



## RESOLUTION 23-33

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH SUPPORTING THE CURRENT SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OPPOSING CERTAIN PROPOSALS BEFORE THE BOARD OF FISHERIES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Aleutians East Borough is the municipal government whose boundaries include the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Salmon Management Area M, and

**WHEREAS**, the fishing communities of the Aleutians East Borough were founded on the local salmon fisheries, and

**WHEREAS**, commercial salmon fishing and processing has been active in the region for over one hundred years and the local Aleut people have subsisted on the salmon for thousands of years, and

**WHEREAS**, Aleutians East Borough revenue from taxes on salmon delivered to our shore plants is significant, and

**WHEREAS**, Area M salmon fishermen will be defending their fisheries and livelihoods at the February 2023 Board of Fisheries Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands/Chignik Finfish meeting in Anchorage, and

**WHEREAS**, there are a number of proposals to be considered at the February meeting that would needlessly constrict South Alaska Peninsula salmon fisheries, and

**WHEREAS**, South Alaska Peninsula salmon fishermen have been working tirelessly to address other regions salmon concerns – to limit harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon and to limit harvest of AYK-bound chum salmon - sharing in the burden of conservation for those struggling stocks, a sacrifice that results in lost revenue for these fishermen, and

**WHEREAS**, previous actions by the Board of Fisheries and by Area M fishermen have resulted in improvements in Chignik Sockeye salmon escapement and commercial fisheries, and

**WHEREAS**, Area M salmon seine gear fishermen working together to avoid chum salmon during the June 2022 fishery resulted in the lowest June chum to sockeye salmon ratio in decades, noting that the majority of these chum are Asian chum not AYK-bound, and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to maintain the current South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management plan in order for these fishermen conservation efforts to continue to be successful, and

**WHEREAS**, these proposals would enact restrictive conditions, including reduced fishing times and areas, that would hamper South Alaska Peninsula salmon fishermen conservation measures: Proposals 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 143, 148, 149, and 150, and

**WHEREAS**, restricting the South Alaska Peninsula salmon fisheries will result in economic distress for families, businesses and communities in the Aleutians East Borough.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly supports the conciliatory efforts by Area M fishermen sharing in the burden of conservation of Alaska salmon that have yielded impressive results, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly supports the current South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Plan that will allow the time and area for fishermen to continue these conservation efforts and feed their families, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly opposes the following Board of Fisheries 2022/2023 cycle proposals that would needlessly limit South Alaska Peninsula fishermen conservation efforts and opportunities to make a living: The Aleutians East Borough Assembly opposes Board of Fisheries 2022/2023 Proposals 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 143, 148, 149, and 150.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Aleutians East Borough Assembly on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

  
Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Beverly Rosete, Clerk