

LIST OF BOF PROPOSALS FOR REVIEW BY NOME ESKIMO COMMUNITY, SITNASUAK NATIVE CORPORATION AND KAWERAK STAFF – JANUARY 2013

Proposal #	Proposal	Support or Don't support
Proposal # 92	Allow large hooks for fish other than salmon AYK Region	We support
Proposal # 95	Prohibit putting fish parts in the water –	We support on if this proposal applies only to Kuskokwim and Goodnews river area
Proposal # 102	Waters closed to subsistence fish allow for subsistence take of grayling by jigging under the Ice at Nome River	we do not support since grayling has not increased with the current regulation to return all grayling caught
Proposal # 115	Increase amount of money a household may receive from sale of subsistence caught fish from \$200 to \$500	We support because of cost of living increase, plus subsistence fisherman would receive minimal compensation for time and effort in selling subsistence caught fish
Proposal # 116	Create a new commercial fishery for pink or chum to be opened and closed by EO in Subdistrict 1 in NS	We support just for east of Cape Nome since El Dorado & Flambeau rivers have exceeded escapement of chum in recent years
Proposal # 117	Allow commercial fishing in sub-district 1 – west Cape Nome	We do not support since both Nome & snake river have not meet escapement
Proposal # 118	Allow Commercial set net fishery in Golovin Bay upon escapement goals (Tom Gray proposal)	Do not support since this will severely limit the commercial fisherman in Golovin
Proposal # 119	Subdistrict 2+3 repeals regulatory requirement to have chum salmon escapement goals met in order to reopen the commercial fishery	This is a housing keeping proposal we support
Proposal # 120	Allow commercial chum and pink salmon fisheries before July 1 in the UNK and SKK subdistricts.	We support whatever Southern NNSAC chooses
Proposal # 121	Allow beach seines to harvest pink salmon for subsistence in NS subdistricts 5 & 6 except as specified by EO.	This is a continuous proposal that we in Nome area should leave for Unk/Shak and NSDEC to comment to the BOF
Proposal # 122	Allows subsistence gill net fishing in Norton Sound 7 days a week except by emergency order (EO)	We support with amendment 5 days marine waters and open subsistence fishery in fresh waters based on traditional subsistence practices
Proposal # 123	Allow subsistence fishing with beach seine nets in Subdistrict 1 w/o having to issue EO	Support with using subsistence fishing practices

Proposal # 124	New boundaries for subsistence: Remove Sinuk Rive from closed waters and open up a subsistence fishery for retention of sockeye by beach seine in the Sinuk River up to Boulder Creek	Support because fishing further up the river would allow for specific salmon to be targeted as opposed to the current area that is open near the mouth where there is a mix of all salmon
Proposal # 125	Allow a dip net for fishing as legal salmon for chum salmon in the Pilgrim River	Support because specific salmon would be targeted
Proposal # 126	Allow for extension of commercial fishery for coho salmon in NS subdistricts by EO	Support because some years has higher abundance of coho's, plus escapement has been met, additional commercial fishing would be beneficial
Proposal # 127	Allow for increase in amount of gillnet gear in NS pink salmon fishery by EO	Support by adding an extension to the pink net gear up to three shackles, however except for odd years when chum runs are low
Proposal # 128	Allow commercial salmon fishermen in the NS/PC area to catch pinks with set gillnet gear to be used as bait.	Do not support because other salmon such as kings and chum have been in serious decline and have not met escapement
Proposal # 129	Re-open a spot fishery for chum salmon in the Nome subdistrict with a daily bag limit of 3 chum	Amend to add if commercial fishing is closed than sport fish is closed
Proposal # 179	Is for area M fishery would be reinstate the chum cap 400,000 and not to exceed 8.3% sockeye and require 3 day closer in early June	Support all fisheries need to share in conserving salmon that are currently managed as stocks of concern

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Northern Norton Sound Advisory
Committee Meeting Minutes

10/30/2012

Revised

Start time: 9:05 pm

Attendance: 26 people

Advertised: Nome Announce, Nome Nugget, KNOM, KICY, flyers posted in the post office, Sitasuak, emailed Ads to all of the AC members

A quorum was present of AC Members, which had 11 of 15 members present: Vernon Rock, Stanley Tocktoo, Clifford Seetook, Tom Gray, Paul Kosto, Jack Fagerstrom, Daniel Stang, Nate Perkins, Adem Boeckman, Charlie Lean, and Roy Ashenfelter

Members not present: Chuck Okbaok, Sheldon Nagaruk, Charlie Saccheus

Fish and Game Staff: Subsistence-Nicole Braem, Assistant Wildlife Biologist: Letty Hughes, Area Biologist Wildlife: Tony Gorn, Area Game Manager: Peter Bente, Sport Fish: Brenden Scanlon, Commercial Fish: Jim Menard, Commercial Fish: Scott Kent, Commercial Fish: Justin Leon, Biometrics: Dan Reed

National Park Service; Ken Adkisson & Jeanette Pomrenke **KNOM** Margaret Demaiorbus

General Public; Kenny Hughes, Kevin Knowlton, Howard Farley-Commercial Fisherman, Michael Sloan-Nome Eskimo Community Biologist and Tom Sparks

NSEDC: Fisheries Biologist: Kevin Keith and Tiffany Martinson

Alaska State Troopers: Jay Sears

Motion for approval of the agenda:

Additions to Agenda

Charlie: Stuff in the news about Bob Bell getting off the hook for not destroying his antlers of musk ox

Stanley Tocktoo: Musk Ox 22E discussion

Discussion for Elections, 3 AC seats are open they are; Mike Quinn, Bob Madden, Jr., & Dan Stang

Motion to Approve the Agenda: All in favor, No opposition, Motion carries Agenda Approved

Elections: Conducted by: Roy Ashenfelter, Identifies the parties that are running

Electorates: Dan Stang, Tom Gray, Kevin Knowlton, Kenny Hughes, Robert Madden Jr.

Elected Individuals: Kevin Knowlton, Tom Gray, Dan Stang,

Public comments: Nicole Braem: Subsistence division supports this proposal. It is not like there has been a spike in customary trade. Increasing to \$500 versus \$200.00 does not seem like an unreasonable increase since inflation and other cost have increased considerably since 2007. The division of subsistence and commercial fish don't feel this is an unreasonable amount. This proposal is about raising the limit on the cash sales, the people who want to do it have to get a permit from Jim Menard and to report what they sold to Jim Menard and you need a permit.

The proposal would add or increase opportunity to catch pink or chum when there is increased number of either pink or chum during that season. ADF&G Fish Biologist, Jim Menard: Explains customary trade permit for selling dry fish. There has been little participation in it. The people who advertise things like dried fish are contacted to remind them they need a permit. There has been little participation reported. I don't know how much is going on under the table. There were several citations issued by the troopers during salmon season for selling subsistence caught salmon without a permit.

Action on Proposal #115, All in favor, motion carries

Proposal #116 Create a new commercial fishery for pink or chum salmon to be opened by emergency order (EO) in Subdistrict 1 of Norton Sound. Move to support

Comments: The intent is to allow for commercial fishing of chum or pink when there is a known significant number of either salmon present in subdistrict 1. A review of even year escapement of pink salmon in Norton Sound which includes subdistrict 1 shows a potential for a limited commercial fishery for pinks.

Action on Proposal #116. All in favor, Motion Carries

Proposals #92 Allow large hooks for fish other than salmon, Move to support

Comments: Charlie Lean: People who oppose this are going to be worried about snagging. It has to do with overlap of seasons so if you are out there with a monster hook; people can claim they are fishing for whitefish.

