

1 **CITY OF HOMER**
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

Lord

3
4 **RESOLUTION 19-091**

5
6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA
7 REQUESTING THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME
8 EXTEND THE COMMENT PERIOD FOR PROPOSED RULE CHANGE
9 TO THE KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA MANAGEMENT
10 PLAN REVISION; AND THAT THEY PROVIDE INFORMATION
11 SUPPORTING THE CHANGE AND WHY IT'S NOT BEING
12 CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE ONGOING REVISION PROCESS FOR
13 THE KACHEMAK BAY CRITICAL HABITAT AREA MANAGEMENT
14 PLAN.
15

16 WHEREAS, The natural beauty and rich productivity of Kachemak Bay led the Alaska
17 Legislature to designate Kachemak Bay one of the state's first Critical Habitat Areas in 1974;
18 and
19

20 WHEREAS, The declared purpose of the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area is "to
21 protect and preserve habitat areas especially crucial to the perpetuation of fish and wildlife,
22 and to restrict all other uses not compatible with that primary purpose"; and
23

24 WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay provides important recreational and economic
25 opportunities for local residents, and attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year who
26 support a broad range of local businesses and jobs; and
27

28 WHEREAS, The Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG) recently opened a thirty (30)
29 day public notice period to change rules adopted to protect the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat
30 Area; and
31

32 WHEREAS, These rules have been in place since 2001, when a strong majority of local
33 residents supported their enactment, and these rules are supported by ADFG staff; and
34

35 WHEREAS, ADFG staff have indicated the Governor's Office has already decided to
36 adopt the rule change, despite the fact local residents have not had the opportunity to submit
37 comments or voice their opinions; and
38

39 WHEREAS, ADFG adopted the current Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area Management
40 Plan in 1993, and has been working with stakeholders, including City of Homer staff, to revise
41 it over the past several years; and
42

43 WHEREAS, City of Homer staff have attended at least twenty (20) meetings and spent
44 significant time and resources over the past three years on the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat
45 Area Management Plan revision process; and

46
47 WHEREAS, Rule changes affecting the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area should be
48 included in the management plan revision process; and

49
50 WHEREAS, The State of Alaska has provided no explanation or rationale for the
51 proposed rule change.

52
53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Homer does hereby request the
54 Alaska Department of Fish & Game to:

- 55
- 56 • Provide scientific and technical information supporting its proposed rule change in a
57 timely manner so the City of Homer and local residents can better-understand and
58 comment on the issues presented;
 - 59 • Extend the comment period to ninety (90) days to allow local residents sufficient time
60 to comment meaningfully on the proposed rule change; and
 - 61 • Provide an explanation why this rule change should not be considered as part of the
62 ongoing revision process for the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Area Management Plan.
- 63

64 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 16th day of December, 2019.

65
66 CITY OF HOMER
67
68
69 _____
70 KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

71 ATTEST:
72
73 _____
74 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

75
76 Fiscal note: N/A