

City of Sand Point



RESOLUTION 23-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SAND POINT SUPPORTING THE CURRENT SOUTH ALASKA PENINSULA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OPPOSING CERTAIN PROPOSALS BEFORE THE BOARD OF FISHERIES.

WHEREAS, the City of Sand Point is the municipal government whose boundaries include the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Salmon Management Area M, and

WHEREAS, the City of Sand Point was 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, City of Sand Point revenue from taxes on salmon delivered to our shore plant 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 City of Sand Point.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sand Point City Council 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 Sand Point City Council 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 Sand Point City Council 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 City of Sand Point 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 Sand Point City Council on this 14th day of February, 2023.

CITY OF SAND POINT


James Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jade Gundersen, City Clerk