

BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEVENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERRING PUBLIC
LANDS BACK TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

Resolution No. 26-2014

SUPPORTING THE TIMELY TRANSFER OF PUBLIC
LANDS

- Whereas all fifty states enter the Union as separate but equal, and each state should receive everything promised to them in their enabling acts and;
- Whereas at statehood the federal government promised all states, in their enabling acts, that it would transfer title to the public lands within the newly created states, and;
- Whereas the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled these promises to be "solemn compacts", "bilateral agreements" and "trusts" that must be performed in a timely manner, and;
- Whereas states like Illinois, Missouri, Florida and others were once up to 90% federally controlled, and succeeded in compelling the federal government to transfer their public lands back to them, and;
- Whereas the present Western states recognize their right and entitlement to control and care for their lands, responsibly utilizing their abundant resources and growing their economies, and;
- Whereas the present generation is responsible to provide opportunities for future generations, and;
- Whereas the present western states are currently more that 50% comprised of federally controlled land and Washington State is still waiting for the federal government to honor the promise made – the same promise it made and kept with all states east of Colorado, and;
- Whereas the promise made to Washington State in its enabling act is the exact same act as North and South Dakota and those states have the public lands returned to them.
- Therefore be it resolved, we call for the federal government to obey the Constitution, the Supreme Court rulings, honor its solemn compact and transfer all public lands to state ownership, and;
- Therefore be it further resolved, we call on the Governor of the State of Washington to move with all diligence in the matter of the transfer of public lands to the State of Washington, and;
- Therefore be it further resolved, we call upon the Legislators of the State of Washington to move with all diligence in the matter of the transfer of public lands to state ownership.

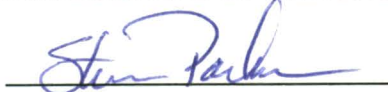
Passed by the Board of Stevens County Commissioners meeting in regular session at Colville, Washington, by the following vote, then signed by its membership and attested to by its Clerk in authorization of such passage the 2nd day of May, 2014.

3 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; and 0 ABSENT

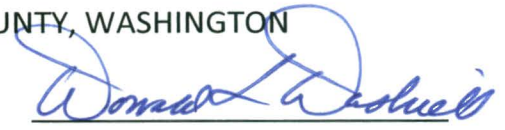
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF STEVENS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



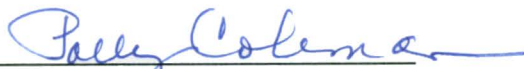
Chairman Wes McCart



Commissioner Steve Parker



Commissioner Don Dashiell

ATTEST: 
Polly Coleman, Clerk of the Board