

**BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 310
DILLINGHAM, ALASKA 99576
(907) 842-5257**

RESOLUTION 2018-13

CHIGNIK SOCKEYE FISHERY DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS: The community members from the five Chignik area communities (Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Perryville, and Ivanof Bay) solely depend upon the Chignik area commercial salmon fishery as their primary source of cash income and subsistence salmon harvest needs; and

WHEREAS: As of June 19th, 2018, cumulative sockeye escapement past the Chignik River weir has totaled 14,717 salmon. The salmon returning are sexually immature salmon and proportionally higher in males. Historical ranges of escapement on this date have been 137,389 to 360,888 from 2009 to 2017; and

WHEREAS: Tribal members, resident commercial fishermen and subsistence users from the area have expressed concern for the fishery, as they have never experienced such a low return; and

WHEREAS: The communities of Chignik Bay, Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon, Perryville and Ivanof Bay depend on the salmon return for their income and subsistence resources. Without the salmon returning they will not be able to purchase home heating fuel, electricity, gasoline, propane, basic food necessities, mortgage payments, boat expenses, and financial loan obligations to the state; and

WHEREAS: Chignik River's first run has failed to produce to the point where subsistence users from the area will not meet their basic subsistence sockeye salmon needs; and

WHEREAS: This being the lowest sockeye salmon return to the Chignik salmon fishery, it poses a direct threat to the physical health, transportation needs, safety, and well-being of the five communities in the area; and

WHEREAS: The impact of the failed sockeye salmon return is beyond the capacity of local communities' ability to sustain their economic stability and subsistence way of life and additional help is necessary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY the Executive Committee of Directors of the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Native Association request Governor Walker to declare the Chignik management area a fishery economic disaster area as authorized under A.S.44.33.285, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BBNA Executive Committee requests the Alaska Board of Fisheries holds an emergency meeting as soon as possible for regulations to stop or reduce Area M and the Kodiak Fishery interception of Chignik sockeye salmon.

Signed: Fred J. Angerson
Chairman

CERTIFICATION:

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Bristol Bay Native Association, do hereby certify that the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Bristol Bay Native Association passed the foregoing resolution duly called and noticed meeting on this 22nd day of June 2018, and that a quorum was present.

Signed: Rabat Hayans
Secretary