

November 3, 2023

Angela Drobnica, Chair
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
1007 West 3rd Ave., Suite 400
L92 Building, 4th Floor
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Tanana Chiefs Conference Nomination of Eva Burk for the Alaska Native Tribal seat for the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council Advisory Panel.

Dear Chair Drobnica and Members of the Council,

Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) is pleased to nominate Nenana Tribal Member, Eva Burk, to serve as the Alaska Native Tribal seat on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) Advisory Panel (AP).

TCC is a tribal consortium made up of 42 members, including 39 villages and 37 federally recognized tribes. Our region covers an area of 235,000 square miles in Interior Alaska, and includes the headwaters of the Kuskokwim, and the majority of the Yukon River and its tributaries.

Ms. Burk grew up on the Tanana River and has lived off the land learning the “traditional ways of life” from her parents and grandparents. She has a strong interest in food security and living a healthy and traditional lifestyle. Ms. Burk is a strong advocate for subsistence living and sustainable food growth, which is a high priority in our region as tribal members face the hunting challenges and fishing crisis.

Ms. Burk is well rounded with a strong background in technical and environmental fields, community engagement, and regulatory matters, making her a valuable asset to include on the NPFMC AP. Her experience shows she has a demonstrated ability to be objective and consider all aspects of an issue. Ms. Burk graduated from University of Alaska, Fairbanks with a Bachelors in Civil Engineering, and is working on her Masters of Science in Natural Resources Management. Engineers are trained to approach problems objectively and consider all relevant factors. She has worked on offshore oil and gas environmental and feasibility studies from 2007 to 2013, which is another experience that demonstrates analyzing all aspects of the projects. She currently serves as the Secretary for the State of Alaska’s Department of Fish and Game’s Minto and Nenana Advisory Council. She was recently appointed to the Federal Subsistence Board Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council. In these forums, Ms. Burk must consider the concerns and perspectives of various stakeholders to make informed recommendations and

decisions. This collective experience highlights Ms. Burk's capacity to approach complex problems and decision-making with an open and well-rounded perspective. It also demonstrates her being committed to community engagement to bring the best and most pertinent input to the NPFMC AP.

Ms. Burk is an excellent candidate for a seat on the NPFMC AP with her ability to bridge technical, cultural, and community perspectives to contribute to more effective and equitable discussions and decision making. She has a strong understanding of data specific to the issues at hand, and she is able to understand and effectively communicate with other board members. As a tribal member and active participant in the fish and subsistence discussions, she brings internal connections of traditional knowledge to the table.

As TCC represents over 37% of the state land mass, representation on the NPFMC is crucial. As such, TCC nominates Ms. Burk as a candidate for the NPFMC AP tribal seat. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE



Brian Ridley
Chief/Chairman