

**Senate Resources**

Board of Fisheries-Gov Appointees

Letters of Opposition to Abe Williams

[printed 5.7.21]

Ron Petty	Don Shaw
Dorothy O'Donnell	Robert Hartley
Acacia Johnson	Adam Cuthriell
Kathryn Dunagan	Talia Lawrence
Glen Zeeck	Carol Hazeltine
Kate Crump	Lin Davis
Aimee Chartrand	Michael Chartrand
Glenna Gannon	Cory Whiteley
John Bennis	Dwight DeNise
Dave Atcheson	Charlie Johnson
Tom Lakosh	Heather Bauscher
Tonia Blummer	Deborah Tennyson
Stephanie Sanderlin	Nelli Williams
Alexander Tallekpalek	Valerie Massie

For questions contact Betty Tangeman  
Senator Revak's Office  
465-3879

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** RON PETTY <rd\_cgpetty@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 2:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Opposition to appointment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I feel Abe Williams has a conflict of interest, or rather NOT thinking of our fisheries, he is a mouth piece for Pebble mine. Has no business on our fisheries board.

Charlene Petty

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** don shaw <shawmanseafoods@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** My public comment: I vote to oppose Abe Williams' confirmation to the state Board of Fisheries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Categories:** Blue Category

Dear Senate Resources Committee,

My name is Donald Shaw. I live in Alaska, have been a registered voter and involved in Alaska's commercial fishing industry for the last 43 years. As a litigate in the Exxon Valdez oil spill I personally know the heartless and uncaring corruption Alaska is. Alaska is so corrupt it has its own Wikipedia page! [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska\\_political\\_corruption\\_probe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska_political_corruption_probe)

Alaska now has a governor who is so in favor of Pebble Mine he has nominated Abe Williams to the state Board of Fisheries to fill a seat traditionally held by a Bristol Bay resident. This further reduces rural representation in state fisheries management decisions. As I understand, Mr. Williams is the Pebble Limited Partnership's director of regional affairs, and has been an ardent champion of the Pebble project for a decade. This is a very gross and alarming conflict of interest!!!

We, the public, have been fighting to protect the Worlds greatest recurring source of protein for years and the 10's of thousands of lives from all over that each year depend on the harvest.

The Abe Williams nomination by Governor Dunleavy has the stench of corruption and should be denied.

Thank You,

Donald Shaw

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Dorothy O'Donnell <dorothy.odonnell.ak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 3:40 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Oppose Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Fisheries Committee Members,

My name is Dorothy O'Donnell, an Indigenous resident of Fairbanks.

I strongly oppose the appointment of Abe William's to the Board of Fisheries. As a Pebble Limited Partnership employee, he has a biased investment in a place he does not reside. We need valuable representation from Natives and residents of Bristol Bay on the Board, who consider not only the salmon, but the people, cultures, and environment as the greatest investment.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dorothy O'Donnell

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Robert Hartley <rg.hartley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 3:51 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Abe Williams Board of Fish Nomination Testimony

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

My name is Rob Hartley. I am an Anchorage resident, an ex Cook Inlet Drift fisherman of about 10 years, an avid sports fisherman, and most recently a Commercial Shrimp and Black Cod fisherman in Prince William Sound. Right now I am in Homer, Alaska, preparing for the Homer Winter King Salmon Tournament tomorrow.

It is stunning and completely inappropriate that Abe Williams has been nominated to the Fish Board. He is a current employee of the Pebble Partnership, so this is akin to placing a fox inside of a henhouse and then asking that fox to guard the hens. Another analogy would be placing a shark inside a fish tank and asking it to guard the fish. Completely illogical and inappropriate.

A Fish Board Nominee needs to have knowledge of fisheries and a background that suggests he will have an objective viewpoint. Management of fish is crucial to thousands of Alaskans and visitors from Outside. The conflict demonstrated here is completely unacceptable!

This governor has made several similar decisions, all of which are detrimental to the state of Alaska.

Please do whatever is necessary to stop this nominee from progressing any further in this process.

Thanks for taking this as my testimony.

Sincerely,

Rob Hartley

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Acacia Johnson <acacia.johnson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 4:23 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Regarding Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To whom it may concern,

My name is Acacia Johnson, I am a born-and-raised Alaskan and professional photographer who over the years has interviewed numerous Bristol Bay residents regarding their stance on the proposed Pebble Mine.

I am writing today to share my concern over the appointment of Abe Williams to the Alaska Board of Fish. I feel strongly that his role with the Pebble Limited Partnership is a conflict of interest, and that his appointment during a time when the Legislature cannot safely meet to take public comment is unethical at best.

Despite being a commercial fisherman, Abe Williams has long worked for Pebble Mine, which advanced a mine plan against the wishes and best interests of 80% of the people who live in the Bristol Bay region. Williams has even sued his fellow commercial fishermen because he disagreed with their opposition to the Pebble Mine.

A Pebble employee cannot serve on a board whose task is overseeing state fisheries management without obvious bias. We can't trust Abe Williams to make sound decisions for Bristol Bay and we should question his approach to other areas of the state where resource development threatens critical fisheries.

The job of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries. A Pebble employee has no place there. I urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

The Bristol Bay salmon fishery is one of Alaska's greatest treasures that sustains a tremendous part of our local economy, and will continue to do so for generations to come if the area is permanently protected. Please take the views and opinions of Bristol Bay residents into consideration and reject his nomination.

Thank you for your time, and kind regards,

Acacia Johnson

Website: [acaciajohnson.com](http://acaciajohnson.com)  
Instagram: [@acacia.johnson](https://www.instagram.com/acacia.johnson)

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Adam Cuthriell <fishhoundexp@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 5:22 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** My opposition to Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To whom it may concern,

My name is Adam Cuthriell I own a guide service named FishHound Expeditions. This email is being written to express my extreme concern and disappointment that our state would allow someone like Abe Williams to sit on the board of fisheries. Mr. Williams sits on pebble mine's board this is a direct contradiction and conflict of interest in everything that the board of fisheries should stand for. As a business owner, an Alaskan, and a father this man being on the board of fish directly creates conflict of interest and sets a precedent that would harm our state and future governing bodies. Mr. Williams needs to be removed as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
Adam Cuthriell  
FishHound Expeditions  
907-382-1802

Sent from my iPhone

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Kathryn Dunagan <kathryn.dun@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 6:19 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Board of Fisheries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

A mining executive does not belong on the state Board of Fisheries! Considering his position as a former Pebble employee, this is an alarming conflict of interest, and Mr Williams needs to be removed from the Board of Fisheries immediately!

This appointment also reduces rural representation in state fisheries management decisions by handing the seat traditionally held by a Bristol Bay resident over to an Anchorage resident. Thank you for listening and acting on this  
Kathryn Dunagan

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*"You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late." - Ralph Waldo Emerson*



## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** tslawrence24@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Talia Lawrence <tslawrence24@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 1:03 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Talia Lawrence  
4501 SW 100th St Seattle, WA 98146-1056 tslawrence24@gmail.com

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** gzeeck@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Glen Zeeck  
<gzeeck@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 3:21 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Glen Zeeck  
6 Laurel Woods Dr Blairstown, NJ 07825-2404 gzeeck@yahoo.com

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Carol Hazeltine <cbhazeltine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 9:53 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Legislators,

I am adamantly apposed to the selection of Abe Williams for the board position on the board of fish. There could not be a more obvious conflict of interest to appoint a former Pebble employee to this post. He has proven that he will continue to promote this toxic mine despite its severe costs to our fisheries and communities in Bristol Bay.

Protect our fisheries and this very important ecosystem by appointing people who value our natural environment !

Sincerely, Carol Hazeltine

3200 Staysail Dr

Anchorage, Alaska 99516

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Kate Crump! <kalamityk8@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 3:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Oppose Abe Williams for the Board of Fisheries

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Senate Resource committee members,

My name is Kate Crump and I am a Bristol Bay business owner, Frigate Adventure Travel. Having built my business around the healthy fishery, I depend on this resource being sustained to support myself and contribute to Alaska's regional sportfishing and hunting economy.

I am writing today to oppose the nomination of Abe Williams to the Board of Fisheries. His employment with the Pebble Limited Partnership shows a clear conflict of interest with a position that is intended to oversee the management of the state's fisheries. His support of a project that was incompatible with science, local economies and opposed by the overwhelming majority of the Bristol Bay region (as well as Alaskans statewide) shows that he is out of touch with priorities for the future of our fisheries.

On behalf of my business and the Bristol Bay fishery, I urge committee members to vote against the confirmation of Abe Williams to the Board of Fisheries, and request the Governor put forward a new nominee.

