



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
Planning and Land Use Department
Planning Division

350 East Dahlia Avenue • Palmer, AK 99645
Phone (907) 861-7833
www.matsugov.us

March 22, 2024

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

RE: Appointments to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

We understand that you are currently reviewing nominations to fill positions on the Board of Fisheries (BOF). The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) Fish & Wildlife Commission (FWC) unanimously supports the appointment of Peter Probasco, and the reappointment of Marit Carlson-Van Dort.

Peter Probasco currently serves as the Vice Chair on the MSB FWC and has sat on the commission for more than three years. Mr. Probasco worked for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) for 23 years, retiring as the Commercial Fish Division Regional Supervisor in Kodiak. He also spent 17 years with the Federal Subsistence Program, Migratory Birds, and State Programs. His contribution to the FWC has been significant, with sound and reasonable judgement, and he has valuable experience in the BOF regulatory arena. All of this considered, the FWC recommends Peter Probasco's appointment to the BOF.

The FWC had the opportunity to see Marit Carlson-Van Dort in action at the Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting this past month. Marit is a born and raised Alaskan, bringing a breadth of knowledge in Fishery Science, subsistence fisheries, and commercial fishing throughout the state. Marit was a thorough, fair, and contributing board member throughout the Upper Cook Inlet meeting, providing reasonable and educated rationale for her votes, and balancing resource concerns with concerns of the public for the long-term benefit of both. The FWC believes Marit will serve the State of Alaska well and supports her reappointment for an additional three-year term.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Couch".

Andy Couch, Chair
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish & Wildlife Commission

cc: Mike Brown, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Manager
Edna DeVries, Matanuska-Susitna Borough Mayor
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly



March 25, 2024

Office of Governor, Mike Dunleavy
Boards and Commissions
3rd Floor, State Capitol
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for Märit Carlson-Van Dort for reappointment to Alaska Board of Fisheries

Honorable Governor Dunleavy,

Southeast Alaska Guides Organization (SEAGO) is a non-profit trade organization promoting the tradition of sport fishing in Alaska through reasonable regulations for guided recreational anglers and guide businesses and ensuring long-term sustainability of Alaska's fish resources. The Board of Fisheries has responsibility for fishery resource conservation and management that directly impact our industry, so the quality of Board membership is important to us.

We strongly support the appointment of Märit Carlson-Van Dort to a third term on the Board.

SEAGO has had multiple chances to observe and interact with Märit during her capacity on the Board, and we have a good sense of her character and skillsets which are both well suited to Board work. She has been approachable, personable, and has been able to discuss complex fishery resource and management issues with ease. She is hands-on, well prepared for meeting discussions, and well able to pull and synthesize information from department staff and the public to take informed positions.

In our experience, Märit has been principle-based and balanced in her conservation and allocative decision making.

We believe Märit will continue to be a strong asset to the Board of Fisheries in its critical responsibility to maintain Alaska's marine resources and equity between user groups.

Respectfully,



Forrest Braden
Executive Director- SEAGO
forrest@seagoalaska.org



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1700 P STREET NW, SUITE 1000
WASHINGTON, DC 20006

February 12, 2024

FEB 16 2024

Governor Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

We write this letter in support of the reappointment of Märit K. Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's significant contributions to the field of fisheries management and her commitment to public service make her an exceptional candidate for reappointment. We also support of Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's appointment to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC).

Märit's educational background reflect her dedication to advancing her knowledge and expertise in fisheries and public policy, a perfect combination for work on these important bodies that represent Alaskans interests. Her unique interdisciplinary perspective would be invaluable to both the Board of Fisheries and the NPFMC.

Her extensive work experience demonstrates her leadership, strategic vision, and ability to navigate complex stakeholder environments. Additionally, her tenure at the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the Alaska State Legislature displays her deep understanding of regulatory frameworks and legislative processes, which are essential to her potential impact as a member.

Märit's expertise in regional affairs, external relations, and environmental management, as well as her experience in the private and public sectors, position her to contribute effectively to these bodies. Her dedication to collaborative solutions, public leadership, and her previous engagement in the fisheries industry will undoubtedly benefit the Board and the state of Alaska as a whole.

We have had the privilege of watching as Ms. Carlson-Van Dort has navigated tough issues on her recent tenure on Board of Fisheries. We have witnessed firsthand her unwavering commitment to sustainable fisheries management, her collaborative approach to finding innovative solutions, and her ethical leadership in navigating complex policy and regulatory landscapes. She has consistently sought input from diverse stakeholders and has demonstrated a genuine understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing all Alaskans.

Please consider reappointing Märit K. Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and supporting her nomination to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Her qualifications, dedication, and broad expertise are precisely what is needed to ensure the continued success of the Board and to advance the sustainable management of Alaska's fisheries resources.



