

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

## Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

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Gary Knopp, Assembly President  
Charlie Pierce, Vice President

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Gary Knopp, Assembly President  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

**FROM:** Mako Haggerty, Assembly Member *MH*

**DATE:** March 1, 2011

**RE:** **LAYDOWN Resolution 2011-019**, Urging the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council to Adopt Measures that Reduce the Chinook Salmon Prohibited Species Catch in the Gulf of Alaska Commercial Trawl Fisheries

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Currently, there are no measures to control Chinook bycatch in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) trawl fisheries. The estimated average annual bycatch of Chinook salmon has been 22,500 fish. Last year the bycatch of Chinook salmon increased significantly, and was estimated at over 54,000 with some estimates have it closer to 60,000. These are unacceptable numbers of a Prohibited Species Catch (PSC).

The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) implemented regulations to control Chinook bycatch in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery that took effect this season. The NPFMC is considering implementing measures that will reduce the Chinook bycatch in the GOA during the 2012 pollock season.

The salmon resource in the Gulf of Alaska is an important part of what defines our communities and economy. This level of bycatch is unacceptable. It puts undue hardship on Alaska commercial, sport, recreational, personal use, and subsistence fishers.

The Chinook PSC measures being considered by the NPFMC are on the fast track and will be discussed at its next meeting in Anchorage March 28 thru April 5, 2011.

Your consideration and support is appreciated.