

Ann Marie Fossman
River Road Lot 1
Haines, Alaska 99827

February 8, 2018

Haines Borough Planning Commission members:

My name is Ann Marie Fossman. My husband is Steve Fossman. We are both Alumni of Haines. We have three children that graduated from Haines and currently have two grand children enrolled in the Haines Borough School district. We consider ourselves lifelong residents of Haines.

In 1987 the boat ramp located at 3.7 mile Lutak road was dedicated and named the DOROTHY FOSSMAN BOAT RAMP. This was the first such boat ramp in the State of Alaska. It was built with Federal Funds and the construction was supervised by the State of Alaska. The boat ramp has been essential for the well being and safety of both visitors and residents in our community.

The dedication included a rock with a plaque placed at the site. It also included a metal sign that was hung from a chain link fence that was bordering the property. Over the last thirty years the rock was moved several times and the sign had fallen to the ground. We even re-hung the sign ourselves. Now the rock and sign no longer exist on the site.

As stated in the dedication letter received from April Lapham the Mayor of Haines in 1987. The DOROTHY FOSSMAN BOAT RAMP will be maintained by the City of Haines.

I urge you as planning commission board members to please establish a plan to restore and maintain the DOROTHY FOSSMAN BOAT RAMP as a project goal in the future.

Thank You,



Ann Marie Fossman

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

PC Agenda Packet 2/8/2018
Supplemental for Item 12 Correspondence
A. Fossman letter, Lutak Boat Ramp. P 1 of 3

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

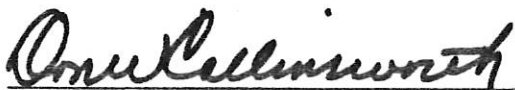
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Dorothy Fossman

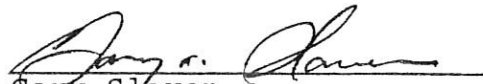
Dorothy Fossman is remembered by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fisheries, and the Board of Game for her unflagging interest in and dedication to sound resource management. Dorothy served on the Upper Lynn Canal Fish and Game Advisory Committee from its beginning. She was the first secretary for the committee and served as chairperson for the year prior to her death. She was a constant participant in deliberations at board meetings with clear and concise testimony before the boards on issues of concern to Haines area residents. Her interest and commitment often helped clarify the department's information for members of the Advisory Committee and educate members of both of the boards about local concerns.

Dorothy's interest in wildlife and fisheries extended far beyond the Advisory Committee meetings. She was instrumental in the creation of the Haines Land Use Plan, the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, the Haines Moose Management Plan, and formation of the Lynn Canal Gillnetters Association. Dorothy also served as secretary for the Southeast Regional Fish and Game Council.

Dorothy's leadership and organizational skills have had a lasting effect on the involvement of Haines residents in the management of the area's fish and wildlife. It is a fitting tribute to Dorothy Fossman to dedicate this facility to her.



Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner
Alaska Department
of Fish and Game



Gary Slaven
Chairman, Alaska Board of
Fisheries
Joint Boards of Fish and Game

October 17, 1987

DOROTHY FOSSMAN
BOAT RAMP DEDICATION
October 17, 1987

Dorothy Fossman made outstanding contributions to our valley because of her love of its people and for her spiritual communion with its beauty and resources.

Dorothy and her husband, Cliff, came to Haines in 1954 to teach at the Klukwan school. She taught there for a total of 22 years, and was known for her enthusiasm for high school sports. She held a lifetime membership with the Klukwan ANS.

Dorothy was instrumental in the formation of the Haines Borough and the Southeast Alaska State Fair and was directly responsible for the funding of the livestock barn. She was active in the American Legion Auxiliary and held the office of President. She pursued her interest in educating our youth and continued teaching as the instructor for the Catholic Youth Organization at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Dorothy dedicated herself to the fisheries of our valley and Alaska and to the balance of human use with an eye to the continuation of its future as a rich resource in Alaska. She, Ed Maki and others formed the Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Board, which, in the early days, worked from her home with a cardboard box filing system. Dorothy held offices with the Advisory Board and the Southeast Regional Council and she became known as the "Watchdog" for the Commercial and Sports Fisheries.

The DOROTHY FOSSMAN BOAT RAMP is the first such boat ramp in the State of Alaska. It was built with Federal Dingle Johnson Funds, engineered and construction-supervised by the State. The contractor was Northern Timber Corporation. The ramp will be maintained by the City of Haines.

The site was chosen as a safe refuge and an emergency landing spot because of the often-prohibitive weather in reaching the Small Boat Harbor.

I want to give special credit to Carmen DeFranco, for it was he who indicated the available funding and it was his suggestion that the boat ramp be dedicated to Dorothy Fossman.

It gives me great pleasure to dedicate this boat ramp in memory of Dorothy Fossman to say "Thank You" and to recognize her as a true friend of the fisherman.

APRIL S. LAPHAM
MAYOR
CITY OF HAINES