

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING PROVISIONS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL WETLAND MITIGATION FOR LARGE-SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THAT IMPACT WETLANDS AND SALMON HABITAT IN THE BOROUGH

AGENDA OF: August 6, 2019

Assembly Action:

*Adopted with Assembly members
Sumner, Leonard & McKee Opposed
8-6-19*

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: Present to the Assembly for consideration. *(Signature)*

APPROVED BY JOHN MOOSEY, BOROUGH MANAGER: _____

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney	<i>JA</i>	
	Borough Attorney	<i>Jay N.S.</i>	
	Borough Clerk	<i>Jim 7/29/19</i>	

ATTACHMENT(S): Fiscal Note: YES _____ NO *X*
Resolution Serial No. 19-*074* (pp) *4*

SUMMARY STATEMENT: This resolution is being brought forward at the request of Assemblymember Jim Sykes for consideration of the MSB Assembly. This resolution comes forward as the followup to the March 2019 presentations from agency stakeholders that explored supplemental wetland mitigation by the Matanuska Susitna Borough. The MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission also advised exploring and supporting the concept which would be consistent with the MSB Wetland Management Plan.

While many resolutions relate to internal Borough matters, the process envisioned is for the MSB to be able to consider additional mitigation by using the existing US Corps of Engineers process for very large development projects that seek input from other government agency stakeholders. It's important to make sure the process works efficiently and seamlessly with a minimum of staff time required as the MSB works to support major development

projects while continuing the essential work to protect and restore our wetlands when impacted by development.

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**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. FWC19-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCEPT THAT THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PROVIDE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL WETLAND MITIGATION FOR LARGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THAT IMPACT WETLANDS AND DEGRADE SALMON HABITAT IN THE BOROUGH.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Fish and Wildlife Commission was created in February 2007 to represent the interests of the borough in the conservation and allocation of fish, wildlife, and habitat; and

WHEREAS, salmonid fish populations using Matanuska-Susitna Borough rivers and streams have seriously declined over the past 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough contains 8 of the 16 salmon stocks of concern as of April 2019 for the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission has made positive strides in directing funds to local fisheries research and fish passage projects while encouraging stakeholder groups to prioritize fishery needs in Upper Cook Inlet and its critical watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the Fish and Wildlife Commission has successfully worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Board of Fisheries to improve salmon returns for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

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WHEREAS, the Commission continues to support robust opportunities for sport, subsistence, and personal use fisheries in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and recognizes the importance of restoring historic health to threatened fisheries and the associated wetlands that remain critical for supporting salmon populations; and

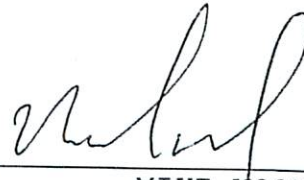
WHEREAS, the Fish and Wildlife Commission recognizes the need for new development that may sometimes impact wetlands while supporting the concept of avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating these impacts; and

WHEREAS, some major developments that require wetland protection or mitigation may not be fully addressed by other agencies and regulatory bodies.

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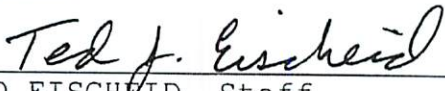
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Fish and Wildlife Commission supports the concept that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough provide for supplemental wetland mitigation in addition to what other agencies and regulatory bodies may require in order to both protect and enhance the salmonid populations as the Matanuska-Susitna Borough continues to grow.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Fish and Wildlife Commission this 16th day of May, 2019.



MIKE WOOD, Chair

ATTEST:



TED EISCHEID, Staff

(SEAL)

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