ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Resolution #77-29-FB

RELATING TO THE INCLUSION OF THE CONTIGUOUS MARINE AND COASTAL WATERS OF THE STATE OF ALASKA INTO THE DEFINITION OF ANADROMOUS STREAMS AND WATERS

WHEREAS, the marine and anadromous fish resources of Alaska's coastal zone and marine waters are critical to the economic, cultural, and social well-being of the citizens of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, these resources constitute a major food source not only for other nations of the world, but also for other forms of marine and terrestrial life; and

WHEREAS, the contiguous marine and coastal waters of the State of Alaska are critical to the spawning and early life history of most of Alaska's commercial fisheries resources including crab, shrimp, herring, smelt, salmon, halibut, and many other pelagic and demersal species of commercial and ecological importance; and

WHEREAS, these fisheries resources are particularly vulnerable to damage or destruction during their spawning and early life stages; and

WHEREAS, the nearshore marine and coastal environment itself is particularly susceptible to damage from man's activities in the coastal zone;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Alaska's contiguous marine and coastal waters, out to three nautical miles, should be declared a fisheries conservation zone and that the provisions of Alaska Statute 16.05.870 pertaining to the protection of waters important to the production of anadromous fish be extended to include this area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Alaska Coastal Policy Council with a recommendation that it be incorporated into the Guidelines and Standards of the Alaska Coastal Management Plan and included when the plan is sent to the Legislature for approval; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Alaska Legislature with the recommendation that Alaska Statute 16.05.870 be amended in an appropriate manner during the 1978 Legislative Session.

Nicholas G. Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 18, 1977
Anchorage, Alaska