

**CITY OF SELDOVIA
RESOLUTION 19-15**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SELDOVIA, ALASKA
ENCOURAGING THE STATE OF ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES TO RESCIND
THEIR JANUARY 18, 2019 DECISION TO MOVE THE UPPER COOK INLET 2020
FINFISH MEETING TO ANCHORAGE DUE TO THE LACK OF ADEQUATE PUBLIC
NOTICE AND PROCESS**

WHEREAS, in March of 2018 the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) considered and passed Board Policy 2018-289-FB by a vote of 4-2 at their Statewide Dungeness Crab, Shrimp, and Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting, establishing a rotating schedule of the Upper Cook Inlet Finfish (UCI) meeting between the communities of Kenai / Soldotna, Palmer / Wasilla, and Anchorage beginning with Kenai / Soldotna in 2020, Palmer / Wasilla in 2023, and Anchorage in 2026; and

WHEREAS, prior to considering Board Policy 2018-289-FB, the public was adequately noticed 35 days prior to the vote through the Boards Supplemental Notice of Regulatory Actions to Be Taken on February 2, 2018; and,

WHEREAS, during the BOF Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim Finfish meeting held from January 15 – 19, 2019 in Anchorage the BOF voted 4-3 to move the UCI 2020 meeting to Anchorage; and,

WHEREAS, adequate public notice was not provided prior to the vote, the action was inconsistent with past BOF practices, and it did not meet the requirements of the Open Meetings Act; and,

WHEREAS, this action has the potential to erode the public trust in the BOF process; and,

WHEREAS, City of Seldovia is located on the southern portion of the Kenai Peninsula and waters of Cook Inlet; and

WHEREAS, many local residents are impacted by Upper Cook Inlet Finfish fisheries either directly or indirectly; and

WHEREAS, conducting the Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting exclusively in Anchorage hinders local attendance, participation and knowledge due to the expenses and time required to travel such distances; and

WHEREAS, all users of public resources are entitled to reasonable access to public meetings and processes concerning matters affecting their economy, livelihood and lifestyle; and


WHEREAS, holding the 2020 Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting on the Kenai Peninsula would improve that access for locals; and

WHEREAS, all Alaskans deserve consistency, openness, legal compliance, and transparency when engaging with their government during any deliberative decision-making process.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The City Council of the City of Seldovia encourages the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries to rescind their January 18, 2019 decision to move the Upper Cook Inlet 2020 Finfish meeting to Anchorage due to the lack of adequate public notice and process and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Mike Dunleavy, Board of Fisheries Chair, Reed Morisky, Board of Fisheries Members, and the Board of Fisheries Executive Director, Glenn Haight.

PASSED and APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council of Seldovia, Alaska, this 11th day of February 2019

SIGNED: 
Dean Lent, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Heidi Geagel, City Clerk

