

Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Alaska Dept of Fish & Game  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811

*Submitted as a Record Copy for Statewide Finfish Board of Fish Meeting*

March 17, 2026

Dear Chairwoman Carlson-Van Dort and Board of Fisheries Members,

We are members of the trawl catcher vessel fleet that operate out of Kodiak in the Central Gulf of Alaska Federal pollock fishery, some of us also participate in the Prince William Sound State pollock fishery. We oppose proposals 11, 163, 164, and 165 and we are extremely frustrated that **these proposals are being heard at a meeting during the peak of our fishing season with no ability for us to provide oral public comment remotely.**

The Alaska Healthy Habitat Alliance (AHHA) that submitted Proposals 163-165 consists of the following organizations and associations: Alaska Marine Community Coalition, Alaska Longline Fisherman's Association, Homer Charter Association, Under Sixty Cod Harvesters, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, Native People's Action, and The Boat Company. Despite submitting these proposals under the AHHA name last year, they conveniently waited until February 27, 2026, just weeks before this meeting, to publicly unveil their new Alliance and membership. While these proposals seem well-intentioned at first glance, **the fact is that none of these entities have attempted to reach out, interact, or collaborate with us.**

AHHA's stated mission is to "work towards greater trawl accountability in Alaska's waters" but the reality is that our trawl fisheries have more monitoring, data, and accountability than any other sector. In the Gulf of Alaska federal pollock fishery, our monitoring requirements apply whether we are in state or federal waters.

- We voluntarily use EM on 100% of our federal pelagic pollock trips. Those of us who fish in PWS have offered to turn on our EM systems when fishing there; we have nothing to hide but the state needs to figure out who will review the data and how it will be paid for.
- State waters in the GOA and PWS are extremely rocky; we're being very careful to avoid bottom contact here because we do not want to risk damaging or losing our gear. GOA bottom habitat is very different from the Bering Sea, which is very flat sand or mud.
- We're all contributing our gear information and how we fish it to Alaska Pacific University to improve the science on how pelagic trawl gear operates GOA-wide. This is a part of the NPFMC process, and NMFS and ADF&G are overseeing it.

We are doing the work, but rather than looking in the mirror to improve their own fisheries, **AHHA is submitting these proposals as another shot across the bow of their fellow fishermen and coastal communities.**

**We respectfully request that the Board take no action on proposals 11, 163, 164, and 165. We are tired of being attacked, especially at the peak of our fishing season. The GOA trawl fleet has chosen to stand down from Pollock fishing for 3 days so that some of our members can attend the meeting to give testimony.**

Sincerely,

F/V Topaz Jason and Tracy Chandler Sam Eads Peter Wurz Anthony Bishop	F/V Evie Grace Rob Langdon Gus Dugan Jeremy Young Mike Reddikop	F/V Alaskan Jake and Sara Everich
F/V Anthem Bob Starr	F/V Elizabeth F Cory Dehning Kirk Cortez Kenny Cortez	F/V Bay Islander Keith Cochran Simon Burn Russ Steinline Marvin Fernandez
F/V Sea Mac Don Sitton Carl Sholl Sal Perez	F/V Michelle Renee Stoian and Angelique Iankov Stephan Iankov Cherise Relyea	Henry Woodard Anthony Ware
F/V Caravelle Chris Williamson Chris Garrison Keaton Huff	F/V Mar Del Norte Riley Spence Eljay Philmon Josh Thompson	F/V Collier Brothers Mike Schones Mike Helligso Paul Frizzle Tyler Welke Jonas McKinley Josh Marchart
F/V Nichole Paul and Brittany McCabe Fisher, Trapper and Hunter McCabe Franklin Velasco Alex Velasco		F/V Miss Sarah Arik Roberts Jon White Josh Suiter John Burks Dustin Leonnig
F/V Mark 1 Ed French	F/V Ocean Invictus Robert Graham Tony Graham Paisley Graham	F/V Dawn Matt Rohde Garret McCabe Rogelio Chicas
F/V Vanguard Captain and Crew	Mary Graham Conor Fitzgerald Lane Perez Sam Mutch	
F/V Walter N Chandler Johnson Larry Boydston Mike O'Callahan	F/V Pacific Storm Scott Hockema Cole Hockema Andrew Marshall	F/V Alaska Dawn Richard Starr Brexlin Benson Edgar Romero Juan Romero
F/V Arctic Ram Rocky Cherrick Vane Green Robert Horton Mason Shelby	F/V Chellissa Joe Ham Robert Harrington Justin Thompson Mark Estorgio	F/V Pacific Star John McCarthy
F/V Alaska Beauty Curt Waters Craig Waters Ayden Neth		F/V Gold Rush Bert Ashley Don Ashley