The Honorable Sonny Perdue Secretary,
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave.,
SW Washington, DC 20250

Ms. Vicki Christiansen Chief, U.S. Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave.,
SW Washington, DC 20250

22 October 2019

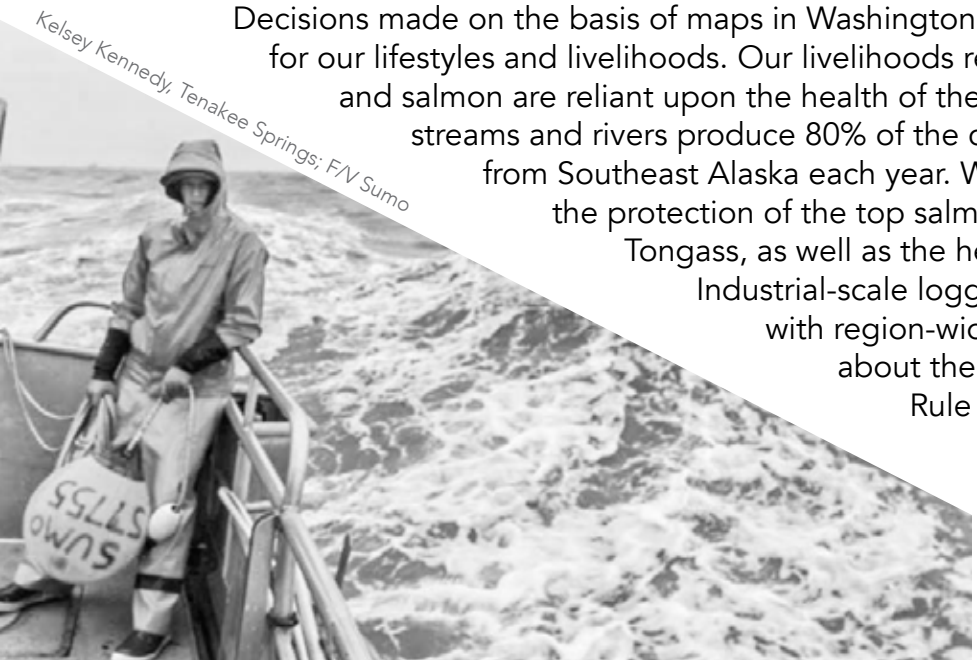
John W. Bean, Petersburg; F/V Loon

Dear Secretary Perdue and Chief Christiansen:

We are commercial fishermen who live and work in the Tongass National Forest. We represent various gear groups that participate in Southeast salmon fisheries, including seine, troll, and gillnet. Some of us are just breaking into the industry; some of us have carried on a family tradition over generations. All of us are invested in smart, sustainable stewardship of the resources, lands, and waters that sustain our industry and the people of Southeast Alaska. The future of our industry, our lifestyle, our ability to feed our families and the American people, all depends upon the salmon populations that are supported by the clean water and healthy, intact fish habitat of the Tongass. We are thus concerned about the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Alaska Roadless Rulemaking process and the potential effects of a full exemption on Tongass salmon habitat. **Please protect our livelihoods and Alaska's salmon spawning grounds by selecting an alternative that broadly protects fish habitat, continues the phase-out of industrial scale old growth clear-cutting, and prioritizes the restoration of degraded watersheds and streams.**

Commercial fishing is the economic backbone of Southeast Alaska. There are troll permit holders living in every single community in Southeast Alaska. 80% of all the Southeast salmon permit holders - trollers, seiners, and gillnetters - are Alaskan residents. We are small business owners that support our local communities year-round. One in ten jobs in Southeast is in the seafood industry, and we contribute 10% of all regional employment earnings. According to a McDowell report on the Economic Value of the Alaskan Seafood Industry (2013), these percentages equate to direct employment of 13,500 individuals and an estimated $321 million in labor income in the Southeast region alone.

Kelsey Kennedy, Tenakee Springs; F/V Sumo



Decisions made on the basis of maps in Washington D.C. have palpable implications for our lifestyles and livelihoods. Our livelihoods rely on the health of the salmon, and salmon are reliant upon the health of the Tongass National Forest; these streams and rivers produce 80% of the commercial salmon harvested from Southeast Alaska each year. We are economically invested in the protection of the top salmon-producing watersheds on the Tongass, as well as the health of the forest ecosystem. Industrial-scale logging negatively impacts fish habitat with region-wide effects, and we are concerned about the effects that a new Alaska Roadless Rule could have on our industry and the resource we depend upon.

Don + Angela Hernandez, Point Baker, F/V West Rock

There are many challenges facing salmon populations that are beyond our control, such as changing ocean conditions, climate change and ocean acidification, and treaty agreements. By contrast, the fate of the Alaska Roadless Rule is well within your control. By conserving the most valuable and productive watersheds for fish production, the 2001 Roadless Rule is working for us. As you weigh your decision about the Alaska Roadless Rule, we collectively urge you to keep the Tongass Transition on track and phase out old growth logging; protect the T77 and TNC/Audubon areas and the other top salmon-producing watersheds in the forest, especially those on northern Prince of Wales Island; and urge the Forest Service to invest in stream rehabilitation and watershed restoration with the goal of improving salmon habitat and salmon production.

We advocate for these management prescriptions as a start, but we maintain that they are nowhere near sufficient. The T77 proposal excludes many of the most productive salmon streams on the Tongass, especially those on Prince of Wales Island, which contains a third of Southeast's most productive salmon streams. Prince of Wales is also the island that has sustained the worst impacts from the logging industry, both historically and at present. The island and the productivity of the anadromous waters on it will continue to suffer if the 2001 Roadless Rule protections are removed. With the future of Southeast Alaska's most important resource at risk, the Forest Service must work harder to protect and restore productivity in all the anadromous waters of Southeast Alaska, from the waters located in intact habitat as well as those in previously-degraded habitat.

In closing, as much as salmon fishing is our economic livelihood, it is also our way of life. We live in the communities that we fish out of, and we are invested in the economic, social, and ecological prosperity of these communities. We need to strengthen and protect the Tongass National Forest in order for it to keep it producing salmon for local economies, our families, our communities, and the next generation of fishermen. This forest supports a way of life that is unique across the world. We depend on the forest, we are important stakeholders, and our economic contributions to Southeast Alaska need to be recognized. **Please select an alternative to the Alaska Roadless rule that prioritizes protecting and sustaining the Southeast salmon resource and its habitat in perpetuity.** Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The dedicated salmon fishermen and women of Southeast Alaska

- *Spencer Severson;* F/V Dryas
- *Jesse Remund;* F/V Faithful
- *Tracy Sylvester;* F/V Faithful
- *Eric Jordan;* F/V I Gotta
- *Sarah Jordan;* F/V I Gotta
- *Ember Livingston-Emmons;* F/V Quest
- *Marty Remund;* F/V Teasha
- *Laurie Mastrella;* F/V Teasha
- *Charlie Wilber;* F/V Alexa K
- *Woody Cyr;* F/V Patience
- *Walt Corum;* F/V Seawolf
- *Chad Winnop;* F/V Myra
- *Gavin Cambak;* F/V Jetta D
- *Jeff Martinson;* F/V Tamarack
- *David Richey;* F/V Albee Rose
- *Courtney Howard;* F/V Mickey V
- *William L Patrick;* F/V Defiant
- *Drew Terhaar;* F/V Mary Carl
- *Randall Nichols;* F/V Nekton
- *Jeff Farvor;* F/V Apollo
- *Jeff Turner;* F/V Mirage
- *Francis Mendez;* F/V Ilona B
- *Chris Peterson;* F/V Ida Marie
- *Lance Preston;* F/V Duna
- *Stan Lopata;* F/V Eileen
- *Dan Dunn;* F/V Eigel B
- *Amy Kane;* F/V Eigel B
- *Tom Van Eeckhout;* F/V Drea Mor
- *Kory Teas;* F/V Invictus
- *Olivia Wilson;* F/V Seabreeze
- *Deena Hand;* F/V Erin K
- *Daniel Hand;* F/V Erin K
- *Justin Bate;* F/V Avalon
- *Kelsey Kennedy;* F/V Sumo
- *Tracy Rivera;* F/V Good News
- *Uriah Strong;* F/V Njord
- *Mark Meyer;* F/V Contagious
- *Sommers Cole;* F/V Energizer
- *Joe Sebastian;* F/V Alta E
- *Joan Kautzer;* F/V Alta E
- *Franz Sunonburg;* F/V Sea Spy
- *Arne Dahl;* F/V Jubilee
- *John W. Bean;* F/V Loon
- *Don Hernandez;* F/V West Rock
- *Angela Hernandez;* F/V West Rock
- *Abby Hosier;* F/V Ebb and Flow
- *John Magnuson;* F/V Harmony
- *Thomas Wood;* F/V Lutele
- *Ezra Sbonek;* F/V Red Salmonberry
- *Joseph Schwantes;* F/V Kalliste
- *Andrew Hankerd;* F/V Kalliste
- *Natalie Schwantes;* F/V Kalliste

- *Dylan Jackson;* F/V Kalliste
- *Sid Fleming;* F/V Kalliste
- *Colin Nobili;* F/V Ginny O
- *Andre Bois;* F/V Ginny O
- *Cheston Clark;* F/V Lorna Dee
- *Cody Nelson;* F/V Carole D
- *Keiran Owens;* F/V Shackleton
- *John Welsh;* F/V Shackleton
- *Moses P Johnson;* F/V Cloud Nine
- *Cole Gregorich;* F/V Orion
- *Chris Nash;* F/V Orion
- *Mike Day;* F/V Nikka
- *Jerome Abbott;* F/V Nikka
- *Matthew P Stroema;* F/V Acumen
- *Calvin Dahlheimer;* F/V Acumen
- *Abigail Devries;* F/V Mindalina
- *Joel Barker;* F/V Mindalina
- *Ben Lawrie;* F/V Mindalina
- *Vincent Mandyck;* F/V Born Again
- *Steve Fish;* F/V Kariel
- *Micah Delong;* F/V Lucky Star
- *David Glazier;* F/V Ulla
- *Martin Johnson;* F/V Poiken
- *Tina Johnson;* F/V Poiken
- *Tom Corso;* F/V Leeward
- *Deb Rose Gifford;* F/V Luck Pt
- *Mirabel Davis;* F/V Judith
- *Steve Kort;* F/V Judith
- *David Castle;* F/V Eyak
- *Brian O'Riley;* F/V Lynn Christine
- *Olivia Ritta;* F/V Lynn Christine
- *Thomas "Sonny" Williams;* F/V Keta
- *Woody Pahl;* F/V Melinda Rae
- *Scott Phillips;* F/V Carolyn Ann
- *Dan Flickinger;* F/V Angie Lynn
- *Luck Dunbar;* F/V Wampum
- *Macky Cassidy;* F/V Inseine
- *Jake Bell;* F/V Inseine
- *Mike Strens;* F/V Deluxer
- *Nick Fama;* F/V Molly
- *Isaac Reynolds;* F/V April L
- *Alec Cunningham;* F/V Sea Lion
- *Cale LaDuke;* F/V Saami
- *Gene Gildin;* F/V Trisha Marie
- *John Lavretta*; F/V Diamond Lil
- *Oliver Christenson*; F/V Silent 'C'
- *Orion Fenner*; F/V Commando
- *Steven W. Carr;* F/V Lisa Jean
- *Roy Uber;* F/V Silver Cloud
- *Dee Corbell;* F/V Silver Cloud
- *Bjorn Ostenson;* F/V Eyvindr
- *Gary Hughes*; F/V Coral Sea

- *Troy Mutz*; F/V Lady Jane
- *David Callistini;* F/V Spellbound
- *Gil Knubor;* F/V Jackpine
- *Doug Jenny;* F/V Windchime
- *Lexi Fish Hackett*; F/V Myriad
- *Adam Hackett*; F/V Myriad
- *Garrett Wood*; F/V Doe Bay
- *Brian Trekell*; F/V Nausicaa
- *Ryan Vander Poppa*; F/V Geraldine
- *Tracey Emanuel*; F/V Yankee
- *Peter Roddy*; F/V Laurel Lin
- *Jessica Robbins*; F/V Alsek
- *Sonnie Woessner*; F/V Ocean Cape
- *Dave Baxter*; F/V Bren Marie
- *Ryan Gullufsen*; F/V Bad Company
- *Thomas Perkins*; F/V Eileen J
- *Jeff Stewart*; F/V Snark
- *Joshua Songstad*; F/V Handler
- *Franklin Magnuson;* F/V Sailor Lad
- *Mary Magnuson;* F/V Sailor Lad
- *Richard "Chip" Sprague;* F/V Sailor Lad
- *Dave Clark;* F/V Angelique
- *Allen Hudson;* F/V Carole D
- *Casey Cook;* F/V Pacific Star
- *Kathleen Murphy;* F/V Grace
- *David Lembke;* F/V Grace
- *Jerry Sandero II;* F/V Sophia Nicole
- *Lucas Murphy;* F/V Legacy
- *Alaura Bergeson;* F/V Deer Harbor
- *Allan Engstrom;* F/V Catherine
- *Charles Peep;* F/V Avente
- *Robert Boll;* F/V Village Idiot
- *Debra Page;* F/V Madam Ching
- *Taiga Bell;* F/V Triad
- *Tim Johnson;* F/V Nexus
- *Steve Stromme;* F/V Genesee
- *Lane Ply;* F/V Ryba
- *Scott Visscher;* F/V Standby
- *Erik Stromme;* F/V Genesee
- *Shane Sinclair;* F/V Triad
- *J. J. Goryn;* F/V Isla Rose
- *Joey Harvey;* F/V Silverlance
- *Holly Enerle;* F/V Pacific Dream
- *Hap Leon;* F/V Lizard Rock
- *Nelson Merrell;* F/V Lady Ann
- *Jake Kumma;* F/V Sanctuary
- *Philip Spencer;* F/V Georgia
- *Brent Crowe;* F/V Pavlof
- *Forest Sebastian;* F/V Clara
- *Matthew Wiedeman;* F/V Kibitzer
- *Ian Seward;* F/V Kathy Ann
- *Patrick Baum;* F/V Deep Sea

- *Derek Stewart;* F/V Monique
- *Danielle Stewart;* F/V Monique
- *Nathan Pollock;* F/V Janie C
- *Garrett Kroschel;* F/V Whitecup II
- *Allen "Red" O'Neill;* F/V Sun Dance
- *Tom Hagen;* F/V Colette
- *Suzanne Fuqua;* F/V Elinor Jane
- *Jeff Robinson;* F/V Elinor Jane
- *Tamara Kyle;* F/V Nona S
- *Frank Kyle;* F/V Nona S
- *Brian Newman;* F/V Highwayman
- *John Murray;* F/V Sea Bear
- *Tracy Brown;* F/V Lady Sharon
- *Jeffery Thomas;* F/V Kathleen Jo
- *Lindy Thomas;* F/V Kathleen Jo
- *Adam Smith;* F/V Haven
- *Tyler Green;* F/V Haven
- *Ashley Green;* F/V Haven
- *Richard Curran;* F/V Cherokee
- *Michael Pickett Sr;* F/V Bertha R
- *Eric Anderson;* F/V Marilyn
- *Dustin Peters;* F/V Pioneer
- *Jainie King;* F/V Zaba
- *Steve Ol;* F/V Monarch
- *David Barry;* F/V Ursa Major
- *Thor Proulx;* F/V Trendsetter
- *Mya Delong;* F/V Trendsetter
- *Amber Hansen;* F/V Deer Harbor II
- *Meredith Redick;* F/V I Gotta
- *Chris Hanson;* F/V Diamond Lil
- *Robby Bruce;* F/V Northwind
- *Lauren Mitchell;* F/V Northwind
- *Alex Carleton;* F/V Ginny C
- *Luke Thorington;* F/V Whisper
- *Michaela Coleman;* F/V Second Chance
- *Paul Wellain;* F/V Lite Weight
- *Heather Bauscher;* F/V Patience
- *Venice Pickett;* F/V Bertha R
- *Erin Uhl;* F/V Bertha R
- *Kari Hagedorn;* F/V Ocean Beauty
- *Hank Moore;* F/V Sonray
- *Bob Stein;* F/V Myriad
- *Madeleine Taylor Turner;* F/V Mirage
- *Bronwyn Walton;* F/V Sea Bear
- *Tyson Fick;* F/V Heather Anne
- *Pat Kehoe;* F/V Chaos
- *Katy Pendell;* F/V Chaos
- *Howard Pendell;* F/V Chaos
- *Rosalind Palof;* F/V Norisle
- *Elizabeth Figus;* F/V Quest
- *Heather Hardcastle;* F/V Heather Anne
- *Tessa Eleonore Schmidt;* F/V Jodan

- *Joel Hanson;* F/V Sakura
- *Michael Erb;* F/V Legacy
- *Wayne Weis;* F/V Legacy
- *Kurt Hansen;* F/V Middleton
- *Randy Kraxberger;* F/V Middleton
- *Francis Mender;* F/V Ilona B
- *Shane Towles;* F/V Legacy
- *Jason Gjersten;* F/V Ocean Cape
- *Andrew H. Scorzelli;* F/V Jessica C
- *Aurora Schein;* F/V Sea Miner
- *Noah Cash;* F/V Reiver
- *Jeb Morrow;* F/V Coral Lee
- *Ocean Mayo;* F/V Coral Lee
- *Linda Behnken;* F/V Woodstock