Thank you for considering our recommendation, and please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Schutt, President & CEO
Doyon, Limited



Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

821 N Street, Suite 103

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

(907) 279-6519 or (888) 927-2732

FAX (907) 258-6688

www.bsfaak.org

January 20, 2024

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

Bering Sea Fishermen's Association (BSFA) serves 128 communities in the Bristol Bay, Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim (BBAYK) regions of Alaska where commercial and subsistence fisheries are vital to the economic and cultural fabric of our lives. Since 1979, BSFA has worked to support healthy and vibrant fishing communities by fostering capacity to access, sustainably develop and protect fisheries in these regions. This work has supported foundational fisheries science and interdisciplinary research, as well as engagement at every level of regional, federal and international fisheries management. BSFA is committed to the sustainable management of Alaska's resources and serves as a steward of the extraordinary ways of life and cultures of Alaskans. We work to strengthen local communities, support long-term ecological integrity, and stimulate robust economies. BSFA provides these comments through the lens of our 45-year history working on behalf of these communities and their holistic priorities of stewardship and prosperity.

We write today to voice our strong support for Märit Carlson-Van Dort's reappointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, where she has served capably and skillfully since her initial appointment in 2019. Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's familiarity with both commercial and subsistence fisheries is an asset for her service as a Board member, allowing her to understand and contextualize testimony from a broad segment of Alaska fishery stakeholders. Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's scientific background supports her effective decision-making on the Board and allows her to effectively communicate between scientists and the Alaskan public.

Most importantly, we feel that Ms. Carlson-Van Dort firmly understands the importance of considering feedback and input from an array of stakeholders across multiple sectors to ensure that the Board's decisions are equitable, thoughtful, and address the core concerns affecting fishery participants in Alaska today.

BSFA is grateful for Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's service to the Alaska Board of Fisheries over the last five years and looks forward to seeing her continue this important work on behalf of all Alaskans. We respectfully urge you to reappoint Ms. Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Amy Sparck
Executive Director

cc: Bering Sea Fishermen's Association Board of Directors



Tanana Chiefs Conference

KUSKOKWIM RIVER
INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION



YUKON RIVER
INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
Office of the Governor
PO Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

February 22nd, 2024

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

The Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Tribal Consortium (AYKTC) represents 98 Alaska Native Tribes across the AYK Region. Our work focuses on advocating for the conservation of the Bering Sea Ecosystem, consideration of Traditional Knowledge in fishery decision-making, and the protection of subsistence opportunity for Tribal citizens and rural communities.

We write today to voice our strong support for Märit Carlson-Van Dort's reappointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, where she has served capably and skillfully since her initial appointment in 2019. Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's familiarity with both commercial and subsistence fisheries is an asset for her service as a Board member, allowing her to understand and contextualize testimony from a broad segment of Alaska fishery stakeholders. Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's scientific background supports her effective decision-making on the Board, and allows her to effectively communicate between scientists and the Alaskan public.

Most importantly, we feel that Ms. Carlson-Van Dort firmly understands the importance of considering feedback and input from an array of stakeholders across multiple sectors in order to ensure that the Board's decisions are equitable, thoughtful, and address the core concerns affecting fishery participants in Alaska today.

The AYK Tribal Consortium is grateful for Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's service to the Alaska Board of Fisheries over the last five years, and looks forward to seeing her continue this important work on behalf of all Alaskans. We respectfully urge you to reappoint Ms. Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, and appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



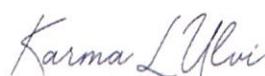
Vivian Korthuis, CEO
Association of Village Council Presidents



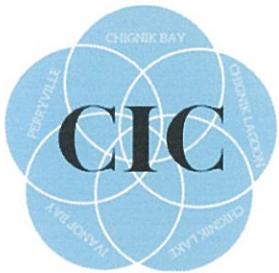
Brian Ridley, Chief/Chairman
Tanana Chiefs Conference



Kevin Whitworth, Executive Director
Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission



Karma Ulvi, Chair
Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission



**CHIGNIK INTERTRIBAL COALITION
427 AIRPORT ROAD
CHIGNIK LAGOON, ALASKA 99565**

February 27, 2024

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

RE: Letter of support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort appointment to NPFMC

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

The Chignik Intertribal Coalition (CIC) is writing to express our support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort to represent Alaskans on one of the seats on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC). We also support her reappointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. We are comprised of the tribes of Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Ivanof Bay and Perryville. Our history is based on subsistence and commercial fishing, and we contribute to the Alaska Board of Fisheries decision-making processes.