Stanley Tocktoo: explains the use of large hooks in Shismaref a lot people are fishing for grayling after freeze up. We use large single hooks and a lot of fish are caught for fish to be eaten with seal oil. Does this include ling cod hook? They are single bone hook. Our ancestors did this for hundreds of years.

Action on proposal #92 All in favor, motion carries

Proposal #95 Prohibit putting fish parts in the water, motion to support

Comments: This proposal was originally thought to be Statewide, upon further review it specific to Kusko and Goodnews area. The AC decided to act on it after a brief discussion.

Action on Proposal #95 All in favor, Motion Carries

Proposal #102 allow for subsistence take of grayling in the Nome River by use of jigging with hook-and-line gear thru the ice. Move to support

ADF&G staff comments were that there is limited amount of large grayling even with current regulation to release all grayling caught. Therefore the department is not in support of this proposal.

Charlie Lean: I think the reason the grayling disappeared on the Nome River is because chum and pink fry eat a lot of grayling even if they are the same size as the salmon. I am going to oppose this proposal

Action on Proposal #102 All opposed, Motion Fails

Proposal #103 Place holder for possible regulatory changes based on results from Western Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project (WASSIP) Motion to support

Comments: Salmon Stock Identification Project

Charlie Lean: WASSIP due to come out later so we are not able to comment on proposal 103

Action on Proposal 103, motion to table, all supported the motion

Proposal #117 Allow commercial fishing in Subdistrict 1-West of longitude of Cape Nome for all species of salmon. Motion to support

Comments: ADF&G Jim Menard: There is a on a stock of concern for chum in Nome subdistrict. West of Cape Nome is closed by regulation for all salmon. The proposal was written to create a commercial fishery for salmon west of Cape Nome. Pink salmon fish is not closed. We can fish pinks and silvers east of Cape Nome. The commercial chum salmon fishery, however, is closed by regulation throughout the Nome Subdistrict.

Howard: Over the years that Nome has not had a commercial fishery for salmon. The salmon are coming back; just letting them go up the river and die it doesn't make sense. There could be a pink fishery. There are not many people out netting.

Charlie Lean: I think I am opposed to this; it is not that I don't like Howard. Explains differences between East of Cape Nome versus West of it by differences in Escapement goals. There is also a tagging study that has occurred. There is a big mixing zone a Cape Nome. Those that go east of Cape Nome go east those that go west end up in Western Streams. I think that sub district should be divided into two management zones and the west of management zone should be closed.

ADF&G Fish Biologist Jim Menard: Explains where the chum and pink salmon power is in the sub district. Over the past twenty years, we have an estimate 70% of the chum salmon production is east of Cape Nome. In contrast, 80% of the pink salmon production west of Cape Nome. If the western half of the subdistrict is open, we can designate specific areas within the subdistrict where commercial fishing can occur based on existing regulations. Right now west of Cape Nome is closed by regulation so we could not open commercial fishing. Menard explains possibilities of using areas within existing regulations to manage the fishery. Commercial Fisheries division is going to support this proposal.

Adem makes an amendment to add beach seining in Subdistrict 1 under 5 AAC 04.330

All in favor of amendment , None Opposed , amendment passes

Action on Proposal #117 as amended, 10 support, 1 oppose, motion passes

Proposal #118: Allow a commercial set net gillnet fishery in Golovin Bay once 4,800 Coho salmon have escaped into Niukluk river. Motion to support

Comments: Jack Fagerstrom: what is the current escapement level for Coho's?

ADF&G staff Scott: 2400-7200 escapement goals has been made consecutively since it was established. We got knocked out this year early because of high water but were projecting to easily reach the goal as of August 16. Refers to the escapement goals. There were a record runs in 2008 and 2010. We counted 2,408 last year; we barely made it last year.

