

**Boards Support Section
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Agenda #4-5: Committee Information

1. Board of Fisheries Standing Committees worksheet
2. Joint Protocol Committee Meeting Minutes, May 21, 2014



The Joint Protocol Committee of the
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
and the
Alaska Board of Fisheries



Joint Protocol Committee Meeting

May 21, 2014, 9:00am – 5:00pm
Clarion Suites, 1110 8th Avenue, Heritage Room, Anchorage

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Participants

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

- Eric Olson, NPFMC Chair
- Ed Dersham
- Roy Hyder

North Pacific Fishery Management Council staff

- Chris Oliver, Executive Director
- Dave Witherell, Deputy Director
- Sam Cunningham, Economist
- Diana Stram, Plan Coordinator
- Jon McCracken, Economist

National Marine Fisheries Service

- Glenn Merrill, NOAA Sustainable Fisheries
- John Lepore, NOAA General Counsel

Alaska Department of Law

- Lance Nelson
- Mike Mitchell
- Cheryl Brookings

Others in attendance

- Beth Stewart, Peninsula Fishermen's Coalition
- Andy Varner, Sand Point
- Ernie Weiss, Aleutians East Borough
- Sam Cotten, Aleutians East Borough
- Martin Meigs, Alaska Sportfish Association
- Rachel Donkersloot, Alaska Marine Conservation Council
- Art Nelson, Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

Alaska Board of Fisheries

- John Jensen, Committee Chair
- Sue Jeffrey
- Karl Johnstone, BOF Chair

Alaska Department of Fish & Game staff

- Cora Campbell, Commissioner
- Kelly Hepler, Assistant Commissioner
- Glenn Haight, Executive Director
- Jeff Regnart, Director, Commercial Fisheries
- Nicole Kimball, Extended Jurisdiction Director
- Karla Bush, Fishery Biologist, Extended Jurisdiction
- Forrest Bowers, Deputy Director, Commercial Fisheries
- Tracy Lingnau, F&G Coordinator
- Tim Baker, F&G Coordinator
- Mark Stichert, Fisheries Biologist
- Trent Hartill, Fisheries Biologist

- Chuck McCallum, Lake & Peninsula Borough
- Vince O'Shea, Pacific Seafood Processors Association
- Linda Kozak, Golden King Crab Coalition
- Tom Evich, fisherman
- Molly Dirschner, Alaska Journal of Commerce
- Marty Owen, UAA student

Meeting Commencement

The Joint Protocol Committee (JPC) chair, John Jensen, called the meeting to order at 9:15am, May 21, 2014. JPC members in attendance from the Alaska Board of Fisheries (Board) included Sue Jeffrey and Karl Johnstone. Members Eric Olson, Roy Hyder, and Ed Dersham represented the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). Board JPC member Tom Kluberton was unable to attend the meeting.

Staff Reports

Following introductions and an announcement of attendance sign-in and public testimony sheets, the JPC heard reports from Council, Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G), and the National Marine Fisheries Service staff.

Sam Cunningham provided an update on the Council's action on Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management. The Council put forward a motion at the April 2014 meeting that contains several elements for a program in the Western Gulf, Central Gulf, and West Yakutat areas, including bycatch reduction, bycatch avoidance tools, cooperatives, community stability, transferability, and species to be included. (see Summary of Council Motion – April 2014) The motion is currently in a pre-analysis stage and a discussion paper evaluating the current motion will be reviewed by the Council in October or December 2014. If a formal analysis is initiated, the analytical process would take at least a year from Oct/Dec 2014, with final action possibly in late 2015 or early 2016. If a final action is taken, moving a proposed rule through the federal review process will take at least an additional year. In a best case scenario, a program could be implemented and operational no sooner than 2017.

Board of Fisheries pollock workgroup chair Ms. Jeffrey provided opening remarks on the workgroup's genesis through the Board's Proposal 44 and workgroup goals and objectives as described in meeting material. Nicole Kimball and Karla Bush provided staff comments on the April 16, 2014 meeting of workgroup participants. Ms. Bush provided a synopsis of the meeting summarized in a handout and in the meeting minutes. Mark Stichert briefly provided a report on ADF&G's efforts in establishing a seine test fishery for pollock around Kodiak. Despite several permits issued to date no one has attempted to conduct the fishery. Ms. Kimball closed with comments about necessary coordination between the BOF and Council and the complexities that exist when establishing a catch share program in federal waters adjacent to state waters. Under a catch share program as envisioned through the current Council trawl bycatch motion, some revisions to state management would be necessary, as the same existing parallel fisheries management is not feasible. Unless participants were held to fishing only in federal waters, the Board would need to take some action to either create a state waters fishery for trawl pollock or possibly modify existing regulations to accommodate a variation of the parallel fishery. (see Alaska Board of Fisheries CGOA Walleye Pollock Workgroup, Proposal 44, Pollock Workgroup Summary, Minutes from April 16, 2014 Pollock Workgroup meeting)

Jon McCracken discussed the recent federal management action that split the Bering Sea (BS) and Aleutian Island (AI) Pacific cod total allowable catch (TAC). Previously the BS/AI TAC was managed as one, but is now managed separately. (see Update on BSAI Pacific cod TAC split, State-water GHL and parallel fisheries.)

Mr. Stichert provided an update on the recently created state-waters Pacific cod fishery currently referred to the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict Pacific cod fishery. The fishery GHL was almost completely harvested and relived pressure on state water Pacific cod fisheries in the South Alaska Peninsula and Chignik Management Areas. (see Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state waters P cod fishery)

Glenn Merrill spoke to a recent management issues related to Pacific cod in federal and parallel fisheries. After the <60' fixed gear cod allocation in the BS is closed, hook and line <60' vessels are moving to the state parallel cod fishery where they are not prohibited from continuing to fish because the federal hook-and-line CP fishery is still open (which results in the parallel fishery being open to hook-and-line gear) and the state does not recognize operational type in state waters. The excess Pacific cod they harvest has been covered by reallocations from other BS cod fisheries, but it might not be available in the future if this catch expands. These smaller vessels can also fish near Stellar Sea Lion rookeries and that could cause closure concerns over time. In the future, federal fisheries managers may request the Board establish a

regulatory mechanism to close the parallel cod fishery using hook and line gear in state waters after a federal closure. (see Interaction between BS Pacific Cod Fishery Federal and State of Alaska Parallel Fisheries)

Ms. Bush provided a recap of Board actions at the most recent March 2014 meeting on Statewide Shellfish issues. The Board changed the AI Golden King Crab season to start two weeks earlier (effective for the 2015/16 season to coordinate season dates in federal regulation), separated the AI red king crab Management Area into two Districts (Petrel Bank and Adak Districts west and east of 179° W long., respectively), and established management measures for the unrationalized Adak District.

