July 20, 2016

Dan Hull, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Chairman Hull:

On behalf of the City and Borough of Kodiak, we would like to thank you and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and staff for all of your hard work to make the June meeting in Kodiak a success. We recognize the complexity of the many issues and understand that the various competing factions within the seafood industry require broad public input and careful consideration of all the options and alternatives.

We appreciate your willingness to listen to the many fishermen, processing workers and community members who testified on the Gulf Trawl Bycatch motion. The seafood industry is the key driver of our economy; therefore, it is vital that community leaders remain engaged in the development of new fishing regulations. While we have not taken a position with regards to a specific alternative, we do encourage you to keep in mind our ten stated goals and objectives which can be summarized as "maintaining a healthy, working waterfront."

Your week in Kodiak allowed us to showcase some of the best of what Kodiak has to offer. The evening reception at the Afognak Native Corporation, the reception at FITC and the parade and picnic on the spit were wonderful examples of how we can set aside our differences and come together as a community of fishing people for a common purpose – making Kodiak a special place to live, work and raise a family.

Please extend our thanks and appreciation to the Council and staff.

Best regards,

Jerrl Friend, Mayor
Kodiak Island Borough

Pat Branson, Mayor
City of Kodiak