

## Letter of Opposition to Karl Johnstone

1.	Linda	Behnken	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
2.	Gerald	McCune	Cordova District Fishermen United
3.	Danielle	Ringer	F/V North Star
4.	Christopher	Johnson	F/V North Star Kodiak Crab Alliance
5.	Luke	Lester	Cooperative
6.	Nate	Rose	Kodiak Seiners Association
7.	Matt	Alward	United Fishermen of Alaska
8.	Darren	Platt	Agnes Savine Fisheries, LLC United Southeast Alaska
9.	Max	Worhatch	Gillnetters United Cook Inlet Drift
10.	David	Martin	Association North Pacific Fisheries
11.			Association
12.	Renee	Alward	
13.	Jeff	Berger	
14.	Dyer	VanDeverre	
15.	Kurt	Weichland	
16.	Steve	Webb	
17.	Kirlan	Kuzmin	
18.	Wilma	Hampson	
19.	Audrey	Salmon	
20.	Yakov	Reutov	
21.	David	Martin	
22.	Erik	Heubsch	
23.	Deborah	Anderson	
24.	Dionici	Reutov	
25.	Danielle	Hakkinen	
26.	Paul	Warner	
27.	Todd	Smith	
28.	Fred	Martushev	
29.	Walter	Page	
30.	Mark	Ducker	
31.	Suzanne	Ducker	
32.	Richard	McGahan	
33.	Karen	McGahan	
34.	Brandon	Ducker	
35.	Jeff	Beaudoin	
36.	Gary	Knagin	
37.	Sally	Rittenhouse	
38.	Arnie	Nelson	

## Letter of Opposition to Karl Johnstone

39. Jon	Henson
40. Makoto	Odlin
41. Danielle	Ringer
42. Douglas	Carroll
43. Hunter	Byron
44. Gary	Knagin
45. Ray	Renner
46. Georgeanna	Heaverley
47. Matt	Oxford
48. Erik	Kokborg
49. Leif	Gustafson
50. Victoria	O'Connell
51. James	Schauff
52. Jon	Erickson
53. Grace	Allan
54. John	Gucer
55. Hannah	Heimbuch
56. Jamie	O'Connor
57. Craig	Ring
58. Andy	Hall
59. Dina	Gregg
60. Tyrell	Seavey
61. Elissa	Williams
62. Morgan	Williams
63. Keith	Boyle
64. Kenneth	Jones
65. Shawna	Buchanan
66. Nicholas	Crump
67. Dennis	Zadra
68. Tyrell	Seavey
69. Randy	Merritt
70. Craig	Schauff
71. Darren	Platt
72. Robert	Moss
73. Alicia	Anderson
74. Marjorie	Dunaway
75. John	Grocott
76. Ted	Crookston
77. Abigail	Turner
78. Ron	Merritt
79. Rod	Van Saun
80. Kurt	Carlson
81. Chris	Hanson

## **Letter of Opposition to Karl Johnstone**

David	Glassen
John	Grocott
Chris	Trosvig
Tori	Norman
Jim	Horn
Ronald	Garrant
Alexander	Roth
Nina	Burkholder
Ivan	Heimbuch
Omar	Gucer
Jamie	O'Connor
David	Martin
Daniel	Anderson
Deborah	Nakada
Jordan	Striver
Revelle	Russell
Stephanie	Schmit
Jeff	Berger
Kurt	Weichhand
Maggie	Bursch
Kristi	Lindholm
Evan	Blankenship
James	Calhoun
Brian	Mcwethy
Chris	Trosvig
Robert	Moss
Jesse	Bjorkman
Darius	Kasprzak
Marty	Remund
Lisa and Brian	Gabriel
Mike	Crookston
Fred	Stager
Bud	Marresse
Sue	Aspulund
David	Branshaw

Steve	Merritt
Thomas	Scott



Post Office Box 1229 / Sitka, Alaska 99835 907.747.3400 / FAX 907.747.3462

House Fisheries Committee  
Alaska State Legislature

April 10, 2019

Dear Chairman Stutes and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting these comments on behalf of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA). ALFA's membership includes over 100 vessel owners and deckhands who participate in Alaska's LL fisheries for halibut and sablefish; most also seine, troll, gillnet or tender for salmon and some participate in crab, shrimp or dive fisheries.

We advocate for sustainable fisheries and thriving fishing communities. We are strongly committed to science-based management of natural resources, strict adherence to conservation mandates, and sustained participation in natural resource harvest by Alaska's residents.

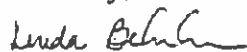
From this background, we cannot support appointment of Mr. Karl Johnstone. During Mr. Johnstone's previous tenure on the BOF, we observed him to be routinely disrespectful of ADFG science and scientists. This is not the stance of someone who prioritizes science-based decision making. We also have direct experience with Mr. Johnstone approaching issues with a pre-conceived agenda, dismissing facts, testimony or positions that oppose his preliminary stance, regardless of the facts presented, local wisdom or experience shared or particular merits. We have also observed that he does not follow BOF allocation criteria, as outlined in state statute, unless they match his prior agenda. I would call to your attention a decision argued aggressively by Mr. Johnstone to award exclusive access to a non-resident lodge owner over the unanimous opposition of local Yakutat residents. This decision was later reversed by a more responsible Board. These traits—dismissing local wisdom and being disrespectful of State

managers and scientists—are not traits that should be supported or even tolerated in BOF candidates.

I must also voice my outrage at Mr. Johnstone's comments about commercial fishermen being outdated. Our fishermen use state of the art catch accounting systems to provide real time data to managers; sport fishermen fill out paper surveys months after harvesting. Our organization runs a value added, forward funded community supported subscription program that provides Alaska residents with premium Alaska seafood along with background on the fishing family who caught their fish and their commitment to sustainable fisheries. This marketing is innovative, locally committed and a growing trend in our thriving commercial fisheries. Mr. Johnstone's disdain for our fishing families make him an unacceptable candidate to the members of our organization.

With respect, we ask that you do not confirm Mr. Johnstone, and that you instead call for nomination of a candidate that upholds state statutes, relies heavily on science, welcomes informed public input, and maintains the integrity of the BOF process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Behnken".

Linda Behnken  
(Executive Director, ALFA)



**Cordova District Fishermen United**

PO Box 939 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574  
phone. (907) 424 3447 | fax. (907) 424 3430  
web. [www.cdfu.org](http://www.cdfu.org)

April 8, 2019

Representative John Lincoln  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol Room 102  
Juneau AK, 99801

Representative Geran Tarr  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol Room 128  
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Oppose Johnstone for Board of Fisheries

Dear Chairman Lincoln, Co-Chair Tarr, and the House Resources Committee,

CDFU is a non-profit membership organization representing over 900 commercial fishing families who participate in commercial fisheries in Alaska's Area E, which includes Prince William Sound, the Copper River region, and the northern-central Gulf. It is our mission to preserve, promote, and perpetuate the commercial fishing industry in Area E and to further promote safety at sea, legislation, conservation, management, and general welfare for the mutual benefit of all our members. It is important to note that our member fishermen hail from many regions of our state well beyond the bounds of Area E, and many reside in Anchorage, Homer, Fairbanks, Valdez, Palmer, and Wasilla, among other communities.

The commercial fishermen of Area E have a strong and historic relationship with the Alaska State Legislature and State of Alaska Departments that we foster with great care, proactive communications and representation. CDFU would like to formally state our opposition to the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

A fair, balanced, and transparent board is of utmost importance to the public Board of Fisheries process, and we have several concerns with Johnstone's appointment. Johnstone previously served on the Board of Fisheries, and during that time voted on a number of contentious proposals. Historically, Johnstone is viewed within the commercial fishing community as favoring urban, recreational user groups, often at the expense of commercial and/or rural users. This is particularly troublesome in the difficult allocation decisions that pit Alaskans against Alaskans.



**Cordova District Fishermen United**  
PO Box 939 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574  
phone. (907) 424 3447 | fax. (907) 424 3430  
web. [www.cdfu.org](http://www.cdfu.org)

Additionally, Johnstone has authored and published a number of opinion pieces that blatantly and publicly disrespect commercial users in certain fisheries. We do not believe these views expressed by Johnstone are reflective of the unbiased and fair character generally desired of Board of Fisheries appointees.

Last, a balanced board should represent a variety of user groups from communities around the state, and confirming Johnstone to this seat would lead to a board more heavily biased against commercial fishery users. Though the board's composition is continually evolving as terms end and new members are appointed, overall it is important the board maintain balance between user groups. In light of Johnstone's already controversial history on the board and his outspoken views against some commercial fishermen, his confirmation to this seat would disrupt the balance on the Board of Fisheries that many Alaskans value.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these factors in making your decision regarding Board of Fisheries appointments, and for the opportunity to express our opposition to the confirmation of Karl Johnstone.

Gerald McCune  
President

Danielle Ringer and Christopher Johnson  
F/V North Star  
PO Box 151  
Kodiak, AK 99615

April 10, 2019

Re: Opposition of Karl Johnstone for Alaska Board of Fisheries

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

We are a fishing family out of Kodiak and both come from a family tradition of commercial fishing livelihoods on Kodiak Island and the Kenai Peninsula. We are writing to share our concern and strong request for you to NOT confirm Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Mr. Johnstone was blatantly discriminatory to commercial fishermen during his previous time on the Board and we are confident that he would continue this inappropriately divisive and seemingly hostile behavior if he were to be reappointed now.

Alaskans need and deserve a balanced Board comprised of individuals who value the importance of various fishing ways of life in our great state. Commercial fishing represents the lifeblood of many communities and our family would like to see fisheries management leaders who recognize this at the least. Our state's diverse working waterfronts rely on healthy fish stocks and the ability for people with different fisheries perspectives to work together to build a strong and prosperous future. We do not believe that Karl Johnstone is the appropriate person to fill a leadership role on the Board.

Thank you for your time and we hope you will take our concerns into consideration and ultimately choose not to confirm Mr. Johnstone for a seat on the Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Ringer and Christopher Johnson

F/V North Star



# KODIAK CRAB ALLIANCE COOPERATIVE

PO Box 65  
Kodiak, AK 99615  
907-539-5293  
[KCAC2011@yahoo.com](mailto:KCAC2011@yahoo.com)

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House Fisheries Committee  
Louise Stutes, Chair

**The Kodiak Crab Alliance Cooperative (KCAC) is firmly opposed to the selection of Karl Johnstone to the Alakas Board of Fisheries.** We represent roughly 50 vessels, and in addition to the Kodiak tanner crab fishery, our members participate in fisheries all over the state of Alaska.

Governor Dunleavy has chosen to appoint a board that will not provide fair, predictable and sustainable management and that is certain to threaten our livelihoods as fishermen. Johnstone is the most extreme member of the new group of nominees and his past actions on the board as well as his public statements have exposed him as someone who is unwilling or incapable of understanding the diverse needs of Alaska's fishery resource users.

Alaskans deserve a board of fisheries that is assembled through a transparent process and that can take a balanced approach to fisheries management. The nomination of Johnstone and the attempt to fill the board with members who disproportionately favor a single user group is an affront to the men and women of our state who have dedicated their lives to the commercial fishing industry.

We ask that the legislature reject the nomination of Karl Johnstone and that lawmakers send a clear message to the administration that you value our state's commercial fishing industry and will not imperil our coastal communities by appointing individuals who will recklessly disregard our hard-working fishing families.

We do not ask that the governor nominate a partisan to the commercial fishing industry, but instead that he merely select a fair-minded individual who we can trust will consider the well-being of our fleet.

Sincerely,  
Luke Lester, KCAC President

## Kodiak Seiners Association

PO Box 8835, Kodiak

[kodiakseiners@gmail.com](mailto:kodiakseiners@gmail.com)

April 8, 2019

House Committee on Fisheries

Representative Louis Stutes, Chair

**The Kodiak Seiners Association (KSA) is strongly opposed to the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.** When the legislature established the board in 1975 they clearly intended the 7 members to provide a range of views ensuring that all Alaskan stakeholders are given fair consideration. A.S 16.05.221 clearly states this intention:

*The governor shall appoint each member on the basis of interest in public affairs, good judgment, knowledge, and ability in the field of action of the board, and with a view to providing diversity of interest and points of view in the membership.*

It is plainly the duty the legislature to consider not just the merits of the current members individually, but also how their interests and views contrast with other board members and how they will be expected to conduct themselves on the board. This should be done to ensure that board remain a neutral institution. With Reed Morisky as the chair combined with the additional appointment of Marit Carlson-Van Dort and Israel Payton, Johnstone's participation would only further consolidate the board's worldview around an ideology that fundamentally opposed mixed stock fisheries and commercial harvesters.

Johnstone's voting record on the board and public statements clearly express views that are redundant to the current membership of the board. He is overtly hostile to the commercial fishing industry and has gone as far to openly call for the state to initiate the wide scale reduction of the salmon fleet in order to re-allocate fishery resources to sport users. The BOF was never intended to be an institution with its own agenda to impose on the public, instead, it is supposed to be open, transparent, and should provide equal consideration to the vast array of Alaska's salmon users. However, the fairness of this process is critically dependent on the overall neutrality of the board.

Most salmon in Alaska are harvested in mixed stock fisheries, including the Kodiak salmon fisheries. The board, as nominated by the governor, would be inclined to marginalize the needs of these fisheries and if Johnstone is confirmed then then mixed stock fishermen could not possibly receive fair consideration in front of such a polarized group.

We respectfully ask the legislature to carefully consider the past conduct and views of Johnstone and whether they provide sufficient contrast to the remaining 6 members to ensure a fair and balanced board process. We believe that the livelihoods of Kodiak's commercial salmon fleet would be jeopardized by the governor's appointments and that the legislature should only confirm individuals to the board who will be expected to play a more neutral role.

KSA is also disappointed the governor has neglected to re-appoint Robert Ruffner, who has proved himself to be the consummate board member and we would like to reiterate our support for him.

Sincerely,

Nate Rose, KSA President



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

Mailing Address: PO Box 20229, Juneau AK 99802-0229

Physical Address: 410 Calhoun Ave Ste 101, Juneau AK 99801

Phone: (907) 586-2820 Fax: (907) 463-2545

Email: [ufa@ufafish.org](mailto:ufa@ufafish.org) Website: [www.ufafish.org](http://www.ufafish.org)

April 9, 2019

Representative Louise Stutes  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(via email)

## **Re: Opposition to Karl Johnstone Appointment to Alaska Board of Fisheries**

Dear Representative Stutes,

United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) is the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 35 commercial fishing organizations participating in fisheries throughout the state, and the federal fisheries off Alaska's coast.

It is a rare occurrence that UFA takes an official stance against a nomination for the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). In fact, the last time UFA wrote a letter of opposition for a BOF nomination was in 2006. However, the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the BOF leaves us no choice but to voice our opposition to his confirmation.

