

Introduced by: Haggerty, Smith, Mayor
Date: 05/01/12
Action: Adopted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2012-039**

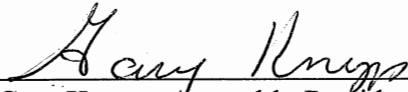
**A RESOLUTION URGING THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL TO ADOPT MEASURES THAT REDUCE THE HALIBUT PROHIBITED
SPECIES CATCH IN THE GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH FISHERIES**

- WHEREAS,** limits on halibut bycatch, which is a Prohibited Species Catch, in the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries have not been significantly changed since 1989; and
- WHEREAS,** currently there is a halibut bycatch limit of 2,300 metric tons in the Gulf of Alaska—or just over 5 million pounds; and
- WHEREAS,** a maximum reduction in the halibut Prohibited Species Catch limit of 15 percent is being considered by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for final action in June 2012; and
- WHEREAS,** exploitable biomass, the portion of the halibut population that is available for harvest, has declined by 58 percent over the past decade; and
- WHEREAS,** every pound of halibut caught as bycatch results in a direct loss of yield and spawning biomass of the halibut resource; and
- WHEREAS,** cuts in catch limits have and will continue to have dramatic effects on Kenai Peninsula Borough fisheries, businesses, economies and communities that depend on the halibut resource; and
- WHEREAS,** halibut play a key role in the economy of the Kenai Peninsula Borough;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI
PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

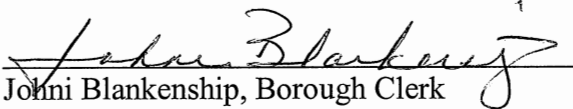
- SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly urges the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to take meaningful final action now by reducing Gulf of Alaska halibut bycatch by at least 15 percent.
- SECTION 2.** That copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Sean Parnell and all members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.
- SECTION 3.** That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 1ST DAY OF MAY, 2012.

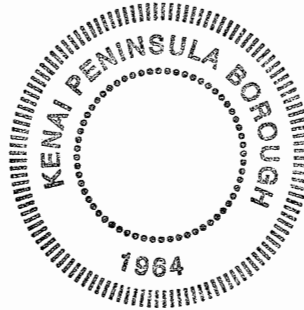


Gary Knopp, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk



Yes: Haggerty, Johnson, McClure, Murphy, Pierce, Smalley, Smith, Tauriainen, Knopp

No: None

Absent: None