ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS  
P.O. BOX 219  
BETHEL, ALASKA 99559

ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE BOARD  
OCTOBER 14, 2020

RESOLUTION 20-10-02

TITLE: Support for Yukon and Kuskokwim River Fisheries Disaster Declarations

WHEREAS The Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) is the recognized tribal organization and non-profit Alaska Native regional corporation for its fifty-six member indigenous Native villages within Western Alaska; and

WHEREAS AVCP fully supports its member villages in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being; and

WHEREAS Healthy and abundant salmon stocks are essential for the nutritional, cultural and economic well-being of the people who live along the Yukon and Kuskokwim River drainages; and

WHEREAS The salmon resources that return every year provide for a unique Subsistence way of life and are essential for food security and for providing a modest commercial fishing economic base that supports families throughout the year; and

WHEREAS The AVCP communities in the Yukon and Kuskokwim River drainages have experienced fisheries disasters and community economic hardship many times over the last thirty years; and

WHEREAS AVCP has worked on regional and statewide efforts going back to 1991, requesting the State of Alaska and the Federal Government to declare federal fisheries disasters, thereby providing allocated relief funds for our fishermen and their families; and

WHEREAS AVCP has also advocated for more resources and research in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) Region to help in identifying causes for the declines in salmon returning and has participated in efforts like the AYK Sustainable Salmon Initiative, providing funding to address salmon research and restoration needs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Association of Village Council Presidents Executive Board will continue to recognize and support the cultural, nutritional and economic importance of salmon to the people of the AVCP Region in perpetuity.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Association of Village Council Presidents Executive Board supports continued efforts to seek disaster relief assistance from the State of
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Alaska and the Federal Government in declaring salmon fisheries disasters for the Yukon and Kuskokwim River drainages in years when salmon returns are not sufficient to allow for historical or forecasted harvests and there is clear justification warranting a request.

ADOPTED by the Association of Village Council Presidents Executive Board teleconference meeting by a vote of 12 yeas, 1 nay, and no abstentions, on this 14th day of October 2020.

Thaddeus Tikiun, Chair

Vivian Korthuis, Chief Executive Officer