



Alaska Native Brotherhood
Camp #1



Alaska Native Sisterhood
Camp #4

Resolution # 41

Title: Management of Herring Stock

WHEREAS, Herring is a very important to the Not only the Tlingit & Haida People of Southeast, but to all Alaskans and our Natural Habitants; and

WHEREAS, traditional knowledge and archaeological evidence both support the fact that Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) have been utilized extensively by the Native peoples of Southeast Alaska for over 10,000 years and to this day are considered a cultural keystone species; and

WHEREAS, traditional knowledge and western science acknowledge Pacific herring as a vital ecological keystone species for the role it plays as a forage fish in transferring energy from primary and secondary producers (phyto and zoo plankton) to upper trophic level organisms (finfish, birds, and marine mammals); and

WHEREAS, traditional knowledge and historical records prove that spawning Pacific herring stocks in Southeast Alaska were robust and abundant throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, documented history shows that over exploitation by commercial fisheries has caused such a dramatic decline in these once robust stocks, that the Sitka Sound stock is the last remaining stock in the State of Alaska that can support a viable subsistence herring egg fishery; and

WHEREAS, the unknown effects of climate change and the increasing number of predators (humpback whales and hatchery salmon) adds to the uncertainty of the future of the herring population in the region; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB) Camp 1 and Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 4 encourages the State of Alaska to manage the regions herring stocks more conservatively for the "maximum benefit" to all Alaskans, as mandated in the State's constitution; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ANB Camp 1 and ANS Camp 4 encourages all ANB and ANS camps to take an active role in protecting this invaluable cultural keystone species that has sustained Native Alaskans since time immemorial.

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