

February 5, 2010

Heidi Firstencel, Supervisor
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District
Juneau Field Office
8800 Glacier Highway, Suite 106
Juneau, Alaska 99801-8079
Reference number: POA-2000-495-M3

Dear Ms. Firstencel:

Based upon recommendations from the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Douglas Advisory Board, I urge that the dredging permit at the Douglas Small Boat Harbor be approved.

The Douglas Harbor is a vital part of our community for visitors, guests and our economy. The improvements to the harbor will have positive effects on our ability to better serve our residents, fishermen, and tourist-related businesses. The Old Douglas Boat Harbor has been an integral part of our past history and is even more important as we look to the future.

Douglas has been experiencing a community revival with the construction of the Treadwell Arena, improvements to Sandy Beach and Savikko Park, harbor improvements, and the addition of the Gold Rush Mining Day events which includes construction of the Pioneer Pavilion. Treadwell Historical Society plans to upgrade historic structures in the Treadwell District. The proposed dredging will allow continued improvements that are much needed and long overdue. The disposal plan that CBJ proposes is the most reasonable and cost effective. We hope the project can move forward in a responsible manner and provide the Douglas community with a beautiful new "Old Douglas Harbor".

Thank you for the work on this project and allowing an extended period to respond to the permit application.

Sincerely,



Bruce Botelho
Mayor

cc: CBJ Assemblymembers
CBJ Douglas Advisory Board
Port Director John Stone