

**Cherokee Council House
Cherokee, North Carolina**

Date

RESOLUTION No. _____ (2019)

WHEREAS, The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians work to conserve and manage fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for present and future Cherokee generations; and

WHEREAS, the Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program has identified funding through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Tribal Wildlife Grants Program; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Wildlife Grants awarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians since 2008 have vastly improved the Tribe's in-house capacity to sustainably manage fisheries and wildlife resources on Tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, these grant resources have empowered the Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program to hire technical biological staff, manage habitat, monitor populations, conduct research and restoration projects, and aid economic and community development through improved compliance with federal regulatory statutes including the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program proposes to utilize these funds to expand and sustain previously initiated fisheries and wildlife management efforts; through continued funding of the existing tribal Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist and Biological Technician positions, totaling \$205,130 to assist the Tribe in completing projects to sustainably manage fish and wildlife resources and meet regulatory needs; and

WHEREAS, that the Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program shall commit to a match totaling \$222,345 (\$200,000 in General fund and \$22,345 In-kind) in the budget to meet departmental needs and improve the grant application's scoring capacity; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled where a quorum is present that the Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Agriculture and Natural Resources Division be authorized to apply and accept funds from the Region IV U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for federal funding for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 in the following program areas totaling approximately \$200,000.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Principal Chief is authorized to carry out the intent of this resolution, which shall remain in effect until implemented or rescinded.

Submitted by: Grants Compliance Office on behalf of the Fisheries & Wildlife Management Program.