



Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

1008 Fish Creek Rd

Juneau, AK 99801

Email: kathy@seafa.org

Cell Phone: 907-465-7666

Fax: 907-917-5470

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>

May 8, 2025

Co-Chair Representative Robyn Niayuq Burke

Co-Chair Representative Maxine Dilbert

House Resources Committee

State Capitol Room 216

Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Support HB 191 Invasive Species Management

Sent via email: House.Resources@akleg.gov

Dear Co-chairs Burke, and Dilbert and Members of the House Resources Committee,

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) supports HB 191 establishing the Alaska Invasive Species Council within the Dept of Fish and Game. SEAFA is a multi-gear/multi species small boat commercial fisheries non-profit association representing our 300+ members involved in salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries primarily in Southeast Alaska.

Alaska has already been trying to eradicate Pike as an invasive species but in Southeast Alaska we are just now being threatened by the European Green Crab. First found on the west coast in San Francisco Bay in 1989, the European green crab has since been spread throughout the west coast, reaching as far south as north as British Columbia, Canada. In 2011, populations were detected by Fisheries and Oceans, Canada at least 100 miles north of Vancouver Island, within two embayments along coastal mainland of Queen Charlotte Sound. In June 2020, European green crab larvae were confirmed from Prince Rupert, BC. The following July, an established populations of adult invasive green crabs were found on Haida Gwaii near Queen Charlotte. Those populations significantly reduced the distance European green crab larvae had to travel in currents to arrive in Alaska. August of 2022, The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), with the Metlakatla Indian Community (MIC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) informed the public that invasive European green crabs (*Carcinus maenas*) have been verified within Alaska for the first time in the Annette Islands Reserve in southern Southeast, Alaska.

An Alaska Invasive Species Council would be helpful in prioritizing work on invasive species as well as coordinating between the various agencies, tribal governments and organizations as we battle and try to stop these invasive species from spreading.

Thank you for considering our support for HB 191 in your committee deliberations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Hansen", followed by a long horizontal line.

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director