



100 Trading Bay #1, PO Box 586 Kenai, AK 99611
907.929.0388

accrabak@earthlink.net
www.aksalmonalliance.org

February 1, 2015

The Honorable Bill Walker
Governor of Alaska
Office of Boards and Commissions
550 West 7th Avenue #1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
boards@alaska.gov

Dear Governor Walker:

The Alaska Salmon Alliance representing seafood processors and fishermen of the Kenai Peninsula wishes to provide a recommendation for Roland Maw, the Governor's recommendation for the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Roland Maw has a significant scientific and management related background in fisheries and wildlife and forestry, not only in Alaska, but Montana and Alberta. As evidenced in his career resume, Roland has a firm belief in science-based resource management. Although Roland has a lengthy tenure as a Cook Inlet commercial fisherman and the Executive Director of the United Cook Inlet Drifters Association (UCIDA), I can assure you, as someone who has known Roland for over twenty years, he is also known for objectivity, and sincere appreciation and recognition of the importance of sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries to residents of Alaska.

Roland and UCIDA have been involved in decades of contentious Board of Fisheries deliberations focused on Cook Inlet allocative and conservation related issues, that are routinely mischaracterized to demonize him and UCIDA, and other commercial fishing organizations. What has been lost in the noise of the debate is that Roland has demonstrated diverse knowledge on fisheries and the ability to work with diverse interests on complex fisheries issues. To summarize, Roland is greatly underappreciated due to rumors and innuendo about the goals and objectives of UCIDA. Much needed clarifications on these goals and objectives will be provided during the course of confirmation proceedings.

Sincerely,

Arni Thomson, Executive Director

cc: Alaska State Legislature, House and Senate Resources Committees