

**CITY OF CORDOVA, ALASKA
RESOLUTION 06-16-24**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORDOVA, ALASKA
OPPOSING SITING AND TIMING OF U.S. NAVY TRAINING EXERCISES THAT
POSE RISKS TO FISH AND FISHERIES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA**

WHEREAS, the City of Cordova is the governing body with the full power and authority as recognized by the citizens of Cordova, to act for its members, and has the responsibility to provide government for the good health and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Navy has plans to conduct training activities utilizing explosives, live ordnance, and sonar in the Gulf of Alaska in 2017 that will have impacts on marine life and habitat vital to the interests of the City of Cordova and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, these trainings will impact the waters of the Gulf of Alaska by annually releasing up to approximately 352,000 pounds of expended materials including up to 10,500 pounds of hazardous materials including cyanide, chromium, lead, tungsten, nickel, cadmium, barium chromate, chlorides, phosphorus, titanium compounds, lead oxide, potassium perchlorate, lead chromate, ammonium perchlorate, fulminate of mercury, and lead azide into waters designated by NOAA as Essential Fish Habitat for a multitude of species that support the economic development in Alaskan coastal communities and harvest of wild Alaskan salmon and other fish for global markets; and

WHEREAS, the training area and vicinity is a highly productive region for many marine fish and shellfish populations and supports some of the most productive fisheries in the United States, and an important spawning area for many fish, and the training is scheduled to take place during the summer season when many fish populations are migrating and spawning (at least 383 species belonging to 84 families of marine and anadromous fish have been reported from the predominant ecosystems found in the training area); and

WHEREAS, the port of Cordova is often ranked in the top 15 U.S. ports for quantity of seafood landed and dollar value of seafood harvests (Fisheries of the U.S., NOAA), illustrating coastal Alaska's reliance on the fish and wildlife resources in the Gulf of Alaska for their subsistence harvest and the livelihoods supported by commercial fishing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cordova supports all cultural, traditional and subsistence activities historically and continually practiced by Native and non-Native peoples in the Gulf of Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska does hereby request that the U.S. Navy refrain from using live ordnance or sonar in any Marine Protected Area, including NOAA Fisheries Marine Protected Areas, State Marine Protected Areas and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska hereby requests that the U.S. Navy relocate its training area to the far southeast corner of the current designated training area, off the Continental Shelf areas of the Gulf of Alaska, and away from seamounts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska requests that the U.S. Navy conduct its training exercises after the middle of September and before the Spring, so as not to impact migrating salmon and other species.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF JUNE, 2016



Clay R. Koplin

Clay Koplin, Mayor

ATTEST: *Susan Bourgeois*

Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk