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October 4, 2016

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

RE: Bristol Bay Finfish meeting location and dates for the 2018/2019 cycle.

John Jensen, Vice-Chairman

Alan Cain

Sue Jeffrey

Israel Payton

Reed Morisky

Robert Ruffner

Orville Huntington

Dear Alaska Board of Fisheries,

The Traditional Council of Togiak would very grateful if the next Bristol Bay Finfish meeting took place in Dillingham from December 12-18, 2018.

During the last Bristol Bay Finfish meeting in 2015, only a few Togiak residents were able to participate. We have to take two flights to reach anchorage, which can cost up to \$995 and that does not account for food and lodging. This brings us great concern because several of the regulations established at this forum directly impact our livelihoods. It is essential that our people have an opportunity to partake, especially since the majority of our families rely on our fisheries for income and sustenance.

The City of Dillingham would ease the burden of travel costs and allow concerned stakeholders from Togiak to attend and provide meaningful testimonies. We feel that Dillingham has adequate lodging, infrastructure, internet, and other necessities to host an informative meeting. After all, if they were able to host a visit from the President of the United States. It provides a unique relationship to the topic of discussion. It will allow the new Alaska Board of Fisheries members a chance to see part of Bristol Bay and interact with residents from surrounding villages.

Please lookout for the commercial and subsistence fishers from our Alaskan villages that may not have the means to travel to Anchorage for this imperative meeting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Coopchiak, President