From: Russell Thomas
To: Haight, Glenn E (DFG)
Subject: Sam Cotten Nomination

**Date:** Wednesday, January 07, 2015 8:58:58 AM

## Mr. Haight:

My family owns and operates three fishing lodges in the Ketchikan area. I am also a member of the Pacific Salmon Commission's Northern Panel as its sport fish representative.

I am writing to offer my support for Sam Cotten to serve as ADF&G Commissioner. Acting-commissioner Cotten has significant experience in Alaska fisheries, which will help him balance the needs of various user groups and achieve the conservation objectives necessary to protect the resource well into the future. In the limited time acting-commissioner Cotten has been at ADF&G, he has already taken the opportunity to reach out to our sector to gain insight into our issues and seek our opinion on ADF&G decisions affecting our industry. His outreach was much appreciated. If this demonstrates the kind of inclusivity likely to be a part of his tenure as commissioner, he will serve the people of Alaska very well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Russell Thomas Alaska Sportfishing Expeditions www.ketchikanalaskafishing.com