

**On-Time Advisory Committee Comment List
Statewide Dungeness Crab, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish (except
Southeast and Yakutat) and Supplemental Issues
March 17–20, 2015**

Stony Holitna Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/16/14)	AC 01
Petersburg Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 1/7/15–1/8/15).....	AC 02
Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/2/15)	AC 03
Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/3/15).....	AC 04
Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/3/15).....	AC 05
Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/9/14)	AC 06
Bethel Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Recommendations 1/13/15)	AC 07
Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/11/15).....	AC 08
Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 1/27/15)	AC 09
Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/18/14)	AC 10
Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/11/15)	AC 11
Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/10/15).....	AC 12
Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/8/14).....	AC 13
Mat-Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/25/15)	AC 14
Northern Norton Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 1/22/15)	AC 15
Southern Norton Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 1/23/15)	AC 16
Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 1/12/15)	AC 17
Minto Nenana Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/2/15).....	AC 18
Tanana Rampart Manley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/12/14)	AC 19
Whittier Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/21/15)	AC 20
Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 2/4/15)	AC 21

The following Advisory Comments were received 2013 Chignik Finfish, 2013 Lower Cook Inlet and 2014 Kodiak Finfish Meetings Regarding Proposal 44

Sand Point Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 9/27/13).....	AC 22
Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/17-18/13).....	AC 23
Seldovia Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/7/13)	AC 24
Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 10/15/13).....	AC 25
Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 12/8-11/13).....	AC 26
Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/8/13).....	AC 27
Chignik Fish and Game Advisory Committee (Minutes 11/14/13)	AC 28

Southern Norton Sound AC
1/23/15
Memorial Hall Native Village of Unalakleet

I. Call to Order: Time 11:45 am by Wade Ryan

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Peter Martin Sr. (Stebbins), Jacob Ivanoff (Secretary, Unalakleet), Milton Cheemuk (Vice Chair, St. Michael), Wade Ryan (Chair-Unalakleet), Wes Jones (Unalakleet), Nicole Bruckner (Unalakleet)

Members Absent: Allen Atchak (Stebbins), Merlin Henry (Koyuk), Michael Sookiayak (Shaktoolik)

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5

Officer Election: Milton Cheemuk nominated Wade Ryan for chairman, seconded by Wes Jones. Peter Martin Sr. moved to close nomination. Peter Martin Sr. nominated Milton Cheemuk for vice-chairmen, seconded by Wes Jones. Jacob Ivanoff moved to close nomination. Nicole Bruckner nominated Wes Jones, he declined. Wade Ryan nominated Jacob Ivanoff, seconded by Wes Jones. Wade Ryan moved to close elections. Elections were approved by unanimous consent.

List of User Groups Present:

III. Approval of Agenda:

Milton moved to approve agenda

Peter Martin Sr. seconded

Agenda approved

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date 3/5/2014

Wes Jones move to approve minutes

Jacob Ivanoff seconded

Meeting Minutes Approved

V. Fish and Game Staff Present:

Tony Gorn, Scott Kent, Carmen Daggett, Justin Leon

VI. Guests Present:

VII. Clarence Towarak, Waylon Koutchak, Renae Ivanoff

VIII. No public comments and concerns

IX. Staff Reports:

Scott Kent gives crab proposal

Tony Gorn: Gave staff report about moose and musk ox.

Close



X. Old Business: None

XI. New Business:

DRAFT



Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Forms			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOG	40		Reauthorize antlerless moose seasons in Unit 22C and 22D
No action			
BOG	43		Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.
Support	6	0	Jacob: Motion at accept proposal 43 Seconded by Wes;
BOG	201		Salvage of game meat, furs and hides
No action			
BOG	202		Change the caribou regulation for all game management units associated with the Western Arctic caribou herd and Teshekpuk caribou herd.
Support as amended	6	0	Milton: We haven't seen caribou for over 25 years now. Tony Gorn: Explains that closing the season for the Katchiak's reindeer herd. Peter Martin: Thinks that closing the area around Golsovia and St. Michael would be a good idea. Wes Jones: motion to support 202 Jacob: Seconded Peter Martin Sr.: Wants to amend to close caribou season south of Golsovia River. Seconded: Jacob Wes Jones: Explains possible topics that the board might discuss, currently when the herd comes down in the migration. The window that we have been able to hunt. They come down late March and April and that they shouldn't shorten their season. It is important that we keep that flexibility of the season. Also to have the option to reopen on the south of Golsovia when caribou do migrate into the area again.
BOF	269		Norton Sound Section red king crab harvest strategy.
Supports as amended	6	0	Wade Ryan: Inquired how NNSAC voted Scott Kent: Explained they went with an 8% harvest rate Wade Ryan: Inquires about the health of the crab fishery Scott: Next year's crab should be good, that will probably be for three or four years. Clarence: Inquires about meat content in the winter and summer and the



Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Forms

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
			<p>effects on the meat content.</p> <p>Scott: Wes Jones: Motions to accept proposal 269 with an 8% harvest like Nome suggested.</p> <p>If you have a 400,000 that would set aside 40,000 for the winter fishery. When You don't worry about what the GHJ is. It provides a decent amount of product on the market for the processors one of the values in the winter fishery is the live market to lead the live market. The left over amount will roll over to the summer fishery.</p> <p>Milton: Inquires about how this proposal affects subsistence. Wes Jones: This does not affect subsistence fishery.</p>
BOF	270		Fishing Seasons for Registration Area Q.
Support as ammended	6	0	<p>Wes Jones: Motion to adopt 270. Seconded: Jacob Ivanoff</p> <p>Wes Jones: Explains the context of the proposal. Explains Nome is losing a minimum of 100 pots and as much as 200 pots There has been a change in how people think about their pots. People are risking losing more pots, because they are making money. For a guy using a snow machine pulling more than 20 pots and the pots are bigger in the winter fishery.</p> <p>I would like to amend proposal 270 to include a winter pot limit of 20 pots (attached regulatory language). Distributes regulatory language to suggest. Usually people don't use more than 20 pots anyways. It may help prolong the season.</p> <p>Motion Made by Wade Seconded: By Milton Cheemuk</p> <p>Discussion: There are a lot of loop holes this require pot tags so fish and game can get a true handle on what pot loss is. This is also a way instill not having people being ok with losing their pots.</p>

Adjournment: 1:20 pm

Minutes Recorded By: *[Signature]*
 Minutes Approved By: _____
 Date: _____



Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Minutes- Bethel MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015, 2:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

CALL TO ORDER TIME: 1:50 by Chair: David Bill

INVOCATION: John Phillip Sr.

ROLL CALL/ MEMBERS PRESENT: John Phillip Sr., David Bill, David Carl, Charlie Spud, Joseph John Sr., Henry Williams, Peter Julius, Stan Atchak (Secretary), Tommy Kusaiak, Annie Cleveland, Willie Atti, Paul Sunny

NUMBER NEEDED FOR QUORUM: 7 (13 seats, two undesignated seats are not filled so don't need to count for quorum) QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: **previous meeting 12/11/14 (group forgot to approve but were given draft copies at this meeting)**

FISH AND GAME STAFF PRESENT:

Boards Support Western Regional Coordinator, Holly Carroll

Wildlife biologists (Bethel office) Patrick Jones and Phillip Perry; Aaron Poetter-Kuskokwim Area Manager fisheries, Andrew Brenner, Subsistence Division

GUESTS PRESENT: Josephine John, Mrs. Bill

OLD BUSINESS: **none**

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: **Questions/Concerns of the AC members and public- none**

NEW BUSINESS:

Board of Fisheries Issues: (On time comment deadline March 3, 2015)

- a. **Proposal 272- Kuskokwim River: Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage**

Holly noted that the Board of Game proposals are now due March 2016 (Because BOG went to a three year cycle). Tommy K., stated that we need to really understand the proposals before we take actions. Willi Atti asked why there were changes or additions made to the proposal number 272. Holly explained the reason of the changes which was on the handout. Peter J., explained why the proposal is and if we need to discuss it and approve it. Peter stated that they use different mesh sizes when they fish at Goodnews and Quinhagak and wants more explanation from F&G. David explained the proposal and after discussion we could vote for it or not. Peter J. asked if it will affect the Kuskokwim and Goodnews area. Holly said it will be the Kuskokwim drainage ends at the mouth of the river. Kuskokwim area would include Goodnews and Quinhagak. Willi Atti stated if there could be a boundary like for the 4 inches to be used with the fishermen. Annie C. asked if they closed the fishery will it affect the sport fishermen. Holly said they would be the first ones to be closed. She noted that the Troopers never check on the sport fishermen. Holly said that they need to call the F/W troopers and they will fly out and check. Peter J., stated that if subsistence fishing is a top priority they are not allowed to fish and the sport fishermen keep on fishing, why is it that way. Holly said that they are supposed to stop fishing and it is an enforcement issue. David Carl explained the proposal 272 what it will mean or do with the fishermen. John P. said that he don't like the four inch mesh proposal because it limits the fishing and he used to be a commercial fishermen. Four inch mesh is mainly used for the white fish. Annie C. said that they also don't like the four inch mesh proposal. Tommy K. said that we shouldn't support this proposal because it might hurt other fishermen. He suggested hearing from Goodnews and Quinhagak concerns first before we take action on this. Holly explained with examples the proposal 272. She said that if they close the



Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Minutes- Bethel MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015, 2:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

fishery because of low number of fish that they could still fish with four inch or smaller. She explained that we could vote section by section on the proposal, with the three sections. Aaron Poetter, F&G, the proposal 242 would not affect Goodnews and Quinhagak area, only the Kuskokwim area.

Board of Game issues: (Comments due March 3, 2015)

b. Proposal 206-Musk ox stranded on ice –SEE RECOMMENDATION TO BOARD BELOW.

Holly noted that the Board of Game proposal is now due March 2016.

Tommy K. stated that we need to really understand the proposals before we take actions.

OTHER BUSINESS:

c. Proposals: BOF proposals due April 10, 2015.

i. Chinook Salmon and Chum salmon subsistence regulations for Kipnuk and Chefornak

ii. Herring-enlarge fishing area

Peter Julius suggested making a proposal to extend the fishery in; Aaron P. said that F/G would be neutral on this. Another proposal for salmon fishing is to extend the fishing area because other commercial fishermen come from other areas. Aaron said they would be neutral on the proposal.

• Get AC recommendations and/or comments on the following: SEE TABLE BELOW FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	272	Consider providing the commissioner of ADF&G emergency order authority to restrict gillnet gear in the Kuskokwim River drainage	
Supports	10	1	Holly C. explained the proposal 272 that it is an opportunity to fish for non-salmon when the king salmon is closed. Also, they could use longer nets they already own but keep some in the boat if the length is restricted. Holly explained with examples the proposal 272. She said that if they close the fishery because of low number of fish that they could still fish with four inch or smaller. Aaron Poetter, F&G, the proposal 272 would not affect Goodnews and Quinhagak area, that it would apply more in the Kuskokwim River. Proposal passed. (1 nay, one abstention).
BOG	206	Allow the taking of musk oxen stranded on sea ice	
			Proposal 205 on Musk OX – Patrick Jones from F/G biologist in Bethel. Proposal from Nunivak Island, F/G supports this with additions. Fish and Game



Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Minutes- Bethel MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015, 2:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
Supports w/amendment	12	0	wants additions like to let everyone be able to take stranded musk ox and not just Nunivak people. This proposal would give the hunters immediate harvest of the musk ox and you could take pictures. Later the next day or so could contact F/Game when they come to the village. The group wanted an amendment to allow all Alaskan residents to harvest the musk ox. Proposal passed unanimously with amendment.

Adjourn Time: 8:05 pm

Minutes Recorded By: __Stan Atchak and put in template by Holly Carroll, Regional Coordinator____

Minutes Approved By: __Chair David Bill 2/3/15____



Central Bering Sea Fish and Game Advisory Committee

DRAFT Minutes- Bethel MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015, 2:00 pm

Call 1 (800) 504-8071 access code: 5432709#

For Info contact Holly Carroll at 543-1677, holly.carroll@alaska.gov

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
Supports w/ amendment	12	0	wants additions like to let everyone be able to take stranded musk ox and not just Nunivak people. This proposal would give the hunters immediate harvest of the musk ox and you could take pictures. Later the next day or so could contact F/Game when they come to the village. The group wanted an amendment to allow all Alaskan residents to harvest the musk ox. Proposal passed unanimously with amendment.

Adjourn Time: 8:05 pm

Minutes Recorded By: Stan Atchak and put in template by Holly Carroll, Regional Coordinator

Minutes Approved By:

[Signature]
2/3/15



Minto Nenana
Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Draft
February 2, 2015
Minto Tribal Council

Meeting called to order at 10:45 am.

Members Present:

Minto

Philip Titus
Ron Silas
David Titus
Steve Titus
Jeremy Charlie

Nenana

Steve Ketzler
Victor Lord
Rondell Jimmy
Tim McManus

Members Absent: Ray Stevens.

**There is also an Undesignated seat that is not filled at this time. There was not enough time to announce an election for this meeting, and that seat as well as all Minto seats were to be open for election at this meeting. The AC would not like the council to hold the elections at this time, but instead wait for the AC to meeting in Minto again.*

Needed for quorum; 6 Quorum met

Guests Present:

Agency Tony Hollis, DWC; Christine Gleason, DCF; Seth Wilson, SUBS; Nissa Pilcher, BDS
Other; James Sears, AWT, a few members of Minto

Agenda

Approved

Minutes

December 17, 2013; Approved

Concerns from AC/members of the public

Fishing

Appears that we are sacrificing our fishing, and therefore cultural rights, so that commercial fishermen down river/in the ocean can benefit. This is concerning to us, and there is no benefit, either culturally or economically for us that these commercial fishermen bestow to us. Many of them are not Alaska residents. It is our understanding that by overfishing in the high seas, including bycatch, that these fishermen are a leading cause of our state not being able to make escapment into Canada and are therefore breaking international treatys. We believe that these fishermen should now sacrifice as we have had to sacrifice.

Action Item



Draft letter to BOF and NMFS requesting that the commercial fishing fleet sacrifice their season as we have been forced to do.

Unanimously passed. Philip and Victor chosen to draft and send letter.

Hunting

Decline in black ducks [scoters] in the Minto Flats. We would like someone from FWS to give us an update at our next meeting on them. They are an important and stable food source for us. We have noticed that their numbers are less, and that the flocks that do come do not bunch up like they used to, and they are not around as long as they usually are.

ADF&G Staff Update

BOG cycle change; Nissa Pilcher

Brief summary given and the effects it would have on this AC, such as not having an Interior BOG meeting next cycle (2015-2016)

2014 Hunting Season Update; Tony Hollis

There was a 2013 moose survey in 20B, but in 2014 no survey, no snow so no survey, but did get a composition survey in, and there are about 34/100 for a bull/cow ratio, which is good.

Question asked about the predator take, interested in lowering take by shortening season so that the predator/prey dynamic might be a bit more 'natural'.

Members noted that they saw a lot of hunters during season in places that they hadn't before. Asked about putting up a sign to notify hunters about private lands/their recovery camp. Tony noted that the hunter presence could be due to the very high water, and that a sign would be a good idea.

Antlerless season

Take 100 antlerless moose in all of 20B, no antlerless moose in 20A,

Victor; it was getting hard to get even a bull moose around Nenana during the season since there was so many people out hunting. We know what barren cows look like- fat rumps, dark color, less distracted- but people from outside don't so much, there should be education on what a barren cow looks like.

20C; moose numbers coming up, partially due to the larger burn that happened 2004. Steve noted that the moose over in Lake Minchumina are fatter, tony- low density moose are fatter, calves are healthier, bulls are larger.

Concerns hunters coming into 20C on new road, big monster 6wheelers, see it in the moose population, that is where the breeder population was, but now they are getting shot. Take rigs across the river in a boat , and are able to get off the road.

Wounded animals; if you wound an animal then that is your animal, you have to learn how to track a wounded animal, gotta put the effort into it. Concerned with wanton waste, seeing a lot of wounded animals. Members expressed that it would also be a good idea for future educational material for hunters is how to deal with wounded animals; it is part of hunting, they wound it and then can't find it then they don't know how to look for it.



Shorten bear season so there are more of them for subsistence hunting.

Comment on BOG proposals; Central/Southwest BOG Meeting

Proposal 138

Oppose (9-0)

Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A, 20B, and 20D

Education opportunities on barren cows brought up. Clarification on the Minto Flats Registration hunt and the drawing hunt discussed. Concern has been heard from our elders on continuing this hunt.

Proposal 139

No Action

Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Brief discussion.

Proposal 201

No Action

Clarify the language regarding retrieval and salvage of wounded game.

It doesn't matter, if the animal is wounded, then you have to do what you can to get it. Give them every opportunity to get the wounded animal.

Formulate any BOG Proposals

AC interested in drafting another proposal for next cycle similar to the one that was submitted by the AC at the last Interior meeting on attempting to protecting habitat/game animals in 20C where the new road was created.

Comment on BOF proposals; Statewide BOF Meeting

Proposal 273

Oppose (0-9)

Allow drift gillnet subsistence fishing after July 15 in the upper section of Yukon River Subdistrict 4-A for the harvest of summer chum salmon

Discussion on the proposal; last year they opened and closes, and opened and closed, members ended up catching a few kings in their chum net in the Tanana during chum times, concern over where those fish are headed. We have trouble supporting new rules that would hurt us- those chums are headed to the Tanana. Folks lower than us hit those abundant summer chum hard and then we don't see them in any great numbers. But this just concerns just subsistence fishing, so maybe we could support this. July 15 95% of the kings are done, and 75% of summer chum are still in river. Last year there was no king salmon fishing, and maybe next year there might not be either.

Amendment discussed, but not voted on; need to ensure that an adequate number of subsistence chum make it to the Tanana, and institute some form of reporting requirements to ensure that no one is being too greedy.



Don't like it all, our fish. 25% of the kings are still in the river, and fishing with 6" nets will catch them. We don't want them catching kings, they are still a species of concern with this AC.

Proposal 274

Support (9-0)

Allow subsistence fish wheel fishermen in the Yukon Area to retain king salmon when some harvest is justified based upon inseason run assessment

Run timing question asked, concern over conservation of kings brought up against. If there is enough fish, then we should be able to catch some. Fish net fishermen get to keep their kings already, but fish wheel fishermen has to stay at their wheel, and this is just giving them a chance to rest and keep a little.

Escapement was met in Tanana, and at the boarder this last season.

Formulate any BOF Proposals

Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Meeting in Fairbanks in early 2016; due April 10, 2015

Proposal to request commercial, year round pike fishing in either Minto Flats

Drainage/Statewide (statewide would require an ACR, which AC was okay with) to be drafted and submitted. Philip and Tim would work on this.

2014 Yukon Fall & Summer Season Summary; Christina Gleason

Concern with the numbers that main stem sonar projects are seeing and Tanana being restricted. If there is that many coming up the river then we should have more opportunity to fish for Chinook.

Permits

Subsistence salmon permits are important to get back to us, by regulation we should get them back within 10 days at the end of the season. If everyone could get their permits in on time then CF could bring subsistence numbers back at these meetings instead of run numbers.

Next meeting

held in Nenana before the AYK BOF meeting



**Tanana Rampart Manley
Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting
November 12, 2014
Tanana**

Call to Order at 11:00 am

Board Roll Call: Stan Zuray - Chairman, Kathleen Zuray - Tanana Tribal Seat, Gerald Nicholia - Tanana, Ruth Altoff - Tanana, Charlie Wright - Rampart, Cliff Wiehl - Rampart, Aaron Kozevnikoff - Tanana, Shannon Erhart – Manley, James Roberts – Tanana

Quorum met; need 5

Guests: Tom Roberts, Chris Grant, Jackie Edwin, Patty Elias, Faith Peters, Mike Carlo, Russ Folger

ADF&G (Stephanie Schmidt, Jeff Estensen, Tony Hollis, Kristy Gleason, Sabrina Garcia).

Comments to the Board of Fisheries, comments directed at their March 2015 meeting

Proposal 273

ACR 9 – Allow drift gillnet subsistence fishery 4A for summer chum after July 15th.

Not Supported - unanimous.

We simply do not support king retention until king problem has improved. For all districts – cannot start making inroads on this.

Proposal 274

ACR 10 – Allow fish wheel fishermen in Yukon to retain king salmon when some harvest is justified based on in season run assessment.

Supported - unanimous. Much discussion to understand but TRM AC is not opposed to subsistence fishing for kings and even commercials in times of sufficient abundance that escapement goals and run quality issues such as size/female rates will be met. Restrictions placed only on fish wheels recently (and not nets) that prohibited this were unreasonable due to fact that fish wheels catch a smaller average size king than even 6” mesh driftnets in lower river commercial fishery each year (ADF&G data). Noted that shift in use of fish wheels river-wide to large mesh gillnets has been considered by many in our AC to be one of the major factors in the declining size of king salmon. If anything fish wheels should be promoted, not restricted as a usable gear for that reason.

