

July 07, 2023

## **VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL**

Dr. Jon Kurland Administrator, Alaska Region National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Ms. Julie Sande Commissioner, Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development P.O. Box 110800 Juneau, AK 99811-0800

Dear Mr. Kurland and Ms. Sande:

Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association ("YDFDA") submits this letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service and the State of Alaska as our 2022 annual statement of compliance, as required in section 305(i)(1)(E)(v) of Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act ("MSA").

Section 305(i)(1)(E)(v) of the MSA states:

(v) ANNUAL STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE- Each year the entity, following approval by its board of directors and signed by its chief executive officer, shall submit a written statement to the Secretary and the State of Alaska that summarizes the purposes for which it made investments under clauses (iii) and (iv) during the preceding year.

Section 305(i)(1)(E)(iii) and (iv) of the MSA state:

- (iii) OTHER INVESTMENTS- The entity may make up to 20 percent of its annual investments in any combination of the following:
  - (I) For projects that are not fishery-related and that are located in its region.

## Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association

Representing the Alaskan Communities of: ALAKANUK • EMMONAK • GRAYLING • KOTLIK • MOUNTAIN VILLAGE • NUNAM IQUA

- (II) On a pooled or joint investment basis with one or more other entities participating in the program for projects that are not fishery-related and that are located in one or more of their regions.
- (III) For matching Federal or State grants for projects or programs in its member villages without regard to any limitation on the Federal or State share, or restriction on the source of any non-Federal or non-State matching funds, of any grant program under any other provision of law.
- (iv) FISHERY-RELATED INVESTMENTS- The entity shall make the remainder percent of its annual investments in fisheries-related projects or for other purposes consistent with the practices of the entity prior to March 1, 2006.

There are no state or federal regulations that interpret these sections of the MSA or provide guidance as to the definition of terms contained therein, most particularly the term "investments" and "fisheries related." Nor are there any state or federal regulations regarding the form or content of the required statement including whether it requires any supporting information. Therefore, in the absence of other guidance, we make this statement defining an "investment" as all expenditures made by a CDQ Entity and a "fisheries related" investment as one with a fisheries related purpose.

Please be advised that YDFDA only made investments in 2022 consistent with the provisions of 305(i)(1)(E)(iv) of the MSA.

Please see the attached YDFDA Resolution showing approval of this statement by YDFDA's Board of Directors.

Thank you very much and please call if you have any questions.

YUKON DELTA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Ragnos O. Aletone

Sincerely,

Ragnar Alstrom Executive Director