

Introduced by: Hodgins  
Date: May 7, 1991  
Action: ADOPTED  
Vote: UNANIMOUS

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 91-56

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE BYCATCH OF ALASKAN CHINOOK SALMON BY THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN TRAWL FISHERIES.

WHEREAS, The Chinook salmon are one of the most prized and valuable species of Alaskan salmon for Alaskan subsistence, sport and commercial fisheries; and

WHEREAS, Chinook salmon originating from the Kenai Peninsula and other areas of Alaska range extensively along the Alaskan coast and out into the North Pacific; and

WHEREAS, new information from the National Marine Fisheries Service observer program is documenting a significant bycatch of Chinook salmon in the groundfish trawl fisheries in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; and

WHEREAS, new information from domestic and federal observers also strongly indicates a significant bycatch of Chinook salmon in the international waters of the central Bering Sea "donut hole"; and

WHEREAS, the bycatch of Chinook salmon threatens to affect allocation, conservation and management programs within the Kenai Peninsula Borough as well as other areas of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan residents and visitors rely on returning salmon stocks that are being intercepted by incidental catches on the high seas; and

WHEREAS, the bycatch of Chinook salmon on the high seas is increasing at a rate that if it has not already done so, will seriously damage future returns of this species;

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

Section 1: That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports and urges the Governor of Alaska to petition the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the United States Secretary of Commerce to be prepared to implement emergency regulations to limit the bycatch of Chinook salmon in the 1991 trawl fisheries in the United States Exclusive Economic Zone, and to expedite a 1992 Chinook salmon bycatch plan amendment to the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island of Alaska Groundfish Fishery Management Plans.

Section 2: That the Governor petition the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the United States Secretary of Commerce to implement emergency and permanent regulations limiting the bycatch of Alaska Chinook salmon by domestic trawlers in the central Bering Sea "donut hole".

Section 3: Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Walter J. Hickle, Governor of the State of Alaska; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 1991.

James W. Skogstad  
James W. Skogstad, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Terresa Hudson  
Acting Borough Clerk