



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

BOARD OF FISHERIES
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DRAFT

March 22, 2022

Pat Pitney, President
Office of the President
Butrovich Building, Suite 202
2025 Yukon Drive
P.O. Box 755000
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5000

Subject: Alaska Board of Fisheries Support for the Master in Marine Policy program

Dear President Pitney:

The Alaska Board of Fisheries offers its strong support for the establishment of a Master in Marine Policy (MMP) graduate degree program through a partnership between the University of Alaska Fairbanks and University of Alaska Southeast. Alaska is globally recognized for its resource management, a unique and public process that is largely informed and enhanced through individuals, industries and regional and national resource management agencies. The multi-disciplinary education platform envisioned through the MMP provides individuals with an all-encompassing understanding of marine biology, fisheries governance and policy, and business.

A program of this nature supports Alaska as a leader in resource management. Fisheries are facing challenging times due to a variety of factors including climate change, complex international trade, and evolving fisheries management. In the years to come policymakers versed in the areas outlined in this program will help provide leadership for Alaskan and global marine industries. For Alaska, a state rich in its marine resource endowments and the leaders in fisheries management, the MMP is an imperative addition.

We strongly encourage the University of Alaska implement this valuable program.

Sincerely,

Märit Carlson-Van Dort
Chair

cc:

Enclosure

