CITY OF HOMER HOMER, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 88-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOMER CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME TO PROCEED WITH PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED RESEARCH AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE POTENTIAL FOR A SALMON ENHANCEMENT PROJECT AT THE MCNEIL RIVER/LAKE SYSTEM, LOWER COOK INLET.

WHEREAS, commercial fishing is a major and primary industrial activity sustaining the Homer economy and labor force; and

WHEREAS, ninety-nine percent of Lower Cook Inlet Commercial Salmon permits are held by Alaska residents and 93% of those permit owners are Kenai Peninsula resident, and

WHEREAS, the McNeil River is located on the west side of lower Cook Inlet in Kamishak Bay and is an accessible fishery for Homer commercial fishermen, and

WHEREAS, the City of Homer recognizes the visitor potential and world-class status of the McNeil River bear santuary; and

WHEREAS, McNeil Lake is the largest lake in the lower Cook Inlet area which maybe suitable for salmon enhancement and production, and

WHEREAS, assuming results similar to other area enhancement projects, an enhancement project at McNeil Lake could double the present production and ex-vessel value of all other lower Cook Inlet lakes combined, and

WHEREAS, preliminary costs vs. benefits analysis of similar area projects have demonstrated that sockeye salmon enhancement projects provide a minimum of \$7.00 return for every dollar spent; and

WHEREAS, information is needed to make intelligent decisions as to the risk and benefits of any enhancement project at McNeil Lake and McNeil River;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Homer City Council requests the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to approve and direct that research and feasibility

studies proceed to determine the potential of McNeil Lake for salmon enhancement and that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Legislators for the Kenai Peninsula and to the Governor of the State of Alaska.

DATED at Homer, Alaska this 14th day of March, 1988.

City of Homer

John P. Calhoun, Mayor

ATTEST;

Patti J. Whalin, City Clerk