



Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

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May 3, 2026

House Fisheries Committee
Representative Stutes, Chair

Sent via email: House.Fisheries@akleg.gov

Representative Stutes, Chair and House Fisheries Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to write in support of the reappointment of Mike Wood and the appointment of Paul Cyr to the Board of Fisheries. Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) is a multi-gear, multi-species, small vessel, non-profit organization representing our 300+ members involved in the SE salmon, crab and shrimp fisheries and longline fisheries in SE and the Gulf of Alaska. We have approximately 80% Alaskan residency in our membership. Our members also participate in sport/recreational, personal use and subsistence fisheries in addition to their commercial fisheries.

Mike Wood has come to Board meetings prepared, listens to both the public and scientific information on a proposal. He is very approachable and will meet with members of the public both before and during a meeting. Having now gone a full-board cycle, he will be even better prepared for the issues brought up in each region. **We support the confirmation of Mike Wood to the Board of Fisheries.**

Paul Cyr has a very diverse background including being a general manager of a seafood processing plant in SE Alaska, working in the charter industry and most recently at a mariculture site. All of these positions had Paul interacting with a wide variety of individuals, having to collaborate on projects, and provided a working knowledge of State and Federal regulations. His background should provide a strong base for bringing diverse individuals to work together towards a compromise. Having lived in a smaller coastal community, he understands the need for all sectors to thrive and the importance of a healthy and sustainable resource to all concerned. **We support the confirmation of Paul Cyr to the Board of Fisheries.**

Sincerely,

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director



PO Box 870
Kodiak, AK 99615
northwestsetnetter@gmail.com
northwestsetnetters.org

May 3, 2026

To Chair Stutes and House Fisheries Committee Members:

The Northwest Setnetters Association, which represents set-gillnet fishermen from Kodiak's Northwest district, appreciates the opportunity to offer comments in support of the nomination of Mike Wood to another term on the Board of Fisheries.

Our board strongly supports a Board of Fisheries that reflects the full breadth of Alaska's fisheries through balanced, diverse perspectives and practical experience. In a state as large and complex as Alaska, where fisheries vary widely by region, gear type, and management framework, it is essential that the Board includes members who bring firsthand knowledge from across sectors.

Mike Wood has demonstrated a clear commitment to thoughtful, informed decision-making. He has shown a willingness to listen, to engage with differing viewpoints, and to approach complex issues with humility and transparency. As a commercial fisherman, he brings an important and necessary perspective to Board deliberations—one that helps ensure that decisions are grounded in real-world understanding of how fisheries operate.

Commercial fisheries are a foundational part of Alaska's economy and coastal communities. Maintaining knowledgeable representation from this sector is critical to preserving confidence in the Board of Fisheries as a fair, balanced, and effective decision-making body.

Reappointing Mike Wood would help ensure that this balance is maintained and that the Board continues to benefit from experienced, thoughtful participation across user groups.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued work on behalf of Alaska's fisheries and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adelia B. Myrick".

Adelia Myrick
President, Northwest Setnetters Association



May 2, 2026

Chair Louise Stutes,
House Fisheries Committee
Alaska Legislature
House.Fisheries@akleg.gov

Re: Support for Mike Wood and Paul Cyr - Alaska Board of Fisheries appointments

Dear Chair Stutes and Committee Members:

The Pacific Seafood Processors Association (PSPA) strongly supports Mike Wood for reappointment and Paul Cyr for appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board). For over a century PSPA has represented seafood processors and their investment in coastal Alaska. The seafood processing community covers all regions of Alaska, all vessel sizes and gear types. The seafood sector directly employs more workers than any other private sector industry in Alaska and is the largest private sector investor in coastal communities across Alaska. The health of Alaska's coastal communities, transportation and support sectors, fishermen, and the processing sector are inextricably aligned - we are socially and economically dependent on each other and access to a sustainable public resource.

Appointments to the Board are critical in that their decisions affect a broad cross-section of Alaskans, businesses, and communities, all of which are reliant on Alaska's fish resources being well-managed for the long-term. Seven members are tasked with representing four distinct management regions, sport, personal use, subsistence, and commercial harvesters and processors, and hundreds of State fisheries. We appreciate careful consideration given to these appointments by the Governor.

Mike Wood has demonstrated steady, common-sense decision-making during his term on the Board. He has proven a very valuable Board member, with the ability and willingness to analyze an issue, ask critical questions, and clearly explain his position. He has demonstrated an understanding of Alaska's constitutional mandate to manage for sustained yield, while maintaining balance and access for commercial, sport, personal use, and subsistence users. Mr. Wood consistently works with and listens to other Board members and all user groups and is persistent in finding solutions to increasingly complex management problems, guided by the expertise provided by your Department of Fish & Game. We strongly recommend reappointing Mr. Wood not only for his work ethic and experience with the Board process, but to retain some continuity and stability in the Board's work.

Paul Cyr is one of the most well-rounded applicants to the Board in a very long time. As a lifelong leader in the Alaska seafood and maritime sectors, he brings professional experience and expertise in mariculture, sport/guiding business, commercial processing, and marine safety. Having a board member

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with an understanding and balanced perspective of so many of the sectors and issues facing the Board is very valuable, in addition to his experience with ADFG management and state regulations. We are certain he is committed to working on the Board for the benefit of the resource and Alaskans, and both his demeanor and thoughtful approach to complex issues make him an excellent candidate.

Importantly, the Board currently has no members from Southeast Alaska even though this is a critical and key fishing region of Alaska. The Board currently has only one member from a coastal commercial fishing community off the road system. Given the hundreds of fisheries and distinctly different regions under the authority of the Board, we think it is extremely beneficial to appoint someone who lives in a coastal fishing community like Ketchikan with residents from all user groups, especially from a key fishing region not currently represented.

These are not easy positions to do well, and the time and workload required is tremendous. But the responsibility and impact of these decisions is extremely significant for the state, as the Board makes multiple decisions every meeting that quickly become regulations that affect thousands of Alaskans and the State's economy. Please consider appointing these two extremely well-qualified candidates. Please contact me if you have any questions and thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Decker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Julie Decker
President, PSPA
Wrangell, AK