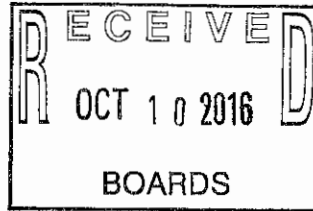


RC 011

EKUK VILLAGE COUNCIL
PO Box 530 / 372 ALEKNAGIK LAKE ROAD
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October 5, 2016

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526



RE: Alaska Board of Fisheries Meeting Location and Dates for the 2018/2019 Bristol Bay Finfish Cycle

John Jensen, Vice-Chairman
Sue Jeffrey
Reed Morisky
Orville Huntington

Alan Cain
Israel Payton
Robert Ruffner

Dear Alaska Board of Fisheries,

The Ekuk Village Council recommends the next Bristol Bay Finfish meeting be held in Dillingham. We would propose December 12-18, 2018 as back up dates.

The last Bristol Bay Finfish meeting took place in Anchorage, which made it difficult or financially impossible for residential stakeholders to attend. Stakeholder awareness and viewpoints on the Bristol Bay fisheries are priceless in developing and sustaining a healthy fishery and should have the opportunity to participate. Regulatory decisions are made that will directly impact their livelihoods, it is vital to have the voice of local commercial and subsistence fishers be heard.

The City of Dillingham has adequate lodging, internet, dining facilities, ground transportation, and other necessities required to host an informative meeting. Most importantly, the community validates a strong relationship to the topic of discussion, economic and cultural importance to location, and economic impact of stakeholder travel. All of these meet the listed items from the 'Criteria of Consideration of Reviewing Meeting Locations'.

December 12-18, 2018 is recommended as the proposed dates as it will not conflict with the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meeting. We ask you to highly consider the benefits from holding the meeting within the Bristol Bay Region. Benefits to the Board and also the stakeholders are many. The Board of Fisheries members will experience firsthand a Bristol Bay fishing community and the opportunity to build rapport with residents of the Bristol Bay Region.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Heyano".

Robert Heyano, President
Ekuk Village Council