

December 6, 2016

State of Alaska, Department of Fish & Game Sam Cotten, Commissioner PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Dear Mr. Cotten,

The Petersburg Borough Assembly strongly supports Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association's (NSRAA) plan for a remote Chum salmon release site in Thomas Bay near Petersburg. The chance for an enhanced run of Chum salmon nearby is exciting as it would likely benefit our seine and gillnet fleets as well as the fleets from Kake, Wrangell, and other towns in the region.

Petersburg offers all the amenities NSRAA would need to comfortably raise the fry to release size (groceries, fuel, transportation options, shipping companies, etc.) as well as fish processing plants, harbors and fleet support for the fishermen.

If there is anything our community can do to help gain the approval for this endeavor, please let us know. We appreciate the efforts of our private, non-profit aquaculture associations and the benefits they provide to Alaska's fishermen.

Sincerely,

Mark Jensen Mayor