



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

May 6, 2019

The Honorable Bryce Edgmon
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Edgmon:

Thank you for your letter dated April 9, 2019 urging continued engagement with the Province of British Columbia (BC) on the issue of transboundary rivers under the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation (MOU), signed by the previous administration.

The MOU, referenced by your letter, is still in effect and the Governor's Office continues to take the lead on behalf of the State of Alaska. Additionally, there are multiple state agencies engaged in the dialogue with the Province of British Columbia Ministries of Environment, and Energy, and Mines. This is important work, my administration recognizes the progress made, and will continue to seek ways to best protect Alaska's natural resources and environment.

On-going engagements with the Province of British of Columbia include:

- The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) coordinates project-level engagement between the DNR, Environmental Conservation (DEC), Fish and Game (ADF&G), Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), and BC agencies.
 - Staff-level engagements formally occur through BC's Environmental Assessment process and permitting processes, per the Reciprocal Procedures of the Statement of Cooperation (SOC).
 - Director-level engagements include monthly teleconferences with BC officials.
- DEC completed water quality sampling in lakes and streams over the past two years in transboundary watersheds, per the Joint Water Quality Monitoring Program under the SOC.
 - DEC is working on the report summarizing this work.
- The commissioners of DEC, ADF&G, and DNR represent the State on the Bilateral Working Group on Protection of Transboundary Waters (BWG), per the MOU and SOC.
 - The next BWG meeting will take place on June 18, 2019.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the efforts of my administration and the work that our state agencies are engaged in regard to transboundary rivers under the MOU with the Province of British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Dunleavy

Governor

cc: The Honorable Donald Olson, Senator, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Tom Begich, Senator, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Bill Wielechowski, Senator, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Jesse Kiehl, Senator, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Elvi Gray-Jackson, Senator, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Dan Ortiz, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Tiffany Zulkosky, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Adam Wool, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Louise Stutes, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Andi Story, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Harriet Drummond, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Geran Tarr, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Sara Hannan, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Andy Josephson, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable John Lincoln, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Grier Hopkins, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Laddie Shaw, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Matt Claman, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Chris Tuck, Representative, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Zack Fields, Representative, Alaska State Legislature