July 3, 2018

Commissioner Sam Cotten
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99518-1565

and

Nick Sagalkin, Regional Supervisor
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
351 Research Court
Kodiak, AK 99615-7400

Subject: 2018 Chignik Commercial Salmon Mgmt. Relative to GSI Analysis

Dear Commissioner Cotten and Reg. Supervisor Sagalkin:

The Chignik AC wants it made known that it has requested repetitively, of the Alaska Department Fish and Game, to use the 2018 in season GSI study for in season analysis, rather than waiting until late or post-season for analysis of the results. The Chignik Regional Aquaculture Association has clearly offered logistical support and financial support to cover any lack of funding to do this. The City of Chignik is on record in complete agreement with this request and also offered to contribute to any deficit in ability to pay for the shipping of in-season samples for analysis.

The Department of Fish and Game has stated their position during the June 29th Chignik AC Meeting as being that they will not be differing their management plan based on information from the samples if they were analyzed in season and that they will base decisions on a model built on historical data (which will include the past six years of GSI information).

Due to the well-known fact that the 2018 run is atypical from the historical data averages, it raises the probability that the model approach will not apply accurately.

The Department of Fish and Game have repeatedly stated that they are reviewing data daily and are taking a day by day approach to the Chignik low escapement crisis rather than defining any precautionary plans that could or would be activated if certain defined thresholds occurred.

This being the case, with on the fly evaluations being the chosen approach, we believe the Department is being belligerently negligent in refusing to evaluate the GSI samples

in season as they have for the past 6 years. We believe that it is prudent to evaluate any and all information, as soon as possible, when proceeding with management of the Chignik sockeye salmon run in light of the historically low escapement numbers.

It should be noted that Chignik has two distinct runs from the same drainage and the Chignik Lake run (the second run) will be returning to some, as of yet, unknown degree. While models using historical scale analysis data (averaged) are most likely adequate for managing typical sockeye runs, the 2018 salmon returns do not align with other runs in the past. This leaves a probability that the models will not be accurate in representing the first to second run escapement figures. Accepting potential inaccuracy runs in the face of the "day to day" approach being used presently by the Department.

The Chignik AC, again, urgently requests the Department to use any and all information sources available, including in-season GSI sample analysis, to give due diligence in making management decisions that affect the wellbeing and sustainability of the Chignik sockeye runs, the financial wellbeing of the Chignik commercial fishing fleet, and the economic and cultural wellbeing of the five Chignik communities.

Sincerely,

Jacob Shangin, Chignik Advisory Committee Chairman

Chignik Advisory Committee
3/30/2018
Teleconference

I. Call to Order: 1:40 p.m. by Jacob Shangin, Chair

II. Roll Call:

Members Present:
Jacob Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Alfredo Abou Eid, Vice Chair, Chignik Lagoon
Raechel Allen, Chignik Bay
Gene Carlson, Chignik Bay
Ben Allen, Chignik Bay
Al Anderson, Chignik Lagoon
Gary Anderson, Chignik Lagoon
Steven Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Edgar Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Marty Takak, Chignik Lake (seated after role call)
Clinton Boskofsky, Chignik Lake (seated after roll call and entered meeting shortly after roll call)

Members Absent:
Ronald Lind, Chignik Lake
Patrick Kosbruk,Perryville
Austin Shangin, Perryville
Boris Kosbruk Jr., Perryville
Brandon Daugherty, Alternate
Rome Abou Eid, Alternate

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: The Chignik AC is comprised of three members from each of the five communities in the region and 2 alternates. Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Ivanof Bay, and Chignik Lake were represented.

III. Seating of New Members: Gary made the motion to Seat Marty Takak and Clinton Boskosky. Steven seconded. Unanimous consent was given.

IV. Approval of Agenda: Requests to add discussion of a Chinook issue, reds in the Shumagins, Westward openings, and a cod issue needing follow up were made. Ben made a motion to adopt with additions. Unanimous approval was given.

V. Introductions: Fish and Game Staff present were Taryn O'Connor-Brito, Board Support; Dawn Wilburn, Chignik Area Management Biologist; Ross Renick, Assistant Area Management Biologist; Lucas Stumpf, Sand Point Area Management Biologist; Tyler Polum, Sport Fish; Brian Davis, Subsistence

Guests Present were Don Bumpus, George Anderson, Arron Anderson, Rodney Anderson, Jeremy Anderson, Eugene Anderson, Bruce Barrett, CRAA; Chuck McCallum, CRAA; Earnie Wiess, Aleutians East Borough; Dan Anderson, Homer AC

VI. ADF&G Staff Updates: Dawn Wilburn said the Harvest Strategy was available online and that bids were being accepted for the Chignik Weir installation and that notice was e-mailed to everyone on the list to receive updates from Chignik management.

Taryn gave notice that the Joint Board tentatively planned to meet March 21-25, 2019 in Anchorage.

