



Healthy Communities, Through a Healthy Watershed

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

Jordan Shilling
Office of the Governor
Director Alaska Boards and Commissions
550 W 7th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-7450

RE: Letter of Support for Olivia Henaayee Irwin's Nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

Tanana Valley Watershed Association (TVWA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit whose mission is to promote and improve the health of the watershed through education, restoration, collaborative research and diverse community involvement. TVWA has been involved with salmon habitat and education projects throughout the Tanana River drainage – the main Chinook salmon producing tributary of the Yukon River on the Alaskan side of the border.

TVWA would like to express our strong support for the nomination of Olivia Henaayee Irwin to serve on the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). Olivia brings a perspective rooted in and informed by the range of interests represented across the Yukon River basin. The Yukon is vast, making it hard to accurately know the particular fisheries issues of communities throughout the region. Olivia is from multiple places on the Yukon, having family ties and lived experience on the Upper, Middle and Lower Yukon. Olivia's understanding and awareness will help inform and be of direct benefit to the BOF.

Such perspectives will be all the more important as the region begins the seven year moratorium on fishing for Chinook. TVWA is enthusiastic to support Olivia's appointment, her knowledge and judgment will be an invaluable asset to the BOF.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cory Whiteley".

Cory Whiteley, M.SEM
Executive Director
Tanana Valley Watershed Association