



**Kenai
Area
Fisherman's
Coalition**

PROTECTING YOUR FISHING RIGHTS & RESOURCES

P. O. Box 375 Kenai, Ak. 99611

Subject : Soldotna Creek Drainage Pike Mitigation Program

April 12, 2012

To: Rob Massengill, ADF&G Program Coordinator

From: Dwight Kramer, Chairman – Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition

Mr. Massengill,

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition (KAFC) would like to thank you for your recent Soldotna Cr. Pike scoping meetings. The presentations provided Kenai area folks with a better understanding of the nature and magnitude of the invasive Pike issue as it pertains to the Soldotna Creek drainage. One of our KAFC Board of Directors, Jack Dean, was able to attend and forwarded us a copy of his letter to Ms. Doyle of USKH, stating his reasons for supporting ADF&G's efforts to remove Pike from the Soldotna Cr. basin.

Please be aware that KAFC, as an organization, also lends our support to this very critical resource effort. As you know, we are a science-based private angler organization with eight retired fishery biologists on our BOD. We have been following the Soldotna Cr. Pike issue for quite sometime and understand the implications to Kenai River juvenile fish and resident species stocks if this issue isn't resolved sooner rather than later. We have seen the devastation unchecked pike stocks have caused in other Cook Inlet regions to salmon stocks and resident species over the last decade and recognize the importance of invasive Pike removal in instances where they jeopardize the rearing capabilities of other native stocks.

After reviewing your plans for this Pike mitigation program, we feel confident that the department can accomplish its goals of removing all Pike from the Soldotna Creek drainage without harm to Kenai river fish stocks. We also appreciate your plan to re-establish all native stocks to these waters so they will mirror the fish stocks in these waters prior to the entry of invasive Pike.

We would like to thank ADF&G and everyone who is involved in this effort. The department's pro-active stance on Kenai Peninsula Pike issues is very much appreciated by anglers and everyone concerned about the future of our resources.

Thanks Again,

Dwight Kramer, KAFC Chairman
283-1054