

**CITY OF CORDOVA, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 02-17-06**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORDOVA, ALASKA,
SUPPORTING REINSTATEMENT OF PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND CRAB AND
OTHER HISTORICAL FISHERIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW FISHERIES
AND MARICULTURE, EMPHASIZING BENEFITS TO FISHERMEN, PROCESSORS,
AND LOCAL ECONOMIES WHILE SUSTAINING THE RESOURCE FOR YIELD**

WHEREAS, fisheries play the central role in Cordova and the region's economy and subsistence lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, the role of crab fisheries in particular has been absent from Cordova and the region's economy for three decades; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the State of Alaska's Policy on King and Tanner crab resource management, established by the Board of Fish (BOF), is to *"manage king and tanner stocks in a manner which will protect, maintain, improve, and extend these resources for the greatest overall benefit to Alaska and the nation"*; and

WHEREAS, a key benefit of achieving the goal is *"providing a sustained and reliable supply of high quality products to the industry and consumers which will provide stable and substantial employment in all sectors of the economy relating to these fisheries"*; and

WHEREAS, achieving these departmental and socioeconomic goals and benefits necessitate sound stock assessment methodologies; and

WHEREAS, the ADF&G appears to undervalue the role of commercial crab fisheries in Prince William Sound as a stock assessment tool; and

WHEREAS, the ADF&G and the BOF has, for numerous years and board cycles, rebuffed all attempts by various individuals, groups and other entities to achieve the stated policy goals in Area E though the use of commercial fisheries for stock assessment methods; and

WHEREAS, after making significant progress by collaborating with Area E stakeholders to move toward a tanner crab pot fishery to better measure and manage the resource, the ADF&G has returned to relying exclusively on trawl surveys for crab stock assessment, a method which is widely criticized as inadequate, flawed, and destructive of the resource; and

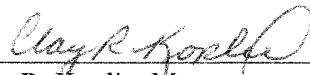
WHEREAS, the ADF&G has instituted a subsistence fishery which is prohibitively expensive to pursue because of the extremely small daily harvest limit of crab to local residents, and increased size limits for retained crab, which provides confusing stock statistics from subsistence harvest to the ADF&G;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Cordova, strongly supports subsistence crab and other fisheries which minimize expense to fishermen, maximize benefits to local and regional residents, and provide clear and accurate stock assessment data to the ADF&G.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Cordova supports the use of commercial fisheries as a stock assessment tool, supports the elimination of trawls as a method for crab stock assessment in Prince William Sound, supports Board of Fish proposal 268, and supports a crab management plan which provides for a sustainable harvest level at a biomass that currently exists rather than historical high harvest thresholds before a fishery is allowed..


PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2017





Clay R. Koplín, Mayor

ATTEST:



Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk