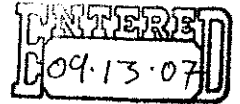


EDWARD B. RASMUSON

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PO BOX 196127  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99519



September 5, 2007

The Honorable Sarah Palin  
Governor of Alaska  
PO Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

4446  
BAC

Dear Governor Palin:

As I indicated to you a few months ago, I plan to resign from the North Pacific Management Council effective the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2008. This should give you ample time to appoint a replacement who could be seated at the February meeting.

I have faithfully served over three and a half years and feel it is time for a new member to take my place. However, the problem that arises with my replacement is that the individual has to represent the sports and environmental communities. Ideally that individual should come from the advisory panel or AP where he or she would have gained a substantial understanding of the issues at hand. If he or she does not have this AP experience, then it will take a steep learning curve to obtain that knowledge. The individual you pick needs to understand the complexities of the NPFMC.

Eric Olson, who should be the new chairman, will need all the support he can get. I truly believe he will make a fine chairman as he understands the various complex issues that will come before the Council. However, he does need help or the votes to sustain the various positions that Alaska may take.

We do not have anyone on the AP who fits this position. My suggestion is to look at Ben Ellis who sat in this seat prior to my getting on the Council. I understand he did a commendable job and would be strongly supported by the sportsmen.

There are a number of contentious issues, one of which is the allocation of the halibut resources between the commercial and sports fishermen. Ben has a good understanding of this issue.

Finally, the biggest problem facing the NPFMC is that everyone has some sort of vested interest in supporting the various positions the Council may take. This is natural, given the makeup of the Council. Consequently, you need to appoint a sports person who not only understands the issues but will stand up for what is right for the majority of Alaskans, particularly when it comes to Seattle versus Alaska issues.

I have invested, meeting-wise, about half a year of my life to this council and consequently feel I could be of great help in suggesting a replacement. I am the first to admit that Ben is not the only one who could sit on this council. However, in the end we need an advocate for the sports and environmental communities.

I would be more than happy to discuss this with you at your convenience. Additionally, I have taken the liberty of discussing my resignation decision with Eric.

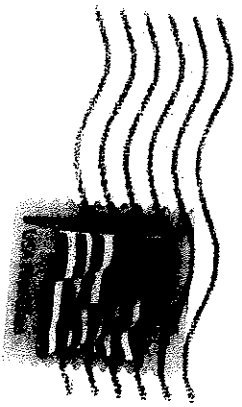
Finally, I would not have written this lengthy resignation letter if I didn't feel so strongly about the Council process and what it means to all of us Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Ed Rasmuson

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