

From: Tracy Welch <director@ufa-fish.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 11:35 AM
To: Stephen Giesbrecht <sgiesbrecht@petersburgak.gov>
Cc: Mark Jensen <mayorjensen@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Re: UFA Membership

Hi Steve-

Thanks for reaching out and the inquiry about membership with United Fishermen of Alaska (UFA).

A little about UFA: We are the statewide commercial fishing trade association, representing 37 member groups that participate in fisheries throughout the state and in federal fisheries off Alaska's coast. Currently, we also have somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 individual/lifetime/supporter members. Business/community supporter members are listed on the website.

UFA works to promote and protect the industry, lobbying in Juneau at the legislative level throughout the session as well as having a close working relationship with the Alaska congressional delegation. During the session, we provide a legislative update once a week via email, with information on bills that we are tracking and if there are upcoming hearings and how folks can participate in those. We also send out member updates, usually every two weeks or so, depending on the amount of information that is coming in. We have also been expanding our educational opportunities for members by offering webinars at various times throughout the year. The most notable webinars so far this year included a panel of processors who gave pre and post season market updates. We also have two meetings a year that have been hybrid in nature, which are open to members to sit in on. During these meetings we not only conduct organizational business, but we bring in guest speakers, folks from the state administration (Ex: DEC, Div. of Investments, Fishermen's Fund), researchers, and legislators. The meetings are always a good opportunity to hear straight from "folks in the know."

Community supporter level membership is \$350 per year. The membership gets you listed on the website, listed and linked in every membership email that goes out, and access to UFA meetings/webinars/legislative and membership updates. The \$350 is for one year of membership, and on the anniversary month you will receive a renewal notice the following year.

Current fishery group members that have ties to the Petersburg area/fishing fleet that are represented on the board include: Petersburg Vessel Owners Association (PVOA), United Southeast Alaska Gillnet (USAG), Alaska Trollers Association (ATA), Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (SEAFSA), Southeast Seiners Association (SEAS), Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fishermen's Association (SARDFA), Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA), Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (SHCA), Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), Douglas Island Pink and Chum (DIPAC).

At the October meeting, we put together a federal priority list for 2024 (attached), which will give an idea of what we are working on/hope to work on this coming year.

Our website is being worked on this week and next, switching ownership and back office items to our new tech firm, and may or may not be live if you were to go look at it right now, so I've gone ahead and attached the membership form for communities/business for you to take a look at. If you have any further questions, please feel free to reach out!

Best,
Tracy

907-518-1071