

**CONFIRMATIONS
2015:
BOARD OF
FISHERIES**

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OF FISHERIES</SUBJECT><COMM>SRES29</COMM></TARGET>

Executive Summary

Roland R. Maw, BSc., MEd., PhD.

Fisheries:

- North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission – 5 years
- Kenai/Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee – 6 years
- Kenai River Special Management Area – Board Member, 3 years
- United Fishermen of Alaska, Litigation Team Member – OCEANA Lawsuit
- United Cook Inlet Drift Association – Executive Director, 11 years
- Educated fishery biologists and enforcement officers – 30 years
- Commercial salmon and halibut fishing – 33 years
- Charter sport fishing – 3 salt water vessels, co-owner – 15 years
- Conducted biological-acoustical salmonoid research – 16 years
- Author, sportfishing book, centennial edition, 1985, Parks, Canada
- Chalky halibut research, International Pacific Halibut Commission

Wildlife:

- Class A big-game guide – 5 years (brown bear, moose, sheep)
- Grizzly and black bear management research – PhD
- Conducted study concerning wildlife management in China for United Nations
- Fatality hearing officer, U.S. National Park Service, bear mauling death(s)
- Educated wildlife, biological and enforcement officers

Administrative/Executive:

- Special Constable, Alaska State Troopers – 3 years
- Superintendent Chugach and Kenai-Kodiak Districts – Alaska Parks
- University Board of Governors / Senator – 6 years
- Chairman, charitable societies – 20 years
- 120+ million dollars, budget preparation, approvals and control
- 200+ million dollars, worth of negotiated contracts

Parks:

- Senior Operating Officer – Alaska State Parks System at age 27
- Senior Parks Planner – Greater Anchorage Area Borough
- Park Management and Public Policy Instructor – University of California
- Park Management and Public Policy Instructor – Lethbridge College

Public Relations:

- T.V., radio, newspaper – appearances and articles
- Firm but fair with public
- Mediator, conflict resolution abilities

Personal Skills/Beliefs:

- Computer literate
- Practical/pragmatic problem solver
- Enjoys organizing work and strategic planning for the future
- Able to work within bylaws and policy guidelines
- Can delegate a wide variety of tasks and activities
- Hard-working and intellectually competitive

ROLAND RICHARD MAW, Jr.



PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT:

To manage and regulate the use of natural resources for the benefit of individuals and companies while protecting the unique nature and diversity of ecological systems

EDUCATION:

Degrees

- Ph.D. Degree, 1988
 - Major: Forestry and Wildland Management
 - Minor: Natural Resource Management
 - Dissertation: Black and Grizzly Bear Management
 - University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- Master of Education Degree, 1970
 - Major: Education, Outdoor Recreation
 - Minor: Biology/Resource Management
 - Thesis: Wilderness Area Management
 - Brigham Young University
- Bachelor of Science Degree, 1969
 - Majors: Zoology, Animal Ecology
 - Minor: Botany
 - Weber State College
- High School Graduation
 - Major: Sciences
 - Butte High School, Butte, Montana

Alaska Organizations

- Kenai River Special Management Area Board Member
- Litigation Team Member "OCEANA Case" – United Fishermen of Alaska
- Kenai Wild Salmon Marketing – Vice President, 4 years
- Member, United Fishermen of Alaska, Vice President of Administration
- Board Member, Soldotna/Kenai Alaska Department of Fish and Game Advisory Committee – 6 years
- Legacy Economic Planning – For Alaska's Future Fisheries Committee, Office of the Governor
- Beluga Whale "Endangered Species" Stakeholder Committee, NOAA/NMFS

Special Training and Licenses

- 100 Ton U.S. Coast Guard Master – US Merchant Marine Officer
- Biotelemetry Workshop, Telonics Inc. – radio telemetry
- Class A Big-Game Guide – 5 years
- Advanced Red Cross and C.P.R. Heart Foundation Instructor
- Evidence and Court Procedures, Alaska State Trooper Academy
- Avalanche and Cold Weather Survival Training, U.S. Forest Service, USA Army

WORK EXPERIENCE:

North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, 2007-2011

- Commissioner – 5 year appointment by the US Department of State/ NOAA/NMFS. Nominated by the Governor of the State of Alaska.
- Represent Alaska on this International Commission that implements the International Treaties prohibiting high seas salmon drift net fishing. Commission helps coordinate the research on anadromous species by Canada, Russia, Japan, Korea and USA.

Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, Kenai, Alaska

Board of Directors, 5 year term

- The Aquaculture Association is responsible for the habitat restoration and enhancement of salmon stocks in the Cook Inlet region. The Association conducts stock assessments for spawners, fry and smolt. The Association also operates two salmon hatcheries and rearing facilities.
- Member of Executive Committee – Budget and personnel issues

Harvest Time Charters and Maw Tendering, Kenai, Alaska, 1980-Present

Co-Owner

- Charters for salmon and halibut, overnight adventure trips, Homer, Alaska
- Provide vessels, scientific, logistical and analytical support to the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Division concerning salmon migration patterns.
- \$200,000.00. Operate several fiberglass gillnet/long-liner vessels in the Cook Inlet, Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound for 30 years.

United Cook Inlet Drift Association, Soldotna, Alaska, November 2001-Present

Executive Director

- Provided scientific and technical review of Alaska Department of Fish & Game reports
- Analyzed regulatory proposals before Board of Fisheries
- Prepared written reports and testimony at Board of Fisheries hearings
- Manage the daily operations and approve financial expenses
- Respond to public inquiries, provide media interviews

International Pacific Halibut Commission, Homer, Alaska, August, 2001

Vessel Master Research on Chalky Halibut

- Provided technical and vessel support for sampling of halibut for chalky conditions
- Conducted visual and scientific sampling procedures
- Operated vessel, long line gear and supervised crew

Lethbridge College, Lethbridge, Alberta, 1974 to May 2001

Department Environmental Science – taught the following courses:

1. Foundations of Conservation, Ethics and Philosophy of Renewable Resource Management
2. Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitat Evaluation
3. Park Operations and Contract Administration
4. Issues in Resource Conservation, Economics, Tort Liabilities
5. Administration Procedures, Supervisory Practices and Principles
6. Problem Wildlife Management Techniques and Practices

State of Alaska Division of Parks, Anchorage, Alaska, August 1972 to September 1974.

Superintendent of State Parks – Responsible for:

1. Senior Staff Officer to Director of Division.
Duties included:
 - prepared annual work plans and strategies
 - coordination of regional operations with divisional operations
 - designed cost/benefit analysis procedures
 - reviewed capital projects and established priorities for funding
 - conducted public and quasi-judicial hearings
 - prepared legislation and regulations for division
 - prepared public replies to letter of inquiry for Director/Governor's office

WORK EXPERIENCE: continued

2. Chugach and Kenai-Kodiak Districts.
Duties included:
 - budget preparation and signing authority for operating accounts
 - planning and adjudication of resource allocation issues
 - staff hiring, evaluation and training
 - resource management, inventory, and management plans
 - public relations - developed and administered information systems
 - public safety and law enforcement coordination
3. Developed and established Search and Rescue operations involving lost hikers, cross-country skiers, downed aircraft and avalanche victims in and around the State Park areas.
4. Special Officer, Commission with Alaska State Troopers, 3 years.

Greater Anchorage Area Borough, Anchorage, Alaska, February 1972 to August 1972

Outdoor Recreation Planner

- In this position, was responsible for the resource analysis, research, preparation and final writing of park and recreational master plans for communities in the Anchorage area.

California State University at Northridge, Northridge, California, July 1970 to February 1972

Parks Management Instructor

- The major responsibilities of this position were to develop, organize and teach several classes involving resource management, outdoor recreation, independent studies and direct internship (field experience). Also was responsible for being an advisor to some 40 students.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, West Yellowstone and Madison Districts, Montana, April 1963 to Sept. 1963

Special Supervisor for Biological Control Programs (Problem Wildlife)

- Supervised field workers in poisoning of predators and rodents, prepared 1,080 poisoned oats and carcass baits.

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Administrative/Educational:

- Creative problem solver when appropriate
- Effective teacher with supervisory skills
- Enjoy working with individuals
- Ability to communicate effectively with staff and public
- Sensitive to individual needs and abilities
- Sensitive to cultural differences and rights
- Computer literate with statistical, accounting and word processing programs

Forestry/Fisheries Management:

- Author of Fisheries Book, scientific papers
- Economic analysis and policy formulation
- Budget preparation operations and analysis
- Land survey, mapping, air photo interpretation
- Wildland management planning and operations
- Forest fire fighting practices and equipment
- Radio Telemetry - wildlife and fisheries
- Operation of sampling and testing equipment

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES: continued**Marine:**

- Coastal navigation; maps, GPS and Radar
- Depth Sounders, Sonar, multiscanning systems
- Radio operations, CB, VHF and Single Sideband
- Engine; maintenance and operation Cat, Detroit Diesels
- Engine; maintenance and operation gas and diesel 4 and 2 cycle
- Gillnetting/Long lining; techniques, equipment and repairs
- Fish processing; all aspects of primary and secondary processing
- Vessel captain 100 Ton Master, US Merchant Marine

PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS:**International:**

- **Heilongjiang, China - World Wildlife Fund, United Nations (UNESCO)**
Scientific Exchange, 1986, concerning Wildlife, Parks and Nature Reserves
Met with and reviewed administrative practices in Ministry of Forestry
Developed strategies of how to deal with change
- **National Recreation & Park Associations, N.R.P.A.**
Board Member Park Practice, 1978-1979
Alaska Area Membership Chairman, 1974-1975
- **XI Sigma Pi, Alpha Tau Chapter (Forestry Honours Society)**
- **Waterton Lakes National Park, Biosphere Reserve**
Man and the Biosphere Reserve Program (UNESCO)
Technical Committee, 1986-1989
Management Committee member, 1986-1989

Provincial:

- **College Board of Governors, Lethbridge, Alberta**
1991-1994; Annual Budget: \$32,000,000.00; 700+ employees
- **University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta**
Senator – Rural Area Representative
Member of University Senate, 1988-1994
- **Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology, Alberta Culture**
Board of Directors, 1987-1988
Consultant – Special Advisor, 1986-1988, concerning:
 - Cooperating Association
 - Commercial Product developments
 - Public and Volunteer projects

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS:

1. **Bear Management Plan**
Bow Valley Corridor, 1993. Roland R. Maw et al.
2. **Feasibility study of Acoustic Techniques for Adult Salmon Assessment in Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska**
1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996. Biosconics Inc. Seattle, Washington. Technical, logistical and vessel support.
3. **Board of Inquiry**
Into the death of John Petranyi, October 3, 1992. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Glacier National Park, East Glacier, Montana.

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS: continued

4. **Visitor Perceptions and Bear Management: Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada**
1988, Ph.D. Dissertation, Department of Forestry, University of Alberta.
5. **Heilongjiang, China - Alberta, Canada, Canada Scientific Exchange**
1986, concerning: Wildlife, Parks and Nature Reserves.
6. **Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks**
1985 Lone Pine Publishing, ISBN 0-919433-43-X, 9,000 copies sold.
7. **Co-operative Activities**
Canadian Assembly, Heritage for Tomorrow Conference, Banff, Alberta, Conference Proceedings, 1985.
8. **Economic Considerations Regarding Outdoor Recreation and Forestry in Alberta**
Alberta Wilderness Association, Conference Proceedings, April 1984
9. **The Layman's Ability to Distinguish Between Black and Grizzly Bears**
The Third Predator Symposium, March 23, 1984, Missoula, Montana.
10. **Bear Behavior Patterns**
1978, Lethbridge Community College, Lethbridge, Alberta. This is a guide that describes some 40 behavioral patterns and associated functions of both black and grizzly bears. This publication is for problem wildlife officers and National State Parks employees.
11. **Outdoor Recreational Potential, Chugach Regional Native Land Selections**
Chugach Regional Native Corporation. This was a review of all regional and village lands, from which land selections were to be made, to determine the outdoor recreational potential, 75 pp.
12. **Development Prospectus Kachemak Bay, State Park**
1973, Alaska Division of Parks, Anchorage, Alaska. This was a prospectus that interested parties used to analyze the economic potentials of private concessions. The prospectus contained the contract that was going to be used to allow private concessions in the park.
13. **Development Prospectus Chugach State Park**
1973, Alaska Division of Parks, Anchorage, Alaska. The prospectus also contained a sample contract under which a concessionaire was to operate. Author.
14. **Campbell Creek Greenbelt Master Plan**
1972, Greater Anchorage Area Borough, Anchorage, Alaska. This is a 30-page Master Plan concerning the acquisition and subsequent development of a 300-acre Greenbelt (Park Strip) along Campbell Creek that flows through the center of the Anchorage Area. There was a two million dollar bond issue approved by the voters to implement the Master Plan.

RESEARCH GRANTS, ASSISTANTSHIPS AND SABBATICAL AWARDS:

1. Forestry Research Block Grant, \$2,000.00
2. Northern Boreal Institute Research Grants, \$2,500.00
3. University of Alberta, Forest Science Department Assistantship, \$2,580.00
4. Board of Governors, \$29,000.00, Sabbatical
5. Board of Governors, \$9,000.00, China Scientific Exchange
6. Conservation Enforcement Degree Program, \$285,000.00 per year



43961 Kalifornsky Beach Road • Suite F • Soldotna, Alaska 99669-8276
(907) 262-2492 • Fax: (907) 262-2898 • E Mail: kpfa@alaska.net

February 4, 2015

Honorable Alaska Legislator,

The Board of Directors of the Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association strongly endorses Governor Bill Walker's choice of Roland Maw Ph.D. to serve on the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Dr. Maw possesses substantial knowledge and experience in fish and game resource science and management, resource protection and public advocacy. He has a wealth of hands on experience as a resource user, having worked as both a commercial fisherman and sport fishing guide, much of which he experienced in Cook Inlet.

Dr. Maw's public service on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Kenai River Special Management Area Board, Kenai Wild Salmon Marketing Group and the Cook Inlet Beluga Recovery Plan Stakeholders Group speaks to his commitment to his community, state and to Cook Inlet's precious salmon resource.

Soon after Governor Walker was elected, his Fisheries Transition Team identified management of our resources by science rather than politics as a top priority. It's an ideal that has been echoed by resource users and lawmakers throughout Alaska. We think Dr. Maw will fulfill that ideal and bring science back to the forefront in the Board of Fish process. We call on you who must approve the appointment to look beyond the rhetoric, consider the health of our salmon runs and vote to approve Dr. Roland Maw to the appointed position as a member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association Board of Directors

Andy Hall, President

Ken Coleman, Vice-President

Lisa Gabriel, Secretary/Treasurer

Travis Every, Director

Sarah Hudkins, Director

Paul Shadura, Director

Joseph Person, Director

Todd Smith, Alternate Director

Will Faulkner, Alternate Director

2015 Board of Directors

President - J. Kevin Burchfield
Vice President - Chris Condor
Secretary - Grantley Moore
Treasurer - Jackie Yamada



2015 Members at Large

Toni Wisner
Ed Haney
Chris White
Richard Yamada
Louis Juergens

February 4, 2015

Re: Nomination of Roland Maw to the Board of Fish

To Whom It May Concern:

The Juneau Charter Boat Operators Association (JCBOA) represents charter fishing and nature viewing operators in the Juneau area. We were recently informed that Gov. Walker has nominated Mr. Roland Maw to the Board of Fish. Our board of directors has met and would like to recommend Mr. Maw not be confirmed to fill this position.

Mr. Maw's long term stance on fish management issues in our state and his participation in litigation that could result in the State losing control of our salmon fisheries to the Federal government could inhibit his ability to serve on the Board of Fish in a meaningful way. We feel strongly that Alaska must maintain control of our salmon fisheries.

We also would recommend that Gov. Walker be strongly encouraged to nominate a candidate from the Southeast area as we have been without representation for quite some time.

To reiterate the Juneau Charter Boat Operators Association strongly recommends that Mr. Roland Maw not be confirmed to the fill a vacancy on the Board of Fish.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and time in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Kevin Burchfield", written over a light blue horizontal line.

J. Kevin Burchfield
President



COOK INLET FISHERMAN'S FUND

Non-Profit Advocate for all Commercial Gear Types in Area H
PO Box 39408 / Ninilchik, AK 99639 / Phone 907-252-2752 / Fax 907-567-3306

FEBRUARY 14, 2015
Senate Resources
Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
State Capitol, Juneau, AK

Hello Lawmakers and or Committee Members,

Cook Inlet Fisherman's Fund (CIFF) is a non-profit fishing organization of over four hundred members. CIFF was created in 1975 to act as a single entity that speaks for all fishing gear types and advocates for a coastal community.

A quick question! When was there ever a Board of Fish appointee with a PHD in fish or wildlife resources? Now there is. Dr. Roland Maw, who has a PHD. in Wildlife Management and extensive fisheries knowledge and experience. Herein lies an opportunity to choose science over politics. The last decade has not served habitat, king salmon or the users well. Now is the time to do something different. The Governor believes in Dr. Maw and so do we. Dr. Maw is highly qualified. Please do what is best for Alaska's fisheries and fish habitat. Confirm Dr. Roland Maw.

Thank you,

John McCombs, President
cc. Governor Walker
All Legislators



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Joel Doner, Chair
210 Bree Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99515
Home: 907-345-7262
Email: bluenosesnowplow@gmail.com

February 9, 2015

To the Anchorage Delegation to the 29th Alaskan Legislature

On the 3 of February 2015 the Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee took a vote to oppose the Confirmation of Dr. Roland Maw to the Alaskan Board of Fish.

Dr. Maw's appointment was seemingly a kneejerk reaction to the Joint Board's failure to grant him an interview for the office of Commissioner of Fish and Game. While we are disappointed in the Joint Boards failure to grant the interview to an obviously qualified candidate, it is our view that he would not make an ideal Board of Fish member. He has consistently opposed Personal Use and Sport Fishing interests throughout his long history of public involvement in the Commercial Fishing Industry. Most Anchorage Residents would feel that their interests are threatened by such a shift in the makeup of the Board of Fish.

Chairman Johnstone's departure was premature and he was an obvious supporter of Sport fishing and PU fisheries. Dr. Maw in contrast has a history of representing a commercial organization that when a board action has not benefited them, the reaction has been to launch a legal action to challenge the board. These actions have cost the state untold amounts over the years successfully defending this effort. Dr. Maw's presence on the BOF would give this group a benefit that would be detrimental to the Anchorage Constituents. So for this reason He should NOT be confirmed.

Joel Doner, Chair
Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee



100 Trading Bay #1, PO Box 586 Kenai, AK 99611
907.929.0388
accrabak@earthlink.net
www.aksalmonalliance.org

February 1, 2015

The Honorable Bill Walker
Governor of Alaska
Office of Boards and Commissions
550 West 7th Avenue #1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
boards@alaska.gov

Dear Governor Walker:

The Alaska Salmon Alliance representing seafood processors and fishermen of the Kenai Peninsula wishes to provide a recommendation for Roland Maw, the Governor's recommendation for the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Roland Maw has a significant scientific and management related background in fisheries and wildlife and forestry, not only in Alaska, but Montana and Alberta. As evidenced in his career resume, Roland has a firm belief in science-based resource management. Although Roland has a lengthy tenure as a Cook Inlet commercial fisherman and the Executive Director of the United Cook Inlet Drifters Association (UCIDA), I can assure you, as someone who has known Roland for over twenty years, he is also known for objectivity, and sincere appreciation and recognition of the importance of sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries to residents of Alaska.

Roland and UCIDA have been involved in decades of contentious Board of Fisheries deliberations focused on Cook Inlet allocative and conservation related issues, that are routinely mischaracterized to demonize him and UCIDA, and other commercial fishing organizations. What has been lost in the noise of the debate is that Roland has demonstrated diverse knowledge on fisheries and the ability to work with diverse interests on complex fisheries issues. To summarize, Roland is greatly underappreciated due to rumors and innuendo about the goals and objectives of UCIDA. Much needed clarifications on these goals and objectives will be provided during the course of confirmation proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Arni Thomson", written over a horizontal line.

