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North Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
1007 West 3rd Ave., Suite 400  
L92 Building, 4th floor  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Council Members,

Tanana Chiefs Conference, a tribal consortium which represents 42 villages in the Interior of Alaska, has nominated me to serve on the Advisory Panel as the designated Alaska Native Tribal Seat. I was recently appointed to serve as a council member on the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council for the Federal Subsistence Board. I am the Secretary of the Nenana-Minto Advisory Committee for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I am truly honored that my community nominated me to serve in these positions and would also like me to serve on the Advisory Panel.

I have a background in offshore/coastal engineering and environmental studies and am finishing a Master of Science in Natural Resources Management, focusing largely on Indigenous food sovereignty and security. I am part of many food security working groups across the state, and am especially interested in managing healthy ecosystems using Indigenous and local knowledge alongside modern technology. I work with many fishing communities across the state and carry their stories and experiences in my heart. As Alaskan Native people, we are very diverse but are deeply connected through fishing, especially for salmon.

I grew up commercial and subsistence fishing with my family along the Tanana River near Manley Hot Springs, Alaska. I was in a boat checking the fish wheel with my family before I was even a month old. I have watched our commercial fishing opportunities vanish and am now witnessing our subsistence fishing disappear. I am currently "importing" fish from Bristol Bay into the Interior to supply our people with enough quality salmon for the year. In a state that provides over half of our country's seafood and nearly all of its salmon, one would expect that we would still be able to feed our own people. But in fact, Alaska's urban areas import nearly 95 percent of their food and the rural areas will soon follow if we don't work together to create sustainable change.

By serving on the Advisory Panel, I would be representing the interests of many Alaskans, especially from a food security perspective as well as an economic one. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Alaska Native Tribal Seat.

Respectfully,



Eva Dawn Burk