VII. Comments and Concerns: Nothing further was brought up. The concerns were added during the agenda approval process.

VIII. New Business:

1. *Proposals for submission to the Board of Fisheries 18-19 Regulatory Cycle (April 10th deadline)*
   Bruce Barret spoke to the proposal which would allow retention of commercially caught Chinook in the Chignik Bay District by subsistence permit holders onboard the catching vessel for subsistence purposes. Gary made the motion to adopt and Ben seconded. Al addressed his Chinook escapement concerns that would need a separate proposal.
   Lengthy discussion then took place over the proposal on the table. The Department pointed out catch and release currently used is designed to achieve more spawners in river. The proposal as written does not give incentive to avoid keeping salmon that could survive. Also, current regs state that commercial harvesters may not retain salmon for subsistence during an opener. It was pointed out that calling personal use "subsistence" is not an accurate term, however, personal use of Kings are primarily used locally.
   While the AC members and community participants had deep concern for escapement, they also held deep conviction to avoid waste of the resource. It was suggested to look at other programs around the state such as in Cordova to mitigate waste. It was pointed out that the fishery used rolling wedges now rather than brailing and the Kings are often under the most pressure when lifting fish aboard. It was questioned if the lower escapement requirements on sockeye were causing more fishing time leading to higher harvest rates of the Chinook. It was also questioned whether the commercial release of kings was noticeable by an increase in escapement numbers and the Department couldn't say definitively. A community member suggested a CRAA study. A vote to accept the proposal as written resulted in 6 opposed, 2 abstentions, and 1 in favor.

   Next, Al requested the AC to submit a proposal adressing poor Chinook returns that would 1. Stop including jack Chinook in the escapement count 2. Raise the lower Chinook escapement objective to 1,600 or revert back to the older goals of 1,500 to 3,000 and 3. Curtail in river (above the weir) sport fishing as the first option if Chinook escapement goals aren't being met. Included in the discussion was the concern that there was no requirement to report Federal Subsistence numbers and that the number taken was not known. Dawn Wilburn would contact John Gerkin, Federal Subsistence Manager, about this. It was pointed

out the Department was responsible for escapement goals and that they were currently in the process of reviewing and addressing data and those for Chignik River. It was pointed out 2011 was the initial decline but Chignik has a less pronounced problem than most of the state. The initial request for the AC to submit a Chinook proposal was redirected into CRAA drafting a letter to the Department presenting Al's suggested requests to be submitted by the AC. Al made the motion and Alfredo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Alfredo then introduced his concerns about sockeye in the Shumagins. He pointed out that Chignik fleet is often unable to fish while waiting for escapement that is just short (5,000 to 10,000 fish) of escapement. Last year for 12 days in July the Chignik fleet waited while the daily catches in the Shumagins were often in the 60K to 90K range and the Shumagin catch in 6 days was over 428K. He pointed to a persistent decline in the second run being of concern. The Chinook run in Chignik is also weakening. He sees efforts increasing in the Shumagins over time as multiple permits held by individuals were sold there by adding more participants. He sees more effort per unit as bigger boats and better gear are employed. He would like to see closures for non-terminal areas when there are escapement issues in neighboring terminal areas and the use of emergency order closures as well. His view is a day or more closure would get Chignik escapement up so the Chignik fleet could fish. We lose opportunity to harvest other available salmon species during closures. He would like to introduce windows of "no gear in the water". Others agreed with various points he made and the fact that there is always a salmon gear type fishing in Area M was mentioned. It was thought that Axel was already drafting a proposal of this nature and Chuck said CRAA could work on a proposal addressing windows. It was decided the AC would review these proposals when they were published.

CRAA then apprised the AC of proposals already submitted by individuals. There were two Dolgoi proposals, one submitted by Chuck and one by George A. There were two proposals addressing June openings in the Western and Perryville Districts. One authored by Don Bumpus and one jointly authored by Edgar and Patrick. The question of why the Western District is managed with two 48 hr openings was understood to be from the restrictions in the 60's and 70's as part of the sockeye run rebuilding effort and was never changed. Al agreed. He added his disappointment of more recent reduction in escapement goals after having been through those rebuilding efforts. These proposals will also be discussed in more detail after they are published. Ben brought up two proposals that were drafted pertaining to the adjusting the August/September escapement goals. Divided views were discussed. The benefits of carcasses fertilizing the river was discussed. FRI studies were cited that carcasses were of less importance to the Chignik system due to various nutrients from volcanic sources. It was discussed that the communities could work with CRAA to have an independent review of escapement goals as ideas differ as to what escapement should be. Coho predation was mentioned and it was noted that most would agree Coho do affect Sockeye. There was some consensus that if sockeye escapement were not affected then a fishery on Coho would be reasonable.

