



**UPPER MATTAPONI TRIBE**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-09**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A BIA 638 CONTRACT FOR  
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION**

A Resolution to authorize the Chief to enter into a Natural Resources Management contract regarding the Tribal Youth Hunting and Conservation Program.

At a duly called General Meeting of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe Council held this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025, the following Resolution and Law were adopted.

**WHEREAS,** the Upper Mattaponi Tribe (the "Tribe") is an Indian Tribe that has existed from time immemorial and is federally recognized on a government-to-government basis by the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Article VII, Section 4(c) of the Constitution of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe (the "Constitution"), the Upper Mattaponi Tribe Council (the "Council") is vested with the authority to enact laws for the safety, health, and welfare of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe, as a sovereign nation, retains inherent rights to hunting, fishing, and gathering, rights that remain unaltered by treaties with the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe recognizes the necessity of maintaining oversight and regulation to prevent the depletion of fish, wildlife, plants, and other natural resources essential to its cultural and ecological heritage; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe has received a grant award from the United States regarding its Tribal Youth Initiative for a Tribal Youth Hunting and Conservation Program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe is required to enter into a Natural Resources Management contract, pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as a prerequisite of receiving the grant award; and

**WHEREAS,** the Natural Resources Management contract will support a range of tribal programs and activities, including but not limited to, agriculture, wildlife management, conservation enforcement, invasive species control, forestry, fish hatchery operations, and water resource management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Natural Resources Management contract will house the Tribal Youth Initiative funding for the Tribal Youth Hunting and Conservation Program, engaging tribal youth in conservation, hunting, and resource stewardship activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Youth Hunting and Conservation Program will generate economic benefits, protect cultural, spiritual, and traditional resources, and promote the sustainable use and preservation of the Tribe's natural resources.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Upper Mattaponi Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Chief of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe to execute a Natural Resources Management contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the management, development, and protection of Indian Trust land and natural resource assets.

### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution was duly voted upon by the Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025, at a General Meeting with a vote of 7 in favor and 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 absent, pursuant to the authority vested in the Council by the Constitution of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe.

  
*Secretary of the Council or Designee*

## UPPER MATTAPONI TRIBE COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-09

SPONSOR: Councilperson Desirée Dyer

COUNCILMEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Rob Adams	✓			
Ken Adams	✓			
Wilma Hicks	✓			
Sonny Knighton	✓			
Desirée Dyer	✓			
Owen Adams	✓			
Beth Gondos	✓			

ASSISTANT CHIEF (Authorized to break tie votes only): \_\_\_\_\_

## DELIVERY OF THE RESOLUTION AND LAW TO THE CHIEF

Resolution No. 2025-09 was presented to the Chief of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025, pursuant to Article VII, Section 5(f) of the Constitution of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, and will become effective after signature by the Chief or veto override by the Council.

  
Secretary of the Council or Designee

## CHIEF'S ACTIONS:

☒ Approved☐ Veto – Returned to Council with Explanation

---

---

---

---

---

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of MAY, 2025.

  
Chief

Presented to Chief and Council on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**COUNCIL'S ACTIONS:**

Override of the Chief's Veto –

☐ Yes

☐ No

COUNCILMEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Rob Adams				
Ken Adams				
Wilma Hicks				
Sonny Knighton				
Desirée Dyer				
Owen Adams				
Beth Gondos				

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing Resolution was duly voted upon by the Council on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, at a General Meeting with a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ in favor and \_\_\_\_\_ opposed, \_\_\_\_\_ abstaining, and \_\_\_\_\_ absent, pursuant to the authority vested in the Council by the Constitution of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Secretary of the Council or Designee*