

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE MANY VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF INVOLVED SINCE 1998 IN THE BOROUGH'S VOLUNTEER LAKE MONITORING PROGRAM THAT IS BEING RETIRED AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.


AGENDA OF: June 19, 2018

Assembly Action:

Approved under the Consent
Agenda 6-19-18 *BM*

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: Present to the Assembly for consideration.

APPROVED BY JOHN MOOSEY, BOROUGH MANAGER: 

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Planning/Ted Eischeid	<i>T/E</i>	
	Planning and Land Use Director	<i>EP</i>	
	Borough Attorney	<i>NS</i>	
	Borough Clerk	<i>JM</i>	6/11/18 

ATTACHMENT(S): Fiscal Note: YES _____ NO X
Resolution Serial No. 18-049 (2 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

RS 18-049 recognizes and honors the efforts of the many volunteers and staff that have worked on the Borough's Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) the last 20 years.

Established in 1998, and retired after the 2017 field season, the VLMP was designed to record baseline conditions of area lakes that might be impacted by the Borough's rapid development. A cadre of volunteers were trained and supported in their work as citizen scientists, where appreciation of and knowledge about local lakes was cultivated and enhanced. Over the last 20 years these volunteers have monitored over 70 sites in 58 lakes. Twelve of

these lakes have over 10 years of data, a unique baseline database that can be used to identify and address future water quality issues.

On average, 24 lakes have been monitored each year by about 35 volunteers. Typically, these citizen scientists have spent collectively over 257 hours monitoring their lakes. A volunteer satisfaction survey administered in the fall of 2017 showed overwhelming support and satisfaction among the volunteers for the VLMP.

With the decision to retire the VLMP, it is a fitting tribute to these many volunteers to commend them for their efforts. Their work will be preserved in a database that can be used by others in the future as a water quality baseline. Resolution 18-049 puts a bookend on a remarkable award winning program.

Staff respectfully ask the members of the Matanuska-Susitna Assembly to support RS 18-049 to honor the service made to the Borough by the VLMP volunteers.