Jack Fagerstrom: I walked around Golovin and the consensus was that at that level of escapement goal there isn't going to be a commercial fishery in Golovin. We have limited jobs and limited fishing opportunity, I am against this proposal

Tom Gray: This proposal it came from our cooperation. If you look at the fish runs in the Niukluk, it should be written slightly differently. Commercial fishing should be opened once you hit the middle of the escapement goal. We don't believe that the fish are actually meeting the escapement goal. If you pay attention for the escapement goals they are being lowered continually. These stocks need a break. We need to do something different. Fish and Game need 2400 fish and got 2405 fish. There is no reason to managing the fishery so closely. Our intention is not to punish the commercial fisherman we are trying to manage the stocks so everyone can have fish. Again our intent is we want to help that resource and put some safeguards

Tom Gray: would like to make a amendment to have 4,800 as a projected number.

The amendment was made and seconded, that we hit a projected number 4800 for commercial fishing for Coho ; vote on the amendment; _Support: 7, Opposed: 2

Action Proposal #118 as amended, Support 3, 8 opposed, motion fails

PROPOSAL #119: Allow for a commercial Coho fishery when there would be no impact to the chum salmon escapement goals in subdistricts 2 & 3, motion to support

Comments: The AC members recognize the intent of this proposal which to allow commercial fishing for Coho in Subdistricts 2 & 3, while avoiding subdistrict 1, which is the area that has stocks of concern for chum.

Department of Fish and Game supports this proposal

Action on Proposal #119, all in Support, motion passed

Proposal #122 Allows subsistence fishing in Norton Sound subdistrict 1 unless restricted by EO

ADF&G Comments: Jim Menard: Proposal 122 Requests subsistence gill net fishing 7 days a week in subdistrict 1. Explains harvests in Subdistrict 1 in tables 1 and 2 (see attached documents). Comm Fish, would support up to 5 days a week in marine waters during chum season. Also during a Tier II season reduce to 3 days a week in the marine waters for both chum and silver salmon season. In freshwaters the weekly schedule is 2 fishing periods at 48 hours each. Proposer is asking for 7 days a week for all salmon. Comm. fish feels more comfortable going up incrementally. Comm. Fish prefers the 2-48s in the river, and a doesn't have a problem going up to 5 days a week for chum season in marine waters. Based on table 122 (3), we didn't think that the net use would be too excessive so going up a couple of days is ok but not to 7 days a week.

Adem Boeckman: I would like to make an amendment to 122 to mirror the silver opener to be 1 pm-6pm.

No second on the amendment, amendment fails.

Jim Menard: In the even numbered years the majority of salmon caught are pink salmon and those are being taken by hook and line in Subdistrict 1. Seining is not allowed in the Nome River

Subsistence fishing should be open when there are quality days to subsistence fish. The days that are best to hang fish are warm sunny days which generally happen in early July. Subsistence fishing methods and practices should be accommodated when creating opportunity to seine in the Nome River. The 2 days-48 hrs is currently used by ADF&G staff to manage fresh water fishing.

Action on Proposal 122, All in support, Motion Carries

Proposal 123: Allow subsistence fishing with beach seine nets in Subdistrict one. Move to support

Comments: ADF&G Jim Menard: In 2010 and 2011 We would support on the front end during chum season but have concerns during the silver salmon run. Commercial Fish is ok until coho salmon season starts until July 26th being a problem. Give it a shot in chum and pink season. Commercial Fish can give it shot if the weather cooperates. Explains graphs with the number of permits that beach seine, rod and reel harvests, pink salmon, broke it down by location of fishing by subsistence users, chum net caught fish were dominantly in the marine waters.

Charlie Lean: Seining is used in mass production or to specialize the catch. There is a very short portion of the Sinuk River that is open for subsistence. Seining has an advantage over gill nets. You have a better chance of release fish alive. I think seining gear has a place.

