

Alaska Board of Fisheries
 Work Session
 October 9-10, 2012, Anchorage
Agenda Change Requests Summary of Actions List

Following is a list of ACRs that was considered at the above meeting sorted by numerical order.

C=Carried, F=Failed, C/A= Carried as Amended, N/A=No Action
(Vote Count)

N/A	ACR 1	Designate Pacific herring as a forage fish under the provisions of the Forage Fish Management Plan. (5 AAC 27; 5 AAC 39.212). <i>No action based on comments from Department of Law that the topic is a late proposal, and not an ACR, since it is already included in the upcoming board cycle. However, the board later voted (4-3) to create a board-generated proposal to include "Pacific herring" in the definition of "forage fish" under the Forage Fish Management Plan to be considered during the Statewide Finfish meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
C (7-0)	ACR 2	Change the weather delay criteria for opening the Chignik District Tanner crab fishery from small craft advisory to gale force wind warning. (5 AAC 35.510(b)(2)). <i>This ACR will be considered during the Statewide Finfish meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
N/A	ACR 3	Establish times when a commercial set gillnet permit holder in the Lower Yukon Area may use dip net and beach seine gear to commercially harvest chum salmon during the summer season, including specifications and operations provisions for dip net and beach seine gear. (5 AAC 05.330(a); 5 AAC 05.362). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law that the topic is a late proposal, and not an ACR, since it is already included in the upcoming board cycle. However, the board later voted (7-0) to create a board-generated proposal to consider the issue during the A-Y-K Finfish meeting scheduled for January 15-20, 2013.</i>
N/A	ACR 4	Modify the Kenai River Late run King Salmon Management Plan in the Cook Inlet Area, including review and revision of current escapement goals, the time period the management plan is effective, burden of conservation between user groups, and priority of certain escapement goals. (5 AAC 21.359). <i>No action based on potentially developing a task force board-generated proposal through formation of the UCI Task Force outlined in RC24, with a friendly amendment to add one marine recreation member. A place holder proposal will be generated for the management plan to identify actions addressed by the task force, if any. If not, the board has the option of creating its own language.</i>
N/A	ACR 5	Allow commercial salmon seine net depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to be measured in feet and inches which would allow additional webbing to be attached beyond the current restriction of 350 meshes of 3.5 inch and 25 meshes at 7 inches. (5 AAC 09.332). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law that the topic is a late proposal, and not an ACR, since it is already included in the upcoming board cycle. However, the board, by unanimous consent, created a board-generated proposal to consider the issue during the AK PEN/AI Finfish meeting scheduled for February 26-March 4, 2013.</i>

F (0-7)	ACR 6	Modify the area in the Kenai River where a person may take salmon with a personal use dip net from shore. (5 AAC 77.540(c)(1)(D))
C (7-0)	ACR 7	Change the vessel size limit for the Registration Area O (Aleutian Islands Area) red king crab fishery, in state waters from 172° W. long. to 179° W. long., from 90 feet or less in overall length to less than 60 feet in overall length. (5 AAC 34.610(d)). <i>This ACR will be considered during the Statewide Finfish meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
C (7-0)	ACR 8	Establish a pot limit of 10 pots per vessel fishing for red king crab near Adak Island in Registration Area O (Aleutian Islands Area). (5 AAC 34.625(x)). <i>This ACR will be considered during the Statewide Finfish meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
F (3-4)	ACR 9	Modify the waters in the Tsiu River in the Yakutat Area that are closed to commercial salmon fishing to facilitate an orderly fishery for the commercial and sport fisheries. (5 AAC 30.350(a)(12)). <i>The board determined that this ACR did not meet the ACR criteria. However, the board later voted (5-2) to create a board-generated proposal to consider the issue during the Statewide Meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
N/A	ACR 10	Direct the Department of Fish and Game to provide a status of king salmon stocks and recommend that early run Kenai River king salmon be declared a stock of concern at an unspecified level. (5 AAC 39.222; 5 AAC 57.160). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law.</i>
F (3-4)	ACR 11	Modify the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i> in the Cook Inlet Area, including restrictions to the drift gillnet fleet, conditions for additional fishing time from July 16-31, addressing the 4.6 million fish trigger, and establishing that minimum escapement goals take priority on exceeding the upper end of other salmon species escapement goals. (5 AAC 21.353)
N/A	ACR 12	Change the weather delay criteria for opening the Chignik District Tanner crab fishery from small craft advisory to gale force wind warning. (5 AAC 35.510(b)(2)). <i>No action based on actions taken on ACR #2.</i>
F (0-7)	ACR 13	Remove superexclusive and exclusive vessel registration for state waters Pacific cod fisheries in the Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, and South Alaska Peninsula management areas. (5 AAC 28.267; 5 AAC 28.367; 5 AAC 28.467; 5 AAC 28.537; 5 AAC 28.577)
N/A	ACR 14	Allow a selective gear comprised of a seine lead that directs salmon into a live box be used by a set gillnet permit holder in the waters along the east coast in the Central District in the Cook Inlet Area, including gear specifications and operations standards. (5 AAC 21.330(b)(3)(C)). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law.</i>
N/A	ACR 15	Change the Board of Fisheries' meeting schedule to move Pacific cod issues in the Alaska Peninsula – Aleutian Islands areas so as not to conflict with the commercial fisheries. (5 AAC 96.600). <i>No action based on decision by the board to defer all Pacific cod proposals to a Statewide Pacific cod meeting tentatively scheduled for October 2013.</i>

F (0-7)	ACR 16	Change the opening date of the commercial Tanner crab season in the South Peninsula District of Registration Area J (Westward) from January 15 to January 3. (5 AAC 35.510(c)(1))
N/A	ACR 17	Amend Kenai River Late Run and Kenai River and Kasilof River Early run management plans to reflect new escapement goals to be adopted prior to the 2013 fishing season. (5 AAC 21.359; 5 AAC 57.160). <i>No action based on actions taken on ACR #4.</i>
F (0-7)	ACR 18	Require the Department of Fish and Game to forward identifying and permit information to the Department of Public Safety regarding an individual who fails to return a personal use salmon fishing permit after the season in the Upper Cook Inlet personal use salmon fishery and not issue a personal use salmon fishing permit to that individual during the next calendar year. (5 AAC 77.015(d); 5 AAC 77.540(a)(3))
N/A	ACR 19	Include “salmon stream terminus” in the closed waters regulation as the reference point from which to measure the 500 yard salmon stream closure. Sever all regulatory terms and legal descriptions associated with the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) from the enforcement of closed waters for commercial salmon fishing. (5 AAC 39.290; 5 AAC 39.975; 5 AAC 95.011). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law that the topic is a late proposal, and not an ACR, since it is already included in the upcoming board cycle. However, the board later voted (7-0) to create a board-generated proposal to consider the issue during the Statewide Finfish meeting scheduled for March 19-24, 2013.</i>
F (0-7)	ACR 20	Establish a specific date in the <i>Kenai River Late Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> in the Cook Inlet Area, when the project inriver run is less than 17,800 king salmon, during which certain established conservation measures are taken. (5 AAC 21.359(b)(3))
N/A	ACR 21	Clarify the commissioner of fish and game’s inseason management authority to preclude and to mitigate an “economic disaster and allow alternative means to harvest surplus salmon stocks. (5 AAC 39.XXX). <i>No action based on comments addressed in September 26, 2012 memo from Department of Law.</i>

OTHER WORK SESSION AGENDA TOPICS:

1. Karl Johnstone and Tom Kluberton were unanimously voted in as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, for the 2012-2013 Board of Fisheries cycle.
2. Tom Brookover, Division of Sport Fisheries Deputy Director, provided an update on the Chinook Salmon Research plan. In response to the problems experienced around the state, the department convened a group of agency fisheries scientists to create a comprehensive Chinook salmon research plan to understand observed trends in productivity and abundance. The team recently completed an initial review of research and local traditional knowledge programs for Chinook salmon fisheries across the state. A document entitled “Alaska Chinook Salmon Knowledge Gaps and Needs” was recently posted on the department website. The draft gap analysis is the result of the team’s initial efforts and is intended to serve as a starting point toward developing a research plan. The department is also hosting a two-day Chinook Salmon Symposium in Anchorage October 22-23 to further identify and discuss gaps in our knowledge about Chinook salmon and research needed to address these information needs. The symposium is open to the public.

Written comments on the draft gap analysis are welcome and may be submitted until November 9 via email at: dfg.chinookanalysis.comments@alaska.gov.

3. The board agreed on the following committee and task force assignments:
Committees on committees: Webster (Chair), Johnstone, Brown
BOF/BOG: Kluberton (Chair), Brown, Webster
Fed/State Subsistence: Jeffrey (Chair), Jensen, Huntington
Habitat: Huntington (Chair), Kluberton, Webster
Joint Protocol: Johnstone (Chair), Jeffrey, Kluberton
Legislation: Brown (Chair), Webster, Huntington
Possession Limits: Jensen (Chair), Johnstone, Jeffrey
4. Karla Bush from the Extended Jurisdiction section provided an overview of recent and ongoing actions of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). Included in the presentation were updates on Chinook and chum salmon bycatch management measures in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, reductions in halibut prohibited species catch limits for groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska, and Tanner crab protection measures around Kodiak Island. During the past year, the Council also updated their Salmon Fishery Management Plan, took no action on several jig management measures, and were informed that the Bering Sea Tanner crab stock is no longer overfished and no longer requires a rebuilding plan.
5. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff provided information on Escapement Goals and Stocks of Concerns. All reports can be found on the Board of Fisheries website under RCs3-8. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo>
6. Commissioner Bruce Twomley of the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) provided information on general implication of stacking permits and permit holders for CFEC. This report can be found on the Board of Fisheries website under RC13. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo>
7. The board voted (5-2) and approved the following changes to the board's April 3, 1980 *Motion to Reconsider* Policy:
 - a. Only a board member who voted on the prevailing side of the original issue can move to reconsider a vote.
 - b. A board member who voted on the prevailing side who intends to move for reconsideration must inform the chairman in writing or on the record of his/her intent.
 - c. Such notice must be provided no later than 24 hours after the vote on the issue that reconsideration is requested.

Executive Director Wellard will finalize the policy and have it posted on the website by October 31, 2012.

8. The board approved the following dates and locations for the Board of Fisheries 2014/2015 cycle of meetings:

Work Session

October 15-16, 2014 - Juneau.

Prince William Sound and Upper Copper River/Upper Susitna River Finfish Meeting

December 3-8, 2014 – Cordova, with a backup location of Fairbanks.

Executive Director Wellard will research and confirm if adequate meeting space, hotel accommodations, and restaurants are available in Cordova and report back to the board during the December Bristol Bay Finfish meeting.

Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish Meeting

January 21-27, 2015 – Wrangell, with a back up location of Ketchikan.

Executive Director Wellard will research and confirm if adequate meeting space, hotel accommodations, and restaurants are available in Wrangell and report back to the board during the December Bristol Bay Finfish meeting.

Southeast and Yakutat Finfish Meeting

February 23-March 3, 2015 - Sitka

Statewide Dungeness Crab, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish Meeting

March 17-20, 2015 - Anchorage

9. The board voted and approved (4-3) a new standard regarding the acceptance of written public comments during a board meeting ONCE deliberation of proposals begins. ONCE deliberation of proposals begins at a board meeting, the board will only accept written public comments that are not more than five single-sided pages or the equivalent double-sided pages, unless specific information is requested by the board that requires more pages than allowed under this standard. This change will be reflected in the 2012/2013 Board of Fisheries meeting cycle legal notice tentatively scheduled to be out no later than November 1, 2012.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. Council member Ed Dersham provided an update of actions taken by the Council at their recent meeting. The Council had an opportunity to review the observer deployment plan for the newly restructured observer program that will be implemented starting January 1, 2013. The Council recommended that the National Marine Fisheries Service prioritize monitoring for trawl vessels and consider reducing the deployment period (from 3 months to 2 months) for vessels in the vessel selection pool (pot and longline vessels between 40' and 57.5'). The Council also took final action on a halibut catch share plan that allocates halibut between the charter and commercial fisheries in Area 2C and 3A. The primary objective of the action is to create a management program in which both the commercial and charter allocations float with halibut abundance each year, and thus share in the burden of conservation at (currently) low levels of halibut abundance. The charter sector's allocation is higher at lower levels of halibut abundance, and lower at higher levels of abundance, in order to lessen the impact on their operations.
2. The Board of Fisheries and Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff agreed to defer all Pacific cod proposals that are scheduled for the Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands Finfish meeting in January 2013 to a Statewide Pacific cod meeting tentatively scheduled for October 2013. It was also agreed to extend the Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island Finfish meeting by one day to allow time for WASSIP.
 - a. It was also determined the need to schedule a Joint Protocol committee meeting prior to the October 2013 Statewide Pacific cod meeting. Executive Director Wellard will work with Executive Director Chris Oliver on the specific details and will report back to the Board of Fisheries and North Pacific Fishery Management Council.
 - b. The board was also reminded by Board Member Kluberton of the scheduled Joint Board Meeting also scheduled for October 2013 following the Board of Fisheries Work Session.
3. Board of Fisheries' proposals 200, 203, and 204 regarding the Area T overlap area scheduled for consideration at the February 26 – March 2, 2013 Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Island Finfish meeting in Anchorage will also be included in the roadmap for the Bristol Bay Meeting December 4-12, 2012 in order to allow an opportunity for public comments to be received by the board from residents when the board is meeting in Naknek for Bristol Bay Area finfish.

4. The board approved the appointment of Mark Gleason made by Co-chairman Jeff Stephan and Arni Thomson of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Observe Oversight Task Force referenced in RC12.
5. Other Board-Generated Proposals:
 - a. The board voted and created (7-0) a board-generated proposal to consider a Yukon District 6 Chum Salmon Fish Wheel Fishery be adopted by the regular regulation process that mirrors the emergency regulation that was in place during the 2012 fishing season. The board-generated proposal will be considered during the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Meeting scheduled for January 15-20, 2013.
 - b. The board voted and created (7-0) a board-generated proposal regarding the *Nushagak-Mulchatna King Salmon Management Plan* to limit any sport or guided sport fishing for Chinook on the Nushagak to single hook and no bait to be considered during the Bristol Bay Meeting scheduled for December 4-12, 2012.
 - c. The board voted and created (7-0) a board-generated proposal regarding an Atka mackerel fishery management plan outlined in RC23 to be considered during the tentatively-scheduled October 2013 Pacific cod meeting.
6. The Chinook Salmon Symposium is scheduled for October 22-23, 2012 in Anchorage and board members Webster, Jensen, and Huntington will be attending to gather information and provide comments, if necessary.
7. Chairman Johnstone announced those who would like to be part of the UCI Task Force outlined in RC24 (with a friendly amendment to add one marine recreation member) to submit your names to Executive Director Wellard. This information has since been posted on the Board of Fisheries website with a deadline to submit their names by October 25, 2012 by 5:00 p.m.
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.main>

RC12

**BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS
CRAB OBSERVER OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE**

October 4, 2012

Honorable Karl Johnstone, Chair
Ms. Monica Wellard, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

