

I MOVE to amend Resolution 22-098 (IM 22-214) by adding the following to the Borough Funding Priorities:

FISHERY PROTECTION - \$4 Million

This project will continue efforts to protect MSB's declining salmon populations by restoring fish habitat and passage, and providing critical resources for research, monitoring and evaluation projects to inform sound scientific policy recommendations for improved Upper Cook Inlet Fishery Management. Salmon populations are declining in the MSB as evidenced by the State designated stocks of concern, frequent sport fishing closures, and associated business losses. A Strategic Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Upper Cook Inlet {completed in 2015) identified significant gaps in data as a barrier to understanding the salmon population declines and the complex economic consequences. Actions proposed include: continuing successful initiatives aimed at quantifying the economic significance of Upper Cook Inlet sport fisheries, fish habitat restoration including the replacement of fish passage barriers, and installing fish counting tools on critical drainages to provide in-season fishery data. These efforts will apply more stock specific management strategies to ensure more consistent and abundant returns of salmon to the northern waters of the MSB.