

Introduced by: Glick,
O'Connell, McLane, Walli
Date: February 5, 1991
Vote: UNANIMOUS
Action: ADOPTED AS AMENDED

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 91-14

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE EASTSIDE COOK INLET SETNET FISHERY

WHEREAS, the offshore setnet fishery in Cook Inlet has been a legal and accepted method of fishing for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries established boundaries on this fishery in 1978 of one and one-half miles offshore south of the Kenai River and one mile offshore north of the Kenai River; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority (87%) of Cook Inlet setnet permit holders are Alaska residents with over two-thirds being residents of the central Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the eastside setnet fishery is a major economic factor within the Kenai Peninsula Borough, with an annual ex-vessel catch value for the past five years averaging \$27.9 million, employing many people in the fishery, processing and transportation industry, and directly contributing to the Kenai Peninsula Borough through real and personal property, sales and raw fish taxation; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Board of Fisheries have developed and implemented a biologically based management plan providing protection reduced interception of king salmon by establishing both minimum and optimum escapement goals; and

WHEREAS, the eastside setnet fishery targets the red salmon run and has taken measures to reduce the catch of king salmon, significantly reducing the incidental harvest in recent years and plans to institute a voluntary program dedicating the revenues from incidental catch of king salmon to improvement of Kenai River habitat;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the Assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough urge Governor Walter J. Hickel, the Alaska Board of Fisheries, and the Alaska State Legislature to fully examine the biological,

social, and economic impacts of any proposed action to limit setnets along the eastside of Cook Inlet.

Section 2. That the Alaska Board of Fisheries be allowed to promulgate regulations regarding fisheries management and allocation issues based upon biological considerations.

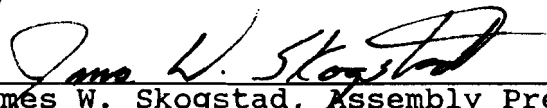
Section 3. We respectfully request that new and continuing members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries exhibit a high degree of integrity and an ability to be fair and impartial in arriving at their decisions.

Section 4. That the Alaska Department of Fish and Game be allowed to manage fisheries according to the management plans and regulations established by the Alaska Board of Fisheries without interference.

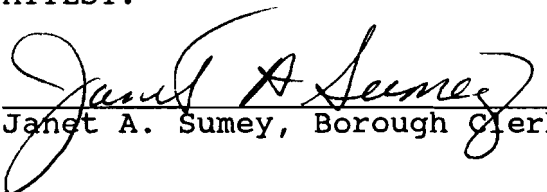
Section 5. That copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Walter J. Hickel, members of the House and Senate Resources Committees, and members of the Kenai Peninsula delegation.

Section 6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 5th DAY OF February, 1991.


James W. Skogstad, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Janet A. Sumey, Borough Clerk