



January 22, 2018

Dear members of the Board of Fish,

The Petersburg Chamber of Commerce has a membership of over 100 businesses and organizations in Petersburg Alaska including commercial fishing boats. The Sitka Sac Roe Herring fishery is very important to our community, not only to the permit holders but to the community as a whole. Petersburg has seven permit holders, more than any other community. Those permit holders employ other community members, shop locally, and provide critical raw fish tax income. We also have a local processor for herring that employs around 75 people and helps contribute to a year round workforce. Those permit holders depend on the Sitka Sac Roe Herring fishery for their livelihood. We also have one of the largest tender fleets in the Southeast of Alaska, 15 local tenders, who participate in the fishery. Their owner/operator families call Petersburg their home.

The Petersburg Chamber of Commerce supports the science based management of ADF&G as it is beneficial to all groups, commercial and subsistence. One group should not be sacrificed for another, economic stability in the Southeast is very important.

Thank you for your time.

*Mara E Lutomski*

Petersburg Chamber of Commerce