



## Alaska Outdoor Council

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Dear Alaska Legislator,

As the official non-profit representing a membership of the widest diversity of Alaskans committed to sustainable access and use of our outdoors representing Thousands of members and 48 member clubs, our board is compelled to advise the appointment and confirmation process for the Boards of Fisheries, Game, and other bodies related to the stewardship and allocation of the resources we share. The Alaska Outdoor Council (AOC) has met to consider the recently announced appointments of members of the Board of Fisheries.

We traditionally support appointees to each of these boards who represent a diversity of regional knowledge and history of use, an understanding of scientific determinations for harvest and sustainability, and are committed to the future of the resource for future generations. We recognize that while appointees may primarily be recognized as associated with a particular user group, that, as Alaskans, we generally participate in several aspects of outdoor use, and remind others to avoid unduly labeling appointees as a representative of only one user group.

When considering support for individual Alaskans to the **Alaska Board of Fisheries & Board of Game** AOC considers the following criteria:

1. Will the membership on the board represent a balance of statewide geographic regions,
2. Have appointees served on a local State Fish & Game Advisory Committee, or at least one subcommittee thereof, and have attached a letter of recommendation from the local Advisory Committee representing their area of residence,
3. Do appointees recognize that the state regulatory process is designed to originate from members of the public,
4. Do appointees have no reason, other than commercial use in a specific area, to be conflicted out of major upcoming decisions before the board,
5. Do appointees have resumes absent extensive history representing state and federal agencies before the board,

1. Do appointees have any reason to oppose regulated public access to public resources.

Do individual board appointees demonstrate a:

2. Knowledge of the intent of Article 8, Natural Resource of the Alaska State Constitution provisions for conservation and public access to natural resources for all Alaskans,
6. Willingness to spend the necessary time to familiarize themselves with all publicly submitted proposals and public comments on proposals submitted before the board deliberates.

At this time AOC is only **actively supporting the confirmation of Jacob Fletcher to the Alaska Board of Game** based on his past knowledge based actions as a member of that board. The remaining board appointees will have the opportunity to satisfy our confirmation criteria for appointment through their upcoming confirmation hearings.

The Alaska Outdoor Council appreciates this opportunity to advise your decisions related to the confirmation of appointees to these boards and remains available for any further individual questions you may have. Contact Public Policy Director Rod Arno at (907) 521-9155 or [Policy@akoutdoorcouncil.com](mailto:Policy@akoutdoorcouncil.com).

Robert Mathews

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Mathews Jr".

President, Alaska Outdoor Council