



2023 Board Members

Bill Eckhardt, *Chair*
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Jim Brady, *Vice Chair*
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Kevin Branson, *Secretary/Treasurer*
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Owner, Fishewear

Kristin Mellinger, *Vice President*
Owner, V3 Strategic Solutions, LLC

Joe Balash
Senior Vice President-External Affairs,
Santos, Ltd.

Ross Baxter
Ross Baxter Group, Jack White Realty

Rik Bucy
Retired, Tesoro Northstores

Laura Edmondson
Edmondson Consulting, LLC.

Dick Erkeneff
Owner, Kenai River Raven

Ed Fogels
Retired, AK Dept. of Natural Resources

Scott Habberstad
Sales & Community Marketing,
Alaska Airlines

Verne Martell
Retired, Alaska Pasta Company

Eldon Mulder
President, The Mulder Company

Juna Penney
Retired, Municipality of Anchorage

Mike Pawlowski
Partner, Strategy North Group

Mark Spencer
Registered Guide Outfitter/Dipnet Charter
Guide, AK Expeditions

Rick Whitbeck
Alaska State Director, Power the Future

April 12, 2023

Senator Cathy Giessel & Senator Click Bishop
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol Room 205
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Board of Fisheries Appointments

Dear Co-Chairs Bishop and Giessel and members of the Senate Resources Committee:

The Kenai River Sportfishing Association (KRSA) would like to express our support of Gerad Godfrey, Greg Svendsen, Mike Wood, and Stanley Zuray for appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF).

Each candidate has demonstrated that they will bring their own expertise to the board process. Collectively, we feel that they will add a good mixture of experience in fishery conservation, management, and active listening to the board. The new board will also reflect a balanced combination of user experience in subsistence, personal use, sport and commercial fisheries.

In particular, Greg Svendsen, with his decades of knowledge from participating in fisheries throughout Alaska, is ideal for this role.

We also had the opportunity to observe and work with Stanley Zuray recently and during this time he has demonstrated a thorough understanding of Alaska's diverse fisheries. He has made fair and balanced judgments while carefully considering input from all stakeholders and fisheries managers.

KRSA supports these four nominations, and we ask for your support in confirming them to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Respectfully,

Shannon Martin
Executive Director



April 13, 2023

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Alaska Board of Fisheries nominations

Dear Senator Giessel and members of Senate Resources,

Southeast Alaska Guides Organization (SEAGO) is the primary voice of the saltwater guided sport fishery in the Southeast region of the state.

SEAGO supports the Governor's nominations for the Board of Fisheries- Greg Svendsen, Gerad Godfrey, and Mike Wood.

Not having had interactions with each candidate, we reached out to stakeholders across the state representing both sport and commercial interests and found good feedback about each of the Governor's nominations. We believe the Board of Fisheries process will be well and fairly served by these appointments.

We do have personal experience working with Gerad Godfrey during the last Southeast Board of Fish cycle on a high-profile management proposal involving both sport and commercial interests. He made himself available to our industry, listened intently to our needs and concerns, and weighed in fairly on both deliberation and vote on the proposal.

We also managed to communicate recently with Greg Svendsen and found him very approachable and in possession of the spirit and skill set to make a sound contribution to the Board.

We urge your committee to move forward each of these candidates for confirmation.

Respectfully,

Forrest Braden
SEAGO Executive Director
forrest@seagoalaska.org