

**AC Comments for Statewide Finfish, Supplemental Issues,
Subsistence Finding Standards, and Chitina Dipnet Fishery**

March 16 - 21, 2010
Hilton Hotel, Anchorage

Seldovia AC1
King Cove AC2
Delta AC3
Fairbanks AC4
Anchorage AC5
Stony Holitna AC6
Copper River/PWS AC7
Wrangell AC8
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Central Peninsula AC12
Copper River/PWS AC13
Saxman AC14
Mataunuska Valley AC15
Sitka AC16
Fairbanks AC17
Anchorage AC18

Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2009

Members Present: Keith Gain, Walt Sonen, Michael Opheim, Robert Purpura, Warren Brown

Members Absent Excused: Tim P. Dillon, Bryan Chartier, Dave Chartier, Alvin Swick, Herman Moonin, Paul Chissus

Public Present: Jere Murray, Sandy Murray, Nancy Hillstrand, Tim Dillon (CM), Mike Miller, Matt Gallien.

RECEIVED

The meeting began at the Community Room at 7:15 pm

DEC 23 2009

Elections were held with the following results: Robert Purpura, Walt Sonen, Bryan Chartier, and Dave Chartier for three year seats; Mike Miller for a two year seat; Matt Gallien and Keith Gain for one year alternate seats.

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

Officer Elections were held with the following results: Keith Gain for Chair
Robert Purpura for Vice Chair
Paul Chissus for Secretary

Discussion of a non-voting student representative – Paul Chissus was nominated to talk to the students about this opportunity and if there is interest among the students, they can nominate and elect a representative for them.

Public Testimony:

Jere Murray – Brought Prop 41 that will be discussed at the Statewide BOG meeting to the attention of the AC concerning salvage of edible meat. It is a tricky issue. Caribou herds across North America are generally declining with only two herds increasing. Once the herd exceeds its carrying capacity they crash.

The Seldovia AC can take this up prior to the January 15th comment deadline.

BOG-

Nancy Hillstrand testified about the sea duck proposal 52. She has been putting this type of proposal in to the Board since 1985 and with her extensive travel in Kachemak Bay she has noticed a decline in the number of birds out on the water. In 1995, the halibut charter businesses began increasing revenues by adding sea duck hunting. In Sadie Cove, she has witnessed the decline of the birds and the operations taking 100 birds per day. They have completely wiped out Sadie Cove, where she used to wake to the sound of the sea ducks and go to sleep to their sounds. A friend told her about his experience harvesting the birds, but realized the impact they were having. People have been doing combo packages, with deer / sea duck and bear / sea duck packages. Sea ducks are an extremely different animal than land ducks. The Labrador duck is now extinct. The spectacle and stellar eiders are in serious decline (95%). The long tail duck is declined by 70%. Scoter and common eiders are down 50%. They wait till they are 2-3 years old

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before reproducing. It has been difficult because no one is listening to what she is seeing occur before her very eyes. The charter operators can decide in one year to increase their revenue, offering "cast and blast" packages where you can do both fishing and hunting. She has lots of information – surveys from Canada showing the declining trends, which is all they really have to compare. It is up to us to do something to help the birds. The Advisory Committees are stewards of our resources. Otherwise, there will be more animals on the endangered species act. When the ADF&G managers do surveys, they are not species specific. When they say golden eye – is it ferris or common golden eye? We don't know. Wintering grounds for these birds is very different. Perhaps with her own personal involvement in the declines of crab and shrimp in the Bay – they have learned a lesson and don't want to repeat that mistake with these other resources. People will continue to exploit the resource, as revenues in other areas decrease.

Harvest data is not species specific and more biology of these birds is needed. A management plan for Kachmak Bay is warranted. How many birds are needed for trophy hunting? Is shotgun the best weapon for harvest? She asked the Seldovia AC for their input. The birds have great site fidelity, unless they find that it is not safe, similar to rock fish. There are migrant birds and there are resident birds. She is more concerned about the resident birds. We don't even know what the exploitation rate is. What is the sustainable mortality rate on these birds?

Sea Duck Joint Venture Strategic Plan 2008 – 2012 (December 2008) A North American Waterfowl Management Plan Conservation Partnership (ADF&G is a partner in this and Seldovia AC asked for a copy of the report).

Jere Murray – He ate quite a few scoters in the past and has also witnessed the declines over the years. He also doesn't hear the birds like he used to. There are a few harlequin, but he hates to think of an Alaska that is like much of the Lower 48. Nancy is not anti-hunting, but is genuinely concerned about the population. Some ideas of reducing the harvest could include a daily harvest limit, bag limit from eight to two and no one is even considering the problem by species. Jere also spoke about site fidelity with ptarmigan. There used to be lots of ptarmigan on the bluffs. They used to be in Caribou Hills. These birds are faithful to the place where they were born.

BOF **Statewide finfish proposals comments:**

Proposal 165

Action: Support 7 - 0

Comments: There are not escapement goals on all the waters throughout the state. An erosion is occurring with the personal use fishery and it's gaining an upper hand over sport, subsistence and commercial. While there are no qualms against personal use fishery, they are allowed to fish regardless of what else is happening in other fisheries. The current management of this fishery is allowing the personal use to take precedence over commercial fishing. The numbers that are allowed for dipnetting (a family of six could harvest 90 fish) to a member of the public that participated in this fishery, felt were very liberal. That would be a difficult number of fish to process, so in fact he never actually took that many fish. Dipnetting began as a way to prevent over-escapement and

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moving back toward that original concept would be acceptable. The concept of subsistence, commercial and sport are acceptable. Considering that every citizen of the state of Alaska has the right to harvest fish in this fishery is also a concern. A lower bag limit seems reasonable. People have observed waste, it is completely unregulated. The dipnet fishery when it began took about 50,000 fish. It is now estimated to take 500,000 between the Kasilof and the Kenai River and with state managing for maximum escapement and maximum returns, they have further devalued the commercial fishery. They are essentially harvesting what the commercial fishery used to.

Proposal 178 - 179

Action:

Emergency Order Authority

Comments: May be addressed at a subsequent meeting. 178 seems pretty straightforward. 179 is very complicated.

BOG Statewide game proposals comments

Proposal 41

Action:

Comments: May be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

Proposal 52

Action: Opposed 0-7

Comments: Concern of blaming hunters as the primary responsible party is of concern. The proposal seems to be directed at one person. We have seen a decline in birds. Now that we don't have the eagle's being fed. Eagles also have preyed on ducks. There used to be a lot more murre around. Their demise did not come from over-hunting. There was some discussion about the oil spill in PWS and that the harlequin is the only species that is still having trouble re-habiting. We, as an AC have witnessed declines and it behooves us to take action, where appropriate. We have some good waterfowl biologists in Alaska. One of the lead biologists hunts in the area. Birds have wings and they move. One of the members here is the only guide that takes sea ducks. He believes the proposal is aimed directly at him. There is agreement to keep an eye on this issue.

King salmon stocking program has been a total failure in Seldovia and the committee would prefer they put it back in the harbor. The mortality rate has increased, rather than decreased.

Motion to plant the king salmon smolt in the harbor. 2nd. It is a waste of the resource. There is a cost associated with this program. It is believed that Seldovia has been getting a grant to cover costs associated with this program. There may be a bit more cost with planting the smolt in the harbor, but good returns is the goal. A motion by this committee may spur conversations with those who manage this fishery. Buck will write a letter which can be forwarded to the Homer AC, and CIAA. Smolt mortality getting into the tide water has been pretty high. The timing of release has not been with high waters,

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causing many of the smolt released to get eaten by the birds as it lays on the shoreline. There were a couple of years that the smolt was reduced substantially. We will discuss this further with ADF&G. Motion approved to send the letter.

Mike Miller expressed concern about the endangered species designation for belugas in Cook Inlet. It may be over-reaching effort of "save the animal" type groups that don't really know what they are talking about. Comments should be addressed to NOAA.

Motion to support Seldovia city sport fishing stairway wishlist project. 2nd and approved.

BoF →

A suggestion that one page in the beginning of the Board of Fisheries proposal books be devoted to a glossary of abbreviations was made. There are many proposals that include abbreviations that even long time fishermen aren't sure about. This would be helpful.

The Seldovia AC will hold its next meeting Dec 15th at 7 pm at the Community Building to prepare comments on fishing and hunting issues. A letter to the Board of Game regarding Proposal 52, and the Beluga endangered species designation will be discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

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Seldovia Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2009

Members Present: Keith Gain, Robert Purpura, Bryan Chartier, Walt Sonen, Mike Miller and Dave Chartier was in attendance via phone hook up.

Members Absent or Excused: Tim Dillon, Matt Gallien, Alvin Swick, Herman Moonin, Michael Opheim, and Warren Brown

Public Present: Tim Dillon (City Manager)

RECEIVED

The meeting began at the Community Room at 7:15 pm

DEC 23 2009

Public Testimony: None

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

BOG -

Statewide game proposals comments

Letters from Warren Brown concerning Proposal 52 that are to be submitted to the Board of Game were read and approved. The Seldovia AC voted unanimously (0-7) to oppose Prop 52 at the December 8th meeting; letters will be forwarded to the necessary agencies.

BoF -

Statewide finfish proposals comments:

Proposal 175 Action: Support 6-0
Comments: Walt Sonen shared the same concerns as the Sitka AC with declining stocks that it would be prudent to establish bag limits for this valuable resource.

Proposal 176 Action: Support 6-0
Comments: There is definitely an abundance of spiny dogfish.

Proposal 184 Action: Support 6-0
Comments: Robert Purpura said he worked as a chef at a hunting & fishing lodge for ten years and during that time he witnessed fishermen from all over the world with these felt sole shoes sometimes coming directly from abroad to our streams. The odds of contamination from outside should be taken seriously.

Proposal 188 Action: Support 6-0
Comments: Simplify regulations as much as possible to make them consistent between the different agencies managing the fisheries.

Proposal 190 Action: Opposed 0-6
Comments: The retention of halibut by crewmembers on charter boats has been an issue in the past and has very little support by most people outside the charter business. Abuse of this practice has been widely documented in the past.

Bryan Chartier presented a letter to the Seldovia AC requesting support in resolving an issue with a set net site located in the Seldovia sub district of lower Cook Inlet. He has

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been notified by the DNR that this site may be over the line an undetermined amount of feet and will have to be moved. He state's that the site is currently leased from the State and has been for over 25 years (ADL 225421). The site in question has been fished for over 45 years counting the two previous owners (Mike Balough & Tony Marten). During all these years this site has been active no question ever arose that would lead him or anyone else to believe that they were out of compliance with ADF&G regulations. During a disputed with a disgruntle up land owner over moorage access this issue came to the forefront even though it had no bearing on the up landowner's problem. Bryan also stated that he and his father, Dave Chartier, have made substantial investments in salmon and halibut relying heavily on their set net sites' ability to produce enough revenue to make payments on outstanding obligations.

Comments: The Seldovia AC board voted unanimously (6-0) to petition the BOF to make whatever adjustment to the line off Point Naskowhak that will allow the Chartier's to continue to fish a site that they have historically leased & fished for over 25 years. Keith Gain states that we are not asking for anything new but to allow the status quo to prevail and that a favorable decision will impact no one. Walt Sonen pointed out the shore fishery plat's long lats are recorded in minutes and seconds while the commercial fishing regulations are recorded in decimals of minutes only. Robert Purpura stated that he knows of another situation in lower Cook Inlet where the regulatory marker set by ADF&G was incorrect by over 1800 feet leading him to wonder what interactions the different agencies have with one another (BOF, ADF&G Homer, Fish & Wildlife enforcement and the DNR). Keith Gain has requested that we find out from Sherry Wright (ADF&G) what the procedure is for petitioning the BOF to take up areas out of cycle in order to try to resolve the issue before next season.

Mike Miller obtained more information off the Internet about the endangered species designation for belugas in Cook Inlet but due to the length of the document (258 pages) more time will be needed to write our comments to NOAA. Other member of the AC board are concerned with how all this will pan out with commercial fishing in Cook Inlet. It does not appear to the Seldovia AC board that the species are prone to interaction with either the drift fleet or the set net fishery. All present agreed that the species are stressed and something needs to be done.

Another letter was read taking up the matter of the King salmon smolt release program location that was discussed at the December 8th meeting requesting a change back to releasing smolt in the Seldovia harbor instead of at the dam site; letter will be forwarded to the necessary agencies

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

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JAN 12 2010

King Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee BOARDS.

Monday, December 28, 2009 @ 9:00AM

King Cove Harbor House

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chairman Grant Newton called meeting to order at 9:00AM

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Grant Newton
 Kenneth Mack
 Edwin Bendixen
 Alvin Newman
 Bill Sager
 Warren Wilson
 Gary Mack

Members Absent: Corey Wilson
 Joe Hogan

Harbor Master and other members of the community were present.

3. Approval of minutes from April 7, 2009 meeting

Minutes were read and approved

4. New Business

A. Election-Floor was opened for nominations to fill 3 expiring seats on the committee. Nominations were Kenneth Mack, Edwin Bendixen, and Bill Sager. All nominations were unanimously confirmed.

B. Review proposals for the 2010 fish board meetings.

1. Groundfish

101-support-Clarifies description of South Alaska Peninsula Area and adjacent Bering Sea/Aleutian Isl. Area.-Housekeeping

102-support-Repeal groundfish regs that allow harvest in S AK Pen, Bering Sea/Aleutian Isl, and Chukchi/Beaufort Areas at any time-This will reflect what is being done in practice.

103,104-support-58' vessel limit to harvest cod in state waters during Fed/State 610 parallel season-Bering Sea crab rationalization and the lack of LLP requirement allows larger than 58' vessels to fish in state waters before moving on to other fisheries.

105-support-Prohibit longline gear in state waters of S Pen during Fed/State 610 season-S Pen Fed/State 610 season has seen higher catches by big catcher/processors over the past

years that are capable of moving on to the Bering Sea p cod fishery. These larger catches have reduced catches of pot and trawl vessels from the local communities during the 610 season. This proposal and others limiting size of vessels and types of gear are meant to not only help local fishermen but also to keep the communities' tax revenues from going out of area.

106-support-Implement a 60 pot 5 jig machine limit in state waters for the Fed 610 cod season-The AC Committee prefers 58' limits and longline restrictions in state waters but supports this proposal as another way to make the area less attractive to larger non local vessels. On the other hand it was pointed out that these regs if adopted only in Western Gulf could cause an influx of 58' vessels from other state fisheries.

107-no action-this proposal was unclear to the committee.

108,109-support-50% of Fed WGOA TAC be the GHF for the Area M p cod season-The support for these proposals was strong by pot only vessels and mixed by trawl/pot vessels. Again without limited entry in the state water fishery that follows the Fed 610 season this could cause it to be one of the most \$\$\$\$ fisheries in the state for 58' vessels.

110-support-Implement a 7-day stand down to fish the Area M state cod fishery after leaving any Fed cod fishery-Looking for parity in all 58' vessels' opportunity to compete for limited cod resources.

111-support-Close Unalaska Bay to Pollock trawling during Bering Sea B season.

112,113-No Action

114-oppose-Allow larger than 60' vessels to fish in state waters cod fishery.

2.Salmon/Finfish

115-support-Salmon processors and buyers require participation in chum pool for South Unimak/Shumagin Isl June Salmon Fishery-Chum pools help to reduce chum catches by removing the individual gain for high catches of chums.

116-oppose-Reinstating 8.3% allocation of pre-season BB sockeye forecast.

117-support-Allow 120 mesh gear for drift and setnet during June fishery.

118,119,120,121,124-support-Some increase in harvest opportunity for all gear types in Post-June South Peninsula Fishery-Considering weather, tide timing, and darkness the 6/24hr and 3/36hr openings for the entire month of July do not provide adequate harvest opportunity of salmon that have been a part of the fishery in the past. Seiners are limited to daylight fishing and gillnetters (set & drift) are not as efficient at night but mostly need time as they are typically not big hit harvesters. The short openers restrict movement for all gear and add expenses (fuel & overhead) to get to and return from fishing areas. These

do or die openers often create safety issues when weather is a factor. The committee prefers a change that gives all gear types some increased opportunity. If proposal 119 was to include drift gillnet it might be a starting place.

122,123-oppose-Allow set gillnet more time in July-The committee prefers a change that gives all gear types some increased opportunity.

125-support-Allow the opportunity for all terminal areas to be opened by emergency order after July 6 if the department has escapements-No need to restrict the possibility of emergency openings in terminal areas by calendar.

126-support-Allow emergency opening post June for all South Peninsula Districts except Unimak-This allows for emergency openings within districts that the department deems to warrant more harvest opportunity.

127-support-repeal immature salmon test fishery or raise the threshold-Shumagins are not the only place in state where immatures may occur yet the only place in state where a test fishery exists.

128-oppose-Determine immature threshold differently and allow make up fishing time for closures due to immature presence-Not a problem figuring threshold differently, but fishing is allowed in other areas when tested areas are closed.

129-support-Allow fishing in October

130-support-Allow 150 mesh gillnets in Post June Fishery

131 to 141-no action

142,143-support-Open Dorenoi Bay before July 25-Surrounding areas can be opened.

144-support-Allow opening in Stepovak Bay after July 28

145,146-oppose-Change openings in Cinder River/Port Heiden/Ilnik Sections.

147,148,149,150,151,152-Oppose-In the Northern District restrict openings/institute windows/manage on BB escapements/close outer Port Heiden-The Outer Port Heiden and Ilnik Sections are managed on escapements in those areas. There are provisions already in place for fishing restrictions if Ugashik escapements are low. Some percentage of Northern District sockeye are harvested in the BB salmon fishery. All Northern District sockeye systems have been meeting their escapement goals and the BB runs and harvest have been strong.

153-oppose-Allow seine gear in Ilnik-The department already has the ability to handle over escapement.

154-oppose-Reduce gillnet gear to 45 mesh in Northern District-These local systems mentioned have been meeting their escapement goals. This is not a conservation issue. The cost to the fishermen of the Northern District would be expensive with no quantified effect regarding escapements.

155,156-oppose-Allow set gillnet in Outer Port Heiden Section-Set gillnet would cause gear conflict

157-support-Pivot Outer Port Heiden north fishing line so it is perpendicular to beach- This enables a more orderly line fishery to occur.

158-Oppose-Allow seine to harvest allotted herring gillnet quota.

159-No Action-Allow seine in Adak Herring Fishery.

160,161,162-oppose-Allow set gillnet longer fishing gear.

163-No Action-Fresh water King limits.

3.Statewide Finfish

164-Oppose-With the abundance of salmon in the Area M region reducing subsistence to 40 vs the now 250 is unreasonable and inadequate to meet subsistence needs.

C. Committee and Public Discussion-Alvin Newman had attended the latest NPMC meeting regarding gear splits for Fed P-cod. The up coming tanner crab season in Area M was discussed with questions about legal cod trawl gear being aboard during tanner fishing. Unanimous decision for Grant Newton to attend Feb Alaska Board of Fish Meetings.

5.Adjournment 11:30AM

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BOARDS

Delta Advisory Committee vote on 2009 Fisheries Proposals

- Proposal#49, 9-0 support
- Proposal#50, 9-0 support
- Proposal#51, 9-0 support
- Proposal#53, 9-0 support
- Proposal#58, 0-9 oppose
- Proposal#59, 0-9 oppose
- Proposal#60, 0-9 oppose
- Proposal#61, 9-0 support
- Proposal#62, 9-0 support
- Proposal#100, 9-0 support
- Proposal#184, 9-0 support
- Proposal#189, 0-9-1 oppose

R. Statain



RECEIVED
JAN 19 2010
BOARDS

January 19, 2010

Mr. Vince Webster, Chairman
PO Box 121
King Salmon, Alaska 99613

Dear Mr. Webster,

I am writing on behalf of the Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee to suggest a course of action to comply with the instructions from the Court to appropriately classify the Chitina Dipnet fishery. Thousands of Chitina dipnetters are constituents of our AC. The AC is very concerned with media statements made by Assistant Attorney General Nelson. Mr. Nelson stated that the fish board would just "fix it all" at the March meeting in Anchorage. We request that the Board discuss how to provide a remedy that could clarify some of the smoke and mirrors around the eight criteria used by BOTH the Board of Fish and the Board of Game, and not just focus on developing an objective definition of "the subsistence way of life". Please consider adding a discussion on "how to proceed" during the Fairbanks Board of Fish meeting scheduled for January 26 - 31, 2010.

