

Sen. Chris Birch

From: Marybeth Holleman <marybeth.holleman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 7:09 PM
To: Sen. Chris Birch; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Lora Reinbold; Sen. Scott Kawasaki; Sen. Jesse Kiehl
Subject: Doug Vincent-Lang

Senators:

I urge you to deny confirmation of Doug Vincent-Lang for Commissioner of Fish and Game. Instead, I urge you to ask the Governor to appoint someone who represents more than just the hunter/trapper industry. Vincent-Lang has a long history of completely ignoring any other value of wildlife beyond the hunting industry. He does not understand, much less support, the concept of watchable wildlife, and therefore does not represent, but in fact opposes, the increasing number of Alaskans whose primary interest in wildlife--whether prey or predator--is in viewing and photographing them. His recent appointments make it clear who he represents: Safari Club International, the Alaska Outdoor Council, and the National Rifle Association: all organizations that exist for those for whom wildlife is something to shoot at.

I know that many of you, Senators, receive awards and funding from Safari Club International and NRA. I know that many of you, as Senators and Representatives, have failed to support watchable wildlife bills such as the Denali Buffer Bill. And I know that many of you are like Vincent-Lang: you do not understand nor support watchable wildlife interests. You may say you do, but your actions have made clear otherwise. So I surmise my words are falling on deaf ears, and that the chances of you denying Vincent-Lang's confirmation are slim to none. However: you are charged by the Alaska Constitution with representing all Alaskans, not special interest groups. And I'm an Alaskan. And the number of Alaskans who like their wildlife alive, not dead, is growing.

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