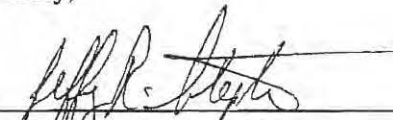
Sent by Fax: 907-465-6094

Dear Chairman Johnstone & Ms. Wellard:

The Alaska Board of Fisheries initially created the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Observer Oversight Task Force in 1999. The Board provided for the appointment of 15 industry members. During the March 26, 2011 work session, the Board agreed to continue with the Task Force and appointed 9 members. This leaves several vacancies the Board may wish to fill if suitable candidates emerge.

Mark Gleason was hired as the Executive Director of the Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers in October 2011. Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers represent nearly 70% of the harvest quota share-holders ("QS holders") in the Bering Sea Rationalized Crab fisheries. Mr. Gleason has expressed an interest in being appointed to the Task Force, based on the constituency he represents. We agree that his appointment to the Task Force is justified and would respectfully request that Mr. Gleason be appointed to the Task Force during the October 9-10, 2012 Work Session. We are available to answer any questions regarding our request. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Mr. Jeff Stephan, Co-Chair
Crab Observer Oversight Task Force



Mr. Arni Thomson, Co-Chair
Crab Observer Oversight Task Force

cc: Commissioner Cora Campbell

RC 23

Castle Cape Fisheries
PO box 971 - Homer, Alaska 99603

October 9, 2012

ADF&G Board of Fisheries
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-6094 FAX

Re: State Water Atka Mackerel Management Plan

Dear Chairman Karl Johnstone,

FV Taurus received a ADFG Commissioners Permit to conduct a limited experimental purse seine fishery for Atka mackerel in the Aleutian Island state waters this summer to evaluate the feasibility of the fishery. A copy of the Commissioner's Permit is attached.

We have submitted a report on the results of our experimental fishery as RC 22.

Our operations under the Commissioner's Permit took place from August 2nd to August 24th this last summer. As our report indicates, we are convinced that a state water purse seine fishery for Atka mackerel is feasible.

ADFG staff has informed us that the 125 ton allowance for the Commissioner's Permit is the maximum they can authorize as an experimental fishery. There is currently no state management plan in regulations for authorizing a state waters fishery.

The next step is to create a Management Plan for a state water Atka mackerel fishery. Approving a Management Plan is a Board of Fish prerogative.

An ACR must be submitted 45 days before the first fall meeting. Because our experimental research project was still ongoing when the deadline passed it was not possible to submit an ACR proposal for developing a management plan for a state water purse seine fishery for Atka mackerel.

We have discussed working cooperatively with ADFG to develop a draft plan to submit for Board of Fish consideration. We hope to submit a draft plan to the Board in the coming weeks.

In order to have a fishery opening in the 2nd half of 2013, it will require the Board to initiate a proposal on a Management Plan out of cycle.

The framework of a State Water Management Plan should include:

- Area – *(state waters between 172 longitude to 180 longitude)*
- Gear - *(purse seine, with length and depth limits)*
- GHl - *(a percentage of the federal ABC for the adjacent waters of 541/542)*
- Vessel Size Limits - *(58' LOA)*
- Check-in - *(fishery registration)*
- Catch Reporting - *(daily reports to ADFG)*
- Season - *(July through October)*

This is an opportunity to create a new fishery for small boats delivering to shore plants in the Aleutian Island region, bringing employment to struggling communities.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Dan Veerhusen
Captain/Owner
F/V Taurus

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Veerhusen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name and title.