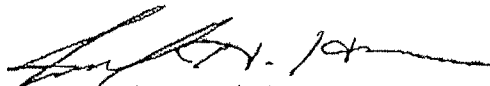
The best solution for the review ordered by the judge would be a longer term evaluation of what is needed to clarify these regulations so that future C&T determinations by the Boards are not subject to inconsistent applications and repeated (mostly successful) legal challenges. This would include participation by the Joint Boards, Advisory Committees and the public. The issue of subsistence evaluation has been a major problem for both boards. By applying different language over the years the state has been back and forth to court many times. Would it not be a significant improvement to seek a long term agreeable solution rather than a "quick fix"? A "quick fix", in the present issue one that resulted in a hasty reclassification back to personal use, would also very likely embroil the Board in further litigation.

The Chitina dipnet fishery as been reclassified over the cycles, yet the allocation has never changed because of a reclassification. The admonition to the media that the board needed to "fix it" prior to the 2010 season is not correct and suggests that the Attorney General's office has a predetermined outcome in mind. There is no "down side" for the Board to respect that the 1999 positive C&T determination for Chitina is currently the law. The Board should respect that decision as it works constructively with the Board of Game and the public in developing the criteria in 5 AAC 99.010(b)(1-8). The goal is to ensure that future decisions of both Boards are well grounded in law and not subject to continued reversals by the court system.

The Board of Game will be meeting at the same time as your Fairbanks meeting which could provide the opportunity for both of you to discuss a process to solve the problems. Please note that I have included Chairman Judkins in the copies list for this letter. The Fairbanks AC voted to send this letter to ask your cooperation in finding a real solution that would make application of the amended criteria "work" for both Boards.

This is an important issue to the present and future boards who need to have a clear set of criteria with well defined objective terms that comply with the law. We recommend that you consider the opportunity to do it right and not worry about doing it "fast". As we pointed out previously, there is no management action or allocation issue action that would be required if the Board took its time and involved the public in a Joint Board process.

By copy of this letter we are asking the Department and the Legislature to support our request for a well thought out, reasoned approach. If there is anything we can do to assist you in your discussions on how to proceed, please let me know.



Raymond Heuer, Chairman
Fairbanks AC

Cc: Governor Sean Parnell
Attorney General Daniel Sullivan
Commissioner Denby Lloyd
Chairman Cliff Judkins
Senator Charlie Huggins
Aaron Bloomquist, Anchorage AC
Rod Arno Alaska Outdoor Council
Dane Crowley Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Aaron Bloomquist, Chair
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Anchorage, AK 99502
Home: 907-677-0405
Cell: 907-982-2471
Email: bloomya@hotmail.com

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January 21, 2010
Mr. Vince Webster, Chairman
PO Box 121
King Salmon, Alaska 99613

JAN 21 2010

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

Dear Mr. Webster,

I am writing on behalf of the Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee to suggest a course of action to comply with the instructions from the Court to appropriately classify the Chitina Dipnet fishery. Thousands of Chitina dipnetters are constituents of our AC. The AC is very concerned with media statements made by Assistant Attorney General Nelson. Mr. Nelson stated that the fish board would just "fix it all" at the March meeting in Anchorage. We request that the Board discuss how to provide a remedy that could clarify some of the smoke and mirrors around the eight criteria used by BOTH the Board of Fish and the Board of Game, and not just focus on developing an objective definition of "the subsistence way of life". Please consider adding a discussion on "how to proceed" during the Fairbanks Board of Fish meeting scheduled for January 26 - 31, 2010.

The best solution for the review ordered by the judge would be a longer term evaluation of what is needed to clarify these regulations so that future C&T determinations by the Boards are not subject to inconsistent applications and repeated (mostly successful) legal challenges. This would include participation by the Joint Boards, Advisory Committees and the public. The issue of subsistence evaluation has been a major problem for both boards. By applying different language over the years the state has been back and forth to court many times. Would it not be a significant improvement to seek a long term agreeable solution rather than a "quick fix"? A "quick fix", in the present issue one that resulted in a hasty reclassification back to personal use, would also very likely embroil the Board in further litigation.

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The Board of Game will be meeting at the same time as your Fairbanks meeting which could provide the opportunity for both of you to discuss a process to solve the problems. Please note that I have included Chairman Judkins in the copies list for this letter. The Anchorage AC voted to send this letter to ask your cooperation in finding a real solution that would make application of the amended criteria "work" for both Boards.

This is an important issue to the present and future boards who need to have a clear set of criteria with well defined objective terms that comply with the law. We recommend that you consider the opportunity to do it right and not worry about doing it "fast". As we pointed out previously, there is no management action or allocation issue action that would be required if the Board took its time and involved the public in a Joint Board process.

By copy of this letter we are asking the Department and the Legislature to support our request for a well thought out, reasoned approach. If there is anything we can do to assist you in your discussions on how to proceed, please let me know.

This is a copy of a letter originally submitted by the Fairbanks Advisory Committee, the Anchorage Advisory Committee voted 13-0-1 to support this letter.

Aaron Bloomquist
Chair Anchorage AC

Cc:

Director Jim Marcotte
Director Kristy Tibbles
Governor Sean Parnell
Attorney General Daniel Sullivan
Commissioner Dennby Lloyd
Chairman Cliff Judkins
Senator McGuire
Senator Wielechowski
Representative Johnson
Representative Neumann

**Comments by the
Stony Holitna F&G Advisory Committee (SHAC)
to the
Alaska Board of Fisheries Statewide Finfish Meeting
March 16-21, 2010**

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BOARDS**

Proposal 165 – OPPOSE

This might be appropriate on some rivers, but should not be applied statewide. On longer rivers, like the Kuskokwim, by the time escapement goals are reached, salmon runs will have passed by, and people on the lower river would catch very little.

Proposal 169 – OPPOSE

Subsistence has a priority over other uses statewide. Some areas of the state have much higher sport and commercial use than others.

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FEB 17 2010

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

January 26, 2010

Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee

PWSAC Conference Room - 7 p.m.

Attending: All AC members present except Vic Jones, Troy Tirrell, John Bocci

Public Comment: Bruce Cain shared a delta moose management proposal he wanted AC feedback on asking for support to increase harvest ranges. Deferred to later on agenda.

Old Business:

Dusky Geese update:

Tom Carpenter informed the committee the Western flyway Group will be meeting in Portland on March 1st. He has summarized our earlier comments to USFWS, and will be forwarding them to the Group. Tim Joyce USFS reported on conversations his agency has had with the flyway Alaska representative; the Queen Charlotte Island and BC out-of-season hunting is still troubling to regulators & researchers.

Delta Moose survey updates: Dave Crowley ADFG Cordova

Surveys were flown in November for 6C West (26 males/100 cows) and 6C (West Delta) (15 males/100 cows). Hasn't flown 6A East or 6B Martin Valley. Overall, numbers were good (300 counted; last year 388 at this time). There will be no cow permits this year other than in the federal subsistence draw.

Annual reauthorization of the antlerless moose hunt in 6C - Passed unanimously (11-0)

BOG Interior →

New Business:

Update on the BOF/Chitna Reclassification: Tom Carpenter updated members on details of the recent ruling requiring the BOF to revisit the 2003 subsistence classification of the Chitna Subdistrict on the Copper River. The Board will be briefed by the Department of Law at the fairbanks AYK meeting, and a proposal will be issued to revisit the classification at the March statewide finfish meeting in Anchorage. The AC agreed to draft a letter to the BOF chair requesting a public hearing on the issue in Cordova prior to the March meeting in order to take public comment from folks unable to travel.

BOF SW →

Student Representative on the AC: The AC voted unanimously to invite a high school student to attend AC meetings as a non-voting member with one-year terms. Mrs. Hollowell at CHS will be contacted to gauge student interest.

Statewide Finfish Comments: Copies of the statewide finfish proposal pertaining to PWS were made available to members. AC comments, if needed, will be discussed at the next meeting. Comments are due March 1, 2010. Will try to have local ADFG staff on hand for next meeting to address staff comments.

Next Meeting Date: February 16, 2010

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 p.m.

ACTIONS OF THE WRANGELL FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AT IT'S MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2010

Members Present: Tom Sims Brennon Eagle David Rak
(14) Janice Churchill Chris Guggenbickler Robert Rooney
Bill Knecht John Yeager Brian Merritt
Alan Reeves Mike Bauer Otto Florschutz
Winston J. Davies Marlin Benedict

The meeting was called to order by Tom Sims, Committee Chair at about 7 PM.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- The Chair is seeking an AC member to attend the Federal Subsistence meeting in Ketchikan March 16-18, 2010. The State will pay travel expenses.
- The Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council application deadline for membership has been extended. Robert Larson is seeking an applicant from Wrangell.
- The Chair reads direction from the State on the purpose of the State's ACs. Point number five includes advice to the Federal RACs.
- The Chair reported on the recent SSRAA board meeting: a new seat on the board; finances for 2010; fisheries rotations will be set at the March meeting; a prediction of rough times addressing allocation issues; comments to the RPT are needed prior to the planning team meeting; see the seafa.org web site for minutes to the meeting; the SSRAA report on where SSRAA fish were caught by location and week during the 2009 season is available on line at ssraa.org.
- The Chair reported the Wrangell indoor shooting range is open on Tuesday night at 7 PM for youth.
- John Yeager reported the Lost-at-Sea Memorial: alternatives have been prioritized, seven sites have been identified for selection; workshop on 2/4/10 at 6 PM prior to 7 PM meeting of the Wrangell Port Commission; Kirk Garbish will be contacted for ideas on memorial design.
- The Chair has contacted Monti Bunes about a HS student who would be paid to take minutes at AC meetings.
- The State of Alaska posts the Wrangell AC meeting minutes on the internet as a .pdf
- Brennon reported on the meeting of the gill net task force meeting. The Feds are seeking candidate streams for rehabilitation from logging. Are there any streams in the Wrangell area, such as the Bradfield River? It is expected that rehabilitation work in the Bradfield would require big machines, helicopters, logs and money. Construction of the AK-BC electrical intertie would bring some of those resources in that area.

STATE OF ALASKA GAME PROPOSALS

Following are the results of the Wrangell Advisory Committee actions on the proposals presented in the Alaska Board of Fisheries 2009/2010 Proposed Changes In The Statewide General Finfish Provisions; and Supplemental Issues. Listed here are the proposals for Statewide General Finfish Provisions the Wrangell Committee chose to consider during its meeting.

Proposals #164 & 165 NO ACTION
Comments: No Comments

Proposal #166 OPPOSITION
Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Brennon
Number in favor: 0
Number opposed: 14
Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would eliminate the requirement of having a sport fishing license to personal use fish. In the State of Alaska a license is required for taking fish or game, and personal use fishing is a taking, so a license should be required. Enforcement of harvest regulations would be less if a license was not required.

Proposal #167 SUPPORT
Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris
Number in favor: 14
Number opposed: 0
Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would modify the definition of a mechanical jigging machine. Clarifying the definition of a jigging machine would help to deal with the past harvest abuse in the Chatham Straits fishery.

Proposal #168 OPPOSITION
Motion to adopt by: Rob Second by: Chris
Number in favor: 4
Number opposed: 8
Number abstaining: 2

Comments: This proposal would repeal the length limit on salmon seine vessels. Mega seiners could be more efficient in catching salmon and have an advantage, and could eliminate tenders or jobs aboard tenders.

Minority Report: The seine catch is limited by the length of the seine net and fishing time. Having a longer boat would not change the seine gear or the fishing time. A longer seine boat will not catch more fish, so if a person wants a longer boat, it should be OK to do so.

Proposal #169 OPPOSITION
Motion to adopt by: Rob Second by: Chris
Number in favor: 0
Number opposed: 14
Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would amend the criteria for the allocation of fishery resources among personal use, sport and commercial fisheries. The actions in the proposal are not clear as it includes many undefined terms. The proposal is a bit scary as it represents a change in allocation philosophy and the new philosophy is not clear on the proposal. The action could reinvent the allocation process. The current BOF members are different from the BOF members who made the current allocation regulations.

Proposal #170 NO ACTION

Comments: The proposal would clarify regulations establishing escapement goals. The proposal also deals with the issue of the management of sustainable salmon fisheries.

Proposals #171, 172 & 173 NO ACTION

Comments: No Comments

Proposal #174 OPPOSITION

Motion to adopt by: Brennon Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 14

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would amend lawful gear for groundfish. The regulation changes would be better if made as needed, area by area, not State wide. The changes are currently needed only in certain areas, and SEAK is not one of the areas needing the new groundfish regulations.

Proposal #175 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Otto

Number in favor: 14

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would establish bag limits for sablefish. The nonresident harvest of blackcod is a newly created fishery on a fully allocated resource, and needs regulation. The proposal would put a needed State wide nonresident annual bag limit on blackcod.

Proposal #176 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Brennon Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 14

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would increase the bag limit for spiny dogfish. Dogfish are not a true shark and should not be regulated as a shark. There is a very large biomass of dogfish in SEAK and it is not being commercially harvested. The take of dogfish should be more liberal and the bag limit should increase. Dogfish are a predator on juvenile salmon. Dogfish management is needed where salmon stocks are depleted. Currently there is little management of dogfish, and this is a drain on State salmon resources.

Proposal #177 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Brennon

Number in favor: 14

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would establish a bag limit for thornyhead rockfish. Rockfish are caught in many fisheries, and as such need regulations and management.

Proposal #178 NO ACTION

Comments: This is a housekeeping proposal.

Proposal #179 NO ACTION

Comments: No Comments

Proposal #180 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Brennon Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 14

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would define electric fishing reels. An explanation/description of a power assisted fishing reel is needed to stop abuse, and the one provided is acceptable. Limits on the use of an electric reel are in another proposal.

Proposal #181 NO ACTION

Comments: No Comments

Proposal #182 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Alan

Number in favor: 10

Number opposed: 3

Number abstaining: 1

Comments: This proposal would prohibit the use of electric reels. The use of electric reels should be prohibited in sport fishing except for persons with a handicap or disability. Currently a permit can be obtained for fisheries with a handicap. Electric reel take away the fair chase from sport fishing, and becomes mechanical harvest. Electric reels should not be allowed for wide use. Using electric reels could be a game (not a sport) for children. The proposal has adequate allowance for the use of electric reels by persons with disabilities.

Minority Report: Down riggers and electric reels should not be allowed for sport fishing. The proposal is too liberal and not adequate to restrict the use of electric reels.

***NOTE:** Brennon Eagle leaves meeting reducing voting members from 14 to 13.*

Proposal #183 NO ACTION

Comments: No Comments

Proposal #184 NO ACTION

Comments: This is a housekeeping proposal.

Proposals #185 & 186 NO ACTION

Comments: No Comments

Proposal #187 NO ACTION

Comments: Some sport fishing regulations are too restrictive. It should be OK for handicap and disabled people to use bait.

Proposal #188 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 8

Number opposed: 3

Number abstaining: 2

Comments: This proposal would modify the State sport fishing regulations for halibut to reflect changes in Federal law. Halibut harvest regulations are set by the Federal government and can change on a yearly basis. Changing the State harvest regulations to mirror the Federal regulations is housekeeping. State halibut regulations and enforcement need to include all the allowances provided by the Federal regulations and enforcement officers for multiday overnight trip charter boats.

Proposal #189 OPPOSITION

Motion to adopt by: John Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 3

Number opposed: 9

Number abstaining: 1

Comments: This proposal would require a client-guide agreement for each client on a sport fishing charter trip. The agreement would be just another layer of paperwork for the charter fishing boat guide, and would not stop the problem of unlicensed guide fishing. It is not needed. If the proposal is adopted it should include an exemption from the client-guide agreement if the charter is booked directly with the guide.

Proposal #190 OPPOSITION

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Mike

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 13

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would allow crew members on charter boats to retain fish when clients are onboard. Crew members are currently not allowed to retain fish when clients are onboard because of past harvest abuse. Fishing and retention by crewmembers should not be allowed. The potential for harvest abuse, resource depletion, and allocation overages would return with this proposal.

Proposal #191 SUPPORT

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 9

Number opposed: 1

Number abstaining: 3

Comments: This proposal would define official time for sport fisheries. Official time need to be recognized and established for all fisheries, not just sport. The official time in the US is set by two time agencies of the United States and is called Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). UTC should be used for

all fisheries in Alaska. Time from a GPS is accurate but may be different from a computer's time if the computer lacks a hard wire connection, or GPS capabilities.

Proposal #192 NO ACTION
Comments: No Comments

Proposal #195 OPPOSITION
Motion to adopt by: Bill Second by: Otto
Number in favor: 0
Number opposed: 13
Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal would close a portion of District 2 to commercial Dungeness crab fishery. District 2 needs to remain open to have a commercial fishery for Dungeness crab. Extensive areas of SEAK have been lost to crab fishing because of sea otter predation. In 2009 the District was reopened for 3 years on a trial basis, and should continue open for that full trial period. The 2009 season, with this regulation change, was one month less than the commercial fishery openings from 1985 to 2008. There was no evidence of soft shell crab harvested from the District in 2009. Kasaan is similar to other SEAK Communities and should have waters open to commercial Dungeness fishery. Local high school and college students in other SEAK communities commercially fish Dungeness close to town from skiffs/scows; raising money for education. Young people in Kasaan should have the same opportunity.

The meeting was recessed at about 9:40 PM

DAVID RAK
Secretary

KTN AC
KETCHIKAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADF&G
Wednesday February 10, 2010 – 6PM

MINUTES

Call to Order and establish quorum (8) ((only a simple majority is required))

Introductions /sign in page: JOHN M. SCOBLIC (CHAIR), TODD RANIGER (ALT.), CLAY SLANAKER, JEFF WEDEKIND, DARREL WELK, LARRY PAINTER, ART MAIORIELLO, ED TORIBIO, STEVE LACRIOX, JUSTIN BREESE (ADF&G), MIKE WOOD (ADF&G), LLOYD GOSSMAN (PUBLIC),

Amendments to Agenda (for discussion only) ((to be placed on next agenda))

Approve meeting agenda – MOTION TO ADOPT WAS MADE AND SECONDED, CHAIR ASK IF THERE IS ANY OPPOSITION HEARD NONE MOTION PASSES TO ADOPT AGENDA AS WRITTEN.

Approve past meeting minutes – THE LAST MEETING WAS THE JOINT SAXMAN / KETCHIKAN MEETING NO NOTES AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME TO APPROVE.

Reports:

Chairman's report- Joint Saxman/ KTN Meeting Review, Board of Game Meeting Review...
ADF&G – NONE
Saxman report- SAXMAN REVIEW ABOUT 14 OF THE GAME PROPOSALS
Other Committee members - NONE

Public comment: (could be limited to 5 minutes per person) - NONE

Unfinished business items – MOTION IS MADE TO TABLE ALL UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS AND MOVE INTO NEW BUSINESS IS MADE AND SECONDED, MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY.

- a) Dungeness issue Statewide BOF (prop 195)
- b) KTN AC HATS? (Mac & Shannon update)
- c) Statewide BOF Meeting 2010 (electric reels)
- d) Board of Game Meeting will be in Ketchikan this fall 2010.
- e) Sport fish punch card system for next SE finfish 2011 board cycle
- f) Dogfish fishery proposal for SE finfish 2011 board cycle

New business- MOTION IS MADE TO TABLE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS A & B IS SECONDED, MOTION CARRIES. Vote 9-0

- a) Federal Subsistence Proposals
- b) Federal Subsistence Review
- c) Statewide Board of Fisheries Proposals (March 2nd written deadline)

PROP 195- MOTION IS MADE TO ADOPT AND IS SECONDED.

