

SB

231

FILE 1

Kelly Vrem  
P.O. Box 670742  
Chugiak, Alaska 99567

August 21, 1985

The Honorable Mitch Abood  
The State Senate  
Interim Office  
1024 W. 6th Ave.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Abood:

At this time I wish to make a brief statement regarding the Subsistence Hunting and Fishing regulations, specifically the talk of elimination or restriction of non-resident hunters. I hope we may be able to testify in person or meet with you to discuss this above matter further in the near future as this is a bad time for myself and the over 400 other Registered Guides in the State since the majority of us are in the field.

There has been plenty of subsistence protection available in the Fish and Game Regulations over the last years. Rural residents had several advantages available to them not readily accessible to the general urban public. These included Controlled Use Areas and special seasons during December, January, February and even into March under some circumstances for moose and caribou. What these hunts are designed for is rural residents who hunt on snow machines.

For example last year in my guide area some residents of Togiak rode snow machines to within 70 miles of Aniak to hunt caribou. They killed approximately 65 caribou during March. This hunt took place 120 miles from their village. The snow cover was unusually deep last winter enabling them to travel relatively easily. The distances involved suggest to me that this was a sport hunt. If they had spent the same money on meat as they did on gasoline they could have purchased more meat than the caribou yielded. These hunts occurred in Units 18 and 19. Unit 18 has no September or sport season to protect the caribou herd in that area. Yet the Fish and Game has been pressured into allowing a February subsistence hunt for several years. These winter hunts result in more caribou of both sexes and ages being taken in one season than all my non-resident hunters would kill in 20 years.

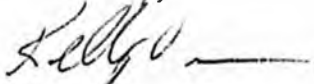
The deep snow in April led to the killing of 13 brown bears in Unit 18 by residents of Goodnews Bay. It has been several years since the snow cover has allowed access to the mountains where the bears den and spend the first 2 weeks in the spring. Again all sexes and ages were killed. My clients take about 2 bears a year on the average for that part of Unit 18. The median age of our bears is over 12 years old and 80% males. We would have to hunt 6 years to equal the take of one of 1 week in the area. There was a herd of 19 moose around Goodnews Lake. Last April 17 gutpiles were spotted around the lake and the other 2 moose couldn't be located.

The very people who would get the priority use of the local game if numbers were reduced are the ones who caused the reduction in the first place. The system of controlled Use Areas and late seasons hunts provide all the opportunity and advantage necessary for the rural residents.

I might point out that 2 years ago I did a study for the Alaska Professional Hunters Association to determine the impact of non-resident hunters in Alaska. I found some surprising statistics. Non-residents bought about 0.7% of the Hunting Licenses in the State. They took 0.5% of the game harvest. The non-resident tag sales generated about 95% of the licenses and tag fees collected by the State. If one adds to this the matching funds provided by the Pitman Roberts Act the impact of non-residents in terms of money generated is very important. The impact on the game herds could be called minimal.

In conclusion there already exists mechanics for Subsistence preference. Eliminating or restriction of non-resident hunters makes no sense from a fiscal or biological standpoint. After the conclusion of our hunts in October and November my fellow guides and myself would like very much to testify on this issue.

Sincerely,



Kelly Vrem



# Alaska Sportfishing Association

3605 Arctic Blvd., Suite 800 • Anchorage, Alaska 99503

March 21, 1985

FB 231

RECEIVED  
MAR 26 1985

Senator Mitch Abood  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Mitch,

The recent Alaska Supreme Court decision (Madison Case) has resulted in a potentially chaotic and explosive situation. It leaves nearly all of Alaska's people as "priority subsistence users" under the subsistence law and it precludes restricting these subsistence users until sport and commercial fishing is closed down. Although on the outside this may appear to be fair, it creates an unmanageable mess of the Dept of Fish and Game and renders the Board of Fisheries nearly useless. This could be disastrous to the sportfishing, commercial and hunting industries. Additionally, some rivers cannot stand an efficient harvesting method without a threat to the fish resource. The current legislation proposed by the Administration will not resolve these issues and, as a permanent bill, will harm sport and commercial fisheries.

The citizens of Alaska did not vote or participate in the designation of "rural" Alaska as the only ones qualified for priority subsistence, nor is the definition of "rural" or "subsistence priority" clearly understood. These are issues that need full public discussion prior to considering a permanent change to the subsistence law. Therefore, as an interim measure, the Alaska Sportfishing Association calls for immediate action to:

1. Enact legislation this session with a termination or sunset clause expiration date of December 31, 1985, that will enable the Dept of Fish and Game and particularly the Boards of Fish and Game to limit subsistence fishing in the same manner as they were before the Madison decision.
2. Immediately take action that will insure that prior to the 1986 legislative session the priority subsistence issue is fully aired at public hearings with this input assembled and given to the 1986 legislature.
3. During the 1986 legislative session, thoroughly debate the subsistence priority statute and bring about a long term, fair solution for resource users in all areas of the state.

One possible means of identifying the Boards authority in a temporary law for this year would be to include the eight points utilized by the Board.

We believe that a true subsistence priority need does exist for a very few long time residents in very remote areas. Putting any individual in a position where he has priority of a resource, if even legal, over all other people in Alaska, and the world for that matter, is a law and priority that must be severely restricted.

*Hope this helps. What  
are your feelings?*

*Bob Hunter* 276-2761  
Robert L. Hunter  
Alaska Sportfishing Association

*Attachment #18*



# KENAI RIVER SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION

3301 "C" Street Suite 202  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Phone (907) 276-1451



*JM*

*SB 231*  
*1*

To: Alaska State Legislators:

On March 19, 1985 the Steering Committee of the Kenai River Sportfishing Association unanimously approved the following motion:

" We favor interim legislation this session having a sunset clause of December 31, 1985 that accomplishes:

- (1) Return of the regulatory jurisdiction of fish and game back to the boards of fish and game as it existed prior to the Madison decision of February 22, 1985 by the Alaska Supreme Court.
- (2) That the legislature then cause to have public hearings held state wide prior to the 1986 legislative session that would frame legislation that would accomplish a permanent solution to the relationship between subsistence, sport, commercial and personal use fisheries as well as all aspects of recreational and subsistence hunting."

Chaos must be removed from the management of our fish and game resource until a permanent solution be gained from public input from all citizens of the State of Alaska on the permanent use and allocation of fish and game. We cannot allow any situation to continue that has the potential of causing severe damage to the fishery resource. Resource regulation must be preserved.

Bob Penney - (w) 561-5221 (h) 274-7497  
Chairman

RECEIVED  
MAR 26 1985

Attachment #19

4/8/85

Dear Senator Abood

RECEIVED  
APR 10 1985

\$ 23 / M

I am a seven year resident of Alaska and one whose livelihood relies on commercial harvest of herring and salmon both in P.W.S. and western Alaska. I am in favor to continue as such. I am in favor of the governors bill, 288, tooth and nail.

After having worked hard in the industry since my move to Alaska and taking the cards as they fall in this volatile industry, I can only laugh at the timing of the Madison Decision (or try) as a week prior to the judges' ruling making the Anchorage paper, I bought a P.W.S. drift permit for \$5,000. This fishery is directly affected by the decision as are the 400+ commercial fishermen who hold permits to fish the flats, tender skippers, their crew, and the vessel owners who service the fleet out on the grounds, the cannerys and their workers who process the harvest, and the townspeople & their families who also provide support and services in some

way or other in the town of Cordova.  
Ironic how at a time when this  
sector of the industry is starting to  
recover from the economic woes suffered  
since the 1932 botulism incident, my  
purchase of a P.W.S. Dist Permit, and  
a forecasted bumper crop w/ very favor-  
able market condition . . . that some-  
thing such as this should creep onto  
the scene!

The town of Cordova relies heavily on  
the revenue connected w/ the Copper  
River Flats Fishery and a blow to one  
of its few supporting economies may  
well be the town's demise.

Another reason to support the governor's  
bill is to save the lives of who knows  
how many potential drowning victims.  
I imagine that there aren't presently  
lifeguard stations along the river in  
Chitna but, you can bet your hip-  
waders, lives will be lost when hordes  
of orkanites scramble to the riverside  
trying to dipnet their rightful quota.

And how many of those fish will not  
be used after they're cold & stiff in

the freezer at home? I've seen more than one dipnetter's freezer full of freezerburned sockeye yet to be used, after the 1st or 2nd year in the deep freeze. How much finally ends its migration to spawning grounds at the Anchorage dump-feeding the seagulls and ravens?

A question how much the Supreme Court justices thought this one out? Sure, everyone has a right to access of the states resources and they do presently under state fish & game regulations in an orderly and carefully monitored manner. The implementation of the judges ruling would create utter chaos through-out the state in trying to divide the resources evenly between user groups, enforce regulations in the field, monitor the takes accurately, and educate the general public how to go about whatever subsistence endeavour(s) safely, both to themselves & others. . . . Not to mention dealing out direct competition to those in Alaska who really do have a subsistence

way of life and have traditionally, namely Alaska natives and those living in remote parts throughout the state. Seems like just another attempt at stamping out the frontier spirit that is the foundation of this great land.

I thought we, the people of Alaska, resolved this subsistence issue in 1982 by ballot?

I believe those who understand the fish and wildlife checks & balances best should be left to regulate this matter w/ a fairly free hand as they have done so well in the past w/ legislation that was sound at one time, that the governor's bills will help respect... for the good of us all now (this season) and for generations to come.

Please, support Governor Sheffield's bill. The people of Alaska wanted it in 1982... the people want it now for the good of the future to come.

I wasn't aware that so few (the  
supreme court justices) could be thought  
to represent the feelings of the  
states' people. That's not their  
place, it's yours. Be there for  
us!

Sincerely,

Cliff D. Ward

Please support Senate Bill # 23 (SB)!

Box 1464

Seward, NE 68664

Attn, Senator Alwood:

I am writing to urge you to pass Senate Bill # 231 and give the Board of Fisheries the flexibility to manage the resource for the user groups. Thank You.

Jack + Heidi Baluc

Attn Senator Alwood

I am writing to urge you to pass Senate Bill # 231 and give the Board of Fisheries the flexibility to manage the resource for the user groups. Thank You.

Robin Schaefer

April 4, 1985  
Monna Alwine  
P.O. Box 602  
Cordova, Alaska 995

To whom it may concern:

I am concerned about the situation that may develop in Cordova if adequate steps are not taken to ensure the commercial fisherman's livelihood. The ruling by the Alaskan Supreme Court on the subsistence use of salmon threatens Cordova's economy which is based entirely on the commercial fishing of salmon. The laws need to be changed or modified to protect this way of life. Subsistence use of salmon by all Alaskans, rural and urban, is a knife in the back to the commercial fisheries. The economic repercussions of the decline or total loss of the commercial fisheries in Cordova, would be felt by all Alaskans.

Is the right of all Alaskans to the salmon worth the complete demise of a way of life for the fisherman? I don't think so! I would appreciate anything you could do to protect our commercial fisheries.

Sincerely yours,  
Monna Alwine



**RECEIVED**  
APR 8 1985

March 30, 1985

Dear Senator Abood:

I am writing to request your support of Senate Bill # 231 regarding the future of commercial fishing on the Copper River Flats; and thus, the future of the Cordova community. I have happily been a year round resident of Cordova for five years. I am not a permit holder, but have worked at fishing related jobs as well as non-fishing related jobs. My experiences show me that all facets of employment in Cordova are heavily dependent on the success of our fishermen.

I urge you to take a close look at the problems we Cordovans are facing if these bills do not pass. How you vote is a decision only you can make, but a matter of such consequences deserves your attention. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Carol F. Roderick  
Box 1532  
Cordova, AK 99574

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Harry L. Curran  
Box 42  
Cordova, Alaska  
99574

Dear Senator Alford,

I am writing to urge you to support SB 231 or any similar legislation that would give the Alaska Board of Fish and Game the power back to regulate and manage our fish + game resources.

This matter is very important to me as I derive all my income from commercial fishing. I've lived in Cordova for 33 years and have gillnetted for the past 14 years. I feel that the recent Madison ruling is very unfair to me. I realize that some people need subsistence and should have it, but the ruling says every resident can claim subsistence. Many of them have a means of making a living without subsistence. How can they have priority over myself (as a commercial fisherman) when it is my only means of supporting my family?

Please consider this matter carefully as it affects my way of life. It also threatens the community of Cordova. Commercial fishing creates many jobs in the city and is its financial base. Without the fishing industry Cordova's future will be very bleak. Please push to get this issue resolved this session.

Thank you.

RECEIVED  
APR 12 1985

Sincerely,  
Harry L. Curran

Senator Abood, Chairman  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V.

Juneau, AK. 99811

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Dear Senator Abood:

I am a concerned citizen of Cordova and I feel I must write to urge your Committee to support Senate Bill # 231, or similar legislation, which will allow the Alaska Board of Fisheries to manage the Copper River fishery as the people of Alaska intended them to do.

The people of Cordova depend almost entirely on the commercial fisheries of the area and have little else except Government employment to keep the people employed. The loss of fishing on Copper River flats will directly affect about 500 gill net fishermen, 40 tendermen and 100-200 cannery workers. Further, the loss of the Copper River fishery

(2)

will greatly impact fishery supporting business including fuel dock, repair and maintenance shops, hardware and grocery stores.

With the high prices of fuel, groceries, etc. the loss of the Copper River fishery will make a ghost town of Cordova next winter. Then the only fisherman who would afford to fish here would be the commuters from Seattle and California.

Again, I urge your support of Senate Bill # 251 or similar legislation.

Sincerely,

Ralph B. Pirtle  
P.O. Box 699  
Cordova, Ak. 99574

4-1-85

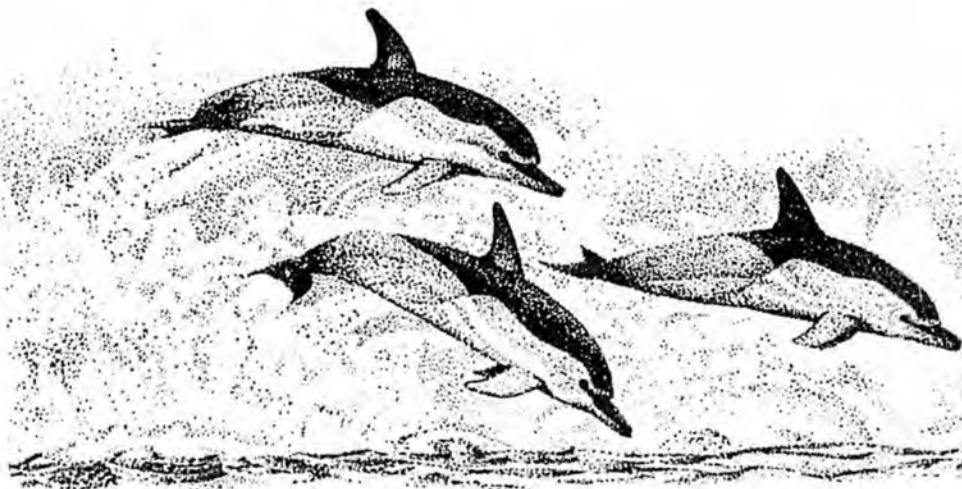
Dear Senator Abood,

I urge you to support HB. 288  
and Senate Bill 231. We are  
Cordova fishermen and our livelihood  
depends on our ability to  
commercially fish the Copper River  
Flats.

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Sincerely

Mr. + Mrs. E. L. Chesler  
Box 116  
Cordova, Ak. 99574



SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

Box 255  
CORDOVA, AK.  
MARCH 30, 1985

I AM writing this letter regarding the Subsistence Ruling by the Supreme Court in Feb.

I have lived in Cordova my entire life. After graduating from high school, I worked in local canneries until I met and married my husband, a fisherman. Since having children of my own, I babysit during the summer months for friends that run a fish-buying tender for a local cannery.

The purpose of my introduction is to stress the fact that Cordova's entire economy depends on commercial fishing in one way or another.

This new subsistence ruling will have a disastrous impact on our community. We subsist in the fisheries as it is our livelihood; our entire income and whole future depends on fishing.

Subsistence is defined as: A means of support; the state of maintaining one's existence; livelihood, etc. And who better defines that than a commercial fisherman?

I support Senate Bill 231 or any similar bill, and urge you to make this your first priority because it is definitely Cordovas and we need your help.

Sincerely, Yours,  
ALISON BARNES

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

4-1-85

Dear Senator Abood,

I urge you to support  
HB. 288 and Senate Bill 231.

We are Cordova fishermen and  
our livelihood ~~is~~ depends on our  
ability to commercially fish  
the Copper River Flats.

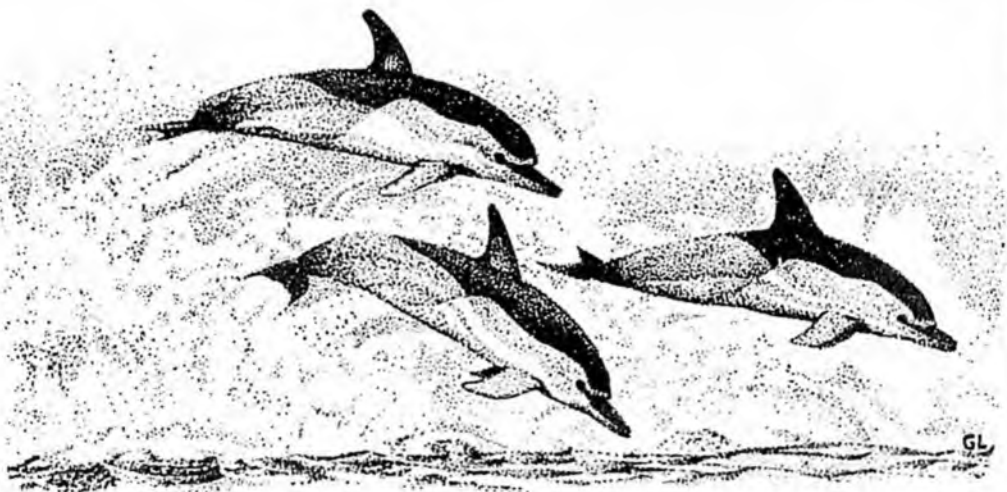
RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Sincerely

Mike + Clara  
Phillips

P.O. 396

Cordova 99574



4/3/85

Dear Senator Alford,

I am writing to urge you to support SB # 231 or whatever legislation you can devise to insure the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game the power to regulate the Copper River fishery this spring as it has in the past.

I am a Cordova resident and commercial fisherman, and 90% of my income is gained from the Copper River area.

Loss of this income this spring would cause much hardship to my family and many others like us.

The town of Cordova's only industry is commercial fishing, and the good management of the resource is of prime importance to us all.

Sincerely,  
Rhoda de Ville  
BX 632 Cordova 99574

Dear Senator Abood, Chairman 4-2-85

I am a commercial fisherman from Cordova, Alaska. I am writing to you on behalf of my family, myself and my community, asking for your support of SB# 231. If something productive isn't resolved allowing the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game the power to regulate and manage our fish and game resources it will be disastrous for us. Our sole source of income comes from the commercial fisheries of the Copper River Flats and Prince William Sound. Please, please support SB# 231. Our existence depends on resolving this issue of subsistence.

Respectfully

Barbara E. Webber  
PO Box 934

Cordova 99574

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985



***RAINBIRD FISHERIES, Inc.***

P.O. Box 1065  
Cordova, AK. 99574

March 31, 1985

**RECEIVED**  
APR 8 1985

Senator Abood, Chairman  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sir:

I support Senate Bill #231 and House Bill #288 to have our Copper River salmon fishery. We would like to urgently request the State Affairs Committee to support it as well, or any similar legislation that would give the power back to the Alaska Board of Fish and Game to regulate and manage our Fish and Game resources.

This will have a serious impact on the town of Cordova if this legislation is not passed, and it is very important that this issue be resolved during this Session.

Thank you very much for your efforts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. J. Shaw".

R. J. Shaw

Dear Senator Abood, I am asking that you support Senate bill #231. Common logic clearly dictates that the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game must have the power to regulate and manage fish and game resources. If this legislation is not passed the economic impact will be wide and great in size. My sole income is based on gillnetting on the Copper River flats. I and many other Cordova residents would face bankruptcy if bill #231 is not passed. The entire town is connected financially to the Copper River fishery. I also feel that there is no need for Judiciary and Finance to review #231 as it's not constructive or logical. Thank you.

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Shannon J. Willis  
PO Box 1521  
Cordova, AK 99574

RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Dear Legislator

3-31-85

I am writing in support of Governor Sheffield's subsistence bill.

I was raised in Anchorage since 1956 and my family relied heavily on sport caught moose, caribou and salmon. We never considered ourselves subsistence users. This food was incidental to our hunting and fishing. It was the sport and not the food which sent us to Alaska's wilds.

In 1972 my wife and I moved to the Alutian chain for four years. Here we witnessed people living a true subsistence lifestyle. Their wealth is their knowledge of the land and resultant ability to provide the majority of their needs from it. To these people the need for food, not sport, was the compelling factor.

In 1976 my family moved to Nabesna in the Copper River Basin. The majority of these people live in a more cash orientated economy. Subsistence is important to supplement their lifestyle.

The subsistence lifestyle is a part of Alaska's past and present which should be protected.

I would not favor a system of subsistence which "Doles" out fish and game like welfare on a needs basis. The subsistence lifestyle deserves to be encouraged and lived with pride.

Under Governor Sheffield's bill, subsistence would be regulated as in the past based on rural residency. I feel this is a good solution as it is less need orientated. One of our subsistence groups our Alaska natives have traditionally shared

food within the community. Today this most successful hunters are those who can afford the use of snowmachines, outboards ect. To deprive these people subsistence opportunity thru a needs based program, would affect many others within this community.

The recent ruling by the Alaska Supreme Court creates a situation, which cheats the true subsistence user. The subsistence lifestyle needs to be protected by priority. To allow everyone to become a subsistence user cheats the true subsistence user of his protection by priority. I further feel it is a joke to allow Anchorage and Fairbanks residents equality under subsistence as subsistence is a lifestyle that cannot exist in a city environment. We must address this problem immediately to restore balance to our subsistence program. If we do, we will create a new user group, the "new" subsistence user. I feel this would impact true subsistence, commercial fishing, sport fishing and sport hunting. It will be harder to solve in the future than now as undoubtedly some will not want to loose their new found subsistence rights.

The Copper River stands as an excellent example of a new user group being created under the pretext of subsistence. One can argue that the Copper River dipnet fishing is done more for a weekend outing, rather than based on a need to put food on the table. Often more is spent on this recreational outing to catch these fish than if these <sup>?</sup> subsistence users had bought these fish from the market at home.

On the Copper River personal use was created to protect both the true subsistence users and commercial fishermen by giving a lower priority to recreational dipnetting. I have nothing against ~~recreational dipnetting~~ so long as it is called such and managed as such.

Today we are back at square 1 with Anchorage and Fairbanks recreational dipnetters having a priority over commercial fishermen and threatening the priority of the true subsistence users to this resource.

What is the future of the Copper River commercial fishermen and true subsistence users as our state population grows?

What is the future of our sport fishing, commercial fishing, sport hunting and subsistence users in other areas of the State of Alaska?

Will recreational gillnetting close the world famous Kenai sport fishery?

Please address this problem rationally, responsibly and quickly by passing Governor Sheffield's subsistence bill.

Fred Dusen

STAR RT. Box 6700-E

WASILLA, ALASKA  
99687



The First National Bank  
of Anchorage

SB  
231

March 29, 1985

Senator Abood  
State Senate  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Abood:

I urge you to pass Senate Bill #231 at the earliest possible time.

Being a banker in Cordova for over twenty years and a resident for over thirty years; I can not emphasize enough the need for the Copper River Fishery to continue now as it has in the past. The elimination of this would be in my opinion detrimental to the economy of this community and would severely add to an already sliding economy.

Your strong support of this bill will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

John M. Wheeler  
Vice-President

# ALASKA POWER SERVICES

P.O. BOX 622 • CORDOVA, ALASKA 99574  
(907) 424-3300

March 25, 1985

SB  
231  
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Senator Abood, Chairman  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V (MS 3100)  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Abood:

I am writing this letter as a private business owner in the city of Cordova in support of SB#231 Alaska Power Services is solely dependent upon the commercial fisheries in Cordova, providing mechanical services and parts to the gillnet fleet of Cordova. If SB#231 is not acted upon by May 1, the survival of my business and many others in Cordova are doubtful this year. There are many resident's livelihoods at stake pending the decision of this bill. We urge that you make every effort to pass this bill as quickly as possible.

Business has dropped off sharply due to the confusion and uncertainty created by the Madison decision, whether or not the gillnet fleet will fish May 15 or not.

We, the owners and employees of Alaska Power Services urge you to act immediately on SB#231 to ensure a stable economic base for Cordova and its work force.

Your cooperation in this important matter in Cordova is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Charles E. Maxwell*

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APR 2 1985

SB 231  
24

With the recent Supreme Court decision, the State now has the direction and opportunity to assure to All Alaskans the equal consideration to take fish and game for their own personal consumptive use. This decision supports the Constitution's provision that "Wherever occurring in their natural state fish, wildlife and waters are reserved to the people for common use." The court stressed that common 'use' and not priority 'users' was the main intent and should be the effect of the subsistence regulations. They found that all consumptive users, and not just rural residents, are eligible priority subsistence users.

Government and its laws should apply even handedly to All Alaskans and make sure that whatever criteria is used is not unjustly discriminatory in intent or effect. The Constitution does not on a whole and should not have severe restrictive provisions. This same need should be observed by any legislation and should be used to make sure that its clear intent is to protect and insure the equal and just consideration of All Alaskans.

But the same politics that supported the illegal discriminatory subsistence regulations are at work to speedily fix their court failure. Their main weapon, now as in the past, is their threats aimed at the majority of Alaskans. One such threat is that the over 200,000 sportfishermen will be severely impacted by the Supreme Court decision. The court, in fact, said that all personal consumptive users were to be given equal consideration. As most so-called sport fishermen eat the fish that they catch, any priority subsistence use must include them. And those 'pure sport fishermen' who catch and release are not harvesters of the resource, therefore have a negligible impact. With an annual harvest of well over 100,000,000 salmon, All Alaskan should be entitled to the equal opportunity to take fish for their own dinner table.

Another political threat used is that the federal government will deny our State the right to manage our fish and game unless the subsistence priority is based on rural residency. When the Feds mandate that the resource must be managed as they say, the State has in fact already lost the right of management authority. This restriction resulted from State politics that requested and supports such residency discrimination. When Ron Sommerville, Alaska's representative during early d-2 / ANILCA, opposed this federal mandated discrimination he was removed from his Washinton D.C. post. Governor Hammond admitted in a public meeting of the Boards of Fish and Game that Sommerville was removed because of Native pressure. His replacement, John Katz, has compromised the Alaskan public's constitutional rights on this and many other issues. For the State not to politically and judicially oppose this discriminatory action, which specifically denies equality to all residents of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Ketchikan, shows a planned sell out of our rights. This plan includes the continued lobbying action of Larry Spengler, Attorney General office, supporting a priority subsistence use of Alaska's fish and game to be as discriminatory and restrictive as has been politically motivated. Alaska would be better served if our Attorney General would be motivated by a responsibility to assure that all residents are not discriminatorily restricted in their rights.

The history of Governor Sheffield's stern actions has been a well known threat to any state employee who would question these unconstitutional subsistence regulations. He fired Fish and Game Commissioner Ron Skoog and Game Division Chief Ron Sommerville because of their private personal stands against these regulations. And he then requested the resignations of all Board of Fish and Game members when they began questioning the blatant directions ordered by Larry Spengler. It is time that All Alaskans are again equal under the law, no matter where they reside, and that such equality is promoted by our State and is not necessitated by continued court challenges by its residents.

*Dale Bondurant*

Dale Bondurant  
SR 1 Box 2516  
Chugiak, Alaska 99567

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APR 2 1985

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APR 2 1985

SB  
231

Dear Sir:

As a commercial fisherman who is very dependant upon the Copper River gillnet fishery for my livelihood, I am very concerned about the current threat by subsistence usage and possible loss of this fishery to commercial fishermen.

I think the problem lies with the definition of subsistence. As for us fishermen we really are completely dependant upon these fish. Our homes, vehicles & vessels are centered around this fishery. We are ~~not casual users~~ the ultimate subsistence users. We are not casual users as seems to be the case with many urban up-river people who travel hundreds of miles to fish under the guise of subsistence.

I urge you to support SB 231 and manage the Copper River fishery as had been done successfully under the Board of Fish pre-Madison decision plan. This plan was agreed upon by the various factions involved: true rural subsistence users, sports fisherman, and commercial fishermen.

your support of this bill will help  
keep our fishing industry which is very  
important to the State of Alaska alive  
and healthy.

Sincerely

W. T. Fleming

Box 363

Corova, AK.

Mrs. Denny Kay Weathers  
P.O. Box 837  
Cordova, Alaska. 99574  
Resident; Hawkins Island  
Lot 6, Deep Bay VHF ch. 6

Dear Alaska State Legislators;

I am a homemaker & mother, I live (5) water miles Northwest of Cordova on the North end of Hawkins Island in the Deep Bay area.

I am strongly in support of Senate Bill # 231 and House Bill # 288, and urge all Senate and House Chairman and Co-Chairman to work as quickly as possible at resolving these major issues.

My personal reasons are as follows; Fishing is our only source of an income which in turn is our survival. Survival meaning we must purchase fishing and hunting license, shells, fuel to even go get game meat.

In order to make jelly, bread or even grow a hand full of potatoes it takes an income to purchase flour, sugar or seed potatoes, and much work to even try to grow a small kelp box garden, do to our poor gardening conditions in this area, compared to Anchorage, Palmer and Fairbanks with such good growing seasons.

You must take in to consideration, our moose and deer, in the Prince William Sound, Copper River and the surrounding Cordova area. All the moose and deer were transplanted here prior to Statehood. This makes a limit on all the game meat in this area, which is set up to ensure that our children will have moose and deer when they grow up. The Alaska Fish and Game regulate these rules to ensure future stocks, this is done in the best interest of the people.

If the State was to open subsistence hunting to all residents it would destroy all that the dept. of Fish and Game has worked so hard to protect for the future of all Alaskans.

As for the Copper River Red Salmon run; in 1982 my husband caught 2,865 red salmon, 1983 was 1,323 red salmon, 1984 was 741 red salmon. Each year we have been cut back on our take of the Copper River Red Salmon to ensure the brood stock and to assure that the subsistence fisherman get thier increased quota of Red Salmon each year.

My husband in 1982 paid \$57.30, 1983 paid \$26.46, 1984 \$14.32, this was just the Aquaculture asesment for Copper River Red Salmon and by the time the cannerys mached the \$.02 per fish it totaled \$98.58 paid out for our catch to ensure the preservation of our future Copper River Red Salmon through the Aquaculture. Please also note that the subsistence fisherman do not pay the \$.02 per fish nor do they quit fishing during the closers by the State of Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. Those closers are designed to give proper escapement to ensure the proper amount of brood stock escapement.

If the Copper River Fishermen have to cut back much more there will not be a Copper River Fisherman left.

Please understand , I beleave that subsistence is very important but not to the point of destruction-meaning our resourses can not handle every resident becoming a subsistence user. Please study this issue with the up-most care, because rivers, streams, forests and fields can only provide just so much and when it's gone it's gone forever. The Alaska State Fish And Game have been slowly accomplishing a goal, why not leave it there at least they have some facts and figures and a future to work with.

To me subsistence means a need and a need means necessity which brings us back to subsistence which is the minimum food and shelter necessary to support life-not the want for the food.

I beleave hunting and fishing is still a privilege and honor that the State of Alaska provides by over seeing the resources and keeping them balanced.

People that have a good income, meaning average income or higher should be willing to purchase a hunting or fishing license and leave the subsistence to the person or persons that truly need it for the reasons of survival, not for the want or greed. Remember the key words to subsistence is in the Websters Dictionary. Thank you for your concerns and time on thhse important issues.

Denny Kay Weathers

Senator Alford

4/7/85

As a P.W.S Drift Bill netter & a 5 year resident of Alaska I am concerned about the recent Madison vs. State, Supreme Court ruling. I am afraid if the Legislature does not pass the govenors S.B. 231 & H.B. 288 that we will start Fishing May 13 and its highly possible that Subsistence Fisherman in the upper Copper River will file an injunction Contesting the Board of Fishes upper River Allocation and put a stop to Commercial Fishing on the Lower Copper thereby stripping me of my lively hood. I have serious qualms about ammending a sunset clause in these Bills, as next year is an election year and this is an issue that should be dealt with in a biological & common sense manner. I realize you people have your work cut out for you with the budget. however without a permanent fix the Commercial Fishing industry will not be able to stabilize thereby increasing your work load on the budget and placing even more dependence on the oil Revenues. In this day and age diversity is the Key to Success. I am not against subsistence or Sport Fishing but I Feel that the word rural needs to be in the law. because the rural people dependent on the resource can't afford ~~to~~ to have thousands of urban residents competing with them for a limited resource. Please support the govenors bill as a permanent fix. it allows different user groups to have a fair Shake through Annual Proposals and meetings to resolve problem areas. Thank You

I don't expect a response an would appreciate none as you and your staff have a tremendous workload already  
John A. Mehlich  
Box 968, Cordova, AK. 99574

HIGH TIDE SEAFOODS

P. O. Box 1556  
VALDEZ, AK 99686

SB  
231

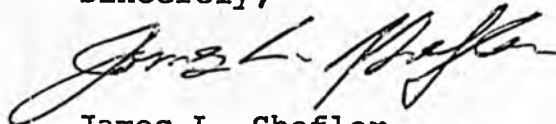
March 29, 1985

Senator Abood  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator:

The commercial salmon industry is a major resource of revenue and employment in the State of Alaska. We urge you to support SB #231.

Sincerely,



James L. Shefler  
Partner

JLS/jcs

4/4/85

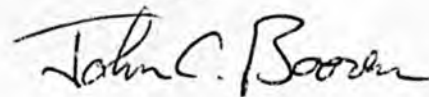
Dear Senator,

I would like to urge you to support SB-231 or any legislation that will keep the Alaska Board of Fish and Game as managers and regulators of our fish and game. I live in Cordova and fishing is my only means of making a living. I have four months to make a years waige and the Copper River fishery makes up to 70% of my income. If we loose any time fishing, especially the first part of the run, where 50% of the fish go up river in 2-3 weeks, it is definately going to make it hard, if not impossible, to make my financial ends meet.

Please support SB-231 and please push to get the issue resolved this season. Fishing is scheduled to begin May 13, 1985.

Thank-you very much,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Booren". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John C. Booren

April 11, 1985

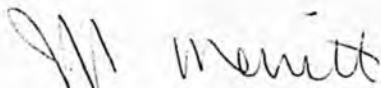
Dear Senator Abood,

I am writing with great concern regarding SB#231. I feel it is crucial that SB#231 should be supported or for that matter any similar legislation that will give back to the Alaska Board of Fish & Game the power to regulate and manage our fish and game resources.

If SB#231 is not passed, I know Cordova and its businesses will not survive.

Will you please push to get this issue resolved this session because the gillnet seasoning is coming up fast, May 12 or so and it is very important to me and all Cordova that SB#231 is passed as soon as possible.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Merritt".

Jim Merritt

RECEIVED  
APR 2 1985

Box 993

Cordova, Alaska, 99574

March 27, 1985

Dear Representative,

Please take immediate action,  
Concerning Senate Bill #231 or House  
Bill #288.

Unless Fish & Game open the  
Copper River fishing by the beginning  
of May, our family and the city of  
Cordova will have no income to  
sustain them. Cordova's only industry  
is fishing.

My husband, age 42, has been fishing  
in Cordova all of his life and the  
early red run may be as much  
as 90% of his yearly income.

It is hard to understand how it  
could be allowed for people who  
have regular jobs and or sources  
of income to take fish they don't  
need and put others out of work.

I am hoping that the Judiciary  
and Finance Committees will waive  
Senate Bill #231 so this can be  
resolved in time.

Thank you,  
Kellie Garland

RECEIVED  
APR 2 1985

Box 993  
Cordova, Al  
99574  
March 26, 1985

Dear Representative;

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Subsistence Fishing ordeal. I think that the Legislature should find some way to solve the fishing problem Alaskans are faced with. My father is a commercial fisherman, and without the money he makes during the fishing season, we may starve this winter.

I'm seriously hoping that you'll give the matter at hand some thought and fast action.

Sincerely,  
Adam Garland  
age 14

GILBERT L. URATA, D.M.D.

GENERAL DENTISTRY

BOX 518

CORDOVA, ALASKA 99874

March 26, 1985

RECEIVED  
APR 2 1985

Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch 5  
Juneau, Ak. 99811

Dear Legislator:

Am asking for your immediate support of Senate Bill 231 and House Bill 288 for the following reasons.

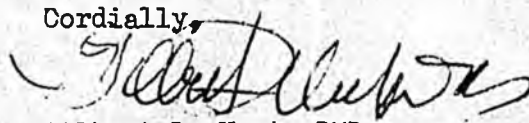
1) Subsistence merely means existence or an aid to existence. Not all people of Alaska need to catch fish in order to exist. Those that do, ought to have the opportunity to do so, those that don't should be restricted. The ADFG and Board of Fisheries have, and need to be allowed to continue to regulate such. Many residents of the state can't use 200 fish. The fish are not in prime condition as they are at the mouth of a river. Others waste or sell their subsistence fish, or are actually sport fishing, driving hundreds of miles for an outing while others indeed need the resource.

2) The state legislature is not qualified, able, and definitely lacks the time to regulate a fisheries. Therefore, give the proper agency the ADFG, the authority to do so. Shelving both of these bills will eventually undermine commercial fishing in all fishing districts in Alaska. Besides the Copper River and Cook Inlet regions, others will be invaded as access improves. The dipnetters and true subsisters have been getting their fair share of fish. They don't require expensive boats, gear, and permits. Look at Oregon and Washington. They allowed a judge to kill their fisheries, especially during difficult times with their other industries. How about the Stikine River? Fishing there is practically wiped out following Canadian fishing at the headwaters. When salmon survive the difficult cycle back to their spawning grounds, let em.

3) My final reason deals with the community of Cordova and others like it. Who's to pay for the vessels and permits? How are the banks to withstand the defaults? Who wants to foot our welfare checks? Class action litigation against the state, including legislators and the CFEC will undoubtedly follow. How can the state deny a resident the right to make a living he or she's had for a lifetime?

Please, urge for quick action on this matter. Passage must be concluded prior to May 1, 1985. The red season peak (highest priced reds in Alaska) lasts only 2-3 weeks starting in May. Most fisherman make their boat and permit payments from reds and use the silver season to survive the winter. Keep a historic way of life alive.

Cordially,



Gilbert L. Urata DMD

Cordova, Alaska 99574

March 28, 1985

Box 254

Senator Abood, Chairman  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Abood,

I am writing to request your support on SB#231 or any similar legislation that would give the Alaska Board of Fish and Game the power back to regulate and manage our fish and game resources. If not passed this could virtually destroy Cordova. Cordova's main industry is fishing and the only industry that is keeping Cordova alive today. We cannot depend on tourism.

Many Cordova fishermen would lose their boats if they are not able to fish (gill-net) and their only way of making a living. Does the state want to see this happen? Nearly all of the Cordova fleet is financed thru the state. What will this do to the state?

My husband is a tender operator, picking up the fish from the fishermen and delivering them to the cannery. This is our only means of employment. We certainly want to be employed and not on Welfare.

I urge you, along with all of Cordova, to please give this bill your support.

Sincerely,

*Kathy Crow*  
Kathy Crow

RECEIVED  
APR 2 1985

4/3 12:05

John Birch

From Cordova

Wants Public Hearings on  
SB 231. He's in favor  
of the bill.

Box 1012

Cordova AK 99574

Mark

Don't have to call back  
He just called to urge  
scheduling of SB 231

4/3/85 10:00

Mitch,

Jerry McCune  
U.F.A. from Cordova  
would like to talk about  
SIS 231 The Subsistence  
bill.

424-3447

Mark

12:15

He called back & would  
like to talk w/ the  
Aide who is handling this  
issue

Mark

F/V Belen-C  
Joe and Belen Cook, Jr.

P. O. Box 215  
Cordova, Alaska 99574  
Phone (907) 424-3507

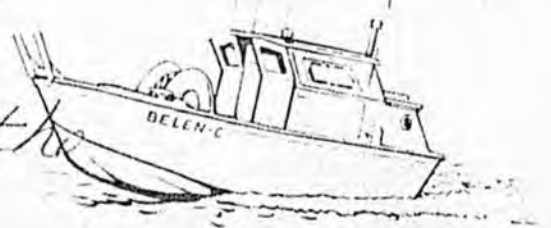
RECEIVED  
APR 8 1985

Senate State Affairs

I am writing this letter because of my great concern of what has happened in the past month dealing with subsistence.

I would just like to start by telling you a little about myself and family.

With my husband and I work on our 28 ft coo-picker boat. Starting May 15<sup>th</sup> to September each year salmon fishing on the Copper River flats. I also do the bookkeeping for the business. I am a member of the Fish and Game Advisory Committee in this area. I am well aware of the problems we have had in the past. I was on the Fish and Game Committee when it was first decided to bring before the Board of Fish, having three user groups: Subsistence, Personal Use, Commercial. I was very happy to see it pass. I believe this to be an excellent way to manage the resource.



F/V Belen-C  
Joe and Belen Cook, Jr.

P. O. Box 215  
Cordova, Alaska 99574  
Phone (907) 424-3507

(2)

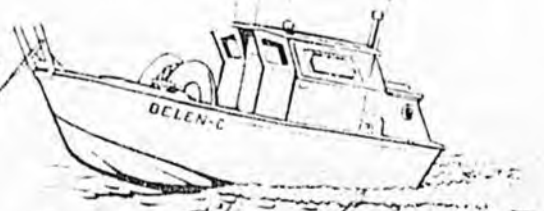
I do not want to give you the impression that I am only involved in fishing interests, because this is not the case. I am on the Cordova Hospital Auxiliary, am a board of director on the Womens Resource Center and am very active in both.

My husband was born a Commercial Fisherman since he was 13 years old, he is now 34 years old. Our livelihood depends on fishing, we depend on the Copper River Flats for 75 percent of our living and 15 percent on the Prince William Sound.

Besides fishermen, the community of Cordova also depends on fishing, thus I believe SB-23 must pass and pass in this session.

You see it's quite simple if we fishermen cannot meet our obligations to our creditors, they in turn cannot meet theirs, which can cause great problems in the near future as far as economic hardship.

I am positive Cordova will not be the only community affected in this manner in Alaska



*F/V Belen-C*  
*Joe and Belen Cook, Jr.*

P. O. Box 215  
Cordova, Alaska 99574  
Phone (907) 424-3507

(5)

*To ask you again to support*  
*S.B. 231*.

*Sincerely,*  
*Belen Cook*



RECEIVED  
APR 2 1985

March 28, 1985

Dear Senator Abood,

I am a commercial fisherman's wife who is very concerned about the courts interpretation of priority in allocating fish. Giving subsistence users priority over commercial fishermen means financial disaster to us personally and to the future of the Copper River salmon. For the last three years we have worked hard in Prince William Sound and now find ourselves with an investment in a doomed industry.

I am asking for immediate action this session to protect our livelihood. Commercial fishing was under strict regulation by the state board of fish and game. I feel qualifying as a subsistence user should also be strictly limited. Salmon are a fragile resource - mismanagement one year will effect every link in its food chain for at least 10-15 years in the future.

Sincerely,

Jean C Phillips  
3308 Lois Dr.  
Anchorage, AK  
99503

3/31/85

Senator Abood,

I urge you to read my enclosure, which I took from the "Alaska" magazine, March 1985 issue page 16, written by Robert A. Henning. This article expresses my feelings, and the feelings of most people I know.

I also urge you to support Senate Bill # 231 & House Bill # 238.

Fishing is my living and I want to go on living. E.M. deVillie

# Main Trails & Bypaths.

**W**e recently passed the opinion that sportsman anglers should not be allowed to fish salmon after the fish have entered their fresh-water spawning streams . . . and we were bitterly taken to task by at least one Anchorage resident whose opinion was that we were "far out of touch with Alaskans and especially South-Central and Western Alaska sport-fishing enthusiasts."

Well, Mr. Anchorageite . . . "we" (that's polite for editorial use to keep from using the big personal pronoun) have fished an awful lot of Alaskan rivers for more than half a century, and we've seen the changes in both regulations and the type of fisherman in Alaska. In years past, nobody except a few Natives took salmon out of spawning streams. It just wasn't done. There were markers at the mouths of streams beyond which commercial fishermen were not allowed, and, maybe because there were not too many of us sports fishermen, it was natural that since we didn't have to fish spawning salmon runs, we didn't.

The problem, reduced to simple terms, is largely with numbers and attitude. Now, we'll agree that it is great for folks to be able to go catch, with rod and reel, bright sockeye and bright silvers . . . even bright kings . . . for their annual stuffing of the freezer or the Sears canning equipment . . . but for folks to think pink-sided or black-joweled kings or silvers are "trophy" is kind of hard to swallow for a guy who grew up with bright sea fish. And for anybody to think a turned humpback or dog salmon is good fodder . . . that just shows they "don't know no better."

**P**eople ask this old-timer once in awhile as to "What changes do we notice in Alaska, over the years?" Well, we'll have to be honest and say that the "new breed" of sports fisherman who've arrived in Alaska in recent years, and the biologists and the fish management programs that have resulted, are among the greatest . . . and most serious changes . . . we've noticed.



The question put to us by our outraged Anchorage reader deserves some discussion. Times have changed. A lot of people have changed. And it may be a good time to begin bringing out a lot of untouchable subjects and begin fashioning a little more thoughtful ethic among all fishermen . . . Native as well as White . . . and their administrators.

Our Anchorage complainer accused us of leaning to the Native subsistence fishermen and "against" non-Native fishermen . . . sportsmen. The answer to that criticism is yes and no . . . "yes," because we believe time-honored (and against the total fish run numbers, extremely small) traditional takings of spawning fish were . . . and note we said "were" . . . legitimate, and "no" because what is being lost in the shuffle of this whole "subsistence" fishing management problem is that there are probably more whites than there used to be Natives, qualified for "subsistence" fishing on spawning streams, plus the fact that for a variety of legal and economic reasons, there are now many more Natives than there were before . . . you don't have to be "half," you can be "quarter" . . . the collective Native health and living conditions have greatly improved . . . In many instances, it is more profitable to be Native . . . and, not insignificantly, there is no longer stigma in being non-white.

The old Native, in his fewer numbers, did not take much. The new Native, and his white neighbors privileged to have subsistence, are not only legally allowed salmon from spawning streams, but where in years past fishing in streams for salmon was discouraged for Natives in any great numbers and totally disallowed in any commercial sense, and prohibited altogether for whites, now a new generation of biologists and fish and game administrators

has abandoned all old stream-watching protection systems and has jumped headlong into political administration of fish stocks . . . for votes . . . trying to answer pressure from all gear groups and certainly answering to pressure from Native groups . . . and we hasten to emphasize here, a "new" kind of Native group . . . not the old-time folks who truly lived off the land, but the modern-day political corporations spawned by whites themselves.

**I**n actual administration practices for fish and game protection, no longer are stream watchmen put out for a few weeks or a few months at the mouths of important salmon streams to inhibit or prevent poaching of salmon above the markers. Any number of important fish runs are being gradually whittled down to dangerous stock levels by legal subsistence fishing. Many runs could be wiped out in a season, for all time, if a handy market should appear.

White rights? What rights does a pair of white school teachers pulling \$50 to \$100 thousand a year in wages have for "subsistence" sockeye they can take from a spawning stream with a drag net or with other gear?

Sooner or later we are going to have to come to grips with the fact that the blood lines between Natives and whites have become blurred . . . even the political rights of inheritance for Native rights and for fish permits have become blurred.

Political fights, gear fights, and racial fights . . . plus the importation of new "sportsman" fishing ethics . . . have collided in places like the crowded Kenai River and the Russian. Probably only improved policing and sharing rules will smooth things out on the Kenai, but there are other rivers where rules and regulations might be better adjusted before the fact. We need more ethic, more concern for preserving what we can of what used to be.

Let us understand that there are too many new whites, too many only partly native Natives, too many politicians and too many fish and game administrators controlled by politicians. It is a time for soul searching.

*Kreaky, our bald-headed eagle at Angoon, was sure nice and white in the head and tail feathers in November, when this was being written. Probably fresh winter feathers, and he wasn't getting them so stained with spawning salmon. Incidentally, with the herring into winter holes, salmon runs over, and bottom fish moved out to deeper water, Kreaky was*



*making a meal the other day of a big starfish. He'll be after the unwary duck or sea gull soon.*

*Asked about subsistence fishing, Kreaky says, "At the best it's lousy, this subsistence fishing. Some years there are hardly any fish in the streams at all. Maybe one day there won't be any salmon. Hope there will still be herring . . . but if all the eggs get shipped to Japan . . . can we have herring without eggs?"*

*Robert G. Fleming*  
 Publisher

RECEIVED  
MAR 29 1985

March 27, 1985

To: Senator Abood, Chairman  
Senate State Affairs Committee  
Pouch V  
Juneau, AK 99811

From: Mr. & Mrs. Robert Banta  
Box 12  
Cordova, AK 99574

Re: SB #231 or similar legislation

We urge you to support SB #231 or any similar legislation that would return to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game the power to regulate and manage the fish and game resources of our state. If such legislation were not passed, the impact on commercial fishing (and on those communities dependent on the fisheries) in Alaska would be devastating.

*Robert N. Banta*  
*Jo Anne Banta*

RECEIVED  
MAR 29 1985

Dear Senator Abood :

My name is Dan Strickland. I am 31 years old and live with my wife Pamela in Cordova. We just had our first child, a son, 14 days ago. I came to Alaska 13 years ago and have worked for the Department of Fish and Game for 4 years, and as a commercial fisherman for 9.

I realize the complexity of a subsistence definition and the politics of relating this definition to fish and game management, from my work with the Eskimos and their marine mammal harvest, but I can hardly believe the recent Supreme Court decision making all Alaskans, rural and urban both, subsistence users with first priority.

You know all the arguments pro and con I'm sure. I would just like to add my voice in support of Senate Bill #231 and House Bill #288.

With the support of the state of Alaska my wife and I have built a lifestyle for the last 9 years. Please, please, do not obliterate what we have struggled for for the last decade. Support passage of Senate Bill #231 and House Bill #288. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Dan Strickland  
P.O. Box 1517  
Cordova, Alaska 99574  
424-5277

Senator Abood, Chairman  
Alaska State Legislature  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Abood,

I live in Cordova and I run a small fish business, along with Tom Johnson also of Cordova. The whole of our business runs strictly off the Copper River red and king salmon run.

I'm writing to you now, in the hopes that you will support Senate Bill #231. If the bill is not passed, I'm afraid the future of the people of Cordova and our children will be limited to handouts from the state welfare. I know this sounds drastic, but everything in this small fishing town is centered around the commercial fishing fleet. Personally the affects on myself if this bill is not passed will be devastating as I have no other means from which I depend. I feel stuck between a rock and a hard spot as we who depend on commercial fishing are a minority. I only hope you will take our livelihoods into serious consideration.

Thank You for your time and effort

Not without hope

Betty J. York

*Betty J. York*  
*Tom Johnson*

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 29 1985

Oliver Osborn  
Box 1183  
Cordova, Alaska 99574

March 26, 1985

Senator Mitch Abood  
Alaska State Legislature  
Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Abood,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 231 which addresses subsistence use of Alaska fish and game resources. As a resident of Cordova, Alaska and a member of the City Council, I believe the passage of this bill to be very important.

The Board of Fish and Game clearly needs an expansion of the categories of user groups. The recent decision of the Alaska State Supreme Court appears to allow almost all non-commercial users of fish or game to claim subsistence status. I believe that most people fishing in the recreational net fisheries do not literally depend on the fishery for their existence. The fishing is done largely for sport, and partly for the resulting "gourmet" food that results. An example is the fishery at Chitina. Most of the dipnetters are participating not out of economic necessity but because of the recreational value of the fishing, and the fun of harvesting their own foods from the wild.

This is a legitimate use of the resource and needs to be provided for, but it is not a true subsistence use. A category of "personal use" must be created to allow for and regulate this harvest. This use should not have priority rating above other established user groups.

Commercial fishermen have a long history of dependence on the fish resource. The City of Cordova is dependent on commercial fishing for its existence. Commercial fishing ranks second only to oil in value to Alaska, and it is by far the most valuable renewable resource of Alaska. Please help perpetuate this value.

Sincerely,

*Oliver Osborn*

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 29 1985

Senator Abood,

RECEIVED  
MAR 29 1985

PAGE I

Addressing The Senate STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dear Senator as a Copper River commercial Salmon Gillnet Fisherman and a ten year resident of Alaska, I urge you to support Senate Bill # 231 or similar legislation to save the Copper River Salmon Fishery, my profession, and the town of Cordova. Failure to stop unlimited subsistence usage by the urban masses of the State will end the traditional 70 year old commercial fishery on the Copper River, as well as take 75% of my yearly earned income away. As a Gillnet Fisherman for Salmon, the Copper River Fishery provides the bulk of my yearly catch and supports my livelihood. Cutting off the Copper River commercial fishing season would put a serious threat to the town of Cordova's very existence. Cordova's local economy depends on the revenue generated thru the Copper River Fishery. All local business's would face the possibility of closing their doors in the event of NO Commercial Fishing on the Copper River. Without this fishery my profession as a Gillnetter would be seriously jeopardized. I rely totally on the income from Salmon Fishing. If the fishery is taken away from me, I have no way to make a living and have limited training in other fields of work. How would you as a Senator like it if a law was passed that basically eliminated politicians as a bread earning profession, thus forcing you to find another way to earn a living?

You would probably react the same way I am and make an effort to protect your way of life and career. My Career as a Drift Gillnetter is likely to be finished without the Copper River Fishery. I strongly urge you to support legislation that would return the power back to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Game to regulate the resource. They have studied the Copper River Fish Stocks and have a set management plan. We must protect the resource above all else. Unlimited subsistence harvests would soon eventually wipe out the Copper River Salmon runs. I feel subsistence should be based on the individual's needs and traditional use basis. Those individuals who need the Salmon to help survive should be able to take what they can personally consume. For one individual to take 200 Salmon or a Family 500 Salmon when they cannot in all probability consume that many Fish is absurd. That makes an under-the-table Fish sale situation likely for illegally dealing with the surplus Fish. It turns every subsistence fisherman into a Commercial Fisherman on the 200 fish quota system. How many Families actually eat that many fish? There are only a few choices with that many fish, Sell them, Smoke them, or blantly waste them! I myself eat a lot of Salmon annually. Including Canning, Smoking, and gifts to relatives,

(Cont.)

