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Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

May 13, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

2025 MAY 23 AM 11:02
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

In accordance with Section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), I am writing to request a fishery resource disaster determination for the 2024 Upper Cook Inlet East Side Setnet salmon fishery. This request is similar to those approved for the 2018, 2021, 2022, and 2023 East Side Setnet fishery and the 2020 Upper Cook Inlet salmon fishery.

Based on available information in the attached memo, closure of the 2024 East Side Setnet salmon fishery to gillnet gear was due to implementation of additional fishery management measures to constrain harvest of Kenai River late-run Chinook salmon which have been experiencing low returns. The preliminary gross revenue value of the East Side Setnet salmon fishery in 2024 was \$430,000, 95 percent below the average value of \$9.49 million during the most recent five-year period when no fishery disasters occurred.

In 2024, an estimated 85 percent of the permit holders who hold an Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit were Alaska residents and 67 percent of those residents have addresses in one of the Kenai Peninsula communities. Closure of the 2024 East Side Setnet commercial salmon fishery to gillnet gear negatively impacted permit holders, crew, processing companies, and communities that participate in the fishery.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and have asked the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to provide the National Marine Fisheries Service and your office with any additional information needed to make fishery disaster determinations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Dunleavy".

Mike Dunleavy
Governor

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
May 13, 2025
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Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, United States Senate
The Honorable Dan Sullivan, United States Senate
The Honorable Nicholas Begich, United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game