

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #21-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ,
ALASKA, SUPPORTING VALDEZ FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION, INC. LETTER OF INTEREST TO U.S. ARMY CORPS OF
ENGINEERS-ALASKA DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Valdez Fisheries Development Association Inc., has submitted a Letter of Interest requesting assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), under Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, for planning and designing of a project for the long term improvement of salmon habitat in Robe Lake located in Valdez; and

WHEREAS, Valdez Fisheries Development Association, Inc. (VFDA) was established in 1980 as a not for profit organization formed to develop renewable fisheries resources of sport, commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries in Valdez; and

WHEREAS, VFDA has had a long history of maintaining salmon spawning habitat in the Robe Lake watershed to protect and enhance indigenous Coho and Sockeye salmon stocks, which are harvested by local residents and are a donor stock for VFDA's hatchery programs; and

WHEREAS, VFDA has observed that aquatic plant growth is increasing at Robe Lake and left unchecked, this growth may greatly reduce or completely shut down the lake's ability to support the successful spawning of its indigenous species; and

WHEREAS, VFDA seeks assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers to find a long term solution to reduce the growth of aquatic vegetation and return the lake to its previous condition; and

WHEREAS, the VFDA is seeking funding from the Army Corps of Engineers for 50% of the costs of a feasibility study and 65% of the design and construction of any proposed solution to habitat issues at Robe Lake; and

WHEREAS, participation by VFDA in such feasibility study or a design and construction project at Robe Lake beyond the Federal Interest Determination is dependent upon the VFDA obtaining funding commitments from non-federal partners such as tribal organizations, the City of Valdez, and other local funding sources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that:

Section 1. The City of Valdez having designated Robe Lake as municipal entitlement land has determined the long term sustainability of the Robe Lake habitat is in the public interest of the City and citizens.

Section 2. The City of Valdez is in support of the Valdez Fisheries Development Association's Letter of Interest requesting assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for planning and designing of a project for the long-term improvement of salmon habitat in Robe Lake,

Section 3 The City of Valdez is interested in joining Valdez Fisheries Development Association in the CAP Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program project for Robe Lake.

Section 4 The City of Valdez understands that, subject to future council approval, it would agree to share the non-Federal cost share for both planning studies (50%Local-50%Federal) and project implementation (35% Local-65% Federal).

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

Sharon Scheidt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk