



Alaska Trollers Association

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April 7, 2021

Alaska State Legislature
House Resources Committee
House Special Committee on Fisheries
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811

Re: Board of Fisheries confirmation

Dear House Resources and Fisheries Committee Members,

Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) represents the many power and hand trollers throughout Southeast Alaska, and up to and including Yakutat. We are high-quality-per-fish operations - bringing aboard one salmon at a time - and a major economic contributor in this region since our permit holders are 85% Alaska resident. Our fishery supports many Alaskan families who reside in small towns and villages where there are few livelihood alternatives. Troll data at ADFG dates back to 1911 and ATA has been in existence since 1924.

We were initially hesitant to weigh in on your Board of Fisheries (Board) confirmation hearings. ATA has a handful of issues upcoming in 8 months before the Board and our voiced opinion adds to the weight in an already over-politicized Board confirmation process. Ideally, political input and pressures would be minimized, leaving the Board members to focus on conducting their business on behalf of the State of Alaska with full attention on the resource. Since that is an apparently naïve, we offer the following:

ATA is in support of confirming all of the individuals before the Legislature this year **with the exception of Marit Carlson-Van Dort**, as similarly voiced by UFA on this matter. The remaining four individuals we hereby endorse as they all show capacity for healthy discussion and a balanced perspective, we believe. **Please confirm McKenzie Mitchell, John Wood, John Jensen and Abe Williams for the Alaska Board of Fisheries.**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Daugherty'.

Amy Daugherty
Executive Director