

QAGAN TAYAGUNGIN TRIBE P.O. BOX 447 SAND POINT, ALASKA 99661 PHONE (907) 383-5616

October 14, 2019

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

Chairman Morisky and Commissioners,

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point is a federally recognized tribe comprised of the Native people of Sand Point, and descendants of the original inhabitants of the Shumagin, Sanak, and Pavlof Islands. The Alaska Peninsula Salmon Management Area M is entirely within our Tribal boundaries, and the Area M salmon management regulations, including for the Dolgoi Island area, greatly impact our Tribal Citizens. The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point urges the Board to not accept Agenda Change Request (ACR) #5, seeking further curtailing of commercial salmon fishing in the Dolgoi Island area of the South Alaska Peninsula region. This issue was fully adjudicated by the Board at the February 2019 meeting to a satisfactory result, the ACR is not warranted.

The tribe concurs with ADF&G Commissioner Vincent-Lang's July 10<sup>th</sup> denial of the Chignik Intertribal Coalition's Emergency Petition when he stated "it appears the regulatory change was successful in reducing harvest of sockeye salmon in those sections". South Alaska Peninsula fishermen share in the burden of conservation of Chignik-bound sockeye. In addition to the new 2019 regulation, the Southeastern District Mainland section of the South Alaska Peninsula remained closed for the entire 2018 salmon season, and did not open until August 15, 2019.

The alarming 2018 Chignik salmon season was of a concern to South Peninsula fishermen, and resulted in fishermen commended regulatory changes in February 2019. As a result, while 2018 total Chignik escapement was only 70% of the preceding 10-year average, the 2019 escapement reached 87% of the prior 10 year average. The Tribe therefore respectfully asks the Board to reject (ACR) #5.

Sincerely,

David O. Osterback

President