

Icy Straits Advisory Committee Meeting January 13, 2015

6:05pm Meeting called to order

Quorum Present; B Miller, K Skaflestad, R Austin, R Shupe, C Skaflestad-Chair and D Bolton-vice-chair/secretary.

Members of community present; John Murray, George Dalton, Stan Savland and Andy Savland.

M/S/C To accept minutes of meeting on 1-5-15.

M/S/C To try deal with proposal's that affect our area.

M/S To accept Proposal 78 – 5AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A. Close waters to Game Creek and Garteeni Creek near Hoonah to Commercial Dungeness crab fishing to improve subsistence fishery, to close off waters within a mile radius of the entrance to Game Creek and Garteeni Creek.

M/S/C To amend Proposal 78 – To close waters in line from Cannery Point to Game Point, to Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishing. To make a definable line for crabbers and enforcement.

6 – Votes to support the amendment.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 78, as amended.

6- Votes to support Proposal 78 as amended.

M/S/F To support Proposal 75 – 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A. After discussing the contents of this proposal, we felt this was too large an area to close. When put to vote, there was no votes cast for or against.

At 6:30pm Jeff Feldpausch of Sitka Tribe of Alaska called into the meeting via landline. To present information on proposal's effecting the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.

Jeff presented information on the following proposals, 114, 118, 121, 125, 117, 119 and 122.

At 7:05pm Jeff completed his presentation, he was thanked by the committee for his participation. Jeff then ended the phone call.

M/S/C For a 5 minute recess. Meeting recessed at 7:07pm

Meeting called back to order at 7:12pm.

M/S/C Motion to ask ADFG why Port Fredrick is still closed to personal use King crab. What biological data supports it and can this committee asks for this data to be sent to the Chair of this committee.

6 – Votes to support this motion.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 114 – 5 AAC 27.190. Herring Management Plan for Southeastern Alaska. (7) Shall allow spawning biomass to exceed minimum biomass thresholds for five (5) consecutive years before fishing can occur.

6 – Votes to support this proposal. As this would allow a wider age range within the biomass before fishing could occur.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 117 – 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee feels that the ANS level should remain at it's current level.

M/S/F To support Proposal 118 – 5AAC 27.195. Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.

2 – Votes to support, 3 votes to not support. Motion failed.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 119 – 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area. Remove the area locally known as the “core area” from the closed waters of district 13 in Sitka Sound as follows: 5 AAC 27.150. (a) would end at (6). (7) District 13, in the waters north and west of the Eliason harbor.....etc. would be deleted from regulation as a closed area.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee feels that this core area needs to remain closed as a safe haven for herring to spawn.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 121 – 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area. Expand commercial herring fishery closed waters of District 13 in Sitka Sound.

4 – Votes to support this proposal. These Four vote's felt that expansion of the closed area was a necessary for the ANS to be met.

2 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. These two votes felt that expansion of the closed area was large an area.

M/S/F To accept Proposal 120 - 5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area.

0 – Votes to support this proposal.

2 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. Motion Failed

M/S/C To accept Proposal 122 – 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area. Lower the spawning biomass threshold for Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery from 25,000 to 20,000 tons.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee felt that the threshold should remain at 25,000 tons. That rolling the threshold back to 20,000 tons would be a step in the wrong direction of preserving the fishery.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 125 – 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area. Reduce the harvest rate and establish a maximum guideline harvest level of 10 percent of the biomass.

5 – Votes to support this proposal. These 5 votes felt that 10 percent harvest of a biomass is within the means of control of ADFG.

1 – Vote to NOT support this proposal. This one vote felt that the current harvest level is good.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 148 – 5 AAC 01.XXX. New Section. Allow for designation of community subsistence harvesters for Hoonah residents, as follows: Would allow for a community harvester(s) to be designated to fish within the Icy Straits are described in 5 AAC 01.716(a)(4). The community harvester would be able to harvest the limits of multiple subsistence salmon permits in their possession, within specified limitations similar to those currently provided for in 5 AAC 01.760(e) Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye salmon fisheries management plan.

