

From: [Fred Ball](#)
To: [Commission, Boundary \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Re: Dillingham Alaska being allowed to annex Ekuk and taxing our fishing operation.
Date: Monday, February 22, 2016 12:26:19 PM

February 22, 2016

To whom it may concern:

We are happy to be able to voice my opinion regarding this development. We appreciate your oversight and hope you do not allow this to continue.

We have been fishing on Ekuk starting in 1955. We are not able to use boats so must take vehicles to Ekuk via barge from Seattle. We do not use boats so do not use the boat harbor in Dillingham. We suspect there are fewer than a half dozen folks who will skiff between Dillingham and Ekuk during the summer. I do not know what Dillingham charges for the use of the harbor. 90 percent or more of us who fish at Ekuk have to fly in and out. We live in Eastern Washington now but have been going back to fish for the last 16 years. Ekuk is where we both grew up fishing.

Dillingham has never done one thing to help anybody in Ekuk. We suspect that we will not see anything from them in the future either. We had been purchasing all of our supplies for the summer in Seattle and shipping them directly to Ekuk. They never go to Dillingham first. They arrive at the dock in Ekuk via Northland barge. We started doing all of our shopping locally in Dillingham to help support the community. We could go back to not supporting Dillingham and we can promise you that we would not shop locally if the City of Dillingham mandates we pay a tax to them.

We strongly oppose the take over of the fishing industry by the City of Dillingham. They have no rights to our section of the Nushagak Bay. They have done nothing for us and we havnt received anything from them. We just wonder how they would feel if the Village of Ekuk decided to annex the waters out in front of our village by taxing the City of Dillingham for every vessel that passes on their way to supply Dillingham carrying their supplies.

Thank you for not allowing this annexation to be approved. We think that Dillingham needs to control their spending but looks like they think they can keep increasing their spending and then tax everybody they can think of to pay for their own fiscal irresponsibility. If the City of Dillingham wants to increase their revenue base, they need to increase the fees from those who actually use the facilities in Dillingham. Next thing you know, they will want to annex the entire Bristol Bay and tax all the salmon fishermen who catch salmon that were destined for the Nushagak and Wood river. It needs to be stopped now. If you let them annex and start taxing, who is going to stop them when they keep running out of money and will

undoubtedly start raising the tax without any representation from the rest of us. This reminds me of the Boston Tea Party. This is why America finally revolted.

This letter is written by two commercial fishermen. Fred Ball Permit number Set Net 65050X and Lloann Ball Set Net 60186

We appreciate your consideration to help us get this stopped before it gets out of control.

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