Arni Thomson, Executive Director

cc: Alaska State Legislature, House and Senate Resources Committees

Dear stewards and protectors of our public resources,

I wish to express my support for Dr. Roland Maw's confirmation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. As a resident of the Kenai Peninsula I, as most of our residents, have grown weary from the endless fish wars, political mismanagement of our fisheries, and disregard for our local culture and quality of life. While I realize the right of all Alaskans to participate in the harvest of our local resources, this right does not come without sustainable limits, proper habitat protection, and some measure of protection for our own historical culture. I believe Dr. Maw would bring balance to the board that has been absent for many years. Dr. Maw is a resident of the Kenai, an attribute sorely missing from the present board. Dr. Maw possesses scientific credentials that soar above any present and most former board members. I believe this glowing fact is the foundation of Governor Walker's wise appointment. Without credentials such as Dr. Maw's our fisheries are certainly doomed to follow in the path of so many failed attempts at resource management and habitat protection that line the shores of this great country. Resources and habitats whose demise was executed by greed and politics. Our fishery resources are not a political bargaining chip, they are a very real responsibility that I pray you will take seriously. Your responsibility starts with confirmation of Dr. Roland Maw; be the change we all hope for.

Sincerely,
William Faulkner
PO Box 554
Clam Gulch, AK
99568

Dear Senator Giessel,

We support Governor Walker's appointment of Dr. Roland Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. We ask for your vote of approval for his confirmation based on his history of supporting science based fisheries management.

His resume is a perfect example of the qualifications that we should seek when looking for board members who will support fisheries management based on science. We believe that Dr. Maw will mirror his decisions based on the Governor's Fisheries Transition Team's top priorities of Fish First, science over politics and habitat. Dr. Maw's testimonies before the Alaska Board of Fisheries have always been science based, as that is what he supports.

We respectfully ask for a yes vote from you for the confirmation of Dr. Roland Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Brian and Lisa Gabriel

Dear Senators,

I am a small business owner and even though the popular tide is against us, we are still Alaskan and should be considered as part of the "public interest" We need to bring our fishery back to biology and not popular vote. I have lived here for 30 years and in that time I have seen the fishery harmed by the excessive growth and pressure on our local rivers. Our commercial industry has been here for over 100 years and in that time, after statehood and with proper management, our fishery has grown healthy and strong! Our numbers (commercial fishermen) have been set with Limited Entry since 1972 and we experienced our first million fish return to Cook Inlet in the 1980's. In the 80's guides discovered the Kenai in ever increasing numbers (no limited entry for them) and our rivers are being over run by the huge number of dipnetters from all over the state (mostly Anchorage). Dipnetting is a very new fishery with its early concept and inception to stem the tide of our over abundant years and was going to be used as a management tool for the Department of Fish and Game. Now the fishery is out of control, boats drivers are rude, people on the banks are rude and the trash they leave behind is a blight on our community. WE NEED BALANCE ON THE BOARD OF FISH!! For years I have seen the sport interest overwhelm the Board of Fish with their candidates and its time you step in and confirm a fair and honest man, Roland Maw!

I have personally known Mr. Maw for many years and I can tell you from my experience that no one will work harder for you or be as fair. He is a man that is honest, open, and wants to see our precious resource thrive for generations to come. So ignore the voices that will work to discredit Mr Maw and do your own homework on who this man is. A confirmation FOR Roland Maw is a confirmation for FISH first and the protection of our resource.

Thank you for your time and attention in this issue.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Chase
PO Box 39
Kasilof, AK 99610

Dear Senator,

I am writing as a concerned member of the community to voice my support of Dr. Maw to be appointed to the board of fisheries. For years I have been utterly shocked at how little some members of the board know about how commercial fishing which has been around for over 100 years even operates. Dr. Maw would be balance to a board which makes critical decisions that badly needs his expertise. Setnetters are being blamed and used as a scapegoat for other interested groups to profit by them receiving a larger "piece of the pie." So, while others who cut him down are doing so in an effort to further their own causes and they have been successful at doing this to others in the past. Please help restore our faith in the governing bodies of Alaska by appointing good men of the community such as Dr. Maw.

Regards,

Mr. Mike Crookston

Kenai, Salamatof Beach.

Dear Senator Giessel,

As far back as I can remember, fish management has equaled politics in Alaska and vice-versa; a trend that has to stop so all Alaskans can realize plentiful populations for subsistence use, personal use, and sport and commercial harvest. Governor Walker has chosen someone to lead this effort in a science and biological approach, not political. Dr. Roland Maw has spent his entire life in the field of wildlife, habitat, and fisheries management with special efforts on sustained yield management through education and hands on experience. Mr. Maw holds a Doctorate in Forestry and Natural Resource management, a Master's Degree in Education of Outdoor Recreation, and a Bachelor's Degree in Zoology, Animal Ecology and Botany which has made him a valuable resource used by the U.N. in China, in Canada, the U.S. Park Service, Alaska State Troopers, Greater Anchorage Borough, and the State of Alaska. His extensive research and experience has been used as a reference for both U.S. and Canadian officials. Dr. Maw also brings a firm commitment to local decision making by individual area biologists, the folks who have boots on the ground and are trained to make scientific decisions in real time, something that has been all too sorely missed in past administrations.

A dedicated individual to the sciences of nature.

Prior to Governor Walker's choice, the Board of Fish has operated under a policy of redistribution of resources, not enhancement, predator control, or habitat protection. This has clearly failed many fisheries and the economies that are tied to each one of them, both sport and commercial. Subsistence and personal use fisheries have also suffered under the rule of redistribution. Einstein has said that doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result is insane. For nearly twenty years, the Board of Fish has continued to do the same thing over and over and our fisheries are failing.

Again, we need to move away from politics.

Please consider confirming Governor Walker's candidate for the Board of Fish, Dr. Roland Maw.

Respectfully,

Dino Sutherland
Eagle River

Honorable Alaska Legislator,

My family and I strongly endorse Governor Bill Walker's choice of Roland Maw Ph.D. to serve on the Alaska Board of Fisheries. The problems of the Cook Inlet fisheries stem from a lack of good science from the past Board of Fish actions. Please be part of the effort to restore good science in management and confirm Dr. Roland Maw to the appointed position as a member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries .

Sincerely,

Dave Watson & Family

Dear Senator Giessel –

First, thank you for the emails and updates that you send to all of us... it is so nice to be in the loop a little.

On the issue at hand, I am dismayed by the appointment of Mr. Maw to the BOF. As I am sure you have heard from others, this is a very divisive choice.

While he is a brilliant man with an extensive CV in fisheries, Mr. Maw has consistently taken extreme positions at the board for several cycles. There is no question that he would be far from balanced in his approach to managing the resources of the state and especially so on the difficult Southcentral issues.

Previous boards have been balanced between sport, commercial and subsistence representation – adding Mr. Maw to the existing board would tip that balance toward the commercial fishery and given his biases, I think he would be a disaster to the long term economy of the Kenai Peninsula and Southcentral Alaska.

Please take whatever steps you can to block his appointment.

George Heim

Cooper Landing



February 16, 2015

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol Room 427
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Giessel;

Kenai River Sportfishing Association (KRSA) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit fishery conservation organization dedicated to the sustainability of fisheries on the Kenai and Alaska. The Governor recently appointed Roland Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). KRSA strongly opposes this appointment and urge you to reject this nomination to the BOF.

The BOF sets policy for the state's subsistence, personal use, sport and commercial fisheries. Since the Hickel administration in the early 1990s, the BOF has had a balanced representation of three commercial fishing interests, three sport / PU interests and a subsistence interest (3-3-1 approach). A balanced board allows the various fishing sectors to have a voice on the board, but not a controlling interest.

With the appointment of Mr. Maw, a staunch backer of commercial fishing interests in Cook Inlet and Alaska, the 3-3-1 balanced approach with no controlling interest by any one sector has been abandoned. The BOF has now shifted to an unbalanced situation (4-2-1) of four commercial fishing interests, two sport / PU interests, and one subsistence interest. When it takes only four votes to enact or change fishery regulations, commercial fishing interests have the ability to control the BOF process without input or potential regard for other user groups. We do not support this unbalanced approach and ask for your support in preventing this situation from becoming the new standard for BOF members.

There are also disturbing issues that question the appointee's ability to work with others towards fair and balanced solutions to the complexities of fishery conservation and the at times contentious allocations between user groups. Mr. Maw has a track record of filing state and federal lawsuits against fishery regulatory boards and management agencies, the very groups a member of the board of fisheries is supposed to work in conjunction with to set Alaska fisheries policies. Through BOF proposals, frivolous ethics complaints, and public relations efforts, he also has cast unsubstantiated dispersions against other user groups in Cook Inlet. Through legal challenges that sought to impose national standards for fishing (Magnuson-Stevens Act national standard 4 precludes resident-only fisheries) on state fishery regulations, he has fought to negate the state's ability to prosecute resident-only subsistence and personal use fisheries. Such efforts would radically displace many Alaskan residents from essential fisheries across the state.

From unbalancing the board to his track record of one-sidedness, it is difficult to see how Mr. Maw's appointment will inspire confidence that the BOF process is fair and balanced to all interested parties. KRSA urges you to support a fair and balanced approach (3-3-1) to appointments to the BOF. We respectfully ask that you vote no on the appointment of Mr. Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Ricky Gease, KRSA Executive Director

February 16, 2015

Dr. Roland Maw
PO Box 64
Kasilof, AK

Senate Resources Standing Committee
Alaska State Senate

Dear Senators Giessel, Costello, Coghill, Micciche, Stedman, Stolze and Wielechowski:

As a governor's nominee to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, I expect that you, the press and the public will examine my education, experience and character before coming to a conclusion about my fitness to serve. I consider it a great responsibility to make policy affecting the use and protection of Alaska's valuable marine and aquatic resources. I welcome your scrutiny and I am fully prepared to undergo such an examination to the depth and degree that you see fit.

As we begin that process, I find it appropriate to address one matter that has arisen recently. I hope to avoid having it prejudice your view of my fitness to serve before you begin your consideration of my nomination.

I refer to a "news" column by Craig Medred, published on Feb. 4, 2015, in the Alaska Dispatch News. Mr. Medred claims to have discovered an instance in which I "lied under oath" in the course of an "investigation" of my character and qualification. I categorically reject this smear by Mr. Medred. I believe his attack on my integrity was malicious, and primarily intended to advance his personal campaign to discredit members of Alaska's commercial fishing industry. The record suggests Mr. Medred's "journalism" is actually advocacy on one side of a fish allocation struggle between sport and commercial fishing interests in the Cook Inlet region. I fear my reputation is in danger of becoming collateral damage in that dispute.

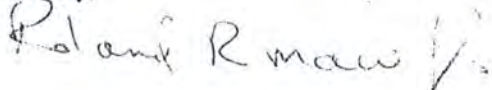
After Mr. Medred's attack on my integrity, I tried to get a rebuttal "op-ed" published, in a timely way, in the Dispatch News. So far, the newspaper has rejected that request. Therefore I'm taking this opportunity to provide your committee with my rebuttal and supporting material on this matter.

To that end, I am providing your committee the following:

1. My rebuttal as proposed for publication
2. An appeal to the editor of the editorial page not to reject my rebuttal
3. The "declaration" on which Mr. Medred based his attack
4. A letter from Dr. James Butler correcting Mr. Medred's account of their interview
5. Mr. Medred's original column
6. An op-ed column by Cook Inlet commercial fisherman Wally Page, the subject of a previous Medred "investigation"

I'm sure you will have many questions for me about important issues. I look forward to having those discussions with you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Roland Maw in cursive script.

Op-ed submission to the Alaska Dispatch News by Roland Maw, Feb. 13, 2015

Alaska Dispatch News columnist Craig Medred has apparently completed his transition from aspiring journalist to professional character assassin. While the targets of his unethical and dishonest writing have varied, he has consistently reserved his greatest vitriol for those of us in Alaska's commercial fishing industry.

Last summer, readers of this page may recall, Mr. Medred maliciously targeted Cook Inlet commercial fisherman Wally Page. He falsely accused Mr. Page of intentionally using his drift-net fishing boat to swamp dipnetters along the shore of the lower Kenai River. He even went so far as to invent the resentments and anger of Mr. Page, to whom Mr. Medred had never spoken, in an effort to vilify him.

Now, it is my turn. I fished commercially in Cook Inlet for years, though I no longer do. I've been nominated by the governor to serve on Alaska's Board of Fisheries. That nomination is apparently what prompted Mr. Medred to turn his hatchet-job journalism on me.

This is apparently Medred journalism: He scoured my six-page resume, even calling my doctoral thesis advisor to confirm my degree. Was he verifying my credentials so he could report them accurately in the paper?

Hardly.

The column he wrote did not mention my bachelor's degree in zoology and animal ecology from Weber State College, my master's degree in education and outdoor recreation from Brigham Young University, or my Ph.D in forestry and wildlife management from the University of Alberta at Edmonton.

Did he interview anyone about my five years of service on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, my five-year term as a director of the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, my work for the International Pacific Halibut Commission or my time as a senior supervisor of Alaska state parks?

I don't think so. I do know not a scintilla of such information made it into his column.

Did he at least scan "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks," the much-celebrated book I co-wrote, and upon which he supposedly based his column?

No, not that either.

Apparently Mr. Medred Googled my name until he found a "declaration" I had signed in my capacity as executive director of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association. The declaration was a pro-forma component of a lawsuit filed by UCIDA against the National Marine Fisheries Service. From that declaration, Mr. Medred zeroed in on exactly 21 words -- half of one sentence -- in which I described one achievement of the "Mountain Parks" book. He then misinterpreted those 21 words, never asked me whether his interpretation was correct, and proceeded to accuse me of lying under oath. This is his version of "gotcha journalism."

Mr. Medred claims he called me during the preparation of his column. That surprised me because while I did receive a call from someone, the caller ID was blocked and the caller never identified himself as Craig Medred. Had he so identified himself, I never would have talked to him. I know better.

Here are the 21 words that, to Mr. Medred, justify denouncing me as a liar:

The "Mountain Parks" book . . . "received numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of 'Bull Trout' as a new species of char/trout."

Here's what my co-author and I wrote in our 1985 book:

"The Bull trout and Dolly Varden: A few words are appropriate concerning the classification of these two fish. Earlier references spoke only of Dolly Varden, with a range extending from Alberta's east slope of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Recent work has demonstrated that those fish east of the Continental Divide and of the inner mountain watersheds are distinctly different from the Dolly Varden of coastal streams. Thus all of Alberta's Dolly Varden are now reclassified and are referred to as bull trout, *Salvelinus confluentus*. The Dolly Varden of coastal British Columbia, Washington and Alaska are classified as *Salvelinus malma*, a separate and distinct species."

For more than 100 years, the scientific literature had indicated that Canadian fish known as "Dolly Varden" were a single species from the eastern Rockies to the Pacific. Our book was the first publication in Canada to establish that there were two species of fish present in western Canada: Dolly Varden and bull trout. The original naming of bull trout had occurred more than a thousand miles away in California, in 1980. We used that 1980 taxonomic description to determine that some Canadian fish called Dolly Varden were actually bull trout. In the 30 years since our reclassification, many Canadian, U.S., provincial and state agencies have reexamined their local Dolly Varden and reclassified them as bull trout.

Nowhere in or out of our book did we claim to be the original discoverers of bull trout as a distinct species. Mr. Medred is wrong in asserting that I made such a claim. My reference was always to Western Canada, the subject of the book in question ("*Canada's Mountain Parks*"). There are two clear references to Canada in my "declaration." I doubt that a third would have made it any clearer to Mr. Medred. Only someone deliberately trying to smear my credibility could have misinterpreted those few words and then refused to clarify his understanding even with ample opportunity.

Before he wrote his column, Mr. Medred called my co-author, retired professor Dr. James Butler, in Edmonton. Butler told him our book never claimed to make the original discovery of bull trout as a species; rather the book corrected a long-standing error in the classifying of *Canadian fish*. Dr. Butler also told Mr. Medred he must have misunderstood something – because I would never have made such a claim. That was true.

Mr. Medred was determined to write a negative article about me. A convoluted fabrication based on semantics was the only hook he could come up with. Did that stop him? Unfortunately for me, and for the credibility of the Alaska Dispatch News, it did not.

Roland Maw defends his rebuttal and argues for its publication to the editorial page editors of the Alaska Dispatch News, Feb. 13, 2015

Via email:

Mr. Gerjevic (editorial page editor):

Thanks for your note. I'm not sure whether this response is properly addressed to you or to Mr. Woodham (senior editorial page editor), who apparently would prefer that I write a different rebuttal than the one I've chosen to write. In any case, I will attempt to answer his questions here. I don't wish to adopt his proposed column as my own, but where I can revise my column to clarify points or address his composition questions, I will happily do so.

Woodham: Do you think journalists have a duty to investigate the character and qualifications of public figures?

Maw: Yes, I do. Absolutely. After reading both pieces, do you, Mr. Woodham, honestly believe that Mr. Medred wrote a column that attempted to examine my character and qualifications? I believe my rebuttal speaks to this question specifically by pointing out that Mr. Medred failed to note — much less explore — any of my educational or professional background. Rather than examine the book I wrote, he focuses on 21 words I wrote about my book. To describe that as “shallow consideration” would be overly generous.

As I point out, his “investigation” of my character and qualification for public office examines nothing more than half of one sentence that he chose not to try to understand.

Please, by all means, I beg you, assign a real reporter to thoroughly vet my character and qualification for public office. I would welcome that. I can assure you that such an effort would go a long way toward refuting the entire premise of Mr. Medred's column.

Woodham: The story makes it clear (Medred) specifically asked you about the description of your work. How would you revise that sentence for accuracy?

Maw: I believe Mr. Medred's column should have made clear that he caught me between meetings, in the lobby of a hotel, to question me about half a sentence in a document I had written 15 months earlier as part of a civil lawsuit on an unrelated subject. He didn't say, “Here's what I want to ask you about,” could we make an appointment to talk about it after you've had a chance to review it?”

His column makes it abundantly clear that 1) I was caught off guard, 2) I didn't remember the exact text in question 3) I didn't have access to the text in question, 4) I didn't understand why I was being asked about it and 5) I was asked to respond based solely on Mr. Medred's oral rendition of a portion of the text and its context. It is more clear that I had no access to email, the internet or the original document, and wouldn't have such access for at least a day or two, until I returned home.

Imagine your phone ringing right now and you being asked to explain half a sentence from a memo you wrote 15 months ago based on the caller reading to you a part of what you wrote? Then imagine that your answer becomes — in the eyes of the public — the distillation of your entire journalism career.

Is that really your idea of a reporter seeking to discover the truth about you?

Woodham: This is the third version of this part of your account that we've seen. First it was that Medred didn't call you, then you said he did call but identified himself as Wesley Loy. Medred claims to have called from desk line here at ADN HQ, and that's not a blocked number. The alternative is his cell, that's not blocked either. What actually happened?

Maw: This is a fair point, and I myself still am not clear exactly what happened. First of all, there are not three versions of my account of the call, but there are two. I first believed I had never talked to Mr. Medred at all. I promise you that at no time during the call in question did I understand that I was talking to Craig Medred. Later, when Mr. Medred claimed that he had called and talked to me, and I was still certain he hadn't, I speculated that perhaps the call had come from Wesley Loy -- the only reporter I can ever remember calling me on my cell phone -- and that somehow the content of that call had been shared with Mr. Medred.

Now you tell me that Mr. Medred called on a phone on which his Caller ID would have displayed, which makes even less sense to me. The caller ID on my phone said, "Not available." When (Dispatch Editor) Tony Hopfinger called me the other day, the Caller ID showed 907-257-4200 (the main switchboard number for the newspaper). I do not know why my phone did not show a number for the call that Mr. Medred says he made.

Woodham: I'm still confused about (your claim of re-classifying the fish). . . . The text you quote says other people did the work to change the classification. Is there another relevant passage from the book you can quote?

Maw: This is not complicated. I was not claiming to have discovered "bull trout" as a new, distinct species of char. In the early years after the formal identification of bull trout as a new species by a scientist in the U.S., the common identification of "Dolly Varden" *in Canada* included fish my co-author and I came to realize were actually the newly identified bull trout.

Our book was the first place it was stated as scientific fact that some of the fish Canadians knew as Dolly Varden were not Dolly Varden but bull trout.

Look at the name of our book: "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks." Does that sound like a peer-reviewed journal where you would expect to find a formal scientific treatise revealing the discovery of a new genus of fish? Or does it sound like the place someone writing for Canadian laymen would explain *for the first time* that some of the fish they'd been calling Dolly Varden were actually a different species called bull trout?

Only someone eager to misrepresent what I was saying would assume so. If Mr. Medred had given me a genuine chance to explain what our book did that hadn't been done before -- honestly trying to understand, rather than playing minor league "gotcha" -- it could have been easily done.

Dr. James Butler, my doctoral adviser whose comments Mr. Medred twisted into an indictment of me -- the exact opposite of Dr. Butler's actual opinion, as you now know -- supports the statement that, *in Canada*, this was the first published reference to bull trout being a species distinct from Dolly Varden in large portions of Western Canada. That happened in 1985. This reclassification was based on our work and observations during the previous 20-plus years.

Now, if you really want to get into the details:

Salvelinus is the genus name for all char in North America. Species include (common names): lake trout, eastern brook trout or brook trout, arctic char, Dolly Varden and now bull trout.

In addition, there are first-generation hybrids resulting from cross-breeding among these four char. Many of these hybrids also have localized common names. Some, though not all, are sterile, but some can produce true first-generation hybrid offspring. These first-generation hybrids can crossbreed with the original stocks and other types of first-generation hybrids to produce second-generation hybrids and so on out to third- and fourth-generation hybrids.

It was difficult to sort out the true endemic (original) bull trout from all these first-, second- and third-generation hybrids. But we did it. You don't need to take my word for this. Ask Dr. Butler himself. Follow this link (<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2FBF00002461>) and look at reference No. 5.

In 1995, the Province of Alberta made the "Butler/Maw Bull Trout" the provincial fish. Until our work was published, there was an ongoing controversy *in Canada* as to what was a real bull trout.

The work of Dr. Butler and I stands as a reclassification of bull trout *in Canada* in 1985. Since 1985, many studies employing newly developed genetic mapping techniques have gone on to further sort out original genetic stocks and hybrids. The fish we described as bull trout in Western Canada are still recognized as the original parent stock of these Western Canadian fish.

Woodham: I advise you to close by making note somehow of your long service in the fisheries industry and to fisheries regulatory bodies, and all your education, the part of your bio above that you claim Medred didn't get right. I've taken a stab at it below, but please tailor the two following grafs to your own liking. The idea is to reiterate your qualifications and end on the note that you do deserve the Fish Board appointment no matter what Medred writes. That's the main point that I see you trying to get across to people, and it's more significant to readers than any back and forth between you and Medred.

Maw: I must insist on composing my own rebuttal. I think I understand my main point better than you do, and I've made my point in the way I believe it needs to be made. That requires more than simply saying "Did not!" to Mr. Medred's "Did too!"

Mr. Medred's documented history of deliberately distorting information to cast members of the commercial fishing community in a bad light, and the way that appears to have played into his libel against me are essential elements of this rebuttal and cannot be removed. If you indeed respect the idea of vigorous debate, and giving an aggrieved party an opportunity to rebut allegations made by someone to whom you have given a huge public soapbox, then let my rebuttal, as I composed it, be published in a timely way.

I also assume you will publish Dr. Butler's letter to the editor in conjunction with my piece. He also was misused by Mr. Medred and deserves at least that chance to get a fair hearing from your readers as well.

That said, I do appreciate why you feel the need to ask your questions. If you think some of the foregoing answers to them should be incorporated into my rebuttal, tell me which ones.

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

UNITED COOK INLET DRIFT
ASSOCIATION, and COOK INLET
FISHERMEN'S FUND,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICES ET AL.,

Defendants.

Case. No. 3:13-cv-00104-TMB

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

I, Dr. Roland Maw, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I know these facts of my own personal knowledge and would competently testify to them if called as a witness.

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

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2. I have a master's degree from Brigham Young University in Resource Management and a PhD in Resource Management from University of Alberta, Department of Forestry, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

3. I am also the coauthor of Fishing Canada' Mountain Parks, 1985, published as the Parks Canada Centennial edition, authors signed and numbered edition and general public editions. These editions have received numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of "Bull Trout" as a new species of char/trout.

4. I have served as a Commissioner on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, with White House Approval, and in this capacity I represented Alaskan interests in implementing the international treaties prohibiting high-seas salmon driftnet fishing and in coordinating anadromous species research conducted by Canadian, Russian, Japanese, Korean, and U.S., fisheries scientists.

5. I am the Executive Director of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association, Inc. ("UCIDA"), a for-profit-organization that represents the economic, political, social, and legal interests of the commercial salmon driftnet fishing fleet in the Upper Cook Inlet area. UCIDA's mission is to promote public policy that facilitates the science-based and orderly harvest of Cook Inlet salmon in a manner that is economically and ecologically sustainable and that protects commercial salmon fishing in Cook Inlet as a viable way of life. UCIDA and its members are committed to the protection of the environment of Cook Inlet, and to ensuring that its marine resources are both managed and conserved to enhance the health and productivity of the ecosystem.

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

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6. Presently, UCIDA has approximately 312 members, or approximately 60% of the entities or individuals that currently fish in Upper Cook Inlet. These fishermen make their living by commercial fishing, and hold State of Alaska limited-entry permits (meaning permits can no longer be issued, and are fully allocated), which authorize them to catch all five species of salmon: sockeye, coho, chinook, chum, and pink. The majority of drift gillnet fishing by UCIDA's members in Cook Inlet occurs within federal waters.

7. Drift gillnet boats are small-scale fishing operations, typically crewed by one to three persons. Each fishing operation represents a substantial investment in the boat, gear, and the permit itself. Each boat is generally allowed to deploy a single 900-foot-long gillnet. The gillnet is suspended in the water column by floats (called "corks"), as the boat drifts with the current – hence the name "drift gillnet." After the gillnet is allowed to "soak" in the water for a length of time (as the boat and net drift with the current), the gear is hauled in, and the fish are removed and placed on ice in the boat's hold. Those fish are then transported to, and offloaded at, one of Cook Inlet's local seafood processors in fishing communities such as Kenai, Kasilof, Ninilchik, or Homer. After processing, these salmon are delivered throughout the United States and around the world. In addition to permit holders, UCIDA has approximately 65 associational members including fish processors, gear suppliers, crew members, and other interested members of the community.

8. Among other things, UCIDA regularly participates in the Board of Fish ("Board") proceedings, by presenting testimony, filing resolutions, and attending Board meetings. UCIDA also coordinates closely with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the seafood

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processing industry to promote regulations that protect the quality of commercial fishing and thus both the quality and quantity of the harvest yield in the Cook Inlet fishery.

9. In addition to serving as UCIDA's Executive Director, I am also a commercial salmon fisherman, with a limited entry permit to fish in the Upper Cook Inlet area, and have 32 years of experience in this fishery.

10. I have also at various times operated the test boat for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The test boat conducts sample fishing in the EEZ and other portions of the Cook Inlet in an effort to predict the strength of salmon returns.

11. UCIDA members have long been concerned with the State's management of salmon fisheries in Cook Inlet. One of the principal concerns is that the State is not managing these fisheries consistent with the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act ("MSA"), and the maximum sustainable yield principles or best scientific information requirements contained therein. The nature of those concerns is detailed in the comment letters we submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS"), in the Administrative Record at RULEFMP_000022-000315. In short, the State has not properly set escapement goals in Cook Inlet, consistent with the MSA's requirements, and the biological resource and the fishing communities who depend on that resource have suffered tremendously.

12. One of the primary concerns over State management is whether the State is setting appropriate escapement goals based on the sound science and principles set forth in the MSA. Too many times in recent years, the State has allowed over-escapement of the fisheries by either setting escapement goals too high or exceeding those inflated goals. This kind of over-

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escapement of salmon not only harms fishermen and the communities that rely on commercial fishing, but also seriously impacts the fishery resource. Just as too many cattle on a field can over graze that field, too many spawning salmon can overwhelm available spawning locations, and the overabundance of juvenile salmon can exhaust the available food supply. This is particularly true for sockeye, which rely on a lakes system for part of their life cycle.

13. Over-escapement can result in depressed returns for three to five years. Repeated over-escapement can effectively reduce the overall run size over time. Along with former Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Jeff Fox, I charted commercial harvest in Cook Inlet from 1885 through 2010. Those charts are in the Administrative Record at RULEFMP_000067-83. Nearly all fish species in Cook Inlet show the same pattern. Harvest increased initially after the passage of the MSA, but then decreased significantly after 2,000 when the state began departing from the requirements of the MSA in favor of its Sustainable Salmon Policy.

14. NMFS and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the "Council") has jurisdiction over the portions of Cook Inlet that occur within the exclusive economic zone, north of the Anchor Point line. The EEZ portion of Cook Inlet is essential to commercial salmon fishing in Cook Inlet. The EEZ portion of Cook Inlet is some of the best fishing in the Cook Inlet, as naturally occurring tidal rips collect fish into harvestable groups. If allowed to do so by the State, I and many other UCIDA members would spend the majority of our time fishing in the EEZ portions of Cook Inlet. Even with restrictions imposed by the State, more than half of the fish caught by the drift fleet occurs in the EEZ.

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15. I, along with several others from UCIDA, the Cook Inlet Fishermen's Fund ("CIFF"), and the fishing community, participated in the Council's public process to amend the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off the Coast of Alaska (the "Salmon FMP"). Consistent with the express requirements of the MSA, we asked the Council to amend the Salmon FMP and to bring it up to date with the MSA's express requirements. We asked the Council to take steps necessary to ensure that the State manages the Cook Inlet salmon fisheries under a fishery management plan and in a manner consistent with the MSA and its 10 National Standards.

16. The Council had no interest in ensuring compliance with the MSA for Cook Inlet. Council members made that clear to me, both on the record and in personal communications. Rather than updating the Salmon FMP, the Council removed Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP altogether. The Council did so because it concluded that the State was already managing in a manner consistent with the MSA.

17. We similarly asked the NMFS to reject the decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP, and to comply with statutory mandates under the MSA. We presented substantial evidence that the State was not achieving the goals of the MSA. NMFS also refused to do so, agreeing summarily with the Council that State management was sufficient.

18. UCIDA's members, including I myself, are procedurally and substantively harmed by NMFS's approval of the regulations implementing Amendment 12 to the Salmon FMP. Specifically, NMFS's decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP seriously impairs my ability to make a living as a fisherman. The MSA is intended to ensure optimum

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yield from each fishery. But the removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP allows the State to manage that fishery in any manner that it chooses. Driftnet fishermen, including I myself, have therefore lost an important protection of the MSA.

19. Equally important, that loss of statutory protection has resulted in serious injury to Plaintiffs, and will continue to do so in the future. In the summer of 2013, the very first season following removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP, UCIDA's members, including I myself, suffered one of the worst fishing seasons in 20 years. The problems of this season and the low harvest of the commercial fishermen this season were not attributable to poor runs, but to management decisions of the state restricting fishing in the EEZ, while allowing escapement over the high end of the state's own targets in the Kasilof by approximately 100,000 fish and on the Kenai of approximately 159,000. This injury was compounded by the fact that the state's own high end escapement targets are themselves set too high. Fishermen suffered from lost harvest in the short term, and the fishery resource suffered from over-escapement in the long term.

20. Nor is this 2013 management problem a unique event for the State. In the summer of 2012, while the State was de facto managing the fishery under the prior 1990 fishery management plan, the State's management ultimately resulted in NMFS declaring a Fishery Management Disaster. Set net fishermen, including CIFF members, were forced to suffer financial ruin while millions of sockeye, above and beyond those necessary for biological goals, escaped up river. This again resulted in immediate lost harvest, and long-term impact to the fishery resource. Similarly in 2011, the State again failed to properly manage the fishery,

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resulting in massive excess-escapement. Not only does this over-escapement hurt fishermen, but it hurts the resource itself.

21. A properly developed fishery management plan could significantly reduce these problems. Under a properly delegated fishery management plan, the State would be forced to ensure that it was managing the fishery in a manner consistent with the MSA based on sound scientific evidence.

22. UCIDA's members, including I myself, are also injured because removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP exposes the EEZ to unregulated fishing by out-of-state vessels. As a direct result of NMFS's decision, a vessel not registered with the State may fish unrestricted in the EEZ portions of Cook Inlet without date, gear, or time restrictions. I have spoken to a number of fishermen who are very interested in exploiting this loophole, and that interest is expected to increase as the State continues to push permitted fishing efforts toward terminal areas and away from fishing in the EEZ.

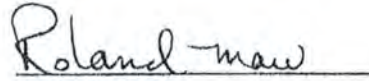
23. The creation of this loophole diminishes the value of the limited entry permit that all driftnet fishermen must possess. Prior to NMFS's action, only limited entry permit holders could fish in the EEZ portion of Cook Inlet, and the number of such permits is fixed. Now, anyone with an out-of-state vessel can fish in the EEZ portion of Cook Inlet, and these fishermen can do so using any fishing method they desire. The creation of this loophole also destabilizes the fishery and puts the resource at risk, creating the potential for overfishing. Both of these harms are clearly caused by NMFS's decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP and would be redressed by a properly developed fishery management plan for Cook Inlet.

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I swear that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

DATED: August 27, 2013.



Roland Maw

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 30, 2013 I filed a copy of foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court – District of Alaska by using the CM/ECF system. Participants in this Case No. 3:13-cv-00104-TMB who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system.

/s/ Jason T. Morgan _____
Jason T. Morgan

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

United Cook Inlet Drift Association, et al. v. NMFS et al.
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Letter to the editor of the Alaska Dispatch News by Dr. James Butler, Feb. 13, 2015

From: Jim Butler <profjbutler@aol.com>
Date: February 13, 2015 at 5:52:32 AM MST
To: <tony@alaskadispatch.com>
Subject: Rebuttal comment: Roland Maw Fish Board Appointment

To the Editor, Alaska Dispatch:

I have concerns about the recent article of Feb. 4th in the Alaska Dispatch, "Did Alaska Fish Board appointee really discover an endangered species?" I am Professor James Butler from the University of Alberta, and I was quoted in this article that is critical of the recent appointment by Governor Bill Walker of Dr. Roland Maw to the State of Alaska Fisheries Board.

There seems to be some confusion in the article over Dr. Maw's credentials concerning references to a claim that he wrote the detailed description of the Bull Trout. He did indeed write a detailed description of the identification and ecology of the Bull Trout for our book "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks."

When we were writing that book we well knew about the split of a new species of Char, *confluentis*, the Bull Trout, from the Dolly Varden, which happened seven years before our book was published. In our book we clarified that all of what had been called Dolly Varden in Alberta were now officially Bull Trout.

And to enable fishermen to refer to this fish properly, Dr. Maw wrote a clear, precise, accessible description and ecology of the Bull Trout with clear instructions on how to distinguish it from its sea-going Dolly Varden relatives in British Columbia. This provided important clarification to a great many of our biologists and fishermen who were struggling with the descriptive identification and ecology of this new fish, only recently separated from the Dolly Varden, and that information aided in the conservation measures introduced here in Alberta, contributing to its protection.

While the book never received any awards in the form of plaques or cash prizes, it did receive a great deal of recognition, praise and excellent reviews, and a special printing in a hard-cover boxed edition was put out in response to its demand.

What appears to me to be an unfounded character attack on Dr. Maw, a highly accomplished and well-respected conservation biologist, I can only presume is an attempted slur aimed at derailing his appointment to the Alaska Fish Board and forthcoming confirmation hearing.

I was Dr. Roland Maw's graduate supervisor for his Ph.D. from the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta, and I have been deeply impressed with his character, judgment, and professionalism over the years. His advice has been highly valued by my university and myself on pertinent conservation issues.

I served at the time on the prestigious Canadian Advisory Council, which had direct and close access to our national Minister of the Environment and the Prime Minister of Canada. Dr. Maw's valued advice, through me, influenced the direction of an extensive range of national policy decisions concerning Canada's forests, wildlife, water resources and fisheries. Because of his in-depth knowledge of salmon, population ecology and identification of sea-caught salmon, my department and related courses on wildlife and fisheries expanded our University teaching curriculum to include Pacific salmon, which was beyond our typical focus on Alberta wildlife species. In particular his guest lectures broadened the exposure of our wildlife and conservation biology students to salmon and created an awareness of how

commonly misidentified Pacific salmon were throughout Alberta in our supermarkets and restaurants, and Japanese restaurants in particular. We were deeply grateful for Dr. Maw's expert guidance and assistance.

I am pleased to see that his leadership abilities have led him to become a current candidate for a position on Alaska's Fisheries Board. I can certainly understand why Governor Walker chose to appoint him.

James R. Butler, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
University of Alberta

February 16, 2015

Dr. Roland Maw
PO Box 64
Kasilof, AK

Senate Resources Standing Committee
Alaska State Senate

Dear Senators Giessel, Costello, Coghill, Micciche, Stedman, Stolze and Wielechowski:

As a governor's nominee to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, I expect that you, the press and the public will examine my education, experience and character before coming to a conclusion about my fitness to serve. I consider it a great responsibility to make policy affecting the use and protection of Alaska's valuable marine and aquatic resources. I welcome your scrutiny and I am fully prepared to undergo such an examination to the depth and degree that you see fit.

As we begin that process, I find it appropriate to address one matter that has arisen recently. I hope to avoid having it prejudice your view of my fitness to serve before you begin your consideration of my nomination.

I refer to a "news" column by Craig Medred, published on Feb. 4, 2015, in the Alaska Dispatch News. Mr. Medred claims to have discovered an instance in which I "lied under oath" in the course of an "investigation" of my character and qualification. I categorically reject this smear by Mr. Medred. I believe his attack on my integrity was malicious, and primarily intended to advance his personal campaign to discredit members of Alaska's commercial fishing industry. The record suggests Mr. Medred's "journalism" is actually advocacy on one side of a fish allocation struggle between sport and commercial fishing interests in the Cook Inlet region. I fear my reputation is in danger of becoming collateral damage in that dispute.

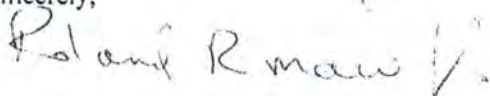
After Mr. Medred's attack on my integrity, I tried to get a rebuttal "op-ed" published, in a timely way, in the Dispatch News. So far, the newspaper has rejected that request. Therefore I'm taking this opportunity to provide your committee with my rebuttal and supporting material on this matter.

To that end, I am providing your committee the following:

1. My rebuttal as proposed for publication
2. An appeal to the editor of the editorial page not to reject my rebuttal
3. The "declaration" on which Mr. Medred based his attack
4. A letter from Dr. James Butler correcting Mr. Medred's account of their interview
5. Mr. Medred's original column
6. An op-ed column by Cook Inlet commercial fisherman Wally Page, the subject of a previous Medred "investigation"

I'm sure you will have many questions for me about important issues. I look forward to having those discussions with you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Roland R. Maw in cursive script.

Op-ed submission to the Alaska Dispatch News by Roland Maw, Feb. 13, 2015

Alaska Dispatch News columnist Craig Medred has apparently completed his transition from aspiring journalist to professional character assassin. While the targets of his unethical and dishonest writing have varied, he has consistently reserved his greatest vitriol for those of us in Alaska's commercial fishing industry.

Last summer, readers of this page may recall, Mr. Medred maliciously targeted Cook Inlet commercial fisherman Wally Page. He falsely accused Mr. Page of intentionally using his drift-net fishing boat to swamp dipnetters along the shore of the lower Kenai River. He even went so far as to invent the resentments and anger of Mr. Page, to whom Mr. Medred had never spoken, in an effort to vilify him.

Now, it is my turn. I fished commercially in Cook Inlet for years, though I no longer do. I've been nominated by the governor to serve on Alaska's Board of Fisheries. That nomination is apparently what prompted Mr. Medred to turn his hatchet-job journalism on me.

This is apparently Medred journalism: He scoured my six-page resume, even calling my doctoral thesis advisor to confirm my degree. Was he verifying my credentials so he could report them accurately in the paper?

Hardly.

The column he wrote did not mention my bachelor's degree in zoology and animal ecology from Weber State College, my master's degree in education and outdoor recreation from Brigham Young University, or my Ph.D in forestry and wildlife management from the University of Alberta at Edmonton.

Did he interview anyone about my five years of service on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, my five-year term as a director of the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association, my work for the International Pacific Halibut Commission or my time as a senior supervisor of Alaska state parks?

I don't think so. I do know not a scintilla of such information made it into his column.

Did he at least scan "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks," the much-celebrated book I co-wrote, and upon which he supposedly based his column?

No, not that either.

Apparently Mr. Medred Googled my name until he found a "declaration" I had signed in my capacity as executive director of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association. The declaration was a pro-forma component of a lawsuit filed by UCIDA against the National Marine Fisheries Service. From that declaration, Mr. Medred zeroed in on exactly 21 words – half of one sentence -- in which I described one achievement of the "Mountain Parks" book. He then misinterpreted those 21 words, never asked me whether his interpretation was correct, and proceeded to accuse me of lying under oath. This is his version of "gotcha journalism."

Mr. Medred claims he called me during the preparation of his column. That surprised me because while I did receive a call from someone, the caller ID was blocked and the caller never identified himself as Craig Medred. Had he so identified himself, I never would have talked to him. I know better.

Here are the 21 words that, to Mr. Medred, justify denouncing me as a liar:

The "Mountain Parks" book . . . "received numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of 'Bull Trout' as a new species of char/trout."

Here's what my co-author and I wrote in our 1985 book:

"The Bull trout and Dolly Varden: A few words are appropriate concerning the classification of these two fish. Earlier references spoke only of Dolly Varden, with a range extending from Alberta's east slope of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Recent work has demonstrated that those fish east of the Continental Divide and of the inner mountain watersheds are distinctly different from the Dolly Varden of coastal streams. Thus all of Alberta's Dolly Varden are now reclassified and are referred to as bull trout, *Salvelinus confluentus*. The Dolly Varden of coastal British Columbia, Washington and Alaska are classified as *Salvelinus malma*, a separate and distinct species."

For more than 100 years, the scientific literature had indicated that Canadian fish known as "Dolly Varden" were a single species from the eastern Rockies to the Pacific. Our book was the first publication in Canada to establish that there were two species of fish present in western Canada: Dolly Varden and bull trout. The original naming of bull trout had occurred more than a thousand miles away in California, in 1980. We used that 1980 taxonomic description to determine that some Canadian fish called Dolly Varden were actually bull trout. In the 30 years since our reclassification, many Canadian, U.S., provincial and state agencies have reexamined their local Dolly Varden and reclassified them as bull trout.

Nowhere in or out of our book did we claim to be the original discoverers of bull trout as a distinct species. Mr. Medred is wrong in asserting that I made such a claim. My reference was always to Western Canada, the subject of the book in question ("*Canada's Mountain Parks*"). There are two clear references to Canada in my "declaration." I doubt that a third would have made it any clearer to Mr. Medred. Only someone deliberately trying to smear my credibility could have misinterpreted those few words and then refused to clarify his understanding even with ample opportunity.

Before he wrote his column, Mr. Medred called my co-author, retired professor Dr. James Butler, in Edmonton. Butler told him our book never claimed to make the original discovery of bull trout as a species; rather the book corrected a long-standing error in the classifying of *Canadian fish*. Dr. Butler also told Mr. Medred he must have misunderstood something – because I would never have made such a claim. That was true.

Mr. Medred was determined to write a negative article about me. A convoluted fabrication based on semantics was the only hook he could come up with. Did that stop him? Unfortunately for me, and for the credibility of the Alaska Dispatch News, it did not.

Roland Maw defends his rebuttal and argues for its publication to the editorial page editors of the Alaska Dispatch News, Feb. 13, 2015

Via email:

Mr. Gerjevic (editorial page editor):

Thanks for your note. I'm not sure whether this response is properly addressed to you or to Mr. Woodham (senior editorial page editor), who apparently would prefer that I write a different rebuttal than the one I've chosen to write. In any case, I will attempt to answer his questions here. I don't wish to adopt his proposed column as my own, but where I can revise my column to clarify points or address his composition questions, I will happily do so.

Woodham: Do you think journalists have a duty to investigate the character and qualifications of public figures?

Maw: Yes, I do. Absolutely. After reading both pieces, do you, Mr. Woodham, honestly believe that Mr. Medred wrote a column that attempted to examine my character and qualifications? I believe my rebuttal speaks to this question specifically by pointing out that Mr. Medred failed to note — much less explore — any of my educational or professional background. Rather than examine the book I wrote, he focuses on 21 words I wrote about my book. To describe that as “shallow consideration” would be overly generous.

As I point out, his “investigation” of my character and qualification for public office examines nothing more than half of one sentence that he chose not to try to understand.

Please, by all means, I beg you, assign a real reporter to thoroughly vet my character and qualification for public office. I would welcome that. I can assure you that such an effort would go a long way toward refuting the entire premise of Mr. Medred's column.

Woodham: The story makes it clear (Medred) specifically asked you about the description of your work. How would you revise that sentence for accuracy?

Maw: I believe Mr. Medred's column should have made clear that he caught me between meetings, in the lobby of a hotel, to question me about half a sentence in a document I had written 15 months earlier as part of a civil lawsuit on an unrelated subject. He didn't say, “Here's what I want to ask you about,” could we make an appointment to talk about it after you've had a chance to review it?”

His column makes it abundantly clear that 1) I was caught off guard, 2) I didn't remember the exact text in question 3) I didn't have access to the text in question, 4) I didn't understand why I was being asked about it and 5) I was asked to respond based solely on Mr. Medred's oral rendition of a portion of the text and its context. It is more clear that I had no access to email, the internet or the original document, and wouldn't have such access for at least a day or two, until I returned home.

Imagine your phone ringing right now and you being asked to explain half a sentence from a memo you wrote 15 months ago based on the caller reading to you a part of what you wrote? Then imagine that your answer becomes — in the eyes of the public — the distillation of your entire journalism career.

Is that really your idea of a reporter seeking to discover the truth about you?

Woodham: This is the third version of this part of your account that we've seen. First it was that Medred didn't call you, then you said he did call but identified himself as Wesley Loy. Medred claims to have called from desk line here at ADN HQ, and that's not a blocked number. The alternative is his cell, that's not blocked either. What actually happened?

Maw: This is a fair point, and I myself still am not clear exactly what happened. First of all, there are not three versions of my account of the call, but there are two. I first believed I had never talked to Mr. Medred at all. I promise you that at no time during the call in question did I understand that I was talking to Craig Medred. Later, when Mr. Medred claimed that he had called and talked to me, and I was still certain he hadn't, I speculated that perhaps the call had come from Wesley Loy -- the only reporter I can ever remember calling me on my cell phone -- and that somehow the content of that call had been shared with Mr. Medred.

Now you tell me that Mr. Medred called on a phone on which his Caller ID would have displayed, which makes even less sense to me. The caller ID on my phone said, "Not available." When (Dispatch Editor) Tony Hopfinger called me the other day, the Caller ID showed 907-257-4200 (the main switchboard number for the newspaper). I do not know why my phone did not show a number for the call that Mr. Medred says he made.

Woodham: I'm still confused about (your claim of re-classifying the fish). . . . The text you quote says other people did the work to change the classification. Is there another relevant passage from the book you can quote?

Maw: This is not complicated. I was not claiming to have discovered "bull trout" as a new, distinct species of char. In the early years after the formal identification of bull trout as a new species by a scientist in the U.S., the common identification of "Dolly Varden" *in Canada* included fish my co-author and I came to realize were actually the newly identified bull trout.

Our book was the first place it was stated as scientific fact that some of the fish Canadians knew as Dolly Varden were not Dolly Varden but bull trout.

Look at the name of our book: "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks." Does that sound like a peer-reviewed journal where you would expect to find a formal scientific treatise revealing the discovery of a new genus of fish? Or does it sound like the place someone writing for Canadian laymen would explain *for the first time* that some of the fish they'd been calling Dolly Varden were actually a different species called bull trout?

Only someone eager to misrepresent what I was saying would assume so. If Mr. Medred had given me a genuine chance to explain what our book did that hadn't been done before -- honestly trying to understand, rather than playing minor league "gotcha" -- it could have been easily done.

Dr. James Butler, my doctoral adviser whose comments Mr. Medred twisted into an indictment of me -- the exact opposite of Dr. Butler's actual opinion, as you now know -- supports the statement that, *in Canada*, this was the first published reference to bull trout being a species distinct from Dolly Varden in large portions of Western Canada. That happened in 1985. This reclassification was based on our work and observations during the previous 20-plus years.

Now, if you really want to get into the details:

Salvelinus is the genus name for all char in North America. Species include (common names): lake trout, eastern brook trout or brook trout, arctic char, Dolly Varden and now bull trout.

In addition, there are first-generation hybrids resulting from cross-breeding among these four char. Many of these hybrids also have localized common names. Some, though not all, are sterile, but some can produce true first-generation hybrid offspring. These first-generation hybrids can crossbreed with the original stocks and other types of first-generation hybrids to produce second-generation hybrids and so on out to third- and fourth-generation hybrids.

It was difficult to sort out the true endemic (original) bull trout from all these first-, second- and third-generation hybrids. But we did it. You don't need to take my word for this. Ask Dr. Butler himself. Follow this link (<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2FBF00002461>) and look at reference No. 5.

In 1995, the Province of Alberta made the "Butler/Maw Bull Trout" the provincial fish. Until our work was published, there was an ongoing controversy *in Canada* as to what was a real bull trout.

The work of Dr. Butler and I stands as a reclassification of bull trout *in Canada* in 1985. Since 1985, many studies employing newly developed genetic mapping techniques have gone on to further sort out original genetic stocks and hybrids. The fish we described as bull trout in Western Canada are still recognized as the original parent stock of these Western Canadian fish.

Woodham: I advise you to close by making note somehow of your long service in the fisheries industry and to fisheries regulatory bodies, and all your education, the part of your bio above that you claim Medred didn't get right. I've taken a stab at it below, but please tailor the two following grafs to your own liking. The idea is to reiterate your qualifications and end on the note that you do deserve the Fish Board appointment no matter what Medred writes. That's the main point that I see you trying to get across to people, and it's more significant to readers than any back and forth between you and Medred.

Maw: I must insist on composing my own rebuttal. I think I understand my main point better than you do, and I've made my point in the way I believe it needs to be made. That requires more than simply saying "Did not!" to Mr. Medred's "Did too!"

Mr. Medred's documented history of deliberately distorting information to cast members of the commercial fishing community in a bad light, and the way that appears to have played into his libel against me are essential elements of this rebuttal and cannot be removed. If you indeed respect the idea of vigorous debate, and giving an aggrieved party an opportunity to rebut allegations made by someone to whom you have given a huge public soapbox, then let my rebuttal, as I composed it, be published in a timely way.

I also assume you will publish Dr. Butler's letter to the editor in conjunction with my piece. He also was misused by Mr. Medred and deserves at least that chance to get a fair hearing from your readers as well.

That said, I do appreciate why you feel the need to ask your questions. If you think some of the foregoing answers to them should be incorporated into my rebuttal, tell me which ones.

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

UNITED COOK INLET DRIFT
ASSOCIATION, and COOK INLET
FISHERMEN'S FUND,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICES ET AL.,

Defendants.

Case. No. 3:13-cv-00104-TMB

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

I, Dr. Roland Maw, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I know these facts of my own personal knowledge and would competently testify to them if called as a witness.

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2. I have a master's degree from Brigham Young University in Resource Management and a PhD in Resource Management from University of Alberta, Department of Forestry, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

3. I am also the coauthor of Fishing Canada' Mountain Parks, 1985, published as the Parks Canada Centennial edition, authors signed and numbered edition and general public editions. These editions have received numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of "Bull Trout" as a new species of char/trout.

4. I have served as a Commissioner on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, with White House Approval, and in this capacity I represented Alaskan interests in implementing the international treaties prohibiting high-seas salmon driftnet fishing and in coordinating anadromous species research conducted by Canadian, Russian, Japanese, Korean, and U.S., fisheries scientists.

5. I am the Executive Director of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association, Inc. ("UCIDA"), a for-profit-organization that represents the economic, political, social, and legal interests of the commercial salmon driftnet fishing fleet in the Upper Cook Inlet area. UCIDA's mission is to promote public policy that facilitates the science-based and orderly harvest of Cook Inlet salmon in a manner that is economically and ecologically sustainable and that protects commercial salmon fishing in Cook Inlet as a viable way of life. UCIDA and its members are committed to the protection of the environment of Cook Inlet, and to ensuring that its marine resources are both managed and conserved to enhance the health and productivity of the ecosystem.

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6. Presently, UCIDA has approximately 312 members, or approximately 60% of the entities or individuals that currently fish in Upper Cook Inlet. These fishermen make their living by commercial fishing, and hold State of Alaska limited-entry permits (meaning permits can no longer be issued, and are fully allocated), which authorize them to catch all five species of salmon: sockeye, coho, chinook, chum, and pink. The majority of drift gillnet fishing by UCIDA's members in Cook Inlet occurs within federal waters.

7. Drift gillnet boats are small-scale fishing operations, typically crewed by one to three persons. Each fishing operation represents a substantial investment in the boat, gear, and the permit itself. Each boat is generally allowed to deploy a single 900-foot-long gillnet. The gillnet is suspended in the water column by floats (called "corks") as the boat drifts with the current – hence the name "drift gillnet." After the gillnet is allowed to "soak" in the water for a length of time (as the boat and net drift with the current), the gear is hauled in, and the fish are removed and placed on ice in the boat's hold. Those fish are then transported to, and offloaded at, one of Cook Inlet's local seafood processors in fishing communities such as Kenai, Kasilof, Ninilchik, or Homer. After processing, these salmon are delivered throughout the United States and around the world. In addition to permit holders, UCIDA has approximately 65 associational members including fish processors, gear suppliers, crew members, and other interested members of the community.

8. Among other things, UCIDA regularly participates in the Board of Fish ("Board") proceedings, by presenting testimony, filing resolutions, and attending Board meetings. UCIDA also coordinates closely with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the seafood

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processing industry to promote regulations that protect the quality of commercial fishing and thus both the quality and quantity of the harvest yield in the Cook Inlet fishery.

9. In addition to serving as UCIDA's Executive Director, I am also a commercial salmon fisherman, with a limited entry permit to fish in the Upper Cook Inlet area, and have 32 years of experience in this fishery.

10. I have also at various times operated the test boat for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The test boat conducts sample fishing in the EEZ and other portions of the Cook Inlet in an effort to predict the strength of salmon returns.

11. UCIDA members have long been concerned with the State's management of salmon fisheries in Cook Inlet. One of the principal concerns is that the State is not managing these fisheries consistent with the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act ("MSA"), and the maximum sustainable yield principles or best scientific information requirements contained therein. The nature of those concerns is detailed in the comment letters we submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS"), in the Administrative Record at RULEFMP_000022-000315. In short, the State has not properly set escapement goals in Cook Inlet, consistent with the MSA's requirements, and the biological resource and the fishing communities who depend on that resource have suffered tremendously.

12. One of the primary concerns over State management is whether the State is setting appropriate escapement goals based on the sound science and principles set forth in the MSA. Too many times in recent years, the State has allowed over-escapement of the fisheries by either setting escapement goals too high or exceeding those inflated goals. This kind of over-

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escapement of salmon not only harms fishermen and the communities that rely on commercial fishing, but also seriously impacts the fishery resource. Just as too many cattle on a field can over graze that field, too many spawning salmon can overwhelm available spawning locations, and the overabundance of juvenile salmon can exhaust the available food supply. This is particularly true for sockeye, which rely on a lakes system for part of their life cycle.

13. Over-escapement can result in depressed returns for three to five years. Repeated over-escapement can effectively reduce the overall run size over time. Along with former Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Jeff Fox, I charted commercial harvest in Cook Inlet from 1885 through 2010. Those charts are in the Administrative Record at RULEFMP_000067-83. Nearly all fish species in Cook Inlet show the same pattern. Harvest increased initially after the passage of the MSA, but then decreased significantly after 2,000 when the state began departing from the requirements of the MSA in favor of its Sustainable Salmon Policy.

14. NMFS and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the "Council") has jurisdiction over the portions of Cook Inlet that occur within the exclusive economic zone, north of the Anchor Point line. The EEZ portion of Cook Inlet is essential to commercial salmon fishing in Cook Inlet. The EEZ portion of Cook Inlet is some of the best fishing in the Cook Inlet, as naturally occurring tidal rips collect fish into harvestable groups. If allowed to do so by the State, I and many other UCIDA members would spend the majority of our time fishing in the EEZ portions of Cook Inlet. Even with restrictions imposed by the State, more than half of the fish caught by the drift fleet occurs in the EEZ.

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15. I, along with several others from UCIDA, the Cook Inlet Fishermen's Fund ("CIFF"), and the fishing community, participated in the Council's public process to amend the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off the Coast of Alaska (the "Salmon FMP"). Consistent with the express requirements of the MSA, we asked the Council to amend the Salmon FMP and to bring it up to date with the MSA's express requirements. We asked the Council to take steps necessary to ensure that the State manages the Cook Inlet salmon fisheries under a fishery management plan and in a manner consistent with the MSA and its 10 National Standards.

16. The Council had no interest in ensuring compliance with the MSA for Cook Inlet. Council members made that clear to me, both on the record and in personal communications. Rather than updating the Salmon FMP, the Council removed Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP altogether. The Council did so because it concluded that the State was already managing in a manner consistent with the MSA.

17. We similarly asked the NMFS to reject the decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP, and to comply with statutory mandates under the MSA. We presented substantial evidence that the State was not achieving the goals of the MSA. NMFS also refused to do so, agreeing summarily with the Council that State management was sufficient.

18. UCIDA's members, including I myself, are procedurally and substantively harmed by NMFS's approval of the regulations implementing Amendment 12 to the Salmon FMP. Specifically, NMFS's decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP seriously impairs my ability to make a living as a fisherman. The MSA is intended to ensure optimum

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yield from each fishery. But the removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP allows the State to manage that fishery in any manner that it chooses. Driftnet fishermen, including I myself, have therefore lost an important protection of the MSA.

19. Equally important, that loss of statutory protection has resulted in serious injury to Plaintiffs, and will continue to do so in the future. In the summer of 2013, the very first season following removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP, UCIDA's members, including I myself, suffered one of the worst fishing seasons in 20 years. The problems of this season and the low harvest of the commercial fishermen this season were not attributable to poor runs, but to management decisions of the state restricting fishing in the EEZ, while allowing escapement over the high end of the state's own targets in the Kasilof by approximately 100,000 fish and on the Kenai of approximately 159,000. This injury was compounded by the fact that the state's own high end escapement targets are themselves set too high. Fishermen suffered from lost harvest in the short term, and the fishery resource suffered from over-escapement in the long term.

20. Nor is this 2013 management problem a unique event for the State. In the summer of 2012, while the State was de facto managing the fishery under the prior 1990 fishery management plan, the State's management ultimately resulted in NMFS declaring a Fishery Management Disaster. Set net fishermen, including CIFF members, were forced to suffer financial ruin while millions of sockeye, above and beyond those necessary for biological goals, escaped up river. This again resulted in immediate lost harvest, and long-term impact to the fishery resource. Similarly in 2011, the State again failed to properly manage the fishery,

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resulting in massive excess-escapement. Not only does this over-escapement hurt fishermen, but it hurts the resource itself.

21. A properly developed fishery management plan could significantly reduce these problems. Under a properly delegated fishery management plan, the State would be forced to ensure that it was managing the fishery in a manner consistent with the MSA based on sound scientific evidence.

22. UCIDA's members, including I myself, are also injured because removal of Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP exposes the EEZ to unregulated fishing by out-of-state vessels. As a direct result of NMFS's decision, a vessel not registered with the State may fish unrestricted in the EEZ portions of Cook Inlet without date, gear, or time restrictions. I have spoken to a number of fishermen who are very interested in exploiting this loophole, and that interest is expected to increase as the State continues to push permitted fishing efforts toward terminal areas and away from fishing in the EEZ.

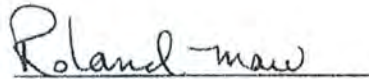
23. The creation of this loophole diminishes the value of the limited entry permit that all driftnet fishermen must possess. Prior to NMFS's action, only limited entry permit holders could fish in the EEZ portion of Cook Inlet, and the number of such permits is fixed. Now, anyone with an out-of-state vessel can fish in the EEZ portion of Cook Inlet, and these fishermen can do so using any fishing method they desire. The creation of this loophole also destabilizes the fishery and puts the resource at risk, creating the potential for overfishing. Both of these harms are clearly caused by NMFS's decision to remove Cook Inlet from the Salmon FMP and would be redressed by a properly developed fishery management plan for Cook Inlet.

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

United Cook Inlet Drift Association, et al. v. NMFS et al.
3:13-cv-00104-TMB

I swear that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

DATED: August 27, 2013.


Roland Maw

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

United Cook Inlet Drift Association, et al. v. NMFS et al.
3:13-cv-00104-TMB

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 30, 2013 I filed a copy of foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court – District of Alaska by using the CM/ECF system. Participants in this Case No. 3:13-cv-00104-TMB who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system.

/s/ Jason T. Morgan _____

Jason T. Morgan

DECLARATION OF ROLAND MAW

United Cook Inlet Drift Association, et al. v. NMFS et al.
3:13-cv-00104-TMB

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Case 3:13-cv-00104-TMB Document 32 Filed 08/30/13 Page 10 of 10

Letter to the editor of the Alaska Dispatch News by Dr. James Butler, Feb. 13, 2015

From: Jim Butler <profjbutler@aol.com>
Date: February 13, 2015 at 5:52:32 AM MST
To: <tony@alaskadispatch.com>
Subject: Rebuttal comment: Roland Maw Fish Board Appointment

To the Editor, Alaska Dispatch:

I have concerns about the recent article of Feb. 4th in the Alaska Dispatch, "Did Alaska Fish Board appointee really discover an endangered species?" I am Professor James Butler from the University of Alberta, and I was quoted in this article that is critical of the recent appointment by Governor Bill Walker of Dr. Roland Maw to the State of Alaska Fisheries Board.

There seems to be some confusion in the article over Dr. Maw's credentials concerning references to a claim that he wrote the detailed description of the Bull Trout. He did indeed write a detailed description of the identification and ecology of the Bull Trout for our book "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks."

When we were writing that book we well knew about the split of a new species of Char, *confluentis*, the Bull Trout, from the Dolly Varden, which happened seven years before our book was published. In our book we clarified that all of what had been called Dolly Varden in Alberta were now officially Bull Trout.

And to enable fishermen to refer to this fish properly, Dr. Maw wrote a clear, precise, accessible description and ecology of the Bull Trout with clear instructions on how to distinguish it from its sea-going Dolly Varden relatives in British Columbia. This provided important clarification to a great many of our biologists and fishermen who were struggling with the descriptive identification and ecology of this new fish, only recently separated from the Dolly Varden, and that information aided in the conservation measures introduced here in Alberta, contributing to its protection.

While the book never received any awards in the form of plaques or cash prizes, it did receive a great deal of recognition, praise and excellent reviews, and a special printing in a hard-cover boxed edition was put out in response to its demand.

What appears to me to be an unfounded character attack on Dr. Maw, a highly accomplished and well-respected conservation biologist, I can only presume is an attempted slur aimed at derailing his appointment to the Alaska Fish Board and forthcoming confirmation hearing.

I was Dr. Roland Maw's graduate supervisor for his Ph.D. from the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta, and I have been deeply impressed with his character, judgment, and professionalism over the years. His advice has been highly valued by my university and myself on pertinent conservation issues.

I served at the time on the prestigious Canadian Advisory Council, which had direct and close access to our national Minister of the Environment and the Prime Minister of Canada. Dr. Maw's valued advice, through me, influenced the direction of an extensive range of national policy decisions concerning Canada's forests, wildlife, water resources and fisheries. Because of his in-depth knowledge of salmon, population ecology and identification of sea-caught salmon, my department and related courses on wildlife and fisheries expanded our University teaching curriculum to include Pacific salmon, which was beyond our typical focus on Alberta wildlife species. In particular his guest lectures broadened the exposure of our wildlife and conservation biology students to salmon and created an awareness of how

commonly misidentified Pacific salmon were throughout Alberta in our supermarkets and restaurants, and Japanese restaurants in particular. We were deeply grateful for Dr. Maw's expert guidance and assistance.

I am pleased to see that his leadership abilities have led him to become a current candidate for a position on Alaska's Fisheries Board. I can certainly understand why Governor Walker chose to appoint him.

James R. Butler, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
University of Alberta

Did Alaska Fish Board appointee really discover an endangered species?

<http://www.adn.com/article/20150204/did-alaska-fish-board-appointee-really-discover-endangered-species>

By Craig Medred

Feb. 4, 2015

Kenai Peninsula fisherman Roland Maw, Alaska Gov. Bill Walker's controversial appointee to the Alaska Board of Fisheries, claims in his resume to have been responsible for a significant scientific achievement, the first identification of a new, endangered species in North America.

In a sworn 2013 affidavit setting out his bona fides as an authority on Alaska fisheries, Maw wrote that he was the "coauthor of 'Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks,' 1985 ... (which has) received numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of 'Bull Trout' as a new species of char/trout."

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorities, however, say the bull trout, a close cousin of the Dolly Varden char, was first identified by Ted Cavender of The Ohio State University Museum of Zoology in 1978 and officially recognized as a new species by the American Fisheries Society in 1980.

And Maw's thesis adviser at the University of Alberta, the primary author of "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks," said Maw's claim of a new scientific discovery is untrue. Professor emeritus James Butler said his book never won any awards.

"I never heard that," Butler said. "He (Maw) certainly didn't name that. I'm not sure that he's been accurately quoted. . . . I know he cared deeply about bull trout, but he didn't name it."

Told that Maw's claim came from a sworn affidavit signed by Maw, Butler didn't know what to say. Biologists at the University of Alberta did sometimes ask for Maw's help in identifying char and salmon, because Maw was at the time working summers in Alaska as a commercial fisherman and was good at field identification, Butler said. But Maw wasn't directly involved in bull trout research.

Maw was a professor at an Alberta community college working on a study of public attitudes and perceptions of grizzly bears in Canada's Waterton Lakes National Park, Butler said. Maw's bull trout claim, if true, would represent a major scientific coup. The bull trout is an endangered species across its range in North America.

Asked about the claim to identification of the bull trout in a phone interview, Maw tried to deny it. He said he only accepted that others had credited him with the discovery.

"That comes from a book I published," Maw said. "The American Fisheries Society quotes it as the original description (of bull trout). . . . I was just going off some references in the Journal of Fisheries Science. They quoted it in there as the reference."

Maw was unable to direct Alaska Dispatch News to any such reference, however, and an independent search could find none. A 2009 report from the Alberta Fish & Wildlife Division updating the "Status of Bull Trout in Alberta" contains a section on "literature cited" that lists more than 150 bull trout studies and reports dating back to 1978.

There is no reference for Maw or Butler or "Fishing Canada's Mountain Parks." There is a reference to "Cavender, T.M." for his "Taxonomy and distribution of bull trout" in 1978.

Cavender's research "was published in a California Department of Fish and Game publication and has been referenced in many different documents" since then, U.S. Fish and Wildlife spokesman Leith Edgar

of Idaho said in an email to Alaska Dispatch News. Fish and Wildlife work on bull trout, a threatened species, is centered in Idaho.

Maw said he'd never heard of Cavender and was skeptical that the scientist had found the same bull trout in Northern California that is found in Alberta.

"He may have described it," Maw said, "but 'bull trout' is a common name.

"That far south, knowing something about bull trout, that could be an entirely different species. . . . Did I or Jim (Butler) check with someone in California? I didn't check with anyone in California. I don't know what they're calling a bull trout down there."

Maw suggested Cavender might have identified, and the Fisheries Society might have classified, a subspecies of bull trout, *Salvelinus confluentus*. There are no known subspecies.

"I don't know where you are going with this," Maw said.

Reminded that he had sworn under oath that he and Butler were credited with "numerous public awards for the first scientific description and naming of 'Bull Trout' a new species of char/trout," Maw said, "That's in the affidavit? I signed it? I'd have to look and see exactly what that wording is."

Alaska Dispatch News offered to send him an electronic copy of the document so he could review it before commenting further. Maw said that was impossible.

"I'm flying tomorrow," he said. "So it won't be tomorrow."

"The only email I have is my wife's email."

Sending the document to his phone, he said, was out of the question because "I'm on a flip phone."

Maw did say he would research the issue further and get back to Alaska Dispatch News.

He was unable to remember if he researched the history of bull trout in North America before swearing to the claim the Alberta fishing guide he co-authored revealed the first scientific description of a new species. He also said he didn't know why he put the claim in his sworn court affidavit.

"I don't know. I'd have to go back and look at my notes on that," he said.

But he was sticking to his guns on the assertion that it might remain possible he found a new species.

"I would strongly suspect the fish in California are not the same as the ones in Alberta," Maw said. "I do not understand why Jim would say that (claim was wrong). We looked at lots and lots of fish. We were struggling with 'Is this really, really different than a Dolly Varden?'"

By 1980, however, it had already been established that the bull trout was different from the Dolly, and the taxonomic standards for identification had been certified.

Medred, Dispatch News fall short of journalistic standards

<http://www.adn.com/article/20140926/medred-dispatch-news-fall-short-journalistic-standards>

By Wally Page
Sept. 26, 2014

My name is Wally Page. I've been a Cook Inlet commercial fisherman since before statehood. I'm nobody special, just a regular Alaskan working hard to support my family. I'm not someone "in the news."

Nevertheless, on July 21 of this year, the Alaska Dispatch News published a long article entitled, "Fish wars obscure need to manage for economic yield." It was written by regular Dispatch columnist Craig Medred and it focused on me.

While labeled as opinion, the article included several defamatory "facts" that hurt me personally and publicly held me out as a bad man. When I showed Mr. Medred's editor and publisher that his statements about me were false, and asked for a retraction and an apology, they refused my request. They did, however, agree to publish these comments.

Mr. Medred's column began by claiming that on July 18, 2014, I deliberately piloted my 42-foot fishing boat, the Peregrine, close to the north shore of the lower Kenai River with the deliberate intention of swamping and endangering wading dipnetters. As far as I can tell, the only basis for this lie about me is the fact that I fish commercially and that a member of my crew posted the comment, "Dipnetters go home," on a Facebook page.

With no other justification than those three words on Facebook, Mr. Medred concludes and asserts that I am so personally hateful toward every last sockeye dipnetter that I willingly endangered my boat, my crew and myself in an attempt to assault anonymous men, women and children along the shore. Imagine having your neighbors -- your children, for god's sake! -- read something like that about you in the newspaper.

Later in the article, Mr. Medred further spins out this revenge fantasy by asserting -- as fact -- that "Page tried to swamp some dipnetters because he is angry they are taking 'his fish.' "

This is bad, conscienceless journalism of a very brazen sort.

Mr. Medred is apparently unfamiliar with the old journalistic saw: "If your mother says she loves you, check it out." In this case, he made no effort whatsoever to contact me to ask about the purported incident. He did nothing to check his assumptions about me. Though we have never spoken, Mr. Medred presumed to know my thoughts and emotions (Page was "angry they are taking 'his fish.' ")

He just made it up.

The truth is, I did not "cut in close" to shore to harm any dipnetters. I wasn't angry at anybody. I was just coming home from work, navigating up the Kenai River channel at the minimum speed necessary to maintain control of my boat, exactly as I have for more than 35 years.

And if Mr. Medred had talked to me, he might have learned that rather than trying to hurt dipnetters, only a few years ago my crew and I literally saved the life of a dipnetter adrift near Rocky Point in Cook Inlet after being carried out of the mouth of the Kenai by the river current.

But then, had Mr. Medred done such basic journalism, I couldn't have served as the villainous commercial fisherman foil he needed to construct his "opinion column." This is only the latest example of Mr. Medred making up facts, misrepresenting facts or suppressing facts, whatever is required to shore up his bias against Alaska's commercial fishing industry.

I brought all of this to the attention of Mr. Medred's employers at the Dispatch News. Their lack of concern for my reputation, and reluctance to be accountable for what they publish, was deeply disappointing.

I and two friends flew up from Kenai to meet with publisher Alice Rogoff and editor Tony Hopfinger on Aug. 14. We explained what had happened. We showed them the navigational charts for the lower Kenai River. We showed them a video taken from the Peregrine on the day of the non-incident. The video, which was also posted on Facebook, clearly shows that we were hundreds of yards from shore, and squarely in the proper navigation channel on our way to the dock.

I told them Mr. Medred had never tried to talk to me.

I asked for a retraction, an apology and removal of the article from the newspaper's electronic archives. Ms. Rogoff said she would consider our request and get back to us.

A week passed with no word. We sent an email asking again for a response.

The next day, on Aug. 22, Mr. Hopfinger replied by email:

"We spoke with Craig, too, and he stands by his column. Still, we have decided to add a clarification to Craig's column that addresses Wally's contention that he did not swamp dipnetters. We also revised the column to reflect Wally's statement. We plan to run the clarification in the paper, too."

No formal retraction, no apology, no purge of the archives.

If you were to look at the "before" and "after" columns, you'll see that the "clarification" effectively reverses much of the original column -- but without taking responsibility for the false, irresponsible statements. The "swamping" lie has been reduced to he-said-he-said. The video, which shows what really happened, is never mentioned. The fanciful account of my "anger" about the taking of "my fish" is airbrushed out. Unfortunately for me, the only person who will ever see the "clarified" column is someone rooting through the bins of "yesterday's news."

What Mr. Medred did to me was shameful, and stains the work of all real journalists. Frankly, I never expected he would have the integrity to take responsibility for unjustifiably defaming me. But I did expect more of those who own and manage the newspaper. Now I know better.

STATE OF ALASKA

**Central Peninsula Fish & Game
Advisory Committee**

Bill Walker, Governor

David Martin, Chair
PO Box 468
Clam Gulch, AK 99568
907-567-3306
dmartin@alaska.net

Feb. 11, 2015

Alaska State Legislators,

At our Feb. 11, 2015 Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee we unanimously voted to request the Legislature confirm Dr. Roland Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Dr. Maw is highly respected for his biological knowledge and scientific approach to fisheries management. His qualifications are impressive and he is a good communicator. He is a fair and honest man. His work and philosophy has consistently placed the health of the fish resource first. He is cognizant for all users needs of the resource. Alaska's fish resources are only sustainable with using reliable science for management.

Thank you for considering our request,

Steve Vanek, AC Secretary

Serving the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game
Boards Support Section, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1565

Honorable Alaska Senator Cathy Giessel,

I would like to express my support of Governor Walker's appointee, Roland Maw, to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. I approve of Maw not only because he comes highly qualified in in biology and fisheries management, but also because he is well acquainted with the Cook Inlet management area, which as you well know has been an area of discord and fisheries politics for many years. Maw has served on the Kenai/Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Committee, Upper Cook Inlet Drift Association, and has co-owned a Charter sports fishing operation. He also has been involved in numerous biological studies involving the fisheries and has a Doctorates Degree in his field. It is my belief the Dr. Roland Maw will bring balance to the Alaska Board of Fisheries with his vast experience not only with commercial fisheries, but also with the sport industry as well. Governor Walker has indicated that it is time to make science and biology the determinant in Alaska's fisheries management instead of politics. Dr. Maw if appointed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries would seek to make this a reality. The fish of Alaska should come first or order that we can have sustainable fisheries for generations to come. I sincerely thank you for your work in governing Alaska and making it a state worth living in. I hope that you will support the Governor's nomination of Dr. Roland Maw and the heath of Alaska's fisheries by confirming him to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely and Respectfully,
Simeon Daigle

A life-long Commercial Fisherman

Roland would be a great BOF member! I've sent previous emails in support and with his qualifications. He's a true problem solver.

There hasn't been someone with a Cook Inlet background like his on the board for over 30 years, but there have been and there are plenty of BOF members from the naysayers.

Dr. Maw will bring intelligent and creative insight for the benefit of the resource and all user groups-- please confirm him to the Board of Fish,

Respectfully - Brent M. Western



February 13, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel, Chair
Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 00801-1182

Dear Senator Giessel and Resource Committee Members,

I wish to express our support for Dr. Roland Maw's confirmation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board).

Dr. Maw is a longtime Alaskan with a very diverse set of skills, education, and experience from which to draw upon as a member of the Board. His multiple science degrees and work history in various aspects of outdoor and natural resource management is a testimony to his understanding and respect for science. He possesses a wealth of knowledge and work experience in both sport/charter and commercial fisheries. Dr. Maw is well versed in the regulatory process of the Board of Fisheries having served on the Kenai/Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee and attending Board meetings for many years.

We believe the State of Alaska, the aquatic resources, and the public will be well served with Dr. Maw on the Board. We respectfully urge your support for Dr. Maw's confirmation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,
ICICLE SEAFOODS, INC.

Tim Schmidt
Southcentral Fleet Manager

ICICLE SEAFOODS, INC.

842 Fish Dock Road • Homer, Alaska 99603
Tel: 907-235-8107 • Fax: 907-235-7796

My name is Rondi McClure and I live at 38340 Pinewood, Sterling, Alaska.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries has sought to maintain a fair and equal representation for all user groups for the benefit of the citizens of Alaska and for the wellbeing of the great resources of our State.

Acting as Executive Director of UCIDA Roland Maw has shown from his previous testimony and actions during Board of Fish meetings that his one goal has been to pursue a larger slice of the allocation pie for the user group that he has represented at the expense of all other user groups.

I believe maintaining a balanced Board of Fishery that represents all user groups equally as well as individual Board Members being able to keep a fair and open mind on each proposal or issue that comes before them is imperative.

I do not believe that Roland Maw would or could be impartial. I am opposed to confirming Roland Maw to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Thank you for letting express my concerns on this topic.

Committee Chair and committee members,

I would like to take a few minutes of your time to express my concerns of why I am opposed to Roland Maw being confirmed to serve on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Upper Cook Inlet has seen some of the most intense conflicts among user groups around the State of Alaska in recent memory. UCI has always seen its share of allocation battles but it has ramped up significantly in the last few years. Mostly due to a low abundance of King salmon combined with many of the Northern District systems failing or struggling to meet minimum escapement goals.

I believe that as the Executive Director of UCIDA proposals submitted to the Board of Fish or actions taken in the name of UCIDA during Roland Maw's tenure are a direct reflection of that individual.

Looking through the UCI BOF proposal book for 2013 which was the most recent BOF meeting to be held in regards to this area, UCIDA submitted 14 proposals. 5 were asking to restrict sport fishing and 3 proposals were seeking to restrict Personal Use Fishing on the Kenai River. Now, some of these were minor adjustments to sport fishing but several were extremely severe. Like proposal 285 which if passed would have prohibited dip netting out of a vessel on the Kenai River, proposal 302 that was asking to close Larson Creek to all sport fishing for sockeye salmon, or proposal 310 which was seeking to both close days of the week open to sport fishing and to lower daily bag limits of Coho salmon to one a day.

The other 6 proposals submitted by UCIDA with Roland Maw as Executive Director were asking for liberalizations to the drift fishery like proposal 136 which was seeking to expand fishing area, extend the season for drift fishing in UCI, and lower trigger ranges of sockeye in the management plan to allocate more sockeye to the drift fishery at the expense of all other user groups.

Interesting, that in these times of low abundance of UCI King Salmon and Northern District stocks that UCIDA did not have one single proposal asking to restrict themselves to help in some way to conserve stocks but rather they simply wanted a bigger piece of the pie at the expense of all other user groups and most importantly at the expense of the resource.

I believe that being heavily involved with the allocation issues surrounding UCI that Roland Maw could not be an impartial member on the Board of Fish and just looking at all of the proposal submitted under his leadership show this very clearly.

Once again I am opposed to Mr. Roland Maw being confirmed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Thank you for allowing me time to express my concerns on this matter.

My name is Steve McClure and I am the President of the Kenai River Professional Guide Association (KRPGA). My address is 38340 Pinewood, Sterling, Alaska 99672.

Revised November 17, 2014

Southcentral Alaska Commercial Fisheries Economic Significance in 2013

Ranking Amongst the Top 50 US Fishing Ports in 2013:

Top ranked U.S Ports: millions of dollars, exvessel (landed) value, before processing:

New Bedford	\$379
Dutch Harbor	197
Kodiak	154
Aleutians	105
Alaska Peninsula	102

Southcentral Alaska Ports: millions of dollars, exvessel value and rank in U.S top 50 ports:

Cordova	\$76	#7
Seward	70	#15
Kenai	40	#27
Valdez	29	#43
Homer	26	#46
Total:	\$241 million	

Total Southcentral Alaska Region Value of Landings 2013: \$241 million. Overall port ranking if five Southcentral Alaska ports are combined is--#2 in the United States and---#1 in Alaska.

Source, NOAA Fisheries Report on US Fisheries for 2013, page 23:
<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/Assets/commercial/fus/fus13/FUS2013.pdf>

Salmon Fishing Jobs near record growth in Alaska in 2013, Southcentral Alaska, second highest number of fishing jobs at 1,619 jobs. (Also see processing jobs.)

Source: Alaska Department of Labor, Alaska Economic Trends, November 2014
<http://labor.state.ak.us/trends/nov14.pdf>

Commercial fishing jobs grew last year to a level not seen since 2000, according to the state Department of Labor. Driven primarily by an increased salmon harvest, notably from the record run of pinks, fishing jobs grew by nearly 2.5 percent last year. That brought the annual monthly average to 8,400 jobs, just 400 shy of the record. (This does not include processing jobs.)

Seafood harvesting and processing jobs are a focus of the November Alaska Economic Trends, which breaks down the numbers by region. Some highlights:

Salmon fishing jobs were the main source of growth between 2012 and 2013 with a statewide gain of 452 jobs, or 10 percent. Salmon at Bristol Bay accounted for 98 percent of harvesting jobs and 73 percent in the Southcentral region. Alaska crabbing dropped by

about 100 jobs over those two years, down 17 percent. The average loss for groundfish harvesting jobs was 187 jobs, or 15 percent.

Southeast Alaska has steadily been generating the most fishing jobs, at 2,510, gaining 210 last year, the most since 2000. **Southcentral was second highest at 1,619 fishing jobs due to the region's halibut fleets and the Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet salmon fisheries.** The Aleutians/Pribilof Islands ranked third for fishing employment at 1,513, followed by Bristol Bay with 1,364 fishing jobs.

Alaska Seafood Processing Jobs in 2013: Alaska had about 170 fish processing facilities in 2012. Most on-shore processing plants were in Southeast (39.3 percent) or 66 plants. **The second highest number of plants were in Southcentral (26.8 percent) or 45 plants.** The highest numbers of processing workers in 2013, were located in the Aleutian and Pribilof Island region (26.9%) at 7,507; followed by Southeast (15.3%) at 4,270 workers; Bristol Bay (15%) at 4,186; and **Southcentral (14%) at 3,900 processing jobs.**

Arni Thomson, Alaska Salmon Alliance

www.aksalmonalliance.org

My name is Gary Chamberlin and I live at 38260 Robinson Loop, Sterling, Alaska.

I would like to take a few minutes and express my thoughts on why I am opposed to Roland Maw being confirmed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

In the past the Board of Fisheries makeup has sought to maintain a balanced board representing commercial and sport fishing equally. There have been 3 commercial seats, 3 sport fishing seats, and one Board Member from a Subsistence or Personal Use background. This balance is not required in statute but is vital in maintaining a fair and impartial BOF.

This formula of the makeup of the BOF has acted as a safeguard to try to keep to the allocation issues from favoring any one user group over another.

As Executive Director of UCIDA Roland Maw has been active in the UCI BOF meetings which recently have seen some of the most intense allocation issues ever witnessed. I find it highly doubtful that he could act in an unbiased nature if he was indeed confirmed to the Board of Fisheries.

I believe that keeping an even balance in regards to the makeup of the Board of Fish is an extremely important factor to consider. Once again I am opposed to Roland Maw being confirmed to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Thank you for your time regarding this matter.



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the Senate Resources Committee on
___ Board of Fish Confirmation ___ dated 02162015.

Please except the following as written testimony.

Thank you.

Joe Connors
907-398-1360
Krg12@gci.net

3KN-96-01461CR

Case Type: Crim Dist Ct Misd (3KN)
 Status Date: 08/20/1996
 Case Judge: Atwood, Roberta L
 Next Event:

Case Status: Closed
 File Date: 08/20/1996
 DCM Track:

All Information Party Charge Docket Financial Financial Dockets

Party Information

Maw, Roland R - Defendant

DOB 11/17/1943 Alias

Attorney/Bar Code Phone Number

State of Alaska - Prosecution

DOB Alias

Attorney/Bar Code Phone Number
 District Attorney (3KN) (DA3KN) (907)283-3131

Party Charge Information

Maw, Roland R - Defendant

Charge # 1 : zAS1605675A12 #1 - Violation or Infraction (Non-Criminal) AS16.05.675(A)(1)(2): NO HALIBUT PERMIT

Original Charge zAS1605675A12 #1 AS16.05.675(A)(1)(2): NO HALIBUT PERMIT (Violation or Infraction (Non-Criminal))

Indicted Charge
 Amended Charge
 DV Related?
 Modifiers None
 Stage Date 08/20/1996

ATN # 101289393
 Tracking # 001
 Date of Offense 08/10/1996

Party Charge Disposition
 Disposition Date 08/29/1996
 Disposition No Contest Plea Prior to Conversion

Sentencing Information

Docket Information

Date	Description	Docket Text	Amount
08/20/1996	All records prior to (Conversion Date) converted records. For more information please	All Records Prior to 10/02/09 are Converted Records. For more information please come to the Clerks Office with the case number or mail inquiries to: Kenai Trial Courts 125 Trading Bay Drive Suite 100 Kenai, AK 99611. Please note that some converted data, especially dates, may be incorrect due to data entry errors prior to conversion.	
08/20/1996	Filed Date:	Filed Date: Aug 20 1996	
08/20/1996	Historical Receipt Information	** CONVERTED PAYMENT HISTORY AS OF 10/03/09 ----- Receipt Date : 09/05/96 Receipt Number : 217149 Amount : \$250 Party from : MAW, ROLAND, R	

From :
ROLAND R MAW
KENAI AK
99611

Tender : CA
Tender : 3KN
Orig. Court : 3KN
Acct1 : 500
Total : 250
Comments : FINE
33date : 09051996
34time : 1314
35posted : P

08/29/1996 Closed Date:

Closed Date: Aug 29 1996

08/29/1996 Sentencing Info:

Sentencing Info:
Jdg: RLA
Jail:
Jsus:
Fine: \$250
Fsus: \$
Lic:
Lic Act:
Term:
AS:
Prob:
NCV:
NSV:
Rest: \$
Fine Cnd Prb: \$
Due:
Rest Cnd Prb: \$
Due:

09/05/1996 Fine Prior to Conversion

Fine Prior to Conversion
Txt: FINE
At: 3KN
Adj Amt:
Rcpt#: 217149
Amt Rcvd: 250
HowPd: CA
Plt/DefLst: MAW
FN: ROLAND
MI: R
DOB:
Rcvd Frm: MAW, ROLAND R
Chk#:
Amt Pd:
Rsn:
PdTo:
F:
M:
D: 09/05/1996

09/05/1996 Fine Due

Fine Due \$0.00
Original Amount Owed: \$250.00
Amount Paid Before Conversion: \$250.00

Financial Summary

Cost Type	Amount Owed	Amount Paid	Amount Adjusted	Amount Outstanding
Fine	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00

Financial Docket Information

Date	Description	Owed	Adjusted	Paid	Due	Due Date
09/05/1996	Fine Due	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	08/29/1996
		\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Please vote NO for Roland Maw to be on the Board of Fisherise.

Reasons why;

- We need a balanced board representing all user groups fairly.
- We lost a representative of sport fishing, so he should be replaced with someone representing sport fishing.
- The Board of Fisheries voted him down already.
- You must ask yourself why the Board of Fisheries voted him down when the Board of Game voted him in. Could it be because he looks good on paper {resume}, but those who have worked with him in past Board of Fisheries meeting voted him down.

Thank you

Dave Goggia 907-252-3503

Kenai





Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Office of the Secretary

State Capitol, Room 211
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-3701
Fax: (907) 465-2832
Email: senate.secretary@akleg.gov

Official Business

Memorandum

TO: Senator Giessel, Chair
Resources Committee

FROM: Liz Clark 
Secretary of the Senate

DATE: February 20, 2015

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of Governor's Appointment

The following appointment, which had been referred to your committee on January 23, has been withdrawn by the Governor:

Board of Fisheries
Dr. Roland Maw – Kasilof

LC:bbr
gl #5

Orville Huntington

Orville Huntington was born in Huslia, Alaska and received a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Mr. Huntington is dedicated to working closely with young people to promote the values of traditional Native elders combined with contemporary western knowledge. He is committed to protecting the aboriginal rights of Native people to continue to live a subsistence way of life and preserve the cultural beliefs associated with that way of life as it is consistent with State and Federal law. His primary responsibilities continue to be the preservation of Native subsistence hunting, fishing, gathering and trapping opportunities and the cultural events that surround those beliefs, and as a public servant for the village of Huslia and the 43 villages of the Tanana Chiefs Conference region.

Mr. Huntington currently works as the Wildlife and Parks Director for the Tanana Chiefs Conference. Prior to that, he served for 14 years as a Refuge Information Technician at the Koyukuk/Nowitna NWR Complex and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a scientist he worked closely with local village people in the villages of Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Galena, Ruby, Huslia and Hughes on subsistence surveys.

Previous employment:

- Seasonal labor, Bureau of Land Management (Emergency Fire Fighter)
- Fisherman
- Laborer's and Carpenter's Union
- Huslia Tribal Council (Tribal Operations Specialist)
- Tribal and City Council member

Affiliations:

- Alaska Federation of Natives board of directors (interior village representative)
- K'oyitl'ots'ina Ltd. Board of Directors (Treasurer) for the villages of Huslia, Hughes, Allakaket and Alatna
- Brooks Range Contracting Board of Directors
- Koyukuk Moose Hunter's Working Group
- Interior Regional Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
- Interior Athabascan Tribal College Board of Trustees
- Alaska Native Science Commission Board of Commissioners

February 20, 2015

Office of Boards and Commissions
550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1700
Anchorage AK 99501
Attn: Karen Gillis

Governor Bill Walker,

I am writing to apply for a seat on the Alaska Board of Fish. Please see my attached resume.

My wife and I moved to Alaska in 1996, after having the opportunity to spend a summer in Sitka a few years earlier while still in college. However, my first exposure to Alaska fish was early in grade school when my Uncle Bob sent a couple unlabeled gold cans of homepack for me to share with my young classmates. It was a few years later that I was able to visit him and first experience salmon fishing from his troller. Later as a young adult I was fortunate to have a summer in Sitka where, like most of us who first experience spawning salmon in small streams, I watched in awe of what these creatures do at the end of their life cycle. Something that I now share with my own two daughters.

When the opportunity arose for us to move to Soldotna in 1996, we came here without any hesitation. I found myself a job as the first employee for a newly forming organization that wanted to work with all user groups, businesses and "stakeholders" to work together for the health of our rivers and streams. I helped found and grow the Kenai Watershed Forum from an idea into a multi-million dollar organization, maintaining support from all branches of local government and achieving results in unexpected ways with all user groups coming together for the betterment of the waters on the Kenai Peninsula. This collaborative approach to conservation work is a skill that I've honed and one that I will bring to the Board of Fish. I hold no illusions that my participation will reduce the user group conflicts, but having worked with many stakeholders for years, I do believe I am in a unique position to make a positive contribution to Alaska. I know how to work in this environment and reach solutions.

While the past few years my job has become increasingly managerial in nature, I am trained as a scientist with a good core mathematical and statistical background. When questions arise around data collection and confidence in datasets, I expect I will know what questions to ask and will seek to get the best scientific information on the table to help inform my decisions. To the extent possible I will always draw on the best science to make those tough votes.

Board members have a tremendous responsibility to the public and make decisions that can have serious economic, social and cultural implications. I understand this responsibility and can assure everyone considering my application that I will take this job seriously and above all else I will be fair and transparent in deliberations and in my role as a decision maker.

My promise to the governor and legislature is that I will listen to the public and I will work my tail off to make sure that I am making decisions in the best interest of Alaskans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'R' followed by a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert Ruffner

Robert Ruffner

Current Employer - Kenai Watershed Forum

Professional Work Experience

- 1996 – Present: Kenai Watershed Forum, Executive Director
 - Managed up to \$3M budget and supervised 14 employees
- 1994 – 1996: University of Minnesota, Research and Teaching Assistant
- 1990 – 1994: University of Minnesota, Limnology Lab technician

Education

- B.S. University of MN Geology 1994
- Post graduate course work, 2 years University of MN Geology/ Civil Engineering
- Specific course work in Geomorphology, Engineering, Numerical Modeling including finite element, finite difference, cellular automata methods
- Developed methods for modeling complex sediment transport for Hibbing Taconite Inc. and the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park

Board/ Commission Experience

- Soldotna Chamber of Commerce 2010 – present
- Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission 2010 – present
- Kenai Peninsula Borough Road Commission 2012 – present
- North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission Advisory panel 2014 - present

Relevant Experience

- Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator 2009 – Present
 - Nationally recognized partnership, sets habitat priorities and recommends funding to the USFWS
- Fish Habitat Restoration
 - Designed and directly supervised dozens of fish passage projects totaling several millions of dollars
 - Co-designed and directly supervised a major Anchor River restoration of a captured gravel pit
- Stream Buffer Evaluation – Tongass National Forest 1993
- Scientific Studies
 - Identified hydrocarbon pollution levels in the Kenai River; developed predictive models for a solution and provided education leading to those solutions being implemented for the Kenai River - 2000 through 2008
 - Supervised fish passage evaluations of anadromous stream crossings on the Kenai Peninsula
 - Identified and documented juvenile salmonids for inclusion in the Anadromous Waters Catalog

Alaska Fishing Experience

- Sport fishing every year present in the State, wide range of experience from kayak fishing in Southeast Alaska to North Slope streams, including fin fish and shell fish
- Personal Use dipnetting – Kenai River every year since 1998
- Personal Use Gillnet – Kasilof River 1 season
- 2-days as a crew member on Cook Inlet Drift boat

Awards

- 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award (Silver Salmon Creek Restoration)
- 2007 National Wetlands Conservation Award To the Private Sector (award to Kenai Watershed Forum)
- 2008 National River Hero Award – River Network
- 2008 Person of the Year – Soldotna Chamber of Commerce

General Information

Board/Commission and seat you are seeking:
 Fisheries, Public Seat

Additional Boards/Commissions of interest:
 None

State Boards/Commissions on which you have served:
 North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission - Advisory Panel

First Name Robert	Middle Name Austin	Last Name Ruffner
Mailing Address	City Soldotna	State & Zip AK 99669
Home/Message Phone	Business Phone	Cell Phone

Conflict of Interest

Certain boards and commissions require full disclosure of personal financial data under AS39.50.010. If required for the board or commission for which you are applying, are you willing to do so?

Yes

Could you or any member of you family be affected financially by decisions to be made by the board or commission for which you are applying?

Yes

Please explain the potential financial benefit

No

Employment History

Employment work history including paid, unpaid, or voluntary.

Please see attached cover letter and resume

Education, Training, Experience & Qualifications

List both formal and informal education and training experiences:

Please see attached cover letter and resume

List any professional licenses, certifications, or registrations and dates obtained that may be used as qualifying criteria:

Please see attached cover letter and resume

List any community service, municipal government, and state positions held, and any awards received.

Please see attached cover letter and resume

Conviction Record

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor within the past five years or a felony within the past ten years?

No

Conviction Circumstances

Certification of Accuracy & Completeness

By submitting this online application, I swear the information I have entered on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I deliberately conceal or enter false information on the form my application may be rejected, I may be removed from the list of eligible candidates, or I may be removed from the position. I agree that the Office of the Governor may contact present or former employees or other persons who know me to obtain an additional information about my skills and abilities. I understand that the information on this application is public information and may be released through a legal request for such information.

Type "I certify"

"I certify"

Resume Addendum:

Press Release Wording

Robert Ruffner, 46 of Soldotna is the Executive Director of the Kenai Watershed Forum. Ruffner holds a degree in Geology from the University of Minnesota and has been working with all fishery user groups in Cook Inlet for since 1996.

Submitted: 2/20/2015 12:00:00 AM



April 7, 2015

Dear Alaska Legislators:

My name is Brad Elfers and I own Alaska Fly Fishing Goods, which is a full service fly fishing equipment shop and internet retailer, based in Juneau since 1998. I'm writing to express my support for Board of Fisheries nominee, Robert Ruffner.

As a sport angler and someone who's livelihood depends on sport fishing, I believe Robert will do an excellent job of representing my interests on the Board of Fisheries, however just as importantly, I believe Robert will be a strong advocate for the long-term health of fish and their habitat.

I urge you to confirm Mr. Ruffner and give him the opportunity to put his experience and expertise to work on the Board of Fisheries.

Thank you,

Brad Elfers
Owner
Alaska Fly Fishing Goods
8465 Old Dairy Road, Ste. 101
Juneau, AK. 99801
(907) 586-1550

8465 Old Dairy Road | Suite. 101 | Juneau, AK 99801

Phone: 907-586-1550 | Fax: 907-586-3734 | Email: brad@alaskaflyfishinggoods.com | Website: www.alaskaflyfishinggoods.com

CITY OF SEWARD
P.O. BOX 167
SEWARD, ALASKA 99664-0167



- Main Office (907) 224-4050
- Police (907) 224-3338
- Harbor (907) 224-3138
- Fire (907) 224-3445
- City Clerk (907) 224-4046
- Community Development (907) 224-4049
- Utilities (907) 224-4050
- Fax (907) 224-4038

March 27, 2015

Honorable Senator Cathy Giessel
Members of the Senate Resources Committee
Alaska State Senate

Dear Honorable Chair Giessel and Honorable Committee Members:

On behalf of the Seward City Council I would like to ask your support in confirming Robert Ruffner's nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Our community has had the opportunity to work with and get to know Mr. Ruffner over several years with the Kenai Watershed Forum. The focus of his work has been habitat improvement and reclamation, particularly for anadromous fish streams. He and the Forum have also been an extremely valuable resource for our local Flood Service Area Board as they consider and implement flood mitigation strategies, again calling upon his expertise in habitat for salmon streams.

We've learned from this experience that Mr. Ruffner's first concern is for the overall good of the resource. We believe that concern will serve the Board well as it considers the issues before it, and that Mr. Ruffner will help the Board fulfill the responsibility to manage the resource for the benefit of the all the people of the State, and not to benefit any particular user group at the expense of another.

We believe the ability to work productively within a group of people with different objectives that they are passionate about would be of great value to any board, and the people of Alaska would be well served by having Mr. Ruffner's ability utilized at the Board of Fisheries. We've witnessed that ability in our own back yard. Several years ago a disastrous flood left many structures damaged, residents displaced, and no sign of help on the horizon. At a town hall meeting with over a hundred attending, emotions ran high, and opinions were all across the board. Mr. Ruffner moderated the meeting with a calming hand, and in the end brought out the key points needed for a solution satisfactory to the great majority. That's a rare ability, and one that should be welcome at the Board.

We urge you to confirm Robert Ruffner's nomination to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Bardarson".

Jean Bardarson
Mayor, City of Seward

Cc: Senator Peter Micciche, Representative Mike Chenault



120 N. Willow St. PO Box 586 Kenai, AK 99611
907.929.0388
accrabak@earthlink.net
www.aksalmonalliance.com

March 5, 2015

Karen Gillis, Director
Boards and Commissions
Office of the Governor
Bill Walker
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Karen.Gillis@Alaska.Gov

Re: Endorsement of Robert Ruffner for appointment to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Karen:

I am writing today on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Alaska Salmon Alliance to express our support for the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Board of Fisheries. Several ASA Board Members have known Robert since he moved to Soldotna in 1996, almost twenty years ago and began the formation of the Kenai Watershed Forum

Robert is well-known for his leadership in the development of the Kenai Watershed Forum, a diverse group of residents that represent all user groups, businesses and "stakeholders" dedicated to working together for the health of our rivers and streams in Southcentral Alaska. As a tireless advocate, Robert developed and refined conflict resolution techniques while working on contentious issues related to water quality and land use on the Kenai Peninsula over the past several years. During that time, Robert a man of patient demeanor, repeatedly demonstrated his ability to defuse conflict and emotion on complex issues, and to distill out solutions that cut across competing interests. Robert focuses on his understanding of science while weighing economic and personal interests. Robert also treats all parties he works with in complex conversations with respect, regardless of their point of view. Robert has a keen intellect and his past successes demonstrate he does his research on complicated technical issues. He knows this is requisite to contribute to a fair and respectable two-way exchange important in any public regulatory process.

The ASA is confident that Robert will contribute well in the Board process, not just with the complex Cook Inlet issues, but with issues in regions throughout the State.

Sincerely,


Arni Thomson
Executive Director

Introduced By: Sprague
Date: March 25, 2015
Action: Adopted
Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

CITY OF SOLDOTNA
RESOLUTION 2015-019

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONFIRMATION OF ROBERT RUFFNER'S
APPOINTMENT TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

WHEREAS, Robert Ruffner has a long record of habitat advocacy for Kenai Peninsula rivers and streams; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner has for many years been director of the Soldotna-based Kenai Watershed Forum; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner has resided on the Kenai Peninsula for the past 19 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner has demonstrated his good judgement and ability to work with people in:

- 18 years of service as executive director of the Kenai Watershed Forum,
- four-and-a-half years of service on the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission,
- three-and-a-half years of service on the Kenai Peninsula Borough Roads Service Area board,
- membership in the Soldotna Chamber of Commerce, where he is Chairman of the Finance Committee, and
- his recent appointment to the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission; and; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of Mr. Ruffner would provide diversity of interest and points of view in the board of fisheries membership (per Alaska statute 16.05.221); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner is held in high esteem by commercial and sportfish user groups; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner is a dipnetter and therefore is knowledgeable about dipnet issues; and

WHEREAS Mr. Ruffner has a bachelor's degree in geology and years of experience working with biology;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

Section 1. That the Soldotna City Council thanks Governor Walker for appointing Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Section 2. That The Soldotna City Council respectfully asks the Alaska State Legislature to support the confirmation of Mr. Ruffner as a member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Section 3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Senate President Kevin Meyer, Speaker of the House Mike Chenault, and all members of the Alaska State Legislature.

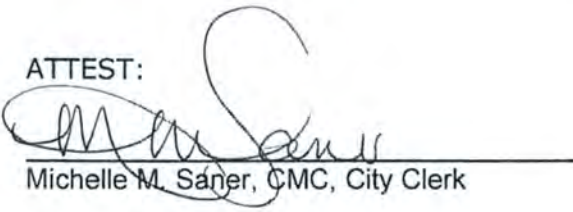
Section 4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH, 2015.



Nels Anderson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Michelle M. Saner, CMC, City Clerk

Ayes: Baxter, Whitney, Daniels, Bos, Sprague
Noes: None
Absent: Murphy



KENAITZE
INDIAN
TRIBE

Alaska State Legislature
All Members
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

March 30, 2015

The Kenaitze Indian Tribe strongly supports Robert Ruffner as a Board of Fisheries member. Mr. Ruffner is highly respected in our community for working with State, Federal, and local agencies as well as federally recognized tribes, such as the Kenaitze Indian Tribe.

Kenaitze Indian Tribe is a federally recognized Tribal Government reorganized in 1971 under the statutes of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended for Alaska in 1936. The Tribe has established long term goals which enhance the health, social and economic well-being, cultural heritage, and governmental concerns of its people, and serves over 3,700 Alaska Native, American Indian and other people who reside in the central and upper Kenai Peninsula, including approximately 1,430 enrolled Kenaitze Tribal Members and 170 Salamatof Tribal Council (STC) Tribal Members. The service area includes the central Kenai Peninsula communities of Kenai, Soldotna, Sterling, Nikiski, Salamatof, Cohoe, Cooper Landing and the surrounding area.

Mr. Ruffner's leadership and knowledge will serve the Board of Fisheries well.

Sincerely,

Jaylene Peterson-Nyren

Executive Director

Kenaitze Indian Tribe

WWW.KENAITZE.ORG

PHONE: (907) 335-7200 • FAX: (907) 335-7239

P.O. Box 988 • KENAI, AK 99611

Dear Sen. Giessell,

My name is Joe Ray Skrha and I am an attorney in Kenai where I have lived and practiced law for the past 32 years. I was a Kenai River Drift Boat Guide from 1985 through 1994. Now I sport fish as much as my time allows.

I wish to encourage you to confirm Mr. Robert Ruffner to the Board Of Fish. Robert's background in science and commitment to sound management of Alaska's fisheries make him an excellent candidate for the Alaska Board for Fisheries. His demonstrated respect for Alaska's constitutional principal of sustained yield and his ability to rise above the political fray, will serve him well while working to implement the Board of Fisheries core functions of conservation and development of Alaska's fisheries resources.

The Kenai Watershed Forum has supported sport fishing interests of guides and private fishermen alike while encouraging children to learn the principals of conservation even before they learn how to cast. Robert has served at the Kenai Watershed Forum's executive director for the past 18 years.

Many years ago, Gov. Steven Cowper wanted to nominate me to the BOF but since I was a fishing guide (and lawyer) my nomination was dead in the water.

During the past 25 years, all I hear is we need non-biased people on the BOF that do not have a preordained agenda. Now with Roberts nomination, you have that person who comes with clean hands. Don't look this gift horse in the mouth. His is a quality individual that has my full support.

Thank you for your support securing the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Joe Ray Skrha

Dear Governor Walker,

I am writing to urge you to appoint Robert Ruffner to the Alaska board of fisheries.

As a lifelong Kenai resident and fisherman, I am aware of the polarizing nature of fish politics here. I thank you for your attention and for engaging over the last months, and I regret that your previous appointment went south. Rest assured you that an appointment of Mr. Ruffner will endure no such hardships, and that Robert will be universally supported by decent people in all user groups throughout the state. He is smart, fair, and able to talk with anyone. Robert has navigated our fish politics with honor while making great strides in sensibly protecting our watersheds and our fish. He will bring an important scientific perspective to our Fish Board, and much needed representation for the Kenai Peninsula.

I wholeheartedly supported your campaign and the campaigns of my local representatives. I appreciate both the need and your desire for change, and the hard work and effective leadership of my local delegation. While it pains me to see disagreement, I understand why it must happen and am hopeful that through the fray will emerge a stronger and more united Alaska. Fish fight shenanigans should not distract from work and collaboration in so many other areas important to our future.

Robert is strongly supported by my local delegation, and for good reason. Others who may oppose him will likely do so quietly as he is a hard guy not to like, and even harder to say anything bad about. I have no doubt that if you appoint Robert he will breeze through the vetting and confirmation process to be one of the strongest, fairest, and most informed members on the Board of Fish, helping to bring all users together for positive results.

Thank you for your commitment to our state. Please appoint Robert Ruffner to the Board of Fish.

Respectfully,

Todd Smith

Kenai, Alaska

Gentlemen and Gentleladies

I would like express my support of Robert Ruffner's appointment to the Alaska State Board of Fish.

*There are many reasons why Robert should be chosen over the other names, but his role with the Kenai Watershed Forum should be example enough. His background will be beneficial when it comes to his ability to deal with the everyday issues he will face once on the board. It is also critical that an **unbiased representative from the Kenai Peninsula** be placed on the board, one that is well versed in the local politics of the region and the state, Robert is such a candidate.*

Mr. Ruffner has proven time and time again the ability to cope with the Kenai Peninsula's unique social, biological, and economic concerns that we face in the area. Not only will Mr. Ruffner be a true unbiased asset to the Board for his knowledge of the local area, he also brings with him a unique skill set that can best serve other areas of the state. His past experiences and role with the Kenai Watershed Forum shall prove very useful when deliberating on state wide issues and finding the best way to cope with area specific problems.

It is now up Governor Walker to carry Robert's name forward for congressional review. At this point I feel that your voice will carry the most weight in expressing the feelings of your local constituents to the Governor in regards to whom he shall appoint to the Board, I would appreciate if you brought Mr. Ruffner's name to the Governor and your colleague's attention.

I appreciate your time in regards to this vitally important matter, and for your continued hard work making our local area and state a better place to live and raise our families.

Laurence John

I'm writing today in support of Robert Ruffner's appointment to the Alaska State Board of Fish.

Robert's expertise and knowledge of fisheries ecosystems and his role with the Kenai Watershed forum make him uniquely qualified for this position on the Board.

I have worked with Robert in many different aspects within the Soldotna area and can attest to his professionalism and understanding of the need to foster and maintain a balance between healthy fisheries and the economic impacts on user groups.

Adding to this, Robert is a longtime Soldotna resident with vast knowledge of the area. His unique skillsets honed by his years with the Kenai Watershed Forum will be a great asset for the Board when finding the best solution to specific area problems.

Governor Walker is making these appointments very soon. It is my hope you will voice your support and express the feelings of your local constituents to Governor Walker, that Robert be appointed to the Alaska State Board of Fish.

Thank you for your time and continued hard work making our local area a great place to live and work.

Sincerely,

Mary Hart

Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Sen. Giessel,

Please see the e-mail below that I have sent to Karen Gillis and Gov. Walker regarding my support for Robert Ruffner for the BOF. I know it is unusual for another candidate for a position they themselves are vying for to support someone else, but I truly believe Mr. Ruffner is the best person who has applied for a position on the BOF in a long time and the Governor and the State would be remiss if they let this unique opportunity slip by. I hope you will also indicate your support for Mr. Ruffner to Governor Walker.

I would urge you to spread the word about the concerns I have outlined below. It is important that other legislators understand some of the political maneuvering that is going on currently in the capital, by some special interest groups, that depend on continuing their control over the BOF process at the expense of the Board's ethical character.

Thanks Much,

Dwight Kramer

Kenai

Co-Chairs Geissel and Costello and Resources Committee members:

I would like to strongly support the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. I am a property owner on the Kenai River, and was a board member and President for the Kenai River Special Management Area Advisory Board for many years. I have participated in Board of Fisheries meetings for the past 30 years. I am also a fisheries economist, with experience at the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (staff economist); Sea Grant at UAF (research faculty), and have managed and operated an economic consulting firm focusing on resource issues (ResourEcon) for the past 25 years in Anchorage.

In my opinion, there is no more difficult job in Alaska than to be a member of the Board of Fisheries. Robert Ruffner brings many years of experience in evaluating use-related issues in Alaska's waterways, on the Kenai Peninsula and elsewhere. His expertise would be a welcome addition to the Board of Fisheries. It was largely Robert's work that helped the Kenai River overcome its water quality impaired designation from oil contamination caused by outboard engines by assisting the switch to 4-stroke engines.

As you know, we have been experiencing a collapse in the Chinook salmon resource in almost all waters of Alaska in the past several years. Rather than just having the perspective of user groups fighting over the remaining 'scraps' of the resource, Robert Ruffner brings the welcome perspective to help bring changes needed to assist resource recovery, something that no other (current) member brings to the Board. He is also a reasonable and thoughtful person, and will not make decisions just to appease one or another user group if that decision will result in damages to our waterways.

I believe Robert Ruffner's perspective and expertise will greatly assist the Board of Fisheries in their difficult job to first protect our fisheries resources, and I urge you to support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely

Jim Richardson

Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Hello Senator Giessel,

I am a constituent of District N and am writing to encourage you to support Governor Walker's nomination of Robert Ruffner to the Board of Fish. I have known Mr Ruffner in his capacity as director of the Kenai Watershed Forum for more than twelve years. I have seen him work closely and effectively with all fishing interests - commercial, sport, subsistence, and personal use. I know of no one who is better able to bring conflicting fishing interests together in support of healthy runs of wild fish. Through his work with the Kenai Watershed Forum, he has brought together individuals with conflicting interests to work in support of Alaska fish and fish habitat.

While Robert obtains fish for his family through dip netting, he will advocate for all fishing interests, not just his own. It matters little where he happens to live and work, Robert will make his decisions based on the best available science. He will make a fine addition to the Board of Fish.

I hope he can count on your support.

Sincerely,
John A DeLapp
Anchorage, AK 99504

Hello Senators!

This is Mary Jackson, former Senate Staff to Senator Wagoner, Senator Torgerson and Senator Fischer. All elected from the Kenai Peninsula.

I wanted to reach out to each of you about Robert's appointment to the Board of Fish.

Simply put - he would be an asset.

I've known Robert for many years and worked with him on many projects on the Kenai. All of them enhanced fish habitat. Not one time have I seen him act in an unprofessional manner. Not once. Not an easy thing to do on the Peninsula when "fish" could be affected.

Robert's interest is in science - protecting the habitat; especially the Kenai River.

As a scientist, he will review issues logically, not politically.

There may (or may not) be some angst that he was appointed by Gov. Walker. I personally don't care - but then I'm not involved with party politics anymore.

I just wanted you to hear from me, someone you know, who is also a long time Kenai Peninsula resident.

There are very few people I would go to bat for - he's one of them.

Please act favorably on his appointment.

Mary Jackson

PS: retirement is GREAT!!!

Kenny Bingaman
Soldotna, Ak. 99669

Esteemed Legislators,

I am sending this email to you today to ask you not to confirm Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fish. Mr. Ruffner is not what he seems. I have lived in Alaska and on the Kenai Peninsula for over 40yrs. He and others are giving the impression that he is an “environmentalist”, “habitat specialist”, “resource protectionist” and nothing could be farther from the truth. Of course he has sport fished, of course he has dip netted, but so has most of the commercial fishermen on the Kenai Peninsula.

The Kenai Watershed Forum that he is a co-founder of is inundated with commercial fishing interest. it’s board is made up of 54% commercial fishers or people connected to commercial fishing. He has gotten wide support of commercial fishing people from the Kenai Peninsula;

Ken Tarbox, 16yrs Soldotna ADF&G Commercial fishing head biologist, who while he was there declared that his department at ADF&G would manage the Kenai River and Cook Inlet for a Commercial fishing priority, John McCombs, East Side Set Netter, Robert Correia, East Side Set Netter, Rep. Sen. Peter Micciche-Soldotna, Cook Inlet Drift Commercial Fisherman, Dwight Kramer, founder of Joe Fisherman Coalition, Soldotna, who’s board of directors is inundated with commercial fishermen. Yesterday Brent Johnson a Kenai Peninsula Borough assembly member got a resolution pushed thru that recommended Robert Ruffner as Chairman of the Board of Fish. Brent Johnson is an East Side Set Net commercial fisherman, who was rejected by the legislature in 2012 as a nominee by then Gov. Parnell because it would have slanted the BOF with a commercial fish majority. The City of Kenai today also sent forth a resolution recommending Robert Ruffner, there are 3 sitting Kenai City Council members that are commercial fishermen.

When was the last time you saw commercial fishermen support anyone who is labeled “an environmentalist”, “a habitat specialist”, “a resource protectionist”? My friends, the answer is never. Such people are commercial fishing's worst enemies. In fact Roland Maw was connected to this entity by the past president of KWF, Jim Butler aka Commercial fisherman.

There has been 3 studies by the Kenai Watershed Forum to date that have been done to illuminate Kenai River Guides and sport fishing power boats from the Kenai River. All of these studies, (attempts), failed. it all began with;

a “Hydrocarbon study” financed and performed by this entity. It directly targeted/blamed the Kenai River Guides 2 stroke outboards for high levels of hydrocarbons and stated that continued guide boat impact would devastate the aqua structure of the river and all of its inhabitants, especially the salmon. They called for an outright ban on all power boats. Fortunately,

technology beat them to the punch by the major outboard manufacturers developing and producing 4 stroke outboards that reduced hydrocarbon levels to a non-issue in the Kenai River.

Within 2yrs, there was another study conducted. This time it was called a water clarity study in association with a "boat wake" study that involved damage to the Kenai River's banks by power boat traffic. Immediately guide boats were targeted/blamed as the problem with bank erosion due to the weight of guide boats filled with clients. Not only was a ban on guide boats suggested, but Kenai River State Parks actually limited the number of clients in a guide boat during the month of July to 4 people. Again, guides and the industry corrected the problem quickly by proving that raising the horsepower, which had been set at 35 since 1985 to 50hp, thereby enabling full boats to get on step faster and produce much smaller waves. Raising the horsepower limit made total sense as no manufacture made 35hp outboards for almost 20yrs at that time. Again, technology thwarted the Kenai Watershed Forums accusations. However, Kenai River Guides never again got back to full boat loads of clients that they had had before, the law remains, only 4 clients allowed in a Guide boat during the month of July. A loss in revenue that for them was never regained. The water clarity study did not go away until common sense information to the Kenai Watershed Forum forced its demise. It was noted that on the dates they said the water was at its worst, that large tidal activity which back flowed as far up the Kenai River as mile 16 brought with it the bottom of the river's mud and churned up waters from commercial fishing boats, from the mouth of the river. The test study area was at river mile 12. Also they were enlightened to the fact that the Kenai River was a glacial fed river with frequent flooding due to rainfall and the Snowy Glacier ice dam which releases large amounts of water on a bi-yearly schedule. It took a while for them to finally understand how flawed their study was and actually fought with us and continued it until rational common sense ended the study.

And a look at the list of donors to the Kenai Watershed Forum shows another truth;

Ken Tarbox has donated money to the Kenai Watershed Forum. Peter & Erin Micciche, Cook Inlet Drift Commercial fisherman, have donated money to this entity. Robert and Tara Ruffner have donated \$5,000 to the KWF. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife have donated \$25,000. Sheldon and Debbie Ruffner donated a \$1,000. Robert Correia, East Side Set Netter, donated a \$1,000. Paul Dale, Snug Harbor Seafood's, donated \$1,000. United Cook Inlet Drifters Association, the largest commercial fishing association on the Kenai Peninsula donated \$500. Cook Inlet Keeper donated \$500. Even the State of Alaska donated \$20,000 under the Capital Projects Budget, wonder who in Juneau got that put through,(Chenault whose chief of staff is Tom Wright, who held the same job at United Cook Inlet Drift Association as Roland Maw)? And who is Cook Inlet Keeper?

Cook Inlet Keepers Board

Benjamin Jackinsky, President Commercial Fisherman

Mako Haggerty , vice Pres Commercial Fisherman

Mike O Meara Commercial Fisherman

Nancy Wainwright Commercial Fisherman

Rob Ernst Commercial Fisherman

Tom Evans Commercial Fisherman

Willow Kiing Commercial Fisherman

Peter Mos Commercial Fisherman

Shannyn Moore Commercial Fisherman

<http://inletkeeper.org/about/board>

In closing I would like to say again, please do not confirm Robert Ruffner to the Board of Fish. This seat has always been a sport fishing seat and it should be again to return an equal balance in interest numbers to the Board. 3 Commercial Fishing Seats, 3 Sport Fishing Seats and 1 Subsistence Seat.

Thank you for your time,

Kenny Bingaman, Kenai Peninsula Resident.

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a sport fisherman in Alaska, I am writing in support of Robert Ruffner for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Robert's background in science and commitment to sound management of Alaska's fisheries make him an excellent candidate for the Alaska Board for Fisheries. His demonstrated respect for Alaska's constitutional principal of sustained yield and his ability to rise above the political fray, will serve him well while working to implement the Board of Fisheries core functions of conservation and development of Alaska's fisheries resources.

Thank you for your support securing the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Andrew P. Feild

Anchorage, AK 99516

Dear Senator Giessel and members of the Senate Resource Committee,

I am writing to you today as prior obligations on Wednesday do not allow me to testify in person in respect to the confirmation hearing for Robert Ruffner's appointment to the Alaska State Board of Fish. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinions and thank you in advance for taking the time to review my comments.

I am a local business owner living in Kenai with my wife and 3 children. I first came to the Kenai Peninsula in 2002 and started my business, ACE Fishing Adventures in 2004. In that time I have become actively involved with community events and other entities that pertain to my profession. I have attended and testified in the past 4 Board of Fish cycles, have served as secretary/treasurer and sat on the board of directors of the Kenai River Professional Guide Association, and I currently sit on the Kenai River Foundation board of directors. As you can see our lives revolve around the Kenai River and the Peninsula.

While my livelihood is based around sport fishing and recreational opportunities for Alaskans and visitors my allegiance lies within what is best for the greater whole of our community. There are certainly mixed views as to what that may be here on the Peninsula, but one thing is clear an unbiased board member on the Board of Fish is what will both serve the area and state best.

Robert has not only proven himself here on the Peninsula but in so doing he has shown that he places the river and the environment first. He is a sport fishermen, takes place in personal use opportunities yet still understands the importance of commercial activities in the state as a whole. His background and resume will prove useful when it comes to state wide issues and especially those involving urban communities such as those in the valley and Anchorage area. I believe that he will not only keep an unbiased point of view throughout the process, but his knowledge of some of the most complex situations in the state will help other board members as well, essentially making for a more cohesive board.

I have known and worked with Robert for years in and around many of the past projects he has been involved in with the Kenai River and peninsula streams. While we have not always seen eye to eye on projects, he has my utmost respect as a practical scientist that not only looks out for what is best for the river but what is best for all user groups. Not only have I talked with Robert since his decision to submit his name for consideration, but I have talked with many members of our community and colleagues of my own. I can say without a doubt that Robert is the best qualified candidate for the position, he has my full support and I hope that he will have yours. I would be happy to answer any questions or if there is anything else I could provide please let me know.

I thank you again for the time you have taken to consider my support and recommendation of Robert Ruffner for the Alaska State Board of Fish.

Sincerely,

Aaron Cooper
owner/guide ACE Fishing Adventures
907-398-6335
captcoop@acefishn.com



Senate Resources Committee
Senator Giessel, Chair
Alaska Capitol Building, Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

6 April 2015

SUPPORT ORVILLE HUNTINGTON & ROBERT RUFFNER, BOARD OF FISHERIES APPOINTMENT

Dear Madam Chair,

The Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) is a commercial fishing gear group comprised of more than 150 paying skipper and crew memberships, as well as over 75 paying business members. SEAS represents the interests of roughly 1,500 fishermen in the S01A fishery as well as their families and communities throughout SE Alaska and beyond.

