protect the habitat for cranes and other wildlife;
- 2) allow and improve public access to the extent compatible with goal #1;
- 3) support research and monitoring of the key wetland resource;

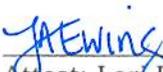
**WHEREAS**, these goals are well reflected in the proposed management prescriptions presented in the 10/30/15 draft plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the Gustavus City Council subscribes to the goals and prescriptions as presented in that draft,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Gustavus City Council supports the draft CHA management plan as presented in the current 10/30/15 draft and urges its enactment into regulation.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** by a duly constituted quorum of the Gustavus City Council this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015, and effective upon adoption.

  
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Mike Taylor, Mayor

  
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Attest: Lori Ewing, City Clerk