Diana Stram discussed the Council's February 7, 2014 motion on BS/AI crab PSC limits. Among other aspects, the Council is seeking information on evaluating PSC by weight rather than numbers of crab. (see BSAI Crab PSC Limits, Motion 2-7-14)

Mr. McCracken closed with discussing Council action on a proposal to change when groundfish harvest possession and landing requirements may be reported. The Board received a similar proposal in March 2014 and knowing the Council was working on a similar proposal took no action in order to hear from and look at coordination on final action. (see Proposed Change to Groundfish Possession and Landing Requirements, and Proposal 370)

Public Testimony

During public testimony, the Committee heard from Tom Evich, commercial fishermen, Western Gulf trawler, Vince O'Shea, Pacific Seafood Processor Association, Linda Kozak, Alaska King Crab Research Center, and Sam Cotten, Aleutians East Borough.

- Tom Evich discussed fishing between state and federal waters and how tows are made and subsequently reported.
- Vince O'Shea spoke to the importance of processor considerations and control over bycatch in state waters.
- Linda Kozak noted a need to separate over fishing levels for the Adak and Petrel Bank Districts, or remove the Adak District from the Fishery Management Plan and allow state management.
- Sam Cotten spoke to the concern over leasing quota, tying harvesters to processors through cooperatives, and recommended there may be a different approach for catch shares for Western GOA versus Central GOA.

Committee discussion

Mr. Dersham stressed the Board's unquestioned control over state waters and the importance of working together to accomplish bycatch reduction objectives. He appreciated the Board's postponement of creating the pollock fishery and recognizes the differences between central and western Gulf.

Mr. Olson voiced support for continued JPC meetings and identifying ways to work together to reduce bycatch. He finds catch reporting and accounting to remain a significant mutual effort between the two regulatory bodies.

Determination of next JPC meeting or full meeting of the Council/Board

The JPC discussed the Board's schedule for the pollock workgroup to meet October 6, which is the first day of the Council's October meeting. Following the outcomes of those meeting, the Executive Directors will coordinate on future meetings. Mr. Dersham recommends a full board meeting at some point. Ms. Jeffrey agrees.

Other Business

There was no additional business.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourns at 12:06pm

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State-Waters Pollock Workgroup Information

1. Meeting Notes, April 16, 2014
2. Meeting Notes, October 6, 2014 (pending completion)

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Walleye Pollock Workgroup Minutes

The Workgroup met on April 16, 2014 at the Hilton Hotel in Anchorage, AK

1. Introductions

Workgroup members present:

Sue Jeffrey, Co-Chair	(Board of Fisheries)
John Jensen, Co-Chair	(Board of Fisheries)
Ed Dersham	(North Pacific Fishery Management Council- NPFMC)
Duncan Fields	(North Pacific Fishery Management Council)
Julie Bonney	(CGOA trawl voluntary cooperative manager)
Patrick O'Donnell	(CGOA LLP trawl vessel owner)
Curt Waters	(CGOA LLP trawl vessel operator)
Matt Hegge	(Proposal author)
Raymond May	(Kodiak purse seine vessel)
Beaver Nelson	(Cook Inlet purse seine vessel)
Darius Kasperzak	(Kodiak jig vessel)
John Gucer	(Cook Inlet jig vessel)
Mitch Kilborn	(CGOA large processor)
Bill Fejes	(CGOA small processor)
Chris Sannito	(CGOA small processor)

Support staff:

Glenn Haight, Sherry Wright	Board support
Kelly Hepler, Nicole Kimball	ADF&G Commissioner's office
Forrest Bowers, Karla Bush	ADF&G Headquarters
Wayne Donaldson, Mark Stichert, Trent Hartill	ADF&G Westward Region
Tim Baker, Jan Rumble	ADF&G Central Region
Glenn Merrill	NMFS Sustainable Fisheries
Sam Cunningham, Chris Oliver	NPFMC staff

Members of the public: Sam Cotton, Chuck McCallum, Neil Peterson, Art Holmberg, George Hutchings, Ernie Weiss, Sinclair Wilt, Mike Flores, Rebecca Skinner, Heather McCarty, Theresa Peterson, Becca Robins-Gisclair, and Dale Pedersen.

2. General Comments on the Purpose of Pollock Workgroup

Board member Jeffery opened the meeting by reviewing the goals and objectives of the workgroup. Primarily, the workgroup will gather information and provide perspectives on the benefits to the State that could result from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch program and a proposal to the Board to open a state guideline harvest level (GHL) walleye pollock fishery.

3. Description of GOA Pollock Fisheries in Federal and State Waters

a. State Parallel Fishery¹

Trent Hartill (ADF&G) provided an overview of the state-water parallel pollock fishery, which is prosecuted concurrent to the federal pollock fishery. The parallel fishery is managed by adopting most of the federal management measures in state waters and provides seamless transition for vessels that participate in the pollock trawl fishery from 0 -200 miles. Harvest during the parallel fishery is deducted from the federal total allowable catch (TAC) for pollock and all salmon prohibited species catch (PSC) is deducted from the federal PSC limits. There is no separate accounting for catch or PSC during the parallel fishery. Vessels participating in the parallel fishery are not required to have a federal fishery permit (FFP) or a federal license limitation permit (LLP) for groundfish. Currently all pollock trawl participants have an LLP and none fish exclusively in state waters. The State's Constitution does not recognize federal sector allocations based on processing activity (catcher vessels or catcher processors). All state waters in the Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik Registration Areas are closed to non-pelagic trawling.

The majority of pollock in the federal and parallel fisheries are taken by trawl gear (~99%); very little is taken by other gear types. Jig gear is currently a legal gear type for pollock in both the federal and parallel fisheries, seine gear is not. Pollock may be retained by vessels using jig and longline gear up to the maximum retainable amount (MRA) during a closed federal season. An average of 23% of the total pollock harvest in the Central GOA comes from state waters (2003 – 2012 average).

Workgroup comments/questions:

Members discussed how harvest is accounted for within state waters. The proportion of harvest that comes from state waters is calculated using fish tickets (eLandings). Harvest location, reported by state statistical area, is self-reported by the vessel operator at the time of landing. There is no standard approach for reporting where catch occurs, some operators report the statistical area where they hauled back (brought in their net). Therefore, the proportion of catch from state/federal waters is likely not an exact accounting of where the fish were harvested since vessels often tow across multiple statistical areas while fishing. This is not a management concern because all harvest accrues to the TAC, regardless of whether it is harvested in federal or state waters.