A topic shift took place and an update was given about the in-season management changes. Dawn explained the overall escapement goals would remain the same but that the shift in daily goals reflected the review of historical run timing data. Also, the transition management will not use the genetic testing and the genetic information will be applied and adjust the escapement numbers post season. This decision was in part because of the inconsistent air taxi service to get the samples out, however, it was primarily because the

information was too delayed to make decisions from. Strong concern was voiced that the testing could still be a useful tool for evaluating in-season irregularities (such as in 2017) and particularly in evaluating the second run. Bruce suggested using prior years data would assume average run strength for both runs where the genetic sampling in-season lends itself to evaluating the second run. Information, even delayed, is appreciated. It was asked if the information, even if not used, could be made immediately public. It was noted that CRAA would continue evaluating the effects of the changes. There was also concern that shifting around escapement numbers would affect subsistence users in early June. Some concern was given to possible effects on when Igvak opened. It was also mentioned that Area M could affect run timing if they harvested large amounts of Chignik stock in the Dolgoi area for instance.

For the final proposal addressed, Alfredo asks the AC to take action and develop a Council Proposal to change the 20 mile sealion haul out boundary to 3 miles as the Board of fish did for state only cod permit holders. Chuck presented the history of this request. Chuck and Alfredo will draft language for the AC to consider during the next scheduled meeting.

2. *Discussion of Joint Board Call for Proposals (May 1st deadine)*
   There was none. Taryn would be available to help individuals if they wanted to submit anything.

IX. Other/Miscellaneous AC Business: There was none.

X. Set Date/Location of Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 27th at 1:30 p.m. with the exact date forthcoming.

Adjournment: 5:35 p.m.

Minutes Recorded By: _Raechel Allen_____
Minutes Approved By: _____Jacob Shangin ____
Date: _____7/7/1_____

Chignik Advisory Committee
6/22/2018
Teleconference

I. Call to Order: 9:40 a.m. by Jacob Shangin, Chair

II. Roll Call:

Members Present:
Jacob Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Alfredo Abou Eid, Chignik Lagoon
Raechel Allen, Chignik Bay
Gene Carlson, Chignik Bay
Ben Allen, Chignik Bay
Clinton Boskofsky, Chignik Lake
Marty Takak, Chignik Lake
Al Anderson, Chignik Lagoon
Gary Anderson, Chignik Lagoon
Austin Shangin, Perryville
Boris Kosbruk Jr., Perryville
Edgar Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Stephen Shangin, Ivanof Bay
Brandon Daugherty, Alternate
Rame AbouEid, Alternate

Members Absent: Patrick Kosbruk, Perryville -excused medical

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: The Chignik AC is comprised of three members from each of the five communities in the region and 2 alternates. All communities are represented.

III. Approval of Agenda: Gary made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Alfredo. The agenda was unanimously approved.

IV. Fish and Game Staff Present: Nick Sagalkin, Jeff Wadle,Tyler Polum, Area Manager; Dawn Wilburn, Chignik Area Management Biologist; Ross Renick, Assistant Area Management Biologist; Lisa Fox, S. Peninsula Manager; Brian Davis, Jon Gerkin, Federal Subsistence; George Papas; Lisa Olsen, Fish and Game; Lisa Scarborough, Subsistence; Sam Cotton, Commissioner;

Guests Present: Marit Van Dort, Far West; Chuck McCallum, CRAA; Debbie Carlson, Chignik Bay Tribal; Cody Larson, BBNA; Gayla Hoseth, BBNA; Christopher Maines, BBNA; Richard Sharpe, Mayor of Chignik; George Anderson, Chignik Lagoon; Kelsin Orloff; Dakota Anderson; Ronald Lind; Guy Ashby; Tim Murphy; Daniel Anderson; Jason Alexander; Wally Hinderer; Gerald Kosbruk; Tony Gregorio, Earnie Carlson, Jack Rantz, Frank Kasheverof, Peter Anderson, Alana Anderson, William Jones, Ray Erickson, Henry Erickson, Jaime Moore, Jeffrey Moore, John Jones Jr., Jennie Grunert, Dan Grunert,

V. ADF&G Staff Updates: Jeff Wadle shared that decisions on the escapement situation through the Department won't be made until Sunday. Ross Renick said approximately 7,500 escaped yesterday bringing the total to 41,000. The male to female ratio is about 2:1 and the quality of spawners is increasing with length increasing from 480 mm to 530 mm and ocean age 3 fish are increasing as well.

VI. Comments and Concerns: Subsistence and Commercial

Al commented that in 2014 we had same problem with poor spawner quality and locals gave warnings to the Department. He asked if the department was going to adjust escapement to reflect the poor quality of the spawners.

Jeff Wadle explained it was good news there were more males because it meant the run is still coming in. Al believes local knowledge is being ignored and expects to see this problem repeated in another 4 years.

Bruce Barett requested what brood years were involved. 3 ocean and 2 ocean. Ross Rennick said 2013 for 1-3's and 2014 for 1-2's.

Marit Van Dort asked what the management policy is for the intercept fisheries and the last action was. Jeff listed 16 050 60, 5AAC 09 365 (area M), and 5AAC 15.357 (Chignik). He explained that this year was unusual and unprecedented and a statutory authority in the form of an Emergency Order was used to make restrictions on Area M. Igvak is already closed.

