



# UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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## **United Fishermen of Alaska Names New At-large Board Members and Committee Chairs**

The United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA) today announced the election of two new at-large representatives to its Board of Directors, and two new committee chairs to its Executive Committee.

Ninilchik setnetter Cheryl Sutton and Gerry Merrigan of Petersburg join incumbent at-large directors Bruce Wallace of Juneau and Bruce Schactler of Kodiak. The four were re-elected to two year terms in an election by the individual members of UFA this May.

Bob Thorstenson, Jr., representing Southeast Alaska Seiners, was elected as UFA Marketing Chairman. Paul Shadura of Kenai represents Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association and was elected Membership Chairman. Committee chairs were elected by the full UFA board at its March meeting, and serve one year terms. UFA's three elected officers and eight committee chairs make up UFA's Executive Committee.

UFA's current officers were each re-elected to continue their volunteer service, with Joe Childers as President, Chip Treinen as Vice President, and Rich Davis as Secretary. UFA Board and Executive Committee changes are effective June 15<sup>th</sup>.

UFA is the largest statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 commercial fishing groups from fisheries throughout the state and its offshore waters. Members groups each hold a seat on UFA's Board of Directors, as well as four at-large representatives elected by UFA's individual members..

"I am honored to be on the UFA board and coming recently from a federal management body (NPFMC), I hope to bring some additional perspective on the looming large national policy initiatives coming from DC – such as "marine spatial planning" - that may have serious implications for Alaskan fisheries," said Merrigan.

Sutton and Merrigan take over seats held by Lindsey Bloom and Chip Treinen. Treinen continues to serve as UFA Vice President and representative of the Sitka Herring Association.

"We thank outgoing At-Large director Lindsey Bloom for her dedication to UFA and her fellow Bristol Bay fishermen, to Mac Meiners for his service in fundraising for UFA as Membership Chair, and Scott McAllister for serving as Marketing chair. UFA depends on

the volunteer work of our board members and committee chairs to keep up with the wide range of topics affecting Alaska fishermen” said UFA Executive Director Mark Vinsel.

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#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Crab Coalition • Alaska Independent Fishermen’s Marketing Association • Alaska Independent Tendermen’s Association  
Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association • Alaska Scallop Association • Alaska Trollers Association • Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association  
Armstrong Keta • At-sea Processors Association • Bristol Bay Reserve • Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association • Cape Barnabas Inc.  
Concerned Area “M” Fishermen • Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association • Cordova District Fishermen United • Crab Group of Independent Harvesters  
Douglas Island Pink and Chum • Fishing Vessel Owners Association • Groundfish Forum • Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association  
Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association • North Pacific Fisheries Association • Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association  
Petersburg Vessel Owners Association • Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation • Purse Seine Vessel Owner Association  
Seafood Producers Cooperative • Sitka Herring Association • Southeast Alaska Fisherman’s Alliance • Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association  
Southeast Alaska Seiners • Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association • United Catcher Boats • United Cook Inlet Drift Association  
United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters • Valdez Fisheries Development Association • Western Gulf of Alaska Fishermen