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April 10, 2019

**Senate Resources Committee**

Senator Chris Birch, Chair  
Senator John Coghill, Vice-Chair  
Senator Cathy Giessel  
Senator Lora Reinbold  
Senator Click Bishop  
Senator Scott Kawasaki  
Senator Jesse Kiehl

Sent Via Electronic Mail to Committee Staff

**RE: Supporting confirmation of Gerad Godfrey to the Board of Fisheries**

Dear Chair Birch and Members of the Senate Resources Committee:

Afognak Native Corporation represents Shareholders living in Port Lions village and the City of Kodiak, both small, coastal communities within the Kodiak Archipelago, among 1,100 Shareholders. Afognak has been able to provide strong economic and advocacy support to our Shareholder communities as the 7<sup>th</sup> largest revenue producing private corporation in the State of Alaska.

We appreciate the opportunity to recommend Gerad Godfrey for confirmation in his appointment by Governor Dunleavy to the Board of Fisheries. The Board of Fisheries and its decisions on fisheries management and allocation can have and has had tremendous impact on our communities. It is critical for the sustainability and viability of our Kodiak Island's village communities that Board of Fisheries members recognize and understand the impact decisions have on these small, coastal, fishery-dependent communities. Afognak Native Corporation supports Gerad's appointment as it reinforces the importance of keeping these seats with those who will represent the interests of community-based, Alaskan, small boat fishermen.

Gerad is familiar with the Board of Fisheries process and has testified numerous times on various fisheries issues before both the Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. He is well versed in fisheries issues, has a wide network of friends and associates involved in fisheries throughout the state, and is willing to commit the time necessary to be an effective member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

As you review appointments to the Board of Fisheries, I believe you will find that Gerad's background participating in subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries makes him an appropriate candidate. Afognak encourages you to confirm Gerad Godfrey to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Alisha Drabek, PhD  
Executive Vice President