CITY OF HOMER 1 2 HOMER, ALASKA 3 Lord 4 **RESOLUTION 20-130** 5 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA 6 7 SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING ALL FORMS OF OUTDOOR 8 RECREATION ESPECIALLY DURING THE 2020-2021 WINTER WITH THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC 9 10 WHEREAS, Parks and recreation programs and areas are an integral part of 11 12 communities throughout the country, including the City of Homer; and 13 14 WHEREAS, Parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to 15 16 the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and 17 18 WHEREAS, City Parks and recreation programs and areas build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation 19 services for people with mental or physical disabilities, and improve the mental and emotional 20 21 health of all citizens; and 22 23 WHEREAS, As the result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, many traditional indoor 24 recreational and leisure programs and opportunities have been suspended or cancelled; and 25 26 WHEREAS, City staff observed an increase in outdoor summer recreation and is 27 anticipating significant levels of outdoor winter recreation during the COVID-19 Pandemic and 28 29 WHEREAS, Given the COVID-19 pandemic, opportunities for COVID conscious outdoor winter recreation is important for the health and wellbeing of Citizens of Homer; and 30 31 WHEREAS, The City of Homer Parks and Community Recreation divisions strive to meet 32 the projected increased recreational needs and will pursue additional opportunities and 33 programs as staff and resources allow; and 34 35 WHEREAS, The community in and around the City of Homer is extremely dedicated to 36 facilitating outdoor recreation with organizations and individuals providing opportunities for 37 cross country skiing, downhill skiing/snowboarding, ice skating, ice racing, snow machining, 38 bike riding, running/walking, sledding, snowshoeing, skijoring, and other snow sports; and 39 40 WHEREAS, Numerous businesses in the City support outdoor winter recreation and the 41

associated tourism when people come to recreate in Homer during the winter months.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City of Homer supports and promotes maintaining our existing parks, trails, and "COVID-19 Safe" related outdoor recreational opportunities while encouraging city staff to pursue additional safe and healthy outdoor opportunities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of Homer celebrates and appreciates all of the efforts of volunteers, nonprofits, and businesses around Homer supporting a vibrant outdoor recreation community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council on this 14th day of December, 2020.

66 Fiscal Note: N/A

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

ATTEST:

CITY OF HOMER

KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

