

Joint Legislative Salmon Industry Task Force

Legislative Members

Senator Ben Stevens, Chair
Representative Gary Stevens, Vice-Chair
Senator Kim Elton
Representative Bill Williams
Senator Alan Austerman, Alternate
Representative Drew Scalzi, Alternate



Public Members

Sue Aspelund
Sam Cotten
Duncan Fields
Don Giles
John Lowrance
Robin Samuelson
Gary Slaven
Stephanie Madsen, Alternate
Chris Moss, Alternate

January 31, 2003

Honorable Gene Therriault, President
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Honorable Pete Kott, Speaker
Alaska State House
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear President Therriault and Speaker Kott,

Please consider this letter, the accompanying report and draft legislation as satisfaction of the requirements in Legislative Resolve No. 53 (22nd Alaska State Legislature).

The accompanying Joint Legislative Salmon Industry Task Force Report includes a short introduction, explanation of the task force process, draft legislation, other recommendations, and future issues.

This volume of work represents the efforts of Alaskans from all regions of the state and segments of the commercial salmon industry. Over sixty-five people participated in the Task Force and Task Force subcommittee process. In addition, the Task Force received over 279 proposals and comments from the public.

While the Task Force adopted a number of proposed changes to state statutes and addressed numerous issues surrounding the commercial salmon industry, it was impossible in the short time frame available to address many of the complex issues that affect the industry. Therefore, the Task Force seeks to continue its work in order to address many outstanding issues.

In closing, the Task Force would like to express its sincere gratitude to the multitude of Alaskans who participated in the process, to state agency personnel, and to the legislature for recognizing the importance of a viable sustainable commercial wild salmon industry.

Sincerely,

Ben Stevens, Chair
Joint Legislative Salmon Industry Task Force