



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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**JOHN J. WILLIAMS
BOROUGH MAYOR**

September 1, 2006

Agenda Item L. B. C.

Committee Mayors Report

Page Number Laydown

Mr. Michael Fleagle
Chairman
Federal Subsistence Board
3601 C Street, Suite 1030
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Proposed Fall Subsistence Fishery in the Kasilof Drainage on the Kenai Peninsula

Dear Mr. Fleagle:

I write to you today to express my concerns at the continued rapid pace that the Federal Subsistence Board continues to engage in while considering taking special action to authorize a fall subsistence fishery in the Kasilof drainage on the Kenai Peninsula. I do not write to object to the fishery as, quite frankly, the Kenai Peninsula Borough has had no opportunity for meaningful discussions with representatives of either the promoter's of this subsistence fishery or representatives of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on behalf of the Federal Subsistence Board.

As I stated in my public testimony to the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council on August 24th, I am deeply concerned about the lack of opportunity for the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to comment on these plans through a visible, public process of hearings here on the Kenai Peninsula. I am also concerned that there has been no consultation with the municipal government most affected by these proposals, the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

As I have previously testified, I cannot comment on the merits of a special subsistence fishery in the Kasilof drainage, the establishment of a Regional Advisory Council for the Kenai Peninsula, or any other issues affecting the Kenai Peninsula Borough pending before your Board because until two weeks ago I had no communications from the Federal Subsistence Board, the Regional Advisory Council or staff from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regarding these or any other issues.

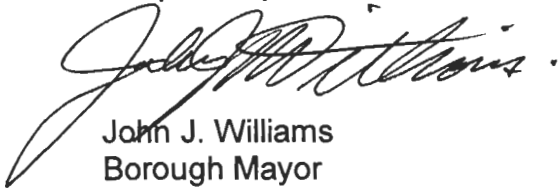
What I can state is that all of these issues need a full and public process within the boundaries of the Kenai Peninsula Borough to fully involve our citizens so that the concerns of all subsistence users and all other affected user groups within the Kenai

Peninsula Borough can be given full and proper consideration prior to any long-term subsistence policies are adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board.

I regret that I cannot attend your work session scheduled for today, September 5th, as I just received the notice for this meeting on August 30, and I must attend the regularly scheduled meeting of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly on that day. I hope to have a representative of my office in attendance at this meeting telephonically to answer any questions the Board may have.

Again, I appreciate the consideration of the Federal Subsistence Board of my concerns. I believe that solutions to these issues can be developed through a thoughtful and interactive process that fully involves the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, and I hope that your Board will consider the need for such a process before it makes any permanent or long-term policy decisions affecting subsistence activities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "W".

John J. Williams
Borough Mayor