

Joel Doner, Anchorage AC

The other day I sat at that table and told the Board about the Anchorage AC. I mentioned how before I gave our testimony I asked the AC what our top three priorities are so I could focus our public testimony on those issues. Proposal 78 was mentioned as one of those top three priorities. Now, it just so happens that the Anchorage AC had a regular monthly, public noticed meeting last night. At that meeting I told the DULY ELECTED, committee that I have taken questions from Board members about our positions and votes on various proposals and that it seemed that the Anchorage AC is Skewed to a commercial bias. I have taken that to insinuate that the Anchorage AC's positions are somehow marginalized. I hope I'm wrong. Nevertheless, last night at our meeting a motion was made to reaffirm all of our Upper Cook comments and votes. That motion passed unanimously, reaffirming our already unanimous opposition to proposal 78. What's more is, I've heard several times, and by more than one Board member that collaboration with and between users is strongly encouraged. Then lo and behold, I notice that one of these very Board members that are begging for collaboration, submitted an RC for substitute language on this proposal. A proposal that is an Anchorage AC priority. The same AC that represents almost 200,000 more in general population than any other organization in the room. The same AC that represents hundreds more commercial fishing permit holders than any other organization in the room. The same AC That represents thousands more personal Use permit holders than any organization in the room. The same AC that represents tens of thousands more Sport fishermen than any organization in the room. No offense KRSA. The same AC that represents the largest native population in the State. Hey, I consider myself to be a fairly approachable guy. I promise I'm friendlier than most. At least until I'm frustrated. I'm easy to find here at the meeting. I'm here every day. And yet how much collaboration has been offered this AC? On one of our stated priorities? None. It seems a bit disingenuous to the duly elected Anchorage Advisory Committee. And Let me restate again, we unanimously oppose this proposal.