

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-0039

A resolution declaring the Ponderosa Pine as the City of Spokane's official tree.

WHEREAS, the City of Spokane's official city flower is the lilac and there exists no official city tree; and

WHEREAS, the Ponderosa Pine was first commonly described by Meriwether Lewis in 1805 and later botanically described by David Douglas in 1826, from a place near present-day Spokane in eastern Washington state; and

WHEREAS, *Pinus ponderosa*, commonly known as the ponderosa pine, bull pine, blackjack pine, or western yellow pine, is Spokane's dominant native conifer, well-adapted to thrive under local conditions, exceedingly windfirm, drought-tolerant, and low-maintenance; and

WHEREAS, in the urban setting, the Ponderosa Pine provides numerous environmental, economic, health, and aesthetic benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Ponderosa Pine is used in a variety of ways as medicine, food, building material, and for ceremony; and

WHEREAS, this tree species offers ornamental value throughout Spokane with its architectural stature, evergreen foliage, varied and changing colored bark, and its sweet scent; and

WHEREAS, the Ponderosa Pine provides important habitat for native wildlife species; - - Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SPOKANE THAT the City Council declares the Ponderosa Pine the official tree of the City of Spokane and supports the development of policies that will protect existing Ponderosa Pine trees and the ecosystem in which they exist and the planting of new Ponderosa Pine trees.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON _____.

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Assistant City Attorney