



Legislation Text

File #: RES 21-0029, **Version:** 1

ITEM TITLE:

#21-29 - Supporting Valdez Fisheries Development Association, Inc. Letter of Interest to U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers-Alaska District

SUBMITTED BY: Mark Detter, City Manager

FISCAL NOTES:

Expenditure Required: N/A

Unencumbered Balance: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution supporting Valdez Fisheries Letter of Interest to Army Corps of Engineers for Robe Lake Habitat Restoration.

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Valdez Fisheries Development Association is requesting City of Valdez join as a co-sponsor in a project related to a letter of interest for funding of feasibility study and planning and designing of a project for the long-term improvement of salmon habitat in Robe Lake.

The proposed Resolution outlines the challenges VFDA has identified at Robe Lake related to increasing vegetation and habitat issues.

The initial feasibility study to be conducted is estimated to cost \$1-\$1.2 Million with 50% of such study costs coming from the Corps of Engineers. A local match of the other 50% will have to be secured by VFDA. VFDA is approaching a local tribal organization to establish a partnership related to the grant that could assist with a good portion of the match requirement.

Mr. Wells has presented the project to both the Economic Diversification Commission and Planning Commission due to the economic impacts and land use nature of the proposed feasibility study and overall project.

At the planning and zoning commission meeting on 07/28, the four commissioners present expressed their support for the VFDA's proposed Robe Lake Project. They would like the City to join the project, especially because with the recent conveyance of the Robe Lake South municipal entitlement selection, the City of Valdez owns a large portion of the lands surrounding Robe Lake. They were interested in the possible options for non-mechanical solutions to increasing flow into Robe Lake and want to ensure that the project does not cause any flooding issues for the subdivision.

Mr. Wells will make a presentation to the Council at the meeting on August 3rd detailing the grant opportunity and the process going forward.