

RESOLUTION #13-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE QAWALANGIN TRIBE OF UNALASKA SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF UNALASKA NATIVE FISHERMANS ASSOCIATION'S (UNFA) PROPOSAL 162 TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES, TO CLOSE THE WATERS OF UNALASKA BAY TO GROUNDFISH FISHING WITH TRAWL GEAR, YEAR ROUND.

WHEREAS, the Qawalangin Tribal Council is a duly elected governing body of the Federally recognized Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska (Q. T.); and

WHEREAS, the UNFA has submitted proposal 162 to the Alaska Board of Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would close Unalaska Bay year round to groundfish trawling with trawl gear from a point at south of a line from Cape Kalekta at 54° 00.50' N. lat., 166° 22.50' W. long. To Cape Cheerfull at 54° 01' N lat., 166° 40' W. long.; and

WHEREAS, trawling inside of Unalaska Bay has been an issue of concern for local residents in this community for many years, and this area is not traditionally used or depended on by the local pollock trawl fleet; and

WHEREAS, the concern for the local residents is that the influx of trawlers into this very small area during the summer time has negatively impacted local residents who are engaged in commercial, subsistence, and sport fishing activities in the Unalaska Bay; and

WHEREAS, trawling adjacent to some of Unalaska Island's most productive and largest river system is a major concern to local residents that fish in this area; and

WHEREAS, local residents have long voiced concerns regarding bycatch of salmon and halibut as well as gear conflicts, habitat impacts and lost gear in the Unalaska Bay area during this time of year; and

WHEREAS, Proposal 162 is intended to reduce habitat impacts, gear conflicts, bycatch of salmon, halibut, herring, and other species in Unalaska Bay and is expected to have a positive impact on habitat, subsistence, sport, and commercial fishing activities in this area; and



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the Qawalangin Tribal Council strongly urges the Alaska Board of Fisheries to adopt Proposal 162, for the positive impacts it will have on bycatch reduction, gear conflicts, habitat, subsistence, sport, and commercial fishing activities in the Unalaska Bay area.

We do certify, that the above Resolution was approved and passed at a Regular Meeting of the Quivalangin Tribal Council therefore called and held the 25 day of Johnson, 2013, at which a quorum was present and resulted in a vote of S ayes, on nays, and O abstaining.

- M Rankin

President

Lillian A. Ford

Secretary/Treasurer