

**Susan Bell**  
Commissioner

P.O. Box 110800  
Juneau, AK 99811-0800

[www.commerce.alaska.gov](http://www.commerce.alaska.gov)



**Dru Fenster**  
Communications  
Coordinator

907.465.2523  
[dru.fenster@alaska.gov](mailto:dru.fenster@alaska.gov)

## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 5, 2013

No. 13-15

Contact: Dru Fenster  
Communications Coordinator  
(907) 465-2523  
[dru.fenster@alaska.gov](mailto:dru.fenster@alaska.gov)

### **Yakutat Salmon Enhancement Tax Passes**

(Juneau, AK) –Yakutat hand troll, power troll, and set gillnet permit holders authorized a self-imposed two percent tax to provide funding for salmon enhancement efforts.

Results of the Yakutat Salmon Enhancement Tax election were certified March 27 by Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Commissioner Susan Bell. The vote passed by a margin of 155 "yes" votes to 49 "no" votes.

The Division of Economic Development maintained oversight for the election, ensuring compliance with Alaska statutes and conducting the final count of ballots for certification. The division will oversee future disbursement of the tax proceeds.

"Salmon enhancement projects have made significant contributions to Alaska's economy," said Commissioner Bell. "It is encouraging to see Yakutat residents using this tool for economic growth."

The Yakutat Regional Aquaculture Association will focus initially on keta salmon projects and will later include pink salmon. Salmon enhancement activities contribute to a local economy through increased commercial, sport, personal use, and subsistence catches; increased processing activities; and increased spending on goods and services.

For more information on fisheries development activities by the Division of Economic Development, visit the website at [www.commerce.alaska.gov/ded](http://www.commerce.alaska.gov/ded).

###