Abigail Devries + Joel Barker, Sitka, *F/V Mindalina*

Alec Cunningham, Sitka, *F/V Sea Lion*

Ben Lawrie, Sitka, *F/V Mindalina*

Cale LaDuke + Chandler O'Connell, Sitka, *F/V Saami*

Brian O'Riley + Olivia Ritta, Haines,
F/V Lynn Christine

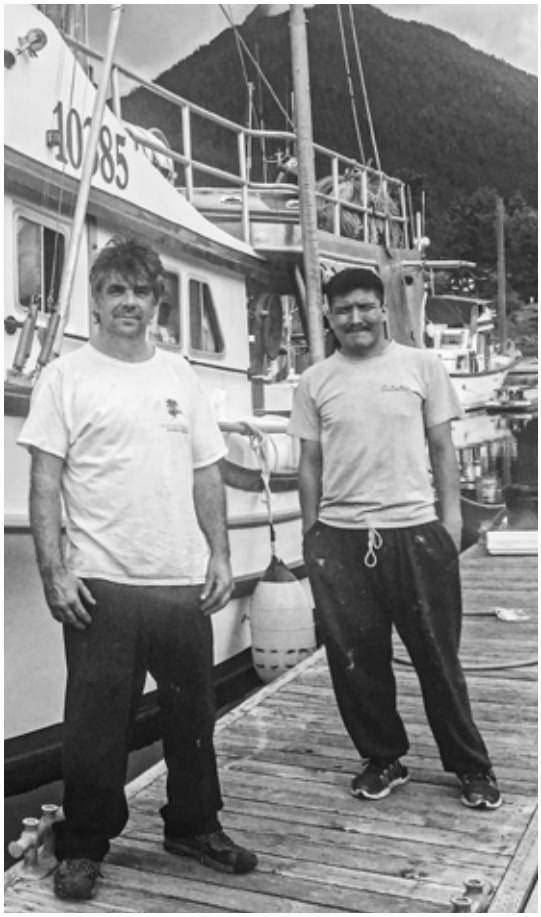
David Glazier, Sitka, *F/V Ulla*

Colin Nobili + Andre Bois, Sitka,
F/V Ginny O

Dan Flickinger, Wrangell,
F/V Angie Lynn

Cole Gregorich + Chris Nash, Sitka,
F/V Orion

John Lavretta, Sitka, ***F/V Diamond Lil***



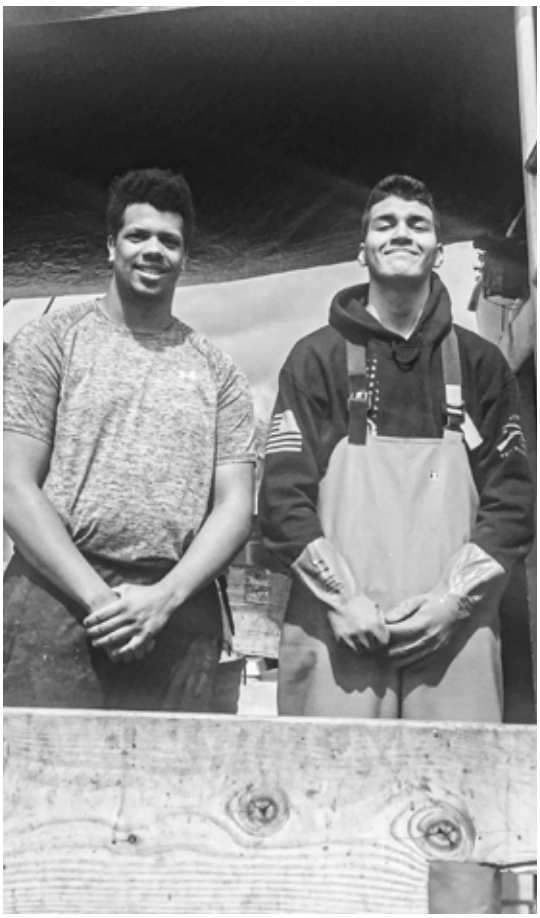
Mike Day + Jerome Abbott, Sitka,
F/V Nikka

Scott Phillips, Wrangell, ***F/V Carolyn Ann***

Isaac Reynolds, Sitka, ***F/V April L***

Jake Bel + Macky Cassidy, Haines, ***F/V Inseine***

Thomas "Sonny" Williams, Haines, ***F/V Keta***



Keiran Owens + John Welsh, Tenakee Springs, ***F/V Shackleton***

Martin + Tina Johnson, Sitka, ***F/V Poiken***

Joseph Schwantes, Andrew Hankerd, Natalie Schwantes, Dylan Jackson, + Sid Fleming, Sitka, ***F/V Kalliste***

Moses P Johnson, Sitka, ***F/V Cloud Nine***

Woody Pahl, Haines, ***F/V Melinda Rae***

Troy Mutz, Sitka, *F/V Lady Jane*

Cheston Clark, Sitka, *F/V Lorna Dee*

Luck Dunbar, Haines, *F/V Wampum*

Gene Gildin, Haines, *F/V Trisha Marie*

Tom Corso, Port Alexander, ***F/V Leeward***

Matthew P Stroemer + Calvin Dahlheimer, Sitka, ***F/V Acumen***

Oliver Christenson, Petersburg, ***F/V Silent 'C'***

Orion Fenner, Petersburg, ***F/V Commando***

Steven W. Carr, Sitka, ***F/V Lisa Jean***

Roy Uber + Dee Corbell, Sitka,
F/V Silver Cloud

Bjorn Ostenson, Auke Bay, ***F/V Eyvindr***

Gary Hughes, Sitka, ***F/V Coral Sea***

Gil Knubor, Sitka, ***F/V Jackpine***

David Callistini, Sitka, ***F/V Spellbound***

Doug Jenny, Sitka, ***F/V Windchime***

Lexi, Adam, Isla, and Leo Hackett, Sitka, ***F/V Myriad***

William L Patrick, Sitka, ***F/V Defiant***

John W. Bean, Petersburg, ***F/V Loon***

Woody Cyr, Sitka, ***F/V Patience***

Jesse Remund + Tracy Sylvester, Sitka,
F/V Faithful

Drew Terhaar, Sitka, *F/V Mary Carl*

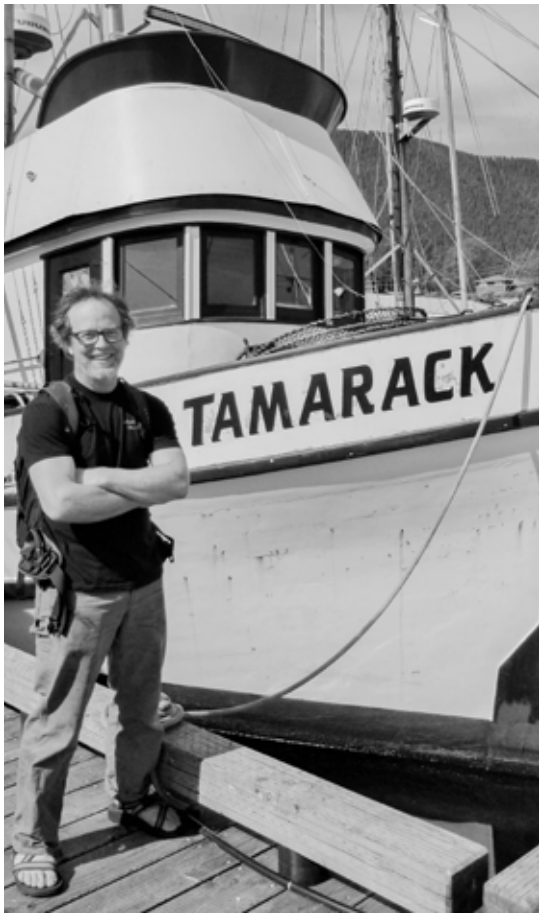
Lance Preston, Sitka, *F/V Duna*

Abby Hosier, Port Protection,
F/V Ebb and Flow

Tom Van Eeckhart, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Drea Mor

Don + Angela Hernandez, Point Baker,
F/V West Rock

Spencer Severson, Sitka, *F/V Dryas*



Jeff Martinson, Sitka, *F/V Tamarack*

Kory Teas, Tenakee Springs, *F/V Invictus*
Olivia Wilson, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Seabreeze