Discussion is open. A committee member thinks we need to amend this proposal to include district 1 & 2 and we need to define when exactly the commercial fishery will occur. A second member directs a comment to ADF&G that we need to have the State recommendations so we can make better decisions at our AC meetings, A third member voices concerns about not being able to get recent data from ADF&G. The same member tells of other summer fisheries that have killed off crab stocks in Alaska such as Yakutat, Prince William Sound and Kodiak and he also reports of boats in 2009 having tremendous die offs of crab onboard during the summer. A member points out only 5% of the region harvest was taken out of district 1 &2. A fourth member states when fishermen are looking to go fish in marginal areas it is an indication that it is already to late for the resource.

The original motioner makes a friendly amendment to his original motion as follows:
MOTION TO ADOPT WITH AMENTMENTS, CLOSE ALL PORTIOINS OF DISTRICTS 1 & 2 TO COMMERCIAL CRABBING, CLOSE THE SUMMER COMMERCIAL FISHERY IN DISTRICT 1 & 2, AND REVERT BACK TO PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT SCHEME FOR COMMERCIAL CRAB FISHING IN DISTRICTS 1 & 2 OCTOBER – FEBRUARY DE-LINKING FROM THE REST OF REGISTRATION AREA A The original seconder accepts friendly amendment.

The chair asks if there is need for further discussion and the following list of bullet points is develop to support the amended motion on the table:

- 1) Habitat is district 1 is deep water fjords and inlets that do not support large crab populations.
- 2) Handling crab in the summer soft shell phase is argued to cause very high mortality rates.
- 3) Why did the BOF reject the “old data” presented in the meeting in Jan 2009?
- 4) There is a report out of British Columbia that help prove summer fishing on soft shell crab is a bad practice (Possible NEW information)
- 5) Permit holders in Ketchikan bought into the fishery specifically to fish crab October – February and now they are shut out. (One permit holder was at our last meeting an spoke to this during public comment)
- 6) This creates a huge conflict with summer subsistence crabbers.
- 7) In 2009 only 5% of the harvest in area A were taken out of district 1 & 2 (it was argued at the BOF meeting in Jan 2009 that opening more area would spread the fleet)
- 8) ADF&G has previously NOT supported SUMMER fisheries and that was there position in at the BOF meeting in Jan 2009.
- 9) WHY DID THE BOF IGNORE ADF&G biological recommendations?!?
- 10) These other KTN area groups oppose the summer Dungeness crab fishery;

The QUESTION is called, The AMENDED MOTION CARRIES. Vote 9-0 UNANIMOUSLY
SUPPORT PROP 195 AS AMENDED..

*****VOTE RECORDS WILL ALWAYS BE WRITTEN IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:
SUPPORT-OPPOSE-ABSTAIN**

PROP 164 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. DISCUSSION THIS PROP is poorly written. What are they trying to regulate? This issue must be regional not statewide. The QUESTION is called. Motion FAILS, Vote was 0-9. **OPPOSE PROP 164.**

PROP 165 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion; A member states that there seems to be a problem here but not a problem related to us, Another member points out we typically don't put our nose into other business but we need to protect ourselves from being negatively affected too, It is mentioned that many of our salmon fisheries occur without total escapements being met. The QUESTION is called. Motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 165**

PROP 166 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: A member felt that a sport license was a good way to track this and did not want to see the state loose revenue if this should pass. Another member points out that personal use is a resident only type activity and a state sport license is only \$20 and a fair requirement. The QUESTION is called. Motion FAILS. Vote 0-9. **OPPOSE PROP 166**

PROP 167 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: It is explained by the department that this simply clears up the regulation (Housekeeping). The Question is called. Motion Carries. Vote 9-0 **SUPPORT PROP 167**

PROP 168 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: This could greatly devalue boats under 58'. Southeast Alaska Seiners Association is split about 50/50 on this issue. This could bring in big boats from down south that don't already participate in the fishery (new entrants). One member thinks this could be an innovative step forward for the seine fisheries. This would set up the struggle on the grounds of David vs. Goliath. The KTN AC previously rejected this type of proposal. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 2-7. **OPPOSE PROP 168**

PROP 169 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: This proposal is very difficult to understand what to focus on. This seemed like another regional issue taken to the statewide level. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS Vote 0-8-1 **OPPOSE PROP 169**

PROP 170 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: A member points out there is no margin for error in a plan like this. Another member feels this is a frivolous proposal. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 170**

PROP 171 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: This is the same guy who wrote 170. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 171**

PROP 172 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: This is written by the same group that wrote 169. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE 172**

PROP 173 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: ADF&G were unable to explain this prop at this time. Friendly motion to TABLE is made and accepted by original seconder. TABLE until next meeting.

PROP 174 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: This may work in Norway but it was felt that gillnetting for cod around here would be possible way to deadly for the unintended by catch. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 174**

PROP 175 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: A member said that this is one user group trying to regulate another user group. The charter blackcod fleet is a niche market and will not take that much fish. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 175**

PROP 176 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: One member felt this was a good idea if people want to take Dog Fish and eat them then we should let them. It is generally felt that more harvest of Dog Fish is needed around here by sports, commercial or charter fishermen. The QUESTION is called. The motion CARRIES. Vote 9-0 **SUPPORT PROP 176**

PROP 177 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: The committee could not figure out why the BOF would generate such a proposal. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. VOTE 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 177**

PROP 178 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: A member does not think this is housekeeping in anyway. It was said that this could give the department the ability to change allocation. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 3-5-1. **OPPOSE PROP 178.**

PROP 179 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: The same guy wrote PROPS 166 PROP 170 and PROP 171. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-9 **OPPOSE PROP 179**

PROP 180 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED. Discussion: A member states that this appears to be a much needed definition for enforcement and regulation issues. Another member thinks that the State of Alaska got all the ducks in a row on this one. The QUESTION is called. The motion CARRIES. Vote 9-0 **SUPPORT PROP 180**

Set next meeting date: February 17, 2010 6 PM ADF&G CONFERENCE ROOM.

Adjourn 9:10 PM

KTN AC
KETCHIKAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADF&G
Wednesday February 17, 2010 – 6PM

MINUTES

Call to Order and establish quorum (8) ((only a simple majority is required))

Introductions /sign in page... JOHN M. SCOBLIC (CHAIR), JEFF WEDEKIND, ED TORIBIO, LARRY PAINTER, DARREL WELK, ART MAIORIELLO, CLAY BEZENEK, CLAY SLANAKER, BO MERIDITH (ADF&G), MIKE WOOD (ADF&G), LLOYD GOSSMAN (PULBLIC)

Amendments to Agenda (for discussion only) ((**to be placed on next agenda**))
Approve meeting agenda- MOTION TO ADOPT, SECONDED, ACCEPT AGENDA, VOTE 8-0

Approve past meeting minutes – NO NOTE TO APPROVE AT THIS POINT.

Reports:

Chairman's report- NONE
ADF&G –NONE
Saxman report-NONE
Other Committee members - NONE

Public comment: (could be limited to 5 minutes per person) - NONE

Unfinished business items – MOTION TO TABLE UNFINISHED IS
MOVED AND SECONDED, MOTION CARRIES VOTE 8-0

- a) Dungeness issue Statewide BOF (prop 195)
- b) KTN AC HATS? (Mac & Shannon update)
- c) Statewide BOF Meeting 2010 (electric reels)
- d) Board of Game Meeting will be in Ketchikan this fall 2010.
- e) Sport fish punch card system for next SE finfish 2011 board cycle
- f) Dogfish fishery proposal for SE finfish 2011 board cycle
- g) **Federal Subsistence Proposals**
- h) **Federal Subsistence Review**

New business-

- a) Statewide Board of Fisheries Proposals (March 2nd written deadline)

VOTE RECORDS ARE ALWAYS WRITTEN IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER
SUPPORT-OPPOSE-ABSTAIN

PROP 181 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: A member points out the word (trolling) in the proposal. The question then was raised does this mean you can only use and electric reel when trolling. This does not seem to be a good definition. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 181**

PROP 182 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: A member points out that this is a fully allocated resource and this would help limit sport caught blackcod. Another member say's you should set a limit on the fish not the electric reels. A third member says it is not right for one gear group to try and regulate another gear group by means and methods, use a bag limit. A member points out that electric reels are commonly used in other states. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 1-6-1. **OPPOSE PROP 182**

PROP 183 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: SAME DISCUSSION AS 182. The QUESTION is called. The motion FAILS. Vote 1-6-1. **OPPOSE PROP 183**

PROP 184 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: A member did some research and reports that this is a mirror of PROP 305 that passed in the last SE BOF cycle and this will go into effect in SE in 2011. This proposal takes this issue statewide. The cost of a pair of boots is minor is comparison to the loss of a species. The QUESTION is called. The motion CARRIES. Vote 8-0 **SUPPORT PROP 184**

PROP 185 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: This seems to be a housekeeping PROP from ADF&G. The group supports getting a clear definition. The QUESTION is called, the motion CARRIES. Vote 8-0 **SUPPORT 185**

PROP 186 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: similar to 185. The QUESTION is called, the motion CARRIES Vote 8-0 **SUPPORT 186**

PROP 187 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: ADF&G points out there are already on the books exemptions that can be granted to do this. This would unneeded added regulation. The QUESTION is called, the motion CARRIES, Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 187**

PROP 188 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: ADF&G staff tells us this is housekeeping and they are simply trying to mirror federal regulations. The QUESTION is call, the motion CARRIES, Vote 8-0 **SUPPORT PROP 188**

PROP 189 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: ADF&G staff tells us that this contradicts statute and wonders if the BOF could legally adopt this. The QUESTION is called, the motion FAILS, Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 189**

PROP 190 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: A member speculates that this could lead to abuse of the system and opposes this. Another member states it is all good the way it is keep the status quo. Both members are charter industry members. The QUESTION is called, the motion FAILS, Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 190**

PROP 191 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: This is an unneeded regulation. The troopers have official time already. The QUESTION is called, the motion FAILS, Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 191**

PROP 192 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: ADF&G staff tells us the board recommendations is to oppose. The QUESTION is called, the motion FAILS, Vote 0-8 **OPPOSE PROP 192**

PROP 173 MOTION TO ADOPT IS MADE AND SECONDED, Discussion: ADF&G staff explains that ADF&G and NMFS have done this type of management back to 1980's. This does not seem like it will have an effect on SE/ The QUESTION is called, the motion CARRIES, Vote 8-0 **SUPPORT PROP 173**

MOTION TO SEND JOHN SCOBLC AS THE KTN AC REP TO THE ANC BOF MEETING IN MARCH IS MOVED AND SECONDED. THE QUESTION IS CALLED THE MOTION CARRIES VOTE 8-0.

Set next meeting date MARCH 31, 2010

Adjourn 7:45 PM

Kodiak Fish & Game Advisory Committee February 24th 2010-KNWRVC

Oliver Holm Chairman

7:00pm

RECEIVED

MAR - 2 2010

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

(Minutes represent a paraphrased summary of the KAC, department staff and public comments and are not a verbatim transcript of the meeting. Tapes of the meeting are available for review by contacting the committee secretary)

*Aff: Shannon
AC - BOF
Swint*

Call to order: 7:01pm at the KNWR Visitors Center

Roll call: A quorum was achieved with the following members present: Oliver Holm, Don Fox, Kip Thomet, Julie Kavanaugh, Ron Kavanaugh, Tuck Bonney, Paul Chervenak, Chris Berns(for Al Cratty), Pete Hannah, Harvey Goodell(for Alexis Kwachka), Andy Finke, Kip Thomet, Rolan Ruoss,

Excused absences: Kurt Waters and Lou Dochtermann.

ADF&G Staff. Matt Miller, James Jackson, Suzanne Schmidt, Jeff Wadle, Don Tracy, Joe Dinnocenzo, Geoff Spalinger, Wayne Donaldson, Matt Nemeth, Mark Strickert, Mark Witteveen and Steve Honold.

South Central Regional Coordinator: Sherry Wright came over from Anchorage to conduct the election.

Audience: 5.

Approve Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to approve minutes of our meeting of February 17th 2009 were approved unanimously.

Correspondence: None.

Chair Announcements: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- 1) **Call for elections and nominations:** As all candidates were unopposed the slate of candidates were seated by unanimous consent. One new member was seated Andy Finke (Kodiak subsistence). Sherry Wright mentioned that several advisory committees have non-voting student members and that the KAC should consider having one. Committee members agreed that we should consider looking into the matter before our fall/winter meetings.
- 2) **Election of committee officers:** Chairman Oliver Holm, vice-chair Paul Chervenak and secretary Don Fox were all unopposed and were elected by unanimous consent.

- 3) **Report on the 2009 commercial salmon and herring seasons and preseason forecasts for 2010 were presented by department staff:** Jack Jackson gave the salmon report and Geoff Spalinger the herring report. Power point presentations and handouts were provided by staff and committee members questions were answered.
- 4) **Reports by Pat Holmes:** Reports on recent RAC activity, Buskin River weir funding and the EIS statement from the FAA fill proposals on the Buskin area runway extensions were given by Mr. Holmes.
- 5) **Ground fish proposals:** Wayne Donaldson led the committee through the proposals.

Proposal #167

5AAC 39.105. **Types of legal gear.** Modify definition of mechanical jigging machine as follows:

(d)(25) a mechanical jigging machine is a device that deploys a line with **lures or baited** hooks, and retrieves that line and **lures or** hooks with electrical, hydraulic or mechanically powered assistance; a mechanical jigging machine allows the line with **lures or** hooks to be fished only in the water column; a mechanical jigging machine must be attached to a vessel registered to fish with a mechanical jigging machine and may not be anchored or operated off the vessel.

Staff comments: This is a housekeeping proposal submitted by the department to clarify the statewide gear definition of mechanical jigging machine by specifying that lures or baited hooks are allowed.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #167.

Committee comments: Agree and support staff comments and would like to reference them.

ACTION; MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY, 12-0.

Proposal #173

5AAC 28.086. **management plan for Parallel Ground fish Fisheries:** Amend this regulation to read:

- (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, or management measures stated in a global emergency order issued by the commissioner at the beginning of a parallel ground fish fishery season, the commissioner may open and close by emergency order, fishing seasons during which area closures, gear restrictions, vessel size limits, reporting, monitoring, and enforcement requirements may be imposed as the commissioner determines reasonably necessary to correspond with federal fishery management measures.
- (b) For the purposes of this chapter, except as otherwise specified, "parallel ground fish fishery" means a fishery [THE PACIFIC COD, WALLEYE POLLOCK, AND ATKA MACKEREL FISHERIES] in state waters opened by commissioner,

under emergency order authority, to correspond with the times, areas, and unless otherwise specified, the gear of a federal season in adjacent federal waters.

Staff comments: Support this department proposal and **Neutral** on the allocative aspects of the proposal. If adopted the commissioner would have the regulatory authority, for all species managed in a parallel ground fish fishery, to adopt fishing seasons, closed waters, allowable gear, vessel size limits, reporting, monitoring and enforcement requirements by emergency order to provide for compatible management measures with the federal fisheries in adjacent waters of the EEZ.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #173.

Committee comments: Support giving the department authority to manage parallel fisheries and support staff comments.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES, 11-1(R.Kavanaugh).

Minority opinion: Mr. Kavanaugh felt the proposal was to vague.

Proposal #174

5 AAC 28.050 **Lawful gear for ground fish.** Amend lawful gear for ground fish as follows:

Gillnet fishing will be allowed for Pacific cod in state waters again, modeled after the Norwegian fishery.

Staff comments: Department **opposed.** Sunken gillnet fisheries have been documented with significant by catch of non-targeted species as well as marine mammals and birds. The board would have to revise management plans that have allocation by gear type, the potential for gear conflict by tangling with pot and long line is high.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #174.

Committee comments: Support staff comments. Several members of the advisory committee including our chairman Mr. Holm have personally witnessed high by catch in Marmot bay when gillnetting cod was legal.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-12.

Wayne Donaldson voiced department concerns about the heavy subsistence harvest of King Crab in the Alitak District. He felt the take was too high a lower limit(ex. 3 per household per year) and maybe a limitation on pots and pot size. Should be made in the shape of a proposal for our winter meetings.

6) **Sport fish proposals:** Don Tracy led the committee through the proposals and answered our questions.

Proposal # 175

5 AAC. **New Section.** Establish bag limits for sablefish as follows:

For resident anglers: Sablefish may be taken from January 1n through December 31; daily bag limit of 2, 4 in possession, and no annual limits; For non-resident anglers:

sablefish may be taken from January 1 through December 31: daily bag limit of 2, 4 in possession and an annual limit of 4 fish.

Staff comments: Department is **neutral** on the **allocative** aspects and takes **no position** on this proposal.

Motion: moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 175.

Committee comments: There is a low effort for sablefish in the Kodiak area plus no commercial fishery in our local state waters. If the BOF passes this proposal it should not apply to Kodiak.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-12.

Proposal #176

5 AAC 75.xxx. **New Section.** Increase bag limit for spiny dogfish as follows:

Make a more reasonable possession/bag limit of the spiny dogfish, such as 5 fish per day, with a combined annual limit of 10 per year.

Staff comments: The department is **neutral** on the proposal. Little effort on this species so a larger bag limit wouldn't jeopardize the stocks.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal #176.

Committee comments: Dogfish should not be limited like the larger sharks. KAC felt with the low effort a larger limit wouldn't jeopardize the stocks.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY, 12-0.

Proposal # 178

5 AAC 75.003. **Emergency order authority.** Clarify emergency order authority as follows:

The commissioner may, by emergency order, change bag and possession limits and annual limits and alter methods and means in sport fisheries. These changes may not reduce the allocation of harvest among user groups. An emergency order may not supersede **provisions for increasing or decreasing** bag and possession limits in regulatory order authority to manage sport fishing opportunities in the following circumstances:

Staff comments: Housekeeping proposal by the department. This proposal would **clarify** the departments emergency order authority.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 178.

Committee comments: Support staff comments. The committee felt that the department should have emergency order authority to change bag limits and means and methods to conserve stocks and meet escapement goals.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY, 12-0.

Proposal # 185

5 AAC 75.028 . **Use of underwater spear(repeal and readopt).** Clarify definition of underwater spear as follows:

In salt water

, a spear or spear gun may be used to take fish, subject to applicable seasons and bag limits, by a person who is completely submerged; the use of a shaft tipped with explosive charge, commonly known as a bang stick or powder head is prohibited in fresh and salt water.

5 AAC 75.995. Definitional.

(xx) "spear" means a shaft with a sharp point or fork-like implement attached to one end, used to thrust through the water to impale or retrieve fish, and which is operated by hand, a spear also includes a Hawaiian sling or pole spear which is a shaft propelled by a single loop of elastic material and is not equipped with mechanical release or trigger.

(xx) "spear" means a device designed to propel a spear through the water by means of elastic bands, compressed gas, or other mechanical propulsion to take fish: and is equipped with a mechanical release or trigger.

Staff comments: Place holder proposal. Housekeeping proposal which would clarify the definition of an underwater spear requested by the Board of Fisheries. New language clearly describes what may or may not be used because of current confusion on what can or can't be used.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 185.

Committee comments: Support and would like to reference staff comments.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY, 12-0.

Proposal #187

5 AAC 75.038. **Authorization for methods and means disability exemptions.** Allow use of bait by disabled anglers as follows:

Statewide: a use of bait provision for all species of salmon with proof of handicap/disability (on person).

Staff comments: Department **opposes** this proposal. Existing regulations provide a reasonable and enforceable avenue for persons with a disability to seek exemptions to existing regulations which prohibit the person from meaningful access to the program, service, or benefit.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 187.

Committee comment: Support department comments that it was already addressed in current regulation.

ACTION; MOTION TO ADOPT FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-12.

Proposal # 188

5 AAC 75.067. **Limitations for halibut; 5 AAC 75.995(20). Definitions** and 5 AAC 75.070(b) **Possession of sport caught halibut.** Modify sport fishing regulations for halibut as follows:

Modify 5 AAC 75.067. **Notwithstanding any other provisions in 5 AAC 47-5 AAC 75, a (A) persons** may not take or possess halibut for sport or guided sport purposes in a manner inconsistent with the regulations of the International Pacific Halibut Commission or the National Marine fisheries Service. Modify 5 AAC 75.995(20): "possession limit" means the maximum number of unpreserved fish, **except halibut** a person may have in his/her possession.