Members also discussed the stock assessment process, and staff noted there is no separate pollock stock assessment for state and federal waters. Pollock in the Western, Central, and Eastern GOA are considered to be one stock based on current understanding of stock structure. There are no proposed changes to the current stock assessment program if a change is made to how the fishery is managed (separate federal and state seasons). State resources for additional stock assessments do not exist; in Pacific cod, for example, the State relies on the federal stock assessments in order to set the GHGs for state-water Pacific cod fisheries.

The current fishery is spread out geographically and temporally as a precautionary measure to address Endangered Species Act concerns for Steller Sea Lions (SSL). SSL measures don't have to be adopted in a state pollock GHG fishery, but in most cases the state has mirrored management to ensure that jeopardy or adverse modification to SSL critical habitat doesn't occur. Changes in management or new information can trigger a consultation. Consultations can be informal or formal, depending on the magnitude of the action. If

¹ Meeting document titled "Current CGOA Pollock Fishery in State Waters" found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup's webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

an action is determined likely to have an adverse effect on SSL, then federal management would have to be modified and would likely constrain other fisheries.

b. State Prince William Sound (PWS) Fishery²

Jan Rumble (ADG&F) presented an overview of the state-GHL pollock trawl fishery that occurs in PWS. This is an open access, non-exclusive directed fishery that began in 1995. There is not a parallel fishery that occurs in PWS, as there is not an adjacent federal fishery. The GHL is based on 2.5% of the GOA acceptable biological catch (ABC) for pollock. The PWS Pollock Pelagic Trawl Management Plan divides the district into three management sections and restricts harvest from any one management section to no more than 60% of the GHL. Total weight of all bycatch species combined may not exceed 5% of the total round weight of the pollock harvested. Bycatch caps for individual species or species groups are also specified (e.g. 0.5% for rockfish). Other management measures include trip limits (300,000 pounds) and procedures for checking in and out of the fishery. In addition, there is a test fishery that is generally conducted after the close of the directed pollock fishery.

In 2014, there were 19 vessels that participated in the PWS pollock fishery; in 2013 a total of 14 vessels participated. The 2014 fishery closed before the total GHL was taken (72% was harvested) due to reaching the bycatch limit for rockfish. During the past 10 years, there are only a few other instances when the fishery closed early due to bycatch. This year, bad weather and vessels racing for fish contributed to the early closure.

Workgroup comments/questions:

Bycatch limits for individual species or species groups in the PWS fishery are generally based on historic catch records and these limits are static (similar to the Chinook PSC caps in the GOA). All bycatch accounting happens at the time of landing.

There is no directed commercial fishery for rockfish in PWS, rather harvest occurs incidental to longline, jig, and trawl fisheries. The rockfish harvest limit in PWS is set in regulation by the Board and is currently 150,000 pounds.

c. Federal Fishery³

Glenn Merrill (NMFS) presented an overview of federal management. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is the primary law governing marine fisheries management in federal waters. The Act establishes regional fishery councils, such as the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for waters off Alaska, which are responsible for developing fishery policy. The Council is made up of 11 voting members, the majority of which represent Alaska (six seats). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) implements Council policy. The Council process requires extensive opportunity for public input and effective management relies on a strong cooperative working relationship with the State and the fishing community.

Federal stock assessments form the foundation of conservative and sustainable management. These assessments monitor the health of fishery resources and are relied upon to set appropriate catch limits in

² Meeting document titled “Prince William Sound State-Waters Walleye Pollock Fishery” found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup’s webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

³ Meeting document titled “Overview of Federal Groundfish Management” found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup’s webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

federal, State GHL (Pacific cod), and State parallel fisheries. Once stock assessments are completed, the Council's Science and Statistical Committee establishes two important limits: an Overfishing Level (OFL), which can never be exceeded; and an ABC which is the maximum permissible harvest and is always set less than the OFL. The Council, after input from the public, sets the TAC which is the actual permissible harvest. The TAC can be equal to, but not greater than, the ABC. These limits are established annually with some limited flexibility to re-adjust individual sector allocations during the year. All harvest, including discards, count towards the total catch and fisheries are managed to ensure that annual limits (OFL/ABC) are not exceeded. This means that if catch is set aside in a State GHL fishery, such as Pacific cod, NMFS reduces the amount available to the federal fisheries; it's a zero sum game. Federal PSC limits for Chinook salmon are set in regulation and not specified annually; they apply to the federal/parallel fishery (where harvest is deducted from the TAC) and would not necessarily be reduced if a state GHL fishery for pollock included a PSC limit for salmon.

The Council and NMFS have established a wide range of tools to track catch on a timely basis. These include the federal observer program to collect basic biological samples (used in stock assessments) and monitor bycatch, especially for salmon and halibut. Tracking bycatch without onboard observers is very challenging; observer sampling occurs before discards so that total catch can be estimated. There are also reporting requirements for vessels, vessels monitoring systems (VMS) for enforcement and inseason management, video compliance (in some fisheries), and a catch reporting system developed in close coordination with the State (eLandings). Monitoring and reporting requirements are tied to the federal fishing permit (FFP – a requirement for fishing in federal waters); any vessel with an FFP is subject to these requirements, even in state waters.

When developing fishery management plans, the Council and NMFS are subject to the national standards in the MSA, which requires balancing objectives such as achieving optimum yield from the fishery, minimizing bycatch, considering communities, promoting safety, and the efficient management of resources. This balance has led to fishery management programs that try to maximize catch, but that will shut down fishing if salmon PSC limits are reached; and programs that limit the number of participants to avoid a race for fish, but that provide harvest opportunities for specific rural communities (e.g. GOA fixed gear Pacific cod LLPs).

4. Proposed Council Trawl Bycatch Management Program ⁴

a. Objectives

Nicole Kimball (ADF&G) provided background and discussed the objectives of the Council's proposed action on GOA trawl bycatch. At the June 2012 meeting, the Council took action to reduce the halibut bycatch cap and it was recognized that there are significant limitations under the current open access management structure to meet bycatch objectives. The purpose of the proposed action is to create a new management structure to mitigate the impacts of derby-style race for fish by allocating allowable harvest to individuals, cooperatives, or other entities, i.e. a form of catch shares. The Council acknowledges that fishing cooperatively, slowly, and strategically can help improve bycatch performance. The State has taken the lead on this issue, recognizing that halibut and salmon are important to the State.

The Council's program is focused on harvesters, processors, and community stability, and includes trawl fisheries in the Western and Central GOA as well as the West Yakutat (WY) management area. As the Council builds the program they will seek to minimize adverse impacts to those not in the program, provide

⁴ Links to the Council's discussion papers can be found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup's webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.references>

for new entry opportunities (there will be no closed class of vessels or processors), and promote active participation. The expanded program structure proposed by the Commissioner and approved by the Council in April will be evaluated in a discussion paper prior to the Council selecting alternatives for formal analysis. The program is far along conceptually, but has not moved into the full analysis stage.

b. Motion update ⁵

Sam Cunningham (Council staff), presented a summary of the April 2014 Council motion, which represents an expanded program structure for consideration and discussion. The Commissioner's motion expanded on the program's framework to meet its goals and objectives through a program that allocates groundfish and PSC to cooperatives. Cooperative management allows for better information sharing, such as where bycatch is occurring, and can mandate formal participation by all members in a program to reduce bycatch through the cooperative contracts. Cooperative management of bycatch is more successful than provisions fixed in federal regulation, as it can be flexible and responsive to conditions on the water. In addition, vessels can do test tows or experiment with gear modifications without incurring a loss; vessels are inhibited from this behavior under a race for fish.

Joining a cooperative is not mandatory; the Council must also create an opportunity for those who don't join cooperatives to participate in a competitive limited access fishery. Full (100%) observer coverage will be required for all GOA trawl vessels (cooperative and limited access fishing) under the Council's proposed action and is a crucial element to hold individual vessels accountable for their fishing practices.

The latest motion added catcher processors to the program and included some flatfish, rockfish, and secondary species that are both valuable and fully utilized. Allocating these other species may be necessary to slow down the "race for fish", which often produces higher bycatch rates. The October 2013 motion was focused on the inshore catcher vessel sector and on the most valuable species for that sector: pollock and Pacific cod. Catcher processors don't have a directed fishery for pollock and Pacific cod is used mostly to support other fisheries; the additional species added in the April motion are the primary targets for the catcher processor sector.

The Council's starting point for cooperative allocations in the trawl fisheries would not change existing sector allocations between the trawl and fixed gear sectors or the inshore and offshore sectors. Target species allocations would be based on the catch history of LLPs in a cooperative. PSC would be allocated pro rata based on allocations of primary species (not based on history of PSC use, in order to avoid rewarding those with higher relative bycatch). Each inshore cooperative would have a processor-member. For the first two years of participation, a harvester must join the cooperative that is formed around the processor to which they delivered the majority of their catch during the qualifying period. The harvesters, processor, (and an option is provided to include a community representative) would have to agree upon a contract that lays out a fishing plan, bycatch management plan, and other requirements that help achieve Council objectives like community stability and fair access to participate in the fishery. A similar cooperative structure is laid out for the catcher processor sector, with the main difference being a minimum number of separate entities required to join a cooperative.

Annual harvest and PSC allocations are proposed to be freely used within a cooperative. Transfers between cooperatives must be approved by NMFS. Catcher processor cooperatives will be able to transfer quota to inshore cooperatives, but they will not be able to receive inshore quota.

⁵ Meeting document titled "Council Motion Summary" found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup's webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

Community stability is addressed in the Council's motion through consideration of regionalization (designating the region (CGOA/WY or WGOA) to which the cooperative quota can be landed, based on where it was landed historically) and by limiting vessel and processor consolidation. The motion proposes limits on how much target species quota a person can hold or that can be fished on a single vessel in a year. Likewise, processing caps would limit the amount that a single plant can process in a given year. Regionalization keeps historical processing within a region at the historic level.

The Council is also considering whether catch history associated with a trawl LLP can be severed and transferred to another trawl LLP. This would allow new entrants, who may have an LLP with no history, to enter the fishery at a lower cost than if they were required to purchase an entire license with all attached endorsements and history.

Other provisions in the Council's motion include gear conversions which would allow catcher vessels in a cooperative to fish Pacific cod trawl quota with pot gear. This measure is intended to allow fishermen to harvest their cooperative allocations with gear that is better for avoiding or reducing bycatch of prohibited species.

The Council made two additional motions in April for discussion papers related to this agenda item. The first would look at a proposal to allocate quota to a community fishing association as another means to mitigate community impacts and economic harm that may arise from a catch share program. The second paper evaluates a program in the west coast trawl fisheries, which sets aside a portion of quota for adaptive management as a way to mitigate unforeseen or unintended circumstances relative to processors, communities, etc.

c. Discussion

One member asked whether catch shares in the federal pollock fisheries would exacerbate the race for fish in the state-managed pollock fishery in PWS. There was some discussion on this point relative to sideboards, which are usually adopted to limit participation in other fisheries and are linked to federal permits. Further exploration on the utility of sideboards to limit effort in the PWS fishery is needed.

Two important points for Board members on the Council's proposed program: Cooperative management has proven to be very effective in reducing bycatch, and the Council majority is comprised of Alaskan members (6/11 voting seats), led in this case by the Commissioner.

Is total harvest going to be allocated based on catch that occurred in state waters? Harvest in the proposed program would be allocated based on history of catch (years to be determined) taken off of the federal TAC, which includes both parallel waters and federal waters, minus any GHL the BOF may establish for pollock in state waters.

Where's the incentive in the cooperative agreements to reduce bycatch? Many trawl fisheries are limited by PSC, and minimizing PSC usage in one target fishery may provide for additional harvest opportunities in other fisheries that also use PSC. The Council will need to balance savings vs. usage which can be done either through the annual cooperative contract provisions or through regulations. The motion specifies that some portion of bycatch savings would be left in the water. The Council needs to balance regulatory requirements and flexibility within cooperatives to be responsive to the program's objectives.

Is there an incentive to use the gear conversion provision? Pot gear does not have the same bycatch concerns and vessels can harvest more Pacific cod with less bycatch. In the Western GOA, allowing gear conversions may provide for additional efficiencies. Currently the fleet switches back and forth between pot and trawl gear, depending on what season (or fishery) is open for Pacific cod.

5. Proposed CGOA State Pollock Fishery (BOF Proposal 44) – Introduction

a. Proposal 44 Objectives ⁶

Matt Hegge (proposal author) provided background on his proposal. He supports the goals and objectives of the Council's program and stated that his proposal was not intended to go around that; the intent was to provide continued access to state waters after catch shares are implemented. There will be a need for new management once cooperative management is implemented in the federal fishery. Components of the proposal were intended as a template of some management measures that could be considered by the Board. Prior to submittal, he was asked by other stakeholders to include jig and seine gear for the Board's consideration. At the January, 2014 meeting he submitted RC 52⁷ which removed the 58' length limit, because the Kodiak fleet is largely over 58' in length.

Mark Stichert (ADF&G) spoke briefly to the staff comments on proposal 44. Staff tried to frame the discussion based on how the fisheries are currently structured. When developing the GHL Pacific cod fisheries, the state initially only allowed gears with lower bycatch concerns (pot and jig). The complexity of any management plan depends on what types of gear are included.

b. Test Fishery Update

Trent Hartill (ADF&G) provided an update on the 2014 jig and seine test fisheries. Both of these gear types were included in the proposal for a state-water GHL pollock fishery and the Board supported testing these gear types at their January 2014 meeting. The Commissioner's Permit for jig gear allows pollock to be retained above the maximum retainable allowance (MRA) during the Pacific cod fishery. A total of 26 permits were issued and to date 49 landings, totaling ~7,000 pounds, have been harvested. The pattern of harvest is consistent with what has occurred in past years without the permit.

Pre-season registration for the seine test fishery was received from 12 vessels. The department is now beginning the process of coordinating efforts and some fishing may occur after the herring season ends and before the salmon season begins (end of May/early June). ADF&G personnel will serve as observers during the test fishery. There may also be an opportunity for some seine test fishing this fall if there is interest. The purpose of the seine test fishery is to look at both how effective the gear is and market interest.

c. Discussion

The workgroup had several questions related to seasonal apportionments, whether measures would be in place to avoid stranded fish if the GHL is not achieved, and how PSC limits would be determined. Allocative issues such as seasonal apportionments are determined by the Board. It is unknown what methodology would be used to determine PSC limits. It was noted that these questions are largely implementation issues that would need to be worked out in the future and are difficult to discuss at this point in the process.

⁶ Meeting documents titled "Staff Comments on Proposal 44 and Advisory Committee" and "Public Comments on Proposal 44" found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup's webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

⁷ Link to RC 52: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/fisheriesboard/pdfs/2013-2014/kodiak/rcs/rc052_Matt_Hegge_Sub_Lang_Proposal_44.pdf

Harvesters stressed the need for flexibility to go in and out of state waters to avoid bycatch which may be different from year to year.

From the processing perspective, timing is critical for rollovers (between state/federal fisheries). If the rollover occurs after the roe season (spawned out fish), then the product is not as valuable. Meat quality (and fish size) tends to improve in the fall.

Critical habitat closures for SSL have closed all of Kachamak Bay to trawling. Harvesters in this area expressed interest in the possibility of a seine fishery and have concerns about the impacts on other fisheries (crab/shrimp) of an increased local pollock biomass. Department staff noted that the intent of Commissioner's permits is not to create new opportunity or fisheries, but to test the gear to see if a fishery is viable. The testing is occurring in Kodiak at the outset.

The jig fleet is currently developing markets for jig caught pollock and wants to make sure there will be fishing opportunities if a catch share program is implemented.

6. Coordination Between State and Federal Fisheries⁸

a. Describe potential problems

Nicole Kimball (ADF&G) provided an overview of why coordination is necessary between the Board and the Council relative to a new trawl bycatch management program in the GOA. The challenge is to find a way to implement the program while at the same time allowing historical participants to continue to fish in state waters, and without exacerbating a race for fish in state waters. Currently, any vessel (with or without a federal permit) can fish in the state waters parallel trawl fishery; opportunity in state waters would continue as long as state waters were open.

Under current management, all vessels stop fishing at the same time. Under a catch share program, fishing is allowed within a defined season and each vessel can choose when to fish within that season. Concurrent opening and closing of state waters for the parallel season will no longer be possible because each vessel stops fishing at a different time; thus there is no single date on which the parallel fishery would be closed for the entire sector. In order to allocate harvest to cooperatives (or the limited access fishery), the Council and NMFS will need to know the amount taken out of state waters at the beginning of the year. This lends to GHL management as opposed to parallel management, in which the amount of harvest in state waters is not limited.

b. Identify possible paths discussed to-date

Nicole Kimball (ADF&G) and Ed Dersham (Council member) discussed the Council's current thoughts on this issue. As an alternative to the existing parallel fishery system, the Board could either close state waters to trawl fishing or it could set a limit for trawl harvest in state waters using a state-managed GHL. The most feasible approach thus far analyzed in Council staff discussion papers is a system where NMFS would deduct all harvest from cooperative member vessels off of the cooperative allocation whether they fished in state or federal waters. Only state water harvests by persons that do not hold federal quota at the time the landing is made would be deducted from the GHL. Once the GHL is taken, state waters would close to all participants. Vessels with remaining federal quota could only fish in federal waters. This method of accounting is still being discussed, and other options could prove viable.

⁸ Meeting document titled "Federal GOA Trawl Bycatch Management Program Overview" found on the Board of Fisheries CGOA Pollock Workgroup's webpage: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cgoapollockworkgroup.meetinginfo>

The idea is that if you qualify for the federal program then all catch comes off your federal allocation, whether you are fishing in state or federal waters. If you don't have a federal license, your catch comes off the GHL. The GHL wouldn't need to be reflective of the historical catch in state waters because that historical catch was made by federally-licensed participants and their catch would not accrue to the GHL under this concept. It would rather be set at a level that allows some time for federal participants to fish in state waters while at the same time provide opportunity for new participants. There may be some federal license holders who don't have much history who choose to give up their federal permits and fish only in state waters. It will be a balancing act for the Board to decide what amount to set that GHL.

This system was presented to the Council as preferred over one where federal quota holders' state-waters catch is deducted from the GHL and off of their federal allocation. This would double-count federal participant's harvest and would require mid-season adjustments to the federal catch share amounts in order to not significantly under-harvest the TAC.

c. Discussion

One member asked whether the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) can implement limited entry for pollock. This would be up to the CFEC and the process would begin by first petitioning the CFEC.

Although there is currently no mechanism to roll unused GHL back to the federal fisheries in the GOA, there are not the same constraints as exist in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI). In the BSAI, the groundfish fisheries are constrained by the 2 million metric ton harvest cap, and thus, there is not 'room' to roll back unused GHL without exceeding that cap. In the GOA, the groundfish fisheries are not constrained by an optimum yield harvest cap. Rollover options could be explored, although there may be some constraints due to SSL protections (currently no pollock harvest is allowed May 31 – August 25 or after November 1).

There were several questions about how to address the Western GOA, where most of the pollock TAC is harvested in state waters. What happens when the GHL is achieved and state waters close? Setting a larger GHL may incentivize people to drop their federal licenses and only participate in the state GHL fishery. We may need some other mechanism for accounting in this area. One idea would be a system where you could fish in the federal fishery first, then move into the GHL fishery, for example once 90% of the A season was taken, vessels could move to the GHL fishery. The Council is still in the initial stages for this discussion. The Council has been trying to solicit feedback from Western GOA participants on this question, and whether they support a cooperative management approach for federal waters recognizing that the majority of harvest is in state waters.

Market share per vessel is in the 2.5% range for the Central GOA. If the GHL opportunity is greater than that, then there would be an incentive to forgo the federal fishery and move into a state fishery instead.

There is a need to find out what the Board may be interested in doing before we get too far down the road in the Council program.

