



KUSKOKWIM RIVER

INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

OUR RIVER, OUR PEOPLE, OUR FISH

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November 13, 2023

Angel Drobnica, Chair
David Witherell, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
1007 West Third Ave., Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

RE: Support for Eva Burk Nomination to the Tribal AP Seat

Dear Chair Drobnica, Mr. Witherell, and Members of the Council:

The Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (KRITFC) represents the 33 federally recognized Tribes of the Kuskokwim River watershed in fisheries management, research, and monitoring, and works to protect and sustain our Kuskokwim salmon fisheries and traditional ways of life using both Traditional/Indigenous Knowledge and the best available Western science.

KRITFC expresses our strong support for Eva Dawn Burk's nomination to the designated Tribal seat on the Advisory Panel (AP). A citizen of Nenana Native Association raised in traditional ways of life in the heart of the Yukon River drainage, Ms. Burk has a wealth of Indigenous and conventional scientific knowledge to add to the AP's deliberations. Ms. Burk is a lifelong Yukon River fisher; holds a B.A. in Civil Engineering and is pursuing a Master's in Natural Resource Management; and serves Tribal and rural Alaskan communities federal and state fish and wildlife advisory bodies. Most importantly, Ms. Burk knows firsthand the ecological, gravel-to-gravel connections between Interior Alaskan communities and the North Pacific—knowledge which will help bridge the gaps between our marine and freshwater fisheries stewardship.

Ms. Burk's experience will enhance the discussions held around the Advisory Panel table to the benefit of fishing communities throughout the state. KRITFC firmly supports her nomination and appointment to this important body.

Tsen'anh, Quyana,

Jonathan Samuelson
Chair

Kevin Whitworth
Executive Director