

My name is William S. "Bill" Brown, and I live in Juneau. I have lived in Alaska for 20 years, am single, and have no children.

I have served on the Board of Fish for one three year term. The main reason I would like to be confirmed for a second term is the same reason I applied in the first place: I want to help preserve our fishery resources for our children, grandchildren, and their children. Managed correctly, our fish will last forever; but only if ~~they are~~ managed ~~correctly~~ correctly.

I think I bring two things to the Board of Fish. First, my degree in economics -- I hold a doctorate in economics and spent over 20 years teaching college before I retired in 2000 -- provided training in statistical methods, population dynamics, and the economic rationale for fishery regulation. My background in statistics proved especially valuable in my first term on the Board because it enabled me to understand and analyze the models used to estimate optimal sustained yield and other key parameters important in designing regulations. Second, my training in economics also helps me understand and calculate the economic impact of various fisheries around the state. Biology matters and social issues matter. But so does economic impact.

My first term on the Board was not uneventful, not by a long shot. I didn't have a clue as to how much work was involved; for example, we had 8000 pages of reading material for the Upper Cook Inlet meeting. And as a member of the Board, I had to make tough decisions, many of which were unpopular in some circles. And while few were bashful in telling me just how much they disliked a particular decision, I know that my votes were the product of logic and careful consideration. I take the Board seriously, I recognized the importance, and I want to improve our fisheries.