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Eskimo Walrus Commission

Resolution 2015-01

Member
Communities:

A Resolution Requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Make a Coordinated Effort with the Eskimo Walrus Commission and Kawerak, Inc. to Identify, Seek, and Secure Additional Long-Term Funding for the Eskimo Walrus Commission

Barrow

Brevig Mission

Cambell

King Island

Kivallina

Kotzebue

Kwigillingok

Little Diomed

Manakotak

Mekoryuk

Nome

Point Hope

Point Lay

Savoonga

Shishmaref

Stebbins

Unalakleet

Wainwright

Welas

WHEREAS, the Eskimo Walrus Commission was formed in 1978 by Kawerak, Inc. and represents 19 coastal subsistence walrus hunting communities in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Eskimo Walrus Commission has a long history of collaborating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the management of the Pacific walrus population through a cooperative agreement in accordance with Section 119 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Eskimo Walrus Commission relies almost solely on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service cooperative agreement funding for its basic operations and this funding has decreased significantly in recent years, while EWC operating costs and workload demands have risen; and

WHEREAS, the Eskimo Walrus Commission currently faces a budget crisis due to insufficient cooperative agreement funds, and is in need of additional funding in order to continue operating at its current capacity; and

WHEREAS, it is stated in the cooperative agreement that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will "advocate to seek and secure on-going funding for EWC to work cooperatively with the Service to implement co-management initiatives and objectives;"

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eskimo Walrus Commission requests that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service make a concerted effort with the Eskimo Walrus Commission and Kawerak, Inc. to identify, seek, and secure additional long-term funding for the Eskimo Walrus Commission.

Charles D.N. Brower
Charles D.N. Brower, Chair

CERTIFICATION:

I, the undersigned Vice Chair of the Eskimo Walrus Commission hereby certify that the foregoing resolution 2015-01 was adopted by a majority vote of the Commissioners. Passed this 11th day of June 2015 through a telephone poll vote.

Elmer Jettala Jr.