

RC23

**RESOLUTION #2013-01-01****A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA NATIVE FISHERMENS ASSOCIATION (UNFA), SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF PROPOSAL 162 TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES, TO CLOSE THE WATERS OF UNALASKA BAY TO GROUND FISH FISHING WITH TRAWL GEAR, YEAR ROUND.**

**WHEREAS**, the Unalaska Native Fishermen's Association Committee 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 Chccrfull 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 Unalaska Fishermen's Association 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.

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I hereby certify that the above resolution was passed and approved on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of JAN, 2013, with a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstains, at the regular meeting of the Unalaska Native Fishermen's Association

  
Vincent M. Tutiakoff Sr.  
President

  
Walter Tellman  
Secretary/ Treasurer