Eric + Rose Jordan, Sitka, ***F/V I Gotta***

Kelsey Kennedy, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Sumo

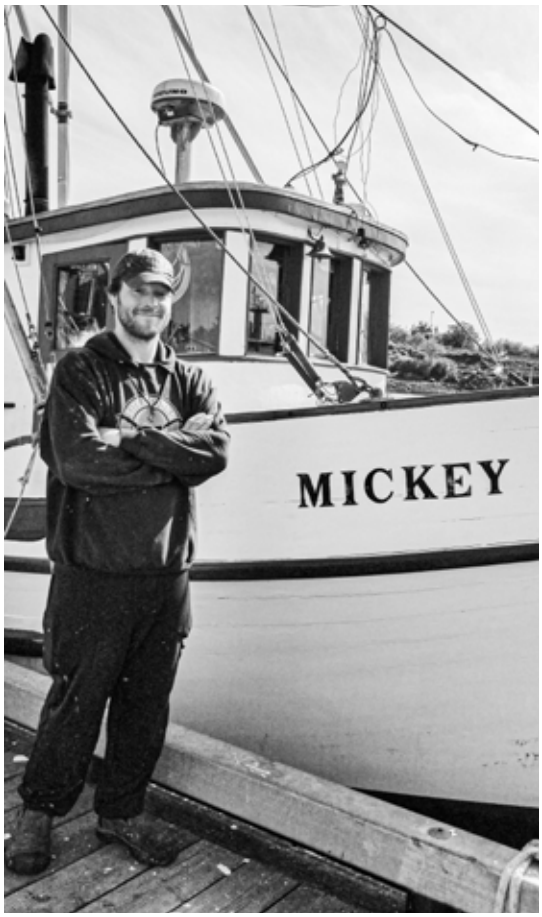
Ezra Sbonek, Port Protection,
F/V Red Salmonberry

