



UNITED FISHERMEN OF ALASKA

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United Fishermen of Alaska Opposes Ballot Measure 1

Juneau, Alaska - United Fishermen of Alaska opposes a constitutional convention and urges its members to vote no on Ballot Measure 1.

At its Fall 2022 meeting, United Fishermen of Alaska's Board of Directors voted to oppose Ballot Measure 1. If Ballot Measure 1 were to pass, Alaska's constitution would be opened to unlimited revision. Specific concerns for fishermen include potential changes to or abolishment of the limited entry fisheries amendment and an overhaul of the regulatory framework that governs fisheries. "The risk that Article VIII Section 4, which is the sustained yield provision for managing natural resources in the state, could be significantly altered or repealed is not a risk that we are willing to take" said President Matt Alward.

Opening "Pandora's Box" would introduce uncertainty in the business community and inhibit investment in industries throughout the state. "A constitutional convention would be dangerous for commercial fisheries as well as the state in general. Not only is there a clear and present danger to the future of our fisheries, but the years of statutory and regulatory uncertainty would hinder economic growth and investment in our industry," said UFA Executive Director, Tracy Welch. As UFA "Votes Fish," the Board of Directors opposes a constitutional convention and urges its members to "Vote NO on 1."

UFA joins a long list of industry groups, Alaska businesses, non-profits, city governments, Chambers of Commerce, and Alaska Native Corporations who are opposing Ballot Measure 1.