Marit Carlson-Van Dort has consistently shown strong leadership in solid, inclusive and thoughtful decisions that most of the public supports during her tenure on the Alaska Board of Fisheries. She understands the fisheries regulatory process and her insights strengthen management and conservation decisions. Marit has a unique professional and personal experience for seeing concerns and offering solutions amidst the challenges and complexities of the state and federal regulatory systems. Her experience with Alaska Native corporations and with tribes across the state brings a breadth and depth unique to the decision-making that affects our tribes. Her Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology from Wisconsin-Madison and her graduate studies in Fisheries Science at the University of Alaska Southeast are highly valuable to apply as decisions are made affecting all Alaskan families.

Marit also makes herself available to the public and is consistently engaged in discussions with all stakeholders in the state and federal fisheries, where crossover regulations affect Alaskans. Her experience and approach to resolving fisheries concerns in the state arena will be a strong asset in federal concerns as well. Marit puts conservation of our fisheries resources first and we believe that is critical to maintain our rich fisheries heritage in state waters, the Bering Sea and in the Gulf of Alaska.

We strongly encourage you to consider our recommendations for her appointment to the NPFMC and again to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Her clear voice for Alaskans will help maintain our fisheries economy and our coastal communities that heavily rely on income and jobs in the fishing industry. Thank you for your consideration of our endorsement of Marit Carlson-Van Dort.

Respectfully yours,

George Anderson, President,
Chignik Intertribal Coalition



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ALASKA STATE GOVERNMENT

FEB 20 2024

February 9, 2024

Governor Mike Dunleavy
Office of Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the 38 tribes of the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. We are in strong support of the reappointment of Märit K. Carlson – Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Ms. Carlson- Van Dort has shown outstanding leadership in this role and is very versed in Fisheries Management.

The YRITFC Fish Commission would also like to support Ms. Carlson- Van Dort's appointment to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC).

Märit has excellent leadership, extensive education background and expertise in fisheries and public policy.

Ms. Carlson-Van Dort has an outstanding education background and extensive work history that makes her able to thrive in these complex meetings and systems. Her past employment with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the Alaska State Legislature has helped her to navigate the legislative and regulation processes and implement that in the Fisheries Management Process.

We have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Carlson -Van Dort and watched as she tackled tough issues as the Chair of the Board of Fish. She maintains a professional demeanor and has an overwhelming commitment to sustainable fisheries management. She works with people from many diverse backgrounds and tries to find solutions to challenging issues facing our Alaskan Fisheries.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the reappointment of Märit K. Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and her nomination to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Her qualifications, dedication and broad expertise are exactly what is needed to ensure the success



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Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
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122 1ST Ave. Suite 600
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907-452-8251

of the Board of Fish and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and to advance the sustainable Management of Alaska's fisheries resources.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Karma L. Ulvi
Chair
Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.



CURYUNG TRIBAL COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 2024-02

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MARIT CARLSON-VAN DORT TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES AND APPOINTMENT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The Curyung Tribal Council (herein the “Curyung Tribe”) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe listed in the Secretary of the Interior’s annual list of federally recognized Tribes issued in accordance with the Federally Recognized Indian Tribes List Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-454, see 88 Fed. Reg. 2112, 2115 (Jan. 12, 2023), and

WHEREAS, The Curyung Tribal Council is the federally recognized Tribe for the community of Dillingham, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Curyung Tribal Council is to serve tribal members, to preserve our culture values, to protect our sovereign and inherent rights and to promote our social, economic, and political progress; and,

WHEREAS, Märit Carlson-Van Dort is Sugpiaq from the village of Chignik Bay. She was born in Alaska and raised in Southeast Alaska and the southern Alaska Peninsula where she commercial fished for nearly fifteen years. Märit has a Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduate work in Fisheries Science and Secondary Education. Märit has spent the past several years working in both the public and private sectors in public and government affairs with an emphasis on state and federal regulation, environmental policy, permitting, resource development, and community outreach and engagement; and,

WHEREAS, Fisheries are the lifeblood and foundation of the culture of the people Bristol Bay and specifically the federally recognized tribe of Curyung Tribal Council and its members.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Curyung Tribal Council hereby supports the appointment of Märit Carlson-Van Dort to both the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

CERTIFICATION: This resolution was duly considered for authorization at a meeting of the Curyung Tribal Council in Dillingham, Alaska on this 13th day of February 2024, at which a quorum of Council members were in attendance.

