



KUSKOKWIM RIVER

INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

OUR RIVER, OUR PEOPLE, OUR FISH

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April 11, 2022

Senator Joshua Revak
Chair, Alaska Senate Resources Committee
Senate.Resources@akleg.gov

Subject: KRITFC Public Testimony on Governor's BOF/BOG Appointments – Senate Resources Committee

Dear Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am Kevin Whitworth, Interim Executive Director of the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC), which represents the fishing interests of 33 federally recognized Tribes located in western Alaska. My public comments regarding Governor Dunleavy's Board of Fish appointments, whom the Senate is confirming today, are as follows:

- **KRITFC does not support the confirmation of Thomas Carpenter to the Board of Fish (Board).**
- The membership of the Board will lean heavily toward commercial fishing with Mr. Carpenter's appointment. There is little to no subsistence representation on the Board, despite the State claiming to uphold subsistence fishing as its highest priority.
- Subsistence fishermen at terminal fisheries on the Kuskokwim, as well as the Yukon, Norton Sound, and Chignik rivers, are affected by commercial intercept fisheries in Area M that are managed by the Board. Our subsistence fishermen will be hurt with Mr. Carpenter's pro-commercial influence on the Board.
- Mr. Carpenter is an advocate of hatchery production in Prince William Sound. At a time when we are worried about hatchery production and the effects of hatchery fish on wild salmon stocks, we do not need more support for hatcheries on the Board.

That is all. Thank you, Mr. Chair and members of the Committee.

Respectfully,

Kevin Whitworth
Interim Executive Director, KRITFC