Excerpt of draft minutes of the Tanana Rampart Manley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting held in Tanana on November 12, 2014

*For a full set, please contact Interior Regional Coordinator



WHITTIER FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Feb. 21, 2015

Anchor Inn

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2015

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

- I. Call to Order: 13:09 by Chairman Jon Van Hying.
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Ric Vrsalovic, Jody Mason, Milton Stevens, Gordon Scott, Steve Aberle, Jim Norris, Jon Van Hying.
Members Absent: David Goldstein, Mike Durtschi, David Pinguoch.
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present: several
- III. Approval of Agenda:
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Chairman read the minutes of Nov. 15, 2014 and was approved with the amendment to include Charlotte Westing on the presentation of her report on Black Bears.
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Charlotte Westing and Mike Thalhauser.
- VI. Guests Present: Mike Stoltze

Jon Van Hying talked about his presentation from the Ak. Board of Fisheries in Cordova Dec. 3-8 2014: he expressed his concern about the decline of Spot Shrimp in PWS. He thinks the abundance of Rock Fish are eating a lot of shrimp.

Never the less, the board thinks there is no strong evidence and the decline is not conclusive. Any measure taken will be hard to enforce.

Lingcod: the board decided to take no action and wait for the next cycle to act if necessary.

Main Bay salmon barrier: The board modified the 100 ft. to 60 ft.

AD&G representative Charlotte Westing made a presentation of Hunting Game in PWS.:

Deer; After the 2011-12 decline of 50% population because of the weather, the population shows a substantial improvement.

Moose; In the Copper River area the moose population is estimated to be around 600. Area 6B (east of Copper River) opening periods and methods were changed.

Goats; There are 17 areas in the sound. The Bainbridge area looks good. In other areas the harvest varies from 9 to 15 taken.



Black Bear; The board will go to a 3 year cycle in south central Ak., so next board meeting will be 2019.-

There are 4 proposals that the board will discuss right now because they are emergency issues pertaining to black bears in PWS: one presented by Brad von Wichman and 2 by David Pinguoch. All are related to the taking of black bears.

Since 2007 there has been a gradual reduction of the black bear population and it has been accelerating in the last 3 years. The board is looking right now to have a emergency closure in West PWS or the entire sound. They are looking at the data and finding that 77% of hunters are one time show. 20% of bears are taken in the fall.

The board could decide to open a registration for hunters to see how many will participate in the hunt in conjunction with a limited annual harvest.

FISHERIES PROPOSALS: (non-commercial).

PROP. No. 245 AND 249: (Harvest allocation for non-commercial Shrimp fishery).

S. Aberle moved to adopt prop. # 245 & 249, second by M. Stevens.

AF&G can only increase or decrease the pot limit. The Department allocated 60% for sport and 40% for commercial after subsistence was taken.

The Whittier AC considered these proposals against the commercial harvest.

Call for vote: Support= 0 opposed= 7

PROP. No. 246 : (Change harvest strategies).

G. Scott move to adopt this prop., S. Aberle second.

The allocation 60/40 take effect for commercial if the 110.000 lbs. GHL. Otherwise, the ADF&G can close the entire spot shrimp fishery.

Call for vote: Support= 5 Abstain= 1 Opposed= 1

PROP. NO. 247 : (Pot limit).

S. Aberle move to adopt this prop., J. Norris second. This prop. will increase the number of pots allowed per vessel. AC would not support this prop..

Call to vote:

support= 0 opposed= 7

PROP. No. 248 : (modified reporting requirement for non commercial shrimp fishery).

M. Stevens moved to adopt this prop., Aberle second. The non commercial fishery went over their limit 4 times in the last 7 years. Also, there is a good chance this reporting will be changed to a digital system.

Call for vote:

support= 2 opposed= 5

<<<<COMMERCIAL>>>>

PROP. No. 250 : (register one boat per person only).

G. Scott moved to adopt this prop., second by M. Stevens.

Call for vote:



support= 7 opposed = 0

PROP. No. 251 : (change the boundary line between area 2 and 3 for commercial pot shrimp).
M. Stevens move to adopt this prop., R. Vrsalovic second.

Call for vote: support= 6 opposed= 0 abstain= 1

PROP. No. 252 : (close trawl gear fishing for taking shrimp).
M. Stevens move to adopt this prop., second by G.Scott.
Jon van Hying expressed his mind regarding Fish& Game making a big issue to protect Tanner crabs. He says trawl gear is much more efficient now.
Call to vote:

support= 3 opposed= 2 abstain= 2

PROP. No. 253 : (change PWS shrimp pot commercial fishery designation).
J. Norris moved to adopt this prop., second by Jody Mason
This will change from exclusive area to superexclusive area. Also, change the closed season from Sept. 15 to August 1.
Whittier AC will not accept the closed season as written because it will eliminate a substantial period of fishing.
Call for vote with amendment "to reject the change of closing season":

support= 7 opposed= 0

PROP. No. 254: (statistical area control).
Note: S. Aberle left the meeting.
Norris moved to adopt this prop., second by Jody Mason.
This prop. was submitted by the Whittier AC.

