



**CITY of
KUPREANOF**

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September 15, 2021

Petersburg Borough Assembly

Subject: Kupreanof State Dock

Mayor and Assembly Members:

The State dock located in the City of Kupreanof is heavily used by City residents, Borough residents and cruise clients. The heaviest use is during the May through September time frame. This heavy use has accelerated the deterioration of the facility. For more than 25 years the City of Kupreanof has provided minor maintenance to keep the dock reasonably safe and usable. During the same period, the State DOT has not provided any maintenance or repair.

In 2016 the deterioration of the dock got to the point where it was becoming unsafe. The tee end float was breaking up with a rotting wood structure and foam billets becoming detached. Ropes were being used to keep everything together. The City contacted the State DOT to discuss the situation. The DOT acknowledged the need for repair but said their budget would not allow anything to be done on the float in the near future. The DOT stated that they would allow the City to implement repairs. As a result, the City applied for a Forest Service grant, contacted all the cruise companies requesting support and budgeted funds in the City's annual budget. Enough funds were raised to allow replacement of the tee end float.

The City entered into a Harbor Repair Agreement with DOT and replaced the dock's 10' by 95' float in 2018. Additional repair was urgently needed to keep the trestle that goes out to the dock reasonably safe and usable. The fundraising continued with another Forest Service grant application along with other funding requests. This allowed the City to enter into a new Harbor Repair Agreement with DOT to replace eight rotted piles and cross bracing under the trestle. This work was completed in 2020. A third project to replace additional rotted piles and cross bracing is planned for 2022 or 2023. When the third project is completed, the City will have invested approximately \$200,000 in the maintenance and repair of the dock since 2018.

The City of Kupreanof has expressed a desire to take ownership of the dock as far back as 2010. The City remains committed to ownership of the dock. We believe we are the appropriate municipality to have ownership and responsibility for the dock for the following reasons:

1. The dock has not received any State funded maintenance and repair in many years. The City of Kupreanof has annually budgeted money for the maintenance of the dock for more than 25 years and has invested considerably in repair over the last 4 years.
2. The dock is heavily used by Borough residents as well as many tour groups to access the City of Kupreanof loop trail, the Forest Service trails to Petersburg Creek and Petersburg Mountain and the Petersburg Creek water shed.
3. The land at the access to the dock is owned and maintained by the City of Kupreanof.
4. The City of Kupreanof built a public shelter near the dock entrance to make everyone's experience better and more memorable.
5. The dock provides easy access to the City Community Center, in addition to local residents to their homes.
6. The City of Kupreanof is financially stable and in a strong position to provide the required maintenance and repair so that all people can gain access to Kupreanof Island and its many wilderness opportunities.

It is requested that the Petersburg Borough work with the State and DOT to facilitate the transfer of the Kupreanof dock to the City of Kupreanof.

If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Butch Anderson, Mayor