

From: [matthew donohe](#)
To: [DFG, BOF Comments \(DFG sponsored\)](#)
Cc: [Alaska Trollers](#)
Subject: Re-Scheduling SEAK Finfish meeting
Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020 1:09:45 PM

To the BOF,

Dear Board Members,

I am the President of Alaska Trollers Association (ATA) an organization of around 400 members most of who live in SEAK. There are some 1000 troll fishing families living in this region. At the moment I am quarantined at home because of contact with a Covid infected friend. I only learned of his infection yesterday. I had hoped to stream today's BOF work session but the only internet available to me is a hot link via my phone. My access is inadequate for streaming. I live off the Sitka road system and because of the Covid quarantine I cannot go to town for a better internet connection.

This kind of internet limitation is common in rural SEAK. A virtual meeting will disenfranchise many SEAK residents.

It is my understanding that the BOF is considering rescheduling the SEAK BOF 2021 finfish meeting till April. April is a particularly difficult month for most of the troll fleet. At this time many in our fleet are engaged in a number of fisheries. We are also preparing our boats for the Spring hatchery access fishery and the summer season. Additionally I believe we will still be deep in the throws of Covid this April. **Even though ATA has important proposals before the Board I am asking the Board to consider skipping this round of BOF and live with the status quo till the next cycle.**

Yours

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