Thank you,

**Kate Crump**  
**[Frigate Adventure Travel](#)**  
**541.743.1273**

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Lin Davis <molin@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 10:38 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Board of Fish Concerns

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Senators:

An important cornerstone of our Alaskan democracy is the operation of state boards with their Governor-appointed members. Our state constitution mandates this board mirrors the different fish interests of our state.

The current Governor-appointees to the Board of Fish do not meet this constitutional mandate. Too many sport fishery interests and no subsistence members.

There is no balance on the BOF. All appointees reside in a tiny section of the state, from Anchorage to Willow. Our Coastal and very rural subsistence interests must have seats at the table.

Our wisest statewide decisions regarding fishing will not come from this 50 mile geographic circle.

Additionally one appointee works for Pebble Mine interests. International mining interests absolutely do not belong on the BOF. This is deliberate board stacking and highly undemocratic. Blatantly wrong. Unbelievable example of cronyism which harms all of us Alaskans.

This Board of Fish is SO contrived and unbalanced. Certain select business interests are allowed to sit at the table, and this is not fair or constitutional.

Thank you for considering these points,

Lin Davis  
3099 Nowell Ave  
Juneau 99801

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** ajchartrand@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Aimee Chartrand  
<ajchartrand@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 10:01 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Aimee Chartrand  
12500 E Norman Ave Palmer, AK 99645-9438 ajchartrand@mtaonline.net

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** machartrand@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of G Michael Chartrand  
<machartrand@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 10:02 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
G Michael Chartrand  
12500 E Norman Ave Palmer, AK 99645-9438 machartrand@mtaonline.net

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Glenna Gannon <glennagannon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 8:47 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Although I missed the call in public testimony period yesterday I'd like submit my testimony regarding Abe Williams being pointed to the Alaska BOF.

**Mr. Williams being nominated to the BOF is an absolute absurdity. It would be a complete abjuration of your duty as a public servant to confirm a Pebble Mine administrator to serve on the BOF, with the ability to sway fisheries management decisions and regulations in order to support one mining project that has received widespread opposition from Alaskans and been denied permitting by the Army Corps of Engineers.**

**Mr. Williams' role at Pebble is an alarming conflict of interest, and he has proven that he will continue to promote this toxic mine despite its severe costs to our fisheries and the communities in Bristol Bay. Williams on the BOF is bad for Alaska's fish stocks, bad for Alaska's economy, and bad politics. DO NOT CONFIRM ABE WILLIAMS TO THE ALASKA BOF.**

Sincerely,  
Glenna Gannon MES.c



## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Cory Whiteley <cory.whiteley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 17, 2021 8:58 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Reject Abe Williams

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

This should not have to be said: Employment with Pebble Mine or State of Alaska. To confirm this appointment makes a mockery of public service and signals that you are willing to overlook clear conflicts of interest. One of the most contentious issues in our State's recent history has been the Pebble Mine, there are many options to fill this seat that do not exacerbate this tension. I would expect you to reject this nomination.

**Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** John Bennis <jdddjr@hughes.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 1:35 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** State board of Fish appointment

I am a life long past set netter and am a active subsistence fisher women who assists with putting food on our table fir my family. I oppose Abe Williams appointment to the board of fish. It is to much of a conflict with the current position he holds on Pebble Limited Partnership. Sincerely, Wassiliisia Bennis, Box 406 Dillingham, Ak 99576 jdddjr@hughes.net 907-842-5926 cell 907-843-2645.

Sent from my iPhone

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Dwight Max DeNise <dwight.max.denise@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 1:38 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Abe Williams Non-Confirmation

Dear Friends in the Alaska Senate,

Please don't confirm Abe Williams.

Mining Executive work does not qualify a person  
for Fisheries Regulation.

Sincerely,  
Max DeNise  
Tumwater WA



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** Dave Atcheson <daveatcheson@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 3:30 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Board of Fish Nomination

Dear Reps:

I am writing to ask you to oppose the nomination of Abe Williams to the Board of Fish. Mr. Williams is the Pebble Limited Partnership's director of regional affairs, and an ardent champion of the Pebble project. His nomination shows one of the ways Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy is still working to promote Pebble despite Alaskans' wide-spread opposition. Mr. Williams' role at pebble is an alarming conflict of interest, and he has proven that he will stop at nothing to promote this mine despite its severe costs to our fisheries and communities in Bristol Bay. If confirmed there will be two BOF members with strong ties to Pebble mine, which flies in the face of the mission of the Board to protect and improve fish resources.

This appointment also further reduces rural representation in state fisheries management decisions by handing the seat traditionally held by a Bristol Bay resident over to an Anchorage resident.