I have personal use of 30 to 50 Salmon at the most, and I am a professional Fisherman! There should be a personal use fishery for all resident Alaskans, but it should be regulated by need. Those residents who need the fish to subsist on would get them under Senate Bill #231. This Bill would also allow Traditional use groups, such as Commercial Fisherman, and Copper River Valley resident to be able to continue our set-way of existence and help assure management of future stocks of Salmon. I have my whole life's investment tied up in the industry at age 32. I have State backing on a resident loan from the Alaska Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank. All in all I have over \$100,000 tied up in my fishing business. I live a modest existence and work hard and take many risks against the ocean just to get by on most years I have participated in this fishery. So it's not as easy or lucrative as many might seem to think about the life of an Alaskan Commercial Fisherman. It should be my constitutional right to be allowed to continue this traditional way to make a living. Why is my profession any different than anyone else's? Give me a chance to earn a living! With Alaska's concern over falling oil revenues, the State should be concerned about enhancing its Commercial Fishing Industry, not pinching it out of existence and those who earn their livings from it.

Fishing Vessel

— Sincerely,

John C. Gregory

John C. Gregory

Copper River  
Salmon DRIFT  
GILNETTER

"NATAD"

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

We, the undersigned, as qualified voters in the State of Alaska, hereby strongly support management of wolves in Alaska in order to promote an environment that includes an abundance of wildlife. We oppose Sen. Victor Fisher's anti-hunting bill that would eliminate aerial gunning of wolves. This is not a legislative issue. We ask the governor and the board of game to start listening to the local advisory committees and residents of the areas affected. We ask that the professional opinions and data collected by our own Department of Fish and Game be respected and used for good wildlife management.

NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. Mary Coulman	Mary Coulman	P.O. Box 32 Tok, AK.	33 years
2. Robert T. Coulman	Robert T. Coulman	P.O. Box 32 Tok AK	46 yrs.
3. JOHN E BURNHAM	John E Burnham	379 DIVISION ST #315 FBIS AK	30 yrs
4. Glenn E. Burnham	Glenn E. Burnham	P.O. Box 363 Tok, AK.	28 yrs.
5. Kimberly K Roth	Kimberly K Roth	379 DIVISION ST #315 FBKS AK	25 yrs
6. LAMIE R. CALHOUN	Lamie R. Calhoun	Box 566 Homer AK	35 yrs
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By March 18, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

We, the undersigned, as qualified voters in the State of Alaska, hereby strongly support management of wolves in Alaska in order to promote an environment that includes an abundance of wildlife. We oppose Sen. Victor Fisher's anti-hunting bill that would eliminate aerial gunning of wolves. This is not a legislative issue. We ask the governor and the board of game to start listening to the local advisory committees and residents of the areas affected. We ask that the professional opinions and data collected by our own Department of Fish and Game be respected and used for good wildlife management.

NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. VERNON TERRAFLIN	<i>Vernon Terraflin</i>	Box 41 Tok	24.5 yrs
2. John Terraflin	<i>John Terraflin</i>	Box 95 Tok	40 yrs
3. F. Louis Stearns	<i>F. Louis Stearns</i>	Box 28 Tok	4 yrs
4. JOHN F STRANGE	<i>John F Strange</i>	1122 E 19 <sup>th</sup> AVE #308	12 years
5. Marce J. Augustin	<i>Marce J Augustin</i>	Box 1269 Delta Jet	6.5
6. PATTEN G Witt	<i>Patten G Witt</i>	1965 Weston DR	24 yrs
7. Gwendolyn Witt	<i>Gwendolyn Witt</i>	1965 Weston Dr	18 yrs
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By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

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	NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1.	GARY DENNIS	Gary Dennis	Mile 112 Richardson Hwy	16 YEARS
2.	Charles E. Benjamin	Charles E Benjamin	Mile 6 Edgerton Hwy.	23 years
3.	Lyle J. Tilton	Lyle J. Tilton	Mile 106.5 Richardson Hy	10 years
4.	GARY A. FISHER	Gary A. Fisher	mile 182 CIKODAKA	39 YEARS
5.	GREG STASEMAN	Greg Staseman	Miles 58 Tok Hwy	3 YEARS
6.	Sueann Staseman	Sueann Staseman	Mile 58 TOK Hwy.	3 yrs.
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March 15  
By ~~February 17~~, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL.

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. Loren Maack	Loren Maack	3206 Seward Rd.	17 yrs
2. JOHN G. GATES	John Gates	914 W-23rd Anchorage	26 yrs
3. AL SKEESICK	Al Skeesick	5300 LAKE OULS #372	3 YEARS
4. G. B. CARVER	GB Carver	3277 Wiley Post Loop	15 YEARS
5. S. L. SCHUYLER	S. L. Schuyler	9031 SEWEL TERRACE #A	2 MONTHS
6. MARK J. MUNIAR	Mark Muniar	2516 RASPBERRY Rd.	3 1/2 yrs.
7. CSHR NORTON	Csh Norton	5061 Buckingham Way	27 yrs
8. JACK MIZE	Jack Mize	300 EGANILOR APT H	2 1/2 yrs
9. RONALD SWINGLE	Ronald Swingle	3601 W. 8TH ANCHORAGE	4 yrs
10. FRED R. SMITH	Fred R. Smith	361 Muldoon Anchorage	10 yr
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PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

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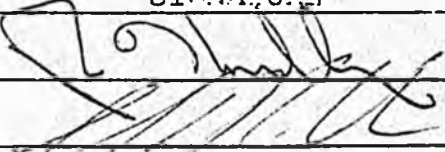
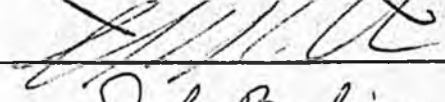
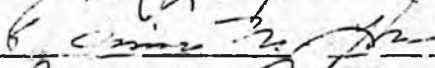
NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. RALPH BOWERS	Ralph Bowers	PO Box 461 99577 Eagle River	15 YRS
2. EDWARD H. HOFFMAN	Edward H. Hoffman	4244 Kingston Dr. Anchorage 99504	12 YRS
3. WILLIAM CALACHO	William Calacho	6601 Valley Ave Anch AK 99702	15 YRS
4. WILLIAM CRAZAR	William Crazar	1003 4153 Anch AK 99502	14 YRS
5. GUNN ROGSTAD	Gunn Rogstad	3105 W 29TH Anch. AK 99503	40 YRS
6. HOWARD FEIG	HOWARD FEIG	2505 KAHILTNA AK 99577	5 YRS
7. LINDALVA L ANDERSON	Lindalva L Anderson	2302 W 121 AVE AK 99575	36 YRS
8. WALLY TURNER	W Turner	2504 STATE ST FBKS AK 99701	12 YRS
9. LEO SCHMID	Leo Schmid	PHILLIPS FIELD RD FBKS AK 99706	5 YRS
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By February 27, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

We, the undersigned, as qualified voters in the State of Alaska, hereby strongly support management of wolves in Alaska in order to promote an environment that includes an abundance of wildlife. We oppose Sen. Victor Fisher's anti-hunting bill that would eliminate aerial gunning of wolves. This is not a legislative issue. We ask the governor and the board of game to start listening to the local advisory committees and residents of the areas affected. We ask that the professional opinions and data collected by our own Department of Fish and Game be respected and used for good wildlife management.

NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. Ron Warbelow		P.O. Box 401 Tok, AK 99780	35 yrs
2. Charles Warbelow		Box 93 Tok, AK 99780	31 yrs
3. John Bridgers <del>John Bridgers</del>	John Bridgers	Box 433 Tok, AK 99780 -	30 "
4. Randy Kello	Randy Kello	Box 532 Tok, AK 99780	13 yrs
5. Bruce McLaughlin	Bruce McLaughlin	Box 71 Tok, AK 99780	10 yrs
6. DENNIS W. HAZEN		P.O. Box 60986 FAIRBANKS 99706	5 yrs
7. MICHAEL BUCK	Michael Buck	Box 444 TOK 99780	10 yrs
8. Larell Wilson	L Wilson	Box 156 TOK, AK.	36 yrs
9. Bob Dovic	Bob Dovic	AK 99779	
10. Bob Malisch Bob MALISCH	Bob Malisch	Box 506 TOK AK. 99780	5 yrs.
11. <del>Bob Jonathan</del>	<del>Bob Jonathan</del>	<del>Box</del>	
12. STEVE BREELER	Steve Breeler	Box 155 Tok, Ak. 99780	3 yrs
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By March 18 , 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

TO: Governor Bill Sheffield, Alaska State Legislature and the Board of Game

We, the undersigned, as qualified voters in the State of Alaska, hereby strongly support management of wolves in Alaska in order to promote an environment that includes an abundance of wildlife. We oppose Sen. Victor Fisher's anti-hunting bill that would eliminate aerial gunning of wolves. This is not a legislative issue. We ask the governor and the board of game to start listening to the local advisory committees and residents of the areas affected. We ask that the professional opinions and data collected by our own Department of Fish and Game be respected and used for good wildlife management.

