A RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS DESIGNATING AN INDIAN SACRED SITE ON FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA PERSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 13007

RESOLUTION 2017-42
Submitted by L. Heady, DTHPO Special Assistant

WHEREAS, the Delaware Tribal Council is authorized by Article V of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Delaware Tribe of Indians to represent and act in all matters that concern the general welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13007 of May 24, 1996 has established executive policy for accommodation and protection of Indian Sacred Sites on Federal lands in furtherance of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 13007, an Indian Sacred Site is a site that is identified by an Indian tribe as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 13007, the identification and designation of an Indian Sacred Site on Federal land is the sole province and determination of the affected Indian Tribe or Indian religious practitioners; and

WHEREAS, it falls within the inherent sovereign power and responsibility of the Delaware Tribe of Indians to identify and designate Indian Sacred Sites and strive for their protection regardless of land ownership; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance and concurrence of the National Park Service, one hundred and one (101) individual Lenape Ancestors of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the Delaware Nation, and the Stockbridge Munsee Community were repatriated and reburied at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DEWA) in 2009; and

WHEREAS, this place of reburial has great spiritual significance to all Lenape descendants in that it restores the Ancestors to the peace and dignity that was wrongfully disturbed; and

WHEREAS, this place of spiritual significance to all Lenape descendants is located in Lēnapehōkūn̓, at a location in the upper Delaware River Valley in the vicinity of Minisink Island,

[Redact as necessary]

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians does hereby designate and declare this place to be an Indian Sacred Site, subject to the full protection and accommodation provided for in State and Federal law, including Executive Order 13007 and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.
CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing was considered by the Delaware Tribal Council of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and adopted this 19th day of December 2017 with a vote of _4_ yes, ___ no, and of ___ abstaining.

Chet Brooks, Chief

Attested by: Charles Randall, Secretary