Repeal 5 AAC 75.070(b). [UNTIL BROUGHT TO SHORE AND OFFLOADED , NO PERSON MAY FILLET, MUTILATE, OR OTHERWISE DISFIGURE A HALIBUT IN ANY MANNER THAT PREVENTS THE DETERMINATION OF THE NUMBER OF FISH CAUGHT OR POSSESSED].

Staff comments: Housekeeping proposal. The state cannot have regulations for halibut that don't mirror existing federal regulations.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 188.

Committee comments: Agree with the staff comments that the state regulations have to mirror the federal regulations.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY, 12-0.

Proposal # 189

5 AAC 75.075. **Sport fishing services and sport fishing guide services; license requirements; regulation of activities.** Require a client- guide agreement for each client on a sport fishing charter trip as follows:

Require a client-guide agreement between the fishing party and the licensed fishing guide performing the service.

Staff comments: Department **opposes** this proposal. Board regulations must be consistent with applicable statutes AS 44.62020.030 doesn't allow the BOF to legally adopt proposal #189.

Committee comments: Support staff comments.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-12.

Proposal # 190

5 AAC 75.003. **Emergency order authority.** Allow crew members to retain fish when clients are onboard as follows:

Charter crew members are unguided anglers and therefore their catch is not recorded under guided anglers. The number of lines in the water cannot exceed the number of paying clients on board.

Staff comments: Department **opposes** this proposal. Restrictions on the retention of fish by sport fishing guides and sport fishing guide crewmembers has been a flexible and effective tool for managing fisheries with GHs or allocations.

Motion: Moved and 2nd to adopt proposal # 190.

Committee comments: Support staff comments. KAC felt that since the guided sport fleet in some areas consistently exceed their GHs and allocations this proposal should not be adopted. Part of the proposers justification was that commercial fisherman and crew members can retain or sell their catch for personal use is **bogus** the catch on all commercial boats belong to the vessel.

ACTION: MOTION TO ADOPT FAILS UNANIMOUSLY, 0-12.

- 7) **Letter of support for KAC member Don Fox's bid for a seat on the state board of game:** Committee members voted unanimously to have a letter of support from the advisory committee for Mr. Fox's candidacy. Mr. Ruoss will write the letter.
- 8) **KAC member to attend the BOF meeting:** The committee voted unanimously to send Don Fox to represent the KAC at the March 16-20 board of fish meeting in Anchorage.

Adjourned---10:02pm

COOPER LANDING FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING: Tue, February 23, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karl Romig, Ed Holsten, John Pearson, Bob Overman, Gerald Neis, Colin Lowe, Kyle Kolodziejewski, George Heim, Dr. James Givens, Robert Gibson

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED: Mike Adams, Billy Coulliette

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: None

TIME MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:01 PM

RECEIVED

MAR - 2 2010

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

1. ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. REPORT FROM ADFG- NONE

5. OLD BUSINESS- NONE

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Statewide Finfish Proposals, Spring 2010

164- no action taken. Proposal too vague to support, not enough info, need better definition of "home pack"

165- 3 favor, 7 oppose. Should be managed with another tool

166- Amend as "require a fee for personal use permits, goal to cover cost of the fisheries enforcement." Vote as amended: 1 oppose, 9 support

169- Lack of second

170- No action taken

171- No action taken

172- No action taken

173- No action taken

*Attn: Shannon
AC - BOF
S.W.M.*

p 172

174- No action taken

175- Amend as drop "no residency required" and use biological information to establish good limits. 10 support

176- No action taken

177- No action taken

178- 10 support, good housekeeping rule

180- 10 support, it defines a new fishing technique

181- No action taken based on 180

182- No action taken based on 180

183- No action taken based on 180

184- 10 support, something just has to be done, important issue.

185- Amend remove the last 3 words and salt water, allowing it to be used in salt. 10 support as amended.

186- No action taken

187-All oppose, potential impact on non-targeted species.

188- 10 support, good, clean up wording

189- 10 oppose, too difficult, would restrict industry of tourism too much

190- 10 oppose, keep the rules the same, not broken

191- No action taken

192- 10 oppose, where do you draw the line?

B. GUIDE CONCESSION PROGRAM- comments due by March 31

C. KRSMA- update on bill in state legislature

D. MOVING TO ADOPT 115, 121, 122, 123 in supporting these proposals.

MEETING ADJOURNED, NEXT MEETING THUR. MARCH 25TH, 6PM

Juneau Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Monday, February 8, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Todd Wicks, Chris Conder-Vice Chair, Ed Heney, Jake Carte, Mike Bethers, Jenny Pursell, Chris Casey, Greg Brown, Mark Stopha, Mike Peterson-Chair, Bill Bahleda.

Also in attendance, Brian Glynn and Dan Teske from Sport Fish, and Scott Crass from Board Support.

Quorum established

No additions or corrections to the agenda for 02-08-2010

Minutes from Federal Wildlife Proposals, 01-07-2010 approved with no corrections or additions.

Board and Game Minutes from 01-08-2010.

C Casey: Crossbow should read laser sights not laser lights as a method of scopes.

Mike P: Trying to make process a little cleaner by approving the agenda we prove that we are going to talk about these proposals. No need to ask at each proposal a motion to discuss that proposal. Suggest that the format would be Mr. Glenn would read staffs report, if anyone in the public had comments, they could comment on that proposal and then we go to committee discussion, call question, and then vote. There would be no motion.

Announcement of open commercial fishing seat- will postpone until later tonight

Reauthorize Berners Bay antlerless moose hunt (DM042). This is a housekeeping proposal; antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized by the Board of Game annually. Antlerless moose may be taken under regulations only after a majority of active local advisory groups for a Game Management Unit or subunit have voted to authorize antlerless moose hunts.

11 support 0- oppose

Reauthorize Gustavus area antlerless moose hunts (DM043-DM045). This is a housekeeping proposal; antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized by the Board of Game annually. Antlerless moose may be taken under regulations only after a majority of active local advisory groups for a Game Management Unit or subunit have voted to authorize antlerless moose hunts. 11 support 0 oppose

Sport Fish Proposals

Proposal 178

Brian G: Departments position from Fish and Game, not yet available. This proposal is to try to clarify emergency order authority. Change contradictory language. First paragraph says changes may not reduce the allocation of harvest among the other user groups. Also says an emergency order may not supersede bag and possession limits by method and means established in regulatory management plans

established by the Board of Fisheries. Cannot change something the board already adopted in a management plan.

Jenny P: Why should department take a position if department submitted it?

Brian G: We support it. Consistent to establish escapement goals. Board of Fisheries announce regulations at press release.

Mike P: Call question

11-Support 0-oppose

Proposal 188

Brian G: Need to make state regulations match federal regulations. Federal regulations are used to manage halibut whether commercial or subsistence or sport. A person may not take or possess halibut for sport or guided sport purposes in a manner inconsistent with the regulations of the IPHC or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

C Casey: This regulation proposes may not take or possess in a manner inconsistent. Will this be in the regulations?

Brian: Do not know

C Conder: Halibut must be cleaned per regulations so can be easier at dock. Federal needs to let State know of changes in regulations

Mark S: How to enforce? Will trooper have copy?

Bethers: state should know what they have to deal with, all the regulations that they should be aware of are under one cover

C Conder: I am for this but Federal government and state make sure that we know what each changes are, when there is a change must be easy to find and public must know what the rule is.

Brian: Seems reasonable and that is another aspect of the issue. Without this it would be complicated.

Mike P: Call question

Support—9 Oppose---1 Abstain—1

C Conder: State has to make every effort to make sure that the public knows what these regulations are.

Proposal 180

Brian: Board requested this because they wanted to take up this issue on a statewide level as opposed to the regional level. State proposal a starting point, There are others, 181, 182,183. 180 is the states version and recommends a scenario that is in between prior discussed electric reels, prohibit commercial jigging machines.

Proposal # 181 defines rod specifies that electric reels be used, does not contain definition of electric reel, Proposal 182 and 183 prohibits power to retrieve sport fish, limit to disabled, If you make a decision on one of them it would cover all aspects of them.

T Wicks: Are we doing each separately

T Wicks: Support this but would like to add some language under 1 B. Add "and power source" so that it weights no more than 15 pounds total when detached from the fishing rod and power source.

G Brown: I have never used one of these, but when it talks of power assisted fishing reel means it is used to deploy and retrieve, when used to retrieve, not a power system. Should put in "and/or" retrieve sport fishing line under 1 C i

Bill B: Not a big mechanical winch but on the other hand stocks are getting more scarce people are going further and fishing deeper so may already be a more efficient way to fish fewer fish. Conflicted about proposal.

Mark S: This is a downrigger definition. Needs to be more specific

Brian: You may be right, but definition includes reel seat

Mark: Agree, not a downrigger by definition, had to be handheld, has to be attached to a fishing rod by means of a reel seat and describes fishing rod as tapered and flexible

Bethers: Have friends to use these, no one wants to hang on to a downrigger. Good definition of downrigger in commercial regulations. This intent is to have an electric reel designed to be handheld. Rule out downriggers, commercial jigging machines. This was decided in board meetings but we need to clean it up.

Brain: Definition of downriggers need to be clarified

Brown: have to use a reel seat to mount rod, does not apply to downrigger

Mike P: Motion to offer an amendment

Todd W: Like to add "and power source" to the end of 1B.

Mike P; So that sentence would read..The power assisted fishing reel assembly, motor, gearbox, fishing line, attached power cord, and any other reel attachments weigh no more than 15 pounds total when detached from the fishing rod and your motions is to add and power source.

All those in support of adding the word and power source and the end of subsection b

Support---10 Abstain---1

Mike P: Second motion under Section C I adding a word to read....power assisted fishing reel means a reel used to deploy and/or retrieve a sport fishing line that is operated or assisted by any electric, hydraulic, or other mechanical power source other that by hand cranking a handle attached to the reel

Support ---10 Abstain---1

Call question on Proposal 180 as amended

Support---11 Oppose---0

Proposal 182

Mark S: Two proposals for or against electric reels, 182 and 183 are the same thing. Both are trying to **prohibit the use of electric reels**. I think if you vote on one you will be voting on the other.

Todd W: Agree with Chris. Support 180 then I would say that 182 and 183 are opposed.

C Conder: No we just decided what the definition of electric reels is. We should do 182 and 183 together.

Carte: under 182 the issue is except handicapped anglers

Mike P: yes you are correct

Bill B: Fish and Game has stated that the someone can use special equipment if handicapped

Brian: Prohibit use of electric sport fishing reels except for handicapped anglers.

Todd W: Oppose 182. Able bodied fishing in deep waters for bottom fish would benefit, there are no conservation reasons for this proposal.

Haney: As Todd said but these reels are not strong enough to pull your halibut up off the bottom. Useful to check bait. It is meant for some of the people, visitors, don't meet the definition as disabled, don't have the get an approved certificate from Fish and Game saying they are disabled so they can fish. For older or wives who don't have the strength to be pulling it up from deep waters just checking bait. Could use this as an opportunity to fish.

Bethers: Several tentative proposals produced to eliminate electric reels because of the black cod issue in Juneau and that issue taken care of at the board meeting and there are bag limits on that.

C Conder: Issue brought up because of the black cod fishery here which is being used by 2 of our lodges. Should be noted that we had 4 lodges and as of last year we now have 2 lodges here in Juneau, and other 2 have gone out of business because of some of the limitations put on them they can no longer financially viable. There are already limits on the black cod to stop overfishing the black cod.

Jenny P: Brian, does the department have a position on this proposal?

Brian: Not public yet, will get published in a separate booklet prior to the board meeting.

Jenny P: There are 3 species of fish that are mentioned here, the sablefish, black cod, deep water halibut and also the deepwater rockfish. What is the status of the population of the rockfish in this area? Any conservation issues related to the deep water rockfish?

Brian: Rockfish not abundant in Juneau area.

Jenny P: Statewide are the numbers healthy?

Brian: Trends statewide Sport fishing reduced over last several years.

C Conder: Brian, do you have a percentage of the taken of the black cod vs commercial vs charter?

Brian: About 3%?

Todd W: Logbook results for 2009 show 3844 for sablefish landed in SE and that was 1% of the SE commercial sablefish annual harvest. That number is within the 3 %

C Conder: Charter boats having electric reels enable them to catch more fish, but there is a limit

Call Question

Support 182----2 Oppose—6 Abstain 2 Motion failed

Proposal 183

Brian: Similar , prohibited angler has certificate that reel is not an advantage. The Board shall direct the department staff to determine and publish appropriate limits for the current draw (amps & volts), retrieval speed, battery life, etc. for electric reels that do not exceed the capability of a typical able-bodied angler using conventional tackle prior to issuing any such certificates.

Todd: oppose

Haney: Difference in using the gillnet would be inappropriate, more like dipnet,, not putting out commercial gear.

Bethers: Rod vs gillnet still identified by not more than 2 hooks on that electric reel, so not commercial, not a comparison

C Conder: Attitude, language in this proposal is insulting and unverifiable

Mike P: I am not going to support this, this proposal suggests that the Board shall direct the department staff to determine and publish appropriate limits for current draw, retrieval speed, battery life, that creates another position on Fish and Game

Jenny P: Agrees with Mike, going to oppose this, don't see how this can be regulated

Mike P: Call question

Support-----0 Oppose---10 Abstain 1

Proposal 181

Mike P: Will pass on, the reel has already been defined in an earlier proposal we supported

C Casey: has the word trolling , by having that there, F & G makes it sound like used for trolling vs. flyrod

Mike P: word trolling should be deleted

Bethers: Trolling in there because Fish and Wildlife wanted the word in there having to do with their definition at the time. A lot of people don't troll when they sportfish

Mike P: come back to 181, will mention this at Anchorage meeting and bring back a report

Proposal 189

Brian: Sport fishing services and sport fishing guide services; license requirements; regulations of activities. Require a client-guide agreement for each client on a sport fishing charter trip. Right now no written agreements prior to providing sport fishing services. Sport fishing guide cannot contract with a client directly. Client has to go through a sport fishing owner.

C Conder: Proposal out of Kenai and they have a problem with unlicensed guides. Cruise ships would not be able to sell fishing trips to their clients. Understand trying to get rid of unlicensed guides.

Brown: understanding similar to Chris', problem with unlicensed guides, people already operating illegally, and putting a rule in there will not help at all, they will continue to operate. Real way to stop this issue is with enforcement.

Brian: Sport fishing cannot contract with a client unless he is a business owner

Mike P: Charter boat operators how do you feel about this?

C Casey: most of us are owners

Mark S: cannot think of any exceptions

Mark S: This is because this is on the Kenai people in skiffs and captains that are not licensed are going out and taking people and fishing and leaving the guide sit there

C Casey: In Juneau the majority of trips are sold through the cruise ships and representatives from both. The people on the cruise ships send people out to inspect our operations. Needs to be due diligence by that person hiring a guide, where is your license, how years have you been a guide.

Todd W: Not sure if I agree with Chris on this. Looks to me this proposal is getting rid of the middle man

C Conder: unlicensed fishing guides likely to suffer, booking agents can increase prices. With the cruise ship they are not going to go to each individual captain.

Mark S: If this is the way it is we can vote on this.

C Casey: Unlicensed fishing guides, cheaper. Not here in SE but maybe Kenai.

Haney: Current guides show license and insurance, show fish and games books, to get on their list of captains. Princess comes down and inspects most of the boats themselves so people are aware they are on a good boat.

Todd W: Unlicensed fishing guides and booking agents that could no longer jack up the price of fishing charters above the retail price what the guide performing the service chargers. They probably double the price

Call question

Support—1 Oppose—10

Proposal 175

Brian: Establish a sablefish bag limit of 2 fish, possession limit of 4 fish with annual limit of 4 for nonresident anglers. Bag limit 4 for resident and 8 for nonresident

J Carte: Bag limit changed, thought it was unlimited to residents

Brian: No this proposal is asking to put it back to 2,

C Conder: Board did take a look at this and this is what they came up with from their data to limits. 2 per day for sablefish not worth going out for,

T Wicks: Fish and Game does allow up to 3% blackcod, we didn't even reach 1%,no reason for this, no biological threat and I oppose to 175

Bethers: As a sport fisherman keep in mind sablefish is a public resource and public should be provided an opportunity to harvest. Current regulation of 4 per day is realistic. Annual limit for non resident is realistic also. This provides a reasonable level of harvest without having to set a longline, I oppose 175

Haney: Fish and Game already pointed out there is less than 3%, limit went from 2-4, why should we force them to take it back down to 2

J Carte: under issue it says there is no bag or possession limit for blackcod, when was this written. Not a personal use of blackcod fishing, was unaware of changes

Brian: this is a sport regulation not a personal use

Carte: just for non residents

Brian: No this is for everyone. Sport regulations for everyone, personal use for nonresidents

Carte: the only way nonresidents can harvest blackcod is with rod and reel for personal use so personal use is still unlimited for residents

Call Question

Support---0 Oppose---11

Proposal 184

Brian: Prohibit sport anglers the use of felt soled wading boots in the freshwaters of Alaska. The purpose of it would reduce transmission of invasive species from developing in Alaska. Proposal identifies the ones we are concerned about, Whirling Disease, didymo, mud snails and zebra mussels. Will go into effect Jan 1, 2011 and would only apply in SE.

C Casey: Already voted down

Mark S: is this under fishing regulation, anyone wading around

Bill B: Alaska a few years behind the lower 48 worrying about rock snot and whirling disease transmitted by wet wading clothes. Just catching up to rest of America. Manufacturers, there will be a demand for felt sole wading. Will probably fade out so enforcement would be an interesting topic.

C Casey: Manufacturers across the board every one of the manufactures sells aqua sole, Sims is the manufacturer, largest manufacture of waders industry. They no longer offer felt soles. That is for the sole purpose of transmission of didymo and other transmitted diseases.

Mark S: should be a regulation, legislature needs to take this up, I am not going to vote for it,

Mike P: sounds like it is self policing that is occurring

C Casey: on the Kenai River they are going to actively enforce and fines would be handed out if people didn't comply with the laws

Mike P: by supporting this proposal you would be supporting that spirit, felt soles should be outlawed

C Casey; all manufacturers are going to aqua tread or rubber sole

Todd Wicks: 2 choices –not take any action because it is not a fishing regulation. The other choice is to change the language to it is prohibited while sport fishing in freshwater streams in Alaska. That way it is taken up by the board of fish instead of legislature.

Brown; feels that this is an important issue, we should change the wording to sport fishing

Brian: Chapter 75 deals with statewide sport fishing

Mark S: Table until tomorrow. If we pass this the way it is will this prohibit wading in streams?

Jenny P: Through default stream wading is specifically related to sport fishing because the regulation is under the category of sport fishing,. We would need a regulation that would cover other areas

Brian: fishing preserves, make it statewide, draft letter and recommend this

Bethers: can we make a proposal that would affect everyone. Board of Fish can only deal with fish and clam diggers. I think if we move this forward and support this the concept of keeping this out of our waters

Mark S: Mike represents us up there and he can make our feelings about this well known. We could pass this and send a letter to legislatures in town that this needs to be everyone and not just fishermen

Call for vote

Support—11 oppose—0

Proposal 190

Brian: Emergency order authority. Allow crew members to retain fish when clients are onboard. The current regulation allows the commissioner to limit charter vessel crewmembers from retaining fish while clients are on board. When there is a need for conservation it is restricted.

Jenny P: Sounds like the Matanuska AC believes that charter crew members will continue to be discriminated against if they are not allowed to retain fish. This is the reason for their proposal

J Carte: Charter or crew member are usually allowed to keep fish while they are on board working?

Brian: SE Alaska a regulation put in that prohibits it for King salmon. Part B limits the number of fishing rods to the number of clients on board. So if one of the clients didn't want a fish they can give it to a crew member or guide.

