

TO: The Fisheries committee

From: Ken Federico, Chair of the South Central Alaska Dipnetters association.

Dear Mr. Chairman and members,

I am writing to you to voice my concern on one of the two standing members looking to get re-appointed to the BOF.

Tom Klubertson has been pretty impartial on his first term on the BOF. Thank you Tom.

My concern is with Vince Webster. Vince has served 2,3 year terms on the board and I believe it is time for some fresh blood. My reasoning behind this is concerning RC 75 and RC88 from the most recent BOF meetings held here in Anchorage last month. Those RC's were in relation to the Kenai River return of King Salmon.

RC 75 went through the public hearing process concerning all parties sharing in either the pain or abundance of the returning King salmon to the Kenai. Only after public testimony ended did Mr Webster submit RC 88. I believe it was submitted on March 21 if I am not mistaken. What Mr. Webster submitted was cut out retention of King Salmon for dipnetters only, when the Fish and Game department estimated escapement at 30,000 kings. That is not retention, mind you but escapement. Historically, that is a pretty good escapement number for the second run of kings.

No other use group had to give up anything. I believe Mr. Webster abused his position by waiting until after public testimony to submit RC 88.

FYI, dipnetters on the Kenai take an average of 875 kings a year. Not much of a take if you ask me. I am the first to urge Fish and Game, in season, when the king run is low, like last year, to stop retention of Kings by dippers. All members of the public should do their part for the resource in times of need.

That is why myself and 98 percent of my membership, 225 at last count, would like another member of the public to serve, instead of Mr. Webster.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ken Federico, SCADA