Alfredo asked what was the percentage, the component, of Chignik fish in the Shumagins to use to determine what percentage of the 305,000 Shumagin catch was Chignik bound fish so far this year. The Department answered that they don't have in season stock composition in Area M and referred to the WASSIP Study (2006-2009). Jeff cited the range being form 1.1% to 38.4% with the average at 14.2%. Alfredo figures that is over 30,000 sockeye and explains we really need those fish this year and is worried we are going to lose our run.

The Chair redirects back to subsistence topic.

Tony testified that the other day out of 120 fish he caught, 90 were males fish with mediocre spawn. He noted that other areas don't count these small fish. He figures it would take 15 years to rebuild this run and it seems we are just a hatchery for other areas. The villages are going to die.

Raechel asked what the plans were for subsistence now. Jeff said there are no plans to restrict subsistence from the state.

Alfredo is thankful for the restrictions placed on Area M and asks if there will be anymore in the future. Jeff said they are looking daily at escapement and will make a decision on Sunday.

Marit asked what the decision is based on, what numbers are used, what is the plan. Jeff responded that it was a good question and the Department is looking at historical data, daily escapement and looking at it day by day and stated that there was no specific number to give right now. Marit then asks what happens if you don't get escapement? What happens on different scenarios is what she hears people wanting to know. Jeff responds it is a tough question and states there is no good answer. Marit asks for more information. What is the basis for, what is the process for, and when will decisions occur or at what point. It's important to explain these to people. Nick explains the Department is having daily meetings with the Commissioner, the Director, and chief scientists to evaluate the situation. All areas are upset with actions. There is pressure from all directions. It's a juggling act to keep the cards on the table and the public updated and the problem is if a metric of direction is given out front and something else is learned tomorrow it is difficult to make a new decision. The Department is trying to make as good of a decision as possible. Marit asks is there a process because communication is key and the health of the run, in perpetuity, is of the most importance to the people she represents.

George Anderson gives appreciation for the Department being at meeting. He asked if they would consider using the GSI in season to apportion 1st and 2nd run, CRAA would like to assist. Department acknowledges letter from CRAA on that topic and that they are evaluating the pros and cons.

Wally Hinderer stated the Department should be able to apportion a percent to the run to quality spawners to poor quality spawners. Jeff Wadle states they are still viable just smaller. Wally asks how many are females. The Department will get that information.

Alfredo asks Lisa in Area M about the gear types and when they are fishing and notes that we are still sitting on the beach after the expense of gearing up for the fishery. Lisa Fox reported the drift and seine fleets opened on the 20th and closed last night, 48 hours earlier than usual. The set gillnet fleet was now open. Alfredo appreciates that Area M had shorter openings but stated that we are a terminal fishery and Area M is interception and we still aren't meeting escapement. He would like to see the interception openings shortened.

Ben asks Jeff Wadle, since they don't plan on shutting down subsistence, what is the point, how bad does the situation need be to shut down subsistence? He notes department optimism and wonders what the cutoff point is. Jeff doesn't have that number or an answer. Jeff acknowledges the importance of subsistence to Chignik and that if the entire Area M fishery had to be closed, he would then look at closing subsistence. Even then seine subsistence would close first and not gillnet gear. Nick Sagalkin stated the reluctance to close the subsistence fishery doesn't represent optimism for the run but rather a belief that subsistence is so important to Chignik . Ben understands balancing between user groups and areas but his concern is for the future generations in Chignik and doesn't expect to fish commercially but doesn't think it's right to have 14% being intercepted when Chignik is in the situation it is at.

Rodney Intagliata states he hears the department saying they don't know what critical numbers or points of action are and he is concern that by the time they reach decisions it will be too late. He believes it is mismanagement to not have more direct answers for the fisherman and public. He thanks the Department for attending the meeting and for their time. Jeff responds that they have seen very low escapement before (not this low) and the run had still continued to return and propagate.

Al asks why more action had not been taken toward this years escapement. Shortening one opening isn't enough. In 2014 the small fish were not an indication that the run was coming. It was the first time he's seen the anomaly. Would the Department entertain a proposal to address small males in escapement? Jeff indicated they would look at any proposals, those salmon are viable and the department would not suggest a proposal. Other areas deal with jacks while the small males here are viable. Generalized comments of understanding biology and male to female ratios were shared by attendees.
Commissioner Sam Cotton joined the meeting.

Bruce Barrett points out the documented impact of the Dolgoi fishery on Chignik stocks. The contribution of Chignik fish in the Shumagins and Dolgoi area raises in later June and July. The WASSIP study was during weak Chignik runs. In the WASSIP years, Igvak and SEDM didn't fish due to Chigik low escapement. It would be reasonable to close the Dolgoi area to protect escapement as well as the Shumagins. Also, the GSI evaluated in season would be a useful tool to evaluate run strength more so than the model which has nothing in history to correspond with a run like 2018 to keep from assuming the first and second run strengths.
Commercial Discussion:
Marit appreciates the restriction in Area M to date but wants to know what the justification for keeping the fishery open at all given the dismal returns to Chignik. Jeff responds that there are other stocks in Area M and so the Department tried to save some Chignik stocks but not just Chignik stocks.