Thank You,

Dave Atcheson  
Sterling, Alaska 99672  
907-398-4216

**Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** charlie johnson <cjohnson\_pca@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 4:22 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Fish board

This Charlie Johnson 1331 W82, Anchorage Ak. 99518. I am a life long fisherman of Bristol Bay.

I am against Abe Williams being on the board of Fish, even tho he said he is a fisherman for 30 years, he also sat on pebble boards. I feel his answer were weak on his fisheries, he said nothing to protect the waters of alaska his concerns were none. I fear he will be a goat for the mining companies to help get less restrictions on the waters in Alaska. His presents on the people board was for mining and not for fishing.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** Tom Lakosh <lakosh@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 4:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Reject Abe Williams nomination

Dear Committee Members;

Please reject the nomination of Abe Williams to the Board of Fisheries. We must carefully choose competent analysts to protect our fisheries habitat to ensure sustained yield of resources mandated by our constitution. In his role as Pebble Mine representative, Mr. Williams has demonstrated his duplicitous exploitation of our most valuable fishery and is therefore disqualified as a competent manager of our fisheries. Mr. Williams will not protect our fishery resources in conformance with the Constitutional mandates and any legislator that thinks he properly manages natural resources should be prohibited from catching or consuming any fish species other than what he or she can catch in a Rio Tinto tailings pond.

Sincerely, Tom Lakosh (907) 563-7380

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Heather Bauscher <heather@sitkawild.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 5:31 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Appointment of Abe Williams to BoF  
**Attachments:** Testimony opposing Abe Williams AK BoF.docx

Greetings committee members,

Attached you will find my comments regarding the appointment of Abe Williams to the Board of Fisheries. My concerns related to this appointment, and the concerns of the members of the organization that I represent, are included in this document. What is not included and is necessary to elaborate here, is my dismay as a member of the public attempting to participate in this public process. I would like to share my concerns over the various barriers that have prevented my ability to address you today, and a little bit about this experience:

I live in Sitka which is one of many rural communities where the Legislative Information Office is currently shut down for committee hearings due to the COVID pandemic, and is currently not facilitating public testimony. Normally I would utilize this option because I know for sure that if I go through the LIO I will be acknowledged, and that I will be given an opportunity to be heard. I also know that I, as well as others will be supported in our participation in these hearings. LIO access is especially important in rural communities for these reasons as well as the reasons of the access to the technology to participate at all. Without that access the only option is to call in and wait on the line for your opportunity to speak. That is if you are lucky enough to have phone access or service and a decent connection.

This all began last Friday. I called in as did many others, and less than a dozen folks were given the opportunity to speak. It was then decided that the hearing would continue on Monday. So today I called back in and was told there was no way to connect me due to the fact the phone lines were full and the state's phone line system could not accommodate all the members of the public that were attempting to participate. I was then told that I should just try to call back every ten minutes until maybe a line opens up. After three attempts at calling back, I was told they were no longer accepting callers. I cannot express how frustrating it is to spend so much time navigating all of this to not even be given the opportunity to speak. What an awful experience to put the legislative support staff through as well. I cannot be the only one that went through this experience, and it is hard not feel outright silenced.

The message that was sent today is that this committee is not actually interested in public input, or interested in providing an opportunity for the general public to be heard. When issues are gaining attention, shutting down public participation does nothing but increases public outrage and reduces trust. Actions like this reduce trust in this whole process and in this system- and more importantly it causes people to question their trust in you as individuals, and your ability to represent the people of Alaska. These things may seem small but there are larger ramifications to these actions. There needs to be a better way forward and the systems need to be set up in a way that it provides the service to the public that it is meant to provide. Today was disappointing. I hope things are handled differently in the future for myself and for the rest of the people that live in this great state of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Best Regards,

Heather Bauscher | Tongass Community Organizer  
Sitka Conservation Society  
[heather@sitkawild.org](mailto:heather@sitkawild.org)  
(907) 747-7509

**Betty Tangeman**

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**From:** Tonia <toniablumer@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 11:17 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Rethink Abe Williams

Dear Senate Resources,

I am writing to object to the placement of Abe Williams on the Alaska's Board of Fisheries. As a previous lobbyist for Pebble Mine, he cannot be trusted to put Alaska's fish first. Please find someone else to fulfill this seat.

