

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Lord/Venuti/Erickson

RESOLUTION 24-108

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
DESIGNATE BY PROCLAMATION THE AREA OF PRINCE WILLIAM
SOUND PINK SALMON FISHERY AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE
SALMON FISHERIES AS AN AREA IMPACTED BY AN ECONOMIC
DISASTER IN 2024 AND SUPPORTING A RECOVERY PLAN FOR
AFFECTED FISHERMEN

WHEREAS, The commercial salmon fishing season in 2024 saw historically low returns
of salmon from Area M to Southeast Alaska, including Chignik, Kodiak, Lower Cook Inlet, and
Prince William Sound; and

WHEREAS, According to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the Prince William
Sound pink salmon harvest was 4.896 million fish which was 85.3% less than the prior 5-year
average harvest of 33.26 million fish and 15% of a 2024 total run forecast of 32.18 million fish;
and

WHEREAS, The Kodiak Management Area pink salmon forecast from ADF&G for 2024
was estimated as weak, at 8.8 million fish and the estimated harvest through September 5 was
7.1 million fish; and

WHEREAS, The Area M pink salmon forecast from ADF&G for 2024 was 5.3 million, with
1.6 million harvested; and

WHEREAS, Lower Cook Inlet Area pink salmon forecast from ADF&G for 2024 was
582,000, with 14,374 harvested; and

WHEREAS, Commercial fishing is a backbone of Alaska's economy and culture and is an
expensive endeavor with costs including boat payments, insurance, crew, moorage, groceries,
fuel, maintenance, supplies, and permit fees; and

WHEREAS, The price per pound for the fisherman has not increased relative to
operational expenses, and

WHEREAS, According to data from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC)
and the Homer Harbor, Homer has 140 residents that have seine permits in either Prince
William Sound, Lower Cook Inlet, Kodiak, or Area M; and

WHEREAS, AS 44.33.285 authorizes the Governor, upon recommendation of the Commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, to designate by proclamation an area and other areas impacted by an economic disaster; and

WHEREAS, The City of Homer is a political subdivision of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, An economic disaster declaration by the Governor would allow the legislature to appropriate funds for assistance grants and the governor may recommend in the Governor's budget that steps may be taken as provided in AS 44.33.285-.310 to accelerate the recovery from this disaster.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of Homer, Alaska, respectfully requests that:

Section 1. Commissioner Julie Sande, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, recommend to Governor Dunleavy to designate, by proclamation, the area of Prince William Sound and any other applicable area's pink salmon commercial fishery as an area impacted by an economic disaster.

Section 2. Governor Dunleavy designate by proclamation, as described in AS 44.33.285, the area of Prince William Sound pink salmon and any other area that is applicable commercial fishery as an area impacted by an economic disaster and that the State of Alaska implement a recovery plan that provides private assistance and takes other actions that benefit commercial fisheries participants and others that rely on this important fishery resource.

Section 3. The Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) waive permit fees for the upcoming 2025 season for all impacted salmon permit owners.

Section 4. The Council also respectfully requests that the State of Alaska urge the Federal Department of Commerce and all other applicable federal agencies to render private and public assistance to all affected persons and entities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

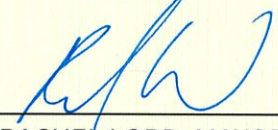
Section 5. A copy of this resolution will be provided to Commissioner Julie Sande, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, and to the Office of Governor Mike Dunleavy.

Section 6. A copy of this resolution will be provided to State Senator Gary Stevens, State Representative Ben Carpenter, State Representative Justin Ruffridge, State Representative Louise Stutes, and State Representative Sarah Vance.

Section 7. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 14th day of October, 2024.

CITY OF HOMER



RACHEL LORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:



RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal note: N/A

