

RESOLUTION 25-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH OPPOSING THE WILD FISH CONSERVANCY PETITION TO LIST GULF OF ALASKA SALMON AS THREATENED OR ENDANGERED UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has announced a positive finding on a petition to list Gulf of Alaska Chinook salmon as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, and

WHEREAS, NMFS is soliciting information on the 90-day finding from interested parties concerning the current and/or historical status of GOA Chinook salmon through September 6, 2024, and

WHEREAS, Aleutians East Borough communities depend on commercial salmon fishing, and

WHEREAS, an unwarranted listing of Alaska salmon under the ESA has the potential to cause harm to AEB communities and resident fishermen, and

WHEREAS, Chinook salmon are minimally harvested within Borough waters along with other salmon species, and

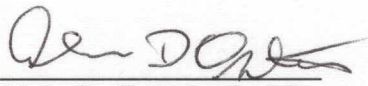
WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game manages Alaska salmon fisheries for the benefit of Alaskans and the fishery resource based on the best science available, currently requiring commercial purse seine fishermen to release unharmed any Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length in the Chignik management area and in the South Alaska Peninsula management area beginning in July, and

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough Natural Resource Department studies and collects data on salmon and other fisheries impacting the Borough and Borough fishermen.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly opposes the petition to list Gulf of Alaska Chinook salmon as threatened or endangered under the ESA, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly directs the Natural Resources Department to research and prepare a report based on Aleutians East Borough local knowledge to respond to the NMFS request for information related to the 90-day finding on the petition to list Chinook salmon.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 17th day of July, 2024.


Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Beverly Roséte, Clerk