## ALASKA BOARD OF GAME 97-115-BOG

A resolution of the Alaska Board of Game supporting comanagement of Alaska's fish and game resources.

WHEREAS, co-management is a process whereby management bodies, to the greatest extent possible, share representation, responsibility, and power in the management of wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, the management of Alaska's fish and game resources has historically been accomplished through the Alaska Boards of Fisheries and Game by incorporating public input through the advisory committee system, private organizations, government agencies, and private individuals, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Game recognizes that the management of Alaska's fish and game resources has become increasingly complex, due to a greater number of stakeholder groups and diverse values, and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Game has found it increasingly difficult to gather input from all concerned interests and to reach decisions which recognize and fairly address all stakeholders' concerns, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Game recognizes the importance of integrating local and scientific knowledge, in designing regulations pertinent to the area when managing and conserving Alaska's game resources, and

WHEREAS, there presently exists several co-management groups that attempt to reduce conflicts and reach agreement on allocation, seasons and harvest limits, methods and means and other issues; and that these groups are useful in reaching compromises and reducing conflicts before they reach the Board of Game.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Board of Game endorses these efforts as a proactive approach to resource management and encourages comanagement teams in their endeavors as a positive and beneficial supplement to the board's regulatory process.

October 30, 1997
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Larry Holmes, Chair Alaska Board of Game
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VOTE: 6-0-1