Alfredo points out that many areas are slow this year and interception fisheries should be restricted while the other areas strengthen.

Raechel asked what the precedence was to allow interception to open while other terminal areas are depressed. Jeff answered that the justification was for a restriction in Area M.

Marit askes to hear from Commissioner on his thoughts on the process is. He responded that the Board of Fish sets the prescribed openings. It is unprecedented (the situation in Chignik) and there is no prescribed plan to address a situation like this in Chignik. Marit asked if there are contingencies being developed for July. Commissioner Cotton answered that the Board has not set any specific plan. He said we don't have a set plan. We have to deal with it as we are able with the information we have on hand. Nick Sagalkin adds that the ranks in the Department deal with this situation on a daily basis. It is the main issue on the plate.

Alana Anderson asks if the department is at this time only dealing with escapement or if they are considering the commercial fisheries in Chignik and openings or not. Jeff responded that if there is sufficient late run then we will try. It's day to day. Alana asks if they were willing to step down the interception fisheries to give some relief to Chignik's commercial fleet by getting some fish here. Jeff responds, no we would relieve the restrictions on the S. Pen.

Alfredo states that Chignik has no other fisheries to turn to. No cod, no tanner, no halibut for most people.

Wally comments that it is the Boards job to allocate fish and we need to look to that direction now.

Ben wants the Area M fishing efforts pushed toward Unimak to keep their concentration on the Bristol Bay stocks and alleviate pressure on Chignik stocks. Too little too late is going to kill this run in Chignik.

Tony Gregorio stated he has been to the Board of Fish meetings as AC for years, listening to terms like "sustainability" and the rules and regs are outdated. We are left sitting, holding the bag. We go to the Board and ask for change and little happens. The burden of conservation must be shared by everybody and the rules must be revised so this doesn't happen here in Chignik again. The Shumagins are essentially an unregulated fishery and we need to get GSI study there or new rules. Bruce agrees with Tony. 2019 forecast looks dismal at best and likely won't support a fishery.

Al would like to hear from Department Staff when is the peak of the run. He expressed frustration that the Department never has the answers when asked and has to look at it. Bruce said it is likely right now. Run timing varies year to year. The Department agrees and said historically it is right now and that we don't know what it is this year.
Al has seen a drop in escapement over the years and it doesn't seem like anyone in the Department is noticing or doing any homework on it.

Earnie Carlson asked for follow up on the recommendation that the Department do the GSI study with in season results.

Gary brings to light that for 10 years we've been working on the lower end of our escapement goals and maybe we should switch that up. He thanks the Department for coming to the rescue and that hopefully it's not too little, too late.

The Chair directs the AC to look at what action it can take to help the Board in addressing this issue.
Alfredo urges the Department to do everything they can to get our escapement met.
The Chair asks if the AC would like to take action on the GSI in season studies.
Ben agrees that we should pursue getting the GSI back. Gayla Hoseth suggests that the AC put in a letter of petition of a emergency meeting and that BBNA would be doing likewise.
Al supports the GSI request and suggests the department uses Lake Clark to expedite transportation if that is an issue. He also supports a letter petitioning the Board of Fish.
George Anderson would like OSM, quality of escapement, and other ways to enumerate escapement, put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ben asks Department how to approach this GSI request. The Department doesn't think any more needs to be done beyond the CRAA letter. They are not ready to make a decision yet.

Al makes motion to take up the tribe's recommendation. The chair suggests putting it on the next meeting.

Ben makes a motion to have the AC draft a letter to the Department of Fish and Game seeking GSI analysis in season. Alfredo seconds. Edgar asks for unanimous consent.

Alfredo makes a motion to draft a letter to request an emergency meeting by the Board of fish and game. Seconded by Edgar. Discussion took place. Nick suggests an emergency petition and to meet the criteria and to meet on a particular action and present a solution. Ben asks about

agenda change request. There is an August deadline and a unique set of criteria. Since we are in cycle it is rather a late proposal. Al would like to see if Gayla and BBNA could help with letter. Gayla requests forming a committee of AC members to work with in drafting a letter. Chuck notes that an emergency meeting isn't a broad call for a meeting and the need for another AC meeting to get the main points. The Chair points out time is of the essence. The original motion is withdrawn.

Ben proposes that the Chair is given authority to form a committee to work with BBNA to write an emergency petition letter to the Board to be approved after AC has reviewed. Alfredo seconds. Edgar moves for unanimous consent. Motion passes

Committee is formed to include Alfredo, Marty, Ben, Austin, Boris, Jacob, and Chuck from CRAA. One-point contact though Jacob to Gayla is chosen for the committee.

VII. Other/Miscellaneous AC Business: Jon Gerkin with Fish and Wildlife announced that subsistence on federal waters is closed but a social and cultural permit may be obtained. 907- 271-2776 can be called for more information.