Mark Meyer, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Contagious

Arne Dahl, Point Baker, ***F/V Jubilee***

Tracy Rivera, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Good News

David Richey, Sitka, ***F/V Albee Rose***

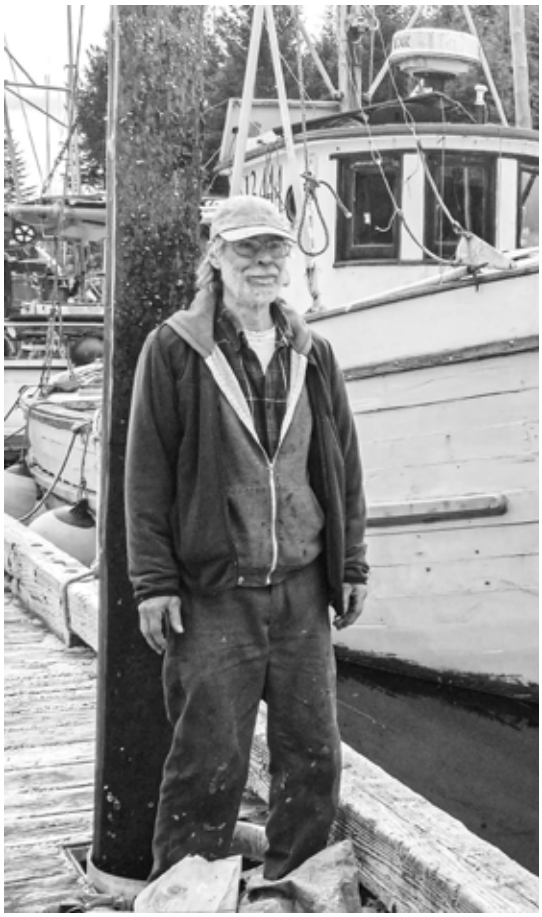


Courtney Howard, Sitka, ***F/V Mickey V***

Chad Winnop, Sitka, *F/V Myra*

Charlie Wilber, Sitka, *F/V Alexa K*

Dan Dunn, Sitka, *F/V Eigel B*



John Magnuson, Port Protection,
F/V Harmony

Gavin Campbak, Sitka, ***F/V Jetta D***

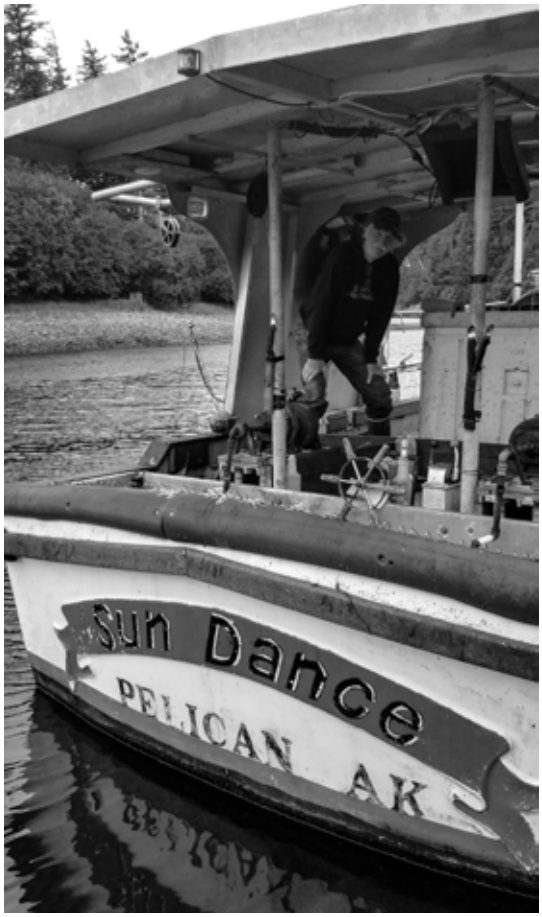
Walt + Sage Coram, Sitka, ***F/V Seawolf***

Jeff Farvor, Sitka, ***F/V Apollo***

Deena Hand, Tenakee Springs,
F/V Erin K

David Barry, Sitka, *F/V Ursa Major*

Casey Cook, Sitka, *F/V Pacific Star*



Allen "Red" O'Neill, Pelican,
F/V Sun Dance

Derek + Danielle Stewart, Pelican,
F/V MoniQue

Deb Rose Gifford, Point Alexander, *F/V Luck Pt*

Ember Livingston-Emmons, Sitka, *F/V Quest*

Eric Anderson, Ketchikan, *F/V Marilyn*

Ian Seward, Haines, *F/V Kathy Ann*

Frank + Tamara Kyle, Sitka,
F/V Nona S

Garrett Kroschel, Elfin Cove,
F/V White Cap II

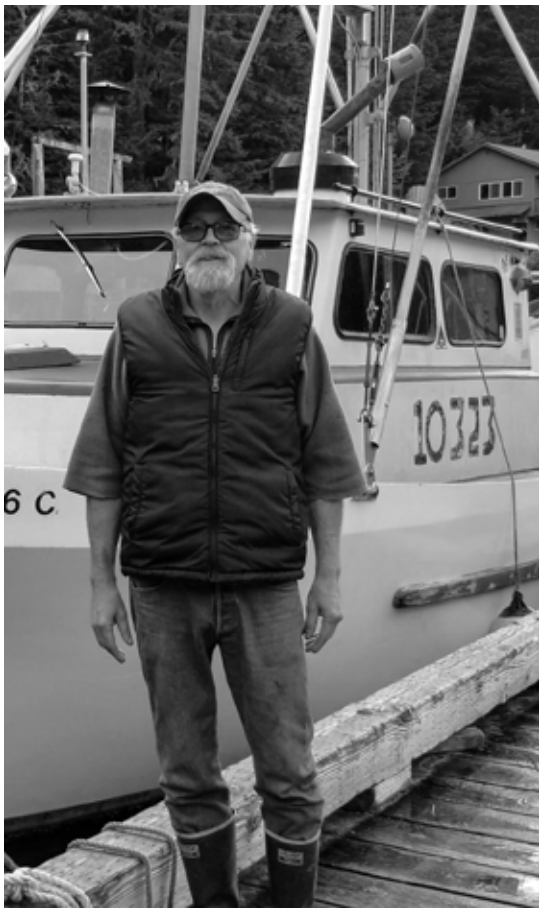
Matthew Wiedeman, Elfin Cove,
F/V Kibitzer

Meredith Redick, Sitka, *F/V I Gotta*

Jeffery, Lindy, Teyen, + Jeytlen Thomas, Sitka, ***F/V Kathleen Jo***

Nathan Pollock, Elfin Cove, ***F/V Janie C***

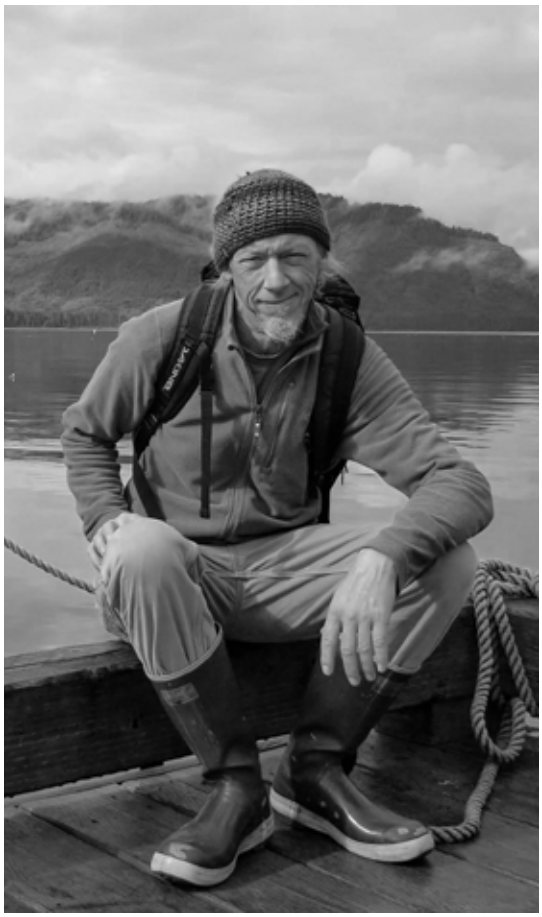
Philip Spencer, Pelican, ***F/V Georgia***



