



LARSEN BAY TRIBAL COUNCIL

C7 *Chuck McCollum*

PHONE (907) 847-2207
FAX (907) 847-2307

PO Box 50
LARSEN BAY
ALASKA 99624

Resolution 14-13

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROTECTIONS FOR KODIAK ISLAND'S FISHERY DEPENDENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA BYCATCH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, healthy fisheries are the backbone of the economies and cultures for Kodiak Island's fishery dependent rural communities and tribal communities --- including fishermen, processors, support businesses and community residents;

WHEREAS, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), is currently considering a bycatch management program for the Gulf of Alaska groundfish trawl fisheries which includes a catch share or "rationalization" program; and

WHEREAS, catch share programs can provide economic and conservation benefits, but past catch share programs have also resulted in significant harm to Kodiak Island fishery dependent rural communities and tribal communities in terms of vessel consolidation, loss of crew jobs, and loss of local access to fisheries; and

WHEREAS, a Gulf of Alaska trawl catch share program can achieve bycatch reduction while maintaining coastal communities' economies and fisheries access if designed correctly; and

WHEREAS, direct allocations of fishing quota to fishery dependent communities can help to ensure coastal fishing community economies remain intact under a catch share program by anchoring quota in the community, support new generations of fishermen and crew and amplify community benefits; and

WHEREAS, Community Fishing Associations are currently being considered by the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council for inclusion in the Gulf of Alaska Trawl Groundfish Rationalization program and the allocation of groundfish quota;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Larsen Bay Tribal Council requests the NPFMC recognize the Government to Government authorities that the Kodiak Tribes possess and ensure they are included in Community Fishing Associations as part of the Gulf of Alaska Trawl Groundfish Rationalization program and provide an initial allocation to a Community Fishing Associations as a component of the Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management/catch share program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Larsen Bay Tribal Council requests the NPFMC ensure that the Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management/catch share program includes adequate fishery dependent community protections to sustain fisheries access for Kodiak's rural and tribal communities, provide opportunities for new entrants and maintain community benefits including crew jobs to adequately protect the vibrant coastal economies and cultures of Kodiak Island fishing communities.

Name: Mary Nelson~President 9.30.14