July 21st is a meeting for another emergency petition Chuck said. Tony requests updates from fish and game. Jeff again reminds it is day by day. Al asks about joint resolution letter made by Ivanoff and Perryville and makes motion to support it. Alfredo seconds. The letter will go to Governor Walker and ask for an emergency fishing declaration. Gary calls question. Al requests unanimous consent. Motion passes.

Recess is requested. Thanks and appreciation is given to the Fish and Game for being available at this meeting.

VIII. Set Date/Location of Next Meeting: Will reconvene on Thursday, June 28th at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment: postponed
Recessed at 11:52 p.m.

Minutes Recorded By: _Raechel Allen_____

June 28th, 2018
Chignik AC Meeting
Reconvened

I. Call to Order: 9:38 a.m. by Alfredo AbouEid, Vice chair

II. Roll Call: Ben Allen, Raechel Allen, Gene Carlson, Alfredo AbouEid, Al Anderson, Gary Anderson, Marty Takak, Clinton Boskofsky, Austin Shangin, Brandon Daugherty, Rome AbouEid, Edgar Shangin (joined meeting post rollcall), Boris Kosbruck (joined meeting post roll call)

III. Staff Present: Dawn Wilburn, Chignik Management; Ross Renick, Chignik Management; Jeff Wadle, Kodiak Management; Tyler Polum, Sport Fish; Forrest Bowers, Fish and Game Juneau; Brian Davis, Subsistence; Lisa Scarborough, Subsistence; Lisa Olson, Deputy Director

Guests: Jason Alexander, F/V Cap'n J; Oxinia Odimon; Gayla Hoseth, BBNA; Cody Larson, BBNA; Debbie Carlson, Chignik Bay Tribal; Bruce Barrett, CRAA; Chuck McCallam, CRAA; Marit VanDort, Far West; Jeff Balldock, FRI; Steve Bartlic, FRI; Hank Brandel, Chignik Lagoon; Henry Erickson, Chignik Lagoon; Raymond Erickson, Chignik Lagoon; Wally Hinderer, Chignik Bay; John Jones, Chignik Lagoon, Earnie Carlson, Chignik Bay; Chickie Carlson, Chignik Bay; Mitch Borden, KDLG; Peter Anderson, Chignik Bay; Paul R. Johnson, F/V Geo J; Dale Carlson, Chignik Bay; Alana Anderson, Chignik Bay; Frank Kasheverof, F/V Defiant;

IV. Old Business: Chuck announces the Board has received BBNA resolution that includes request for an emergency petition. Forrest Bowers updated that on July 17th there is a meeting to take up another matter and it will be heard then. Also, received is a letter from a group of signatories to have the Department communicate its intent in regard to management of the subsistence fishery in Chignik. A response is being formed. But basically, there is no need to shut subsistence.
Chuck advises the AC to take its own action and form of a letter to the board for an emergency meeting. Chuck and Bruce both worked on the draft in length. Chuck introduced the letter and read two option solutions within: a conservation tie to SEDM or have a harvest preference in place.
Bruce explained that we are at 47% of escapement and we don't expect Kodiak to have any effect on Chignik escapement this year. He goes on to explain letter option details.
Raechel shares the opinion that the June 21st is a bit late and Chignik knew by June 15th that there was a problem. Al agrees 100%. The travel time from Area M is up to 7 or 8 days and the run will be lost by then. Alfredo states that the 21st is the 1st run peak in Chignik. Escapement needs to be met before any fishing group takes fish. Raechel points out the Bristol Bay component will be able to be harvested farther west in Unimak. Alfredo asto Jeff Wadle, what is caught in the last 5 days? Jeff said 140,000 sockeye S.Pen, 40,000 in the Shumagins and the rest in Unimak. Alfredo states Chignik needs those fish for escapement. Ben thinks the trend can be recognized before the 21st of June and this isn't just Chignik fish being taken but Kodiak fish also. Forrest reminds the AC that action has been taken to reduce fishing time in the S. Peninsula. Raechel said we have great appreciation for that

action and believes it is a step in the right direction. Ben points out that the majority, during the 5 days, were caught in two days and that's how fast impact can happen. Jeff Moore said he has friends in Bristol Bay and Nelson Lagoon who don't feel they have voice. They are losing their culture. Fishery is the social fabric that holds their culture together. Al asks for clarification on the closures given in Area M and addresses the perception that it didn't give much time that fishing didn't take place. Jeff Wadle explains the different periods for gear groups and that they were equally restricted. Al questions that the 80-hour period was still covered by active fishing. Jeff thinks there was some time of no fishing. Ben clarified that there was only one day that fishing didn't take place (Sunday June 24th). He doesn't see why Area M gear types have to fish separate periods in June but in July they can fish together. A one-day window doesn't fix the issue. There needs to be conservation ties as Igvak and SEDM have. We appreciate what the Department has done so far, but we need more relief. The situation has moved beyond getting a fishery in Chignik, it is needing protection of the Chignik river basic escapement.

Alfredo points out that there is no plan for this type of emergency and we need to go to the Board and get one in regulation.

