

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

CSHJR 92 (Res)

Legislative  
Resolve No.

89



Relating to subsistence use and commercial fishing in Glacier Bay National Park.

### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the National Park Service is currently addressing the issue of subsistence use and commercial fishing in Glacier Bay National Park (Park) and is considering the status of subsistence use and commercial fishing in the park; and

WHEREAS subsistence use and commercial fishing have occurred in the Park since before it was established as a national monument in 1925 up to the present day; and

WHEREAS the National Park Service currently does not recognize the right of residents of Hoonah and other local communities to use the area now included in the Park for subsistence use, as their ancestors had done for generations; and

WHEREAS the prohibition of subsistence use and commercial fishing in the Park would have disastrous and widespread economic and social consequences for fishers of northern Southeast Alaska and the communities in which they reside; and

WHEREAS the continued subsistence and commercial use of fisheries resources within the navigable waters of the Park is desirable and is environmentally compatible with the purposes of the Park; and

WHEREAS the harvest of fisheries resources in the Park is conservatively managed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to promote the sustained health of the fish stocks; and

WHEREAS migratory species of fish that do not originate in the Park constitute the majority of the fish harvested within the

Park; a significant portion of the salmon harvested in the Park is the result of salmon enhancement and rehabilitation efforts by the State of Alaska, private nonprofit aquaculture associations, and hatcheries in Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia; and

WHEREAS the National Park Service must administer the Park subject to existing rights, statutes, and regulations; and

WHEREAS National Park Service regulations specifically provide for commercial sport fishing activities and for the use of large tour ships within the Park; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska has a claim to ownership of the submerged lands and navigable waters of the Park; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska exercises management authority over natural resources of the Park, provided that the state does not interfere with the purposes for which the Park and wilderness areas within the Park were established; and

WHEREAS issues relating to state and federal jurisdiction in the Park have not been resolved; and

WHEREAS subsistence use and commercial fishing in the Park do not threaten Park resources, visitor enjoyment of Park resources, or whale habitat in the Park;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the National Park Service to work with the state, other federal agencies, and affected parties to study the resources in Glacier Bay National Park and the effect of subsistence use, sport and commercial fishing, and tourism on these resources; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Park Service proceed expeditiously to amend its regulations in order to

(1) allow commercial fishing under the laws of the State of Alaska within the nonwilderness areas of the park; and

(2) expressly provide for subsistence uses in the Park.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr., Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior; James M. Ridenour, Director, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior; Boyd Evison, Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.