CITY OF ADAK, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 15-2015-001

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ADAK, ALASKA OPPOSING THE NOMINATION OF THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) opened a process to nominate potential national marine sanctuaries; and,

WHEREAS, a collection of outside non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), have nominated an immense area to be designated as 'Aleutian Islands National Marine Sanctuary' (AINMS); and

WHEREAS, no city, borough, tribe, native corporation, or other local or regional group was involved in the preparation of the AINMS nomination; and

WHEREAS, the NOAA National Marine Sanctuary nomination process clearly states that 'Every Nomination Starts at the Community Level'; and

WHEREAS, as yet, no city, borough, tribe, native corporation, or other local group has come out in support of the AINMS nomination; and

WHEREAS, the potential designation of the AINMS would make all current restrictions to fishing and other commerce permanent, and would authorize further onerous permanent restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, the fishing industry and the economic activity related therein generate more than 85% of the revenues of the current municipal budget; and,

WHEREAS, fishing in the AINMS proposal is at present regulated, managed and enforced by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) and the United States Coast Guard; and,

WHEREAS, the Aleutian Island Risk Assessment project, of which Adak participated in, recently recommended The Optimal Response System addressing risks associated with increasing shipping; and,

WHEREAS, the Aleutian Islands is subject to a Fishery Ecosystem Plan of the NPFMC, which provides enhanced scientific information and measurable indicators to evaluate and promote ecosystem health, sustainable fisheries, and vibrant communities in the Aleutian Islands region; and,

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the Aleutian Islands, approximately 277,100 nm^2 is currently designated as a habitat conservation area, and further protections are not necessitated; and,

WHEREAS, the AINMS proposal is an unwarranted, unnecessary and overbearing regulatory system for our region and the submission of the proposal by those who propose to designate this substantial area as a 'sanctuary', wrongly assume that generations of residents of this region have not been good stewards of these resources.

CITY OF ADAK, ALASKA
100 Mechanical Street, Suite B122 • Adak, Alaska 99546
Post Office Box 2011 • Adak, Alaska 99546 • Tel: 907.592.4500 • Fax: 907.592.4262
www.adak-ak.us

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Adak, Alaska vehemently OPPOSES the nomination of the proposed Aleutian Islands National Marine Sanctuary; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be delivered to Governor Bill Walker, Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, Representative Don Young, the State of Alaska Legislature and the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the City Council this 21st day of January, 2015.

Thomas Spitler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Sharrah, City Clerk

CITY OF ADAK CORPORATE SEAL 2001 ALASKA