Call for vote: support=6 opposed= 0

PROP. No. 255/256: (change the shrimp pots from 4 to 5 pots per single buoy line and no more than 300 feet between first pot and last).
Scott move to adopt this prop., second by M. Stevens. All members agree this is a good proposition.
Call for vote:

support= 6 opposed= 0

PROP. No 257: (reporting catch requirement).
G.Scott moved to adopt this prop. , second by Norris.
The requirement to call on Wednesday to report the catch of commercial shrimp is changed to call before leaving port with an estimate catch and call again upon return to port with the actual harvest plus all other information needed as before.
Call for vote:

support= 6 opposed= 0

Note: Whittier AC recommends also that ADF&G accept "Texting" and or "E-mail".



PROP. No. 258, 259, 260: (To close the commercial shrimp pot fishery).
Move to adopt this prop. by M. Stevens, second by Scott.
Call for vote:

support= 0 opposed= 6

Adjournment: 16:20

Minutes Recorded By: Ric Vrsalovic
Minutes Approved By: Jon Van Hying
Date: 2-26-2015



**KODIAK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 4.2015- FISH & GAME BLDG
PAUL CHERVENAK- CHAIRMAN**

(MINUTES ARE A PARAPHRASED SUMMARY AND ARE NOT A VERBATUM TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEETING.
TAPES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING THE COMMITTEE
SECRETARY

- I. Call to Order: Time by 2:12pm @ Fish & Game Bldg
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Paul Chervenak, Guide; Julie Kavanaugh, Concerned Citizen; Rolan Ruoss, Transporter/Sport Fish; Kip Thomet, Gillnet; Oliver Holmes, Small Boat; Al Cratty, Old Harbor; Nathan Rose, Alt; Jason Chandler (Kurt Waters), Trawl; Leigh Thomet (Don Fox), Alt;
Members Absent: Ron Kavanaugh, Small Boat (Excused); Tuck Bonney, Processor (Excused); Andrew Finke, Subsistence (Excused); Lou Dochterman, Large Boat (Unexcused); Pete Hannah, Setnet
*3 vacant seats- At Large; Port Lions, Ouzinkie

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 7

Members Present: 9
- III. Approval of Agenda: Approved as Amended. **New business will be taken up first.** Mr Holmes- moved; Mr Lee -seconded; Mr Chervenak- amended; Ms Kavanaugh- seconded. Support 9-0
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date: January 21, 2015; Approved as Amended:
New Business #5) Mountain Goat 2 goat bag limit area: KAC members agreed to reactivate the goat committee and hold meetings on increasing the area of **480 to include the left cape portion of area 476.** Thus providing more opportunity in a underutilized section. Moved to Adopt- Kip Lee; Second- Holmes; Amend- Rouss; Second- Kavanaugh; Support as Amended 9-0
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Mark Stichert, Wayne Donaldson, Trent Hartill, James Jackson, Jeff Spalanger, Todd Anderson, Brad Feurst, Taryn O'Connor-Brito- Staff Support
- VI. Guests Present: Paul Yatsik, Coral Chernoff, Chris Burns, Harvey Goodell, Dick Roher

New Business

- 1) Summaries on 2014 Kodiak Salmon and Herring were presented by staff members James Jackson and Jeff Spalanger.
- 2) Statewide Dungeness, Shrimp and Misc Shellfish proposals; see following.

