ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Resolution #77-31-FB

RELATING TO THE RENEGOTIATION OF INPFC

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-265 asserts United States jurisdiction over anadromous species originating in United States streams; and

WHEREAS, this law also specifies that catch allocations to foreign fishermen of species under United States jurisdiction can only be made if United States fishermen cannot take the total allowable catch of those species; and

WHEREAS, it is an incontestable fact that Alaskan and other United States commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishermen have for many years been able to take the total allowable catch of all species of salmon originating in the streams of Bristol Bay, the Yukon River, and Kuskokwim River, and other Western Alaska streams; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 94-265 further specifies that fishery treaties involving the United States must promptly be renegotiated to bring them into conformance with the provisions of Public Law 94-265; and

WHEREAS, INPFC does not conform with Public Law 94-265 in many significant aspects; and

WHEREAS, Japan, Canada, and the United States are currently renegotiating the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean (INPFC);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, that it is the position of the Board, in view of the above facts and in further consideration of conservation problems relating to the unmanageable and wasteful aspects of the Japanese high seas salmon fishery, that INPFC should be renegotiated in such a manner as to prevent any high seas salmon harvest by Japan of anadromous species of United States origin since we have no surplus salmon stocks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States is respectfully requested by the Board to make the attainment of this goal its highest priority in the forthcoming negotiations with Japan and Canada; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of State, Secretary of Commerce, Governor Hammond, United States INPFC Commissioners Elmer Rasmuson, Robert Schoning, Robert Thorstenson, and Dennis Grotting, and members of the U.S. Section of INPFC.

ADOPTED: December 18, 1977

Anchorage, Alaska

Nicholas G. Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries