

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 2001-2002 8672

10363 HOUSE RESOURCES

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Patrick P Wright
PO Box 90386

Telephone: 279-1340

Anchorage, AK 99509
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

The Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee in the March 27, 2001 meeting voted on recommendations for legislative confirmation of appointments to the Boards of Fisheries & Game. For the Board of Fisheries: approved Kussell Nelson 11-0-0; approved John White 6-5-0. For Board of Game; opposed Chip Dinnerlein 0-9-2; opposed Ben Grussendorf 0-11-0; approved Julie Maier 7-3-1.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1498

Distribution: 60

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Message 32 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Ms. Johanna M Gabrys
3600 Sharon Gagnon Ln #C296

Telephone: 751-5791

Email: Anchorage, AK 99508

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose confirmation of Dr. White for a third term on the Board of Fish.

Entered in ANC on 4/19/01 **PCMID:** 1389

Distribution: 18

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Message 5 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Michael V Frost
10321 Chain Of Rock St

Telephone: -

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose confirmation of Dr. John W. White for a 3rd term on the BOF. Time for a change.

Entered in ANC on 4/19/01 POMID: 1390

Distribution: 19

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Message 6 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Rion T Vanek
PO Box 251

Telephone: 567-7394

Email: Ninilchik, AK 99639

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I am opposed to the confirmation of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries. There hasn't been a commercial fisherman appointed to the BOF in seven years. During Dr. White's tenure, I've seen our fishery reduced to nearly nothing. We need board members who will promote and not destroy our fisheries.

Entered in SOL on 4/19/01 POMID: 1417

Distribution: 19

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Message 11 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Leo S Brown
35717 Park Rd

Telephone: 235-2631

Homer, AK 99603
Email: browburk@xyz.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

Please oppose John White for confirmation to Alaska Board of Fisheries. Commercial fishermen in Alaska desperately need a change of direction on the Board. Mr. White has already served six years. The Gulf of Alaska industry is without representation on the Board of Fish. We need change.

Entered in HOM on 4/20/01 POMID: 1435

Distribution: 21

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Message 19 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr Kenneth E Roemhildt
PO Box 741

Telephone: -

Cordova, AK 99574
Email: Ken@nppcdv.com

NOM Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
Message:

Do not confirm John White to the board of fisheries. The current board lacks geographic and user group balance. It is time for new energy and new vision. A third term for John White does not meet any of those needs.

Entered in COR on 4/20/01 POMID: 1443

Distribution: 60

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Message 22 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr John P Wiese
PO Box 1031

Telephone: -

Cordova, AK 99574
Email: JohnPaul@ctcak.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
Message:

I oppose Dr. White for another term on BOF. I would like to see a commercial fisherman appointed so that there might be a balance with some representation for commercial fishermen. It is not good to have the same people serving on boards year after year. We need new people serving.

Entered in COR on 4/20/01 POMID: 1448

Distribution: 18

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Message 23 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Ms. Louise P Pogany
PO Box 770323

Telephone: 696-2390

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: osbrey@alaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FIS. & GAME (GAME)
Message:

I strongly oppose the Governor's appointments to the board of game; when the come before a joint session please vote no on each one. Thank you.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1461

Distribution: 60

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Message 26 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Kenneth D Kastner
PO Box 770082

Telephone: 722-9301

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: akguide@gci.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (GAME)
Message:

I oppose the appointments to the board of fish and game.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1476

Distribution: 60

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Message 29 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Steve P C Pogany
PO Box 672362

Telephone: 688-1511

Cnugiak, AK 99567
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (GAME)
Message:

I strongly oppose the Governor's appointments to the board of game; when the come before a joint session please vote no on each one. Thank you.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1477

Distribution: 60

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Message 30 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mrs. Dea L Duffus
20441 Ptarmigan Blvd

Telephone: 696-5111

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: kndeng@alaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose legislative confirmation of Dr. John White to BOF. There is not one true blue water commercial fisherman on the BOF. Alaska needs a fair and diverse representation of BOF members, a 3rd term for Dr. White will not accomplish what's best for Alaska. Support a one billion dollar fishing industry.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1508

Distribution: 20

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Message 33 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Kenneth M Duffus
20441 Ptarmigan Blvd

Telephone: 696-6111

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: kndeng@alaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose legislative confirmation of Dr. John White to BOF. There is not one true blue water commercial fisherman on the BOF. Alaska needs a fair and diverse representation of BOF members, a 3rd term for Dr. White will not accomplish what's best for Alaska. Support a one billion dollar fishing industry.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1509

Distribution: 20

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Message 34 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Brent M Western
813 W 80th Ave

Telephone: 344-2710

Anchorage, AK 99518

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose legislative confirmation of Dr. John White to BOF. There is not one true blue water commercial fisherman on the BOF. Alaska needs a fair and diverse representation of BOF members, a 3rd term for Dr. White will not accomplish what's best for Alaska. Support a one billion dollar fishing industry.

Entered in ANC on 4/20/01 POMID: 1510

Distribution: 20

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Message 35 out of 35.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Alan C Rule
PO Box 1851

Telephone: 424-5620

Email: Cordova, AK 99574

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I oppose Dr. White's appointment to Board of Fisheries. Would like to see someone with commercial fish experience on the board.

Entered in JNU on 4/18/01 POMID: 1311

Distribution: 16

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Message 5 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Ms. Carolyn L Null
9030 Elim St

Telephone: 344-6587

Anchorage, AK 99507
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I oppose the reappointment of Dr. White to the Board of Fish.

Entered in ANC on 4/18/01 POMID: 1313

Distribution: 19

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Message 6 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Noel A Johnson
1705 Sawmill Creek Rd

Telephone: 797-5078

Sitka, AK 99835
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I oppose the reappointment of Dr. White to the Board of Fish. It's time the governor nominated a commercial fisherman to the Board and restore the geographic balance as well.

Entered in SIT on 4/18/01 POMID: 1314

Distribution: 19

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Message 7 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Daniel P Bilderback
4623 Campus Cir

Telephone: 562-8428

Anchorage, AK 99507
Email: sage@gci.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I am deeply disturbed that the board of fish is so dominated by sport fishery interest. Please let there be some semblance of balance. I would like to see a full time commercial fisherman or woman on the board. Please oppose Dr. John White's third term as a board member.

Entered in ANC on 4/18/01 POMID: 1316

Distribution: 21

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Message 8 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Bruce J Gabrys
10229 Baffin

Telephone: -

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: gabrys@alaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose confirmation of Dr. White for a third term on the board of fisheries. He is entrenched in his opinion and does not consider public testimony when making decisions.

Entered in ANC on 4/18/01 POMID: 1319

Distribution: 20

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Message 10 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Chris A Garcia
PO Box 203

Telephone: 283-7731

Kenai, AK 99611

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

Please do not confirm Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries. We need to balance this Board and it is time for a change in direction. We need fresh input on the Board.

Entered in SOL on 4/18/01 POMID: 1323

Distribution: 60

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Message 11 out of 11.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Frank D Newton
260 Juliussen St

Telephone: 283-3623

Kenai, AK 99611
Email:

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

Please oppose the reappointment of Dr. White to the Board of Fisheries. His third appointment monopolizes the Board. We need blue water commercial fishing experience on the Board of Fisheries.

Entered in SOL on 4/17/01 POMID: 1272

Distribution: 20

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Message 9 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Victor G Tyler
PO Box 109

Telephone: 283-7601

Kenai, AK 99611
Email:

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I oppose the confirmation of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries. There has not been a commercial fisherman appointed for the last 7 years resulting in a serious imbalance on the board. There is a need for blue water commercial fishing experience to balance the board.

Entered in SOL on 4/17/01 POMID: 1277

Distribution: 2

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Message 13 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mrs. Corinne Heidemann
PO Box 770061

Telephone: 694-4497

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: fwitsend@gci.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

We do not want to bash Dr. White and create a negative campaign. We have not have a commercial fisherman on the Board in 7 years and we need to be represented.

Entered in ANC on 4/17/01 POMID: 1293

Distribution: 60

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Message 19 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Emmet F Heidemann
PO Box 770061

Telephone: 694-4497

Eagle River, AK 99577
Email: fvwitsend@gci.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: ROARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

Opposed based on lack of geographical balance on the Board of Fish. Time for change in Board make up. Don't want 3rd term, the need for blue water commercial fishing experience on the Board.

Entered in ANC on 4/17/01 POMID: 1294

Distribution: 60

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Message 20 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr Robert J Kopchak
PO Box 1126

Telephone: 424-7178

Cordova, AK 99574
Email: kopchak@eagle.ptialaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
Message:

Please reject the re-appointment of Dr. White to the BOF. Although his service has been selfless three terms on the board is excessive. The governor has allowed the BOF to become unbalanced in it's representation . Please support the appointment of a blue water commercial fisherman to provide balance to the Board.

Entered in COR on 4/17/01 POMID: 1295

Distribution: 19

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Message 21 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. William F Null
9030 Elim St

Telephone: 344-6587

Anchorage, AK 99507

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)

Message:

I oppose the reappointment of Dr. White to the BOF.

Entered in ANC on 4/17/01 POMID: 1298

Distribution: 19

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Message 24 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr Rocky C Littleton
PO Box 1373

Telephone: 772-4521

Petersburg, AK 99833
Email: plittle@alaska.net

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
Message:

Isn't it time commercial fishermen had fair representation on the board of fish and game?

Entered in PSG on 4/17/01 **POMID:** 1299

Distribution: 19

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Message 25 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mrs. Janice L Henderson
7848 Brentwood Dr

Telephone: 248-7534

Anchorage, AK 99502

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)

Message:

I oppose John White's nomination to the BOF. There is a serious lack of geographical and experiential balance on the BOF. It 's time for change in board make-up. I oppose 3rd terms for board members. This imbalance puts the commercial fish industry and the communities within Alaska in economic jeopardy.

Entered in ANC on 4/17/01 POMID: 1300

Distribution: 19

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Message 26 out of 27.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Michael P Lockwood
PO Box 110974

Telephone: 345-9680

Anchorage, AK 99511
Email: mplockwood@yahoo.com

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

I oppose Dr. John White. Three terms is too long, we need fresh ideas. We also need better balance on the fish board.

Entered in ANC on 4/16/01 POMID: 1225

Distribution: 19

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Message 3 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mrs. Heather L Lockwood
PO Box 110974

Telephone: -

Anchorage, AK 99511

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Email:

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)

Message:

I oppose Dr. John White for the Alaska Fish Board. I feel that there is a need to commercial fish experience on the fish board. Three terms is too long to serve as well.

Entered in ANC on 4/16/01 POMID: 1226

Distribution: 19

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Message 4 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Ms. Marilyn K Newton
260 Juliussen St

Telephone: 283-3623

Kenai, AK 99611
Email:

Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I am in opposition to the reappointment of Dr. White to the Board of Fisheries. This is his third appointment and I feel that there is a monopolization in the Board's makeup. We need more blue water commercial fish experience on the Board. This is not a personal issue against Dr. White. I feel that the change is needed for a more balanced approach.

Entered in SOL on 4/16/01 POMID: 1227

Distribution: 17

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Message 5 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Mr. Richard J Person
Hc80 Box 7149

Telephone: 688-3678

Chugiak, AK 99567
Email:

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (FISH)
Message:

Please do not approve Dr. John White to sit on Board of Fish. He has had his chance and we need change, specifically commercial fish interest. Don't jeopardize industry with imbalanced board.

Entered in ANC on 4/16/01 POMID: 1245

Distribution: 23

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Message 15 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Carl A Peterson
2403 Aurora Ct

Telephone: 790-2794

Juneau, AK 99801
Email: peterson2403@yahoo.com

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I would like to oppose the nomination of Dr. John Wight to a third term on the Board of Fisheries. Gov. Knowles has not appointed a commercial fisherman to the Board of Fisheries for the last seven years. John Wight has served two terms and I would like to see a commercial fisherman nominated & approved to the Board of Fisheries.

Entered in JNU on 4/16/01 POMID: 1246

Distribution: 60

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Message 16 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault



From: Ms. Lila M McEwen
PO Box 770713

Telephone: 694-4080

Email: Eagle River, AK 99577

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

Dear legislators, please do not confirm a vote for Chip Dennerlein and Julie Maier and Ben Grussendorf on the Board of Game. It was apparent at the Board meeting that Chip was not attentive to the public testimony. He answered his personal phone and appeared preoccupied typing into his computer and was late for every session.

Entered in ANC on 4/06/01 **POMID:** 799

Distribution: 60

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Message 3 out of 20.

POM for Representative Chenault STATE OF ALASKA



From: Roberta J Shields
6325 Roosevelt Dr

Telephone: -

TWENTY SECOND LEGISLATURE

Ketchikan, AK 99901

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

FIRST SESSION

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Message:

STATE CAPITOL
Room 432

Representative
Michael Chenault

I am opposed to the appointment of Ben Grussendorf to the Board of Game. He's too much of an environmental extremist to make objective decisions on the Board.



Entered in KTN on 1/29/01 POMID:99052

Distribution: 60

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Message 5 out of 6.

OPPOSE appt. of Ben Grussendorf

POM for Representative Chenault

From: Roberta J Shields
6525 Roosevelt Dr

Telephone: 225-6334

Ketchikan, AK 99901

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)

Message:

I would like to see the hearings regarding the confirmation of Ben Grussendorf to the Board of Game held soon. He should be removed before the board meets in March. Thank you.

Entered in KTN on 1/31/01 POMID:99072

Distribution: 60

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Message 6 out of 7.

POM for Representative Chenault

From: Earl C Mossburg
2720 2nd Ave

Telephone: 225-9330

Email: Ketchikan, AK 99901

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Subject: FISH & GAME (BOTH)
Message:

I believe that Ben Grussendorf, Gov. Knowles' appointee should not be confirmed to the Alaska Game Board because of his anti-hunting beliefs. He also believes that there should not be any Elk where there are Sitka black tail deer.

Entered in KTN on 1/30/01 POMID:99056

Distribution: 60

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Message 11 out of 12.



Support White

Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

I would like to support the confirmations of Russell S. Nelson and Dr. John R. White to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Both have been influential in preserving Cook Inlet fisheries for both sport and commercial interests. I ask that the legislature strongly support reappointment of both these current board of fish members so that they can continue to constructively manage Cook Inlet fisheries. I am especially concerned with an equitable allocation of Cook Inlet salmon resources between sport and commercial user groups and hope future board of fish decisions reflect the need for this critical balance of Cook Inlet fishery resources.

Signed: Mark Glassmaker
Testifier

Kenai River Professional Guide Association
Representing (optional)

Po Box 1516 Sterling Ak 99672
Address

907-262-0892
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

BOARD OF FISH CONFIRMATION HEARINGS

I AM TESTIFYING IN BEHALF OF DR. JOHN WHITE AND MR. RUSSEL NELSON. PLEASE MOVE TO CONFIRM BOTH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS. DR. WHITE HAS BEEN AN EXCELLENT CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER THE LAST FEW YEARS. HIS SUSTAINED FISHERIES WORK HAS BEEN GREAT AND WE NEED HIM ON THE BOARD TO SEE THIS WORK THROUGH. MR. NELSON HAS ALSO BEEN AN ASSET TO THE B.O.F. AND I FEEL HE SHOULD REMAIN ON THE BOARD

Signed: *Russell A. Nelson*
Testifier

Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 624 KENAI AK 99611
Address

262-5097



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

Please confirm John White and Russel Nelson
to new terms on AK Board of Fisheries
Both are attempting to preserve fisheries for
both sport and commercial fishers. This has
never been successful in the history of
Mankind. There are only 2 Native stocks (Pinnac
of fish left in North America (Cook Inlet, Bristol
Bay.) Give these two individuals a chance to save
them from ever harvest

Signed: Joseph J. Honas / Joseph Honas
Testifier

SOIF

Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 3132, Soldotna AK 99669
Address

907-262-6388
Phone number

Subject: John White Confirmation

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 19:56:22

From: "Chuck McCallum" <chuckmccallum@hotmail.com>

To: Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us

Chignik Seiners Association strongly supports the appointment of John White to the Board of Fisheries. John White understands the ongoing issues in the subsistence and commercial fisheries of the Chignik Management Area. His leadership in these areas is of critical importance to Chignik fishermen.

Chuck McCallum
Executive Director, CSA

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SUPPORT WARD

Subject: [Fwd: Board of Fish re-appointments]

Date: Tue, 24 Apr 2001 07:13:03 -0800

From: Representative Drew Scalzi <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Pat Hartley <Pat_Hartley@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject: Board of Fish re-appointments

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 15:39:28 -0800 (AKDT)

From: <a-ward@xyz.net>

To: Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us

The Homer Charter Association is a trade association of 75 member companies representing more than 100 charter boats operating from Homer, Alaska. Our membership is in full support of the reappointment of both Russell Nelson and Dr. John White to the Board of Fish. The experience of these two gentlemen are necessary to keep continuity in the decision making process and they have shown their consideration for all users in their deliberations and have acted fair in all matters. We support their reappointment for the next term. Thank You. Robert Ward - Secretary



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

My name is Andy Dzygany. I've been fishing in Alaska for 22 yrs. John White has been one of the best guides I've heard in many years, and our fisheries in the state depend on it.

Signed:

Andy Dzygany
Testifier

Representing (optional)

372 W. ENDRICH DR, SIDDONIA, AK
Address

207-9439
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

Please know that Dr. White's work on the fishery board recognizes that parity between opposing fishing interests is important. He has worked to be fair in his positions.

Also, know that Dr. White understands about conservation and the importance of all user groups sharing in conservation burdens.

I support the confirmation of Dr. John White to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Signed: Dennis H. Randa

Testifier

Representing (optional)

P.O. Box 3055
Soldotna, AK 99669

Address

(907) 262-9494

Phone number

oppose White

April 24, 2001

Representative Drew Scalzi, Co-Chair
Resources Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol MS: 3100
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Scalzi:

Members of the committee, my name is Paul A. Shadura II and I reside in Kenai Peninsula Borough. I have traveled 1,000 miles to testify today on the re-confirmation of Board of Fisheries member John White.

There are some key points that I believe you should consider:

1. How has the record of this board member proved to the committee that he has made fair and unbiased decisions that benefit all the users of the state?
 - a) Section 6(e) of the Alaska Statehood act states... (The) policy-making officials should be selected for their ability and their dedicated interest in the resource, and no identification should be made between a policy-making official and any particular segment of the population; likewise, no official should be bound to represent the interests of a specific geographical region.
 - b) In addition, an excerpt from the "Board of Fish review Committee" dated 2/23/88... In 1975 the Legislature enacted a new statute which split the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game, the members of which must be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature "without regard to political affiliation or geographical location" (ch. 206 SLA 1975). However, despite the explicit aforementioned statutory prohibitions, for more than a quarter century Alaska Governors, aided and abetted by the legislature, have appointed individuals to the Board because of their identification with special interests or geographic areas.
 - c) Re-appointing board members for two or three terms does not adhere to any diversity of interests and in fact would solidify or ingrain the inherent bias or idealism of one member from one area and from only one perspective or resource user.
 - d) If we are attempting to reduce the temptation of an administration or body from exerting political philosophies on board members that are not to be considered by political affiliations, then it would seem proper that "new blood" and "new ideas" would help to ensure that there would be less collusion and a stronger attempt for Board of Fish members to balance the decisions they promulgate.

2. Have decisions made by this board member resulted in sweeping losses to resource users?
 - a. In the Kuskokwim River region, this area will now be closed for real conservation reasons. This is Mr. White's back yard yet in six years which included his time as chairman he could not craft a moderate solution and now his inability has severally impacted the economic viability for the fishing families of this region.
 - b. In Cook Inlet in August 2001, Mr. White failed to approve an emergency petition that resulted in a surplus stock of pink salmon in excess of 20 Million fish. Information from local ADF&G personnel gave the Board their best available information on the need for surplus fishery and assessments that the conservation species that the board had been concerned about were returning in record numbers (In the final analysis the best return to the Kenai River in 20 years.).
 - c. Mr. White was instrumental on deterring the responsibilities of the decline of chum salmon away from his turf and placing the blame on a distant Area M. These sweeping changes to this area regulations will not, as board member Coffey alluded to in a recent legislative committee report, make the Kuskokwim whole again.
3. Does this board member listen to the concerns of others and does he have the necessary participation experience on affected fisheries?
 - a. Board member White has stated publicly that he does not feel the public testimony is necessary (Fall workshop 1999).
 - b. He voted against having a recorded copy of all committee meetings (Fall workshop 1999).
 - c. He reserves his ex-parte communications with only selected members of the public and stakeholders. Many times I or others in the commercial fishing community have gone up to Mr. White and have been rudely cast off with no answers except a sarcastic remark.
 - d. Mr. White is a dentist from Bethel, yet his recent press release states that he is a commercial fisherman. I believe that he has a freshwater longline permit that is not an open fishery and a limited fishery gillnet on the Kuskokwim. In contrast you may review someone like myself who is a third generation commercial fisherman in Cook Inlet, with family history that dates back over 100 years. I am an Alaska native descendent with Russian and English heritage because they were the first explorers in the State. I commercially fish salmon, herring, and halibut. My family has owned traps; we have been involved in processing, fish buying, and tendering. I have subsisted on salted salmon and sport fished in the Kenai River before it was fashionable. I am an active Board member of the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association for 20 years, board member to the CIRCAC and KRSMA boards. I have been involved with KPFA for 30 years, and am a UFA Board member. I live, eat, and breath fishing and I AM AN ALASKAN COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN!

Please do not reconfirm John White. He will not improve the fisheries. He will not use his intellect to bring the conflicts of individual users to a mutual agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul A. Shadura II". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Paul A. Shadura II
Kenai

Melvin and Marilyn Larsen
PO Box 33
Sand Point, AK 99661

April 24, 2001

Drew Scalzi, Co- Chair
House Resources Committee

Mr. Scalzi,

We strongly oppose the reappointment of John White to the Board of Fish. Two terms are long enough for a board member to serve. We believe it is time for a change. There is a need for diversified commercial fishermen to be represented on the Board of Fish. Please do not support the reappointment of Dr. White.

Sincerely,

Melvin and Marilyn Larsen



OPPOSE White

Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

I strongly encourage your Committee to oppose the reappointment of Dr. White for the third term on the Board of Fish.

at the present time there is not one member of the B.O.F. that derives a significant portion of his income from Commercial fishing. The need for knowledge of ~~Commercial fishing~~ blue water commercial fishing experience is a necessary ingredient for making good decisions. The commercial fisherman in the State of Alaska is suffering for the lack of that representat.

Signed: DREW SPARKLIN Drew Sparklin
Testifier

Self
Representing (optional)

37020 Cannery Rd Kenai, AK 99611
Address

907.283.4095
Phone number



Alaska State Legislature

Please enter into the record my testimony to the House Resources
committee name

Committee on Board of Fisheries Confirmation, dated April 23, 2001
bill # / subject

4-23-01

Brent Johnson
20773 Clam Gulch AK 99568
907-262-4763

To the Alaska Legislature,
Dear Legislators,

I am opposed to the confirmation of John White to the Board of Fish. It is time for the governor to balance the Board of Fish by appointing a commercial fisher that ACTUALLY FISHES to the Board.

Thank you.
Brent Johnson
Brent Johnson

Signed: BRENT JOHNSON
Testifier

Representing (optional)
20773 PORCUPINE LANE CLAM GULCH AK
Address
262-4763
Phone number

My name is Robert Williams from Kasilof Alaska. I'm here to speak on behalf of the Kenai Peninsula Fisherman's Association, which represents many set net fishers in Cook Inlet. I'm here to say that we oppose the Legislative Confirmation of Dr. John White, to the Board of Fisheries.

We feel that there's a real need for a bonified commercial fisherman on this board. The Governor has not appointed a commercial fisherman on this board in seven years. In the Cook Inlet Basin we have three representatives from our area, but none are commercial fisherman. We have a lawyer, a retired sportfish biologist and a saltwater guide. This creates a large imbalance when our issues are voted on.

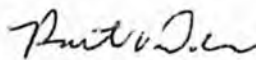
This would be Dr. Whites third term on this board, which would be nine years when his term is completed. We feel that this is to long to serve on a volunteer board without carrying out an agenda. This has been more noticeable lately with Dr. Whites failure to work with the public on Cook Inlet issues . He doesn't seem to be concerned with hearing our concerns and is very difficult to communicate with. We feel this should be a pre-requisite for this type of job.

He also doesn't take in consideration all of the information that the staff of biologist furnish the board during staff reports. These reports come from dedicated individuals at the Department of Fish and Game. These are the people that study our specific area year round, not like a board member who has to be involved in state wide decision making. He has time and time again, failed to take heed to their advice.

In cook Inlet not only did we have sustained yield in our fisheries, we also had maximum sustained yield in two of our river systems, but the escapements that brought back these large runs for all user groups, have been dismantled by the actions of Dr. White and this board. We need a diverse economy in our area, vital sportfish and commercial fisheries. So please let us have new representation on this board and do not confirm Dr. White for another three years.

We do not oppose the confirmation of Russel Nelson. My phone number is 262-2363, I am President of K.P.F.A. and if I can be of any help please call me.

Sincerely
Robert Williams



Support B. of G
nominees

JoAnn Utt
PO Box 1114
Palmer, AK 99645
(907)376-5718 Phone
(907)373-7719 Fax

April 24, 2001

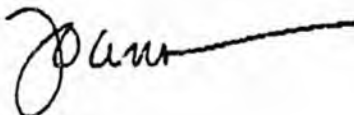
TO: AK LEGISLATORS

Please confirm Ben Grussendorf, Chip Dennerlein, and Julie Maier to the Board of Game. In the past, this board has **NOT** been fair and balanced. In order to show integrity and earn the respect of all constituents - it is time for a change!

Let's have a Board everyone respects - please confirm the above who show balance, statesmanship, and for once, scientific knowledge.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



JoAnn Utt

Subject: [Fwd: BOG Candidates]

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 09:44:32 -0800

From: Representative Drew Scalzi <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Pat Hartley <Pat_Hartley@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject: BOG Candidates

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 09:37:22 -0800

From: Nina Faust <fausbail@xyz.net>

To: Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us,
Reprentative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Drew,

The three Board of Game appointees, Ben Grussendorf, Chip Dennerlein, and Dr. Julie Maier, deserve your support. They served during the last Board of Game session and demonstrated their knowledge and capability to handle wildlife issues. All have excellent credentials and represent a broadening of perspectives on the Board of Game. The Board needs to represent a true cross-section of Alaska's population and differing interests in wildlife, both consumptive and wildlife viewing and tourism. We urge you to vote for confirmation.

Nina and Ed

Nina Faust
Edgar Bailey
P.O. Box 2994
Homer, AK 99603
fausbail@xyz.net
235-6262

Cc Representative Beverly Masek

Subject:

Date: Tue, 24 Apr 2001 20:48 -0800

From: cbolling@ak.net

To: Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us,
Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us

Dear Representative Masek & Scalzi,

As an avid outdoorsman, I am requesting you to confirm the appointments of Ben Grusser
>From looking at their records and accomplishments, I can see no reason NOT to confirm
On a more positive note, I believe they have excellent experience and broad-mindedness
Thank you in advance for your support of these fine individuals.

Sincerely,

Cary Bolling
110 West Caribou Avenue
Palmer, Alaska 99645

Subject: Game Board Nominees

Date: Tue, 24 Apr 01 12:44:44 -0800

From: Dave Lacey <dlacey@mosquitonet.com>

**To: "Rep. Masek" <Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us>,
"Rep. Scalzi" <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>**

Dear Representative,

Please confirm Gov. Knowles' nominees to the Board of Game. These people represent a balanced approach to game management in Alaska. They are all knowledgeable and experienced. They are not idealogues. They deserve confirmation.

Thank you very much.

Dave Lacey
PO Box 81765
Fairbanks, AK 99708
474-8224



United Cook Inlet Drift Association

P.O. Box 389 ~ Kenai, Alaska 99611-0389 ~ (907) 260-9436 ~ fax (907) 260-9438 ~ ucida@kenai.net

April 18, 2001
Representative Beverly Masek, Co-Chair
Representative Drew Scalzi, Co-Chair
House Resources Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

APR 19 2001

Subject: Board of Fisheries confirmation

Dear Committee members,

This letter is written to inform you of our organization's concerns and questions regarding the re-nomination of Dr. John White and Russell Nelson to the Board of Fisheries (BoF).

During the past seven years the BoF has moved away from the simple biology and regulation of fisheries, towards the more politically charged issues, such as allocation. In any political debate there will be winners and losers, therefore, interest group representation becomes very important. We have taken every opportunity to inform the Legislature about our dissatisfaction over our lack of representation on the Board. Once again, the Governor has seen fit to continue to keep the same people on the Board whose make-up, we believe, with the exception of one member, does not adequately represent our side of any argument, most especially biology and allocation.

We understand that the Governor will want to appoint people to the Board who agree with his policies about the future uses of our renewable resources. So the question is, does the Legislature believe that the state's oldest renewable industry will be adequately represented by the re-nomination of these two Board members? We have already informed you that continuing with the same Board will ensure the continued decline of the commercial fishing industry, but the question is not for us to decide, we leave that answer up to your good judgement.

Since Dr. White is the senior member of the incumbent Board members re-appointed, we have included a list of questions that our directors would ask him, if we could. As you might suspect some are specific to our area, but many would apply to any fishery statewide. Irregardless, Dr. White has been on the Board long enough to have been instrumental in making the decisions, many of which, have had a negative impact on the future of commercial fisheries here in Cook Inlet.

If the Legislature fails to confirm one or both of the candidates, it is important to note that the Governor has been offered the opportunity to appoint a member of the public who is truly non-controversial, but chose not to. His name is Ed Krohn, and he has extensive Advisory Committee experience. He is a true recreational fisherman with no economic stake in any outcome. There are options, and there certainly are other members of the public fully capable of handling the responsibilities of service on the BoF. We wonder how many years of service must pass before public service changes from public service to a job.

Respectfully yours,

Bob Merchant

UCIDA President

Suggested questions for White's confirmation hearing

Dr. White, you have been on the Board for two terms, 6 years. During that service what has been your agenda and do you feel you have accomplished any or all of it?

If you are confirmed what will be your agenda for the next three years?

What are your thoughts about the length of time a member of a lay board, such as the BoF, should serve? Is length of time served important?

Some time ago, at your insistence, the Board agreed to not take any action that would increase sport-fishing effort on the Kenai River until a report on present habitat loss and any future habitat loss was presented to the Board. In spite of this requirement your Board subsequently took action to drastically increase the escapement into the Kenai at the Soldotna regular cycle meeting. At that time when you voted in favor of these new management plans, were you satisfied that the increased escapement and subsequent, expected increased sport fishing effort would not adversely impact the riparian habitat critical to the Kenai's ecosystem?

It is my understanding that, to date, the report you originally required is still not ready. Will this report, or lack of it, at the upcoming 2002 Cook Inlet meeting have any impact on your decisions concerning habitat, should any proposals suggested lead you to believe that there would be increased angler effort with possible adverse habitat damage?

How important are such habitat issues as those you outlined, to the function and work done by the Board? Are there socio-economic considerations which would out-weigh your environmental concerns, in so far as, the Kenai River is concerned?

In the Boards efforts to develop the full economic potential of the Kenai River and tourism for the benefit of the State and its residents, what criteria, if any, has the Board developed to strike a balance between the economic development and the biological needs of the salmon resource?

Do you believe that a healthy, viable commercial salmon fishing industry as well as a healthy tourism industry is important to the overall future economic health of the state?

How important is a "multiple use" approach to achieving the maximum benefit for the people of the state, most especially those with an economic stake in those uses, to you?

How would you grade the scientific, biological data supplied to you by ADF & G?

There is a bill presently before the Legislature to require ADF & G concurrence on a conservation concern before such concern is taken up by the Board. What do you think about this requirement? Is it necessary? It has been alleged by commercial fishing interests that the Board pays little or no attention to the recommendations of ADF & G on conservation matters. What do you think about these assertions?

What should be done about existing, historical fisheries when new and expanding fisheries are created by the Board? Should the historical use of our fishery resources have any bearing on the decisions you make concerning future uses?

What is more important to you? The policies set forth by the administration and legislature as to how allocation shall take place, or the recommendations of the residents as expressed through public testimony during Board meetings?

Are the salmon resources of Alaska supposed to be managed for the residents of Alaska, or do those resources, in fact, belong to the State government, and it should be the state that decides who gets the resource? Could you sort this out for me?

Alaska State Legislature

Representative Beverly Masek
Co-Chair
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-3715
Fax: 465-4822
1-800-505-2678



Representative Drew Scalzi
Co-Chair
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-6890
Fax: 465-3472
1-800-665-2689

House Resources Committee

April 25, Wednesday
1:00-3:00PM, Capitol 124

CONFIRMATION HEARING BOARD OF FISH

CONFIRMATION HEARING BOARD OF GAME

CONFIRMATION HEARING OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CONFIRMATION COMMISSIGNER OF DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

=HCR17: SALE OF NATURAL GAS TO POWER DATA CENTERS

=Bills Previously Heard

POM for Representative Masek



From: Mr. Kenneth L Heaps
1803 Central Ave

Telephone: 456-7870

Fairbanks, AK 99709

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Message:

I support Mr. Nelson and Dr. White to stay on the Board of Fish for another term. I believe that balance is a necessity to the sport fishing industry.

Entered in FBX on 4/23/01 POMID: 1552

Distribution: 12

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Message 8 out of 20.

Support White / Nelson

POM for Representative Masek



From: Mr. Richard H Bishop
1555 Gus'S Grind

Telephone: 455-6151

Fairbanks, AK 99709

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Email:

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Message:

I support confirmation of Dr. White and Mr. Nelson. They have done a good job representing their constituents and conserving fish resources.

Entered in JNU on 4/23/01 POMID: 1547

Distribution: 19

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Message 4 out of 20.

SUPPORT DR. WHITE

**Committee Member: All
this testimony was sent
to us just this morning.**



United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters
PO Box 22427
Juneau, Alaska 99802
(907) 586-5860
E-mail: usag@gillnetters.org
April 23, 2001

Dear Legislator:

Governor Tony Knowles has renominated Dr. John White for a seat on the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). The Alaska Legislature House Fisheries and Resources Committees have scheduled his confirmation hearing during the week of Monday, April 23.

The United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) opposes Dr. White's renomination and urges that you vote against it for the following reasons:

1. This would be his third term on the BOF, compounding a negative situation for Alaska fishery resources users which he has helped create by his pursuing a personal, allocative agenda in face of contrary scientific evidence generated either through public input or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff. This attitude has compromised any perception of fairness, let alone impartiality, in the BOF addressing fishing issues statewide.
2. His reappointment would perpetuate on the Board both the existing lack of knowledge and appreciation of fishery and resource issues across the coastal regions of the State and the gross imbalance in representation of the fishery user groups and perspectives on the Board as it is now composed.
3. In his two full terms Dr. White has proven to be anti commercial fishing and this bias has destroyed his credibility as an even-handed arbiter of the best interests for all the state's diverse fishery users.

Board membership must be changed to reinvigorate, re-legitimize and again provide reasonableness to the administrative process that allocates Alaska's fish. By not changing its composition now, the future of the BOF as a viable institution will be jeopardized.

For the reasons above USAG urges that you vote "NO" on Dr. White's renomination. There are other candidates willing to serve who would more effectively represent all fishing interests in Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William Auger, President
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

4/22/01

Dear Drew,

I oppose the nomination
of John White to the Board
of Fish. We need a
commercial fisherman ASAP.
Thanks.

Jammie
Shader

235-7670



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
www.ufa-fish.org

April 23, 2001

Representative Drew Scalzi,
Co-Chair, Resources Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Interdepartmental Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Scalzi:

United Fishermen of Alaska opposes the reappointment of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries.

This would be his third term on the board, and the commercial fishing industry feels that it is time for a change. For the last seven years we have been seeking the appointment of an experienced blue water commercial fishermen to the BOF. The board makes very important decisions that affect fishermen's livelihoods, and we feel it only fair that there be at least two board members that are experienced commercial fishermen representing different areas of the state.

We did support a candidate that had submitted his name to the Boards and Commissions, Art Nelson. We have not had a candidate that we supported since Grant Miller; that was seven years ago. We feel that the lack of commercial fishing experience on the board is a threat to Alaska's largest private sector employer, the commercial fishing industry.

For these reasons we oppose Dr. White's confirmation.

Respectfully Yours,

Thomas M. Gemmell
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Trollers Association • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Reserve
Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Copper River Salmon Producers Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • Kodiak Seiners Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association
Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Old Harbor Fisherman's Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owners Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative
Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Dnt Association • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

Dear House Resources Committee member,

I am opposed to House Bill 244. Public and private land developers are trying to appropriate state land in Denali Borough. They want to make the Wolf Townships an extension of Denali National Park's transportation system, and develop it for their own financial gain.

On Thursday April 19 House Transportation Committee quickly passed HB 244 out of committee without providing for any public comment or public hearing. The history of this bill is interesting. A working draft of the bill distributed at the Denali Borough Assembly Meeting April 7th said "The Denali Borough shall identify and survey a railroad and utility corridor ...from near the community of Healy to the eastern boundary of Denali National Park and Preserve." It also said "The borough may retain not more than 3500 acres of the land granted to the borough under this section." This land would be in addition to the borough entitlement and is worth many millions of dollars. The citizens of Alaska will not be adequately compensated for the loss of this public land.

A legislative staffer noted that having Denali Borough do a survey for a private enterprise put the borough in the role of developer. The bill was changed so that Kantishna Holdings Inc. (KHI) would identify and survey the railway, but the Denali Borough would still get 3500 acres to develop whether the railroad was built or not. Its political and economic feasibility is in doubt. Contrary to public statements made by Mr. Fields, spokesman for KHI, he still wants a hotel at Wonder Lake. Mr. Fields also is not open about his backers; KHI is a private corporation with private information.

This bill is an attempt to give valuable public land to Denali Borough to sell, lease or otherwise develop. The ultimate use of any land conveyed to the borough is completely unpredictable. The Borough Assembly is unwilling to regulate land use as charged by the legislature. Hunting in the Wolf Townships is especially threatened by chaotic development. Intense hunting pressure is only sustainable now because any animal that steps out of Denali Park and Preserve is fair game.

Contrary to what supporters of HB 244 say the question is not whether development should occur but where it should be. There are tens of thousands of acres east of Panguingue Subdivision open to Borough land selection. Leaving the Wolf Townships as they are encourages development that is independent of Denali National Park and will continue to give Alaskans and tourists an alternative to the congestion and bureaucracy of the park. It is worth noting that now travelers from all over the globe are purposely coming to the Wolf Townships as the result of Jon Krakaur's book Into the Wild, the story of Chris McCandless's death. It is shortsighted and impossible to funnel all our visitors through Denali National Park. We can learn from mistakes made outside parks in the lower 48.

I question the motives of those who are hostile to Denali National Park but would force the park to expand its transportation system onto our public land.

If HB 244 passes what we have now will be lost forever.

Sincerely

David P. Braun 683 - 2654 phone and fax.
sueb@usibelli.com

David R. Martin
71605 Sterling Hwy.
Clam Gulch, AK. 99568
April 23, 2001
Ph. 567-3306

Representative Drew Scalzi,

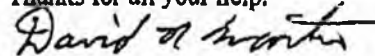
Hi Drew,

First off I am adamantly opposed to Dr. John White's and Russell S. Nelson confirmation to the BOF. Here are some questions, backed up by facts, that you might ask at their confirmation hearing.

1. During your tenure on the Board, the BOF has substantially increased the number of meeting days per year and therefore greatly increased the BOF budget. In Cook Inlet alone the BOF since 1994 meet every year for seven years and some of those years saw two to three meetings. The Department of Fish and Game spends the majority of their time now preparing material for BOF meeting. My question to you is how have the users of the resource and the State benefited from this enormous burden of extra time and money?
2. In Cook Inlet you have been instrumental in designing the management plans. These management plans you implemented take the biological management and emergency order authority away from the professional management biologist. These plans have regulatory closures (the same as we had under Federal management before Statehood) and are designed to result in the loss of harvest which leads to overescapement and diminished future returns. Last season the Federal Government and the Kenai Peninsula Borough declared the upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery a disaster. Ironically in spite of this declaration of disaster the fishermen sat on the beach, the canneries and their workers sat idle while over 20 million pink salmon went up the rivers unharvested because the management plans that you put into effect would not allow the harvest of these pinks under any circumstances. In 1998 over 10 million pinks went unharvested because of the management plan that kept the fishermen closed. People are financially hurting. Several major canneries have left the Inlet stating their reasons as unstable political management by the BOF resulting in low returns and unharvested resource. The whole fishery is collapsing. People's livelihoods are in serious jeopardy. My question to you is why did you developed a plan to have these results and why should we confirm you so you can continue to repeat this system of management in other parts of the state or is this management system just area specific?
3. You have awarded several agenda change request out of the three year cycle in Cook Inlet and one in Prince William Sound for conservation concerns even though the ADF&G biologist told the BOF that they did not have any conservation concerns. In February 2000 the BOF award an agenda change request for conservation concerns on Cook Inlet coho. ADF&G told you coho were weak but the department did not have any conservation concerns. The BOF ignored the professional biologist and put drastic restrictions on the commercial fisheries, the charter industry and the sports fisherman. Six months later the coho return came in at near record levels but the users were unduly restricted from harvesting the surplus because of your prior coho regulation restrictions. My question to you is do you think that you as a layman on the BOF have more knowledge and expertise than the professional biologist and scientist.

These guys need to be held accountable to what they are doing to the fishermen, the fishing industry, local economies and the State. They are supposed to be stewards of the resource not dictators of it.

Thanks for all your help.



David R. Martin



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
www.ufa-fish.org

April 23, 2001

Representative Beverly Masek
Co-Chair, Resources Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Interdepartmental Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Masek:

United Fishermen of Alaska opposes the reappointment of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries.

This would be his third term on the Board, and the commercial fishing industry feels that it is time for a change. For the last seven years we have been seeking the appointment of an experienced blue water commercial fishermen to the BOF. The board makes very important decisions that affect fishermen's livelihoods, and we feel it only fair that there be at least two board members that are experienced commercial fishermen representing different areas of the state.

We did support a candidate that had submitted his name to the Boards and Commissions, Art Nelson. We have not had a candidate that we supported since Grant Miller; that was seven years ago. We feel that the lack of commercial fishing experience on the board is a threat to Alaska's largest private sector employer, the commercial fishing industry.

For these reasons we oppose Dr. White's confirmation.

Respectfully Yours,

Thomas M. Gemmell
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association • Alaska Trollers Association • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Reserve
Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association • Concerned Area "M" Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
Copper River Salmon Producers Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Douglas Island Pink and Chum
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association • Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • Kodiak Seiners Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association
Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • Old Harbor Fisherman's Association • Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owners Association • Seafood Producers Cooperative
Southeast Alaska Seiners Association • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association
United Cook Inlet Drift Association • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

Bruce J. Gabrys
10229 Baffin Street
Eagle River, AK 99577

April 22, 2001

Representative Beverly Masck
Co-Chair, House Resource Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 128
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Oppose Confirmation of Dr. White to a Third Term on BOF

Dear Representative Masck,


I ask that you oppose the confirmation of Dr. John White for a third term on the Board of Fish (BOF). Dr. White is entrenched in his opinion on how the State fisheries resources should be managed and does not consider the content of public testimony when making decisions. Over the years he has become insensitive, and upon many occasions, down right rude to members of the public who are testifying.

I am a member of the Anchorage ADF&G Fish and Game Advisory Committee and have attended Board of Fish meetings for many years. Dr. White has always been somewhat arrogant in his manner. However, his attitude toward the public has deteriorated over this past term. Sitting on the Board of Fish is a tough job and can be hard on anyone's attitude after six years.

I respect Dr. John White's past service and dedication to the board but I also firmly believe that reconfirmation for a third term is not in the best interest of the Public, the BOF, nor Dr. White himself.

With regard to Mr. Russell Nelson, I ask that you support his confirmation to a second term on the Board of Fish.

Sincerely,


Bruce J. Gabrys

FROM : KING OF KINGS

FAX NO. : 907 5673667

Apr. 23 2001 09:03AM P1



4-23-01

To Whom It May Concern,

I am sending this message to strongly support the return of Russell Nelson, and Dr. John R. White to another full term on the board of fish. I have experienced they provide a proper balance between commercial and charterboat issues, and representing the charter fleet well. I feel without the presence of these two individuals on the Board of Fish, the issues concerning my industry will suffer. Please reinstate these two men for another full term.

Sincerely,

Richard Andersen
King of Kings Guide Service and Lodge

(907) 567-3687
(907) 567-3607 Fax

KING of KINGS
Guide Service and Lodge

24715 Sterling Highway
Anchor Point, AK 99558-9701

Cordova District Fishermen United

Celebrating 65 Years of Service to Commercial Fishermen in Cordova, Alaska
P.O. Box 939 Cordova, Alaska 99574 / Telephone (907) 424-3447 / Fax (907) 424-3430

April 23, 2001

House Resources Committee
c/o Co-Chairman Drew Scalzi
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SENT VIA FACSIMILE TO 907.465.3472

Dear Committee Members,

Cordova District Fishermen United would like to voice its strong opposition to the confirmation of Dr. John White to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Having worked with Dr. White through six years, we believe that it is time for new energy and vision on the Board.

The current Board of Fisheries lacks diversity in geographic and user group representation. The huge area of coastal Alaska south of the Alaska Peninsula and the Gulf of Alaska where hundreds--if not thousands--of small family fishing operations are dependent upon the resources regulated by the Board of Fisheries, does not have representation.

In addition, an issue related to Dr. White that is of grave significance to our organization and those we represent is that he seems to have lost his ability over time to listen to the concerns of the users and the Department. It is our experience that Dr. White knows what he wants to accomplish on most issues prior to the process beginning, and therefore fails to listen to either the users or the scientific professionals. Fisheries are extremely dynamic and the needs of the users are not static. Playing the critical role that they do in establishing regulations and policy for management of Alaska's fisheries, Board members must be open-minded, fair, listen without bias, and responsive.

In closing, we need a change on the Board to balance and diversify it. This need precludes confirmation of Dr. John White.

Respectfully,



Sue Aspelund
Executive Director

Petersburg Vessel Owners Association

P.O. Box 232
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone (907) 772-9323 Fax (907) 772-4495

April 23, 2001

Re: PVOA Opposes Confirmation of Dr. White to Alaska Board of Fisheries

Dear Senator Taylor and Representative Wilson,

On behalf of Petersburg Vessel Owners Association, I urge you to oppose the confirmation of Dr. John White (Bethel) for his third term on the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). PVOA believes that two terms are enough and a time for a change is long overdue. We also believe that commercial fishing is underrepresented in the membership of the BOF particularly in regards to "bluewater" ocean fisheries (as opposed to terminal or in-river fisheries). The legal and dental communities have disproportionately more representation on the BOF than the commercial fishing fleet.

We also believe that geographic balance of the BOF is skewed. Currently the make-up of the BOF has three representatives from Western Alaska (Bethel, Dillingham, and the upper Yukon). Western Alaska is over represented with three seats, therefore not re-appointing Dr. White may help correct the imbalance. Western Alaska should be adequately represented with two seats. After all, Southeast has had but one seat for ten years while Kodiak and Prince William Sound have held no seats for about the same duration. Alaska Peninsula has also not had a seat on the BOF in six years.

There are other viable candidates to choose from including Art Nelson and Paul Shadura that would bring a fresh view point to the BOF. In tht regard, PVOA asks that the Alaska Legislature not re-confirm Dr. White to the BOF.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,



Gerry Merrigan
Director, PVOA

Post-It® Fax Note	7071	Date	# of pages 3
To	SCALZI / STEVENS	From	PVOA
Co./Dept.		Co.	
Phone #		Phone #	
Fax #		Fax #	

Close Hold: Not for Circulation

Specifically PVOA's opposition to reconfirmation of Dr. White is based on:

- Two terms is enough. One of the telling signs that individuals have served too long on any public board is when those individuals decide they do not need the public anymore. This is evident in the recent turn of events in which the BOF came to a position on an issue (halibut charter IFQs) without the benefit of a public meeting or public input or public notice (3/28/01 letter from Dan Coffey, chairman BOF to NPFMC). Since Dr. White has not publicly stated any dissent to this BOF position prior to the NPFMC meeting, we can only interpret that he concurs with this position which was devoid of public process.
- Dr. White was one of the principal architects at the BOF in keeping the hatchery chum issue tabled indefinitely at the BOF (from 1997) even though it was repeatedly stated that the BOF did not have the authority to regulate and reduce hatchery chum releases in SE Alaska and Prince William Sound. The appropriate action would have been take no action rather than tabling from year to year. The BOF Standing Rules (finding 91-128-FB) states, "*Take no action: Has the effect of killing a proposal or issue upon adjournment. There are two reasons for taking no action: 1) It is found that the proposal is beyond the board's authority; or 2) due to board action on a previous proposal(s).*" Tabling is primarily done to gather more information, however if the BOF lacks authority the appropriate course of action is to take no action. The BOF finally took this course of no action in regards to this issue at the January, 2001 BOF meeting.
- An other BOF Standing Rule is, "*Do not change or reverse the intent of a proposal/issue.*" At the January BOF meeting, Dr. White took a proposal for establishing a gillnet herring fishery in Dutch Harbor, and at the meeting (with no public notice or analysis), added a section for a punitive overage payback policy in regards to the seine fishery. This is now the only herring fishery in the state with such a provision even though the harvest rate is well below the maximum in this fishery.
- Dr. White's interpretation of what constitutes "practical public notice" seems to change one hundred and eighty degrees depending on what the the issue and his interest level. The normal practical public notice process is that proposals are due April 10, the proposal book is published in the summer, reviewed by the public and advisory committees, and public meetings are held in the winter and spring on those proposals. At the March 2000 meeting in Anchorage, Dr. White held the position that the BOF could drastically change and modify a proposal in the book and that was well within practical public notice. In this case, it was a proposal regarding Adak and banning trawling for cod in state waters. At the meeting, the BOF allowed this proposal to be modified to banning all gear for all groundfish species by vessels over 60 feet. The BOF held unanimously that these changes did not violate public notice. In contrast, at the January 2001 BOF meeting, Dr. White refused to allow proposals

(as written, unchanged and unmodified) to be moved from the latter half of the meeting to the front half of the meeting, as this would violate practical public notice. In this case, the proposals in question concerned Area M, an area of particular interest of Dr. White.

- Prior to the January 2001 BOF meeting, Dr. White made an extensive three page data request to ADF&G which concluded with, "Finally, I do not want my request for information forwarded to the public, simply put. These are my request (sic) as a board member and I don't want them shared, period." So much for the public.

[Fwd: Oppose confirmation of John White for Board of Fisheries!]

Subject: [Fwd: Oppose confirmation of John White for Board of Fisheries!]

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 09:47:56 -0800

From: Representative Drew Scalzi <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Pat Hartley <Pat_Hartley@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject: Oppose confirmation of John White for Board of Fisheries!

Date: Sun, 22 Apr 2001 11:28:28 -0700

From: "Bob and Janice Martinson" <danse@mtaonline.net>

To: "Drew Scalzi" <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>, "Hugh Fate" <RepresentativeHughFate@legis.state.ak.us>, "Mike Chenault" <Representative_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us>, "Joe Green" <Representative_Joe_Green@legis.state.ak.us>, "Lesil McGuire" <Representative_Lesil_McGuire@legis.state.ak.us>, "Gary Stevens" <Representative_Gary_Stevens@legis.state.ak.us>, "Mary Kapsner" <Representative_Mary_Kapsner@legis.state.ak.us>, "Beth Kerttula" <Representative_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us>, "Beverly Masek" <Representative_Beverly_Masek@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear members of the Legislature:


I serve on the Board for Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU), Copper River Salmon Producers Association (CRSPA), and the Mat-Su Borough Mayor's "Blue Ribbon Fisheries Committee". I strongly oppose the appointment of John White for another term on the Board of Fish.

Governor Knowles has not appointed any commercial fishermen to the Board of Fisheries for the last seven years and this has resulted in a serious imbalance on the Board, resulting in jeopardy and detriment to a one billion dollar industry and communities throughout Alaska. This is the time to act!

Dr. White was a supporter of the subsistence priority for the Chitina Dipnetters and voted to support their ACR, as well. I do not believe that John is capable of listening to the users, the issues, or the scientific professionals without bias any longer, and MUST be replaced. You are certainly aware of the costs we incur when we have to defend our historical right to fish each and every year as these ACR's have done. Please try to balance the BOF with interests from ALL users.

Thank you,

ROBERT A. MARTINSON
900 IROQUOIS DRIVE
WASILLA, AK 99654
PHONE: 907-373-2627
E-MAIL: danse@mtaonline.net

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Subject: [Fwd:]

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 09:49:16 -0800

From: Representative Drew Scalzi <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>

To: Pat Hartley <Pat_Hartley@legis.state.ak.us>

Subject:

Date: Sat, 21 Apr 2001 16:08:21 -0700

From: "Bristol Bay Driftnetters' Association" <bbda1@home.com>

To: <Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us>

Dear Sir,

I am an Alaskan and Bristol Bay resident. I am writing you in favor of the re appointment of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries.

I have worked with Dr. White at many Board meetings and have become impressed with his integrity and fairness. He is a real advocate for the resource not just the Fishermen, and that is important to all of us who are dependent on the future of the commercial fishing industry..

I know that there is a faction of fishermen, including UFA, who are opposed to the re appointment of Dr. White but in my view those people are short sighted and are forgetting the importance of the strength of the resource and not just the access.

I urge you to support Dr. White's Nomination.

Thank You,

Chad Reel

Box 454

Naknek, Alaska

* Also 3 POMS before meeting
in support:

Jan Wise - Fbnks
George Wise - Fbanks
Richard Anderson - Anch. Point

FROM : KING OF KINGS

FAX NO. : 907 5673667

Apr. 23 2001 09:03AM P1

4-23-01

To Whom It May Concern,

I am sending this message to strongly support the return of Russell Nelson, and Dr. John R. White to another full term on the board of fish. I have experienced they provide a proper balance between commercial and charterboat issues, and representing the charter fleet well. I feel without the presence of these two individuals on the Board of Fish, the issues concerning my industry will suffer. Please reinstate these two men for another full term.

Sincerely,



Richard Andersen
King of Kings Guide Service and Lodge

(907) 567-3887
(907) 567-3607 Fax

KING of KINGS
Guide Service and Lodge

24715 Sterling Highway
Anchor Point, AK 99556-9701

Subject: John White Confirmation

Date: Mon, 23 Apr 2001 19:56:22

From: "Chuck McCallum" <chuckmccallum@hotmail.com>

To: Representative_Drew_Scalzi@legis.state.ak.us

Chignik Seiners Association strongly supports the appointment of John White to the Board of Fisheries. John White understands the ongoing issues in the subsistence and commercial fisheries of the Chignik Management Area. His leadership in these areas is of critical importance to Chignik fishermen.

Chuck McCallum
Executive Director, CSA

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

POM for Representative Masek



From: Mr. Kenneth L Heaps
1803 Central Ave

Telephone: 456-7870

Fairbanks, AK 99709

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: V

Email:

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Message:

I support Mr. Nelson and Dr. White to stay on the Board of Fish for another term. I believe that balance is a necessity to the sport fishing industry.

Entered in FBX on 4/23/01 POMID: 1552

Distribution: 12

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Message 8 out of 20.

Support White/Nelson

POM for Representative Masek



From: Mr. Richard H Bishop
1555 Gus'S Grind

Telephone: 455-6151

Fairbanks, AK 99709

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: Y

Email:

Subject: BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
Message:

I support confirmation of Dr. White and Mr. Nelson. They have done a good job representing their constituents and conserving fish resources.

Entered in JNU on 4/23/01 POMID: 1547

Distribution: 19

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Message 4 out of 20.

SUPPORT DR. WHITE

**Committee Member: All
this testimony was sent
to us just this morning.**



United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters
PO Box 22427
Juneau, Alaska 99802
(907) 586-5860
E-mail: usag@gillnetters.org
April 23, 2001

Dear Legislator:

Governor Tony Knowles has renominated Dr. John White for a seat on the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF). The Alaska Legislature House Fisheries and Resources Committees have scheduled his confirmation hearing during the week of Monday, April 23.

The United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) opposes Dr. White's renomination and urges that you vote against it for the following reasons:

1. This would be his third term on the BOF, compounding a negative situation for Alaska fishery resources users which he has helped create by his pursuing a personal, allocative agenda in face of contrary scientific evidence generated either through public input or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff. This attitude has compromised any perception of fairness, let alone impartiality, in the BOF addressing fishing issues statewide.
2. His reappointment would perpetuate on the Board both the existing lack of knowledge and appreciation of fishery and resource issues across the coastal regions of the State and the gross imbalance in representation of the fishery user groups and perspectives on the Board as it is now composed.
3. In his two full terms Dr. White has proven to be anti commercial fishing and this bias has destroyed his credibility as an even-handed arbiter of the best interests for all the state's diverse fishery users.

Board membership must be changed to reinvigorate, re-legitimize and again provide reasonableness to the administrative process that allocates Alaska's fish. By not changing its composition now, the future of the BOF as a viable institution will be jeopardized.

For the reasons above USAG urges that you vote "NO" on Dr. White's renomination. There are other candidates willing to serve who would more effectively represent all fishing interests in Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William Auger, President
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

4/22/01

Dear Drew,

I oppose the nomination
of John White to the Board
of Fish. We need a
commercial fisherman ASAP.
Thanks.

Jammie
Shader

235-7670



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

211 Fourth Street, Suite 110
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1172
(907) 586-2820
(907) 463-2545 Fax
E-Mail: ufa@ufa-fish.org
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April 23, 2001

Representative Drew Scalzi,
Co-Chair, Resources Committee
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Interdepartmental Mail Stop 3100
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Scalzi:

United Fishermen of Alaska opposes the reappointment of Dr. John White to the Board of Fisheries.

This would be his third term on the board, and the commercial fishing industry feels that it is time for a change. For the last seven years we have been seeking the appointment of an experienced blue water commercial fishermen to the BOF. The board makes very important decisions that affect fishermen's livelihoods, and we feel it only fair that there be at least two board members that are experienced commercial fishermen representing different areas of the state.

We did support a candidate that had submitted his name to the Boards and Commissions, Art Nelson. We have not had a candidate that we supported since Grant Miller; that was seven years ago. We feel that the lack of commercial fishing experience on the board is a threat to Alaska's largest private sector employer, the commercial fishing industry.

For these reasons we oppose Dr. White's confirmation.

Respectfully Yours,

Thomas M. Gemmell
Executive Director

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United Cook Inlet Dnrt Association • United Salmon Association • United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters

David R. Martin
71605 Sterling Hwy.
Clam Gulch, AK. 99568
April 23, 2001
Ph. 567-3306

Representative Drew Scalzi,

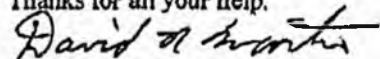
Hi Drew,

First off I am adamantly opposed to Dr. John White's and Russell S. Nelson confirmation to the BOF. Here are some questions, backed up by facts, that you might ask at their confirmation hearing.

1. During your tenure on the Board, the BOF has substantially increased the number of meeting days per year and therefor greatly increased the BOF budget. In Cook Inlet alone the BOF since 1994 meet every year for seven years and some of those years saw two to three meetings. The Department of Fish and Game spends the majority of their time now preparing material for BOF meeting. My question to you is how have the users of the resource and the State benefited from this enormous burden of extra time and money?
2. In Cook Inlet you have been instrumental in designing the management plans. These management plans you implemented take the biological management and emergency order authority away from the professional management biologist. These plans have regulatory closures (the same as we had under Federal management before Statchood) and are designed to result in the loss of harvest which leads to overescapement and diminished future returns. Last season the Federal Government and the Kenai Peninsula Borough declared the upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery a disaster. Ironically in spite of this declaration of disaster the fishermen sat on the beach, the canneries and their workers sat idle while over 20 million pink salmon went up the rivers unharvested because the management plans that you put into effect would not allow the harvest of these pinks under any circumstances. In 1998 over 10 million pinks went unharvested because of the management plan that kept the fishermen closed. People are financially hurting. Several major canneries have left the Inlet stating their reasons as unstable political management by the BOF resulting in low returns and unharvested resource. The whole fishery is collapsing. People's livelihoods are in serious jeopardy. My question to you is why did you developed a plan to have these results and why should we confirm you so you can continue to repeat this system of management in other parts of the state or is this management system just area specific?
3. You have awarded several agenda change request out of the three year cycle in Cook Inlet and one in Prince William Sound for conservation concerns even though the ADF&G biologist told the BOF that they did not have any conservation concerns. In February 2000 the BOF award an agenda change request for conservation concerns on Cook Inlet coho. ADF&G told you coho were weak but the department did not have any conservation concerns. The BOF ignored the professional biologist and put drastic restrictions on the commercial fisheries, the charter industry and the sports fisherman. Six months later the coho return came in at near record levels but the users were unduly restricted from harvesting the surplus because of your prior coho regulation restrictions. My question to you is do you think that you as a layman on the BOF have more knowledge and expertise than the professional biologist and scientist.

These guys need to be held accountable to what they are doing to the fishermen, the fishing industry, local economies and the State. They are supposed to be stewards of the resource not dictators of it.

Thanks for all your help.



David R. Martin



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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10229 Baffin Street
Eagle River, AK 99577

April 22, 2001

Representative Beverly Masek
Co-Chair, House Resource Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 128
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Re: Oppose Confirmation of Dr. White to a Third Term on BOF

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I am a member of the Anchorage ADF&G Fish and Game Advisory Committee and have attended Board of Fish meetings for many years. Dr. White has always been somewhat arrogant in his manner. However, his attitude toward the public has deteriorated over this past term. Sitting on the Board of Fish is a tough job and can be hard on anyone's attitude after six years.

I respect Dr. John White's past service and dedication to the board but I also firmly believe that reconfirmation for a third term is not in the best interest of the Public, the BOF, nor Dr. White himself.

With regard to Mr. Russell Nelson, I ask that you support his confirmation to a second term on the Board of Fish.

Sincerely,


Bruce J. Gabrys

FROM : KING OF KINGS

FAX NO. : 907 5673667

Apr. 23 2001 09:03AM P1

4-23-01

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Sincerely,



Richard Andersen
King of Kings Guide Service and Lodge

(907) 567-3667
(907) 567-3607 Fax

KING of KINGS
Guide Service and Lodge

24715 Sterling Highway
Anchor Point, AK 99558-9701

Cordova District Fishermen United

Celebrating 65 Years of Service to Commercial Fishermen in Cordova, Alaska
P.O. Box 939 Cordova, Alaska 99574 / Telephone (907) 424-3447 / Fax (907) 424-3430

April 23, 2001

House Resources Committee
c/o Co-Chairman Drew Scalzi
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

SENT VIA FACSIMILE TO 907.465.3472

Dear Committee Members,

Cordova District Fishermen United would like to voice its strong opposition to the confirmation of Dr. John White to the Alaska Board of Fisheries. Having worked with Dr. White through six years, we believe that it is time for new energy and vision on the Board.

The current Board of Fisheries lacks diversity in geographic and user group representation. The huge area of coastal Alaska south of the Alaska Peninsula and the Gulf of Alaska where hundreds--if not thousands--of small family fishing operations are dependent upon the resources regulated by the Board of Fisheries, does not have representation.

In addition, an issue related to Dr. White that is of grave significance to our organization and those we represent is that he seems to have lost his ability over time to listen to the concerns of the users and the Department. It is our experience that Dr. White knows what he wants to accomplish on most issues prior to the process beginning, and therefore fails to listen to either the users or the scientific professionals. Fisheries are extremely dynamic and the needs of the users are not static. Playing the critical role that they do in establishing regulations and policy for management of Alaska's fisheries, Board members must be open-minded, fair, listen without bias, and responsive.

In closing, we need a change on the Board to balance and diversify it. This need precludes confirmation of Dr. John White.

Respectfully,



Sue Aspelund
Executive Director