From: <u>pmcketa@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Pete Cleary</u>

To: <u>Sam Owen</u>

Subject: Comment on the Eklutna River Draft Fish and Wildlife Program

Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 4:04:40 PM

Dear Owners of The Eklutna Hydroelectric Project,

The Eklutna ecosystem is a gem waiting to return to its former glory.

With salmon runs in decline it is important to invest in the future of this historic salmon producing watershed.

This is an excellent opportunity to restore an ecosystem and invest in the salmon future of the Eklutna Dena'ina people who will be sustained by this resource.

The economic benefits of full restoration will outweigh the cost. The economy and wildlife will benefit from a restored fishery.

We need these fish. Alaska needs this resource. Removing the dam and full restoration makes plenty of sense. It is in everyone's best interest to take this opportunity and bring this system back. This can and should be completed.

Let us do what is right for the Eklutna people and for all Alaskans. Give the salmon a chance to come back.

Pete Cleary M.S., Fishery Biologist- retired

Sincerely, Pete Cleary 1585 Mission Rd Homer, AK 99603-9361 pmcketa@hotmail.com