The commercial fishing industry has a dismal history with Mr. Johnstone when he served the BOF from 2008-2015. The commercial fishing industry has long held that Mr. Johnstone is blatantly biased in his decision-making and that as chair, he presided over the BOF meetings as he would a court room. For those that have seen Mr. Johnstone in action at BOF meetings, he is infamously known for being disrespectful and bullish to members of the public he does not agree with. He can also be extremely critical to Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff and has been known to drill them unmercifully.

It is one thing to have expertise in a specific region or fishery, which is why individuals are selected for the BOF. However, it is completely inappropriate to have an outright disdain towards a specific sector, such as Mr. Johnstone has for the commercial fishing industry.

During Mr. Johnstone's terms with the BOF, his lack of transparency was also brought into play. It was his lack of transparency that ultimately caused Mr. Johnstone to resign from his seat on the BOF in 2015 after House Speaker Mike Chenault wrote a letter to Governor Walker expressing concerns over Johnstone's handling of interviews for Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner.

We also raise the question as to why a person, who chooses to live in Arizona for the majority of the year while collecting an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend, is a good candidate for *Alaska's* Board of Fisheries. He shouldn't have been allowed to serve his first two terms while he was living in Arizona, and allowing him to come back for another round sets a new precedence that may encourage non-residents to serve on Alaska's boards deciding issues for Alaskans.

We ask you to please vote no on Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Please feel to reach out to us with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Alward', written in a cursive style.

Matt Alward  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frances H. Leach', written in a cursive style.

Frances H. Leach  
Executive Director

April 10, 2019

Darren Platt

Agnes Sabine Fisheries LLC

10708 Birch Ln,

Kodiak, AK 99615

Alaska House Fisheries Committee

To the Honorable Louise Stutes, Chair

**I am writing to express my opposition to the nomination of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.** I am a 37 year old Kodiak resident and the owner of the fishing vessel Agnes Sabine. I am disappointed in the governor's decision to nominate a board that will serve only a cross-section of Alaskan residents, while seemingly neglecting and marginalizing Alaska's commercial fishing fleet. I also find it disturbing that the names of the nominees were kept secret to ensure that the public would not have sufficient time to weigh in on the nominations. The members of the board have a profound impact on the lives of all commercial fishermen, and they need to be selected to ensure that all Alaskans are offered a voice in the process.

As a fisherman who is relatively new to the industry, I have been very impressed with the fairness and transparency of the Board of Fisheries. But the legitimacy of the board process, as designed, relies on the net impartiality of board members. The board should be assembled to assure, to the greatest extent practicable, that all stakeholders in Alaska's fisheries have equal standing in front of the board, regardless of their respective user group. That will not be the case with Johnstone's presence. His membership would lead to a drastic imbalance that would result in the board imposing its own agenda on the public, without fair consideration to the well-being of fishermen, like myself. To avoid an unbalanced board, the governor and legislature need to consider not just the merits of the individual members, but also how their views and interests compare to other members on the board, to ensure that a appropriate balance is maintained.

This is by far the most critical issue I have ever faced in my career, and I believe that the governor has chosen to issue an existential threat to Alaska's many men and women who depend on commercial fishing to make a living, and to the coastal communities that rely on our access to local fishery resources. Please do not confirm Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries, and send a clear message to the governor that the board needs to sustain its reputation as a fair and balanced institution that works for the benefit of all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Darren Platt

# **UNITED SOUTHEAST ALASKA GILLNETTERS**

**Box 2196, Petersburg AK 99833 \* (253) 279-0707 \* [usag.alaska@gmail.com](mailto:usag.alaska@gmail.com) \* [akgillnet.org](http://akgillnet.org)**

**USAG'S MAIN PURPOSE IS TO PROTECT, SERVE AND ENHANCE SOUTHEAST ALASKA'S COMMERCIAL GILLNET FISHERY**

April 6, 2019

Representative Louise Stutes  
Chair House Fisheries Committee  
State Capitol Room 406  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Stutes and Members of the House Fisheries Committee,

United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters is an organization dedicated to the economic viability of the gillnet salmon fishery in Southeast Alaska. We represent the interests of 473 permit holders, of which over 80% are residents of Alaska.

We would like to go on record as opposing the confirmation of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries. In his last tenure on the board, he showed us time and again that he was incapable of thoughtful consideration regarding sport/commercial proposals. He has shown in the past an unnatural bias favoring sport fish over commercial fisheries that, in our estimation, is in conflict with the directives of the process. In our experience with him in our regional meetings, he has proved unapproachable, and unwilling to interact with stakeholders. We feel Mr. Johnstone was the worst possible choice, given the field of candidates to choose from, and his confirmation will lead to a huge imbalance of the board in favor of sport fish, at a cost to commercial and personal use fisheries.

Sincerely,



Max Worhatch, Executive Director, United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters



## United Cook Inlet Drift Association

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43961 K-Beach Road, Suite E • Soldotna, Alaska 99669 • (907) 260-9436 • fax (907) 260-9438  
• [info@ucida.org](mailto:info@ucida.org) •

Date: April 11, 2019

Addressee: Representative Louise Stutes  
House Fisheries Committee Chair  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: OPPOSE Karl Johnstone

Dear: Representative Stutes,

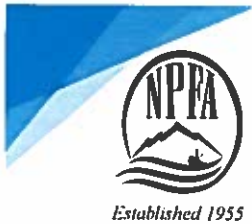
The United Cook Inlet Drift Association (UCIDA) represents 570 commercial fishing families in Upper Cook Inlet. UCIDA is writing to you today to strongly oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. UCIDA disagrees with the way Mr. Johnstone treated the public, the process and anyone else who did not meet the sport fishing agenda in Cook Inlet, as well as the rest of the state. UCIDA is opposed to a Board of Fish member that spends most of his time in Arizona, completely removed from the very resources on which he was deliberating.

UCIDA is also opposed to Marit Carlson-Van Dort due to her intimate knowledge and association with the advancement of the Pebble Mine project.

Sincerely,

*Original Signed Document*

David Martin, President  
United Cook Inlet Drift Association



North Pacific Fisheries Association, NPFA  
P.O. Box 796 Homer, AK 99669  
npfahomer@gmail.com

April 10, 2019

RE: Opposition to the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

**North Pacific Fisheries Association (NPFA) respectfully urges Legislators not to confirm the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF).**

NPFA represents approximately 70 commercial fishing vessels which in turn represent hundreds of fishermen, their families, and businesses. These vessels participate in a variety of fisheries and regions across the state that are directly impacted by decisions made by the Board of Fisheries. NPFA and our members work towards sustainable fisheries, healthy oceans and abundant natural resources for all user groups. We understand that other user groups are our neighbors, and we are all part of the same community and economic engine of this great state.

Mr. Johnstone has a concerning reputation for open discrimination against commercial fishing interests and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commercial Fisheries Division staff. One doesn't have to look much further than Mr. Johnstone's own articulated views in op-ed pieces in the Anchorage Daily News through the years to understand why commercial fishermen, like our members, would be so concerned. In 2017, Mr. Johnstone wrote "The new businesses [recreational fishing] that are Alaska's economic future, along with the average Alaska angler and dipnetter, get treated like ugly stepsisters while the focus remains on trying to prolong the life of the aged and fading sibling for as long as possible even though the benefits to the Alaska family are destined to steadily decline." In Mr. Johnstone's Senate Resource Committee hearing on April 10 he replied to Senator Kiehl's line of questioning regarding this op-ed that "the revenue being brought in by wild stock is now falling down dramatically compared to what it used to be". Yet, commercial fisheries are Alaska's largest private employer – and according to the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, "the 8.3 percent growth for seafood harvesting in 2017 was the largest in percent terms among Alaska industries." And according to the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, approximately 56,800 workers are directly employed by Alaska's seafood industry. He also commented that while he prefers eating wild fish, that finfish farming is "something that should be considered". This is an issue that all Alaskans can agree on, we should NEVER consider finfish farming in our state if we value the conservation and development of our state resources, which is the purpose of the Board of Fisheries.

Unfortunately, Mr. Johnstone's biased viewpoints are not to the economic well-being of Alaska and would be a detriment to its coastal communities, nor are his statements factually correct.

Our state and all user groups will be better served with leadership that is responsive to science-based decisions, respects and values the views of all stakeholders, and that values sustainability and diverse participation in harvest of ocean resources. If confirmed, Mr. Johnstone's position would put the BOF brazenly out of balance. We ask that you NOT confirm him to the BOF.

Respectfully,

North Pacific Fisheries Association  
Board of Directors



Renee Alward  
[REDACTED]

Homer, AK 99603

04/10/2019

State of Alaska  
Senate Resources Committee

Re: Board of Fisheries Appointees

Dear Board Chair and Members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am writing in opposition of the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

Board of Fisheries members need to be fair, data driven, science based, and neutral for all fisheries resources and groups. Mr. Johnstone has proven to be none of those things.

Mr. Johnstone has a long record of working absolutely against commercial fishing interests.

Mr. Johnstone has been blatantly adversarial and discriminatory against the ADF&G staff.

Mr. Johnstone has a flagrant agenda and if confirmed will leave the Board of Fisheries unfairly weighted toward the interests of the sport fishing industry.

I implore you not to confirm Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

Thank you,



Renee Alward  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Jeff F. Berger  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

**NOTE:** This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I strongly object to Karl Johnstone's appointment to the Board of Fisheries. He has a biased record and history of political management of our public natural fisheries resource that has led to over escapement and mismanagement of salmon in Upper Cook Inlet.

Jeff F. Berger

Ninilchik Alaska 99639

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Dyer VanDevere  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I strongly oppose the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

I was at the BOF when he made the comment to the effect of being more concerned about the property value of land along the Kenai River than he was the health and long-term sustainability of our fisheries resource. I find the disregard for science offensive for our resource.

Thank you,

Dyer VanDevere

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Kurt Weichhand  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I would like to be on the record as opposing the appointment of Karl Johnstone to sit on the Board of Fisheries.

He has shown bias towards Kenai Peninsula Sportfishing Association and will tweak the balance of the Board towards sport fishing.

His strong-arm tactics and backroom politics have no place on the Board of Fisheries.

Thank you,

Kurt Weichhand

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Steve Webb  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I am opposed to the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. When last on the Board, he demonstrated unfair and biased treatment directed towards commercial fishermen of Cook Inlet.

Steve Webb  
Kasilof, AK

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Kirian Kuzmin  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmations  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

I believe he will be the end of the salmon run in Cook Inlet because they will flood the rivers and lakes with salmon to an unsustainable level.

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Audrey Salmon  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

My name is Audrey Salmon and I am writing to STRONGLY OPPOSE Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries.

Mr. Johnstone was blatantly discriminatory against commercial fisheries and the ADFG Comfish Division in his previous time on the Board.

I have serious reservations about someone that does not live in this state. Check his airplane reservations and trips when he was on the Board, you will see he is making a mockery of the State's process and is a very poor representative for the Board of Fisheries.

Confirmation of Johnstone would leave the Board of Fisheries seriously "out of balance" with respect to commercial fisheries representation.

Mr. Johnstone was removed from the Board once already, that should be reason enough not to put him back on again.

I think Alaska can certainly do better and deserves way better than Mr. Johnstone's antics.

Thank you,  
Audrey Salmon  
Soldotna, Alaska



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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Yakov Reutov  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

My name is Yakov Reutov. I am a commercial fisherman and I strongly oppose Karl Johnstone having a seat on the Board of Fisheries. He was there before, and I know firsthand he is biased against the commercial fisherman, especially in Cook Inlet. We need someone who will not make decisions based on political influences and he is not that person.

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Wilma A. Hampson  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I do not believe that Marit Carlson-Van Dort belongs on the Board of Fisheries.  
She is not from the Kenai Peninsula Borough and has no knowledge of fisheries.  
She was a previous lobbyist and her qualifications are strictly political.

Also, Judge Karl Johnstone has been on the Board previously and he did nothing for the dipnetters here.

Please reconsider the only resident of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Robert Ruffner, for a position on the Board.  
He at least has some scientific knowledge of fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Wilma A. Hampson  
District 29

# KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: David Martin  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

I oppose Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

During his tenure on the Board, Mr. Johnstone degraded the public trust in the BOF by leading the passage of numerous Board generated proposals, many out of cycle, which harmed the commercial fisheries, State, ADF&G, and the resource itself. These Board generated proposals, many allocative and unscientific, completely bypassed the Advisory and public process. The harmful effect was, and still is, the loss of enormous amounts of harvestable surplus, which no one will harvest, resulting in tens of millions of dollars of lost revenue to the communities, commercial fishing industry and State treasury (from lost fish tax). Why would the Legislature want to continue this mismanagement and waste of our resources by reappointing Mr. Karl Johnstone?

Please appoint another person who will use the most reliable science available to manage our fisheries for maximum sustained yields and the maximum benefit to the people. The commercial fishing industry is the largest private employer in the State and is the lifeblood of many coastal communities. The commercial fishing industry pays for itself and is self-sustaining if managed scientifically.

Thank you,  
David Martin

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Erik Heubsch  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: April 11, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

Legislators should all reject the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

His unethical behavior during his recent term on the BOF was obvious and blatant and extremely polarizing. Fishery resources across the state are vitally important to Alaskans and we need qualified, competent and unbiased BOF members.

Mr. Johnstone's past behavior has demonstrated that he is unfit for service on this board.

Thank you,

Erik Huebsch

Kasilof AK 99610

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Deborah Anderson  
REPRESENTING: Self  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: 04-15-2019

I oppose Karl Johnstone's nominations to the Board of Fish because of his history on the Board of Fish.

Please do not confirm this nomination as he has too much bias history.

Thank you.

Deborah Anderson

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Dionici Reutov  
REPRESENTING: Self  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: 04-15-2019

Hello, my name is Dionici Reutov and I oppose Karl Johnstone for Board of Fish board member I believe he is not a fair person, his agenda is to shut down commercial fishing, in cook inlet especially.

Thank you

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

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Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** Dan Hakkinen  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
**COMMITTEE:** HRES **DATE:** 04/15/2019

I urge our legislators in Juneau to vote NO on Karl Johnstone's confirmation. He's not concerned about fish, only about Anchorage.

Dan Hakkinen

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** Paul Warner  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** Board of Fisheries Confirmations  
**COMMITTEE:** HFSH **DATE:** 04-15-2019

To whom it may concern:

This email is to serve as my statement of opposition to the appointment and confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

Please feel free to contact me via email if you would like further information.

Thank you,

Paul Warner



4/9/19

Dear legislators,

I am a Kenai resident with a lifelong love for both sport and commercial fishing. In addition to my outdoor habits, I am a local small business owner and volunteer on the boards of several local quasi-governmental organizations. I try to stay involved in state and local policy and have developed a number of positive relationships with policy makers. I'm familiar with how an open public process works and am very aware of the benefits our diverse fisheries provide to my local economy. During these times of uncertain state finances, our local resources and industries are increasingly important to my area.