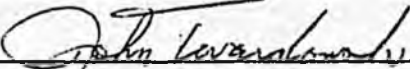
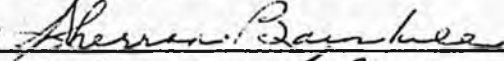
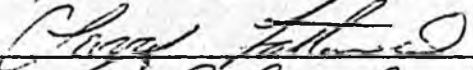
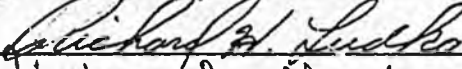
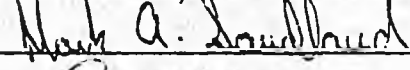

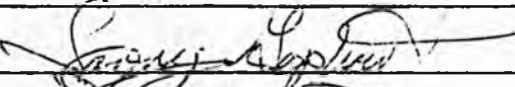

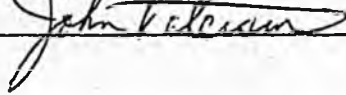
NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. Ronald A. Sturgeon	<i>Ronald A. Sturgeon</i>	3532 North Point Dr Anch AK	21 yrs
2. James Reiss	<i>James Reiss</i>	Furor ST Wasilla	7 yrs
3. Jean J. Burke	<i>Jean J. Burke</i>	Bx 875607 Wasilla, AK	23 yrs
4. RICHARD L. CARLSON	<i>Richard L. Carlson</i>	3900 GREENLAND DR ANCH AK	99503
5. Warren E. Olson	<i>Warren E. Olson</i>	5961 Orth Circle Anch. AK	99516
6. JOHN M. ZEILER	<i>John M. Zeiler</i>	137 HEINTZEMAN DR ANCH AK	99503
7. CH ROSENTHAL	<i>CH Rosenthal</i>	5900 CHRISTINA WAY ANCH 99516	15 yrs
8. GREG MURKIN	<i>Greg Murkin</i>	1111 W F ST 79th ANCH 99502	1 1/2 yrs
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By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. JOHN TIWARDOWSKI		KUSKOKWIM VALLEY BUSH RESIDENT	10 1/2 YEARS
2. SHERRON BARNHILL		KUSKOKWIM VALLEY BUSH RESIDENT	6 YRS
3. Larry Feltand		5907 S. Tahiti Loop Anchorage	3 yrs
4. RICHARD H. LUDKA		200 W. 34TH STE 170 ANCH., AK. 99503	15 YRS.
5. MARK A. SANDLAND		3942 Cosmos Dr. ANCH. AK. 99503	30 yrs.
6. ED HABEGER		7838 WISTERIA ANCH, AK.	14 yrs
7. Dwight Gosnell		3116 Cleaveland DR	20 yrs
8. JERRY GEPHART		3300 Steeplechase Dr	3 yrs
9. JOE SHIESL		3516 North Point ANC	13 yrs
10. JOHN PETERSON		Box 61265 FBKS 99706	12 YRS
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By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. AL RENIC	Al Renic	7140 ORANOR DR	36 yrs
2. GARY L. STEWART	Gary L. Stewart	7601 E 17 AVE ANCH AK	8 yrs
3. JAMES H. HICKLE	James H. Hickel	SR 5132 WASILLA, AK 99687	22 YRS
4. Cheryl Petregrew	Cheryl Petregrew	SR 5132 Wasilla, AK 99687	4 1/2 yrs.
5. Greg Remaklus	Greg Remaklus	7756 Brentwood Dr Anch	7 yrs
6. Gus Gillespie	Gus Gillespie	4871 Retriever Circle Anch	7 yrs.
7. Neil K. K... ..	Neil K. K...	Box 870777 Wasilla	12 yrs
8. Roger D. Morris	Roger D. Morris	2820 Sycamore Ave Anch	18 yr
9. DON B. SKIDMORE	Don B. Skidmore	4201 YUKON CIR. ANCH, AK	20 years
10. Steve P. Conraser	Steven R. Conraser	Gen. Del Grayling, Ak.	10
11. RICHARD A. RUFFENBERG	Richard Ruffenberg	Gen Del Grayling AK	7 years
12. LARRY L. CSISZAR	Larry L. Csiszar	12200 WAGNER RD ANCH AK	11 years
13. DAN J. Foster	D. J. Foster	SR 4 Box 6281 Palmer Ak.	6 1/2 years
14. Dan Elliott	DAN ELLIOTT	Box 454 TALKEETNA AK 99676	16 yrs
15. Jim Wood	Jim Wood	STR 31487 WASILLA AK 99687	36 yrs

By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

15

PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKA RESIDENCY
1. SUSAN L. ENTSINGER	<i>Susan L. Entsminger</i>	Mile 91 Tok Cutoff 99780	11 yr
2. Robert Mark Anthony	<i>Robert Mark Anthony</i>	2020 Lake Otis 99508	19 yr
3. Mark Hansen	<i>Mark Hansen</i>	2955 Bass Lt Anch 99507	4 yr
4. Rita Adams	<i>Rita Adams</i>	Box 301 Chevak AK 99557	4 yr
5. Robert J Adams	<i>Robert J Adams</i>	Box 201 Chevak AK 99557	4 yr
6. Andrea Y Hansen	<i>Andrea Y Hansen</i>	3959 Bass Anchorage, AK 99507	4 yr
7. David K Clouinger	<i>David K Clouinger</i>	38556 M Ulailla AK 99687	5 yrs
8. Larry McHughy	<i>Larry McHughy</i>	100 Swannell #164 Anch 99508	5 yr
9. DAVID M JOHNSON	<i>David M. Johnson</i>	3.6 Mi Remington Rd Delta 99787	13 yr
10. SPENCER BIEGEL	<i>[Signature]</i>	704-B Fischer Ave Fair 99502	2 yr
11. Scott Reubin	<i>[Signature]</i>	2905 Arctic Plv. CHISANA ALASKA 99503	1 yr
12. Terry Overly	TERRY OVERLY	PIONEER OUTFITTERS 99588	27 yrs
13. DEB Overly	DEB Overly	CHISANA AK 99588	12 yrs
14. Ben Kusche	Ben Kusche	4110 DeBarr 14E Anchorage AK 99504	5 years
15. John D'Arcy	John D'Arcy	410 Debar #30 Anch. AK 99508	5 years

By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

(15)  
 PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. Roy Wickers	<i>Roy Wickers</i>	1303 W 23rd #17	11 YEARS
2. Robert Holmgren	<i>Robert Holmgren</i>	5617 TONGUE	3 YEARS
3. Nelson Stenker	<i>Nelson Stenker</i>	3409 W. 4th St. Anch, AK	11 YEARS
4. Robert H. Conway	<i>Robert H. Conway</i>	6951 Hyatt Anch, AK	11 years
5. MITCH WILGREN	<i>Mitch Wilgren</i>	13251 SENNA CIRCLE	16 YEARS
6. <del>Richard F. Jones</del> Russell Schwarz	<i>Russell Schwarz</i>	1409 Cleveland #3	7 yrs
7. RICHARD F. JONES	<i>Richard F. Jones</i>	2447 LOUSSAC DR	16 yrs.
8. C. Lavern Hartvigson	<i>C. Lavern Hartvigson</i>	2901 Wedgum Dr. Anchorage	12 years
9. TOM SHEARER	<i>Tom Shearer</i>	1830 MELANIE AVE WASILLA	9 years.
10. TOM HUNDLEY	<i>Tom Hundley</i>	406 Rempel Palmer AK	12 years
11. <i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	3007 Arctic #31 Anchorage AK	24 years
12. KENNETH D. Mc DONALD	<i>Kenneth D. McDonald</i>	P.O. Box 670947 Anchorage AK	11 YR.
13. Roger Denny	<i>Roger Denny</i>	P.O. Box 774604 Eagle River	10 yrs
14. Brad Langvardt	<i>Brad Langvardt</i>	P.O. Box 4127 Soldotna AK.	17 yrs
15. Ed Habeger	<i>Ed Habeger</i>	7838 WISTERIA #2 ANCH, AK	14 yrs

By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780

(15)

## PETITION TO OPPOSE SEN. VIC FISHER'S ANTI WOLF HUNTING BILL

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NAME (Please print)	SIGNATURE	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	LENGTH OF ALASKAN RESIDENCY
1. <i>George Yukson</i>	<i>George Yukson JR</i>	Box 26 Chitina AK	6 yrs
2. GAYLE YUKSON	<i>Gayle M. Yukson</i>	Box 26 Chitina AK	24 yrs.
3. Douglas Steiner	<i>Doug Steiner</i>	1200 W. 79th Ave Anch	11 yrs
4. <i>Tommy Steiner</i>	<i>Tommy Steiner</i>	1200 W 79th Ave	11 years
5. Dale W Raetscoender	<i>Dale W Raetscoender</i>	Golden Nugget Campsite 4100 DeBar Rd Anch AK	10 years
6. Stuart Johnson	<i>Stuart R Johnson</i>	Box 3074	7 years
7. Emil Cada	<i>Emil Cada</i>	129 W 23rd	32 yrs.
8. HAZEL CADA	<i>Hazel G. Cada</i>	129 W 23rd	21 yrs
9. Dana Ellis	<i>Dana Ellis</i>	431 W 87th	9 yrs
10. RICHARD L VOTH	<i>Richard L Voth</i>	CRESTVIEW LN #39 ER.	17 yrs
11. Debra A. Fink	<i>Debra A. Fink</i>	Crestview LN #39 ER.	10 years
12. Dave Francliff	<i>Dave Francliff</i>	88 mile	12 yrs.
13. <del>ALAN R. CANE</del>	<i>Alan R. Cane</i>	SR B OVID 261	17
14. C. W. Phillips	<i>C. W. Phillips</i>	Pachos 577 Box 517 Anch.	2 yrs.
15. S. L. Miller	<i>George Miller</i>	Kenilworth Anch 99510	31 yrs.

By February 17, 1985, mail petition to: Sue Entsminger, Mile 91 Tok Cutoff, Tok, Alaska 99780