



October 5, 2026

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Juneau, Alaska

Re: European Green Crab Management in Alaska

Dear Members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries:

On behalf of the Petersburg Borough Assembly, we support continued action by the State of Alaska to address the spread of European green crab (EGC) in Southeast Alaska.

European green crab is an invasive species that threatens native marine ecosystems, shellfish resources, eelgrass habitat, and commercial, subsistence, and recreational fisheries. With EGC now documented in multiple Southeast Alaska locations, timely action is needed to limit further spread and impacts.

The Petersburg Borough recognizes the efforts already underway by Tribal governments, communities, organizations, and individuals to detect and remove EGC. We encourage the Board of Fisheries and Alaska Department of Fish and Game to build on these efforts by providing effective regulatory and management tools for targeted removal.

In particular, the Assembly supports consideration of reclassifying EGC from a Class A invasive species to a Class B invasive species, along with appropriate safeguards to minimize bycatch and prevent further spread. We also encourage consideration of targeted trapping, monitoring, public education, and other removal strategies as the state's response develops.

As a Southeast Alaska community, Petersburg depends on healthy marine ecosystems and sustainable fisheries. Taking action while EGC populations remain relatively localized provides an opportunity to reduce future impacts.

We respectfully ask the Board of Fisheries to continue addressing this emerging issue and to work with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Southeast Alaska communities and Tribal governments to develop an effective statewide response.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Lynn
Petersburg Borough