



Cordova District Fishermen United
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October 15, 2018

Reed Morisky, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

RE: 2020 Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Meeting Location

Dear Chairman Morisky and members of the Board of Fisheries,

Cordova District Fishermen United represents over 800 commercial fishing families in the Prince William Sound and Copper River region. As the leading fisheries advocacy group based in Cordova, we respectfully ask you to reconsider the meeting location for the 2020 Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound meeting. Conducting this meeting outside of the Prince William Sound region means that local, rural residents may lose access to the public process regarding the fisheries that take place within our region.

Furthermore, we would like to draw attention to the following statute:

Sec. 16.05.300. Board meetings.

(a) Each board shall hold at least one meeting a year and as many other meetings as it considers necessary. Each board shall select the time and place in the state for the transaction of business. Each board shall maintain its office at the principal office of the department.

(b) In addition, the Board of Fisheries shall hold at least one meeting or hearing a year in each of the following general areas:

- (1) Upper Yukon - Kuskokwim - Arctic
- (2) Western Alaska (including Kodiak)
- (3) Southcentral
- (4) Prince William Sound (including Yakutat).

Cordova is home to a new, fully equipped meeting facility, as well as a vibrant community of commercial, sport, and subsistence users who rely heavily on local natural fisheries resources to meet their needs. Additionally, large events such as the Board of Fisheries meeting help to stimulate the local economy and the effects are far reaching into other industries beyond the commercial fishing industry.

We support the Board's reconsideration of Cordova as the meeting location for 2020, and advocate on behalf of our fleet and our community. Please accept Cordova as the location for the 2020 Prince William Sound meeting.

Chelsea Haisman
Executive Director
Cordova District Fishermen United