Al wants to hear from subsistence users as many have hesitated to participate for concern for escapement. Raymond has yet to pursue subsistence out of concern. Henry has held off from getting subsistence because he is concerned with escapement and having usable runs in the future.
Ben asks Jeff Wadle how the determination is made or assessment is done (based on the presence of Chignik fish in Area M) to open SEDM. Jeff explains the forcast is most important to start then the factor of escapement and openings in Chignik factor in. Then the probability of catch of 300,000 and then 600,000 is assessed. Ben draws attention to the importance of having a Chignik opening proving run strength before interception takes place on Chignik stocks. Especially with the trend of weaker runs.
Discussion about the date in the solution in the emergency petition letter is discussed. It is again noted that interception could be moved farther west from Chignik to minimize impact on Chignik stocks to accommodate early June openings in Area M. It was noted the peak of the Chignik run was the 21st and that date was too late for effecting a useful protection. A member of the public stated need for data and the absurdity of picking a set date to let a interception fishery take place. The consumer wants sustainable fishery products. Bruce Barret recognizes, citing a study, that salmon travel 20 -30 miles a day. Alfredo reminds that we are at less than half of the minimum escapement. It was noted that the wealth of the run has been shared but now the pain needs to be shared as well. It needs to be recognized that Chignik has a fishery on the terminal sockeye stock. Raechel thinks the Dolgoi impact needs to be addressed concerning the 2018 low escapement since documented high levels of Chignik sockeye catch exist there.
Austin makes a motion to put the petition letter on the table. Al seconded.
Al makes a motion to change the date in the petition to the 15th.
George Anderson asks what component is expected to be present in Area M on the 15th vs. the 21st (expecting a difference). Forrest Bowers doesn't know and would like to look at documentation.
Question is called. Boris and Edgar have joined the meeting earlier and are present for the roll call vote. The motion passes unanimously.

Al voices concern about shifting fishing patterns in Area M in regard to the petition solutions. He requests the AC to take more time to study the draft petition. General agreement is given. Tribes will meet today at 3:30 p.m.. There is general discussion of the timeline to produce the petition with help from Gayla, BBNA; and CRAA while realizing urgency to make a decision.
Al suggests making a motion to recess to review petition.
Gene makes the motion to recess until noon, June 29th, 2018 (tomorrow). Rome seconded. Ben asks for unanimous consent. Motion passes.

Gary asks Ross Renick about the current male to female ratios. Ross says 52% males, 48% females.
John Jones asked for the plan for management as first to second run transition progresses. Dawn answered that there would probably be no fishing opportunity to avoid targeting early run fish. Ben asked how the timing would be estimated. Dawn answered it is based on run timing curve in the model. The change in age competition is part of the evaluation and the increase in male to female ratios. There is speculation from a member of having the same problem in 2022. Ben doesn't think the model a good fit on an atypical year like this.

Al pursues the impacts of small male spawners as were seen in 2014 and would like closer evaluation in the future.
Earnie Carlson asked about the possibility of inner bay openings. Dawn will be flying surveys soon.

Adjournment: postponed
Recessed at 11:24 p.m. until noon, June 29th, 2018

Minutes Recorded By: _Raechel Allen_____

June 29th, 2018
Chignik AC Meeting
Reconvened

I. Call to order: 12:10 p.m. by Jacob Shangin

II. Roll Call: Austin Shangin, Gene Carlson, Clinton Boskofsky, Boris Kosbruk, Marty Takak, Ben Allen, Raechel Allen, Jacob Shangin, Alfredo AbouEid, Al Anderson, Rome AbouEid, Brandon Daugherty

III. Staff Present: Jeff Wadle, Kodiak Fish and Game; Kevin Shaberg, Fish and Game; Dawn Wilburn, Chignik Management; Ross Renick, Chignik Fish and Game; Lisa Fox, Sand Point;

Guests: Kate Connely, Lake and Pen Borough; Johnney Lind, Chignik Lake; Clide Peterson, Trident; Bruce Barrett, CRAA; Chuck McCallum, CRAA; Cody Larson, BBNA; Craig Astor, Chignik Bay; Marlene Odimon; George Anderson; Dan Anderson; John Jones; Tony Gregorio; Ron Anderson; Wally Hinderer; Elliot Lind, Chignik Lake; Harry Kalmakoff; Donny Lind; Rodney Intagliata, City of Chignik; Earnie Carlson, Chignik Bay;

IV. Old Business: The latest draft (#8) of the Emergency Petition is introduced. The AC committee to address the letter was asked for any additional comment. There was none. Al makes a motion to accept Draft #8 as written with the exception of minor grammatical changes. Alfredo seconds. Gary calls question. Ben requests unanimous consent. Motion passes.