Action on Proposal #123 All Support, Motion Carries

Proposal 124: Change boundaries for subsistence fishing on the Sinuk River for retention of sockeye by beach seine in the Sinuk River up to Boulder Creek. Motion to support

Comments: Generally the preferred fish to catch at Sinuk River is sockeye or silvers depending on what time season you are fishing. The current open area just above the mouth of Sinuk River is discouraging because a lot of other salmon are caught when just trying to catch either sockeye or silvers.

ADF&G Jim Menard: Comm fish supports the proposal 124, explains graphs and maps with the black flag marking with the proposed boundary and the present and lower river boundary.

Proposal 124 moves the boundary marker further up river where there is a better separation of salmon species. The additional distance up the river will have fishers catching the salmon they prefer at the same time prevent handling of other salmon.

Action on Proposal #124, All Support, Motion Carries

PROPOSAL #125 Proposal by Dan Reed The proposal is to allow a dip net for fishing for salmon NOT chum salmon in the Pilgrim River. It may be an effective economic way to catch salmon or be good for targeting a specific salmon. Motion to support

Comments: Jim Menard: gives department comments and data on the Pilgrim River. Department supports this proposal.

Charlie Lean: the King salmon are really going down on the Pilgrim. Makes suggestion for having Kings put back.

Dan Reed: I talked with people around town about dip netting and people were wondering why I didn't put cast nets on there too? People have expressed interest in using cast nets too. Said that he could not change the proposal but the AC can.

Amend to add cast nets to the proposal, All in favor of the amendment, none opposed

Action on Proposal #125 as amended, all support, Motion Carries

Proposal 126: Allow for extension to the commercial fishery for Coho salmon in the Norton Sound Subdistricts by EO, the intent is for a season with a high number of Coho's which have met escapement in Subdistricts 2-6

Comments: ADF&G Scott Kent: Wes Jones submitted this proposal to extend the salmon season by emergency order. The Department supports this proposal, it would not affect the management of the late fall season. The Department has extended the season by emergency order in 2006, 2008, 2009, and for one period in 2012. No harm in allowing increase in period of time when bulk of run is in river or there is late season surge in abundance of Coho salmon.

We believe that it technically requires a commissioner's order to extend the season. The proposal if approved would add flexibility to local fish managers to make in season changes when warranted.

Action on Proposal #126, All in support, Motion carries

Proposal #127 Gill net specifications and operations, allow for an increase in amount of commercial gillnet gear in the Norton Sound pink salmon fishery by EO, pink salmon mesh size would stay the same this proposal is to extend the net by 150 to 200 fathoms. Motion to support

Comments: ADF&G Scott Kent: department supports the proposal. Market interest in pink salmon has increased.

Charlie Lean (NSEDC employee): We tried to buy pink salmon commercially this year however there would have been a boom in market if people could have caught more. This is a cleaner easier way to increase the value of commercial fishery. This is a more workable solution.

Scott Kent: It would help increase pink salmon harvests during the non-peak fishing times and help mitigate losses from forgone harvest opportunities (i.e., weather, chum salmon conservation concerns).

Action on Proposal #127, All in support, Motion carries

Proposal 128 Use of pink salmon for bait in the Norton Sound Port Clarence Area

Comments: ADF&G Scott Kent: Allows pink fish commercial fish for personal use as bait and gives department comments and data. Permit holders would require permission from the department to exceed the 2 ton salmon amount.

Department opposes this proposal as written because this fishery should be opened by emergency order rather than at any time. Department may authorize other uses of salmon.

The department opposes the proposal as written because there may not be surplus available for this fishery in years of low pink salmon abundance. In years of low abundance, all surpluses will be needed to provide for subsistence uses. Additionally we are not comfortable with allowing this fishery to occur at any time, irrespective of abundance. This fishery should be opened by E.O. Supportive of the idea of utilizing pink salmon surpluses for bait in years of high abundance.

Paul Kosto: Requests an amendment to reflect the change in the proposal keep the proposal the same but include a clause about by Emergency Order Only.

