

## ATTENTION: FISHERMEN WHO HAVE PAID NONRESIDENT COMMERCIAL FISHING FEES TO THE STATE OF ALASKA

THE STATE OF ALASKA MAY OWE YOU A REFUND WITH INTEREST IF YOU PAID NONRESIDENT COMMERCIAL FISHING FEES ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 13, 1984. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU NOTIFY THE STATE IN WRITING OF YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS AND KEEP THE STATE INFORMED OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES.

In June 1982, nonresident commercial fishermen filed a lawsuit against the State of Alaska challenging the constitutionality of the higher annual fees charged non-Alaskans for commercial fishing licenses and permits. The lawsuit, *Carlson v. State*, is a class action that includes as plaintiffs all persons who have paid any nonresident commercial fishing license and permit fees to Alaska since December 13, 1984.

If you have held a nonresident crewmember license or nonresident commercial fishing permit at any time between December 13, 1984 and the present, you are a member of the *Carlson* class, and you may be owed a refund with interest. Depending on licensing history, under the terms of recent court decisions a person who held one or more entry permits may be owed a refund of between zero and \$35,534.32, and a person who held only crewmember licenses would be entitled to no refund. However, the class and the state have appealed several aspects of those decisions, and it will likely be more than a year before the exact refund owed to you, if any, can be determined.

The State of Alaska must be certain it has your current address in order to send a check to you if you are found eligible to receive a refund payment. To provide the necessary information, please print and complete the form attached to this notice, or write a letter that provides all of the information requested on this form.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM OR LETTER TO: Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission, 8800 Glacier Hwy, #109, P.O. Box 110302, Juneau, AK 99811-0302. If you are a member of the *Carlson* class due to having held a nonresident CREWMEMBER license rather than a permit, please write "CARLSON CREWMEMBER" on the outside of the mailing envelope.

If your mailing address changes in the future, you must again contact the commission in writing at the address above. When providing your new address, you must state that you are a member of the *Carlson* class. If it is ultimately determined that you are owed a refund, and if the commission has a confirmed address for you, a check will be mailed to you at that address.

Until this case is resolved, nonresident commercial fishermen must continue to pay the full annual fees when applying for or annually renewing interim use permits, limited entry permits, or crewmember licenses. If it is ultimately determined that the nonresident fees you pay for these years exceeds the allowable amount, any net overpayment will be refunded with interest at a later date.

There is no further information the State can provide you at this time. You may direct questions about this lawsuit to the plaintiffs' attorney, Loren Domke (Address: 2201 N. Jordan Ave., Juneau, AK 99801; Telephone: 907-790-2844; Recorded information for Carlson class members: 907-790-3442).

This notice is issued by –

THE ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION

**ATTENTION: MEMBERS OF CARLSON V. STATE CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT**

**COMPLETE AND RETURN THE FORM BELOW**

If you have held a State of Alaska nonresident commercial fishing permit or crewmember license for one or more years since December 13, 1984, you may use the form below to provide the information necessary for the State of Alaska to issue you a check if you are ultimately found to be eligible to receive a refund.

**MAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO:**

*Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission  
8800 Glacier Highway, #109  
P.O. Box 110302  
Juneau, AK 99811-0302*

**NOTIFICATION OF CURRENT ADDRESS OF CARLSON v. STATE CLASS MEMBER**

**Check and complete the appropriate box below:**

I am a member of the class of the *Carlson v. State* class action lawsuit because I have held a (check one or both, as applicable):

nonresident commercial fishing permit and/or

nonresident crewmember license

for one or more years since December 13, 1984. If you are a member of the class due to having held a crewmember license only, provide the years you held a nonresident crewmember license: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

I am not a member of the *Carlson* class, but I believe I am entitled to any refund the state may owe to *Carlson* class member \_\_\_\_\_ who held a (check whichever applies):

nonresident commercial fishing permit and/or

nonresident crewmember license

during one or more of the years covered by the *Carlson* lawsuit. I am providing on the back of this form a written explanation of my relationship to the license or permit holder and why I am entitled to receive any refund due that person.

**My current mailing address is:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name - please print clearly*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Mailing address (street or P.O. Box)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Telephone Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*State*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Zip*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Social Security Number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Birthdate (mm/dd/yyyy)*

Required because any refund must be reported to the IRS.

*I understand that I am responsible for informing the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission in writing of any future changes in my mailing address until final resolution of the Carlson case and, when doing that, identifying myself as a Carlson class member and specifying whether I am a class member by virtue of having held a nonresident crewmember license or a nonresident permit.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date