As a group committed to the protection of the resource which provides our means of income, SEAS supports Governor Walker's re-appointment of Orville Huntington and appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Board of Fisheries (BOF). The State of Alaska needs highly competent, focused, and intelligent individuals on the Board, and based on their scientific education and involvement on varied fishery boards, both Huntington and Ruffner will serve the BOF very well.

Orville Huntington brings a valued perspective and provides respected input to the Board of Fisheries, especially on subsistence issues. As a lifelong Alaskan from Huslia, Mr. Huntington has demonstrated a commitment to conserving our fishery resource and we admire his dedication to ensuring the viability of our renewable resource and the varied manners of harvesting our fish. With a degree in Wildlife Biology from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and his service on the Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Native Science Commission, he understands the importance of science-based decision making, a much needed quality for Alaska's BOF members.

Southeast Alaska Seiners Association
PO Box 23081 – Juneau, AK 99802
907-463-5080



Robert Ruffner also has a solid background in science and his service on the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission has provided him with an intricate knowledge of fisheries issues so important to our state. Mr. Ruffner has a proven track record of working with varied stakeholders; a prized perspective and approach for work with the Board of Fish, which we all know can, at certain times, be highly contentious. His experience and leadership with the Kenai Watershed Forum is a striking example of dedication to scientific research, the significance of habitat preservation, and using his analytical skills to move forward for the good of the resource and those who harvest the resources. With such a solid background, we are confident that Mr. Ruffner will excel in this new role on the Board of Fisheries.

We *need* well qualified individuals on the Board of Fisheries, no matter where they come from in our great state of Alaska. And that is why we support Orville Huntington's re-appointment and Robert Ruffner's appointment to the Board of Fisheries and encourage you to do all you can to support these appointments as well.

Sincerely,

Dan Castle
President, SEAS

Southeast Alaska Seiners Association
PO Box 23081 – Juneau, AK 99802
907-463-5080



Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward #205
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-9400 phone
(907) 586-4473 fax
ata@gci.net

March 21, 2015

Governor Bill Walker
State of Alaska
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Walker:

The Alaska Trollers Association supports the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board).

The most essential ingredient of a solid Board process is the appointment of people who bring to the table a willingness to learn, combined with a shared vision of sustaining both fisheries resources and fishing communities. It is important for fishermen of all kinds that the Board is made up of people with first-hand knowledge of Alaska's fisheries and gear, but that's only one part of the equation. How they approach their task can make all the difference when it comes to successfully harmonizing the needs of each region. There are lots of ideas about what mix of people makes up a 'balanced' Board of Fish, but we contend it's not just a head count by gear type - with well over 150 fisheries around the state, that's an impossible goal. Board member 'attitude' is a huge component of successful Board outcomes and should not be overlooked.

Mr. Ruffner is an angler who has proven himself a consensus builder. He honed that people-skill while working to protect habitat and sustain Alaska's natural resources. Robert is familiar with Cook Inlet and the value of all fisheries to the social and economic health of the region and state. He has expressed a commitment to science; transparent decision-making; and, bridging diverse interests for the good of all. That kind of attitude is precisely what's needed on the Board, and far outweighs the wearing of any particular fishery stripe.

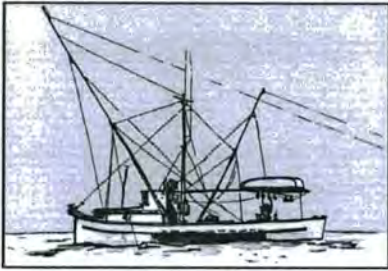
Therefore, ATA supports Mr. Ruffer for the Board, because we believe he will be studious about learning what he needs to know and applying that knowledge to best serve the resource and fishing public. We hope you agree and will move to appoint him to the Board of Fisheries.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information or be of help in any way.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director



Alaska Trollers Association

130 Seward #205
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-9400 phone
(907) 586-4473 fax
ata@gci.net

March 31, 2015

Representative Ben Nageak, Chair
House Resources
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Nageak and Committee Members:

The Alaska Trollers Association supports the reappointment of Orville Huntington to the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board).

Mr. Huntington brings to the Board process a wealth of personal and professional knowledge. As a resident of the rural community of Huslia, he knows well the importance of every type of harvest, from subsistence to commercial.

In his first term on the Board, Orville had an opportunity to learn and make decisions about diverse fisheries from across the state - no easy task! During the Southeast meeting we found him to be attentive to the needs of both the resource and the public and a thoughtful decision-maker. We look forward to working with him in future years.

ATA believes that Mr. Huntington is doing a fine job on the Board of Fisheries and is the type of individual that the state should encourage to serve in this important forum. We urge you to confirm Orville Huntington.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Kelley".

Executive Director



Suggested by: City Council

CITY OF KENAI

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, SUPPORTING THE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT RUFFNER TO THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES.

WHEREAS, Alaska Governor Bill Walker has appointed Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature will consider the confirmation of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries during the 2015 Legislative Session; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Kenai is an Alaskan Fishing Community; and,

WHEREAS, commercial fisheries, sport fisheries, personal use fisheries, subsistence fisheries and shore-based fish processing facilities take place and/or are located within the City of Kenai's Municipal boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, it is vitally important that members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries manage fishery resources and habitat for the benefit of all Alaskan's both present and future ; and,

WHEREAS, Robert Ruffner, during his eighteen year tenure as the Executive Director of the Kenai Watershed Forum, has demonstrated exemplary leadership in building consensus among widely diverse user groups; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruffner's training as a scientist and statistician provide the basis for sound decision-making based on scientific analysis; and,

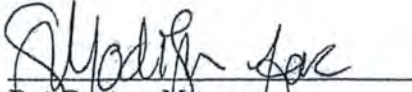
WHEREAS, he has been recognized by, and received awards from, the Coastal America Partnership and the United States Fish & Wildlife Service for his efforts and leadership in fish habitat restoration and protection; and,

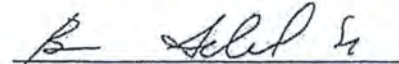
WHEREAS, his efforts in quantifying increased levels of hydrocarbons in the Kenai River, identifying measures to reduce hydrocarbon levels, and management of programs to reduce hydrocarbon levels, resulted in the Kenai River being removed from the Environmental Protection Agency's Listing of Impaired waterbodies; and,

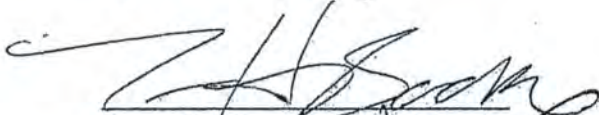
WHEREAS, the City of Kenai has worked closely with Mr. Ruffner and the Kenai Watershed Forum over the past eighteen years, finding him to be unbiased, possessing keen analytical skills, and committed to sound scientific based decision making which will well serve the State of Alaska and its citizens.

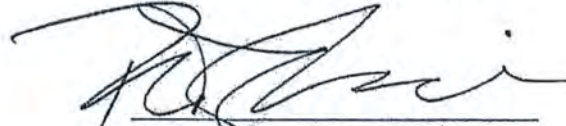
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, that the City Council supports the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

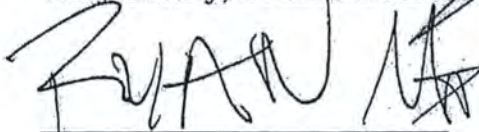
PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENAI, ALASKA, this 1st day of April, 2015.



Pat Porter, Mayor



Brian Gabriel, Vice Mayor



Terry Bookey, Council Member


Bob Molloy, Council Member


Ryan Marquis, Council Member


Tim Navarre, Council Member


Henry Knackstedt, Council Member

ATTEST 
Sandra Modigh, City Clerk

My name is Todd Smith. I am a life-long peninsula resident and avid fisherman - both sport, personal use, and commercial. I would like to voice my support for **both** Board of Fish appointees before you today.

At the board meetings I have attended, Mr. Huntington has been open and honest – willing to listen to all sides, and not afraid to speak to what he feels is right and fair. His perspective, openness, fairness, and knowledge of statewide fisheries are an asset to all Alaskans, and he represents our best interests well. I encourage you to confirm his continued service on the Board of Fish.

As a fisherman and Peninsula resident active in my community, I have had the privilege of meeting Mr. Ruffner and have followed his work. He is level-headed, honest, fair, and willing to listen to everyone's point of view. His own point of view carries with it a scientific perspective, and this would be a valuable asset to the board. He is a creative problem solver, has broad fisheries knowledge and has been supportive of and worked with ALL fish user groups and many different organizations – likely why he has broad statewide support from a diversity of interests.

Through his actions, Mr. Ruffner has demonstrated that he values the best interest of ALL Alaskans equally. He has taken on tough issues affecting our fish and habitat, and worked towards creative solutions which have helped increase fish production for everyone while improving the user experience for all people, no matter where they may live or what fishery they choose to participate in. I am confident that as a board member Mr. Ruffner would continue to work with all user groups fairly, would advocate for solutions that benefit everyone, and, in keeping with Alaska law, would hold our pristine habitat in the highest regard, understanding that it is an essential base for the productive fish runs that we all value and enjoy.

Mr. Huntington and Mr. Ruffner will be a benefit to all of us, regardless of our fishery of choice or what community we call home. I encourage you vote to confirm them both and to lean on your fellow legislators to do the same.

Thank you,

Todd Smith

Kenai

For the Record, my name is Rick Koch and I am the City Manager of Kenai, Alaska.

Greetings Chairman Giessel and the Senate Resources Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today.

The City of Kenai occupies a unique position in our State as an Alaska Fishing Community.

Within our municipal boundaries we are home to a vibrant personal sportfishing community benefitting many Alaskans that are not residents of Kenai. Also within our municipal boundary is a commercially guided sportfishing industry consisting of hundreds of professional guides. During the three week personal use, or dipnet fishery, the shores and waters at the mouth of the Kenai River are filled with as many as 15,000 people in a single day. Subsistence fisheries, such as the

Kenaitze Indian Tribe Educational Fishery also take place within the City of Kenai.

The City of Kenai was in large part spawned by the robust commercial fisheries of Cook Inlet. We are home port to many commercial fishing boats and five commercial fish processing facilities are located in our City.

My intention in telling you this is to impress upon you that all the residents of the City of Kenai, and the surrounding central Peninsula Area, are intimately involved with fishing issues, and have “skin in the game,” regardless of whether they are actively involved in direct fishing activities, or are local business owners.

The Kenai City Council unanimously passed Resolution 2015-14 strongly supporting Robert Ruffner’s appointment to the Alaska Board of

Fisheries. We respectfully request Legislative confirmation of that appointment.

Mr. Ruffner's professional accomplishments as the Executive Director of the Kenai Watershed Forum is impressive. The City has worked with Mr. Ruffner on a number of fishery, and fishery related issues. For example, Mr. Ruffner provided the wisdom, foresight, and leadership to solve a hydrocarbon water-quality issue in the Kenai River. The River had been listed as an impaired waterbody by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In two years, the leadership exhibited by Robert, resulted in the Kenai River being removed from the EPA's impaired water-body listing. This required his bringing together for a common purpose, The Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Cities of Soldotna and Kenai, the

Kenai River Sportfishing Association, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, The Alaska ADEC & ADF&G, the Kenai River Special Management Area Advisory Committee, individuals, and other user groups.

In my position as city manager I have attended many meetings where a wide range of fishing interests have been represented. These interests have been based in geography, industry and other special interests. Without exception, Mr. Ruffner's goals and interests have been based in what is in the best interest of the resource. He has never been a representative of an industry or specific user group.

It is my belief Robert Ruffner is the member of the Alaska Board of Fisheries that the framers of our constitution envisioned when creating

the board process, a talented individual who would represent all Alaskans and Alaskan resources.

In conclusion, thank you for your time and for your consideration of Mr. Ruffner for a seat on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Good afternoon,

I am on the line to testify in support of Robert Ruffner for Board of Fish but have to get off the phone - please include comment in the public record.

My testimony is as follows:

Good afternoon Senator Giessel and the rest of the Senate Resource Committee. My name is Eric Booton and as an Anchorage sport fisherman, I am excited to hear that Robert Ruffner is a nominee for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Ruffner has demonstrated his dedication to Alaska's fisheries through his extensive work to improve fish habitat and advocating for salmon, trout and the anglers who dedicate their lives pursuing them. Ruffner will provide the BOF with the fresh and big picture approach it desperately needs. Please join me in confirming him to the Board. Thank you for your time and hearing my testimony.

Sincerely,
Eric Booton

Senator Giessel,

I am primarily a sport fisherman from Anchor Point and I just spent the last hour and a half in Homer hoping to testify at your Resource Committee this afternoon. It would be nice if this message could be read in front of that committee prior to its conclusion today.

I listened to a surprising amount of concern over who was supporting Mr. Ruffner when I naively assumed the interest would be in the attributes he may bring to the table. I have around 32 years of experience with various aspects of managing the fish & game resources on the Kenai Peninsula. Now I believe it is time to put a scientist on the committee who is concerned about the fish and not a representative of any particular user group.

Having members on the Board who's interest is biased toward representing a user group and not necessarily putting the resource first has caused and continues to cause deep animosity between those groups. When I go to the Board of Fishery meetings I always ask myself "but what about the fish?". I've noticed when the fish numbers are healthy we have a lot less conflict statewide.

Please consider a small shift in the paradigm and support Robert Ruffner as a Board member who will lean toward the overall health of the resources. It should be apparent by now that the current system isn't working out very well. Thank you kindly for giving folks like me an opportunity to express our opinion.

...Lynn Whitmore

Dear Senator Giessel,

As a sport fisherman in Alaska, I am writing in support of Robert Ruffner for the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Robert's background in science and commitment to sound management of Alaska's fisheries make him an excellent candidate for the Alaska Board for Fisheries. His demonstrated respect for Alaska's constitutional principal of sustained yield and his ability to rise above the political fray, will serve him well while working to implement the Board of Fisheries core functions of conservation and development of Alaska's fisheries resources.

Thank you for your support securing the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Michael Scott
Anchorage, AK 99504

Honorable Senator Giessel –

Esteemed Senators and Mayor Navarre - My name is Suzanne Little, I live in Anchorage.

I am a former Alaska State Senator elected to serve people of the Kenai Peninsula. I have taken time out of my day to testify in support of Robert Ruffner's confirmation as a member of the Alaska Board of Fish.

I lived outside Soldotna for over 17 years and Robert was my neighbors for over almost 2 decades. As my neighbor and a member of the community I came to know Robert Ruffner . I know him to be a fine man and a person of great integrity and a person who works to helping opposing viewpoints see common ground and a way forward. Using science and building common ground, I've seen Robert quietly and respectfully accomplish big goals for the good of the Kenai River again and again. Robert has a solid reputation of level-headed leadership and bringing opposing sides of an issue together. He is respected by all fishing groups.

Mr. Ruffner is an individual who doesn't care about my fish or your fish- he just cares about all fish and the health of the habitat that supports them. I don't know how the Board of Fisheries morphed into 'assigned seats' situation but I respectfully submit that's not the way it was intended to be in the originating legislation NOR is it the best way to manage our resource.

I know Robert will prioritize science in decision making on behalf of Alaska's fisheries resources. I wish the entire board of fish was made up of people who had no specific interest- other than making sure there are fish for our children and grandchildren- to catch, to eat, to sell.

I strongly recommend approval of Robert Ruffner as a member of Alaska's Board of Fisheries. I know his scientific knowledge and infectious values of integrity will serve fisheries resources and the State of Alaska well.

--

Suzanne R. Little
Anchorage, AK 99515

Thank you Madam Chair, members of the Senate Resources Committee. My name is Brian Gabriel. I am the Vice Mayor of Kenai and am representing the Mayor of Kenai and the Kenai City Council. At the April 1st meeting of the Kenai City Council, Resolution number 2015-14 was unanously passed supporting the appointment of Robert Ruffner to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. You should have that resolution as part of your submitted written comments.

The purpose of this testimony is to support Robert Ruffner through his confirmation process to be seated on the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

Mr. Ruffner embodies the type of person that should be considered for this position. He has spent the past 18 years as the executive director of the Kenai Watershed Forum. In this role, he was instrumental in identifying issues and barriers related to successful fish propagation throughout the Kenai Peninsula. These issues included monitoring water qualities of drainages within the Kenai Peninsula Bourogh, replacing inadequate culverts with fish friendly culverts, working with other government agencies to improve fish habitat, monitoring and eradicating invasive aquatic plant species that pose a threat to our resident and returning fish stocks, and advocating for responsible land development adjacent to riparian water bodies within the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

When considering a person for this position, regardless of their background or perceived interests, the questions that should be asked is "Will this person be a good steward of the resource?" "Does the candidate possess the experience and background necessary to make sound decisions based on scientific information?" "Will this person be fair to all user groups to the best extent possible?"

We feel that the answers to these questions is an absolute yes.

As an Alaska Board of Fisheries member, we have no doubt that Mr. Ruffner will base his decisions on sound biological science, fairness to all user groups, and most importantly, what is in the best interest of the resource.

The City of Kenai is unique in that in addition to hosting the largest annual personal use fishery in the state of Alaska, we have subsistence users and numerous sport fish charter businesses within the city limits, we are the home port for a large portion of the commercial Cook Inlet drift and setnet fleets, we are shore fisheries leassors to several Cook Inlet beach fisherman, and we have several large fish processors located within our municipal boundaries.

Each of these user groups are important to our City and contribute to our economy. It is vitally important to us that the Board of Fisheries, through their decision making process, consider the impacts to all of these groups but also ensure the wellbeing of the resource for future users.

The upper Cook Inlet finfish meetings are arguably the most contentious meetings conducted and the Board of Fisheries role is to allocate the resource among competing users groups. Mr. Ruffner has demonstrated his abilities as a consensus builder who will reach out to these competing user groups to understand their specific concerns and work toward finding common ground. That being said, his number one priority will be the sustainability of the resource for future users.

Thank-you,



March 31, 2015

Ms. Karen Gillis, Director
Office of Boards and Commissions
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1700
Anchorage, AK 99501

Via E-mail to boards@alaska.gov and First Class Mail

Re: Board of Fish Appointee Orville Huntington

Dear Ms. Gillis:

Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association strongly supports the appointment of Mr. Orville Huntington to the Alaska Board of Fish. YDFDA is one of the six Western Alaska Community Development Quota groups, which are economic development non-profit organizations. We represent the Western Alaska communities of Emmonak, Alakanuk, Mountain Village, Nunam Iqua, Kotlik and Grayling, with a population of over 3,400.

YDFDA is involved with the commercial harvest of Yukon River salmon, eels and whitefish, and also, as a CDQ group, involved with the commercial fisheries of the Bering Sea.

Mr. Huntington has been a pleasure to work with during his recent term on the Board of Fish. He is extremely knowledgeable about all aspects of Alaska fisheries, from fresh to saltwater, and can also bring a rural perspective to the issues, which is very valuable to our organization. We think he will continue to be a successful member of the Board of Fish and will excel at making the Board of Fish work for the people of the State of Alaska.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

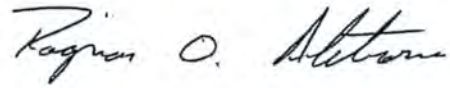
Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association

Representing the Alaskan Communities of: ALAKANUK • EMMONAK • GRAYLING • KOTLIK • MOUNTAIN VILLAGE • NUNAM IQUA

T 907.644.0326 • F 907.644.0327 • 2909 Arctic Blvd. • Anchorage, AK 99503

Very truly yours,

**YUKON DELTA FISHERIES
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ragnar O. Alstrom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'R'.

Ragnar Alstrom, Executive Director

Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

P.O. Box 1484 • Dillingham, Alaska 99576 • (907) 842-4370 • Fax (907) 842-4336 • 1-800-478-4370



28 March 2015

Dear Governor Walker, et al.

The Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation adds its voice to those in support of Robert Ruffner's confirmation to the Alaska Board of Fisheries.

As you know, the Bristol Bay region is highly dependent on the careful management of Alaska's fisheries resources. While commercial fishing is generally seen as the cornerstone of our cash economy, the sustainability of subsistence and sport fish resources are equally important to the health and welfare of the people of Southwest Alaska. Subsistence harvesting is of course a centuries old tradition in the region, and for several years now our organization has sponsored a fly fishing academy to train young people for careers as sport fishing guides.

Mr. Ruffner's professional experience, education and his track record on resource issues speak well of his credentials for wise stewardship of fisheries resources on which all Alaskans depend, and to the balance his confirmation will bring to the Board. We appreciate his nomination and urge his early confirmation by the Alaska Legislature.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NVL', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Norman Van Vactor
CEO / President