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BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOC	JATION
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P.O. BOX 310 DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576 PHONE (907) 842-5257

November 22, 2022

ake Alaska Board of Fisheries PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526

RE: Support to defer action on the Nushagak King Salmon Action Plan

Dear Chair Carlson-Van Dort:

The Bristol Bay Native Association appreciates the action taken by Board at the October Work Session designating the Nushagak River King Salmon as a stock of management concern.

We recognize King Salmon as highly valued and imbedded into the socio-cultural fabric which ties the families and communities in our region together.

BBNA and Tribes of the Nushagak River have dedicated enormous resources to ensure the water quality in which these salmon spawn and rear remains protected and of the highest quality in its natural form.

We understand the complexities in striking a balanced approach to revitalizing the stocks that make up the Nushagak River population. This action plan will require developing additional monitoring by the Department of Fish and Game, and a well-developed metric for assessing the effectiveness of that plan moving forward. This simply cannot be accomplished in the timeframe outlined in the normal Bristol Bay Finfish meeting cycle.

We therefore recommend taking no action on the plan being developed by the Department of Fish and Game until the statewide meeting, March 10-13, 2023.

Thank you for your service and consideration,

Garyin Federenko

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President & CEO