Brian: By emergency order we would be using this to reduce harvest of rockfish

C Conder: the current regulation allows the commissioner to limit charter vessel crewmembers from retaining fish while clients are on board, requires that some but not all must expend personal resources outside of any commercial endeavor to harvest Alaska's resources, requires that a particular user group must obtain personal use fish by personal means only and cannot be harvested during a commercial operation as a fringe benefit.

Mike P: all through this taking about Alaska citizens, does this apply to non Alaskans that come up to do summer work?

Haney: it is people whether resident or non resident, doesn't matter

Mike P: states that Alaska residents are being discriminated against and Alaska residents who provide this. Not sure this rule is written correctly to cover all crew members.

Haney: Most crew members are residents

Mike P: Took this as a good thing and broaden it out as—crew member on charter boat and when they talk about fish for personal use, that per regulation this guy can't get fish for their own personal use because they happen to work on a charter boat. I want to support this because why not, just because you work on a charter boat, why can't you get a fish? He is entitled as an Alaskan resident to have so many fish for personal use and then to go "No" you can't do it while on this boat, on your own time

Todd W: I oppose because I don't think we should take away emergency authority from Fish and Game and second the crew members on my boat are working. They don't have time to be fishing. I don't see where this is necessary. As a fringe benefit to my crew I take them out fishing.

Haney: I agree, if it was removed I don't think it would really be an effective tool to decrease in fishing. When we are out on a trip our deck hands are working.

Brethers: I think the guys are being discriminated against, politically not a good decision to keep fish by captains and crew; there is a lot of personal use out of the commercial fishery by both captain and deck hands. End of trip a bag of crab or fish goes home with the captain and crew, it is not unusual. And these guys cannot do it because of that.

Brian: This is something similar to the other tools you have under emergency order authority to reduce harvest conservation. The other tools are changes in bag limits, annual limits and method and means. Maybe gear type or bait prohibition. Just another tool.

Bill B: with as few charter operators there are, up to the captain whether he lets his crew participate or not. They have to be licensed but then to prohibit them from fishing. They are there to service the guest. Should be up to the captain of the boat.

C Conder: basically trying to use this as a tool to manage fishing, so captain can decide whether crew can fish or not

Call question

Support----1 Oppose—5 Abstain---5

Proposal 177

Brian: This is a housekeeping proposal submitted by Board of Fisheries to establish statewide bag and possession limit for short spine and long spine thornyhead rockfish. Bag possession of one fish. Came up at the board meeting last winter in Sitka when there was an issue regarding blackcod, sablefish. Requested a bag limit for all species that currently didn't have a bag limit to cover all other species that don't currently have a bag limit. Short spine and long spine don't have limits because they fall outside the definition of what rockfish is in regulation.

Todd W: fish do not survive, regulation requiring retention. Oppose 177

Jenny P: Support regulation proposal because short spines are unique species, the longest lived fishes in the world and can live up to 80-100 years. An the female longspined thorneyheads mature by 25 years and can live up to 45 years. Just that merit on its own is enough for specification of bag limits on this species.

Bethers: Support Jenny's concept of conservation issues but given the level of support harvest and availability of these things in sport fishing, regulation would be meaningless for the resource. Harvest is from commercial gear. Regulation on this for sport fishing and bag limit would be a worthless regulation and minimal affect on resource. I will not be supporting this.

Haney: If caught by accident it is a dead fish. Even if you couldn't keep any you still have dead fish floating on the water instead of going into someone's freezer.

Todd W: Should have regulation with 100% retention of this fish so that it doesn't go to waste and should be recorded in logbook so that Fish and Game can keep track. Then you can see if there is a problem.

C Casey: My data does say commercial sablefish, 15% bycatch

Jenny P: I am going to defer to the Alaska Board of Fishery who submitted this regulation proposal and do support it and I will as well.

C Conder: Hate to see fish get wasted

Todd W: might be good is if people are actually targeting this fish and it is not a bycatch, then there should be some type of limit

Mike P: would like to follow up on this about the retention. Proposal might not come our way again.

Mark S: Ammend proposal to say require full retention of all thorneyrock fish

Bethers: Brian do you have any ideas whether a reasonable level of angling opportunity would be if they were to establish a bag limit? Have you heard any numbers on that?

Brian: They want to put some kind of limit on it without having it unlimited, want to put some restriction on it, must think one fish is reasonable because it is encountered so rarely

Bethers: oppose until we learn more about it

Brown: Fact if you bring up one of these it is dead, does not make sense to take it off hook and throw it back and let it float around. So I would like to propose an amendment saying that we require the logbook entry and full retention of all thornyhead rockfish

This would be a new proposal. We don't want to establish bag limit because we don't want to throw away dead fish. According to Mr Wicks like to get data and then maybe from that data can drive up in a different direction.

Jenny P: I oppose the process that we are engaged in right now because these in my mind are two different regulation proposals. The first one is establish bag limit for thornyhead rockfish as follows. The amendment we are talking about should be a separate regulation proposal from the one that is in the book.

Mike P: Proposal deadline, could submit a proposal and deal with this by next state wide meeting

Jenny P: That is an option but this amendment that sounds like it should be a separate regulation proposal.

Haney: Leave statement establish bag limit but change it from one fish and require annotating the back of license and charter log books

Mike P: Motion by Brown on floor , second

Mark S: Right now no bag limit, should just vote this down, we are wanting the regulation to stay the same as it is, mandatory enforcement

Brown: Agree with Jenny, downside is that if we do not look at the amendment then it goes to the next cycle and then lost 2 years of data that we could have captured

C Conder: You are going to be up there and you tell them how strong you feel about this and turn it down,

Mark S: data should be captured even if numbers are small

Mike P: Mark seconded Mr. Brown's motion, can he then withdraw seconded or leave it and proceed further and vote on Mr. Brown's motion?

Scott: You are still deliberating on the motion. Mr Brown withdrew so don't think you can withdraw the seconded.

Mike: Mr Brown I am going to suggest that we step back from this proposal tonight and revisit it tomorrow night. This will give you an opportunity to work on the wording and where you would like it. It will be the first thing on the agenda tomorrow.

Brown: Retract Motion

Support 177 ---2 **Oppose**—8 Abstain—1

Respectfully submitted

Debra Ruhnke

Juneau Douglas Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Meeting called to order by Chair Mike Peterson at 6:30 PM to discuss Commerical Fish Proposals.

Members Present: Bill Bahleda, Todd Wicks, Ed Haney, Forrest Wagner, Greg Brown, Mike Bethers, Barry Brokken, Jenny Purcell, Jason Kohlhase, Chris Casey, Chris Conder, Mark Stophia, Mike Peterson, and Jake Carte.

Guest Present: Debbie Hart, SE Region Marine Fishing Program Supervisor and Steve Hall, Fish and Game Law Enforcement.

Debbie Hart: I am the new SE Region Marine Fishery Program Supervisor and I have been with the department for a number of years in various different capacities and began this position In November.

Quorum established.

Mike P: One addition to the agenda; Announce Commerical Fishing Seat. We have on this committee an open seat for Commerical Fisherman and the criteria for that reads; Must be an active commercial fishing permit holder or crew member. Like to open this up to anyone in the audience who is interested in this seat or fits those qualifications.

Mike Elsner: What are the criteria for active permit holder?

Mike P: Criteria that we talked about and established and must be an active commercial fishing permit holder or crew member.

Mike Elsner: I have an active commercial fishing permit and would like to be on the commercial seat.

Mike P: Could you tell us about your experience? Why?

Mike Elsner: I grew up in SE handtrolling the boat under my father and grandfather. I fished under my father's boat for a period of time under my own permit. A lifelong Juneauite and Interested in both sport fishing and hunting, trapping locally.

Mike P; Any questions for Mr. Elsner?

Jason K: You participated in troll fishing last year?

Mike E: No

Jason K: When was the last time you did fishery?

Mike E: 1994

Jason: You own your own vessel?

Mike E: No. I believe that is not a qualification. Questioned "active" commercial fishing permit holder.

Mike P: How do we define "active"?

C.Conder: I want to get this guy on a board but '94, which is a long time ago. How much are you on top of stuff going on around here? I would ask the commercial guys to see what they have to say because he is representing their interests.

Todd W: I think fishing last year, currently fishing, that is active.

Greg B.: Mr. Elsner, are you a member of any other organizations that actively keep you abreast of current happenings?

Mike E: Yes, I get commercial fishing newsletters and notices of proposals.

Jenny P: Have you participated within the regulation proposal process for board and fish?

Mike E: No

C. Casey: I don't think you can be all in touch from 1996, we are talking about 14 years. Freshwater guides, things have changed dramatically for us just in the last four years.

Mark S: If that is the only seat he can hold on the board. If he has a permit he cannot hold any other seat. If he wants to participate in the boards and it is the only seat he can hold because he still has his permit. Cannot be sport fishing, cannot be hunting, if he has a permit that is the only seat he can hold.

Mike P: That or one of the alternate seats.

Jenny P: How long will this seat be for?

Mike P: It came up this year so it would be 2013, 3 years.

Jason K: As far as defining "Active" commercial seat I would like to see an individual on the committee that gains or meets part of their income from the industry, working that gear group and is on the water representing the commercial guys.

Mike C.: Are you going to trolling this year?

Mike E: No.

Mark S: I would like to make some criteria that if someone is still holding on to their permit and they are not active then they can be on the board in another capacity. If they want to be on the board and they could fill a different seat and they are actively sport fishing, trapping or hunting. We are barring them from doing that just because they have a latent commercial fishing permit and we are not letting them on because they haven't fished and we are not letting them on because they have an active permit, you just can't win.

Mike P: You can as an alternate.

B Brokken: Mike is a holder of a valid permit. Permit not restricted in any way. That would be an active permit. Seat open since January and remains unfilled with zero interest in the seat.

G Brown: 1994 is a long time.

T Wicks: Mark was saying that if you are a permit holder you cannot hold another seat on this board.

Mike P: Must harvest fish and game for own use and must not hold a commercial crew, charter or guide license. That is for Sport and Hunting Personal use.

Mike P: Call vote

Jason K: Permit that is 16 years out and being renewed every year, see if that is an active permit. Need to refine our definition of "active"

Mike P: Mike do you still want to pursue the commercial seat or you can withdraw?

Mike E: Vote

Public or Ballot

Jake Carte: I understood that if one seat open and one person in audience that wants this that there is no need to vote. If there are two people who want it then there would be a need for a vote.

5 minute break

Mike P: 2009-2010 Regulations—Qualifications for members—to qualify for membership on a committee. A candidate must have knowledge of and experience with the fish and wildlife resources and their uses in the area. And have a reputation within the community consistent with the responsibilities of committee membership. All members on this committee have met the criteria that we came up with to fill these designated seats. What we have Mike is a person who has not fished with their permit since 1994. This is not consistent with the responsibilities of the committee membership. I am not going to put this to a vote. I will take the responsibility as chair and say that you do not meet the criteria.

Jason K: Suggest we put this on the agenda for next meeting and define that seat or role.

Mark S: Alternate seat will be up at the end of the year.

C. Conder: We will discuss this again and would like you to come back after we discuss this. Would like you to come back and try again.

Commerical Fish Proposals

Mike P: Staff reads any proposals and clarifications. Staff recommendations are not public at this time.

Proposal 166

Debbie H: Methods, means and general restrictions. Eliminate requirement of having a sport fishing license to fish in personal use fisheries. This proposal would no longer require sport fish license in personal use.

Mark S: This looks like a legislative thing that slipped through the cracks.

Mike P: That the board does not have the authority?

Mark S: If the legislature never authorized it.

Mike B: oppose

Debbie H: the other group interested in this proposal is the Dept of Safety Enforcement

Jenny P: Does department collect data from personal sport fishing use

Debbie H: Yes. That is very challenging data to gather.

Bill B: Wildlife is protected unless a person is in possession of some kind of license to take them, either a federal license or state license. The alternative is to have a personal use license for \$5 for those people who want to take them.

C Conder: \$24 license good for a year. Part of this money goes to hatchery. So the fish they are taking are putting money back into those hatcheries.

C Casey: Cross reference ID

Stephen Hall:

Brokken: Real issue is to carry proper permits. To repeal that regulation unless action is taken by the legislature. Does not support. He needs to take this to the legislature.

Mike P: All those in support of 166 raise your hand.

Support 1, Oppose 13. Motion failed.

Proposal 167

Debbie H: Types of Legal Gear. Modify definition of mechanical jigging machine. This proposal would clarify gear definition of mechanical Jigging machine.

Jason K: Is this housekeeping?

Debbie H: Yes

Mike B: This came up when we were trying to identify electric reels. Cannot be operated unless attached to vessel

C Casey: anchor should be in

M Bethers: wondering if protection look at this

Steven Hall: see this as a housekeeping proposal because of the addition of the words, lures, baited hooks

Mike P: All those in support of 167 raise your hands

Support: 14 Oppose: 0

Proposal 169

Debbie H: Criteria for the allocation of fishery resources among personal use, sport, and commercial fisheries.

Mike P: Proposal submitted by a committee member

C Conder: makes no sense

Ed Haney: Not offering anything as a definition

G Brown: Need to take action

Mike P: Going to Anchorage and I will make a report on this proposal and I will report back to the committee the next time we meet.

C Conder: not sure on the term "exclusive fishing"

Mike P: will pass on this proposal

Proposal 172

Debbie H: Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries: and 5 AAC 39.223. Policy for statewide salmon escapement goals. Define "sustainable escapement goal threshold"

Mark S: any number they put in for escapement goal has upper and lower limits

New Business

Brown: Webcast for meetings is easy and video attached to webcast for more participation from the public. The other option we are looking at is the University of Alaska to hold meetings there to get television broadcast. Also having classes there to involve the students doing research and asking us questions during that time on television. Putting on the table is first can we reach the public this way and if so which of these options do you want.

Jenny P: Like having a meeting at the U of A and need to remember that in addition to student and the opportunities for them also other people in the community attend U of A for activities and events. We could give that a try.

Bethers: How many other advisory committees are doing this?

Brown: None on TV, they have webcast because they did not want to be televised. Webcast is easy to do

Mike P: Where at the university would it be?

Brown: Either a small room used or the auditorium. Room off library, Eagan lecture hall. Seats about 60 people.

Purcell: In November 2010 the Board and Game will be doing their 2 year cycle in SE. Not sure if they are meeting in Juneau but if they were it would be a good opportunity to have more availability to the public.

C Casey: Webcast is easy

C Conder: I would go for the most simplicity we could get, we want people to get interested in this project. TV can reach a large audience. Either way just want to get more people involved.

C Casey: Monitor public testimony.

Brown: Part on TV, will be a DVD running for length of meeting.

Brethers: Support public involvement. Opposed to taking questions from huge turnouts—limit questions to 3-5 minutes each. In favor of smaller committee for better performance.

Jason: Support. Add teleconference to it as well.

Purcell: We represent local citizens there are ways for our committee to handle situations where a lot of the public is in attendance. Would rather have a lot of public in attendance. There are ways to manage that in a controlled form.

Bethers: Guidelines in our manual of what we can and can't do?

Brown: No

E Haney- Taku 105 to announce meetings

Brown: No announcement in the newspaper.

Mike P: Empire starting to charge for meetings in the newspaper, but, if you go online it is there.

Mike P: The thing about TV that I find intimidating is deciding which proposals are on TV. Webcast—would a webcast keep people away? I like the idea of a webcast.

Debbie H: Publish agenda is a way of getting people interested so they know that you are meeting and what you will be talking about. Did not notice on the agenda time for public participation.

Mike P: There are 35 posters around town that state date, time and public participation.

Mike P: Greg, are you willing to pursue this and next meeting in the fall we can discuss something that might be a little more concrete?

Brown: Next meeting do the webcast at U of A and start to interface with students at the university.

Mike: Any objections to this?

None

Mike P: Let us go ahead and do this.

Mike P: Anything else on new business

T Wicks: Last meeting we discussed and agreed that we would only be discussing proposals relevant to Juneau area. Tonight we had 5 proposals that we didn't have a clue about. I think we should weed out our proposals more.

Mike P: It is a matter of "how do I say no?" I think that all of us learned something about the proposals that were statewide. Difficult to say no. Will make an attempt.

Jenny P: Our job is more far reaching. We are Alaskians and there are economic issues that affect SE and all regions of the state. There are management procedures concerning fish and wildlife that affect all regions in the state that might not be submitted by SE component.

C Conder: Tell us what proposal is about and why you want us to look at it.

Mike P: Next meeting in the fall. Early April 2011 we have SE Finfish proposals and that is when they are due. Board of Game cycle B will be meeting in the winter of 2011.

Jenny P: Board and Game SE cycle will be meeting November 2010. They will not change to their once in three year cycle until 2011.

Mike P: Proposals will be due soon and booklet will be out and we would be meeting sometime in October. Will clear deadlines with Scott and send out an email.

Mike P: One final thing to open up to the table; this was interesting tonight telling somebody "no" that they did not meet the bar based on the criteria that we set.

Brown: Need to be current on issues. 1994, we are talking 16 years, not current. Maybe state they need to be involved with business the last 24 months or a reasonable period of time.

Mark S: Like the active part, commercial fish and crew member and would like to incorporate that into the other seat. You may not actively hold a commercial charter, crew member. The guy hadn't fished since 94 but still has his permit; we don't bar him from those other seats.

Mike P: The criteria that we have right now for Hunting/Sport Fish Personal Use reads, Must harvest fish or game for own use and must not hold a commercial, crew, or charter guide license.

Brokken: Language put in place to prevent and protect users.

C Conder: Had to make a certain portion of your income had to come from commercial type fishing.

Brokken: Language in another seat? Income threshold levels

Mike P: No. We were going to work on this for a year or two and then revisit.

C Conder: Could just put the word active in there, active within three years or 6 months. If they are out of it for 3 years then they are hunter fisherman and not commercial interest.

Mike P: Need to revisit word "Active"

Mark S: Let's put a timeline on it and we can use it for both of them.

Bill B: 3 of the last 5 years sometimes take a year off

Forrest: Active Fishing License, define active, continue strictness of seat, need to be active, need to be clear to the public what this seat means. Strange that he has been out of the industry for 16 years and wanted to be on the seat.

Mike P: There was that empty seat and somebody wants to fill it and volunteer their time.

Mark S: Not strange because that is the only seat he can fulfill, we just need to define "Active"

Mike P: I will make sure everyone will get an email that has this criterion and then think about it for a couple of months.

Brown: Re-address Proposal 177

Mike P: We have not had an opportunity to talk about this.

Brown: Will send it out to everyone in an email and let them vote that way.

Mike P: At our next meeting we will talk about these criteria. Will meet in October if Board of Game meeting in November.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Ruhnke

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Central Peninsula
Advisory Committee
Minutes

1 of 11

Attn: Shannon
AC - B&E SW

RECEIVED

MAR - 2 2010

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

Location - Ninilchik

Date - 2-10-2010

Members present - Steve VANek, David Martin,
Ron VANek, Richard Mondor, John McCombs,
Mike Schuster, Max Edgstad, Douglas Blossom, Gary
Beiman, Robert Clucas

Members absent - Jeff Bergen, Greg Encelwecky

Quorum present - yes

Agency staff - 0

Time meeting called to order 6:05 PM

Time meeting adjourned - 9:30 PM

Steve Vanek

Signature, committee secretary

Central Peninsula AC2 of 11

Minutes - 2-10-2010

- ① Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.
- ② B.O.G action was read
- ③ Voted on statewide fin fish proposals.
(see below)
- ④ Voted to send the chairman or his designee to the March B.O.F meeting.
- ⑤ Voted unanimously to submit last cycle proposals again for fishery proposal deadline of April 10, 2010
- ⑥ Reaffirmed our position on B.O.G cycle - 2 year cycle with one proposal book per year.

VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central Peninsula

DATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE OF

Board of Fish Comments for State wide Proposals

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Support | Oppose | Abstain | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|---|
| 164 | 0 | 10 | - | Commercial fishermen have a license to catch and sell fish. The fish taken for personal use or a home pack come from their commercial catch. This is the same as them buying fish from themselves since they could have sold those same fish to someone else. Thus, this makes them the same as anyone else who buys fish for their home pack. A person can buy as much fish as they want for their home pack so the commercial fishermen can do likewise. |
| 165 | 10 | 0 | - | In times of shortage sport fishermen and commercial fishermen will be closed down because the escapement goal is not reached because dip netters will keep the numbers down before they can be counted. If they dip above the counter the escapement goal will not be met until the goal plus the dipped fish are in the river which may not happen if the run is depressed. |

6 of 11

VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central PeninsulaDATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE 6 OF 11Board of Fish Comments for Statewide

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Proposal | | | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|----------|--------|---------|--|
| | Support | Oppose | Abstain | |
| 167 | NO | Action | | considered housekeeping |
| 168 | NO | Action | | Best left to the people affected for input. |
| 169 | 10 | 0 | | We agree with the proposal & issue stated. The importance of BOF regulations that can negatively impact livelihoods and local economies must must be based on proven facts and not opinions of BOF members. |
| 170 | 10 | 0 | | The Department needs to be clear & accountable to the public on the escapement goals established. The escapement goals should be set and managed for MSY production as outlined in the Magnuson Stevens Act. |
| 171 | 10 | 0 | | This clarifies the escapement goals and gives clear guidance to the BOF & Dept. on setting these goals. Also see justification for #170. |
| 172 | 10 | 0 | | There is not concise, clear definition of sustainable escapement goal threshold. To have any accountability as a goal it must be scientifically defensible. |

7 of 11

VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central PeninsulaDATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE 7 OF 11Board of Fish Comments for Statewide

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Summary of Discussion | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|--------|---------|--|
| | Support | Oppose | Abstain | |
| 173 | 0 | 10 | | We agree with the Department and issue. |
| 174 | 1 | 9 | | This is a fully utilized fishery under the gear types allowed (pots & long ling & drag). A new gear group would take away from these gear group quotas. The bycatch might be a bigger problem than it currently is. The person in Carver felt that it was worth a try to see how it works. |
| 175 | 10 | 0 | | We have heard of the rapidly increasing harvest of blackcod by sports fishers. The blackcod stock are down and declining. Therefore there should be a bag and possession limit. Everyone must participate in conservation practices. |
| 176 | 10 | 0 | | There are reports of spiny Dog Fish basically every where. There numbers have increase dramatically. There is little to no commercial harvest. The harvest that's proposal would allow would be insignificant. |
| 177 | 9 | 1 | | There should be a limit to prevent overfishing of slow reproductive rock fish. The person opposed though it was not needed. |
| 178 | NO ACTION | | | See #179 |

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VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central PeninsulaDATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE OF Board of Fish Comments for State wide finfish

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Support | Oppose | Abstain | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|---|
| 179 | 10 | 0 | - | Clarifies the use of E.O. closures in the sport fishery when the escapement goal is in jeopardy. |
| 180 | 9 | 0 | 1 | We agree with the Department that power reels should be on fishing poles. abstainer didn't care either way |
| 181 | 10 | 0 | - | We agreed with the definition. |
| 182 | 1 | 9 | - | The favorable vote felt that there would be a lot more effort targeting the long build - deep lying fish. |
| 183 | 1 | 9 | - | Those opposed felt that power reels on a defined fishing pole was alright. |
| 184 | 10 | 0 | - | Good idea to avoid invasive species. |

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VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central PeninsulaDATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE OF Board of Fish Comments for Statewide in fish

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Support | Oppose | Abstain | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|--|
| 185 | 10 | 0 | - | it's good to clarify words. |
| 186 | 10 | 0 | - | We agree with the use of spear guns in sport fishing as there are not many doing it and actually may decrease mortality since less chance of a wounded fish getting away. |
| 187 | 0 | 10 | - | This puts an added burden burden on enforcement and causes unrest among anglers who see someone using bait when they can't and they may not see the person's disability |
| 188 | N.A. | | | Didn't do this one because we couldn't understand what was being done. Federal law takes care of habitat |
| 189 | 0 | 10 | | This would be too invasive into the charter businesses, would be hard to manage. |

VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central Peninsula

DATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE OF

Board of Fish Comments for slateride fin fish

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Support | Oppose | Abstain | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|--|
| 190 | 0 | 10 | | This issue has been delt with at length in the most recent past. The current regulation is working and should be left in place as is. It was put into effect to partially reduce the need for further sports fishing restrictions because of the larger harvest. The crew member is still a guide because he is getting paid. |
| 191 | 10 | 0 | | We agree there should be a standard for the official time. There was some discussion that even GPS can be manually set. It would be worth the board looking into. A standard time mechanism would help enforcement stop the "early birds" ie crooks! |
| #192 | 0 | 10 | | This would eliminate the use of tying on a piece of yarn which many use on the hook. This proposal is somewhat confusing. We unanimously want to be able to use yarn tied to a hook and not have to be forced to buy store store bought flies or the equipment to tie our own flies. A piece of yarn tied to the hook or above the hook, is not a baited hook and should be allowed in a fly fishing only area. |

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VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central Peninsula

DATE: 2-10-2010 PAGE OF

Board of Fish Comments for Statewide Finfish

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

| Proposal # | Support | Oppose | Abstain | Summary of Discussion (include minority view) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------|--|
| 200 | | | | <p>We didn't vote on this because we were not being asked to approve or disapprove the board's interpretation.</p> <p>We do however agree with the board's description that a subsistence way of life is based on long term reliance upon fish and game resources for the basic necessities of life. Furthermore, unlike it is culturally or perhaps religiously necessary for ones spiritual beliefs, persons who travel hundreds of miles to get fish are not subsistence users.</p> |
| 201 | | | | <p>In light of our comments above, the finding that the fish in the Chitina subdistrict are subsistence would be wrong, subsistence caught fish should be eaten in the subsistence area not hundreds of miles away. Money spent on getting there could be used for the basic necessities of life at home.</p> |

Copper River Prince William Sound A.C.

- 164, proposal failed 0-11 comments fish are caught by a State authorized commercial permit system. The permit holders may do as they please with their catch as long as it is properly recorded and not wasted. A.D.F.+G. and the department of law say the board cannot make a change like this, ie. the requirement that all subsistence caught fish have the fins cut to distinguish them from commercial product. This proposal was submitted without a clear understanding of the commercial fishery, the fish will be harvested anyway it is just a matter of how they are recorded in the harvest data.
- 165, proposal failed 0-13 A.D.F.+G. is opposed B.E.G.s are not established for all systems, and it was also discussed that this would put more harvest pressure on the female dominate portion at the end of a run.
- 166 proposal failed 0-13 A.D.F.+G. and dept. of law opposed. Current regulations help with tracking of data, this would lead to less data when more is needed on these fisheries. Also discussed was funding issues and contributing to over harvest and abuse.
- 167, proposal passed 13-0 A.D.F.+G. housekeeping proposal
- 168, failed 0-12-1 Perennial proposal by outside interests, long history under present system. This could effect harvest potential. Minority opinion, cheaper boats, more vessel availability.
- 169, failed 0-13 Redundant regulation already addressed in statute.
- 170, failed 0-13 A.D.F.+G. opposed does not allow for management flexibility.
- 171/172, failed 0-13
- 173, passed 13-0 A.D.F.+G. proposal
- 174, failed 0-13 High by catch and a locative from other gear types.
- 175, passed 12-0-1 Bag limits are needed, minority opinion need science before bag limits.
- 176, passed 13-0 no biological concern on this species.
- 177, No-action southeast issue.
- 178, passed 13-0 A.D.F.+G. housekeeping proposal by A.D.F.+G.
- 179, failed 0-13 see proposal 178
- 180, passed 13-0 Definition needed for new sport fish gear.
- 181, No-action see proposal 180.
- 182, No-action issue should be addressed regionally.
- 183, No-action issue should be addressed regionally
- 184, No-action
- 185, passed 13-0 A.D.F.+G. housekeeping definition.
- 186, passed 13-0 sounded like a fun harmless activity.
- 187, failed 0-13 A.D.F.+G. opposed because of enforcement problems.
- 188, passed 13-0 State and federal regulations would be consistent.
- 189, No-action.
- 190, failed 0-13 Harvest management issues, guideline harvest levels are likely to be exceeded if proposal passed
- 191/192, No-action.3

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Attn: Shannon
AC - BOF SQ
Comments

SAXMAN AC
SAXMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADF&G
Meeting of Wednesday February 16, 2010 – 5PM
Location: ADF & G Conference Room

MINUTES

Call to Order and establish quorum (5) ((only a simple majority is required))

Introductions /sign in page: CHARLES DENNY (CHAIR), LLOYD GOSSMAN (VICE CHAIR), WILLIAM “Bud” JOHNSON, (SECRETARY), CLAY SLANAKER, JOHN SCOBLIC, WOODROW WATSON, GINGER FOX. (Ginger came during discussions)

Quorum established.

SCOTT WALKER of ADF & G was also in attendance.

CHAIR DENNY SUGGESTED THE POSTPONEMENT OF REGULAR MEETING ITEMS UNTIL THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IN MARCH/APRIL. AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING FOCUS ON PROPOSAL 195 THAT IS CURRENTLY BEFORE THE BOARD OF FISH. ALL THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AGREED.

Proposition 195 – Close summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery in Southeast Alaska District 2 as follows:

5AAC 32.110(1). Fishing seasons for Registration Area A.
Close portions of District 2 to commercial Dungeness crab fishing.

Motion is made to support by Clay Slanaker and Seconded by Charles Denny.

Discussion:

Bud made the comment this whole process (The Dungeness crab fishery) needs to slow down. All the crab grounds near Saxman that were used for Customary and traditional don't have any crab left. Scott Walker made the comment that these areas are no longer subsistence areas.

John Scoblic then commented on the position Ketchikan Advisory had taken at their meeting. He said they adopted an amended motion which called for closing all of Districts 1 and 2 to commercial crabbing and revert back to previous management schemes. He went on to mention some of the reasons the Ketchikan Advisory committee used in support of the amended motion:

- 1) Habitat in district 1 is deep-water fjords and inlets that do not support large crab populations.
- 2) Handling crab in the summer soft shell phase is argued to cause very high mortality rates.

- 3) Why did the BOF reject the “old data” presented in the meeting in Jan 2009?
- 4) There is a report out of British Columbia that help prove summer fishing on soft shell crab is a bad practice (Possible NEW information)
- 5) Permit holders in Ketchikan bought into the fishery specifically to fish crab October – February, and now they are shut out. (One permit holder was at our last meeting an spoke to this during public comment)
- 6) This creates a huge conflict with summer subsistence crabbers.
- 7) In 2009 only 5% of the harvest in area A were taken out of district 1 & 2 (it was argued at the BOF meeting in Jan 2009 that opening more area would spread the fleet)
- 8) ADF&G has previously NOT supported SUMMER fisheries and that continued to be their position at the BOF meeting in Jan 2009.
- 9) WHY DID THE BOF IGNORE ADF&G biological recommendations?!?
- 10) Other Ketchikan groups such as the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, The City of Ketchikan, The Ketchikan Indian Community, The Ketchikan Guided Sport Fisherman Association, and others were against this fishery – many of which passed and introduced resolutions to the Board.

The Committee then discussed that one local Commercial Crab fisherman is selling his boat and permit because of the summer fishery. Mike Bellanich does other types of work and has always counted on the fall and winter crab fishery as his other source of income. With this no longer happening he is selling out and may be moving out of Ketchikan. He fished the fall fishery and felt there was dramatic harm as he only wound up with 50% of his normal catch. It just isn't economically viable for him or anyone else to do this any more.

Clay Slanaker then made a friendly amendment to his original motion, and it was accepted by Mr. Denny as the Second, and is follows:

MOTION TO ADOPT 195 WITH AMENDMENT:

CLOSE ALL PORTIONS OF DISTRICTS 1 & 2 TO COMMERCIAL CRABBING, CLOSE THE SUMMER COMMERCIAL FISHERY IN DISTRICT 1 & 2, AND REVERT BACK TO PREVIOUS MANAGEMENT SCHEME FOR COMMERCIAL CRAB FISHING IN DISTRICTS 1 & 2 OCTOBER – FEBRUARY DE-LINKING FROM THE REST OF REGISTRATION AREA A.

Discussion continues - -

1. Subsistence users, personal use and sport fisherman were interfered with to the point of harvesting only a small portion of what they needed. Not only did this interfere with access to crab but also other fisheries.
2. We believe the Alaska Department of Fish and Game still opposes the summer commercial fishing of Crab in Districts 1 and 2, although they took no position on proposal 195 as it is strictly allocative.
3. This fishery does nothing for Ketchikan – No processors, lessens opportunity for local crabbers, and is damaging the resource for everyone else in this area, thereby denying equal opportunity.
4. Kasaan is against the fishery in fact filed a court action try to stop the fishery in 2009.

5. Extremely worrisome is the large amounts of Dead loss being noted for this fishery. No viable reason for the increase has been noted at this time. We don't think it could be temperature or salinity. That was checked by at least one of the crabbers who fished in District 1.

Note: Scott Walker of ADF&G said it could be the warmer water causing the additional dead loss

Lloyd mentioned the article by Ron Leighton in the Juneau Empire saying the Dead loss was 10 x higher than in some years and up to 24 time higher than other years. Lloyd also mentioned that Ron Leighton was saying that the folks from Kasaan only got about 3% of their normal subsistence amount of Crab.

Scott Walker questioned how Ron came up with this figure and Lloyd explained this came in a discussion from Ron just a couple of days prior to the meeting.

6. It appears by expanding the fishery into the Ketchikan area in the summer it only increased the overall catch by about 1 to 2 per cent. The damage to the resource and lessening equal opportunity for the folks in Ketchikan and Kasaan sure isn't worth that.
7. Continued controversy could cause a shut down in Misty fjords same as in Glacier Bay.

Woody Watson felt overall there just isn't enough crab around anywhere and said this fisher shouldn't take place. He said he used to get some sent in from Hydaburg but they don't even have any left.

The committee noted with no winter fishery there is no one to provide crab in the winter for personal or subsistence users who can't get out in the winter.

Ginger Fox also commented on how her family used to harvest for C and T and said it just isn't possible anymore and attributes this to fisheries like the summer crab fishery.

The question was called:

The amended motion carried with a unanimous vote of all 7 members present.

Saxman supports Proposal 195 as amended to include all of Districts 1 and 2 and revert back to previous Management Scheme for Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishing, Districts 1 & 2. October – February, De-linking them from the rest of Registration Area A.

Meeting adjourned-

Mataunuska Valley AC Minutes Feb. 24, 2010 MTA Building Palmer
7:00 PM: Call meeting to order

Roll Call: eight members for quorum

- Erick Beckman
- Brian Campbell
- Mark Chryson
- Andy Couch (secretary)
- Stephen Darilek (chair)
- Bennett Durgeloh
- Gerrit Dykstra
- Ken Federico
- Bill Folsom (vice chair)
- Melvin Grove
- Tony Jones
- Dan Montgomery
- Guiseppe Rossi
- Max Sager
- Kathy Thompson
- Troy Vincent

Steve Bartelli Excused

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*Attn: Shannon
AC BOP - SW
see p. 5*

Student Members Present- Andy Goeke, Daniel Warta, Stephen Warta

Participants representing organizations: Cliff Judkins - Board of Game, Representative Carl Gatto, Tony Kavalok and Tim Peltier - ADF&G wildlife biologists, Rod Arno - AOC, Tory Orlek and Mark Agnew - public safety / fish and wildlife protection, Dane Crowley - Sportmen for Fish and Wildlife, Dave Rutz -Tom Vania -Jim Hasbrouk - ADF&G Fisheries Biologists, Aaron Bloomquist- Anchorage AC

Changes to FEB. 10 Minutes: 123 Community Harvest reports not closed --Board of Game added more units to potlatch than requested. Potlatch may be used in (see Note From Max.) Minutes with suggested changes Approved Unanimously 15-0-0.

Calendar of events:

Monday March 8 Eagle River VFW -- Break away snaring clinic -- contact Kenny Barber.

Public Comment:

Rod Arno with AOC spoke requesting proposal 200 be deferred to a joint Board of Fisheries and Game meeting or change the definition to read: "Subsistence way of life means a way of life that is consistent with the long term use of fish and game resources, when available, to supplement the basic necessities of life."

175
AC Comment #15

AOC suggests support to the Board of Fisheries of proposal 201 as written which would reinstate a subsistence fishery to the Chitna area.

Question was asked why AOC preferred deferring proposal 200? Rod's answer was that the definition of subsistence way of life should apply to both fish and game which would require a joint Board meeting to establish.

Aaron Bloomquist: Anchorage AC suggests that Board of Game defines subsistence way of life in Fairbanks before BOF statewide meeting. Asked that Mat Valley AC sign on.

Aaron also mentioned that Anchorage AC had requested Howard Delo and Bruce Morgan (Anchorage AC member) be appointed to BOF and requested the resignation of member Janet Woods for not participating fully in the Board of Fisheries process.

Dane Crowley: Supports effort by Rod Arno and Aaron Bloomquist on the state subsistence issue. Don't support game proposal 16, but would like to support efforts to increase numbers of sheep. Would like to talk about Alaska Dall Sheep Initiative and Susitna State Forest as items on agenda of one of the Matanuska Valley AC meetings. Would like to do a project on Alexander Creek pike reduction/salmon rehabilitation and would like AC support.

Cliff Judkins Board of Game member-- concerning potlach -- Board of Game confronted with Frank court decision which required providing for potlach. The Board's new system requires ceremonial permit in hand of all potlach hunters. Village or Tribal Chief would issue permit. Chief would make determinations as to who would get or not get permit. Chief may have one permit at a time. Harvest must occur in traditional and customary hunting area. Tried to create principles upon which issuance of permits is based on.

Question to Cliff -- 1500 honorary people on Knik Tribal roll as testified to at Board of Game meeting -- under new potlach opportunity would all these people be eligible for permits? Cliff did not know, and said the regulation / law may need to be defined by the court.

Hunt can be restricted if there is a population concern with the resource according to Cliff.

Why would Chiefs be the ones issuing permits? Cliff said to give the tribes ownership and control and it could possibly slow down potlach harvests. Cliff hopes the permits would be issued one at a time to the Chief without a second one issued until the first one was returned.

Bill Folsom spoke in favor of having ADF&G manage / administer permit to the resource if the potlach is to be allowed.

Is there any limit to number of potlach permits or harvest? Cliff said ADF&G would set number(s) for each area.

Does anyone have to produce a death certificate -- as this is a funeral ceremony? Individual suggested he would like to see this required.

New potlach regulations are scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2010.

Rod Arno suggested there was procedural problem. In other words if there is a compelling state interest potlach could be curtailed, and AOC is pursuing that issue -- possibly through court.

According to members of Matanuska Valley AC the primary reason potlach became a big issue with Matanuska Valley AC was ADF&G was sending Anchorage residents to the Valley rather than permitting them to hunt moose in Unit 14C.

Stephen Darilek was concerned with the time between when a conservation issue could start and how long until the potlach would be curtailed. He also was concerned with possible mismanagement of the permits as has been seen. Stephen wanted to mention that it was not the AC's intention to stop all potlachs, but to control what was happening in the Matanuska Valley.

A member of the public, hunting guide, Kelly Vrem -- asked support for continued legislative funding to guide concession process. Process has not been completed. Claims every guide in the state has been contacted at least 3 times. According to Vrem, positive attributes is concessions would control amount of guides, thus minimizing disruptions of public by guides.

Question was asked if number of guides would really be limited or would the master guides who won a concession simply hire plenty of assistants who would then work under them? Vrem answered that when guiding in a larger federal concession he voluntarily harvested less and avoided areas public was using.

Tony Kavalok ADF&G area game management biologist talked on moose and gave the committee moose population numbers (through a handout) for Unit 14 A where most potlach hunting has been occurring in the Mat-Su Valley area.

Bill asked if the habitat could support more moose? Tony hopes to monitor habitat in the future.

Chickaloon, Knik, Eklutna, and CIRI are the 4 tribal groups that have all requested potlach permits in 14 A in the past.

\$86,000 is the approximate amount of revenue generated by the current 14A moose antlerless drawing permit hunts.

