

City of Craig

Resolution 20-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CRAIG, ALASKA DECLARING AN ECONOMIC DISASTER IN THE CITY OF CRAIG DUE TO COVID-19, TRAVEL RESTRICTION IMPACTS TO TOURISM RELATED BUSINESSES, AND POOR REGIONAL RETURNS OF ALL SALMON SPECIES

WHEREAS, Commercial fishing and seasonal tourism are a major economic sector for the City of Craig; and,

WHEREAS, Craig has one large seafood processing plant and a number of specialty processors and distributors of seafood products; and,

WHEREAS, Craig has significant fleet of commercial troll, seine, gillnet, longline, and commercial dive fishery vessels, and a charter fishing fleet and other tourism related businesses that rely on seasonal visitors; and,

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in the State of Alaska and has since issued a number of State Health Mandates requiring closures of businesses and travel restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 the City of Craig issued a disaster declaration and a stay at home advisory for non-essential workers to slow the spread of the virus and to protect residents; and,

WHEREAS, poor returns of all salmon species and significantly lower ex-vessel prices for all seafood species related to COVID-19 transportation, processing, and market restrictions have had a devastating effect on the fishery economy in Craig; and,

WHEREAS, travel restrictions, business closures, and other mandated health measures have prevented a majority of seasonal charter fishing and other tourism businesses to operate in Craig and have had a devastating effect on the tourism economy in Craig; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Craig, State of Alaska, and US Federal Government have instituted a number of programs to help businesses and individuals impacted by COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic impacts are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

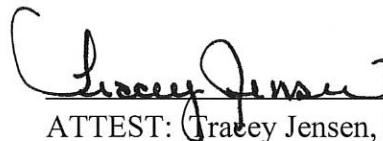
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Craig City Council that:

1. An Economic Disaster is hereby declared in the City of Craig due to COVID-19, poor regional returns of all salmon species, and reduced ex-vessel values of seafood products due to impacts to processing and markets.
2. The State of Alaska and United States Secretary of Commerce are hereby urged to issue two Economic Disaster Declarations:
 - a. 2020 Statewide Tourism Disaster resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; and
 - b. 2020 Southeast Alaska Salmon Fisheries Disaster resulting from poor returns and deflated prices for all salmon species.

Approved this 22nd day of October, 2020.



Craig Mayor Tim O'Connor



ATTEST: Tracey Jensen, City Clerk

