



Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward St., No. 211
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-9400
(907) 586-4473 Fax

To whom It may concern.,

The Alaska Trollers Association is pleased to recommend Dale Kelley for the position of Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission commissioner. Ms. Kelley had been the Executive Director of the Alaska Trollers Association for almost 30 years. Current members of our board have worked with Ms. Kelley for many years, some as long as 23 years. During her years of employment, the board and the Alaska troll fleet have had nothing but the highest quality of service from Ms. Kelley.

Ms. Kelley has always demonstrated the highest professional standards in the conduct of her job. Dealing with commercial fishermen is challenging at best. Bridging the sensibilities of ADFG policy and regulation to the motivations of fishermen has been Ms. Kelley's strong point throughout her career. Ms. Kelley has been instrumental in bringing the opinions and needs of fishermen into action while negotiating the many statutes and regulations that impact our fishery. In addition, she was pivotal in developing Board of Fisheries proposals for the troll fleet germane to amending or replacing these policies.

Ms. Kelley has served in the past as a member of the Pacific Salmon Commission Northern Panel and currently serves on the Transboundary River Panel as troll fleet representative. Both of these panels involve bringing the voices of our diverse fleet to bear on the negotiations conducted within the Pacific Salmon Commission on extremely critical issues such as king salmon allocation between the United States and Canada. Although negotiations have not always resulted in a favorable outcome for the fleet, our board has been consistently pleased with her ability to convey our needs and concerns to the Commission.

Ms. Kelley has effectively been the "go to" representative for many Southeast regionwide issues. She has organized and helped facilitate efforts such as the industry response to the US Park Service proposal to close Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve to commercial fishing and responding to anti commercial fishing political initiatives. She has provided long and consistent leadership within United Fishermen of Alaska, the statewide fishing organization, and willingly stepped up to give additional time and assistance during some difficult years for industry. As a result of her wide experience, Ms. Kelley has become a comprehensive source of institutional memory and of balanced policy advice for Southeast Alaska salmon fisheries.

The board of the Alaska Trollers Association gives its highest recommendation of Ms. Kelley to serve on the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. She has the necessary experience in fisheries issues to be able to make fair decisions on permit applications and has the temperament to deny a permit when necessary. Ms. Kelley also has spent considerable time considering and developing economic analyses of the commercial fishing fleet and understands its value and impact on the state and communities

In conclusion, we believe Ms. Kelley will be an extremely valuable addition to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. As her former employers we give our highest recommendation and would add nothing but our admiration and gratitude for her years of service at ATA. We are available to answer any further questions through our executive committee.

Sincerely, ATA Board of Directors

Steve Merritt, President (907) 826-2364

Jim Moore, Vice President (907) 723-9060

Joel Kawahara, Secretary (206) 406-7026