Commissioner's Permit Requirements for Experimental Atka Mackerel Harvest



Issuance of this Commissioner's Permit authorizes the fishing vessel Taurus (ADF&G #49747) to harvest Atka mackerel (*Pleurogrammus monopterygius*) on an experimental basis using seine gear. The purpose of this permit is to determine if seine gear is a viable method to harvest Atka mackerel. Conditions of this permit are as follows:

1. Valid CFEC interim-use permit card for statewide miscellaneous saltwater finfish using purse seine gear is required (M01B).
(Description of gear, mesh size, depth, etc) HERMING SEINE 200 FATHOM X 82 MESHERS (1 1/2')
SALMON SEINE 225 FATH. X 250 MESHERS - 3" MESH
2. This permit is valid for 30 days from issuance and may be extended for one month at a time by contacting ADF&G in Dutch Harbor.
3. Fishing may only occur within state waters (0 – 3 nm) of federal regulatory area 541 (Eastern Aleutian Islands).
4. Allowable harvest of Atka mackerel under conditions of this permit is limited to a maximum of 250,000 pounds; any Atka mackerel taken in excess of this maximum amount must be immediately returned to the water.
5. Steller sea lion protection areas found in Table 12 CFR part 679 and the Seguam foraging area found in CFR part 679.22 are in effect while targeting Atka mackerel and attached to this permit.
6. Waters of Quail, Kuluk and Hidden bays are closed to commercial fishing with purse seine gear as described in attached map.
7. A fishing logbook is required and must be submitted with each fish ticket at each delivery. Logbook must contain the following information: date fished, set number, location by latitude and longitude, bycatch information (species, numbers and pounds), ADF&G statistical area fished (*stat area chart will be provided*), pounds harvested per set. Additional reporting requirements may be added to permit at the time of extension.
8. Allowable groundfish bycatch amounts can be found in Table 11 Part 679 dated October 27, 2010 (see attached).
9. The vessel must notify the department no less than **12 hours** prior to landing.
10. The department may deploy ADF&G personnel as an onboard observer during fishing activities with cost borne by the vessel.
11. Failure to complete all fields requested in the fishing logbook, notify ADF&G of landing, or comply with the other stipulations specified above will result in revocation of this Commissioner's permit.

TAURUS 49747
Vessel Name ADF&G #

MARK RECALMA 7/30/12
Vessel Operator Date
[Signature] 7-30-12
Department Representative Date

I, the CFEC permit holder, agree to allow the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to publish harvest information obtained under this permit.

[Signature]
Signature of CFEC Permit Holder

Dept. Rep. Extension Date

Dept. Rep. Extension Date

RC24

Mission and Organization Statement

UCI – Task Force

The Mission of this Task Force is to identify a set of recommended adjustments to the Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 21.359) that would result in the best mix of in-river (sport, guided sport, personal use) and Upper Subdistrict set gill net fishing opportunity while providing the best means of attaining the escapement goal for Kenai River late-run Chinook Salmon during times of low King Salmon abundance as experienced in the 2012 season.

The primary goal of the Task Force is to reach agreement on a set of provisions to be brought before the Board of Fisheries during the 2012/2013 Board Cycle (during the Statewide Finfish meeting in March, 2013) that, if adopted by the Board, would modify 5AAC 21.359 Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan for the purposes of meeting the above-stated mission.

Since the Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan has linkages between restrictions on in-river fishers and set gillnet fishers it is anticipated that the Task Force's work product will be moved forward as a Board-Generated Proposal replacing ACRs 4 & 17.

The Task Force will be co-chaired by Members Webster & Kluberton and consist of another eight members as selected by the co-chairs. Three members will be Upper Subdistrict Set Gillnet fishers; one Drift gillnet fisher; two sports fishers; one a sports guide; and, one a personal use (dip net) fisher.

ADF&G staff will participate as appropriate.

The chairs will solicit interest from the public upon creation of the Task Force by the Board of Fisheries and selection of members will be finalized by November 1st.

The first meeting will occur on or, about November 15th. During the first meeting a tentative schedule for the meetings of the Task Force will be developed with the intent of finalizing its work in time for submission as a public comment for the 2013 Statewide Finfish meeting (March 5, 2013).

It is anticipated all meetings will be held in Kenai.