Alaska Board of Fisheries Development of a Research and Management Plan For Dogfish Sharks in Yakutat

For the sake of economic development in the village of Yakutat, and acknowledging the spatial and temporal change in distribution of dogfish sharks, the Board of Fisheries supports the development of a self-supporting task force comprised of representatives of the Yakutat Advisory Committee and the ADF&G, the purpose of which is to develop a research plan to support a directed fishery and management plan for dogfish sharks, consistent with the approved "Management Plan for High Impact Emerging Fisheries (5 AAC 39.210)." In the interim, the Board will consider, at its March 2000 meeting, increasing the bycatch rate for dogfish sharks in the longline fisheries in Southeast Alaska to 35% of the round weight of the target species onboard, and further, to allow full retention of dogfish sharks taken by salmon gillnet fishermen in Yakutat Bay.

DATE: January 23, 2000

Juneau, Alaska

Dan K. Coffey, Chairman