Concern was expressed that the Workgroup will be focused only on the existing fisheries in the Central and Western GOA and not on underutilized stocks in state waters. Young people need a way to enter the fishery and seine is an entry opportunity. In Cook Inlet the Pacific cod stocks are not underutilized, but pollock are.

Creating new gear opportunities in other areas would not prevent the Council from implementing a trawl bycatch management program; the federal TAC would be reduced for any new GHL fisheries. The GHL for these other fisheries would likely not be large enough to impact the federal program significantly, although

concern was expressed about cumulative impacts on the federal trawl fishery if new opportunities in state waters were created in multiple areas.

It was noted that a federal solution for jig fishermen may be better than a state solution. Under a catch share program, the Council could create year-round opportunity for jig with step-up provisions similar to Pacific cod. Increasing the pollock MRA for jig fishermen may also be a solution, without creating a new fishery.

There was discussion that the Board will need to determine what its goals are for a state water fishery. Is the goal to preserve the current profile of the fishery or to increase some opportunity for new gears (jig/seine) or new trawlers? One goal could be to build a system (in state-waters) that allows the fleets to meet the Council's bycatch objectives without creating a race for fish.

7. Proposed meeting schedule

Board member Jeffery discussed the need to include representatives from the Western GOA (harvesters and processors) in the Workgroup. It was agreed that additional members from this area would be helpful as the Workgroup moves forward.

The next meeting was scheduled for October 6, 2014; prior to the Council's October meeting in Anchorage.

8. Final comments

The Joint Protocol Committee will meet in Anchorage on May 21, 2014.

9. Adjourn

**Boards Support Section
Board of Fisheries
Glenn Haight, Executive Director**
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
(907) 465-4110



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Cora Campbell, Commissioner**
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

2015-2016 Call for Proposal Information

1. Memorandum on Call for Proposal, 2015/2016
2. Draft 2015/2016 Call for Proposal

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Boards Support Section

TO: Alaska Board of Fisheries

DATE: October 3, 2014

THRU:

PHONE: 907-465-6095

FROM: Glenn Haight, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

SUBJECT: Setting the Alaska Board of
Fisheries 2015/2016 Meeting
Cycle Call for Proposal

In accordance with 5 AAC 96.610, Procedures for developing fish and game regulations, the boards set their call for proposal through (b) Phase 1 as:

(b) Phase 1. Each board will solicit regulatory proposals or comments to facilitate their deliberations. The boards will, in their discretion, limit those sections or portions of the existing regulations that will be open for change. The board will provide forms to be used in preparing proposals. Notices soliciting proposals will be distributed statewide. ...

The next call for proposals will be issued by Boards Support in late November to early December 2014, with a deadline of April 10, 2015. Please see the draft call for proposal for review. The draft call at this juncture will seek regulatory proposals for the following species, uses, and regions.

- All finfish for all uses in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands regions.
- All finfish for all uses in the Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim regions.
- All finfish for all uses in the Chignik region.
- All finfish for all uses in the Bristol Bay region.
- All finfish for all uses in Statewide regulations.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Alaska Board of Fisheries

THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES CALLS FOR PROPOSED CHANGES
IN THE SUBSISTENCE, PERSONAL USE, SPORT, GUIDED SPORT, AND COMMERCIAL
FISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE
BRISTOL BAY FINFISH, ARCTIC / YUKON / KUSKOKWIM FINFISH, ALASKA
PENINSULA / ALEUTIAN ISLANDS / CHIGNIK FINFISH AREAS, and
STATEWIDE FINFISH AREAS.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE – 5:00 p.m. FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) is accepting proposed changes to the subsistence, personal use, sport, guided sport, and commercial finfish regulations for the Bristol Bay, Arctic–Yukon–Kuskokwim; Alaska Peninsula / Aleutian Islands / Chignik, and Statewide finfish management areas. Finfish includes salmon, herring, trout, other freshwater finfishes, and groundfish, including Pacific cod, for consideration by the board in its 2015-16 meeting cycle. The board may also consider subsistence proposals for other areas under the subsistence proposal policy, 5 AAC 96.615, if proposals are submitted within this deadline and the board determines they meet the criteria in either 5 AAC 96.615(a)(1) or (2).

To ensure the proposal book is finished in advance of the board meetings, the board sets 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 10, 2015, as the proposal deadline.

Proposals may be submitted online, email, mail or fax at:

Online: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.forms>

Email: dfg.bof.comments@alaska.gov (Adobe PDF documents only)

Mail: ADF&G, Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Fax: (907) 465-6094

Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 10, 2015 at the Boards Support Section office in Juneau. A postmark is NOT sufficient for timely receipt.

Interested parties are encouraged to submit proposals at the earliest possible date. The Board of Fisheries proposal form, including the on-line proposal form, is available at the Boards Support website, <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.forms>. Proposal forms are also available at any Boards Support office.

The completed proposal form must contain a contact telephone number and address. Please print or type the individual's or organization's name as appropriate.

All proposals are reviewed by the board's proposal review committee prior to publication. Language that is emotionally charged detracts from the substance of the proposal. It may draw opposition that may not be germane to the element(s) of the proposal and may elicit nonresponsive charges from the public/board members. The proposal review committee reserves the right to edit proposals containing offensive language. **Proposals that do not meet the call will not be accepted.**

Proposals published in the proposal book will be referenced with the appropriate Alaska Administrative Code citation and include a brief description of the action requested.

Proposal books are sent to advisory committees and the public for review and comment. Proposals are online at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.proposalbook>.

Those submitting proposals are encouraged to review the proposal book at their earliest convenience to ensure proposals are included and accurate. Noted errors and omissions should be reported to Boards Support immediately. The public is encouraged to visit the Board of Fisheries website frequently for news and information regarding the upcoming cycle.

Responsive proposals received by the proposal deadline will be considered by the Board of Fisheries during the October 2015 through March 2016 meeting schedule.

For more information, please contact the Alaska Board of Fisheries Executive Director, (907) 465-4110.



