

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
CITY OF KACHEMAK
CITY OF KENAI
CITY OF HOMER
CITY OF SELDOVIA
CITY OF SEWARD
CITY OF SOLDOTNA**

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2024-002

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH AND THE COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF HOMER, KACHEMAK, KENAI, SEWARD, SELDOVIA, AND SOLDOTNA, SUPPORTING THE KENAI PENINSULA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT'S REQUEST THAT THE 2026 AND 2027 COOK INLET FINFISH MEETINGS BE HELD IN SOLDOTNA, ALASKA, AND ROTATED THEREAFTER AMONG THE THREE PRIMARY AFFECTED BOROUGHES (ANCHORAGE, MATSU AND KENAI PENINSULA) TO PROVIDE RESOURCE STAKEHOLDERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PRESENT AT PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the functions of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner are to manage, protect, maintain, improve, and extend the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state in the interest of the economy and general well-being of the state; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature created the seven-member Fisheries Board in 1975 with the purpose of conservation and development of fisheries and wildlife resources; and,

WHEREAS, the regulatory authority must work alongside all stakeholders, including industry leaders and local, tribal, and borough organizations, to protect the Kenai Peninsula's natural resources, communicate regulatory needs, and receive critical stakeholder engagement to find best-suited options for the highest economic returns on investment revolving around the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon system; and,

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula waterways of the Kenai, Kasilof, and Susitna Rivers and Fish Creek are the entry points to significant sockeye salmon systems in Upper Cook Inlet; and,

WHEREAS, the Kenai River and its lakes are the primary sockeye salmon-producing systems in the Cook Inlet; and,

WHEREAS, personal-use salmon fisheries are essential to the people of the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, salmon sport fisheries are essential to the Kenai Peninsula economy; and

WHEREAS, subsistence salmon fisheries are essential for all Kenai Peninsula communities; and

WHEREAS, all users of salmon are dependent on an abundance of salmon; and

WHEREAS, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, more than 1,300 drift and set gillnet limited-entry fishing permits have been issued for the Upper Cook Inlet area, contributing about 10% of salmon permits issued statewide; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fish Upper Cook Inlet Finfish Regulatory Meetings provide critical resource updates, including research presentations and staff reports; provide a platform for public testimony; create and/or update industry regulations; facilitate deliberations from committee members to ensure sustainable salmon returns; and outline management plans; and

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 2024-002 supports the efforts of the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District's Request that the 2026 and 2027 Cook Inlet Finfish meetings be held in Soldotna, Alaska, to provide resource stakeholders with the opportunity to be present at public discussions affecting the management of their resources;

Joint Resolution No. 2024-XX

Page 2 of 4

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH AND THE COUNCILS OF THE CITIES OF HOMER, KACHEMAK, KENAI, SEWARD, SELDOVIA, AND SOLDOTNA:

Section 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Cities of Homer, Kachemak, Kenai, Seward, Seldovia, and Soldotna, respectively, formally request that the 2026-2027 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish Regulatory Meetings be held in Soldotna, Alaska, and Rotated Thereafter Among the Three Primary Affected Boroughs (Anchorage, Mat-Su and Kenai Peninsula) to provide an opportunity for local stakeholders to attend and provide public testimony regarding the management of the salmon system.

Section 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption by the City Councils of the Cities of Homer, Kachemak, Kenai, Seward, Seldovia, and Soldotna, and the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Brian Gabriel Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle M. Saner, MMC, City Clerk

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Paul J. Whitney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenship, MMC, City Clerk

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Sue McClure, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kris Peck, City Clerk

Joint Resolution No. 2024-XX
Page 3 of 4

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Ken Castner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELDOVIA, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX,
2024.

Jeremiah Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Liz Diament, City Clerk

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KACHEMAK, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Bill Fry, Mayor

ATTEST:

Laurie Wallace, City Clerk

Joint Resolution No. 2024-XX

Page 4 of 4

PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH, ALASKA, THIS XXND DAY OF XXXX, 2024.

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

Peter A. Micciche, KPB Mayor

ATTEST:

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk