RESOLUTION 11-4

WHEREAS, the Local Boundary Commission has an annexation petition pending before it submitted by the City of Dillingham dated June 14, 2010.

WHEREAS, in its petition the City of Dillingham is proposing to annex the waters of the Nushagak Commercial Salmon District and the Wood River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area.

WHEREAS the residents of the City of Manokotak use Igushik Beach located on the shore of Nushagak Bay for set netting. There are approximately 57 set net sites that were actively fished during the 2010 season. 82 percent of these set netters reside in Manokotak. The people fishing theses sites have summer residences there. They stay 3 months of the year. These set netters from Manokotak depend on Manokotak for their support rather than Dillingham. They buy their fuel either from packers, oil barges, or from the Manokotak Village Corporation. These residents of Manokotak fish exclusively in Nushagak Commercial Salmon District

WHEREAS the Igushik River connects the Igushik Beach area to Manokotak and is navigable nine months of the year.

WHEREAS during the fishing season tenders from three processors are stationed off Igushik Beach. One of these processors is represented by a tender for the cannery at Ekuk. The Ekuk Cannery operated by Ball Brothers deals predominately in fish delivered by set net permit holders.

WHEREAS there are approximately 30 - 40 drift net permit holders residing in Manokotak. The majority of these permit holders fish exclusively in Nushagak Commercial Salmon District. These vessels harbor in the Igushik River and travel the river between the fishing areas and Manokotak. These drift boats deliver predominately to the Trident Seafoods tender which in turn delivers the fish to a floating processor anchored at Clark's Point. The boats from Manokotak are infrequent users of the harbor facilities of Dillingham. The city of Manokotak maintains a hydraulic trailer for launching and hauling out the drift boats and also provides winter storage space for these boats. Over 100 vessels ranging from 14 feet to 32 feet in length comprise the Manokotak fleet.

WHEREAS the City of Manokotak is connected to Nushagak Bay in part by a road to the Weary River. The Weary River connects to the Snake River which connects to the fishing grounds in Nushagak Bay. Drift boats and skiffs will enter the Snake River and traverse to the Weary River to anchor there. The road is passable by truck or four wheeler to Manokotak. The City maintains this road to the point at which it intersects with the airport road.

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WHEREAS the city of Manokotak provides search and rescue services for the part of Nushagak Bay from the Snake River to the West. The search and rescue effort is provided largely by volunteers. The City provides fuel and coordinates with the Alaska State Troopers and the Coast Guard. It sometimes uses the Village Public Safety Office skiff, snowgo and four wheeler. The city also relies on the volunteer efforts of private pilots. The VPSO from Manokotak has responded to requests for police services coming from the Igushik Beach area.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

(1) Manokotak relies on the precedent established by the Local Boundary Commission in 1987 that Nushagak Bay is an area of regional importance, not an area subject to the influence of a single community in the Bristol Bay region. Manokotak has real connections to Nushagak Bay and provides substantial services there for the benefit of all who use the bay.

(2) The City of Manokotak opposes the annexation of the Nushagak Commercial Salmon District to the City of Dillingham because the waters of Nushagak Bay are not a part of the community of Dillingham, but rather they belong to all of the cities and villages of the Dillingham Census Area.

(3) If the Local Boundary Commission determines to change the precedent established in 1987 and allow the City of Dillingham to annex the waters of the Nushagak Commercial Salmon District, Manokotak hereby states its intent to respond by filing a petition to annex the lands between the existing city boundary to and including Igushik Beach and the waters of Nushagak Bay Commercial Salmon District adjacent to those lands used by the people of Manokotak.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Manokotak objects to the annexation procedure selected by the City of Dillingham. If the petition is permitted to go beyond the Local Boundary Commission, approval of the petition should be subject to the legislative review process provided in the Alaska Constitution rather than by an election in the City of Dillingham. Under the local option method, none of the residents of Manokotak who are directly affected by the annexation petitioned for by Dillingham would have an opportunity to vote on the question of annexation.

DONE this 17 day of September, 2010