VALDEZ FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. SOLOMON GULCH HATCHERY



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City of Valdez Ms. Lisa Von Bargen PO Box 307 Valdez, AK 99686

RE: Solomon Gulch Hatchery Right of Way

Dear Lisa:

The Alaska Department of Transportation Right of Way Office has proposed to vacate the Dayville road right of way for lands upon which the Solomon Gulch hatchery is located. The Valdez Fisheries Development Association Inc., views this as a positive step for the association as it would consolidate many years of historic agreements between VFDA and DOT. In addition, it would provide for a more streamlined process for future development at the hatchery.

The City of Valdez and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources are the owners' of the uplands and tidelands at the hatchery site. Because of this, we have been advised by the state that the application to vacate the right of way must come from the land owner.

VFDA would like to work collaboratively with the City of Valdez and the State of Alaska on this process. And, if agreeable to the city, it is our strong desire to purchase any available upland we currently lease or may be created through the process of vacating the right of way.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. I look forward to working with the city and state to pursue this action.

Sincerely

Mike Wells

Executive Director