

Dear Senator Revak,

I believe Ruth Cusack would make an outstanding addition to the Alaska Board of Game. I've known Ruth and her husband Louis for 15 years, and have always been impressed with her love of the outdoors.

For several years Ruth served on the Board of Alaska's Healing Hearts, a foundation out of Wasilla. I was President and she could always be counted on to get things done, not only as Secretary of AHH but as a worker. The foundation works with disabled veterans to take them on hunting and fishing trips in Alaska, helping them to deal with issues related to combat injuries, both mental and physical.

Ruth won the Prois Woman of the Year Award which is presented to the female who has achieved outstanding accomplishments in the hunting world. Prois is a company based in Colorado which produces high end camo attire for female hunters. She won the award despite a great deal of competition nationwide.

Ruth is a passionate hunter and has hunted throughout most of Alaska. She's knowledgeable of wildlife issues and I'm sure she can cope with whatever challenges that may occur.

I'm happy to support her in this nomination.

Jim Zumbo,
Former Hunting Editor, OUTDOOR LIFE Magazine.

It is my pleasure to highly recommend Ruth Cusack to the Alaska Board of Game.

I first incorporate the letters of recommendation already received by you from John Sturgeon, President of the Safari Club International Alaska Chapter, and Mike Odin's Alaska Adventures. I confirm their very positive, truthful compliments toward Ms. Cusack. I will not repeat what they have so correctly said.

Here's what I can add. I have been a member of the SCI Alaska Chapter Board of Directors for four years. As such, I have worked very closely with Ms. Cusack. In her position as a Board member and very engaged VP for the organization, she has shown initiative, energy and very professional practicality in the interest of Alaska's wildlife populations, together with supporting ADF&G wildlife conservation initiatives and hunter education (especially among our youth). I have seen that Ms. Cusack, although an avid hunter, more importantly understands and respects the concept of supporting sustainable wildlife populations first, regardless of pressures from hunting, or other, influences.

So, what's my background behind these representations supporting Ms. Cusack's membership to the Alaska Board of Game? Beyond being a member of the SCI Alaska Chapter Board of Directors, observing Ms. Cusack's accomplishments and professionalism daily, I served as an Assistant Attorney General for the Alaska Department of Law for almost 15 years, mostly representing and advising the Alaska Departments of Fish and Game and Natural Resources in game and fish management matters, subsistence issues, public access, ANILCA, and navigability. I ran the gamut -- administrative and trial and appellate levels, including the U.S. Supreme Court. I like to think I understand good management candidates for the Board of Game. Ruth Cusack is that.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Mike Sewright

Senator Revak/Representative Patkotak,

I saw news of Mrs. Cusacks appointment to a seat on the BOG by Gov Dunleavy. I have known Ruth for over a decade through the hunting community. I first met Ruth through the Alaska Outdoors Television program on the Outdoor channel In 2011. Since then, I have seen Ruth at nearly every public comment and public testimony event I have attended. Whether it be federal policy or state policy. Ruth is a driven outdoors-woman and it is apparent that she cares deeply about the conservation of AK wildlife. Her resume speaks for itself. I believe Ruth is qualified for the BOG seat. She has a lot to learn, as we all do, but with the position I know her dedication will shine through and she will make good judgements.

I know that Ruth holds an assistant guide license. I do believe there to be an imbalance of guide to personal use seats on the board, but I believe Ruth will uphold her personal use values over a commercial industry; such a guiding. I would like to see less guides appointed to the board in the future, but I whole heartedly believe that part of Ruth's assistant guiding holding will not interfere with judgement on the board.

Ruth is a very passionate, yet kind person. Many in this world cannot hold both of those values together. She does. I support Ruth Cusacks appointment.

Sincerely,

Brian Watkins

Watbr06@alumni.pct.edu

907-231-1060