## HAINES BOROUGH, ALASKA RESOLUTION No. 18-09-775



## A Resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly in support of the Stand for Salmon Citizen's Initiative.

**WHEREAS**, Alaska boasts 3,000 rivers, 3 million lakes and 6,640 miles of coastline and stands alone as the last state in the United States with robust salmon runs and habitat;

**WHEREAS,** the Haines Borough can be divided into five major river drainages: the Chilkat River, Chilkoot River, Ferebee River, Katzehin River, Tsirku and several small creeks which drain directly into Chilkat, Lutak and Chilkoot Inlets;

**WHEREAS,** the Haines Borough Comprehensive Plan states: "The Chilkoot and Chilkat watersheds are renowned for their productive wild salmon habitat. Recent run declines are of great concern to the Haines Borough";

WHERAS, the Chilkat River system hosts all five species of Pacific salmon;

**WHEREAS**, based on ADF&G Division of Subsistence data, 89 percent of the Haines population use salmon;

**WHEREAS,** the Chilkat River is designated as one of 17 Critical Habitat Areas in Alaska by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in order to protect bald eagles in their habitat in the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve;

**WHEREAS,** among the top 10 most popular activities in Haines among summer visitors are fishing, rafting and wildlife viewing, all of which take place on local area waters;

**WHEREAS,** there were a total of 2,435 non-resident fishing licenses issued in Haines in 2016, making a significant contribution to our local visitor industry;

**WHEREAS,** Haines resident commercial fishing permit holders made a total of \$6 million in gross earnings in 2016;

**WHEREAS,** Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution reserves fish, wildlife and water for the people of Alaska and directs the state to sustainably manage and maintain our wild salmon resources for future generations;

**WHEREAS**, Alaska's Fish Habitat Permitting law has not been updated since statehood and lacks explicit directives that protect Alaska salmon consistent with the Alaska Constitution;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE HAINES BOROUH, ALASKA** that the Haines Borough Assembly supports the Stand for Salmon citizen's ballot initiative to ensure that responsible economic development is enforced and that the habitats that support wild salmon continue to sustain all of the cultural and economic benefits that Alaskans have benefited from year after year since time immemorial.

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Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly on this 25th day of September, 2018.

ANNES BOROUCH 0 CORP Jan Hill, Mayor ED SEAL Attest: OCTOBER 17 STRE OF ALP 2002 St Alekka Fullerton, Borough Clerk