Agenda #11: 2016-2017 Meeting Cycle Location and Dates

1. Boards Support Memorandum on Meeting Location and Dates
2. Meeting dates and locations worksheet for 2016/2017 with history
3. Working Calendar October 2016-March 2017
4. Board Policy 91-126-FB – Board of Fisheries Long Term Goals – (see Policies Section)
5. Board of Fisheries Criteria for Meeting Planning
6. 2011-2013 Anchorage, Kenai, Mat-Su Resident Activity in selected permit and licensed fisheries
7. Public comment on meeting locations:

Kenai / Soldotna Advisory Committee	AC 2
Mat-Su Advisory Committee	AC 3
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	PC 7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association	PC 9
Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition	PC 10
Kenai River Special Management Area Advisory Board	PC 12
City of Kenai	PC 13
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission	PC 14
Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce	PC 15
Kenai Peninsula Legislative Delegation	PC 16
Trout Unlimited	PC 18
Howard Delo	PC 26
Kenai Chamber of Commerce	PC 27
Brent Johnson	PC 32
Chris Johnson	PC 35
Deana Moore	PC 36
Dwight Kramer	PC 37
Elizabeth Chase	PC 38
Joan Nininger	PC 42
Kenneth Tarbox 1	PC 43
Ralph Renzi	PC 44
Robert Toll	PC 45



Terry Nininger
Stephen Bartelli
City of Kenai
Greg Shepard
Jehnifer Ehmann

PC 46
PC 47
PC 49
PC 51

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Boards Support Section

TO: Alaska Board of Fisheries

DATE: October 3, 2014

THRU:

PHONE: 907-465-6095

FROM: Glenn Haight, Executive Director^{GH}
Alaska Board of Fisheries

SUBJECT: Meeting location and date
information for 2016/2017

The 2016/2017 Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting cycle dates and location is set for board review and determination at the 2014 work session. Based on the three year meeting cycle, the schedule includes the Upper and Lower Cook Inlet finfish, Kodiak finfish, and Statewide king and Tanner crab meetings.

At last year's work session the board agreed to move Chignik finfish from its own standalone meeting to join the Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands meeting. The number of Chignik finfish proposals were dramatically on the decline and no longer justified a standalone meeting.

Bidding considerations

The Boards Support Section solicits meeting bids from hotels and facilities when the board schedules meetings. There are a few factors that appear to be increasing costs.

Facilities make considerable revenue from December holiday parties and because the board holds meeting spaces into the nights and on weekends, the hotels charge higher rents to make up lost revenue. To avoid this situation, holding meetings in November or planning shorter meetings from Sunday through Thursday (including set-up and breakdown days) may help.

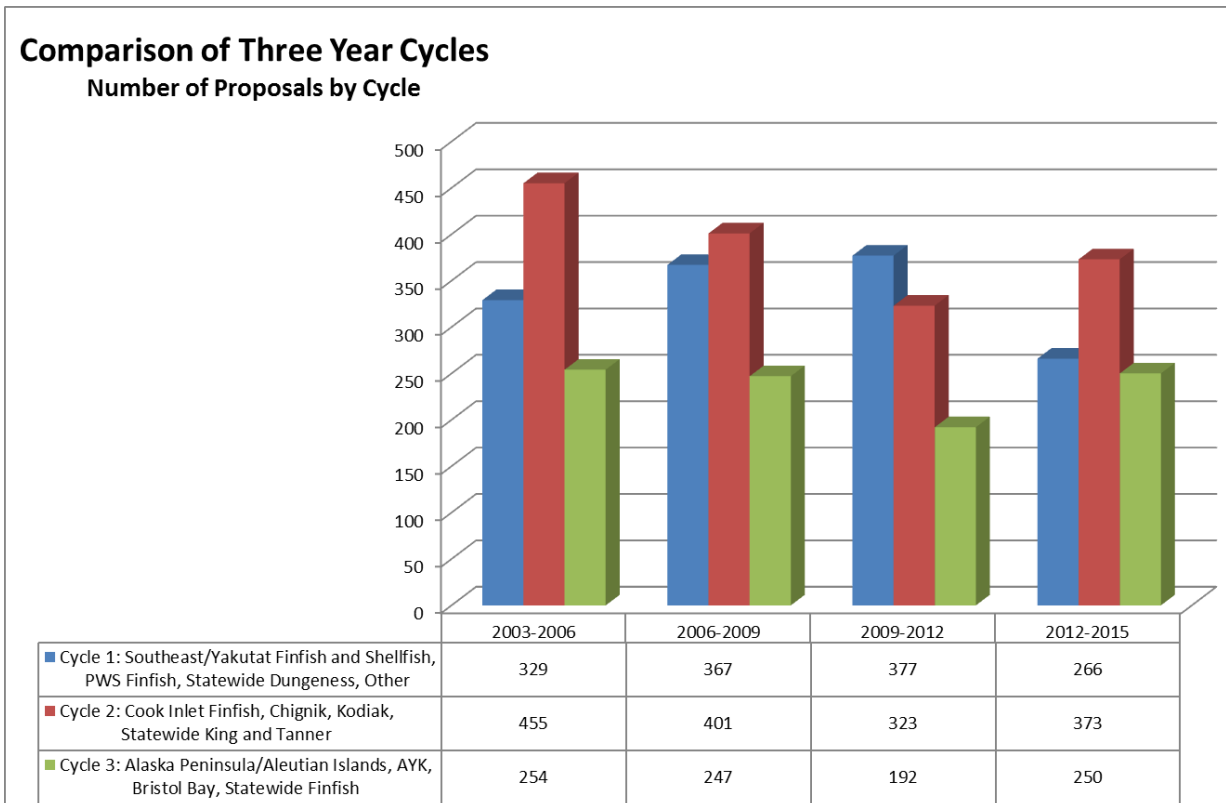
Hotels rent meeting rooms at reduced rates in anticipation of filling their hotel rooms and selling food associated with an event. Boards Support is no longer accepting room blocks from hotels as part of the bid package given the difficulty in meeting that contractual obligation. Without the guarantee of selling rooms, hotels may increase meeting costs. If Boards Support begins to seek room blocks with its bids, board members and staff would need to utilize the rooms. There are no plans to do so at this time.

Boards Support is also unable to purchase food in any great measure given the high cost of catered food in relation to state procurement rules. Unable to make money on food sales, facilities make up the difference in higher rates.

A Look at Past Proposals

The number of proposals received by the board is generally on the decline. Proposals for the cycle under consideration were on an uptick last year, but the trend is less over the last decade.

While it is not possible to predict the number of proposals in the future, current trends do not justify increased meeting days.



For the cycle under consideration, there is a disproportionate amount of work conducted at the Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) meeting in relation to other meetings. Table 1 shows the 2013/14 meeting schedule with the number of proposals, days, and average proposals per day. The 16.8 proposal/day requirement to accomplish the UCI meeting in 14 days is much greater than the 6 proposal/day afforded at the Kodiak meeting.

