



## Gullah/Geechee

### Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission, Inc.

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Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission  
Resolution in Support of Harris Neck Land Trust

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**WHEREAS**, the Harris Neck Justice Movement is an effort to reclaim, from the federal government, the 2,687 acres of Harris Neck in northeast McIntosh County, Georgia taken by the federal government, via Eminent Domain, in 1942, and

**WHEREAS**, the Harris Neck Land Trust (the "Trust") is the legally organized community group requesting justice, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trust represents all the surviving families that lived on Harris Neck as of the official condemnation date of July 27, 1942 and is comprised of former Harris Neck community members and their descendants, and

**WHEREAS**, the original community of Harris Neck was comprised of approximately 75 Gullah Geechee families, and

**WHEREAS**, the families and their descendants have maintained a legal and equitable claim to the land since 1962, and

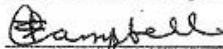
**WHEREAS**, the Trust and all its members are committed to the protection, preservation, and promotion of all the cultural, historic and natural resources of Harris Neck, via the Harris Neck Preservation and Community Development Plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trust and its members contend that these 2,687 acres were taken by an illegal, forceful and unjust implementation of Eminent Domain, a taking that completely destroyed the community, leaving all 75 families homeless and far worse off than they were before the condemnation, and, therefore, violated a principle central to Eminent Domain, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trust contends that this land still belongs to the original families and their descendants, although title, since 1962, has been held by the Department of Interior, under which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been operating the Harris Neck National Wildlife Service on this land, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trust has expressed its desire to have the Fish & Wildlife Service continue with its mission and work on Harris Neck in permanent partnership with the Trust.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: THE GULLAH GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION**, a congressionally authorized body, expresses support for the Harris Neck Land Trust and the Harris Neck Justice Movement in their efforts to reclaim the 2,687 acres of Harris Neck taken wrongfully, illegally and unjustly by the federal government, and return this land to its rightful owners.



Emory S. Campbell, Chairman

Date: 3/30/12