Resolution 2011-4

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA SUPPORTING LAKE NUTRIENT ENRICHMENT AS A SALMON REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT METHOD IN ALASKA

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has benefited greatly from salmon enhancement and rehabilitation programs; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a Lake Fertilization Policy built upon strong scientific research and intended to protect wild salmon populations and habitat; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of scientific literature recognizing lake nutrient enrichment as an effective method of improving sockeye salmon habitat, and thereby increasing sockeye salmon production; and

WHEREAS, lake nutrient enrichment has been successfully implemented by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Alaskan Regional Aquaculture Associations for over thirty years to rehabilitate and enhance sockeye salmon production in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan lake nutrient enrichment projects have contributed to sustainable fisheries and economic development that directly benefits commercial fishermen, seafood processors, and local governments which receive raw fish tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, lakes in which sockeye salmon production could benefit from short-term or long-term lake nutrient enrichment projects continue to be identified; and

WHEREAS, industry support will foster a regulatory culture open to scientific, unbiased consideration of new lake nutrient enrichment projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that United Fishermen of Alaska supports lake nutrient enrichment as a salmon rehabilitation and enhancement method in Alaska.

By UFA Board of Directors, October 27, 2011:

Arni Thomson, UFA President

Attest: Mark D. Vinsel, UFA Executive Director