

January 9, 2015

Glenn Haight, Executive Director  
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Re: Joint Board Commissioner Nomination Selection


Mr. Haight,

I am pleased to submit this comment on behalf of myself and the Aleutians East Borough Assembly in strong support of Acting Commissioner Sam Cotten as candidate for Commissioner of Alaska Department of Fish & Game. Sam has proven himself a good steward of our State's fish and game resources, and an ally of the communities that depend on those resources. We believe Sam is the most qualified person for the position of Commissioner.

The Aleutians East Borough is comprised of the six communities of False Pass, Akutan, Nelson Lagoon, Cold Bay, Sand Point and King Cove. All of our communities are on the coast of the Western Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea and/or Bristol Bay. Each of our communities are involved in the commercial harvesting, processing and/or shipping of quality seafood. In addition, there are several active sport hunting and fishing guiding businesses that take advantage of the plentiful fish & game resources within the Borough.

As our former Aleutians East Borough resource analyst, Sam has worked closely with ADFG staff, including on the WASSIP Advisory Panel. His background also includes two terms on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and former Alaskan legislator and Speaker of the House. Sam has the right experience, ability and passion for the job. Please consider nominating lifelong Alaskan Sam Cotten for consideration by Governor Walker for ADFG Commissioner.

Sincerely,



Stanley Mack, Mayor