Steve Stromme, Elfin Cove, ***F/V Genesee***

Patrick Baum, Juneau, ***F/V Deep Sea***

Steve Kort + Mirabel Davis, Port Alexander, ***F/V Judith***



Tracey Emanuel, Sitka, ***F/V Yankee***

Tyler Green + Adam Smith, Sitka, ***F/V Haven***

Debra Page, Elfin Cove,
F/V Madam Ching

Jake Kumma, Elfin Cove, *F/V Sanctuary*

Ashley, Tyler + Ellie Green, Sitka,
F/V Haven

Luke Thorington, Juneau,
F/V Whisper

Suzanne Fuqua + Jeff Robinson, Petersburg, *F/V Elinor Jane*

Jessica Robbins, Yakutat, *F/V Alsek*

Sommers Cole, Juneau, *F/V Energizer*

Stan Lopata, Sitka, *F/V Eileen*

Steve Fish, Sitka, ***F/V Kariel***

Laurie Mastrella + Marty Redmun,
Port Alexander, ***F/V Teasha***

Bob Stein, Sitka, ***F/V Myriad***

Heather Bauscher, Sitka, ***F/V Patience***

Bronwyn Walton, Sitka, ***F/V Sea Bear***

Forest Sebastian, Petersburg, ***F/V Clara***

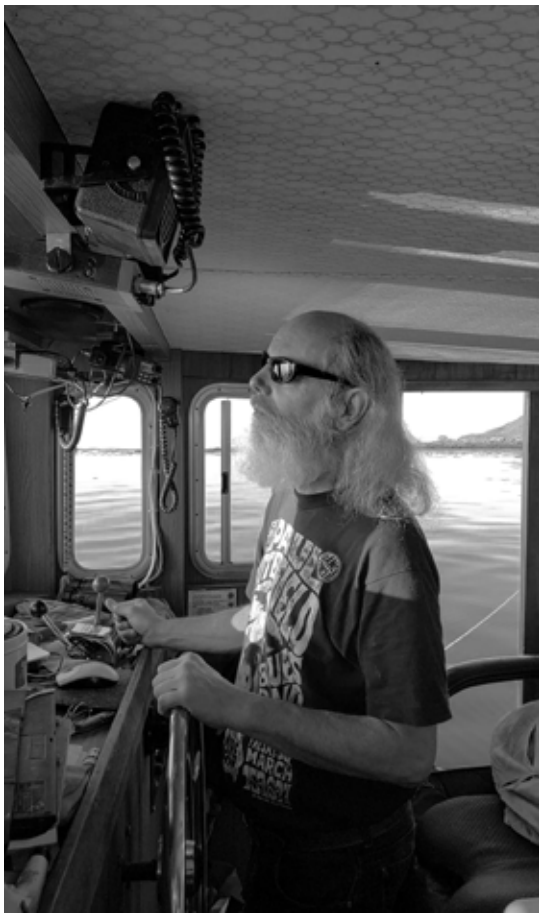
Howard Pendell, Sitka, ***F/V Chaos***

Katy Pendell, Sitka, ***F/V Chaos***

Frank Magnuson, Sitka, ***F/V Sailor Lad***

Joshua Songstad, Kodiak ***F/V Handler***

Mary Magnuson, Sitka, ***F/V Sailor Lad***



John Murray, Sitka, ***F/V Sea Bear***

Kari Hagedorn, Sitka, *F/V Ocean Beauty*

Madeleine Taylor Turner, Sitka,
F/V Mirage

Michaela Coleman, Sitka,
F/V Second Chance

Mya Delong + Thor Proulx, Wrangell,
F/V Trendsetter

Holly Enderle, Juneau,
F/V Pacific Dream

Mike Pickett + Erin Uhl, Sitka,
F/V Bertha R

Venice Pickett, Sitka, *F/V Bertha R*

Tyson Fick, Juneau, *F/V Heather Anne*

Robby Bruce, Petersburg,
F/V Northwind

Sonnie Woessner, Sitka,
F/V Ocean Cape

Rosalind Palof, Sitka, *F/V Norisle*

Lauren Mitchell, Sitka, *F/V Northwind*

Tessa Eleonore Schmidt, Sitka,
F/V Jodan

J.J. Goryn, Elfin Cove, *F/V Isla Rose*

Hank Moore, Sitka, *F/V Sunray*

Heather Hardcastle, Juneau,
F/V Heather Anne

Linda Behnken, Sitka, ***F/V Woodstock***