If a majority of Advisory Committees voted to close antlerless moose hunts in Unit 14A would ADF&G only issue any antlered bull permits? No -- antlerless moose would still be allowed for potlach in Unit 14A.

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AC Comment #15

Bill wants AC to continue with the previously voted AC position of not authorizing antlerless moose permits in Unit 14A even if potlach continues in order to bring attention to this issue.

Kathy questioned with all the meat needed for potlach purposes, why is not road killed moose used for this purpose?

Tony replied that in some cases road kill or illegal killed meat has been used. Tony said also that in some cases that option has not been acceptable to those requesting a potlach hunt -- perhaps for time constraints.

What would be outcome if antlerless moose permits were not issued? Tony said perhaps additional road kill in Unit 14 A. Perhaps an increase in moose population would bring additional amount of hunters to the unit. In either case, the potlach permits would continue.

Troy asked Tony Kavalock if there was a possibility of someone from the AC assisting with developing the actual potlach permit? Tony said it would be O.K. with him, but of course he is not necessarily the person making that call for ADF&G.

Mel asked when Tony would have a conservation concern. Tony replied that 200 or more potlach animals and reduction in population numbers in 14A would constitute a conservation concern.

Guisseppe made a motion to reconsider the antlerless moose authorization vote for unit 14A. 2nd by Stephen. Motion passed 10 - 4 - 1 Student vote 3-0 -0 in support.

Some committee members felt that non reauthorization of the antlerless permits would only harm people who are not participating in the potlach opportunity. Others felt a statement drawing attention to the unfairness of the potlach situation and to the many management unknowns with the new permit system made them uncomfortable with issuing any antlerless moose permits in the area. Reauthorization of antlerless moose hunts carried 8-7. Student vote 2-1.

Ken Federico introduced his group letter from numerous groups asking for assistance in maintaining habitat, providing dumpsters, restroom facilities and future management to protect the resource and access to the Kasilof and Kenai River Dipnet personal use fisheries.

Mark Chryson moved to endorse Ken's letter. Dan Montgomery 2nd. Motion carried 15-0 -0 Student vote 3-0-0.

Motion to have Mel Groves representing the AC in Fairbanks by Mark. 2nd by Dan. Motion passed 15-0-0 and 3-0-0. Mel took some suggestions on hunting issues to testify about.

P 4 8 5
AC Comment #15

Board of Fisheries proposal discussion:

165 and 166 fisheries proposals -- motion to approve and 2nd. passed 15-0-0 (did not get student vote).

Proposals 182 and 183. Motion and 2nd. 0-14-1. and 0-2-1.

Proposal 189 Motion and 2nd. Motion failed 0-15-0 and 0-2-1.

Motion to approve 190. 2nd. ADF&G opposes because of attempt to keep sport halibut limit at 2 fish. Mel said ADF&G working this under emergency order is not right -- especially if ADF&G does not allow fishing when additional fish are available. Andy asked if it would be possible for crews to fish for and harvest other species besides halibut? since the emergency orders seemed to be based on reducing halibut harvest, but there were no biological concerns with many other species of fish. ADF&G's response was that the Department did not have authority to manage halibut / but the regulation that restricts charter crews from fishing or retaining fish while running a charter is clearly aimed at reducing harvest of the halibut resource. ADF&G said that a regulation restricting all fishing and harvest of all fish by the charter crew was it's only means of restricting the charter halibut harvest, and that such a restriction assisted in allowing a 2 halibut daily limit for charter clients through out the summer season in some areas. Motion carries 14 -0 -1 students 1-0-2.

Motion to approve Statewide Fisheries proposal 200. 2nd. amended to match AOC amendment wording: "Subsistence way of life means a way of life that is consistent with the long term use of fish and game resources, when available, to supplement the basic necessities of life." amendment passed 15-0-0. Amended motion passed 15-0-0.

Motion to approve proposal 201. 2nd. Motion passed 15-0-0. student vote 1- 0- 2.

10:15 p.m. Meeting break and scheduled for continuation at 7 p.m. on March 10, 2010 at MTA building in Palmer.

Minutes taken by Andrew Couch

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SITKA FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following are excerpts from the minutes of the meetings of the Sitka related to Statewide BOF proposals. The discussions from several meetings have been consolidated and rearranged in numerical order for the ease of the reader. Different individuals acted as secretary for these meetings, hence the amount of information recorded varied from meeting to meeting. Some meeting minutes have individual people identified by initials. These initials should match the following names:

Committee members:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Tad Fujioka - Trapping- chair | Jeff Farvour- At large |
| Jerry Barber - Hunting/ Hand Troll- vice-chair | |
| Jack Lorrigan - Subsistence | Randy Gluth- Hunting |
| Mo Johnson - Seine | Erik Bahnsen - Charter |
| Dick Curran - Longline | Floyd Tomkins - Conservation |
| Joel Hanson - Guiding | Eric Jordan - Alternate |
| Karen Johnson - At-large | Pete Roddy - Shellfish |
| Mike Baines- Sportfish | Ken Ash - Hand troll |
| Tory O'Connell- Alternate | John Murray- Power Troll |

ADF&G staff in attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Eric Coonrandt, Commercial Fisheries | Troy Tydenco, Sport Fisheries |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|

This is a summary of the vote tallies. Discussion of individual proposals follows.

| Prop. Number | Subject | Vote - Outcome |
|--------------|--|--|
| 166 | Eliminate license requirement for PU fishing Amend to require either sport license <u>or PU license</u> | 10-0 Pass amendment unanimously; Amended motion tabled- See discussion |
| 167 | Types of legal gear (allow baited hooks and lures on mechanical jigging machines) | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 168 | Repeal 58' length limit on seine vessels | 0-14 Fails Unanimously |
| 169 | Define criteria for eliminating reasonable harvest opportunity | 9-3-2 Pass |
| 170-172 | Clarify escapement goal definitions and use | 0-13-1 Fails |
| 173 | Parallel groundfishery managment | No Action-Comment only |
| 174 | Lawful gear for groundfish (sunken gillnets) | 0-14 Fails Unanimously |
| 175 | Establish sport bag limit for sablefish | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 176 | Increase bag limit for dogfish Amend: require sport fish reporting of sharks by species Amended proposal | 14-0 Pass amendment 9-5 Pass amended proposal |
| 177 | Thornyhead sport bag limits | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 178 | Clarify EO limitations | 13-0 Pass unanimously |
| 180 | Allow detachable electric reels up to 15 lbs | 2-12 Fails |

| | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 181 | Allow all detachable electric reels | 0-14 Fails Unanimously |
| 182 | Allow electric reels only for handicapped | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 183 | Allow only pre-authorized electric reels of limited capabilities | 8-6 Pass |
| 184 | Prohibit felt soles for wading in fresh water | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 185 | Allow spear guns & prohibit boomsticks | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 186 | Allow spear guns | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 187 | Allow handicapped to use bait for salmon | 1-13 Fail |
| 188 | Adopt IPHC regs for sport halibut | 14-0 Pass Unanimously |
| 189 | Require guide-client agreement prior to fishing | No Action-Comments only |
| 190 | Allow charter crew to retain fish during charter trip | 0-13 Fail Unanimously |
| 191 | Define official timekeeping method | 10-2-1 Pass |
| 195 | Change dungeness season | No Action-Comments only |
| | | |

166 To Eliminate the Requirement that Personal Use Fisherman must have a Sport Fish License

MTA/S

- Dept clarified that in SE, the personal use fisheries are administered by the Com Fish Division, but this isn't uniform throughout the state
- Dept attempted to clarify differences between sport, personal use and subsistence fisheries
- A question was raised (and not answered) if any of the sport license fees were used to offset cost of management of PU fisheries since latter was managed out of Com fish.
- Member expressed the option that PU fishing should still require some sort of license, but could see that the cost of a PU license perhaps shouldn't be as high as a SF license.
- Another member noted that under the current system it would be difficult to know how many PU fishermen there were based on license sales, but a separate PU license requirement would help in this regard. It would also generate a specific revenue stream for PU fisheries

M/S to adopt a modified version of the proposal that would replace the Sportfish License requirement with a requirement for a Personal Use License and discussion continued

- Not sure if a license that cost significantly less than a sport license would even raise enough revenue to offset the costs of issuing
- Not sure that it is a good idea to require separate licenses, perhaps better to permit a Personal Use fisherman to have either a Sport license or a PU license

Friendly amendment to 1st amendment to require a Personal Use fisherman to have either a Sport license or a PU license- Revised amendment passed unanimously 10-0 and discussion continued

- Jack (subsistence rep) brought up the concern that seaweed harvesting would require a PU license. He was strongly opposed to any action that would restrict or increase the cost of such traditional food gathering
 - Dept responded that in the Sitka area, there has been a subsistence finding for seaweed and thus, seaweed gathering by residents is a subsistence, rather than PU activity and therefore, this proposal would not affect this activity.

M/S to table on the grounds that there were more important proposals to cover and time was getting late

Motion to table passed unanimously 10-0

167: Clarify that both baited and unbaited hooks may be used on jig machines

PR – I don't see a problem with the existing regs, but I guess boarding officers may not understand the current wording

PR – MTA

MJ 2nd

FT- The regs as currently written look pretty clear to me. If you think that you need to clarify that "hooks" include both baited and unbaited types then you better also clarify that the jigging machine only needs to be attached to the vessel when it is fishing. As the reg now reads, it would be a violation to have a jigging machine in your truck!

Passes 14-0

168: repeal 58' length limit on seine vessels

MJ MTA

DC 2nd

MJ- This is a statewide version of a SE proposal we voted down. Repealing the 58' limit would just increase the number of potential seine boats, and hence the size of the seine fleet. Right now there are more permits than suitable boats. They just had a buy back program to reduce fleet size. This is counter productive.

DC – is the bulbous bow included in length?

MJ – No, it is not included in length

JL - ?

0-14

Fails

Proposal 169 Define conditions that permit denial of opportunity to harvest

M/S-Supported 9-3-2

- Troy (for dept) indicated that he didn't think that this proposal would change the way that fisheries are managed. This would just provide an explanation of how the various criteria are applied.

? called

Proposals 170-172 (together) Salmon escapement goals

M/S- (all three proposals collectively) Failed 0-13-1

-Troy (for dept) provided a basic explanation of the different types of ways to set escapement goals- BEG : generally used for stocks with good stock:recruit relationship; generally a fine-tuned range; requires many years of solid data

SEG: Used for stocks with only 5-10 years of data- all this provides is evidence that a certain level of historic catch is sustainable

SET: The point of serious concern - bottom end of the escapement range

When asked about local examples, Troy responded that Redoubt was the best local example but indicated that anywhere with a management plan would be using one of these.

-Eric: These proposals limits the ability of the dept to manage. Currently I trust the dept's managers more than I trust the Board. Tarbox (proposal sponsor for 170 & 171) is saying that he doesn't want the dept using the best process possible and that he wants the board involved.

- These are really far-reaching proposals; it is not needed to impose this state-wide. If there's a problem on the Anchor River, write an Anchor River -specific proposal.

- I'm not comfortable tying the hands of the dept in this manner.

? called

173 – Mtg plan for parallel groundfish fisheries.

TO – less paperwork under a blanket EO

174 - lawful gear for groundfish

PR MTA

JF 2nd

PR -I've seen sunken gillnets in Holland. My experience with the sunken gillnets in Juneau for cod for crab bait, is that they are extremely effective in catching salmon.

TO – Marine mammal bycatch is also an issue.

JF – The proposer suggests that small boats are being disenfranchised, but there is actually a lot of opportunity – this is a reallocation.

TO call ?

0-14

Fails

175- Establish statewide sport bag limit for sablefish

GB: MTA

DC 2nd

DC: Blackcod stocks in general are still declining – the Plan Team is predicting declines in the Gulf through 2012 and then they may still decline further after that. The current SE bag limit was put in place before the new quotas came out. The quota went down in Chatham 30% with more declines predicted. Thus, smaller sport bag limits are appropriate.

JF – it says even "with a ban on electric reels..." – it looks unlikely that they would ban electric reels. I think we should manage conservatively, especially if sport blackcod is not managed on abundance (managed by sport fish bag limits instead of an allocation). Proposal 175 makes excellent comments comparing the proposed blackcod limit to other species.

FT – notice that blackcod is a fully allocated resource already and that there are no limits on numbers of sport fishermen or length of season. It might be a good idea to look at a quota for charter fishermen if this becomes established as a recognized user group. The conservation issue regarding the stock will force that decision at some point.

PR – I don't think up to this date that the BOF has been willing to separate charter fishing from sport fishing, but if they don't do that I doubt if they would set a charter allocation

GB ?

14-0 support

Also see the following excerpt of minutes of the meeting on March 31 2009 when the AC drafted proposal 175:

JL – suggest we start crafting a strong blackcod proposal for next meeting

PR – I suggest we draft a proposal for a 2 fish daily 4 annual sport bag limit for blackcod Statewide; No annual limit for residents

JB – don't know enough about the rest of the state –

PR- In PWS, & Aleutian chain state waters there are blackcod fisheries.

Motion to support-KA

2nd TO

TF – Dept told me that a sportfisherman doesn't escape the state's 2 fish bag limit by going 3 miles offshore (I.e. the areas that are federal commercial fisheries are still included in the state sport fishery.)

PR – Dept might think this isn't an issue in other areas, but if you don't start with a number you have no place to go.

JL – Question

Vote 9-0 to support ; secretary directed to draft language

176 – increased bag limit for spiny dogfish

JM MTA

GB 2nd

JM – The more the merrier.

TO – explained stock assessment and bycatch of dogfish; the language is poor in the proposal

JF – not opposed to a larger bag limit, but catches should be recorded on license.

JM – I don't see why non-reporting is a problem. Why should they have to report this catch on their license?

TO – they have to report sharks, and they should report all sharks caught.

GB – this isn't very well written, but increasing the bag limit for dogfish is a good idea

EB – Dept will suss out language on this thing

TO – if you are going to support please substitute the language so we continue with a culture of conservation and quality data. Remember, 10 years ago we didn't think sport blackcod was going to be an issue either.

PR – Motion;

Substitute language to allow increase limits but require catch reporting on the license

JM 2nd

EB – my thought is that we ought to use charter logbooks for reporting instead of license. What's the point of reporting on a license?

JH - The author doesn't appear to be a charter client. I support amendment, but I don't support proposal. Spiny dogfish are a threatened species in some areas. While there are circumstances elsewhere that are causing it, we may get there some day too – I don't think we should increase the bag limit. It is a long-lived species & sharks are declining worldwide. I used to be involved in the charter industry in Scotland. Dogfish are a valuable sport species there- they are about the only thing left.

DC – I don't think they should be put in the same category as a salmon shark, blue shark, etc. – they are different than those species. I support that they should be reported on the license as a dogfish, not as a generic shark.

TO- If the angler keeps a written record (i.e. the back of the license) they will be able to transfer that information to the dept's end-of-year sportfish survey accurately. Recording on the license will result in better data for the dept.

PR – I modify my amendment to say that sharks be reported by species on license and that dogfish limit be separate from “shark”

JB – not enough room on the logbooks, can only list so many species

PR – that is the State's problem

JF – we should throw in some lee way to put in new reporting methods.

JM -As the 2nd I agree to the modification

Sharks must be identified by species on reporting form.

14 – 0 pass amendment

Back to proposal as amended

GB ? on amended motion:

Limit for spiny dogfish to be 5/day, 10/yr. All sharks (including dogfish) are to be recorded by species on the back of license.

9-5 passes

177- Thornyhead bag limits

JB – what kind of group is this fish included in?

TO- Slope rockfish are *Sebastes* – Thornyhead are *Sebastes* thus they aren't in any of the other groups.

PR MTA

GB 2nd

JL – is there a sport fishery?

TO – Sport fishermen fishing deep will bycatch them, particularly if electric reel use becomes more widespread and people fish deeper. The commercial fishery is bycatch only- no targeted harvest allowed.

JH?

14-0 passes

178 EO authority

M/S supported 14-0

-This appears to be Housekeeping

? called

180 – Allowing detachable electric reels up to 15 lbs

PR – MTA

DC 2nd

PR – Using electric reels is not sporting. This is a slippery slope.

JL – is there an age or handicapped provision with this already?

TF – Right now anyone is allowed to use an electric reel.

JF- comment on the weight limit – reel manufacturers are innovative. As technology gets better, a weight limit will become meaningless. There are already strong electric reels with automatic jigging features that weigh much less than 15 lbs on the market. This regulation should be all or nothing. Electric reels aren't sport fishing. Remember last fall there was a charter guide that came to our AC meeting and he did not support the use of mechanical retrieval. People in our community do not support electric reels.

JB – this one is not saying yea or nay on power reels, but is defining electric reels to exclude commercial jigging machines.

TO – this proposal's language implies that by the original language, the Board meant to allow mechanical gear. That's not historically accurate. The current language does allow it, but by accident, not by design. Our proposal (182) takes care of this by not allowing the gear at all except for handicapped.

FT – anyone that can hold a 15 lb reel is pretty extraordinary

JF – This language is too loose

JM – If you don't allow electric reels how are you going to catch a blackcod limit?

PR – just because you have no faith in the BOF judgment is no reason to discount our proposal. I actually bought a 2 speed manual reel to catch blackcod and it works fine, although it is work. That's sporting.

JL – My grandmother had a monster reel and she would use it to catch blackcod. She hand cranked – this when she was in her 70's and had crippled hands. It can be done. It takes talent and patience. What does the charter fleet think about this?

JH – (Guide rep) There are very few lodges that target blackcod, Shelter Island Lodge and Anchor Pt in Juneau do – not to say there won't be more in the future. Port Alexander is likely to get involved given an easy opportunity. Right now, the outlawing of electric reels only will hurt two lodges.

EB – (Charter rep) It is my feeling as well that very few people go for after blackcod. If inside lodges wants to catch blackcod, they can reel for them. We don't use them in our business except for handicapped.

TF – I have heard that there are a few clients in Sitka that go deep for blackcod with conventional gear.

DC – did they have trouble?

TF - no, they use regular sport gear, but they do have to wait for good weather.

KA – this pertains to all species, not just blackcod.

Randy Gluth – what justification for electric reels did the proponents at the last BOF meeting provide? – age? handicapped?

EB – I don't remember what some of the other charter operators were saying. I would only use one for a handicapped person that brought one with them.

TO – It is not likely that the original Board intent when defining sport gear was to allow electric reels. The recent interpretation of current regulation allows it, but we don't have to support that idea.

JL ?

2-12 fails

Proposal 181 allow any detachable electric reel

MTA JF

PR 2nd

TF ?

0-14 fails - See discussion for Prop 180

Proposal 182 prohibit electric reels except by handicapped

JL MTA

FT 2nd

TO – We spent a lot of time developing this proposal. We had a lot of reasons to allow easy access for handicapped.

GB ?

14-0 passes - (Also see discussion for Prop 180 and following discussion from March 31 2009 AC meeting when proposal 182 was drafted):

M/S- to approve draft language presented- restricting use of electric reels to handicapped, elderly and youthful anglers

EB – some questions – if we have age exceptions in addition to exception for disabled people than this opens up enforcement issues with bag limits. How does enforcement know who really caught the fish? JB agrees. Even the disabled exception has this problem to some degree, but there wouldn't be very many disabled fishermen compared to the number of elderly or young fishermen.

RG – Did any charter operators at the BOF meeting express a need for age exceptions?

DC – Don't recall any. We heard about the handicapped needing to use electric reels. Ms. Williams (BOF member) was the one who brought this up. Age exceptions would water it down too much to make it useful. This is a sport fishery, if you can't handle the sport you shouldn't be there unless there is a handicap issue. There are other opportunities for personal use and subsistence. I worry about them having gear on board when there is no handicapped situation. Maybe we should prohibit having an electric reel aboard unless there is a disabled fisherman- or at least require that the reel be taken off the rod.

EB – We may lose the whole proposal passing if we get too wordy, so I think this is cleaner language.

PR – There are large hand-held electric reels for commercial snapper and grouper fishing

KA – why are we stating electric reels attached to the pole?