V. Other Business: Joint Resolution 2018-02, Further conservation of Chignik Drainage Sockeye Stocks, made by Perryville, Ivanof, and the City of Chignik is introduced. Alfredo made a motion to support Joint Resolution 2018-02. Al seconds. Open discussion.
John Jones asks Staff if 40 hrs and 40 hrs between gear types, with 40 hours removed from each, did in fact give only one full day in June with no gear in the water in Area M. Jeff Wadle verified that. He explained the June periods are done. Lisa Fox verified the first July period is 33 hrs. and the rest 36 hrs. with 60-hour closures and all gear types in the water together.
Alfredo inquires what sockeye catches are in Area M thru last midnight. Lisa responded: Shumagins 404,189; S. Unimak 397,135; Dolgoi 8,345. Alfredo believes that 800,000 is high in light of Chignik not fishing.

Ben asks Staff when will Area M resume fishing and at what point do we start looking at the Area M effect on the second run with the first run. Is the Department poised to act. Lisa says it will start with an immature test fishery and then will open July 6th for 33 hours. Jeff asks Ben to restate his question. Ben asks what the Department plans to do if we have the same issue on the second run. Jeff states he doesn't have a good answer for the second part of the question. It is a day to day strategy, obviously if the run didn't come in, Chignik would be restricted but he doesn't see further restrictions of Area M beyond SEDM.

The chair redirects to the motion.
Alfredo requests unanimous consent. Motion to support Joint Resolution 2018-02 passes.

Chuck asks (on behalf of Patrick) about the change yesterday in allocation on the daily escapement report between 1st and 2nd run. Dawn explained that the sockeye run now appeared to be weak but on time and not late and so the escapement numbers were moved back to reflect thatand the numbers were reallocated. Chuck restates the importance of GSI to accurately evaluate on this unusual year.
George asks when the Department will stop counting first run. Dawn said it is considered 100% late run on August 3rd. It is asked when management will switch from 1st run management to late run. Dawn said it is hard to give a specific date but even if late run goals were being met, if significant amounts of 1st run was still coming in, then the fishery would remain closed. Bruce asked about the average catch in Area M July 6th given the presence of given the presence of Chignik sockeye. Lisa will get the data.
Bruce cites salmon travel at 32 miles a day and figures 5-6 days away from weir.
Was GSI sample taken? Jeff states the present plan to evaluate samples post season. Bruce believes even getting 2-3 samples together early would be helpful and sees opportunity to avoid lost harvest time. Jeff says the Department does not see a need for in season analysis given current escapement levels. Chuck considers GSI to be valuable information and CRAA offered to help with logistics getting samples to lab.
Alfredo says we need GSI in season. Pink and Chum won't be enough to carry the people in Chignik.
Rodney Intagliata finds it unacceptable to wait for GSI results post season and states the City and others will get funds if needed to assist. He thanks the Department for their participation in the meeting.
Tony believes [with emphasis] that post-season analysis won't affect any outcomes where in season analysis might.
Bruce asks what the downside of taking samples would be. Jeff says there is no downside, but it doesn't appear to have any effect on management with under escapement. Bruce hears him saying that they assume the second run will be weak, too.
Alfredo states we can't afford mistakes and villages can be destroyed. We have no other fisheries to depend on.
Al wonders if the past GSI studies mattered. Dawn said the data was included in the present model. Bruce doesn't believe the model is suitable to 2018.

Elliot Lind says we have cleaned out the first run over the years and now have to hammer on the second run and then the fish and game took 150,000 off the second run escapement goals and he believes we are now feeling those effects.
Rome asks about the cutoff between runs and if we are going to be sitting on the beach. Dawn states high probability of closure to escape as many early run fish as possible. The 100% cutoff is August 3rd. It was asked how the cutoff is decided. Dawn answered that it is based on the model.
Al makes a motion to have AC make a strong recommendation letter urging the Department to use the GSI in season. Ben seconded. Ben recommends it states they are neglecting to do their job appropriately and holding off to have plausible deniability and neglecting to use current data. We have stood down from fishing in the past and the GSI showed it was a good decision.
Tony remembers times in past where Department staff wondered why Chignik didn't try to help and now they don't want it.
Alfedo would appreciate the accuracy of the GSI in season.
Question is called. Rome requests unanimous consent.
Jacob and Raechel will draft the letter.
Alfredo asks the Department to please save our escapement; save our run.
It was asked what the plan was for inner bay fishing. Dawn said it can open as early as the 6th and they will be flying. Any opening would be well inside bays.
There is a request to the Department for keeping the fleet up to date on info.
Ben asks for clarification that based on earlier statements by staff and that even though Area M will be fishing, and using our model, that we won't fish in July on sockeye.
Dawn answered that is probably correct. Jeff also said it was correct that there were no plans to restrict the Area M fishery.
Lisa Fox stated that the information isn't broken into areas but 65,841 is the average S.Pen harvest on the July 6th and 7th.
Ray Erickson asks for clarification of what a "significant amount" of early run escapement is that would keep Chignik closed in July. Dawn says it's not specific but if there is 1000's of first run sockeye in a day, it would be kept closed.
Tony asks what part of the escapement range they were shooting for. Dawn answered mid-range.

Adjournment: 1:30 p.m.

Minutes Recorded By: _Raechel Allen_____
Minutes Approved By: __Jacob Shagin_____
Date: ____7/7/18_____