

RESOLUTION 27-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH REQUESTING GOVERNOR DUNLEAVY SUPPORT A FISHERY DISASTER DECLARATION FOR THE 2026 ALASKA PENINSULA SET NET GEAR SALMON FISHERY.

WHEREAS, salmon is culturally and economically important to Aleutians East Borough communities and is critical for the survival of local commercial fishermen, and

WHEREAS, Sockeye salmon are the target species in the Shumagin Islands and South Unimak June salmon fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula for seine, drift and set net fishing gear, and

WHEREAS, salmon harvests by gear type are published annually following the salmon season in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game South Peninsula management report, and

WHEREAS, both 2024 & 2025 set net Sockeye salmon June harvests for the South Alaska Peninsula were 65% below the previous 5-year 2019-2023 season average set net gear Sockeye harvests, and

WHEREAS, preliminary data show the June 2026 Sockeye salmon harvest for the South Alaska Peninsula set net gear fleet was 70% below the previous 5-year 2021-2025 average harvest and 81% below the 10-year 2016-2025 average harvest resulting in cumulative economic hardships for those fishermen, and

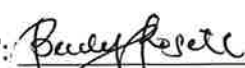
WHEREAS, the Area M Seiners Association and the Concerned Area M Fishermen have expressed support for local set net fishermen's request for a fishery disaster determination for the 2026 Alaska Peninsula salmon season for set net gear.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly requests the ADF&G to prioritize finalizing the 2026 South Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Report including set net gear harvest data, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly requests Governor Dunleavy to consider ADF&G updated data to request Secretary of Commerce Lutnick determine a fishery disaster for the 2026 South Alaska Peninsula set net gear salmon season and for the cumulative economic impact of the poor 2024, 2025 and 2026 South Alaska Peninsula set net salmon seasons.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough Assembly on this 13th day of August 2026.


Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Beverly Rosete, Clerk