Amendment seconded, All support the amend, amendment passes

Action on proposal # 128 as amended, all in support, motion carries

Proposal #129: re-open a sport fishery for chum in the Nome subdistrict with a bag limit of three chums, motion to support

Comments: this proposal aligns with hook and line as legal subsistence gear. Adoption of this proposal would allow people to fish outside the subsistence zone using rod and reel. Refers to figure (see attached). The Department is neutral on the allocation effects, but would be in support if given an EO for the Nome sub district. The sport harvest would go into effect when escapement of chum can be met.

Charlie Lean: West of Cape Nome is in different shape than East of Cape Nome. I could probably support the E.O. to do that. If commercial is closed and so should sport fishing be closed. Subsistence should take first priority. The Nome and Snake River chum salmon still have concerns with meeting escapement.

Charlie Lean: wants to make an amendment, I don't like the idea of a blanket opener. It should be open the sport fishery when adequate subsistence harvest is allowed. That would include meeting the escapement goals. My concern if the El Dorado fishing is good, but it is not true for the Snake and Nome that the E.O should account for that. Amendment seconded

Action on the amendment, All support the amendment, amendment passes

Action on proposal #129 as amended, all in support, motion carries.

Roy Ashenfelter: should act on 179, 180, 181, maybe 216.

Roy Ashenfelter: These proposals have been submitted to allow some measure of control in the June fishery at Area M fishery to reduce the by catch of chum either through time tables or through an actual cap.

What the BOF has supported in the past was the chum cap, there was one year that there was a window of fishing in the area M fishery. It is necessary to have some direction on the fishery other than the fisherman themselves. It is important to comment on these to have an AC direction, so that when I go before the BOF I can comment on what the AC would like to support.

All of the proposals are a variation are the same idea. In 1978 Area M fisherman really developed the fishery from a sleepy little fishery to one of the most lucrative fisheries in the state. They will catch a portion of fish bound to western Alaska each week with no question of whether the chum run is strong or weak. The chum cap when it was in place was from 350,000 to 700,000 on chum, it depended on the attitude of the board and it used to change a lot. If we support proposal #179, it aligns us with Bristol Bay who has a similar issue with red salmon. The June fishery needs to be regulated based on salmon abundance and not just how many days there are in the month.

I would to offer to the AC we just deal with 179 and forgo 180 and 181.

Proposal 179 has a 400,000 chum cap and 8.3% for sockeye allocation to be applied to the area M fishery.

Action on Proposal 179; All in Support, Motion carries

Proposal #180 and 181 defer to 179, All in support of motion, motion carries to defer to proposal #179

Proposal #216 Require statewide adherence to salmon fishery management plans as follows: motion to support

Comments: Roy Ashenfelter: inquires about his proposal being statewide.

Jim Menard: It seemed like to set some escapement goals outside the management plan, and it was made by Kenai sportsman fishing and they grabbed a bunch of different areas.

Action on Proposal#126; All opposed to proposal 216, Motion Fails

Proposal 218: Establish a sustained escapement threshold (SET) for stocks listed as yield or management concern as follows: motion to support

Charlie Lean: there should be a bottom line for escapement; it would include some streams in Norton Sound. This should occur, the downside to this it could be used as an endangered species act thing. The Nome River failed to meet the SET river threshold, it might close fishing for everything in the Nome sub district. It is something that the Bering Sea fisherman's association wanted me to bring to the AC. It is a double edged sword. This will tie Jim's hands, it would completely closed everything down. If were that low it would be below the escapement goal.

Jim Menard: Sub district 1 was listed as stock of management concern and Golovin and Elim were listed as stocks of yield concerns. We have never been that low again in sub district 1 as when the management concern was declared by the board in 2000. We did not establish an SET. We are (Nome) still a yield concern in sub districts 1, 2. and 3.

Action on Proposal 218, None Support, Motion fails

Motion Ajournd: 3:14 pm.