

John E. Jensen
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I, John E. Jensen, was born into a Norwegian fishing family in Petersburg, Alaska in [REDACTED]. My commercial fishing career began in earnest in the summer of 1965 while long-lining for halibut in the Gulf of Alaska. Following graduation from Petersburg High School in 1969, my fishing opportunities quickly expanded from salmon seining in Southeast Alaska to the empire building years of red king and tanner crab fishing in the Bering Sea and the Aleutians.

In 1971, I attended college for two years, followed by the purchase of the first of five commercial fishing vessels. In 1972, I married my wife, Pam, and we have two sons, both are now fourth generation commercial fishermen.

During my forty-nine adventurous years at sea, I have participated in seven different regions and over twenty fisheries all across Alaska. I have gained an in-depth knowledge and a wealth of experience, in commercial fishing in all of the following areas, fisheries and gear types:

Salmon: Southeast, Bristol Bay, and the Alaska Peninsula; gillnet and seine.

Herring: Southeast, Bristol Bay, Cook Inlet, Norton Sound; gillnet, roe on kelp, and seine.

Tanner Crab: Southeast, Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea/Aleutians

Red King Crab: Southeast, Bering Sea/Aleutians

Brown King Crab: Southeast

Halibut & Black Cod: Southeast, Gulf of Alaska

Dungeness Crab: Southeast

I attended Merchant Marine Training Services and acquired my Master 100 GT and Assistance Towing license. When not commercial fishing I have skippered numerous 75' - 135' vessels for fish tendering in various fisheries and areas of Alaska.

A serious interest in fish politics began with serving on the Petersburg Fish & Game Advisory Committee in the 1970's. In 2002, I eagerly accepted an appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and have completed four terms. As a member of the Board of Fisheries I have served on many liaison committees: Red King and Tanner Task Force, Petersburg Sea Otter Work Group, Joint Protocol, Salmon Restructuring Panel and the State Waters Pollock Committee; just to name a few.

Other life-long interests include raising my family, hunting and sport fishing, wood-working and building construction, an avid reader-especially Alaskan history, and travel.

I have assumed an active role in a variety of other local, public service positions:

Petersburg Planning and Zoning Commission - member

Petersburg City Council – Member

Thomas Bay Power Authority - board member

Southeast Alaska Power Authority – board member

In my semi-retirement years, I now own and operate a small skiff rental business in Petersburg. We provide clients with skiffs to take part in local, self-guided, sport fishing and hunting, camping, wild-life and glacier viewing expeditions. I am still active in the Southeast fisheries of halibut and tanner crab.

My primary goal in serving on the Alaska Board of Fisheries has been and would continue to be, working effectively to help maintain sustainable fish populations for all Alaskans.



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