

3/27/17

Dear Representative Stutes and Fisheries Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Alaska Salmon Alliance, a State of Alaska registered not for profit trade organization representing primarily seafood processors, but also the interests of fishermen, who are involved in harvesting, processing and marketing of seafood that is landed in Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, SE Alaska and Bristol Bay communities.

ASA members have lengthy experience with Board of Fisheries meetings dating back more than twenty-five years. Several of us recently completed participation in a fourteen day Board of Fisheries meeting in Anchorage at the Sheraton Hotel.

Under the leadership of the new Chairman, John Jensen, from Petersburg, a broadly knowledgeable fisherman and a seasoned Board member, we experienced a refreshing spirit of respect, collaboration, thoughtful deliberation and an open environment throughout the marathon. We also respect the knowledge and the balance of interests that Reed Morisky, from Fairbanks brings to the Board. Finally, we appreciate the fact that Fritz Johnson, from Dillingham has agreed to come back and serve on the Board. Fritz is a man of integrity with extensive fisheries experience and he has already established his collaborative, cooperative and respectful nature. The ASA firmly supports all three of these candidates.

Thank you all for your firm commitment to sustaining Alaska fisheries and fish resources.

Regards,

Arni Thomson

Alaska Salmon Alliance

Cell: 907.570.1959

Email: [athomsonak@gmail.com](mailto:athomsonak@gmail.com)

Website: [www.aksalmonalliance.org](http://www.aksalmonalliance.org)