



Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

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April 14, 2025

Co-Chair Representative Robyn Niayuq Burke
Co-Chair Representative Maxine Dilbert
House Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 216
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: Supporting Thomas Carpenter's Reappointment to Alaska's Board of Fisheries

Dear Co-chairs Burke, and Dilbert and Members of the House Resources Committee,

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFA) strongly supports Thomas (Tom) Carpenter for reappointment to the Board of Fish. SEAFA is a multi-gear/multi species small boat commercial fisheries non-profit association representing our 300+ members involved in salmon, crab, shrimp and longline fisheries primarily in Southeast Alaska.

Tom has the experience and passion for Alaska's fisheries as well as understanding the need to protect the sustainability of our fishery resources that makes a good board member. He is very approachable and connected well with our members at the Board of Fish meeting, being knowledgeable of commercial fishing where he was able to understand the nuances of a proposal and experience of having lived in a rural coastal area matched up well with the residents of Southeast Alaska.

Tom's background of owning a sporting goods business, being in the Coast Guard, commercial fishing and service on both local and regional fishery boards helps provide an ability to understand the sport side of fishing as well as commercial fishing.

Tom served on the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council to the Federal Subsistence Board for 15 years, five of which as Vice Chair. He also served on the Copper River/ Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee for over 22 years and was awarded the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Excellence in Service Award in 2020 for his ability to connect with diverse user groups and his approachability.

SEAFA particularly appreciated Tom's record building on each and every proposal. So, even if you didn't agree with him, you could understand why he made the decision he made as well as helping educate other board members on proposals/fisheries they were less familiar with. He is respected amongst fishery professionals around the State and follows the science but also relies on his experience and background to ground truth this information. By his leadership in putting his thoughts on the record, other board members would follow suit.

Tom's diversity of experience bringing an understanding of rural coastal community dynamics, commercial, sport and subsistence knowledge make Tom an excellent choice for reappointment to the Board of Fisheries and we strongly support his appointment to a second term on the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Hansen', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathy Hansen
Executive Director