

Call for Nominations: Salmon users

The ADF&G-recognized Regional Aquaculture Association representing Norton Sound/Bering Strait salmon users is seeking nominations for seats representing the following categories: 1) **Commercial salmon permit holders**; 2) **Sport fishermen**; 3) **Subsistence users**.

Necessary qualifications: To represent any one of the three categories on the RAA, a nominee must maintain a permanent domicile and mailing address, and be eligible to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend, in one of the following communities: Brevig Mission, Diomedes, Elim, Gambell, Golovin, Koyuk, Nome, St. Michael, Savoonga, Shaktoolik, Stebbins, Teller, Unalakleet, Wales or White Mountain. To represent **regional commercial salmon permit holders**, a nominee must hold a valid Norton Sound/Port Clarence salmon permit (S04Z). To represent **regional sport fishermen**, a nominee must be eligible to sport fish for salmon and hold a license number. To represent **regional subsistence fishermen**, a nominee must be eligible to subsistence fish for salmon.

How to nominate: Petitions are available at www.nsedc.com, from NSEDC offices in Nome and Unalakleet, or from NSEDC community liaisons. Nomination petitions need to have 10 signatures from residents who also meet the requirements for the seat being sought by the nominee (i.e. a petitioner seeking to represent commercial permit holders needs to have signatures from 10 fellow permit holders).

Where to send petitions: Completed petitions must be received by RAA Director Charlie Lean **by 5 p.m. on February 29, 2012**. Petitions should be sent to Mr. Lean at the following address:

Charlie Lean, RAA Director
PO Box 358
Nome, AK 99762

Fax: (907) 443-2478
Phone: (888) 650-2477

How representatives are selected: The members of the RAA board will vote on nominations for the sport and subsistence salmon users' seats. Commercial permit holders will vote for their nominee. The top vote-getters will be seated with the runners-up named as alternates.

About RAAs: Regional Aquaculture Associations (RAAs) are intended to bring salmon fishery stakeholders to a common regional forum to discuss issues regarding salmon enhancement and human needs. One of the RAA's main responsibilities is to choose representatives to the Regional Planning Team, the body that writes the Comprehensive Salmon Plans and advises the commissioner of Fish and Game on salmon hatcheries and local needs.

The ADF&G-recognized RAA representing the Norton Sound/Bering Strait region is currently contacting all seat-holders to nominate and elect representatives to the RAA. These representatives, in addition to the salmon users mentioned above, are: **Island District** (*Gambell and Savoonga*); **Bering Strait District** (*Diomedes, Wales, Brevig Mission, Teller*); **Nome District** (*City of Nome, King Island Native Community, Nome Eskimo Community, Solomon IRA, Council IRA*); **Northeast Norton Sound District** (*White Mountain, Golovin, Elim, Koyuk*); **Eastern Norton Sound District** (*Shaktoolik and Unalakleet*); **Southern Norton Sound District** (*St. Michael, Stebbins*); **Kawerak**; **NSEDC**; and **processors with shoreside offices in the region** (*NSEDC*).

**Regional Aquaculture Association
Petition Form for Sport Fishing Board Seat**

Petitioner: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Petition is for representation of Sport Fishermen in the Region on the RAA Board of Directors. **Petitioner must be eligible to sport fish for salmon. Permit Number:** _____ . To be qualified to represent an interest group as a board member, a person must maintain a mailing address and permanent domicile within the region and be eligible to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend at that address for the entire term of office as director.

By signing below, you are stating you meet these qualifications.

Signature

Date

Petitions must be signed by 10 people who are eligible to sport fish for salmon:

Signature:

Permit Number:

Return completed forms by February 29, 2012 to:
Charlie Lean, P.O. Box 358, Nome Alaska 99762