I know your plates are full, and there are many current issues I'd love to bend your ear on, but I felt compelled to write to you today concerning two of the Board of Fish nominees before you whom I have had personal experience dealing with:

I'm very happy to see Israel Payton re-nominated to the BOF. Israel's background differs from mine and we certainly don't agree on everything, nor has he always voted the way I might prefer. That said, every time I've dealt with Israel he has been open, honest, and respectful. He is eager to learn and discuss the issues and always strives to achieve mutually beneficial solutions. He does his homework, asks tough questions, and most of all, he respects the public process while striving to make it better. The employees of ADFG respect him because he respects the science, and they wince when he raises his hand because they expect tough, science-based questions. I encourage you to confirm Israel for continued service on the Board of Fisheries.

Conversely, I was very disappointed to see Karl Johnstone's nomination to the BOF. While he is a very smart and well-studied man, I can say with confidence that Mr. Johnstone is the most unethical person I have ever dealt with in state government. During his time as Board Chairman Mr. Johnstone was completely beholden to the special interests of Bob Penney and the Kenai River Sportfishing Association (KRSA). It was normal to see him go directly to the KRSA boardroom during meeting breaks. Known for frequent, angry outbursts, he commonly bullied other board members into voting his way. He actively manipulated the meeting schedules to suit KRSA/Penney interests – many times at the cost of a fair and open public process. During the time of Mr. Penney's setnet ban initiative, Karl personally tried to pressure me into accepting KRSA's BOF proposals, saying that if I didn't, his friends would put my family out of business. I've witnessed and heard firsthand from BOF members, ADFG employees, and journalists who Mr. Johnstone openly threatened with retribution when they opposed his wishes. He is spiteful, manipulative, and wrought with a history of unethical behavior.

I realize my comments are strong, and I weighed them heavily before sending. At the end of it I felt compelled to give an honest account of my experiences. For the betterment of Alaska and our public institutions, please confirm Israel Payton and reject Karl Johnstone.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter,

Todd Smith

Kenai

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

**NAME:** Fred Martushev  
**REPRESENTING:** Self  
**BILL # or SUBJECT:** Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
**COMMITTEE:** HRES **DATE:** 04/15/2019

To whom it may concern.

My family doesn't want Karl Johnstone on the Board of Fisheries. He will take the rest of our livelihood away. He is an epic crisis to Cook Inlet. He doesn't belong on that seat! He did enough damage when he was on the board last time! He is a hungry wolf. He will eat our livelihood with our looking back. So Karl, stay home and enjoy your retirement. You don't belong on the chair. You will drain our last blood. Again, Stay home!!!

Thank You! Fred cook inlet fisherman,

## KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

### WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Walter Page  
REPRESENTING: Self  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmations  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: 04-15-2019

Dear Committee Chairmen of the Senate Resources Committee, & Chairmen of House Special Committee on Fisheries,

My name is Walter Page and I reside in Kenai Alaska. I am a commercial fisherman and I represent myself.

I would like to take this time to STRONGLY OPPOSE the nomination of Karl Johnstone. I have heard testimony in the past meetings regarding Mr. Johnstone's fairness, non-bias, honest, and other adjectives in favor of Mr. Johnstone. I can assure this Committee and the citizens of Alaska, that the SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA & THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT, do not share the same views!

Please review the Supreme Courts findings in regards to Karl S. Johnstone:

Supreme Court of Alaska  
IN RE: the proceeding under AS 22.30.070(c) in relation to Karl S. Johnstone, Petitioner.  
No. S-8387.  
Decided: May 19, 2000

In summarizing this case; Karl Johnstone was responsible to elect a new Coroner for the Third Judicial District. Johnstone instructed the area court administrator to commence a recruitment process initiating a standard merit process. A merit hire, in contrast to a partially exempt appointment, requires a structured process involving publicity, specific application requirements, deadlines, and assignment to eligibility lists. Thirty-nine individuals had the appropriate qualifications for the job.

After the deadline had passed for qualification, etc. Judge Johnstone received a call from a colleague (Chief Justice Moore) suggesting a Mr. Richard McVeigh might be interested in the job, (however never had experience as a Coroner). Justice Johnstone appointed Mr. McVeigh for the job without even as much as an interview! Thirty-nine individuals had appropriate qualifications for the job, - McVeigh had none!

Supreme Courts Findings: "Here the appearance of impropriety arising from Judge Johnstone's conduct caused harm that is both actual and significant. An appearance of favoritism will always impair the general public's confidence in the judiciary."

"This is the essence of an appearance of favoritism and consequently the appearance of impropriety."

- (A) willful misconduct in office;
- (C) conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice;
- (D) conduct that brings the judicial office into disrepute;
- (E) conduct in violation of the code of judicial conduct;

"Judge Johnstone could not go outside that process (merit process) and appoint an individual:  
-who had not applied during the application period;

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## WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: Walter Page  
REPRESENTING: Self  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmations  
COMMITTEE: HFSH DATE: 04-15-2019

- whose name was suggested by the Chief Justice;
- purportedly, on the basis of criteria that was not part of the positions stated qualifications;
- on terms (temporary basis) that were significantly different from those advertised to the general public.

### III. CONCLUSION (Supreme Court)

We AFFIRM the commissions jurisdictional ruling and it's finding that Judge Johnstone created an appearance of impropriety in his appointment of Richard McVeigh. We also accept its recommendation for discipline. Accordingly Judge Johnstone will be issued a public reprimand.

IN CLOSING; A Zebra does not change it's stripes! Karl Johnstone has shown bias, favoritism, prejudice, partiality, in his rulings of the Board of Fish in the past and will do so in the future. Our past Governor (Walker), being a lawyer, knew of Karl Johnstones prejudice in the courtroom and rulings on the BOF, is the reason Karl Johnstone would not be reelected. Karl Johnstone has demonstrated in his past membership on the BOF showing favoritism, prejudice, etc. towards the commercial fishermen of the State of Alaska.

PLEASE DO NOT give Karl Johnston another bite of the apple!

Thank you,  
Walter Page  
Kenai, Alaska  
55 year commercial fisherman  
65 year resident of Alaska

To: House Fisheries Committee

Re: Opposition to Karl Johnstone

April 11, 2019

Dear Chair and Committee members,

Mr. Johnstone will not represent the Board of Fish well. His prior years on the Board are known for his unbalanced bias when it comes to commercial fisheries. Political Fish mongering serves one-side, contentious, and doesn't serve the public process well.

Please negate his nomination.

Sincerely disgusted by this re-nomination after years of contentious meetings,

Mark and Suzanne Ducker

Kasilof, Alaska

**KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE**

Email: [Kenai\\_LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

NAME: Richard C. and Karen S. McGahan  
REPRESENTING: \_\_\_\_\_  
BILL # or SUBJECT: Board of Fisheries Confirmation  
COMMITTEE: HFSH & HRES DATE: April 15, 2019

NOTE: This testimony is considered part of the official record and will be posted online with the hearing documents

House Resources & Fisheries Committee Members:

We oppose the nomination of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish.

Judge Johnstone demonstrated in previous years on the board that he has a definite bias and uses heavy handed tactics.

We also oppose Ms. Marit Carlson-Von Dort and ask that the members of the committee vote against both of these nominees.

Robert Ruffner should be nominated for a second term. Mr. Ruffner is one of the few scientists on the Board of Fish and the first in many years from the Kenai area. Since, due to the regulations set forth by the Board of Fish, the Kenai River is the most used river in the state, why take off the only member who lives here and actual experiences the results of those actions.

Also, Mr. Ruffner is neither a sport fisherman nor a commercial fisherman. He is a dip netter on the Kenai River and sees the impact in this area.

Thank you for considering our testimony.

Karen & Richard McGahan

**To: House Fisheries Committee**

**Re: Opposition to Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish**

**April 11, 2019**

**Dear Chair and members of the House Special Committee on Fisheries,**

**I oppose Karl Johnstone's nomination to the Board of Fisheries. He has spent several years on the Board in the past and has not served the Public Process well. He has no degree of fairness or balance when approaching commercial fisheries; especially in the Cook Inlet basin. The Board under his prior tenure was well known for back room deal-making to undermine nearly all public proposals on commercial fisheries at Upper Cook Inlet meetings. The common comeback was "not under this board" over vote counts whenever pursuing any reasonable measure or a positive change in commercial sockeye salmon management plans.**

**Kenai River Sportfishing Association's (KRSA) Choice of the year has resurrected Karl Johnstone to finish off the Eastside setnet fishery at the next Board of Fish meeting cycle. The Alaska legislature knows full well of the fisheries conflicts caused by KRSA, the ban on set gillnets in Cook Inlet by initiative, and the statewide proposal 171 that wanted to undermine every Fishery Management Plan in this state and to change the allocation criteria in order to grab more fish away from commercial fisheries all over this state.**

**Governor Walker got rid of Karl Johnstone and refused to re-up Mr. Johnstone after years of complaints by Kenai Peninsula residents over his open bias to do whatever KRSA wanted no matter the cost. History shouldn't repeat itself, apparently the new governor seems to favor a Political Fish Board. Conflict will ensue instead of a fair and open process.**

**Mr. Johnstone's time in Arizona and his residency has been questioned in the past. I implore you to Vote NO on this nomination.**

**Sincerely,**

**Brandon Ducker**

**Kasilof, Alaska 99610**

**To: House Fisheries Committee:**

**Date: April 11, 2019**

**Opposition to Karl Johnstone as a Board of Fisheries member**

**Dear Committee,**

**I oppose Karl Johnstone's nomination to the Board of Fisheries for the following reasons:**

- **Mr. Johnstone has displayed an open disregard to the Public, stakeholders, and Department of Fish and Game Commercial Fisheries Division staff - repeatedly during the Public Process Board meetings. In fact, during the 2014 Board meeting (Upper Cook Inlet) he openly "dressed down" the Commissioner (Cora Campbell), Commercial Fisheries Supervisor Jeff Regnart, Area managers (Comfish) on the record— at that time; including nearly every representative of commercial fishermen and women. A Board and Commissions official was flown into that meeting to deal with Mr. Johnstone's behavior and ultimately Mr. Johnstone was instructed to apologize those numerous individuals that were so rudely publicly affronted. (Ref. 2014 Upper Cook Inlet meeting record).**
- **The Public process was further undermined during the deliberation process – ignoring Department staff by authority and by instructing the Department to respond only if he deemed so as he considered Commercial Fisheries staff "biased" and not believable. This is not what the founders envisioned by process or engagement under "fair and reasonable" standards. Simply put, the Public and Board deserves a fair process and based on best information standards - especially over allocative decisions that affect the resources of this state and those whose livelihoods depend on them.**
- **Mr. Johnstone's bias for sport fisheries goes well beyond reasonableness. Mr. Johnstone is an intelligent individual and knows how to bend the Board process by authority on and off the record during meetings.**
- **Unfortunately, it is my opinion the State and its citizens deserve better by representation on the Board of Fisheries.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jeff Beaudoin**

**Kasilof, Alaska 99610**



## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Sally Rittenhouse <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 7:10 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone

Dear members of the Alaska Legislature,

I have written this letter to voice my opposition of Karl Johnstone's re-appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

My name is Sally Rittenhouse, I am an Alaska resident, and for the past twenty years I have worked in my family's commercial fishing business based out of Kodiak. I am a 3rd generation fisherman and I has dedicated nearly my whole life to the industry; my entire livelihood relies on the continuation of commercial fisheries. Just this past year, I purchased my first commercial fishing boat to begin my own business in the industry as a full-time captain.

If Karl Johnstone is placed back on the Board of Fisheries, my fledgling business may end before it can ever begin, threatening my very livelihood.

I am an advocate for the continued conservation and sustainability of our industry that supports thousands of Alaska families and provides a quality product for millions of Americans.

I urge you wholeheartedly to oppose Karl Johnstone's re-appointment, not only for myself but for the families that depend on the industry as their way of life.

I believe the future of commercial fishing must be protected by fair and diverse leaders who support the best interests of the commercial industry. Karl Johnstone is not such a leader.

Sincerely,  
Sally Rittenhouse

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Arnie Nelson [mailto:arnie.nelson@alaska.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 10:45 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Board of fisheries

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

My name is Arnie Nelson and I'm a 3rd generation commercial fisherman. Salmon fishing on Kodiak Island is my main source of income. I need it to support my family as well as myself.

I am writing this letter to show my opposition to the Governors nomination of Karl Johnstone. I feel he is not fit for the position and will affect my livelihood.

Again, I strongly urge you not to put Karl Johnstone on the board of fisheries.

Thank you for your time

Arnie Nelson

A fisherman extremely worried about his future

Sent from my iPhone

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** JON H. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 11:34 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** No karl johnstone

I purse seine in kodiak. We need people on the board that see both sides of the issue of sport and commercial fishing. I understand this gentleman is one sided. Thank you.

Jon henson

[REDACTED]  
Kodiak aK

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 10:04 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** New Pom:Appointments

Makoto Odlin  
[REDACTED]

Kodiak 99615,  
[REDACTED]

I'm Makoto Odlin. I'm a 3rd generation commercial fisherman living in Kodiak. I've got a salmon seiner and fish year-round. I'm opposed to Johnstone's appointment due to his clear bias against commercial fisheries. His thought that commercial fishing is not the future of Alaska is wrong and not in-line with Alaskans.

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 10:14 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** New Pom:Fish & Game (fish)

Danielle Ringer  
[REDACTED]

Kodiak 99615-0151,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I'm writing to request you NOT confirm Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. He was blatantly discriminatory to commercial fishermen during his previous time on the Board and I'm confident that he would continue this inappropriately divisive and seemingly hostile behavior if he were to be reappointed now.

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** ~~dad@akcarroll.net~~  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 13, 2019 9:34 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

Douglas Carroll

~~1000 Sunnyvale Dr~~

Cordova 99574,

~~dad@akcarroll.net~~

~~(907) 424-1111~~

~~1000 Sunnyvale Dr~~

I am voicing my opposition to the reappointment of Karl Johnstone to the board of fisheries. His record on the board as well as the opinion pieces he has written since his resignation shows he is biased and should not be on the BOF.

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** b [REDACTED]@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 13, 2019 8:31 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** New Pom:Fish & Game (fish)

Hunter Byron  
[REDACTED]

Port Lions 99550,  
[REDACTED]@yahoo.com  
[REDACTED]

I am writing you to voice my opposition of the appointment of Karl Johnstone to Board of Fisheries. When someone decides that an industry with the strongest resources in the world is dying and should be replaced by recreational fishing, they have no business on the board of fish.

