



Cordova District Fishermen United

PO Box 939 | 509 First Street | Cordova, AK 99574
phone. (907) 424 3447 | fax. (907) 424 3430
web. www.cdfu.org

John Jensen, Chair
Alaska Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Re: Reconsideration of Proposal 165

Dear Chairman Jensen and Members of the Board:

CDFU is a non-profit membership organization representing over 900 commercial fishing families working in the Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the north central Gulf of Alaska. It is our mission to preserve, promote, and perpetuate the commercial fishing industry in Alaska's Area E.

CDFU is requesting that the Alaska Board of Fisheries review and reconsider their action on Proposal 165 as amended by (RC) 331 heard at the January 2018 Southeast Finfish meeting in Sitka. Failing reconsideration, we request the Board generate a publicly noticed proposal and hold a special meeting allowing stakeholder input regarding the language and intent of RC 331 and the resultant allocative shift.

The ADF&G submitted proposal 165 was intended to correct the closed waters area description for the Tsiu River, which had been rendered inapplicable by natural changes in the river's channeling. It was considered by it's authors as simple administrative housekeeping.

During subsequent deliberations, RC 331 was submitted and adopted as substitute language for proposal 165. The language in RC 331 went far astray from the intent of the original proposal and effectively shut down the commercial set-net fishery on the Tsiu.

It is our concern that the Board had insufficient information and input to responsibly deliberate RC 331. In our view this resulted in an unintended subversion of public process as a housekeeping proposal morphed into a major reallocation. Equally concerning is the displacement of a local commercial fishing fleet from a fishery heavily economically depended upon by the rural coastal community of Yakutat.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our concerns,
Sincerely,

Curt Herschleb
Acting Chairman, Cordova District Fishermen United.