4 – Votes to support this proposal. These Four votes felt that this proposal is sound for the reasons given.

1 – Vote to not support this proposal. This One vote felt that this proposal was not sound.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 233 – 5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operation. Allow downriggers as legal commercial salmon hand troll gear for the entire year.

6 – Votes to support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal is good for those hand trollers that wish to use down riggers the entire year, not just during winter troll. That allowing down riggers for the entire year, would also make it easier for enforcement, as enforcement wouldn't have to make sure of cutoff date and start date of winter troll.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 157 – 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area; 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual and size limits and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon management plan. Reduce the king salmon size limit from 28 inches or greater in length to 26 inches or greater in length in the Southeast Alaska water.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee felt that keeping the size limit at 28 inches or greater is best.

M/S/C To support Proposal 156 – 5 AAC 47.030. Methods, means and general provisions – finfish. Allow the use of bow and arrow to take salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area by certified bow angles.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal was reasonable, but is best left to broad of game to decide.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 161 – 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual and size limits and methods for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area. Prohibit multiple hooks in all

fresh waters in the Yakutat Management area, as follows; allow for single hook only sport angling in all fresh waters of the Yakutat area, Cape Fairweather to Cape Sucking, from January 1 to December 31.

6 – Votes to support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal was sound for the reasons given by the Yakutat Advisory Committee.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 162 – 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area. Prohibit multiple hooks and barbed hooks in all fresh waters of the Yakutat management area, as follows; proposal to restrict sport fishing in all fresh waters of the Yakutat area; Cape Fairweather to Cape Suckling, to single barbless hook only, with the exception of two single barbless hooks maybe used in tandem when bait is allowed.

6 – Votes to support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal was sound for the reasons given by the Yakutat Advisory Committee.

M/S/C To support Proposal 163 – 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska area. Reduce the Yakutat Village Lagoon coho bag and possession limits to two fish greater than 16 inches in length.

6 – Votes to support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal was sound, for the purpose of conservation.

M/S/C To accept Proposal's 194, 195, 196 and 197 – This proposal's deal with closing portion of Lisianski Inlet to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear and redrawing the lines for commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear in the Lisianski Inlet area.

6 – Votes to NOT support these proposals. This committee felt that these proposals to close portion of Lisianski to seine fishing was not sound for reason given, as one of the seine captains was present at meeting and stated that 99% of catch in that area is PINKS.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 193 – 5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plan. Restrict and prohibit commercial salmon seining of District 12 and 14, as follows; (c) The department may allow the operation of purse seines in district 12, sub districts 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17, and district 14, sub district 27, no more than one 15 hour opening every seven days. The department must open these sub districts concurrently whenever they are opened and concurrently with openings in other districts in the region. (d) The department may not allow the operation of purse seines in district 12, sub district 15, or in district 14, sub districts 21 and 23.

6 – Votes to NOT support this proposal. This committee felt that this proposal is to restrictive at only 15 hours every seven days.

M/S/C To accept Proposal's 199 – Closed waters to operation of commercial purse seine within the possessory boundary of Angoon.

200 – Closed water within the Admiralty Monument proclamation boundary to commercial fishing for salmon with purse seine gear.

6 – Votes to NOT support these proposals. This committee felt that these proposals are too restrictive and that ADFG can choose not to open these areas to purse seining during the season.

M/S/C To accept Proposal 201 – 5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters. Close certain waters of Chichagof Island and Admiralty Island to commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear, as follows; The area within two nautical miles of Chichagof Island between points two nautical miles south of Basket Bay and the area within two nautical miles of Admiralty Island south of Parker Point and north of Point Samuel are closed to purse seining.

6 – Votes NOT to support this proposal. This committee felt that ADFG can choose not to open this area to purse seining during the season.

M/S/C To have the Chair represent the Icy Strait AC at the January Meeting in Wrangell.

5 – Votes to support the Chair going to the meeting.

M/S To adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm

Next meeting date to be announced by the Chair.

Respectively Submitted by; Vice Chair/Secretary Don Bolton