

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2018-02 on
first and final reading.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-02

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
SUPPORTING THE SITKA TRIBE OF ALASKA AND THE 2018 BOARD OF FISHERIES
DISCUSSION ON SUBSISTENCE HERRING EGG HARVEST IN SITKA SOUND

- 11 **WHEREAS,** the Sitka Tribe of Alaska is the federally recognized tribal government for the
12 Sitka area and is responsible for the health, safety, and culture for its more than
13 4,400 tribal citizens; and
- 15 **WHEREAS,** the City and Borough of Sitka and the Sitka Tribe of Alaska have entered in to a
16 Memorandum of Understanding “to recognize areas of mutual concern and
17 support, establish a framework for cooperative relations and promote
18 government-to-government communications for the benefit of the community of
19 Sitka as a whole”; and
- 21 **WHEREAS,** the effects of changing ocean conditions brought about by climate change and
22 the significant increase in the humpback whale population on herring stocks are
23 not fully understood nor adequately addressed in the management of the Sitka
24 Sound herring stock; and
- 26 **WHEREAS,** the amount necessary for subsistence (5AAC 01.716 (b)) for the Sitka Sound
27 subsistence herring egg harvest has not been met in five of the last seven years
28 (2010-2016); and
- 30 **WHEREAS,** it is important to recognize the cultural and traditional ecological knowledge in the
31 ongoing discussions and management of the Sitka Sound and all Southeast
32 Alaska herring stocks; and
- 34 **WHEREAS,** the Sitka Tribe of Alaska has submitted three Board of Fisheries proposals that
35 are aimed at conserving the Sitka Sound herring stock and protecting a viable
36 subsistence harvest of herring eggs in Sitka Sound; and
- 38 **WHEREAS,** the Alaska Department of Fish & Game’s local Advisory Committee (AC)
39 recognized the need for herring conservation and the concerns of subsistence
40 harvesters; and
- 42 **WHEREAS,** the AC unanimously supported an amended version of Board of Fisheries
43 Proposal 99 to change the Sitka Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) Rate, and the
44 Sitka Tribe of Alaska finds this a reasonable compromise; and
- 46 **WHEREAS,** the Sitka Tribe of Alaska’s 2018 Board of Fisheries proposal 106 would close
47 waters adjacent to the core subsistence herring egg harvest area and contiguous
48 with existing waters that are closed to commercial herring fishing for the
49 purposes of establishing a herring conservation zone and protecting the
50 subsistence herring egg harvest; and

52 **WHEREAS,** the Sitka Tribe of Alaska opposes 2018 Board of Fisheries Proposals 94 and 104
53 that are aimed at rescinding existing regulations, which are in place to protect the
54 subsistence harvest of herring eggs in Sitka Sound and to provide a reasonable
55 opportunity for the amount necessary for subsistence to be met.
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57 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka
58 hereby shares the Sitka Tribe of Alaska's concerns about conserving the Sitka Sound herring
59 stock and protecting the subsistence harvest of herring eggs in Sitka Sound.
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61 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka,
62 Alaska this 9th day of January, 2018.
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Matthew Hunter, Mayor

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68 ATTEST:

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Sara Peterson, CMC
Municipal Clerk

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74 1st and final reading 1/9/2018
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