ATTEST:

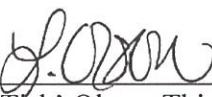


Gayla Hoseth, First Chief
Curyung Tribal Council

13 February 2024

Date

Attest:



Laetita “Tish” Olson, Third Chief

13 February 2024

Date

Kristina Andrew
P.O. Box 1098 Dillingham AK 99576
Kristina1314@hotmail.com

March 13, 2024

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

RE: Letter of support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort appointment to NPFMC

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

I am writing to express my support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort to represent Alaskans on one of the seats on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC). I also support her reappointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. The Bristol Bay Region has a long history of practicing subsistence and commercial fishing and have actively contributed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries decision-making processes.

Marit places conservation of our fisheries resources first and I believe it is critical to maintain our rich fisheries heritage in state waters, the Bering Sea and in the Gulf of Alaska. Her Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation Biology from Wisconsin-Madison and her graduate studies in Fisheries Science at the University of Alaska, Southeast are highly valuable to apply as decisions are made affecting Alaskans.

Marit has a unique professional and personal experience for seeing concerns and offering solutions amidst the challenges and complexities of the state and federal regulatory systems. She has consistently shown strong leadership in solid, inclusive and thoughtful decisions that most of the public supports during her tenure on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Her experience with Alaska Native corporations and with tribes across the state brings a breadth and depth unique to the decision-making that affects our people. Marit also makes herself available to the public and is consistently engaged in discussions with all stakeholders in the state and federal fisheries, where crossover regulations affect Alaskans. Her experience and approach to resolving fisheries concerns in the state arena will be a strong asset in federal concerns as well.

I strongly encourage you to consider my recommendations for her appointment to the NPFMC and again to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Her strong voice for Alaskans will help maintain our fisheries economy and our coastal communities that heavily rely on income and jobs in the fishing industry.

Thank you for your consideration of our endorsement of Marit Carlson-Van Dort.

Respectfully yours,

Kristina Andrew

Kristina Andrew
Lifelong Alaskan
Curyung Tribal Citizen
Commercial Fisher in Bristol Bay

Mark A. McNeley
9998 Nelson Lagoon Rd.
Nelson Lagoon, Alaska 99571
989-4070 mr.mcneley@gmail.com

February 13, 2024

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

RE: Letter of support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort appointment to NPFMC and BOF

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

We are writing to express our support for Marit Carlson-Van Dort to represent Alaskans on one of the seats on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC). We also support her reappointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Our members have a long history of practicing subsistence and commercial fishing and have actively contributed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries decision-making processes.

Marit places conservation of our fisheries resources first and we believe it is critical to maintain our rich fisheries heritage in state waters, the Bering Sea and in the Gulf of Alaska. Her Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation Biology from Wisconsin-Madison and her graduate studies in Fisheries Science at the University of Alaska, Southeast are highly valuable to apply as decisions are made affecting Alaskans.

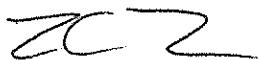
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Her experience with Alaska Native corporations and with tribes across the state brings a breadth and depth unique to the decision-making that affects our people. Marit also makes herself available to the public and is consistently engaged in discussions with all stakeholders in the state and federal fisheries, where crossover regulations affect Alaskans. Her experience and approach to resolving fisheries concerns in the state arena will be a strong asset in federal concerns as well.

We strongly encourage you to consider our recommendations for her appointment to the NPFMC and again to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Her strong voice for Alaskans will help maintain our fisheries economy and our coastal communities that heavily rely on income and jobs in the fishing industry. Thank you for your consideration of our endorsement of Marit Carlson-Van Dort.

Respectfully yours,



Mark A. McNeley

Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

P.O. Box 1464 • Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • (907) 842-4370 • Fax (907) 842-4336 • 1-800-478-4370



April 10, 2024

Alaska State Legislature
120 4th St., State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Support For the Reappointment of Märit Carlson-Van Dort to The Alaska Board of Fisheries

To whom it may concern,

The Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC) would like to offer its support for the reappointment of Märit Carlson-Van Dort to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

BBEDC was created under the Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program in 1992 and our purpose is to promote economic growth and opportunities for residents of our 17 member communities.

Since Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's appointment and confirmation by the legislature in 2019, she has proven to be an exceptional Board Member. She has shown an ability to understand complex, often contentious regulatory issues and an aptitude for working with stakeholders from all user groups. This was prevalent during her time as the Board Chair and continues to be today. I believe Ms. Carlson-Van Dort's experience, background, and knowledge of the regulatory process will be an asset to the Alaska Board of Fisheries should she be confirmed by the legislature.

The marine environments in Alaska are rapidly changing and these changes are unprecedented. It is essential for the board to have experienced members like Ms. Carlson-Van Dort, who have already served on the board, to help the board comprehend how these changes are impacting the marine resource populations in the State, and to devise management strategies that can ensure sustainable yields of these resources over time.

We again express our support for Ms. Carlson-Van Dort and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael Link
President/CEO