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:31 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** FW: BOF Hearings

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gary Knagin <gknagin@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:17 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** BOF Hearings

Louise just a note to say I would support Gerad Godfrey and strongly disagree with the appointment of Karl Johnstone as he would jeopardize our whole community here in Kodiak during our salmon season .

Sent from my iPhone



## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:08 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** FW: Board of Fisheries Appointee K. Johnstone

**From:** ray renner <~~RayRenner4@hotmail.com~~>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:56 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Board of Fisheries Appointee K. Johnstone

Good Afternoon Representative Stutes,

I am writing this letter to ask you to please oppose Karl Johnstone from being put on the board of fish. I am a year round resident of Cordova and a commercial fisherman. We need a fair, transparent and unbiased board.

Thank you for your time!

-Ray Renner

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Georgeanna Heaverley <gheaverley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:33 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** OPPOSE Karl Johnstone for Alaska Board of Fisheries

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

**I am a born and raised Alaskan, and a second generation Cook Inlet commercial fisherman. I urge you to OPPOSE Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries.**

Mr. Johnstone has a history of favoring one fishing user group over another, and has displayed his disdain for the commercial fishing industry in a disrespectful and unprofessional manner. He is NOT the right choice to serve on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

I am a 31-year-old Alaskan woman, and have recently become a commercial drift permit holder in Cook Inlet. I have invested my future as a stakeholder in the fishery that my family has participated in my entire lifetime. All I want is the opportunity to continue this way of life and pass it on to my future children. It is my sincere hope that members of the Board of Fisheries support my generation of commercial fishermen and that they recognize the economic value and historical importance of it.

I am well aware of the animosity between fishing user groups on the Kenai. I work VERY hard to bridge this divide and try to work together respectfully and constructively with my fellow Alaskans, because we ALL value the salmon resource. Alaskans deserve a Board of Fish that recognizes this and provides strong leadership in maintaining fair, balanced, and science-based fisheries management. It is well known that Mr. Johnstone manages with political influence, and not with integrity.

If Karl Johnstone is appointed to the Board of Fisheries, my hard work to find common ground between user groups will be all for naught. We will never make progress if there is an obviously biased member on the Board, such as Mr. Johnstone.

**PLEASE OPPOSE KARL JOHNSTONE'S APPOINTMENT.** Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Georgeanna Heaverley  
Second Generation Cook Inlet Commercial Fisherman

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Matt oxford <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:44 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** no johnstone

Hello,  
this letter is to voice my concern on the appointment of Johnstone to the board of fish.

I am a direct marketer who has fished in the cook Inlet for 15 years. I process in town and I hire local crew. If the board of fish had not been so egregious in its past dealings with the 1000 small businesses that are the commercial fisherman of the upper cook inlet. I doubt we would be seeking duplicative management from the feds. The concern is for the health of the river. I doubt the salmon have an opinion on who the Governor is or who his cronies are.

Matt Oxford  
[REDACTED]  
PO 45281 Fair Creek AK 99603

Thanks,  
Matt Oxford

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Erik Kokborg <westwind757@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:29 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Hearing confirmation

My name is Erik Kokborg and I am concerned about the nomination of Mr Johnstone to the board of fish. He has proven himself to be a close minded individual that would upset the balance of the board. Also he might have misrepresented his resident status for improper financial gain in the past. P Sent from my please do not confirm his nomination. Thank you for your time.

**Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Leif Gustafson <gustafson@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:12 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** Opposition of Karl Johnstone

I am writing to express my opposition to the Governor's nomination of Karl Johnstone to the BOF. Mr Johnstone has historically held opposition to the people that make their lives commercial fishing. As a resident of Kodiak, and someone that relies on commercial fishing to provide for my family, employees and community I feel threatened by Karl Johnstone's record of discrimination towards the commercial fishing industry. Karl Johnstone's nomination comes accompanied by an agenda that endangers many of the people of Kodiak.

Leif Gustafson

Sent from my iPhone

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** Victoria OConnell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:26 AM  
**To:** Sen. Tom Begich; Sen. Chris Birch; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Senator.Lara.Reinbold@akleg.gov; Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. David Wilson; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Representative.Les.Gara@akleg.gov; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Sharon Jackson; Rep. DeLena Johnson; Rep. Jennifer Johnston; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Senator.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. John Lincoln; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Lance Pruitt; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Joshua Revak; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky; Rep. Kelly Merrick  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone for Board of Fisheries

Please excuse any redundant posting. I was just informed by Sitka LIO that the POM system does not reach all of you.

I strongly oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. I have lived fulltime in Alaska for 40 years. Among other things, I am a retired fishery biologist who served for many years on the Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee. I always strived to do what was best for the resource while managing commercial fisheries. While on the BOF Mr. Johnston routinely discounted Sitka Advisory Committee majority votes on issues of local importance, discounting our important, and time consuming work. He complimented our minutes as a model for AC statewide then voted opposite our committee decision on most proposals. He does not follow Board of Fisheries Allocation Criteria as outlined in state statute if it results in a different outcome than his opinion. It has been my observation that he rarely changes his opinion based on staff or public testimony, not really listening or considering an opposite point of view, regardless of the merits. This lack of thoughtful listening does not put the resource first. He comes to the table with his own ideas of the value of the charter fishery ("new business") compared to the commercial fishery and puts this "new" business first in his votes as evidenced in his published opinion pieces (for example 2/13/17 Anchorage Daily News). An example of this was his vote against the traditional, historic, set net fishery in Yakutat in 2012- a ruling that was overturned when full evidence was brought to bear on the Board.

Importantly he is not a full time resident of Alaska (and therefore costs the state per diem and travel money when meeting in his "home town"), he has already served on the Board, and he brings significant baggage to the table. **Surely there is a qualified Alaskan, a woman perhaps, that can best serve the needs of the Board with new insights as we move to the future, not hold onto the past.**

Sincerely,

Victoria O'Connell Curran

~~600 Etoim Street~~

Sitka, Alaska

**Matt Gruening**

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**From:** ~~James Schauf@gsi.net~~  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** Johnstone

As a longtime Kodiak Seiner I hardly object to Johnstone. Thank you. James Schauf , Kodiak AK

Kodiak Purse Seine permit holder



## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Jon Erickson <marc.j.yakutat@ak.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:37 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** I would like to comment against the nomination

No on Karl Johnson for BOF

Jon Erickson

Yakutat

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Grace Allan <grace\_allan\_16@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:17 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone for Board of Fish

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am a young Alaskan commercial fisherman and I URGE you to oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska deserves forward thinking leaders who value ALL fishermen, value diverse working waterfronts, and value the health of the fish and ecosystem above all other disputes.

This NOT the kind of leader Johnstone is, and we know it.

Johnstone has proven to be extraordinarily biased against commercial fishing families and livelihoods — the backbone of many, many Alaskan communities. As a 27-year-old halibut and salmon fisherman, commercial fishing has allowed me to graduate from college debt free and invest in my own independent fishing operation. Karl Johnstone has shown he does not value the independence and financial freedom commercial fishing has given me and so many other young Alaskans.

I live and work year round in Alaska, I work researching healthy marine ecosystems, I fight for diverse fishery access, and I provide food directly to local Alaskan families through the summer — all of it hinging on the fact that my state values the role of active commercial fishermen as food providers, as ocean stewards and as economic drivers of coastal communities.

Putting Karl Johnstone back on the Board of Fish tells me that my contribution isn't of value to Alaska. I hope that isn't true.

We deserve fair and balanced leadership on the Board of Fish. Johnstone has publicly announced his bias against commercial fishermen of Cook Inlet, we need people on the Board of Fish that are willing to put the needs of ALL FISHERMEN above their own interests. Johnstone does not meet this requirement.

**PLEASE OPPOSE HIS APPOINTMENT.**

Thank you,  
Grace Allan

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** omar gucer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:17 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Opposition to Carl Johnstone for bof seat

As a year round resident of the kenai peninsula and cook inlet salmon permit holder i urge you to vote against carl johnstone for the board of fish. Our local fishing economy has been devastated by the biased policies he champion when he was chairman of the board of fish.

Omar John Gucer  
[REDACTED]  
Homer Ak 99603

Sent from my iPad

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Hannah Heimbuch <hannahheimbuch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:26 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening; Rep. Sarah Vance; Doug Letch  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am a 3rd generation Alaskan commercial fisherman from Homer. I URGE you to oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska deserves forward thinking leaders who value ALL fishermen, value diverse working waterfronts, and value the health of the fish and ecosystem above all other disputes.

This NOT the kind of leader Johnstone is, and we know it.

Johnstone has proven time and again to be extraordinarily biased against commercial fishing families and livelihoods — the backbone of many, many Alaskan communities. As a 33-year-old owner operator in the Cook Inlet drift fleet, my young business is likely to live or die by this round of nominees, and Karl Johnstone is at the crux of it.

I live and work year round in Alaska, I fight daily for the health of DIVERSE fishery access and healthy ecosystems, and I provide fish directly to local families through the summer — all of it hinging on the fact that my state values the role of active commercial fishermen as food providers, as ocean stewards and as economic drivers of coastal communities.

Putting Karl Johnstone back on the Board of Fish tells me that this contribution isn't of value to Alaska. I hope that isn't true.

We deserve fair and balanced leadership on the Board of Fish. There are members on the Board that I may not always agree with, but whose engagement I respect and understand. Johnstone fails to meet the mark. PLEASE OPPOSE HIS APPOINTMENT.

Thank you,  
Hannah Heimbuch  
3rd Generation Cook Inlet Salmon Commercial Fisherman

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Jamie O'Connor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening; Rep. Sarah Vance; Doug Letch  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Appointment of Karl Johnstone

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am a 5th generation Alaskan commercial fisherman from Homer. I strongly urge you to oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska deserves forward thinking leaders who value all fishermen, value diverse working waterfronts, and value the health of the fish and ecosystem.

This not the kind of leader Johnstone is. He has already shown us this.

Johnstone has proven time and again to be extraordinarily biased against commercial fishing families and livelihoods — the backbone of many, many Alaskan communities.

I live and work year round in Alaska, I fight daily for the health of diverse fishery access and healthy ecosystems — all of it hinging on the fact that my state values the role of active commercial fishermen as food providers, as ocean stewards and as economic drivers of coastal communities.

Putting Karl Johnstone back on the Board of Fish tells me that this contribution isn't of value to Alaska. I hope that isn't true.

We deserve fair and balanced leadership on the Board of Fish. There are members on the Board that I may not always agree with, but whose engagement I respect and understand. Johnstone fails to meet the mark. PLEASE OPPOSE HIS APPOINTMENT.

Thank you,

Jamie O'Connor

Ekuk, Setnetter

[REDACTED]

Homer, AK

99603

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Craig Ring <craig.c.ring@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:46 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Johnstone

No no no no no

Sent from my iPhone

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Andy Hall <[andyhall.alaska@gmail.com](mailto:andyhall.alaska@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:11 AM  
**To:** Sen. Tom Begich; Sen. Chris Birch; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Senator.Lara.Reinbold@akleg.gov; Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. David Wilson; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Representative.Les.Gara@akleg.gov; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Sharon Jackson; Rep. DeLena Johnson; Rep. Jennifer Johnston; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Senator.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. John Lincoln; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Lance Pruitt; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Joshua Revak; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky  
**Subject:** Opposition to Karl Johnstone

My name is Andy Hall. I am a lifelong Alaskan, a frequent dipnetter, an occasional sport fisherman, and the owner of a commercial fishing operation on Cook Inlet. I am opposed to the reappointment of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

For the last several years I've served on the board of the Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association and in that role, I've taken part in many public meetings regarding the management of Upper Cook Inlet fisheries. I've interacted with several BOF members and found most of them to be thoughtful, fair and dedicated to the public process. Mr. Johnstone is the exception.

In my opinion, bullying behavior, a lack of transparency and the appearance of back-room deal-making marked his time on the BOF.

Johnstone's bias toward the interests of one group – the Kenai River Sportfishing Association – has eroded trust in the public process, hurt commercial fishing in Cook Inlet and negatively impacted the health of the inlet's salmon runs.

The public debate over Mr. Johnstone's potential return to the board is being portrayed as another fight between upper Cook Inlet sport and commercial fishing interests. Certainly there is some truth to that; however, my opposition is based on his fundamental unsuitability for the job. Yes, he is a retired judge, but please take a closer look at his record. He holds the distinction of being one of just a few judges in the State of Alaska to be recommended for non-retention by the Alaska Judicial Council, and he was censured by the Alaska Supreme Court. These are matters of public record; please take a few minutes to investigate this for yourselves.

Here are links to two news stories on these actions:

<https://www.apnews.com/16c33988fb33447c26799d12ff57b934>

<https://caselaw.findlaw.com/ak-supreme-court/1009262.html>

In conclusion, I neither want nor expect Board of Fish members to side with me all of the time. What I do hope is that all user groups be heard and treated fairly in a transparent process. That did not happen under Johnstone when he served before, and I doubt it will happen should you return him to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Thank you  
Andy Hall  
Eagle River, Alaska



## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Dina Gregg [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 5:32 AM  
**To:** Sen. Tom Begich; Sen. Chris Birch; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Cathy Giesel; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Senator.Lara.Reinbold@akleg.gov; Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. David Wilson; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Representative.Les.Gara@akleg.gov; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Sharon Jackson; Rep. DeLena Johnson; Rep. Jennifer Johnston; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Senator.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. John Lincoln; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Lance Pruitt; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Joshua Revak; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky  
**Subject:** Board of Fish appointees

Randy & Dina Gregg

F/V Patriot

PO Box 20172 [REDACTED]

Juneau, AK 99802

April 9, 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to express our concern about Governor Dunleavy's Board of Fish appointees.

The Board of Fish is supposed to be a balanced group of people making decisions for all users of Alaska Fish. However, we find that Governor Dunleavy is focusing more on special interest groups and representing them more than finding balance. Alaska has a lot of diverse users in fisheries and this board needs to reflect that.

We are endorsing Robert Ruffner to continue his service on the Board of Fish.

The appointment of Karl Johnstone will be a huge disservice to Alaska. Mr. Johnstone has shown Alaskans in the past that he was outright discriminatory to commercial fishing and the ADF&G Commercial Fisheries division. His appointment on the board of fish will make for an unbalanced board.

Please do not appoint Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Randy & Dina Gregg

F/V Patriot

~~PO Box 20370~~

Juneau, AK 99802

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Tyrell Seavey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources; House Fisheries  
**Subject:** I Oppose Karl Johnstone Appointment to BoF

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a life long resident of Seward, Ak and I oppose Karl Johnstone's appointment to the Alaska Board of Fish.

I do not believe that he is capable of performing in this role in an unbiased way.

