



Alaska Trollers Association

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March 31, 2018

Alaska Legislature
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Legislators:

The Alaska Trollers Association supports confirmation of Orville Huntington's re-appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board).

ATA represents commercial hook and line salmon fishermen who fish in state and federal waters off Alaska's coast and deliver fine quality seafood to market. The troll fleet is the largest resident fleet in the state. There are nearly 2,000 permits, with about half fished each year. The troll fleet is 86% resident; nearly one of every 40 people in the Southeast region works on a troll boat.

Mr. Huntington brings to the Board process a wealth of personal and professional knowledge. As a resident of the rural community of Huslia, he knows well the importance of every type of harvest, from subsistence to commercial. His biological background has noticeably guided his decision process.

During his tenure on the Board, Orville has had an opportunity to learn and make decisions about diverse fisheries from across the state - no easy task! During the Southeast meetings we have found him to be attentive to the needs of both the resource and the public and a thoughtful decision-maker. He is obviously a quiet man, but he carefully adheres to his duties as a board member and works to build the record of decision. When he has something to say, it is meaningful. We look forward to working with him in future years.

ATA believes that Mr. Huntington is doing a fine job on the Board of Fisheries and is the type of individual that the state should encourage to serve in this important forum. We urge you to vote to confirm Orville Huntington.

Best Regards,

Steve Merritt

President