

May 2, 2026

Chair Louise Stutes,  
House Fisheries Committee  
Alaska Legislature  
[House.Fisheries@akleg.gov](mailto:House.Fisheries@akleg.gov)

***Re: Support for Paul Cyr for Board of Fisheries***

Dear Chair Stutes and Committee Members:

**I am writing to express my support for Mr. Paul Cyr for appointment to the Board of Fisheries (Board).**

I have been a commercial fisherman in Alaska for 51 years; I have lived and fished out of Wrangell for 43 years. In that time, I have served on at least five boards working on issues on behalf of the industry. Through those experiences, I know how important the Board of Fisheries is.

I have known and worked with Mr. Cyr for over a decade of my 51 years commercial fishing, and he has always been honest, patient, hard-working and fair. These qualities suit him well to serve on the Board. Mr. Cyr is one of the most well-rounded applicants to the Board in a very long time. His professional experience in sport/guiding business, commercial seafood processing, mariculture, service on the SSRAA Board, and marine safety give him a broad and balanced perspective of so many of the sectors and issues facing the Board. This is very valuable for a person who serves on the Board. Additionally, I know he puts the sustainability of the resource as the first priority in its management.

Also of importance, Mr. Cyr would provide representation from Southeast Alaska, which currently has no representation, even though it is a critical and key fishing region of Alaska. Given the hundreds of fisheries and distinctly different regions under the authority of the Board, it is extremely beneficial to appoint someone who lives in a coastal fishing community like Ketchikan.

The responsibility and impact of the Board's 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. I believe Mr. Cyr will take that responsibility seriously and will listen to all stakeholders, as well as, fellow Board members and the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game.

Please support Mr. Paul Cyr for appointment to the Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Gig Decker  
Wrangell, AK  
[craigigdecker@gmail.com](mailto:craigigdecker@gmail.com)



# Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

1008 Fish Creek Rd

Juneau, AK 99801

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May 3, 2026

House Fisheries Committee  
Representative Stutes, Chair

Sent via email: [House.Fisheries@akleg.gov](mailto: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](http://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 Paul Cyr to 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.

Paul Cyr has a broad understanding of many aspects of the intricacies that make coastal communities run – from sport fishing to commercial processing to mariculture. Having a knowledgeable representative from Southeast Alaska who understands the uniqueness of that complex region makes a great deal of sense and would support the Board of Fish in grappling with detailed issues in an informed manner.

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. Confirming Paul Cyr would help ensure 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, which appears to read "Adelia B. Myrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adelia Myrick  
President, Northwest Setnetters Association



May 2, 2026

Chair Louise Stutes,  
House Fisheries Committee  
Alaska Legislature  
[House.Fisheries@akleg.gov](mailto: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