

Area M Seiners Association
P.O. Box 324
Sand Point, AK 99661

April 7, 2021

Representative Geran Tarr, Chair House Fisheries
State Capital Room 126
Juneau, AK 99801

Representative Josiah Patkotak, Chair House Resources
State Capital Room 102
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Opposition Marit Carlson-Van Dort Alaska Board of Fish

Dear Members of the House Fisheries and House Resource Committees,

The Area M Seiners Association strongly opposes the appointment of Marit Carlson-Can Dort to the Alaska Board of Fish.

During her time on the Board, Ms. Carlson-Van Dort has significantly leaned towards the sport fish sector. She has voted against proposals that could benefit commercial fisherman. In 2019, she voted to support proposals that solely benefitted Chignik commercial fishermen. We believe that there is a conflict of interest; she sided with the local Corporation, of which she is president, as well as having a family member transfer a permit so that she would not “technically” have an economic conflict of interest.

Given the board make up at this time, we believe that the board currently is unbalanced and leans toward the Anchorage area as well as sports fishing, leaving commercial fishermen unrepresented.

Sincerely,

Kiley Thompson
President