Sincerely,

Tyrell Seavey

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Elissa Williams <Elissa.Williams@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 2:12 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Opposition of Appointee Karl Johnstone

My name is Elissa Williams. I am a wife of a long time Prince William Sound fisherman and a second generation Alaska resident. I reside in Wasilla, AK. I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries based on his actions when he previously served on this board in 2008-2015.

Thank you,  
Elissa Williams

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Morgan Williams <shearwater1987@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:40 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Public comment

My name is Morgan Williams. I am a long time Prince William Sound fisherman and a third generation Alaska resident. I reside in Wasilla Alaska. I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries based on his actions when he previously served on this board in 2008-2015.

Thank you,  
Morgan Williams

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Keith B [redacted] 1007@...>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:30 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Opposed

My name is Keith Boyle. I am a long time Prince William Sound fisherman and a third generation Alaska resident. I reside at 1418 Copper River Road, Cordova. I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries based on his actions when he previously served on this board in 2008-2015.

Thank you

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Fv Serenity <fvserenity@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:19 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** BOF appointment

My name is Kenneth Jones. I am a long time Prince William Sound fisherman and a third generation Alaska resident. I reside in Cordova. I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries based on his actions when he previously served on this board in 2008-2015. Also, he lives the majority of his time in Arizona and does not represent Alaskans well. Please vote no on his confirmation.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Shawna Buchanan <shawna.buchanan@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:15 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Board of Fisheries Appointment

My name is Shawna Buchanan. I am a long time Prince William Sound fisherman and a third generation Alaska resident. I oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fisheries based on his actions when he previously served on this board in 2008-2015.

Thank you,  
Shawna Buchanan  
Chugiak/Cordova, Alaska



**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Nicholas Crump <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:14 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries

My name is Nicholas Crump and I am a commercial fisherman in Prince William Sound. I am writing you to oppose the nomination of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries. Please only appoint nominees who don't have anti-commercial fishing agendas and are at least open minded and unbiased.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nick Crump

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:11 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources; House Fisheries  
**Subject:** No On Karl Johnstone

Dear Members,

My name is Dennis Zadra and I reside in Cordova. I have been a commercial fisherman for 30 years, and this industry is the backbone of many small coastal communities. I do not support Karl Johnstone to be confirmed to the Board of Fish as his past actions have shown that he has a bias against the commercial fishing industry. It is troubling to me to see the Board basing their decisions on politics rather than what is best for all of Alaskans.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my point of view.

Sincerely,

Dennis M. Zadra

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Cordova, AK 99574

**Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Tyrell Seavey <[REDACTED]@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources; House Fisheries  
**Subject:** I Oppose Karl Johnstone Appointment to BoF

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a life long resident of Seward, Ak and I oppose Karl Johnstone's appointment to the Alaska Board of Fish.

I do not believe that he is capable of performing in this role in an unbiased way.

Sincerely,

Tyrell Seavey

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** LIO Cordova  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 11:25 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep. Louise Stutes; boswellbay@gmail.com  
**Subject:** FW: Board of Fish

Please accept the following as public written testimony regarding the Board of Fisheries appointees. Forwarded by the Cordova LIO.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** R M <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2019 9:16 AM  
**To:** LIO Cordova <Lio.Cordova@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Board of Fish

My name is Randy Merritt, I live in Cordova, and gill net area E. I oppose the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish due to his history of strong bias to the commercial fishing industry.

Sent from my iPhone

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:29 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** FW:

**From:** Craig Schauff [mailto:craig.schauff@alaska.commerce.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:56 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:**

**Please oppose the nomination of Karl Johnstone!!!**

We have had fair regulations over the last 30 + years when it comes to Kodiak interception in regards to Cook Inlet Sockeye. It's been a give and take that both sides could live with. With Karl Johnstone's past views, if he got appointed, that would gravely tip the scales of justice towards the Sport Fishing industry and greatly against the Kodiak Seiners.

**Please oppose this appointment.**

Craig Schauff

1 (907) 539-1986

Kodiak Commercial Salmon Fisherman for 40 years.

## **Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:29 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** FW: New Pom:Appointments

-----Original Message-----

**From:** poms@akleg.gov <poms@akleg.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:25 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** New Pom:Appointments

Darren Platt

~~PO BOX 1415~~

Kodiak 99615,

I'm the owner/operator of a fishing vessel in Kodiak and am strongly opposed to Karl Johnstone's nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska's fisheries resources are best managed when the board has a balance of views.

## **Matt Gruening**

---

**From:** Robert B Moss [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 6:35 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Johnstone Appointment.

Hello, I am a born and raised Alaska commercial fisherman, with a Bachelors Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management. I have fished for over 50 years both commercially and recreationally. We can not be fooled into pitting ourselves against each other. Sustainable management is paramount and promoting recreational fishing at the expense of commercial fishing is not only ignoring the commercial fishing contributions to the economic viability of Alaska itself but putting the resource at risk. Mr. Johnstone has shown that he is not a representative of the resource but instead a promoter of one user group against other user groups including but not limited to commercial fishing. Please, for the sake of all Alaskans reject, Karl Johnstone as a Board of Fish Member. Sincerely Robert B Moss

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** LIO Homer  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 1:22 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries; House Resources  
**Subject:** Written Testimony BoF-Johnstone

Hello,

Please submit the testimony below as a part of the record for Board of Fisheries Appointee Karl Johnstone.


Thank you,

~Amber

[Homer Legislative Information Office](#) 270 W. Pioneer Ave | Homer, AK 99603  
PHONE: (907)-235-7878 | FAX: (907) 235-4008 | E-Mail: [Homer.LIO@akleg.gov](mailto:Homer.LIO@akleg.gov)

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Watch live streaming of the Alaska State Legislature [www.akl.tv](http://www.akl.tv)

**From:** Alicia Rae Anderson   
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 10:55 AM  
**To:** LIO Kenai <[LIO.Kenai@akleg.gov](mailto:LIO.Kenai@akleg.gov)>  
**Subject:** Board of Fish

Hello,

I full heartily do not support Karl Johnstone's nominations to the Board of Fish. I do not approve of his history on the Board of Fish.

Please do not confirm this nomination as he has too much bias history. Safeguard our fisheries! 🐟 As a now 6 year resident to the Homer area and my experience in the Upper Cook Inlet Diftnetting Comerical fishery, I am speaking out for my fellow salty friends.

Thank you.  
Alicia Rae Anderson

  
Homer, Alaska

--  
"The fishermen know that the sea is dangerous and the storm terrible, but they have never found these dangers sufficient reason for remaining ashore."~Vincent Van Gogh

Peace,  
Alicia Rae Anderson



## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Marjorie Dunaway <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:52 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** I oppose Karl Johnstone for Board of Fish

Dear House Fisheries Committee,  
I oppose Karl Johnstone for Board of Fish.

I have a lot of experience at Board of Fish meetings. I attended several BOF meetings when Johnstone sat on it.

I found him to be highly misinformed and opinionated, unable to appreciate good science that refuted his often misguided opinions.

At one meeting he bullied a biologist publicly and never gave the biologist an opportunity to discuss / present high quality scientific evidence on the issue at hand.

He also let himself be lead by a single other board member and did not bother to seek a broader range of information or perspectives on some issues on the Naknek River.

I feel he was often misinformed and misguided on both sport and commercial fishing issues.

Since his departure from the BOF I have had a small but active part in working to repair poor regulations that Johnstone pushed through the Board.

I am out of state on medical travel and unable to access my home computer or I would provide a detailed letter I sent to the Halibut Commission in opposition to Johnstone's nomination to that agency.

Thank you,

Dan Dunaway

[REDACTED]  
[Dillingham, AK 99576](#)

[REDACTED]  
[907-843-3882](#)

Dan phone

## Matt Gruening

---

**From:** LIO Cordova  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:35 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep. Louise Stutes; grocottfisheries@gmail.com  
**Subject:** FW: Karl Johnstone conformation

Please accept the following as public written testimony regarding the Board of Fisheries appointees. Forwarded by the Cordova LIO.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** John Grocott <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 6:02 AM  
**To:** LIO Cordova <Lio.Cordova@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone conformation

I oppose appointing Karl Johnstone to the board of fish. He is blatantly anti-commercial fishing. We need people who listen to facts not vote their preconceived notions. Also his appointment would create an out of balance board. Please oppose his appointment. Thank you , John Grocott

Sent from my iPad

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Ted Crookston [redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 4:05 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone BOF

Hello,

My name is Ted Crookston, from Kenai. I have been involved in both commercial and sport fishing for over 50 years in Cook Inlet. I have been personally present in past BOF meetings when Karl Johnstone was previously on the Board of Fish. I witnessed many times his strong arm tactics, disregard for the ADF&G biologists and staff, and blatant disregard for fairness and openness in the process.

Karl Johnstone is not the right person to serve again on the Alaska Board of Fish.

This is not just about commercial fishermen making a fuss. There are real reasons for all the fuss. Much has been reported that raises significant concern regarding Mr. Johnstone from many valid sources. As additional real evidence of this I am submitting a 2 minute video clip that I took spontaneously, March 5, 2011 at the Upper Cook Inlet Board of Fish meetings. This situation occurred just as a controversial vote was about to take place and the then Chairman Karl Johnstone called an unscheduled recess and went "off the record". He then left the head table and proceeded to go meet in person with Ricky Gease and other directors of KRSA to get instructions on how they wanted him to vote (or act). As a stunned witness, I turned on my cell phone camera and walked over and stood near the group. The audio is not perfectly clear, but by careful listening it is obvious and easy to discern the intention and motive of the colluding that was clearly taking place.

Listen carefully to the voices. It is very revealing.

I have uploaded this video to YouTube and am providing the public link below.

Karl Johnstone BOF (Alaska Board of Fish) <https://youtu.be/u1eWkJICrC8>

All Alaskans and all fish resource users, regardless of interest, deserve an open honest, unbiased, fair, board member who has not been "put" on the board to advance a specific agenda. Several obvious questions emerge: • **WHY** was Robert Ruffner, who is so highly qualified and also was the much needed representation of the Kenai Peninsula area not given the customary second term opportunity? • **WHY** did Gov. Dunleavy select Karl Johnstone; one who has already served for 7 years, has a controversial and divisive history, a prior resignation from the board, and is one whom has largely moved out of Alaska. There are many highly qualified persons who have never had the opportunity to serve on the Board of Fish that would be more appropriate and logical. • **WHO** is this Governor actually beholding to? • **SHOULD** the Alaska Legislature really support such an appointment?

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Crookston  
[redacted]

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Abigail Turner <abigailjeannette@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 12:40 PM  
**To:** representative.jonathon.kreiss-tomkins@akleg.gov; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. John Lincoln  
**Subject:** Opposition to confirmation of Karl Johnstone to BOF

Good afternoon, Representatives!

I write you as a Soldotna resident, living within a 10-minute walk to a fantastic fishing hole on the Kenai. I write you as the daughter, sister, niece, cousin and friend of commercial fishermen. The friend of many fishing charter captains. The host of many happy sport fishermen throughout the summer. The former employee of a tourism company out of Homer, Alaska.

Like you, I love this state. I love summer and all the life and buzz it brings. Everyone is PRODUCING. It's great.

I don't hate sport fishermen, recreational fishermen or subsistence fishermen because I grew up commercial fishing in Southcentral Alaska. In fact, I **join them**. Last year I dip-netted hatchery stocked sockeye out of China Poot Bay. I bought a resident's fishing license and threw a few hooks in the water behind my house and on the lower end of the Peninsula.

**Opposition to Karl Johnstone is not out of spite, it is legitimate and EXTREME concern for the direction state fisheries will go with a completely out of balance Board of Fisheries.** If you listen to the Senate Resource Committee hearing from last Wednesday he demonstrates clearly that 1)He is an ideologue 2)He bases his beliefs on outdated facts and figures 3)Although technically a state resident, he was calling in from his second home in Prescott, AZ where he spends almost half of the year. 4) He dodged all questions about participating in the public process by simply explaining what the public process is and how it works. Not once did he address his own behavior in that process where he was unapproachable and in fact hostile to those who did not agree with him, only saying that he was effective at persuading others to see things from his point of view.

As someone who cares about fishery rights for ALL, respects our state constitution, and wants to see our economy thriving, because I live here, I **ask for your help in opposing the confirmation of Mr. Karl Johnstone**. I hope that he will enjoy his grandkids, his hobbies and his retirement split between our great state and beautiful Prescott, AZ.

Thanks for your time,

Abby

Abigail Turner-Franke  
Soldotna, Alaska  


Wrangell Legislative Information Office

[Wrangell.leg@akleg.gov](mailto:Wrangell.leg@akleg.gov)

Phone: 907-874-3013 Fax: 907-874-3955

Name: Ron Merritt  
Address: Box 912, Wrangell, Ak. 99429  
Representing: Self  
Bill #/Subject: Board of Fisheries Appointees  
Committee: Senate Resources  
Hearing Date: 04/10/19 3:30pm

Written Testimony

I do not want Karl Johnstone  
appointed to the Board of Fish.  
He does not represent me as a  
Commercial Troller and leans towards  
Supporting fish farming and Sport Fishing.  
I've trolled over 40 years and want  
Someone unbiased on the Board of Fish.

Ron Merritt

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Rod Van Saun <[REDACTED]@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 7:43 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** I do not support the Governors Nominees regardless of what this form letter states.

Rod Van Saun  
PO Box 39622  
Ninilchik, AK 99639

April 11, 2019

Dear House Fisheries Committee,

I'm writing today in support of Governor Dunleavy's nominees to the Board of Fisheries – Karl Johnstone, Israel Payton, Marit Carlson-Van Dort and Gerad Godfrey. As a person who loves to fish in Alaska, it's important to me that the people responsible for managing and allocating fish represent all Alaskans fairly. The Governor's nominees come from diverse backgrounds and have expertise that will serve us all well.

The Governor has allowed Bob Penny to influence his decisions on Board Nominees. The board needs diversity not a stacked deck. Karl Johnstone should not be confirmed. He is only going to support the KRSA agenda and will not fairly represent all user groups.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Alaska. Please join me in supporting the nominees to the Board of Fisheries, and cast your vote to confirm Karl Johnstone, Israel Payton, Marit Carlson-Van Dort and Gerad Godfrey.

Sincerely,  
Rod Van Saun

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Kurt Carlson <carlks01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 12:56 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Old and fadding

To whom it may concern. In regards to mr johnstones appointment I'm sure that I don't have to point out that his views are not only polarizing but jaded. His comments only clarify in my mind that his interests lie in a resource grab for outside corporations within the sport fishing industry and not in a balanced and or biological management of the resource.

I came to kodiak in 1987 in a tent and now own a salmon seine operation and property in Kodiak. I support local in state businesses to maintain my business and feel there is a fair and balanced approach for both industries to share this resource. Mr johnstone does not appear to me to be a man who could champion these challenges.

