

**RESOLUTION 26-05 of the
EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
Recognizing the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute as a
Legacy Facility of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement Fund and Center of Excellence for
Bio-cultural Research and Restoration of Shellfish Subsistence Resources**

Whereas, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (Council) is responsible for the investment and management of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Investment Fund, used by the United States and the State of Alaska for the purposes of restoring, replacing, enhancing, rehabilitating, or acquiring the equivalent of natural resources and services lost or injured as a result of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS); and

Whereas, on July 22, 1993, the Alaska State Legislature appropriated funds in SB 183 for EVOS-related restoration projects which included \$3,250,000 to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to develop a shellfish hatchery and technical center in the EVOS-affected area “to aid in the restoration of subsistence resources or services, lost or diminished as a result of the Exxon Valdez oil spill”; and

Whereas, in the description of approved projects attached to the Draft 1994 Work Plan, the Council described Project No. 94199, which included \$3,200,000 to construct a shellfish research laboratory and hatchery in Seward, Alaska, where the Qutekcak Native Tribe (formerly Mount Marathon Native Association) and Chugach Regional Resources Commission were actively involved in shellfish aquaculture; and

Whereas, in Resolution 94-05-17, the Council approved Project No. 94199 for the research facilities in Seward; and

Whereas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game used those EVOS settlement funds to construct a Mariculture Production Facility and Technical Center in Seward on property identified for that purpose and subleased from the University of Alaska; and

Whereas, Alaska Department of Fish and Game contracted with Qutekcak Native Tribe (formerly Mount Marathon Native Association), to operate the facility as Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute, a hatchery and technical center, in coordination with and transitioning to sole operation by the Chugach Regional Resources Commission, an inter-Tribal fish and wildlife commission formed in 1984 for natural resource management and economic development by the Native Village of Eyak, Qutekcak Native Tribe, Valdez Native Tribe, Native Village of Port Graham, Native Village of Chenega, Native Village of Nanwalek, and Native Village of Tatitlek; and

Whereas, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game transferred the facility to the City of Seward on May 28, 2003, on the condition it would continue to be operated as a research and shellfish hatchery

facility, and the City subsequently leased the facility to Chugach Regional Resources Commission for that purpose; and

Whereas, the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute has been operated since its inception by Chugach Alaska Natives to produce high-quality spat and aquatic plant seed stock for the Alaska mariculture industry and area Tribes, promote restoration and cultivation of Indigenous food sources, mariculture habitat restoration and preservation in the EVOS-affected area, educating Alaska Native and non-Natives in shellfish farming and the Alaska mariculture industry, and providing employment opportunities; and

Whereas, the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute is a cornerstone facility constructed with EVOS settlement funds to serve the needs of the Alaska Native communities within the spill zone.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Council recognizes the Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute as a keystone legacy facility of the EVOS settlement and a Center of Excellence for Indigenous bio-cultural research and restoration of shellfish subsistence resources and mariculture habitat.

This resolution was presented to and approved by the Council on November 23, 2026.

RANDY BATES

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