Page 1

Statewide Dungeness Crab, Shrimp, and Misc. Shellfish Meeting March. 17-20, 2015

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form

BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	234		Establish weather criteria to delay opening of commercial fishing periods for sea cucumbers in the Kodiak District of Registration Area J.
No Action			No participants present to comment, Author is President of local Divers' Association and membership reflects a large percentage of active divers. Discussion that as written this proposal could indefinitely postpone fishery. There is no trigger allowing for the fishery to proceed if marine weather forecast continues to have a gale warning.
BOF	235		Modify the Chignik District fishing season for sea cucumbers to open two weeks earlier than the remainder of Registration Area J.
Support	9-0		Motion to Adopt-Kavanaugh; Second- Leigh Thomet Question for staff about quality and reproduction if fishery were to start earlier. Although little data available, staff was confident fishers would voluntarily participate in data collection. No extra cost. Could close with EO if necessary.
BOF	236		Establish an earlier season closure for the Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula, and Aleutian districts' commercial Dungeness crab fisheries.
Support	9-0		Move to Adopt-Holmes; Second-Kip Lee Mr Holm stated in favor as gear abandoned on Eastside may be more likely to be retrieved - Mr Rose- spoke to lost gear most likely due to bad weather/ washed up. Public member Mr Goodell in agreement. see staff comments re: harvest after Nov 1 st and ghost pot fishing
BOF	237		Amend the customary and traditional (C&T) use finding for shellfish in the Kodiak Area by adding Tanner crab to the list of shellfish stocks customarily or traditionally taken for subsistence.
Support	9-0		Move to Adopt- Kavanaugh; Second-Leigh Thomet AC was in support of the designation of Tanner Crab subsistence use as customary and traditional.
BOF	238		Amend scallop closed waters description.
No Action			Dept is withdrawing
BOF	123\124		Quota & Guideline Harvestlevels for SE Alaska Area* See Feb 23 BOF Meeting
Oppose	0-9		Move to Adopt- Mr Rose; Second Leigh Thomet Kodiak hosts permit holders/ though non present- past crewmembers present/ concerned loss of jobs with permit stacking, adverse effect on Sitka economy Years where stock not caught was primarily due to mixed pre spawn and spawned out herring (stocks)NOT by the nature of fishery. This fishery difficult to enter- this proposal would multiply that hardship. 2/3rds of vessels would be freed up to impact other fisheries
BOF	276		Vessel Length; Bulbous Bow
Support as Amended	9-0		Move to Adopt- Kip Lee; Second- Holmes; Amend-Kavanaugh, Second-Rouss. Amend SAAC 39.117 by removing "purse seine vessels" (Intent is to utilize definition to apply to all state waters fisheries with a 58' limit requirement) *Discussion about clearly defining Anchor Roller as "the Cheek Plates & Fairlead of Roller"
BOF	267		Fresh Water Sport Fishing. Repeal exception for use of footgear with felt soles
Oppose	0-9		There was a learning curve to using non-felt soled waders, which we are through. The benefit to the resource of banning felt soles to stop the spread of invasive species outweighs the inconvenience



KODIAK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 4.2015- FISH & GAME BLDG
PAUL CHERVENAK- CHAIRMAN

(MINUTES ARE A PARAPHRASED SUMMARY AND ARE NOT A VERBATUM TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEETING.
TAPES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY CONTACTING THE COMMITTEE
SECRETARY

- 3) See Table
- 4) See Table
- 5) Selection of committee member to BOF March 17~20 Move to send Kavanaugh-
Rouss; Second - Holmes; Support 9-0

Old Business:

- 1) Letter to BOG prop# 143 Moved to Adopt- Kavanaugh; Second-Kip Lee; Member of Public Mr Roher suggested adding stats on "wounded bear loss". Committee agreed to addition of language. Vote 9-0 Support
- 2) Discussion of Village Seats. Two seats Port Lions and Ouzinkie are vacant. Taryn is in contact with city councils to fill seats. Through Taryn- Old Harbor confirmed that this position is on their next agenda.
- 3) Discussion of Mr Dochterman's seat. Pres. Chervenak expressed his desire to speak directly to member before declaring seat vacant due to multiple/consecutive absences. It is the KAC's desire to ensure the seat filled at the next advertised meeting if needed.
- 4) Discussion of vacant 3 yr seat. Was confirmed to fill this seat would require a nomination and election with public notice. KAC would like to see this seat advertised and filled at next meeting. Former member Jason Bunch is interested in serving. Leave as an "AT LARGE" position. Committee noted they strive to ensure their committee reflects a diverse membership and would continue to proceed in same manner.

New Business:

6) Committee Comments:

Rouss- BOG Statewide deadline May 1st

Chernevak- Have subcommittee meeting end of February, next meeting early Dec/late Nov as public comment deadline dictates. Chervenak requested that Rouss, as the committee approved alternate, attend the BOG meeting

Members agreed that meetings held in the F&G building facilitated teleconferencing with villages and held potential for public to participate more readily.

@4:35pm Move to Adjourn-Holmes; Second- Kip Lee. Support 9-0

Approved 2/14/15