Kurt Carlson

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Hanson Fish <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:14 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone

I am writing to strenuously oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries. He has a proven history of not only not supporting commercial fisheries, but of actively working against commercial interests. As a commercial troller in Southeast, I do not believe we would be getting fair representation, nor do I believe his confirmation (along with the other Dunleavy appointments) would satisfy the Board's composition requirement of evenly representing all stakeholders.

Please support fair representation and sound Board of Fisheries management by voting "no" on Karl Johnstone's confirmation.

Regards,

Chris Hanson  
Sitka, AK



## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Nancy Bird  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:41 AM  
**To:** House Resources  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep. Louise Stutes; Sheryl Glasen (ccomfort@ctcak.net)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF

Please accept the following as public written testimony regarding the Board of Fisheries appointees. Forwarded by the Cordova LIO.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** David Glasen (ccomfort@ctcak.net)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:40 PM  
**To:** Nancy Bird <Nancy.Bird@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF

State of Alaska  
Senate Resources Committee

Dear Board Chair and members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I'm writing in opposition of Karl Johnstone's appointment to the BOF. Karl is one of the few Judges that the AK Judicial Council has recommended for non retention. The Council found that he scored poorly on integrity, social temperament and overall performance.

Fast forward a dozen years and Karl was publicly reprimanded by the AK Commission on Judicial conduct, with the Supreme Court stating that he had created an appearance of impropriety.

During Karl's previous BOF appointment, that ran from 2008 to 2015, he established a reputation for a strong bias against Commercial Fishing. This ended in 2015 When Governor Walker demanded his resignation amid concerns of the "lack of public process" during a meeting in which Karl chaired.

Board of Fish members need to take Commercial, Personal use, Subsistence and Sport into consideration when decisions are made. Karl Johnstone has shown that he cannot and will not do this.

Thank you for your time.  
David Glasen  
F/V Wild West

Sent from my iPad

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** LIO Cordova  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:35 AM  
**To:** House Resources  
**Cc:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Rep. Louise Stutes; grocottfisheries@gmail.com  
**Subject:** FW: Karl Johnstone conformation

Please accept the following as public written testimony regarding the Board of Fisheries appointees. Forwarded by the Cordova LIO.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** John Grocott <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 6:02 AM  
**To:** LIO Cordova <Lio.Cordova@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone conformation

I oppose appointing Karl Johnstone to the board of fish. He is blatantly anti-commercial fishing. We need people who listen to facts not vote their preconceived notions. Also his appointment would create an out of balance board. Please oppose his appointment. Thank you , John Grocott

Sent from my iPad

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Chris Trosvig <chris.trosvig@alaska.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 4:30 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Subject:** Opposition of Johnstone Appointment

Representative Stutes,

I am a Kodiak commercial salmon fisherman and member of the Kodiak Seiners Association. I have reason to believe that Mr. Johnstone will be a horribly one sided, bias candidate, as a Board of Fish member. His reputation for cracking down on commercial salmon fishing and other fisheries has been evident. I believe this man will not be a good fit for this Board. I am hoping to get this opposition on record. I am not alone as many more commercial fisherman feel the same way. We need people on the Board that are directly related to the commercial aspect of salmon fishing. We have more than enough regulations and restrictions on our local fishery. There are more qualified people than Mr. Johnstone that should sit on the Board of Fish. Please submit this disapproval letter for me to those that need to read it. Thank you for your time Sincerely, Christian Trosvig F/V Nordic Cross

**Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Tori Norman <torinor@alaska.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:44 PM  
**To:** tori  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone

I'm reaching out to you to ask that you not to confirm Karl Johnson to the board of fisheries. Johnstone has time and again made his opinions regarding commercial fishing known. He has publicly argued that sport and personal-use fisheries should be at the forefront of management decisions. If confirmed, I fear for the small commercial fisherman and their families. This is personal to me, my son's livelihood will be destroyed.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Tori Norman

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Jim Horn [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:56 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone

Hello Louise,  
I am adamantly opposed to Karl Johnstone's appointment to the board of fish.

James R Horn  
[REDACTED]  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
[REDACTED]

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** poms@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:10 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Fish & Game (fish)

Ronald Garrant

PO BOX 207

Kasilof 99610-0107,

I respectfully request you do not confirm Mr. Johnstone for a seat on the Board of Fish. I am confident that I would suffer greatly again if he is granted a seat on the board as I did when he last sat. Please seek a balanced board.

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** poms@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:07 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Fish & Game (fish)

Alexander Roth

[REDACTED]

.

Homer 99603-1002,

[REDACTED]

We strongly oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone to BOF because he doesn't equitably represent commercial fishermen and spends much of his time in Arizona, not Alaska

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** poms@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 5:55 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Appointments

Nina Burkholder

~~99603 W. Ilwaco Rd.~~

Homer 99603, Nina Burkholder

I hope you will not support Karl Johnstones recommendation from the Governor to serve on the State Board of Fish. My reasons- this would create an imbalance in Sport Fishing vs. Commercial Fishing, I have found him unapproachable at meetings, residency is questionable. There are better people willing to serve.



**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** Ivan Heimbuch <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 4:49 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening; Rep. Sarah Vance; Doug Letch  
**Subject:** I oppose Karl Johnstone for the Board of Fish

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I'm writing to you today in opposition of appointing Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. It should also be said that I am an active Owner/Operator of a drift fishing boat in Cook Inlet, and a longtime Alaskan resident born and raised in Homer, Alaska.

I cannot stress enough how important fishing has been in my life. It's been lucrative enough to put me through college, start another business in Alaska, and sustain many other ups and downs. The lessons it's taught me about people, life, demands and expectations... invaluable to me. Should we appoint Karl Johnstone to the board of fish, I believe we would be actively taking a step away from having positive, commercial fishing based opportunities and learning experiences available to current and future fishermen, especially in Cook Inlet. The proximity to Anchorage and the road system allows people who would otherwise NEVER set foot on a commercial operation to go out into Cook Inlet for a day or two with relative logistical ease. It allows normal, everyday, white collar people to have a glimpse into what the current state of commercial fisheries are.

We fishermen are not surly, drunken, ocean pillaging old farts. I myself am 32 - a 3rd generation commercial fisherman, have a degree in Architecture and spent many of the last 10 years as a professional model. The faces of the commercial fishing industry have changed! We need voices on the Board of Fish that represent the interests of new generations that rely on the direct and indirect benefits that fishing in Cook Inlet provides.

Karl advocates for maximizing yield of this resource through the tourism industry, with the Cook Inlet region being prime for this type of economic exploit. But I ask you, members of the legislature, have you ever been to the banks of the Kenai or Kasilof to dipnet or snag during peak run times? It is a gross disrespect for the critical habitat zone of what I thought we considered to be a treasured and precious resource. Many anglers participating in personal use fisheries (Alaskans and outsiders alike) don't know how to differentiate between species, their harvests go unchecked and unregulated, they leave fish carcasses and garbage everywhere... they want entertainment. At what cost though? Our natural resource of salmon on the Kenai Peninsula needs to be used for the lasting benefit of Alaskans, and not just in a monetary sense.

I know doctors, lawyers, architects and plenty of other professional Alaskans and Americans who spent their summers working in Alaskan Commercial Fisheries. They may not be lifelong fishermen, but they are the hardworking people we now know because of the commercial fishing mindset. Working in our industry, even if only for a short time, gives such perspective for all of life's other pursuits. The ripple effect is profound. Our industry is respected from the outside looking in, we need to respect it from the inside looking out. If Karl Johnstone is named to the board, we do ourselves a great disservice.

Thank you,

Ivan Heimbuch  
3rd Generation Alaskan Commercial Fisherman

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** omar gucer <[REDACTED]@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:21 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** Opposition to Carl Johnstone for Bof seat

Representative Vance

Please oppose the appointment of Carl Johnstone to the Board Of Fish. The policies he championed as chairman were disastrous for the peninsulas fishing economy.

Omar John Gucer

[REDACTED]  
PO BOX 2566

Homer a

ak 99603

[REDACTED]  
Sent from my iPad

**Lauren N. Simpson**

---

**From:** Jamie O'Connor [redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:59 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening; Rep. Sarah Vance; Doug Letch  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Appointment of Karl Johnstone

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am a 5th generation Alaskan commercial fisherman from Homer. I strongly urge you to oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska deserves forward thinking leaders who value all fishermen, value diverse working waterfronts, and value the health of the fish and ecosystem.

This not the kind of leader Johnstone is. He has already shown us this.

Johnstone has proven time and again to be extraordinarily biased against commercial fishing families and livelihoods — the backbone of many, many Alaskan communities.

I live and work year round in Alaska, I fight daily for the health of diverse fishery access and healthy ecosystems — all of it hinging on the fact that my state values the role of active commercial fishermen as food providers, as ocean stewards and as economic drivers of coastal communities.

Putting Karl Johnstone back on the Board of Fish tells me that this contribution isn't of value to Alaska. I hope that isn't true.

We deserve fair and balanced leadership on the Board of Fish. There are members on the Board that I may not always agree with, but whose engagement I respect and understand. Johnstone fails to meet the mark. PLEASE OPPOSE HIS APPOINTMENT.

Thank you,

Jamie O'Connor

Ekuk, Setnetter

[redacted]

Homer, AK

99603

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** poms@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:16 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

David Martin  
[REDACTED]

CLAM GULCH 99568-0468,

[REDACTED]

I oppose Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries. During his tenure on the Board Mr. Johnstone degraded the public trust in the BOF by leading the passage of numerous Board generated proposals, many out of cycle, which harmed the commercial fisheries, State, ADF&G, and the resource itself.

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** paragondan@sbcglobal.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 9:19 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

Daniel Anderson  
[REDACTED]

Homer 99603-9780,DAN A  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
907-435-3929

Mr.Johnstone was and will be no good for the Board of Fish. Please do not confirm him! I also have serious reservations about Marit Carlson Van-Dort. Her previous employer raises my suspicions as how she will view our states wildlife and all of our fish! Please don't confirm her!

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:03 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Deborah Nakada  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
66700 Diamond Ridge Rd  
HOMER 99603,debaloha  
debaloha@hotmail.com  
[REDACTED]

My name is Deborah Limacher and I have commercial fished in Cook Inlet since 1976 and I am writing to say I am opposed to the appointment of Karl Johnston's to the Board of Fisheries.Thank you,Debt

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:29 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Administrative Procedure

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Jordan Stover

[REDACTED]  
Box 1873

Homer 99603-1873,  
[REDACTED]

I oppose Karl Johnstone based on his actions when he served the BOF from 2008-2015

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2019 10:07 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

Revelle Russell

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Lookout Mountain Ln

Homer 99603-9032,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
9072953387

Karl Johnstone should NOT be on the Board of Fish. His opinion pieces in the ADN show he is incapable of making management decisions based on fact. He has a history of residency issues while previously serving on the Board. He is bad for Alaska.



**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2019 9:52 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Boards & Commissions

Stephanie Schmit

[REDACTED]

Fritz Creek 99603,

[REDACTED]

Dear Senators and Representatives, I hope that you oppose the nomination of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish.

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 11:14 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Appointments

Jeff Berger  
[REDACTED]

NINILCHIK 99639-0229,jeffberger  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

We need Board of Fish members that will manage with sound biological management for maximum sustained yield for the benefit of all users. This is required under Magnuson-Stevens fishery conservation act.

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** poms@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:47 AM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** New Pom:Appointments

Kurt Weichhand  
~~REDACTED~~

HOMER 99603,

I strongly oppose Karl Johnstone for the board of fish. He has a history of questionable actions in previous tenures

Also ms Van Dort should not be considered as she has strong pebble mine ties Kurt Weichhand

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Maggie Bursch <maggiebursch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 8:36 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** I Oppose Karl Johnson

Dear Representative Gruening,

I am a 2nd generation Alaskan commercial fisherman from Homer. I URGE you to oppose Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Alaska deserves forward thinking leaders who value ALL fishermen, value diverse working waterfronts, and value the health of the fish and ecosystem above all other disputes.

This NOT the kind of leader Johnstone is, and we know it.

Johnstone has proven time and again to be extraordinarily biased against commercial fishing families and livelihoods — the backbone of many, many Alaskan communities. **As a 25-year-old owner operator in the Bristol Bay drift fleet, my young business is likely to live or die by this round of nominees, and Karl Johnstone is at the crux of it.**

I live and work year round in Alaska, I fight daily for the health of DIVERSE fishery access and healthy ecosystems, and I provide fish directly to local families through the summer — all of it hinging on the fact that my state values the role of active commercial fishermen as food providers, as ocean stewards and as economic drivers of coastal communities.

Putting Karl Johnstone back on the Board of Fish tells me that this contribution isn't of value to Alaska. I hope that isn't true.

We deserve fair and balanced leadership on the Board of Fish. There are members on the Board that I may not always agree with, but whose engagement I respect and understand. Johnstone fails to meet the mark. PLEASE OPPOSE HIS APPOINTMENT.

Thank you,  
Margaret Bursch

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Kristi Lindholm ~~kristi@skagittrans.com~~  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:50 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Opposition of Karl Johnstone

Dear Members of Alaska Legislature

My husband and his family have been commercial fishermen in the state of Alaska he is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation fisherman in Kodiak Alaska. We oppose the appointment of Karl Johnstone, Alaska fisheries have been a viable industry that has supported many families all thru Alaska, the US and the World. My husband has been a commercial fisherman in Alaska since he was a teen, it has been what he was raised to do. In this situation it would seem the state would gain income from recreational licenses, but what about all of the people in the state that would be displaced? Do you then just turn around and give that to them in exchange for a lively hood they once had. Will you be able to provide training and jobs for all of them? While some income would be brought in thru increase in licenses, fuels and other tourist related requirements, you also limit the amount of time of the year the income is coming in. Going from year round industry to very seasonal I would think would not be practical. If the economy fails, that could put the whole state at risk.

This would definitely impact our family but also so many others as well. To choose someone that is in opposition of an existing viable and lucrative industry for your state is something that should be strongly considered before appointing them.

Sincerely

Kristi Lindholm

*Kristi Lindholm  
Accounting Supervisor  
Skagit Transportation, Inc  
360-424-4214 x 203  
360-941-1779*

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Evan Blankenship <blankenship@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 10:34 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** I oppose Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF

Dear Louise Stutes and Alaska House Representatives,

I oppose Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF.

My name is Evan Blankenship, I'm 32 years old, originally from Washington, I've been participating in Alaska commercial fisheries since I was 19 & have been a resident of this state since 2010. Concerning just commercial salmon fisheries: I've been a processor and tenderman in Bristol Bay, & I've crewed on & run seiners in Lower Cook Inlet, PWS, & Kodiak.

