

RESOLUTION 20-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 FROM THE BOROUGH'S PROJECT CONTINGENCY FUNDS FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT ENTITLED TAGGING OF PACIFIC COD IN THE WESTERN GULF OF ALASKA.

WHEREAS, Pacific cod fisheries are critically important to AEB communities, serving as a primary source of local employment and make up a large portion of AEB fish tax revenue, and

WHEREAS, quota for GOA Pacific cod has been declining, resulting in the closure of the 2020 federal directed fishery, and

WHEREAS, Pacific cod fished in the WGOA are currently managed as part of the GOA stock, but there is evidence that suggests WGOA fish are migratory and may be part of the Eastern Bering Sea stock which would have major implications for management but more research must be done to understand the proportion, timing and pathways before this information can be used in a management context, and

WHEREAS, the NRD has collaborated with local fisherman and AFSC scientists to develop a tagging study to examine the seasonal movement of Pacific cod in the WGOA, and

WHEREAS, AFSC has agreed to contribute approximately \$172,315 (90% of total project costs), and

WHEREAS, the Borough would like to appropriate \$20,000 from the Project Contingency line item E 20-866-209-888, to cover the remaining 10% of total project cost for vessel fuel and crew time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly authorizes the appropriation of \$20,000 from the Borough's project contingency funds for the research project entitled *Tagging of Pacific Cod in the Western Gulf of Alaska*.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 9TH day of January, 2020.

ATTEST:

Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

Tina Anderson, Clerk