



City of False Pass

RC 33

P.O. Box 50 · False Pass, Alaska 99583-0050
Telephone (907) 548-2319 · Fax (907) 548-2214

February 20, 2019

Chairman Reed Morisky
Alaska Board of Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
1255 W. 8th Street
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Chairman Morisky,

The City of False Pass is a Second Class City of the State of Alaska. The Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Area M and Area M salmon management regulations impact every single one of our residents. Our community is built on a foundation of commercial salmon fishing. Our region has a long history and tradition of commercial salmon fishing, and the Aleut people have subsisted on salmon for thousands of years. We ask that you allow our salmon fisheries to continue. Our commercial fishermen and women depend on and fish every opportunity including cod, crab, herring, pollock and halibut.

The City of False Pass highly depends on taxes on fish to provide for our school, marine services, subsidizing fuel costs to our residents to run our electric utility, transportation infrastructure, renewable energy feasibility studies, and much more. False Pass hosts, soon to be 2 major seafood processing plants, Trident and Silver Bay Seafoods (scheduled to start receiving fish in June 2019). These seafood processors have invested at least 79 million dollars in infrastructure and improvements in just this past year. They provide important seafood processing employment opportunities, community support on many different levels and contribute to the State economy, providing jobs and contributions to the State Fisheries Business Tax. These seafood processing plants contribute to at least 50% of the income in the City's budget for the past 4 years. Continued opportunity for salmon fishing is critical to continued success of our economy.

Current regulations provide strong measures for the conservation of the salmon resource. Area M fishermen share in the burden of conservation; in particular, the Southeast District Mainland and Dolgoi Island area salmon fishery regulations provide adequate protections for Chignik Bound salmon in our mixed stock salmon fishery. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game does a great job managing our salmon fisheries and managers maintain emergency order authority over fisheries if needed.

We are hopeful that your actions at this meeting are not detrimental to our livelihood. In most of the proposals before you, we support status quo or no action. We ask that you pay attention to the science and listen to the testimony of our fishermen. Allowing our salmon fisheries to maintain as is, will continue to yield positive results for our community, our Borough and our State.

Sincerely,

Nikki Hoblet
Mayor