This will be my 5th summer as owner/operator of a small salmon seiner in Kodiak. During these first years, of my expected lifelong career, I have seen the salmon fisheries of Cook Inlet and Kodiak become ever more polarized and politicized. As a resident of Homer, I am paying attention to attempts by outside groups to limit commercial fishing time and areas of opportunity. Some of these attempts have been instigated by commercial Upper Cook Inlet groups, but the rising voice of the sports and charter interests have become prominent.

I believe we must manage these finite fisheries for the sustainability of the 5 species & ecosystems, as well as the betterment of the various personal, sports, & commercial interests. I am for conversations, adaptations, & compromises to management for fair access to this wondrous food source. & thus, a balanced board of fish. However, I believe Karl Johnstone will not bring balance nor compromise to these conversations and adaptations. In his appointment, his track record & view points, I see a power grab by a very vocal & self-interested group to the detriment of fairness & to others.

My understanding of Alaska's history in setting up and managing commercial fisheries was with a focus on sustainability and economic opportunity, mostly through job creation. In that regard, we have largely been a success story. Our runs continue to be strong overall, even in the face of the increasing effects of climate change. And comm-fish continues to be our state's largest private employer. The trickle-down effect of comm-fish dollars state-wide, but especially in coastal communities, is vital. From my point of view, it is comm-fish dollars that largely supports Homer's economy through the winter. From groceries & restaurants, to the myriad marine/mechanic supply stores, to the employment of skilled workers: mechanics, electricians, welders, fiber-glassers, net builders, & so many more. Sports lodges and charter boats wouldn't come close to supporting these communities if we were to be removed or replaced. In Johnstone's view we commercial fisherfolk are all "old and feeble," doomed to extinction. That view is detrimental to the future of our communities, workers, and state. It divides us into camps rather than bringing us together towards solving problems, & it absolutely should not have a place on the Board of Fish.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Evan Blankenship  
PO Box 3265  
Homer, AK 99603

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** James Calhoun <calhounj52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:02 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone appt

As a 66 year resident of Alaska, a commercial and sport fisherman, I am opposed to Karl Johnstone's appointment to the BOF.

Thank you James Calhoun, 4830 Emerson St, Homer, Ak



Virus-free. [www.avq.com](http://www.avq.com)

## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Brian Mcwethy <brianmcwethy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:23 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Oppose nomination of Karl Johnstone. Brian McWethy

Members of the Alaska Legislature,

I am a 2nd generation commercial salmon seiner in Kodiak. I strongly oppose the nomination of Karl Johnstone. Commercial fishing is the economic driver in Kodiak. My family relies on me to be the provider financially and I solely depend on commercial fishing. Many homes in the community in Kodiak are in the same situation as my household. Karl Johnstone would hurt our local economy and many rural communities in Alaska. Please oppose his appointment!

Thank you,  
Brian McWethy  
2nd Generation Kodiak Salmon seiner  
Commercial Fisherman



## **Matt Gruening**

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**From:** Chris Trosvig <chris.trosvig@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 4:25 PM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Oppose Johnstone

Matt,

I am a Kodiak commercial salmon fisherman and member of the Kodiak Seiners Association. I have reason to believe that Mr. Johnstone will be a horribly one sided, bias candidate, as a Board of Fish member. His reputation for cracking down on commercial salmon fishing and other fisheries has been evident. I believe this man will not be a good fit for this Board. I am hoping to get this opposition on record. I am not alone as many more commercial fisherman feel the same way. We need people on the Board that are directly related to the commercial aspect of salmon fishing. We have more than enough regulations and restrictions on our local fishery. There are more qualified people than Mr. Johnstone that should sit on the Board of Fish. Please submit this disapproval letter for me to those that need to read it. Thank you for your time Sincerely, Christian Trosvig F/V Nordic Cross

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Robert B Moss <rbmoss45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 6:35 AM  
**To:** Matt Gruening  
**Subject:** Johnstone Appointment.

Hello, I am a born and raised Alaska commercial fisherman, with a Bachelors Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management. I have fished for over 50 years both commercially and recreationally. We can not be fooled into pitting ourselves against each other. Sustainable management is paramount and promoting recreational fishing at the expense of commercial fishing is not only ignoring the commercial fishing contributions to the economic viability of Alaska itself but putting the resource at risk. Mr. Johnstone has shown that he is not a representative of the resource but instead a promoter of one user group against other user groups including but not limited to commercial fishing. Please, for the sake of all Alaskans reject, Karl Johnstone as a Board of Fish Member. Sincerely Robert B Moss

## Matt Gruening

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**From:** Jesse Bjorkman <jbjorkm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:16 AM  
**To:** House Fisheries  
**Subject:** Please Reject Karl Johnstone's nomination to the BOF

Hello,

I urge the House Fisheries committee to not forward the nomination of Karl Johnstone.

Mr. Johnstone was a very toxic and nefarious force on the Board of Fish during his previous tenure there. He has been found to be corrupt in his dealings in the past and there is no reason to believe that his future actions would be any different. Johnstone's return to the board would lead to a severe imbalance between user groups on the board as well as an imbalance in regional representation.

Please do not support Karl Johnstone's nomination to the Board of Fish.

Thank you for your careful consideration,  
Jesse J Bjorkman

**Lauren N. Simpson**

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**From:** Matt oxford <[REDACTED]@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:42 PM  
**To:** Rep. Sarah Vance  
**Subject:** No JOHNSTONE!

Hello,  
this letter is to voice my concern on the appointment of Johnstone to the board of fish.

I am a direct marketer who has fished in the cook inlet for 15 years. I process in town and I hire local crew. If the board of fish had not been so egregious in its past dealings with the 1000 small businesses that are the commercial fisherman of the upper cook inlet. I doubt we would be seeking duplicative management from the feds. The concern is for the health of the river. I doubt the salmon have an opinion on who the Governor is or who his cronies are.

Matt Oxford  
[REDACTED]  
PO 15201 Mtz creek Ak 99603

Thanks,  
Matt Oxford

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** House Fisheries  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:09 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose Karl Johnstone Confirmation to BOF

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Darius Kasprzak <jighead@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 12:30 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries <HouseFisheries@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone Confirmation to BOF

To all Alaska legislators,

I am an Alaskan Resident since 1977, and a commercial fisherman based out of Kodiak since 1983. I am also president of the Alaska Jig Association.

I am writing to implore you to oppose Karl Johnstone for confirmation to the AK Board of Fisheries. He has proved himself to be biased and discriminatory against commercial fisheries (so important to Alaska's economy and rural communities), as well as against the ADFG commercial fishing division, during his previous time on the Board. I do not believe that he has the capacity to act in a fair and neutral manner, were he to be confirmed to BOF.

Please do not confirm Karl Johnstone to the AK Board of Fisheries!

Thank you,

Darius Kasprzak  
[REDACTED]

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** House Fisheries  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:09 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Oppose Karl Johnstone appointment to BOF

**From:** Marty Remund <martyremund@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 1:08 PM  
**To:** House Fisheries <HouseFisheries@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Oppose Karl Johnstone appointment to BOF

I oppose the confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fish. Karl was blatantly discriminatory against commercial fisheries and the ADFG comfish division in his previous time on the board. Confirmation of Johnstone would leave the Board of Fish "out of balance" with regard to commercial fisheries representation. Sincerely, Marty Remund ~~PO Box~~  
~~Port Alexander, AK 99836~~

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:10 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Please vote No on the reconfirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

**From:** Lisa and Brian Gabriel <~~gabriel1@alaska.net~~>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 12:49 PM  
**To:** gabriel1@alaska.net  
**Subject:** Please vote No on the reconfirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Alaska Representative,

I am a lifeline Alaskan and 35 year commercial setnet fisherman in Upper Cook Inlet. I am writing today to voice my concern over Governor Dunleavy's reappointment of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. My personal experience with Mr. Johnstone was with a man of great arrogance. Personally, I found him to be disrespectful to anyone who does not agree with his opinion and causes a great deal of distress to those who are participating in the Board of Fish process.

Since Mr. Johnstone resigned from the board, we have experienced one board cycle in Upper Cook Inlet. (2017) The board members who served during that meeting were open to discussion about issues and very easy to work with. I found a much calmer process and much less divisive atmosphere. I attribute that to a balanced board with very open, respectful and intelligent board members. I have always admired those who serve our state and community boards and commissions and feel that they deserve a chance to show that they can perform honestly and without bias. I have given Karl Johnstone that chance, he does not deserve another.

I am asking you today to vote no on the reconfirmation of Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. He is unable to be fair and unbiased when it comes to Upper Cook Inlet fisheries issues as witnessed in his past actions.

Thank you,

Lisa Gabriel

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:11 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Concerned about Johnstone

**From:** Mike Crookston <[REDACTED]@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 2:33 PM  
**Subject:** Concerned about Johnstone

Representatives,

Thank you for your service to our state in a difficult and often thankless position. We look to you to make the correct appointments in these critical positions.

I am reaching out highly concerned about the potential appointment of the formerly resigned and contraversial BOF member Karl Johnstone. He has shattered my faith in political transparency and integrity by calling unscheduled meetings with representatives specifically from the Kenai River Sportsfishing Association to push forward decisions that are not scientifically founded and has made significant negative impacts on the economy and industry of our community. Since his time specifically on the board I have witnessed more backdoor lobbying, political maneuvering, and general negativity in the managing of the Cook Inlet fisheries.

Those who really know his impact know this is an unwise appointment and an opportunity for you to show your voters that you stand against a candidate who has caused us to lose confidence in our political system. We feel powerless at times against the voices of organized money and lobbyist which actively have the ear of Karl. Please know appointing Karl Johnston will be a tremendous mistake. You can find video for example of such collusion at a meeting where Mr. Johnstone called an unscheduled recess and then met in person with other directors of KRSA to get INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOW THEY WANTED HIM TO VOTE! The audio in this video is not great because it was taken spontaneously by others at the meeting who were shocked at what they were witnessing. I have included a link for your reference. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1eWkJICrC8&feature=youtu.be>



### Karl Johnstone BOF (Alaska Board of Fish) - YouTube

Karl Johnstone is not the right person to serve again on the Alaska Board of Fish. This is not just about commercial fishermen making a fuss. There are real reasons for all the fuss. March 5, 2011 ...

[www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



Thank you for your time and I hope your consideration.

Regards,

Mike Crookston

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:11 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Reject Karl Johnstone!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** ~~gouthill@alaskanet.net~~ <~~gouthill@alaskanet.net~~>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 3:40 PM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Reject Karl Johnstone!

Dear Ms Stutes:

My name is Fred Stager, I am 57 years old; and have been a commercial fisherman, salmon seiner and resident of Kodiak island for 35 years. My wife is a 46 year old, third generation alaskan fisherwoman; she grew up in the Kodiak bush and (like most of her family) has fished all her life. In our time, both the local fisheries and town of Kodiak have seen a lot of changes and plenty of hardship, but we're afraid that the Governor's proposed budget cuts, coupled with his highly polarized fish board nominations, will cause the destruction of our not only our small business, but our community as well. And so I am writing you to voice my strong opposition to Karl Johnstone's nomination to Board of Fish. The makeup of the board is radically shifting towards a preponderance of railbelt sportfishing interests and this, coupled with the placement of someone like Mr. Johnstone (who has never hidden his contempt for commercial fishermen nor his desire to see them eliminated) will be fatal to the town of Kodiak and our families business and lifestyle. Please be a strong voice in the opposition to this man. Thank you- Fred and Sulua Stager

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** Rep. Louise Stutes  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 4:12 PM  
**To:** Thatcher Brouwer  
**Subject:** FW: Against Karl Johnstone BoFish Appointment

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Buds Fisheries <budmarrese@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 11:54 AM  
**To:** Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** Against Karl Johnstone BoFish Appointment

Representative Stutes,

i humbly ask that you do not support putting Mr Johnstone back on the Board of Fish.

I am and have been a commercial fisherman of 46yrs, current Seine Permit holder involved in fisheries from SE, PWS, Kodiak, BB. I have been involved in many fisheries management and allocation issues in the past, an NSRAA Board member for 12yrs, and attended 5 Board of Fish meetings during various sessions.

My experience at these Board meetings in the past when Karl was a Board member then showed me that Mr. Johnstone's knowledge of most Commercial fisheries issues and conflicts was minimal and his opinions formulated showed negligence of proper info and historical data, pushing an agenda even at odds to ADF&G management at times.

As an example, currently he has exhibited biases on Enhanced Fish production operations that has proven overwhelmingly successful results for all Alaskans and is more important than ever.

Alaska's complex fisheries resources and management deserve better more educated and less opinionated Board Members to keep the integrity and proper decision making for our multifaceted complex issues.

Certainly there are other more qualified and less biased candidates more suitable to the proper composition of the Alaska board.

I have always respected the Board process as one of Alaska's jewels in that people do feel they have input, one of Alaska's greatest assets.

Please do not further politicize this integral important B of Fish process with his appointment.

After over 20yrs of living in SE Alaska, I am no longer a resident but I still fish and operate and support crew who are Alaskans and feel this issue is important enough for all involved to be heard.

Thank you for listening, Bud Marrese FV Lake Bay

## Thatcher Brouwer

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**From:** Brian Jacobs <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 11:42 AM  
**To:** House Resources  
**Subject:** Board of Fisheries Nominees

Brian Jacobs  
~~615 Ridge Loop Road~~  
North Pole, AK 99705

April 12, 2019

Dear House Resources Committee,

I'm writing today in support of Governor Dunleavy's nominees to the Board of Fisheries – Karl Johnstone, Israel Payton, Marit Carlson-Van Dort and Gerad Godfrey. As a person who loves to fish in Alaska, it's important to me that the people responsible for managing and allocating fish represent all Alaskans fairly. The Governor's nominees come from diverse backgrounds and have expertise that will serve us all well.

I've heard that Judge Karl Johnstone is facing opposition in Juneau from the commercial-fishing industry. Judge Johnstone served on the Board of Fisheries in the past, where he exhibited a broad understanding of the various commercial, recreational, personal-use and subsistence fisheries in Alaska. He demonstrated the leadership and fairness all Board members should be known for. In the words of the 2015 Alaska Legislature, "Mr. Johnstone's record on the Board represents the gold standard of public service."

Mr. Johnstone, in particular, will be a great asset to the Board. His previous experience as a Board member and as chairman of the Board means he'll be able to hit the ground running. His experience as a Superior Court judge gives me confidence that he can look at problems from multiple perspectives and make fair decisions.

Mr. Johnstone did an admirable job during his tenure on the board. He was known to be very approachable and to listen to all user groups. He came very well prepared for every meeting, asked appropriate, pertinent and probing questions, actively built a sound record of decision-making during deliberations and brought a welcome expectation of high performance to the Board process. With his broad understanding of the various commercial, recreational, personal-use and subsistence fisheries in Alaska, he demonstrated leadership and fairness as the Board dealt with often contentious conservation and allocation issues.