TF – (In response to KA) This would prohibit the electric downrigger being used as a "rod and reel". I like SEAGO's language requiring that the reel be attached to the rod via a reel seat- using threaded rings only.

FT – What if someone comes up with an electric reel that doesn't require a reel seat? Would it be out?

PR – Maybe we should leave the reel seat language to them?

TF – If it is restricted to a threaded reel seat it does limit reel power since a really powerful reel would have to be bolted to the rod or risk being disattached.

JB – I don't know if we need to say anything about it being attached since we don't have a definition of a fishing rod.

TF- It looks like we have a consensus to support a proposal allowing disabled sportfishermen to use an electric reel using simple language.

Vote: 9-0 to support proposal without age exemptions

Proposal 183: restrict electric reels to pre-authorized reels of limited capabilities

JM MTA

GB 2nd

JM- Tad, this is your proposal. Would you explain it?

TF – I thought about this topic for quite awhile, trying to figure out what it was that offends me about electric reels. I concluded that they are not sporting because they are too powerful. Most of them give the angler an unfair advantage over the fish. I decided that I wasn't opposed to the electric nature, just the increased capability that it gives the fisherman. The obvious solution was to define some acceptable specifications that would separate sporting gear from unsporting gear. I quickly realized though that even if I could do this, it would be extremely tedious for enforcement personnel to make these measurements in the field. Even the dept's proposal (180) would require that the angler detach the reel from the rod to allow the reel to be weighed. As an alternative, I thought that pre-approval by ADF&G personnel in the office would be more feasible. That way enforcement would just ask the angler for a piece of paper- no different than asking for a fishing license. We recognized last year that enforcement resources for sportfishing are pretty slim. This would be a lot faster for them.

PR – I probably won't support this, but an individual's strength will determine torque. Weights and measures would be required to deal with this – too cumbersome.

FT – electric reels are run by DC motors. It is a good idea. Easy to measure.

JL – if my grandmother could do this in the mid 70s I'm not convinced any electric reels are needed.

JM – this doesn't contradict ours?

TF – It complements or works alone. Proposal 182 addresses who can use electric reels. This proposal limits the type of electric reels that can be used. I don't think that even a handicapped angler needs to use an overly powerful electric reel.

TO – Appreciate the thought behind the proposal, but the Dept will have problems on this because they will have to define typical, able-bodied, conventional etc. I do not want to undermine our proposal for a

complete restriction by supporting this proposal that could allow able bodied anglers to use power assisted devices.

TF – If both proposals were passed, it also prohibit able-bodied anglers from using electric reels.

JB – I think there should be some limits on the types of reels allowed and I like this one better than the Depts (180).

PR – I would like to go with ours and think about this one for future Boards if there is a problem with abuse by handicapped anglers or vessels with handicapped anglers on board.

FT – (To TF) would you consider designating a maximum rate of retrieval?

TF – I considered trying to come up with the specifications myself, but I didn't want people to argue with my numbers. I thought that letting the dept develop these numbers was a less controversial way to go.

FT – Able-bodied fishermen – that's potentially a pretty big range of ability. We should designate performance specifications.

JB – That would be impossible for us to do.

JF – I think the Dept needs as much help as possible, we are getting into the weeds

People are already buying expensive reels. This sends the Board a message, especially the last paragraph.

JL?

8-6 passes

184 Prohibit felt soles

M/S supported 14-0

-This has already passed as a SE-specific regulation, so this won't result in any change for us. We talked about it last year when it was a SE-proposal.

-Given that this is to be a part of the sportfishing regulations, does it apply to any other activities- like duck hunting, stream surveying (by dept or USFS)?

-Nobody present was able to answer this question.

-Duck hunters should have to abide by this restriction too.

-Why is felt different?

-Felt has more surface area and thus stays moist much longer than rubber or other materials.

Since it is moist, stream/ lake organisms can stay alive much longer; much more biologically friendly substrate.

-Wader manufacturers are changing their products in response to these problems. You probably won't be able to buy felt soles by the time this goes into effect. Thus, the proposal would really only affect people with old waders in the closet. Since they wear out fairly quickly, it wouldn't be much of a problem since the only people who would still have old felt-soled waders around would be people who don't fish much anyway.

- I see no harm in this proposal since one way or another people won't be wearing felt soles anyway.
? called

185-allow spearguns & prohibit boomsticks (also see discussion on 186)

M/S supported 14-0

- (Randy) Spear guns have been used for quite awhile. They are required to safely take larger fish like halibut and big lingcod. I've used them myself- didn't realize that the regs may not have allowed them. I also agree with the prohibition on boomsticks. There is no practical use for them.

? called

186-Allow spearguns

M/S Supported 14-0

-(Randy) Same comments on 185 apply here.

- (Troy- responding to a question) Sport spearfishing follows the same regs as rod and reel sportfishing.
- Size limits could be a problem. Fish look bigger underwater. Are you supposed to release an undersized lingcod with a hole in it?
- I appreciate that the proposal sponsor is honest enough to acknowledge that the quality of the resource harvested will not benefit from this proposal. Punching a hole in a fish generally doesn't improve its eating quality.

? called

187- Allow handicapped anglers to use bait when fishing for salmon

M/S opposed 1-13

- There are lots of good reasons for not using bait in selected fisheries. The handicapped should live with these restrictions.
- -(Troy- in response to question)- Most places in SE bait is allowed during the coho run anyway. This wouldn't have much effect in SE. Montana Creek in Juneau is artificials only year round and so are the handful of fall steelhead streams. The other systems are open to bait fishing during the coho run anyway.
- Bait is a problem for trout and dollies. They take eggs too deep and die when you release them.

? called

188- Change halibut regs to automatically mirror IPHC regs

M/S supported 14-0

- State regs must follow the IPHC regs anyway so it makes sense to support this proposal. It will save paperwork.
- (Joel) The Boat Co (his long-range charter business) is always running into differences in the regs. It can really be a pain in the neck when they aren't the same and you have to figure how to comply with conflicting regs. It can get quite ridiculous actually.

? called

189- Require guide-client agreement

M/S ultimately tabled 13-0

- Not sure what the problem is- I've heard that some people are upset because others are selling fishing trips through unlicensed guides. Is this the problem?

- I think that this is about misrepresentation. The client is led to believe that the person that they talked to at the sportsmans show or where ever will be their guide, but when they come to go fishing it is somebody else. It is a bait & switch issue - fraud if you like.
- Sounds like a consumer law issue- not a fish & game issue.
- (Joel) This is a bad idea. It tries to prevent fraud, but it assumes that all charter boats are day boats. On our mothership operation it would require that each client sign a contract before hopping in a skiff before every skiff trip.

M/S to table as not an appropriate topic for Fish & Game authority Passes 13-0

190- Allow charter crewmembers to retain fish while guiding

M/S opposed 0-13

-I can understand the point of being discriminated against. If the guided industry had hard limits maybe I could support this, but as this is generally not the case, I'm against it.

- Sometimes- certainly not all the time, but often enough to be a problem, the guide's limits are used to supplement the client's bag limits. I can't support this practice.
- (Erik -charter rep) As much as I would like this, it will be exploited and I can't support that.
- I agree it opens the door to abuse. This will result in a higher catch per boat. We don't want that.
- (Joel- fishing guide rep) Having chartered prior to the rule prohibiting this practice I agree that it was nice, but I am used to the new system now. This proposal opens up the potential for excess and misuse.
- Several years ago (when the prohibition was passed) I was upset at being discriminated against, but the abuse of the old system was rampant. Given that track record, the discrimination is fully justified.

? called

191- Define official time

M/S supported 10-2-1

- (Mo- in response to question) GPS time is used for seine opening.
- Seems reasonable

? called

195- Close district to commercial dungeness harvest in summer

- (Pete- shellfish rep) The change that allowed summer fishing is due to sunset after three (two more) years. The change that was made actually reduced the overall season length by 1 month. I would have thought that impacts on the subsistence users would have been less because of the shorter season. This change was controversial within the commercial fleet. Some preferred the old seasons, some like the new ones.

Fairbanks Advisory Committee Comments Regarding Board of Fisheries

Statewide Issues Meeting

March 16 – 20, 2010

Proposal 164: Support as Amended. The Fairbanks Advisory Committee submitted this proposal to address the issue of "home pack" by commercial fishers. Currently, commercial fishers are allowed to retain, for personal use, an unlimited number of salmon and other fin fish for their own personal consumption regardless of their residency status, whether they have a sport fishing license, or any other regulatory criteria that apply to everyone else in Alaska that captures a fish for their personal or family consumption. After further discussion, the Advisory Committee recommended amending this Proposal 164 as follows:

- Non-resident Commercial permit holders and Non-resident crew members may not retain commercially caught fin fish for their own use under 5 AAC 39.010 unless they possess a valid sport fishing license. The number of fish retained must not exceed applicable sport fish bag limits for that species in the area in which the species is caught.

This amendment eliminates any discussion of subsistence v. commercial use fish, and thereby avoids the Department's only basis of opposition. The reason for this amended proposal is that no other occupational status in the State of Alaska entitles the worker to harvest and retain our valuable fish resources simply by virtue of their occupation. There is nothing special about a commercial permit holder or a crew member that entitles them to retain an unrestricted amount of our valuable fish resources (many of which are already fully allocated to other users) simply because of what they do for a living.

It is important to note that by specifically limiting the effect of this proposal to non-resident permit holders and crew members that the Board of Fish can reiterate the importance of the use of Alaska's fish by Alaskans for personal consumption. If a non-resident crew member wishes to retain a salmon for personal consumption, they should be treated no differently in the law, than say, a cannery worker, a boat mechanic at the harbor, or a barista in Anchorage. If a non-resident desires to catch and retain a fin fish for their

personal consumption, there is no good reason why they should not be limited to the same bag limit that applies to everyone else in the area in which they harvest the fish.

If the Board rejects this amended proposal, the FAC respectfully requests that the Board state, for the record, what is unique about the occupation of commercial fishing that should allow those engaged in that occupation (particularly non-residents of the state) to keep as many fish as they desire for personal consumption, without contributing to the management of that species by purchasing a sport fish license or by being limited by the bag limits applicable to every other person in the state.

Proposal 165: Oppose. No other fishery in the state is managed in this way. This proposal minimizes the importance of fish used to feed Alaskan families.

Proposal 166: Oppose.

Proposal 175: Oppose. Sablefish have recently been the subject of many proposals by commercial fishers seeking to restrict the ability of non-commercial users to harvest and consume these fish. Commercial fishers would like to see sablefish classified as strictly a commercially caught fish, and provide only limited availability to anglers who wish to catch these fish to feed their families. Log book data showing the harvest of 3,844 in Southeast Alaska is hardly cause for alarm by either the commercial fish industry, or the Department, as that catch represents a very small fraction of the overall sablefish harvest in southeast. There should be no bag, possession, or annual limits imposed on sport fish participants, unless or until, sport harvest of sablefish becomes a biological concern. As the availability of halibut for personal consumption continues to decline, particularly in southeast with its one fish per person limit, anglers wishing to catch a fish to feed their families increasingly have to turn to other species such as sablefish for their families' protein.

Proposal 179: Oppose.

Proposal 180: FAC supports the concept of defining power reels, but does not support a restrictive definition. Based on recent proposals related to sablefish, it is clear that the commercial fishing industry views electric reels used by charter boats as a threat to their almost exclusive allocation of the commonly

owned sablefish resource. While it is a good idea to define electric reels to distinguish them from strictly commercial line retrieval tools, the Board should be cautious not to impose a restrictive definition.

- Proposal 182: Oppose. This proposal would prohibit power reels, and is apparently being promoted as a means to restrict or eliminate the ability of non-commercial anglers to target sablefish.
- Proposal 184: FAC opposes this proposal to prohibit felt-soled wading shoes. While the FAC is concerned about invasive species, we also recognize the large number of anglers that have felt-soled shoes and the increased safety that comes with wearing them in swift moving streams. Absent compelling evidence that felt-soled wading shoes are responsible for introducing invasive species to Alaska waters, the Board should not prohibit this widely owned and popular footwear of choice.
- Proposal 185: Support. We support the concept of defining spear and spear gun, but also caution the Board not to adopt a restrictive definition.
- Proposal 186: Support. As defined in Proposal 185, spear guns should be legal sport fishing gear.
- Proposal 187: Oppose. Existing regulations provide an avenue for such exceptions.
- Proposal 188: Oppose. There is no reason why the State of Alaska should bow to the federal government and ensure that its halibut regulations mirror the halibut regulations contained in federal regulations. While it may be true, that the federal government controls the harvest of halibut through the International Pacific Halibut Commission or the National Marines Fishery Service, the State still retains significant ability to influence those decisions, and still has control of many other regulatory issues related to halibut harvest, such as processing facilities, gear restrictions, etc. The State should not simply throw up its hands over halibut management to ensure that its regulations "mirror" those of the federal government.
- Proposal 189: The Board may not legally adopt this proposal.

- Proposal 190: Support as amended. The FAC supports the Mat Valley AC's proposal for removing the Commissioner's authority to enter emergency orders prohibiting retention of fish by guides and crew members on charter vessels in salt waters. If the Board believes that the Department should retain emergency authority to restrict harvest by crew members on charter boats, it should refer back to its actions on proposal 164, and reconcile them on the record, if appropriate. For instance, the Board should not support the unlimited (and unlicensed) retention of fish by crew members on commercial vessels, while at the same time opposing the retention of fish by crew members on charter vessels. The FAC further recommends a friendly amendment to the Mat Valley's proposal, such that the Commissioner's emergency authority to prohibit retention by charter boat crew members should only apply to non-resident crew members. This would ensure that Alaska resident crew members of charter vessels could continue to retain fish for their personal consumption. Consumption of fish by Alaska residents is the highest and best use of Alaska's fish resources.
- Proposal 191: Oppose.
- Proposal 192: Oppose. Yarn on a bare hook is a very common fly in all Alaska waters, and this proposal, if passed, would deny many anglers the ability to hastily rig a very effective fly pattern used throughout Alaskan waters.

Submitted by the Fairbanks Advisory Committee

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MAR - 2 2010

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

Aff: Skunkum
AC - BoF-SW

Meeting 02/09/2010; 6:30 pm at Anchorage Permitting Dept Conference Room
Present; Jim Stubbs, chair, Bruce Morgan, Joel Doner, Zach Stubbs ADF & G ; Dan
Minutes revisited in 02/12/2010 full committee meeting

Ref: 2009-2010 Board of Fisheries Proposal Book; Pages 147- 172, Proposals 164-192
These findings were approved by our board; 14-1 vote

| Proposal Number | Subject; Author | Support | Oppose | abstain | ADF&G |
|-----------------|--|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 164 | Home Pack ; Fairbanks AC Subsistence Fishing is fished differently | 0 | 3 | 1 | opposed |
| 165 | Delay opening personal use Fishery; Steve Vanek Balance of take spread out over entire run/season Proposal is statewide Genetics would be affected | 0 | 4 | | opposed |
| 166 | Methods/Mean/License Requirement; Ken Tarbox Fish license is used to show residency. Issue a personal use license? More dept effort. ADF&G legal dept has approved the current system. Current fees help support the resource. | 1 | 3 | | opposed |
| 167 | Type of Gear; Ak Dept of Fish and Game Bait needed to be defined, this was a housekeeping proposal for ADF&G | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 168 | Repeal length of salmon seine vessels; Darrell Kapp Makes boats safer, more fuel efficient, more versatile Might be an allocative issue for ADF &G? | 4 | 0 | 0 | neutral |
| 169 | Criteria for allocation of fisheries resource; By: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association This proposal was hard to determine the benefit to any user group? | 0 | 3 | 1 | neutral |

| Proposal Number | Subject; Author | Support | Oppose | abstain | ADF&G |
|-----------------|---|---------|--------|---------|----------|
| 170 | Setting ranges for escapement; Ken Tarbox Dept is opposed as it would limit their ability to manage the resource Not Sustainable Escapement Goal Threshold "SEG" | 2 | 2 | 0 | opposed |
| 171 | Policy for Statewide Escapement Goals; Ken Tarbox We took no action on this proposal, we deferred to full board for discussion and vote After discussion we felt compelled to direct ADF&G to set more concise and defined goals. ADF&G opposed the proposal, said it restricted flexibility to manage the resource Dept could not set the very conservative SEG Dept now has 43 SEG's in place to set the lower bounds for escapement | 8 | 6 | 1 | supports |
| 172 | Policy for Statewide salmon escapement goals; written by; Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association Defines "Sustainable escapement threshold goals" Good way to set lower end of escapement goals | 4 | 0 | 0 | supports |
| 173 | Management Plan for Parallel Groundfish Fisheries; by ADF & G TAKE NO ACTION | | | | supports |
| 174 | Allow Submerged Gillnet fishing for cod; Stanley Mack Bi-catch problem with salmon if permitted This was permitted in the past and was removed (1992) | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 175 | Establish sport fish bag limit for sablefish (black cod); Sitka AC This is an allocative issue, sport fishing is less than 1% of stock Stock is declining, but not by the impact of sport fishing | 4 | 11 | 0 | opposed |
| 176 | Increase bag limit of spiny dog fish; by Thomas E Pitts No biological problem to harvest more dogfish, current take is less than 1% | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |

| Proposal Number | Subject; Author | Support | Oppose | abstain | ADF&G |
|-----------------|--|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 177 | Establish bag limit for thornyhead rockfish; Ak Board of Fisheries Long living fish, rare, no reason to catch more | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 178 | Clarify Emergency order authority; by, ADF & G This proposal is an ADF & G housekeeping issue to clean up language in the regs. | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 179 | Emergency order authority; by Ken Tarbox This proposal limits the Dept of Fish's flexibility This proposal would eliminate catch and release in a mixed stock fishery There are times catch and release is necessary | 0 | 3 | 1 | opposed |
| 180 | Define electric fishing reel; by ADF & G Housekeeping by ADF & G | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 181 | Define a fishing rod and reel; by Mike Bethers This proposal was re-written and proposal 180 was made by AF&G to settle the issue. | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 182 | Prohibit use of electric reels; by Sitka AC Should be considered under means and methods of fishing Support the idea of allowing handicapped individuals to have a fishing advantage, but don't feel the prohibition of electric reels for other is the answer | 0 | 4 | 0 | neutral |
| 183 | Prohibit use of electric reels; by Tad Fujioka Unfair to elderly and handicapped fishing persons. Enforcement for "who is handicapped and to what extent" is hard/impossible | 0 | 4 | 0 | neutral |
| 184 | Prohibit use of felt soled wading shoes; by Trout Unlimited This proposal does not include all others that "wade"? Duck hunters, hikers, dip netters, etc... | 4 | 0 | 0 | neutral |

| Proposal Number | Subject; Author | Support | Oppose | abstain | ADF&G |
|-----------------|--|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 185 | Use of spear guns; by ADF & G This is a housekeeping proposal set out by ADF & G to clean up language in regs | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 186 | Use of underwater spear; by Howard Teas ADF & G proposal #185 describes the "spear gun". We feel #185 solves this proposal | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 187 | Allow the use of bait for disabled anglers; by Gus Lamoureux Enforcement will become a problem. Who is disabled, to what extent would we considering giving an advantage? ADF&G already has programs for handicap, we would consider more with better defined proposal. | 13 | 1 | 1 | opposed |
| 188 | Limitations for halibut, possession of sport caught halibut; by ADF & G This was some internal housekeeping needed by the ADF & G | 4 | 0 | 0 | support |
| 189 | Require a guide-client agreement; by Mel Erickson The Dept of Fish and Game has no authority to enforce guide/client agreements or contracts. | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 190 | Emergency order authority; allow crew members to retain fish; by: Mat-Valley AC This could become an allocation issue. By ADF & G putting restrictions on crew members it is a way to keep total catch under the required caps. | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 191 | Define official time for fisheries to open; by Mel Erickson This is the responsibility of the angler and is hard to enforce. There are currently easy ways to accurately check time, via cell phones or GPS systems. | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |
| 192 | Define artificial fly; by Mark Sisinyak We feel as the ADF & G, that the current descriptions in place are adequate | 0 | 4 | 0 | opposed |