Thank you,  
Tonia Blumer  
Sterling, AK



## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** eastchannel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Deborah Tennyson  
<eastchannel@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 20, 2021 7:32 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Tennyson  
1544 N Emperor Way Dillingham, AK 99576 eastchannel@yahoo.com

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Stephanie Sanderlin <stephaniesanderlin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 9:49 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I oppose Abe Williams' nomination.

Honored Senators,

I oppose Abe Williams' nomination to the State Board of Fisheries. Mr. Williams is an employee of Pebble Limited Partnership and has been clear about his enthusiastic support for the proposed Pebble Mine. He is biased. His nomination is just one more example of how Governor Dunleavy is still supporting the Pebble Limited Partnership agenda despite the majority of Alaskans, your voting constituents, repeatedly stating we oppose the proposed Pebble Mine.

Mr. Williams' appointment also compromises rural representation in fisheries management. Bristol Bay is home to the world's most valuable salmon fishery, contributing over a billion dollars to the economy and thousands of jobs. The seat for which Mr. Williams is nominated has traditionally been held by a Bristol Bay resident. Mr. Williams has roots in Bristol Bay, but he's an Anchorage resident. Bristol Bay's importance warrants the continued placement of a Bristol Bay resident on the State Board of Fisheries and continued balance of rural and non-rural interests regarding fisheries resources.

Mr. Williams does not belong on the State Board of Fisheries.

Thank you,  
Stephanie Sanderlin

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** Nelli Williams <nelli\_robin@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:16 AM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** Board of Fish: Reject Abe Williams

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the Board of Fisheries candidates. My name is Nelli Williams I live in Anchorage and have for many years.

Alaska has a lot of smart people who have a lot of direct experience in conserving and developing the Alaska's fisheries. Taking care of our fisheries is something many Alaskan's pride themselves, and not something we can afford to take lightly.

Handing someone the keys to the future of our fisheries who has spent a significant part of their career promoting a project that would have permanently destroyed 185 miles of streams and was opposed by a majority of Alaskans is not the right approach.

**Someone with a track record of advocating to destroy, not conserve, fish habitat as well as someone who directly ignored the input and positions of a majority of the fishing community should be disqualified for consideration.** Putting Mr. Williams on the board undermines the mission of the Board of Fisheries and will compromise its reputation.

We have better candidates for this position than Mr. Williams and I urge the Committee to reject his nomination.

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** tllkplk@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alexander Tallekpalek  
<tllkplk@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 2:20 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

We are writing to express our significant concerns about Mr. Abe Williams' nomination to the Board of Fisheries by Governor Dunleavy, and to encourage the Legislature to reject his nomination.

The role of the Board of Fish is conserving and developing Alaska's fisheries and confirmation of Mr. Williams would call into question the Board's ability to responsibly manage Bristol Bay fisheries.

Mr. Williams has spent much of his career working to promote the proposed Pebble mine, which risks severe impacts to the sustainability and profitability of one of our state's most important fisheries. In recent years he has filed a lawsuit funded by the Pebble Limited Partnership against fellow commercial fishermen, consistently mischaracterized the overwhelming views of commercial fishermen and local communities from the region on the proposed mine, and testified dozens of times in support of developing the project despite the fact that it would permanently destroy between 105-300 miles of rivers and streams in the region. His long-standing commitment to the proposed Pebble mine and willingness to cast aside the undeniable harm it would cause to the local fisheries raise grave concerns and unresolvable conflicts with his ability to fulfill the responsibilities of the Board to conserve and develop Alaska's fisheries.

Bristol Bay has maintained near constant representation on the Board of Fish for 40 years. Replacing a board member in good standing who represents both the State's largest salmon fishery and rural Alaska with an active advocate for the Pebble Mine flies in the face of the values and priorities the Board of Fish is mandated to represent.

We urge the legislature to reject the nomination and encourage the Governor to find a more suitable candidate that has the faith of fishermen in fulfilling the Board's important role in managing our fisheries.

Sincerely,  
Alexander Tallekpalek  
PO Box 13 Levelock, AK 99625-0013  
tllkplk@yahoo.com

## Betty Tangeman

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**From:** valeriamassie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Valerie Massie  
<valeriamassie@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 3:43 PM  
**To:** Senate Resources  
**Subject:** I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue

Dear Alaska Senate Resources Committee,

Hello -

I am against the nomination of Abe Williams to the Board of Fisheries. This is a major conflict of interest and goes against the Board's mission and purpose. Thank you for considering my opinion.

Sincerely,  
Valerie Massie  
PO Box 678 Wrangell, AK 99929-0678  
valeriamassie@gmail.com