All the nominees are hard-working Alaskans, and each of them has experience in Alaska's diverse fisheries. I look forward to the balanced and thoughtful perspectives they'll bring to Alaska's fisheries management.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Alaska. Please join me in supporting the nominees to the Board of Fisheries, and cast your vote to confirm Karl Johnstone, Israel Payton, Marit Carlson-Van Dort and Gerad Godfrey.

Sincerely,  
Brian Jacobs

**From:** [Sue Aspelund](#)  
**To:** [Sen. Tom Begich](#); [Sen. Chris Birch](#); [Sen. Click Bishop](#); [Sen. John Coghill](#); [Sen. Mia Costello](#); [Sen. Cathy Glessel](#); [Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson](#); [Sen. Lyman Hoffman](#); [Sen. Shelley Hughes](#); [Sen. Scott Kawasaki](#); [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#); [Sen. Peter Micciche](#); [Sen. Donny Olson](#); [Senator.Lara.Reinbold@akleg.gov](#); [Sen. Mike Shower](#); [Sen. Bert Stedman](#); [Sen. Gary Stevens](#); [Sen. Natasha Von Imhof](#); [Sen. Bill Wielechowski](#); [Sen. David Wilson](#); [Rep. Ben Carpenter](#); [Rep. Matt Claman](#); [Rep. Harriet Drummond](#); [Rep. David Eastman](#); [Rep. Bryce Edgmon](#); [Representative.Zach.Fields@akleg.gov](#); [Rep. Neal Foster](#); [Rep. Sara Hannan](#); [Rep. Grier Hopkins](#); [Rep. Sharon Jackson](#); [Rep. DeLena Johnson](#); [Rep. Jennifer Johnston](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#); [Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins](#); [Rep. Bart LeBon](#); [Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux](#); [Rep. John Lincoln](#); [Rep. Kelly Merrick](#); [Rep. Mark Neuman](#); [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Rep. Lance Pruitt](#); [Rep. Sara Rasmussen](#); [Rep. George Rauscher](#); [Rep. Joshua Revak](#); [Rep. Laddie Shaw](#); [Rep. Ivy Spohnholz](#); [Rep. Andl Story](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#); [Rep. David Talerico](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Steve Thompson](#); [Rep. Cathy Tilton](#); [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. Sarah Vance](#); [Rep. Tammie Wilson](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky](#)  
**Subject:** OPPOSE confirmation of Karl Johnstone to the AK Board of Fisheries!  
**Date:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 3:45:20 PM

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April 14, 2019

Members

Alaska State Legislature

(sent via email)

RE: OPPOSE Johnstone's Alaska Board of Fisheries confirmation

Dear Members:

I have been in a unique position to observe Karl Johnstone in his capacity as an Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) member during my employment as the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's (ADF&G's) Deputy Director of the Division of Commercial Fisheries. While serving in that capacity one of my primary duties was to coordinate with the BOF, Board Support, and other ADF&G divisions and assist in representing the division at BOF meetings. Thus, I had a front row seat to observe how board members comported themselves during both the organization and conduct of board meetings across all of the state's fisheries.

Having served as a Fish and Game Advisory Committee (AC) member for a number of years while fishing commercially in Bristol Bay prior to working for ADF&G, I was privileged to observe and participate in both the AC and BOF processes as a stakeholder. I can say—unequivocally—that in my over 35 years as an active participant as a member of the public, an AC member, or an ADF&G employee, I never observed any board member behave so unethically, disrespectfully, vindictively, or so agenda-driven against commercial fisheries (Cook Inlet, in particular) as Karl Johnstone. On numerous occasions I observed Mr. Johnstone's utter disregard for the credible and transparent BOF process that so many members of Fish and Game ACs across the state, ADF&G staff, and numerous BOF members worked diligently over many years build and maintain. Watching Mr. Johnstone systematically dismantle commercial fisheries across the state to justify his apparent goal of a complete Cook Inlet Eastside setnet closure was extremely distressing and disheartening to observe, particularly when we all knew that he wasn't even really an Alaskan given the amount of time

he resided Outside in Prescott, AZ. That he is even being considered for reappointment to the Board is unconscionable.

Many commercial fishermen are fearful of speaking out regarding Mr. Johnstone's appointment precisely because he can be so vengeful. I am willing to do so because I don't believe I have much more to lose. I've already personally experienced Johnstone's bullying and disdain. In a private discussion with Mr. Johnstone, I expressed concerns about his turning what had been a credible and transparent public process into one in which neither ADF&G staff, nor the public, could trust that sound science and fisheries sustainability were driving the process. I provided examples of how personal agendas were driving it instead. As a result, Johnstone targeted me and tried to discredit me personally and professionally with the public, ADF&G staff, and my superiors, as well as my body of work in the BOF process. I am not alone in experiencing Johnstone's ire; ADF&G staff, members of the public, and members of the BOF that disagreed with Johnstone's agenda were frequently subject to his temper and intimidation. There is no place for this type of behavior in this regulatory process so important to Alaskans and those dependent upon its fisheries.

In the interest of the integrity of the public process upon which so many Alaskans and Alaska's fisheries resources depend, as well as a semblance of sport fish/commercial fisheries balance on the board, I urge you NOT to confirm Karl Johnstone to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Sue Aspelund

~~454 Centaurus Avenue SW~~

Ocean Shores, WA 98569

**From:** [David Branshaw](#)  
**To:** [House Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Karl Johnston  
**Date:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 2:01:01 PM

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I oppose the nomination of Karl Johnston to the Board of Fish. He has a been combative as a past board member and has a proven bias against commercial fishing interest. Thank you.

David Branshaw



Cordova Alaska

**From:**  
**To:** [House Resources](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen. Gary Stevens](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Sheryl Glasen \(ccomfort@ctcak.net\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF  
**Date:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:41:17 AM

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Please accept the following as public written testimony regarding the Board of Fisheries appointees. Forwarded by the Cordova LIO.

-----Original Message-----

From: David Glasen <ccomfort@ctcak.net>  
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:40 PM  
To: Nancy Bird <Nancy.Bird@akleg.gov>  
Subject: Opposition to Karl Johnstone's appointment to BOF

State of Alaska  
Senate Resources Committee

Dear Board Chair and members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I'm writing in opposition of Karl Johnstone's appointment to the BOF. Karl is one of the few Judges that the AK Judicial Council has recommended for non retention. The Council found that he scored poorly on integrity, social temperament and overall performance.

Fast forward a dozen years and Karl was publicly reprimanded by the AK Commission on Judicial conduct, with the Supreme Court stating that he had created an appearance of impropriety.

During Karl's previous BOF appointment, that ran from 2008 to 2015, he established a reputation for a strong bias against Commercial Fishing. This ended in 2015 When Governor Walker demanded his resignation amid concerns of the "lack of public process" during a meeting in which Karl chaired.

Board of Fish members need to take Commercial, Personal use, Subsistence and Sport into consideration when decisions are made. Karl Johnstone has shown that he cannot and will not do this.

Thank you for your time.  
David Glasen  
F/V Wild West

Sent from my iPad



Dear Alaskan Legislator

I would like to express my strong OPPOSITION to the appointment of Karl Johnstone to the Board of Fisheries.

The meeting I will reference most on the subject of Mr. Johnstone's poor behavior is the Southeast/Yakutat fin fish meeting held in Ketchikan, Alaska on February 24- March 3, 2012. There is a digital recording of this meeting available at the Board of Fisheries office.

I had submitted a proposal to outlaw the use of electric reels in the Southeast Alaska sport fishery at this meeting.

Karl Johnstone was the Chairman of this meeting and as Chair of the meeting it was Karl's job to ensure that the integrity of the meeting remained at the highest standard.

It was evident to me from the very beginning of this meeting that Mr. Johnstone not only had no intention curtailing unethical fellow board member behavior, but also contribute to it himself.

The 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> public testifier was a man from the Wrangell AC and in his personal testimony he stipulated he supported outlawing electric reels for the sport fishery.

Mr. Bill Brown (BOF Member) asked this gentleman if he thought that the intention of the proposer was to stop the harvest of sable fish by the sport fishery.

The man's response was that he had no idea of the intentions of the proposer, but he himself thought pursuing a fish for sport with an electric reel was unsporting.

Mr. Brown should have asked the proposer this type of question and the proposer only. Who but the proposer would know the intentions of the proposer??

Chair Johnstone should have disallowed such a question because it did not serve as any valid information to the board and its only intention was to further Bill Brown's personal argument against the proposal.

I was angry at Chair Johnstone for failing to act on such a blatant example of unacceptable board member behavior but thought it just a simple mistake. It became clear to me later in the meeting that it was not a mistake but an intentional abuse of power.

Public testimony at a Board of Fish meeting is not that of a court proceeding in which lawyers ask questions to sway a jury in their favor. Public testimony should only solicit questions from the board if they need clarification of data presented, a confusing statement or expansion of subject line for informational purposes.

Board of Fish members should not be negatively attacking a proposal or debating individual members of the public during public testimony. They should save their debate and negative comments for the deliberations between their fellow board members and themselves at the end of the meeting.

When you submit a proposal there is a time during the meeting in which you get to speak to your proposal. My chance to speak to my proposal took place at the committee of the whole after the public testimony had finished.

In the committee of the whole I referenced that since the electric reel had been in use, the black cod harvest by sport fisherman had increased from 4% to 28%. I then sited that the only thing that made a black cod a sport fish was electricity and such methodology is not sporting.

I was immediately debating that statement with Mr. Brown who contested that he used a GPS and that too gave him the advantage in harvesting black cod. I retaliated saying that a GPS did not aid in the actual harvest of the creature and we have game laws prohibiting spot lights even though we use GPS in the woods for safety reasons.

Again, the Chair should have ordered Mr. Brown to cease and desist his line of questions immediately but he did not.

Karl Johnstone then asked me how deep I thought black cod could be caught at. That is an acceptable question being I myself had opened the door on the subject of sport fishing black cod. I said, I have caught them as shallow as 100 fathoms.

Black cod are commonly deep-water fish and 100 fathoms would be on the upper end of the depth they can be caught. Mr. Johnstone should have left it at that

and moved on. Instead he said that he didn't think that was true and called for the ADFG ground fish manager to come up to give his opinion on the same question. The Department said about 100 fathoms.

I believe Mr. Johnstone was intentionally trying to discredit me in this public forum even though it backfired on him. He being the Chair, was well aware that if the Department contradicted my statement it would be embarrassing for me.

This is not something an ethical individual would attempt to do, especially one as Chairman being charged with preserving the integrity of the meeting. To me it was a plain case of abuse of power.

There is no doubt that Mr. Karl Johnstone has vast experience with fishery laws and regulations that make him SEEM highly qualified for a Board of Fisheries position.

However, more importantly is the ability to act appropriately and facilitate the highest standards for the Board of Fish process itself. Regardless of how you feel toward fishery politics, I would hope that the integrity of the Board of Fisheries process would be more important to you.

If you confirm Karl Johnstone to be a Board of Fisheries member again, you will be taking the integrity of the Board of Fisheries process in the exact opposite direction it needs go. Please vote NO on Karl Johnstone's confirmation to the Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Steve Merritt



Craig, Alaska 99921

-

**From:** Thomas Scott  
**To:** Sen. Tom Begich; Sen. Chris Birch; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Cathv Giessel; Sen. Elvi Gray-Jackson; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Shelley Hughes; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Senator.Lara.Reinbold@akleg.gov; Sen. Mike Shower; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Natasha Von Imhof; Sen. Bill Wielechowski; Sen. David Wilson; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Matt Claman; Rep. Harriet Drummond; Rep. David Eastman; Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Representative.Zach.Fields@akleg.gov; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Sara Hannan; Rep. Grier Hopkins; Rep. Sharon Jackson; Rep. Delena Johnson; Rep. Jennifer Johnston; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Chuck Kopp; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins; Rep. Bart LeBon; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux; Rep. John Lincoln; Rep. Kelly Merrick; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Daniel Ortiz; Rep. Lance Pruitt; Rep. Sara Rasmussen; Rep. George Rauscher; Rep. Joshua Revak; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Jvy Spohnholz; Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Steve Thompson; Rep. Cathy Tilton; Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Sarah Vance; Rep. Tammie Wilson; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Tiffany Zulkosky  
**Cc:** Forest Jenkins  
**Subject:** Karl Johnstone  
**Date:** Sunday, April 14, 2019 6:45:34 PM

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Dear Legislators,

### Vote NO on the Confirmation of Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fish

On behalf of the Prince William Sound Setnetter's Association, I am writing to urge you to vote NO on the confirmation of Karl Johnstone for the Alaska Board of Fish. The S04E fishery consists of 20 resident and 9 nonresident permit holders. The appointment of Johnstone has potential to have significant negative impacts on all families involved in the commercial fisheries in the state of Alaska.

Karl Johnstone has a track record that is far from acceptable to hold a seat on the Board of Fish. He has demonstrated poor character and strong favoritism/bias throughout his career as a Superior Judge and as a Board of Fish member.

In the 1990s, Judge Johnstone was publicly reprimanded by the state court for bypassing the regular process and committee recommendation while trying to hire his friend as coroner ahead of more highly rated applicants that followed the regular application process. This is a piece from the state document that clearly demonstrates his character in this case:

Supreme Court of Alaska.

IN RE: the proceeding under AS 22.30.070(c) in relation to Karl S. JOHNSTONE, Petitioner.

No. S-8387. Decided: May 19, 2000

'Here, the appearance of impropriety arising from Judge Johnstone's conduct caused harm that is both actual and significant. An appearance of favoritism will always impair the general public's confidence in the judiciary. But here the appearance also caused direct and immediate damage to the large group of applicants who invested considerable time and effort in applying for the coroner's position by following the announced recruitment process and who had every right to expect fair treatment in return for their efforts.'

Johnstone has publicly expressed his favoritism for sport and personal-use fisheries. He has stated his opinion to give management priority to sport and personal-use fisheries over other user groups. Johnstone strongly expresses his anti commercial fishing mentality and completely disregards fisheries biology and the sustainability of the resource to express his solely economic driven opinion in this Alaska Daily News article from 2017:

Alaska Needs to Update Fisheries Management by Karl

Johnstone <https://www.adn.com/opinions/2017/02/13/alaska-needs-to-update-fisheries-management/>

While Johnstone was previously Chair of the Board of Fish, there were complaints of his bullying mentality to intimidate other board members to vote consistently with his opinion.

Johnstone's history clearly suggests why he is not a good candidate to serve on the Board of Fish. We strongly encourage you to vote NO on the confirmation of Karl Johnstone.

Thank you for your time!

Best regards,  
Scott Thomas  
Prince William Sound Setnetter's Association