Table 1. 2013/2014 Meeting Cycle Proposals/Day

Meeting	Days	Proposals	Proposals/Day
Upper Cook Inlet Finfish	14	235	16.8
Lower Cook Inlet Finfish	4	34	8.5
Kodiak Finfish	3	18	6.0
Statewide King and Tanner	5	43	8.6

Alaska Board of Fisheries 2016/2017

Meeting dates and locations worksheet

Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish, Kodiak Finfish;
Statewide King and Tanner Crab (Statewide, except Southeast/Yakutat)
and Supplemental Issues

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Friday, April 8, 2016

Dates [and Duration]	Topics	Location
October 2016 [2 days]	Work Session, ACRs, cycle organization, Stocks of Concern	_____
<i>Proposed Backup prior years</i>	<i>October 19-20, 2016 [2 days]</i> <i>October 24-25, 2016 [2 days]</i> <i>October 15-16, 2014 in Juneau [2 days planned, 26 ACRs]</i> <i>October 9-10, 2013 in Girdwood [2 days planned, 14 ACRs]</i> <i>October 9-11, 2012 in Anchorage [3 days, 21 ACRs & large report]</i> <i>October 4-5, 2011 in Anchorage [2 days, 10 ACRs]</i> <i>October 13-14, 2010 in Kenai [2 days, 9 ACRs]</i> <i>October 13-14, 2009 in Anchorage [2 days, 9 ACRs]</i>	_____
December 2016 [4 days]	Lower Cook Inlet Finfish	_____
<i>Proposed Backup prior years</i>	<i>November 28-December 1, 2016 [4 days]</i> <i>December 14-17, 2016 [4 days]</i> <i>December 8 – 11, 2013 in Anchorage [4 days, 45 prop.]</i> <i>November 15-18, 2010 in Homer [4 days, 40 prop.]</i> <i>November 11-15, 2007 in Homer [5 days, 31 prop]</i> <i>November 11-13, 2004 in Anchorage [3 days, 34 prop]</i>	_____
January 2017 [3 days]	Kodiak Finfish	_____
<i>Proposed Backup prior years</i>	<i>January 11-13, 2017 [3 days]</i> <i>January 18-20, 2017 [3 days]</i> <i>January 7-10, 2014 in Kodiak [3 days, 19 prop.]</i> <i>January 11-14, 2011 in Kodiak [4 days, 31 prop]</i> <i>January 14-18, 2008 in Kodiak [5 days, 38 prop]</i> <i>January 7-10, 2005 in Anchorage [4 days, 77 prop]</i>	_____

February 2017 [14 days] Upper Cook Inlet Finfish

Proposed
Backup
prior years

February 15-28, 2017 [14 days]
February 22-March 7, 2017 [14 days]
January 31-February 13, 2014 in Anchorage [14 days, 236 prop]
February 20-March 5, 2011 in Anchorage [14 days, 211 prop]
February 1-12, 2008 in Anchorage [12 days, 286 prop]
January 17-29, 2005 in Anchorage [13 days, 258 prop]

March 2016 [5 days] Statewide King and Tanner Crab (except
Southeast/Yakutat) and Supplemental Issues

Proposed
Backup
prior years

March 13-17, 2017 [5 days]
March 20-24, 2017 [5 days]
March 17-21, 2014 in Anchorage [5 days, 49 prop]
March 22-26, 2011 in Anchorage [5 days, 24 prop]
March 3-9, 2008 in Anchorage [7 days, 38 prop]
March 7-13, 2005 in Anchorage [7 days, 68 prop]

Total Meeting Days: 28;
ACR Deadline: 5 pm, August __, 2016 [60 days prior to fall Work Session]
Adopted _____; subject to meeting space availability
Submitted by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Boards Support Section

RELATED EVENTS / MEETINGS

Upcoming Alaska Board of Game meeting dates:

Note: Dates for the 2016/17 cycle (Southeast Region, Central/Southwest Region, and Southcentral Region) have not yet been determined.

Upcoming NPFMC meeting dates:

October 3-11, 2016 – Anchorage
December 5-13, 2016 – Anchorage
February 6-13, 2017 – not available

Upcoming Pacific Salmon Commission meeting dates:

Dates not yet scheduled – http://www.psc.org/meetings_schedule.htm. The commissioner's web site indicates it holds meetings in October, January, and February.

Note, this list does not include meetings of the various technical committees such as Transboundary, Northern Boundary, or Chinook.

Yukon River Panel dates:

Unknown

International Pacific Halibut Commission dates:

December 2015 – Interim Meeting – Seattle
January 25-29, 2016 – Annual meeting – Juneau
2017 Annual Meeting - Unknown

State and Federal Holidays:

Veterans Day, November 11, 2016
Thanksgiving, November 26, 2016
Christmas, December 25, 2016
New Year, January 1, 2017
Martin Luther King Day, January 16, 2017
Presidents Day, February 20, 2017
Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017

Other

Alaska Marine Science Symposium – unk.
Anchorage Spring Break – unk.

October 2016

October 2016

November 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 25		26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1
9/25 - 30							
2		3	4	5	6	7	8
10/2 - 7		8:00am					
				NPFMC Meeting, Anchorage - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)			
9		10	11	12	13	14	15
10/9 - 14							
16		17	18	19	20	21	22
10/16 - 21							
23		24	25	26	27	28	29
10/23 - 28							
30		31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5
10/30 - 11/4							

November 2016

December 2016

November 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 30 - Nov 5	Oct 30	Nov 1					
Nov 6 - 12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Nov 13 - 19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Nov 20 - 26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Nov 27 - Dec 3	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
			8:00am	Proposed Lower Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)			
						8:00am 8:30am Thanksgiving Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	
						8:00am 8:30am Veterans Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	

December 2016

December 2016

January 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
				Proposed Lower Cook Ir		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	8:00am		NPFMC - Anchorage - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	NPFMC - Anchorage - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	8:30am	8:00am	Backup Lower Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)		8:30am
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:00am 8:30am Christmas Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						

January 2017

January 2017

February 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 1, 17 8:00am 8:30am New Years Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Proposed Kodiak Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	12	13	14
15	16 8:00am 8:30am Martin Luther King Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	17	18 8:00am Backup Kodiak Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3	4

February 2017

February 2017

Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28					

March 2017

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
NPFMC, Location Unknown - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
NPFMC, Location Unknown - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
Proposed Upper Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Proposed Upper Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
8:00am 8:30am Presidents Day - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
Proposed Upper Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						
Back up Upper Cook Inlet Finfish - Haight, Glenn E (DFG)						

Jan 29 - Feb 4

Feb 5 - 11

Feb 12 - 18

Feb 19 - 25

Feb 26 - Mar 4

March 2017

March 2017							April 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1

Feb 26 - Mar 4

Mar 5 - 11

Mar 12 - 18

Mar 19 - 25

Mar 26 - Apr 1

Board of Fisheries

Criteria for Consideration on Reviewing Meeting Locations

Identified March 20, 2009

From Jim Marcotte, Executive Director, memo to the Board of Fisheries, October 13, 2010 –

“In March 2009 the board decided it would identify the factors used when determining the location for holding future meetings. The board intended that no single items shall be the sole determining guideline but rather the preponderance of the items shall be considered significant in final selection of a meeting site.

1. Whether the community has commercial jet or turbine service.
2. Cellular phone service.
3. High speed internet available.
4. Adequate dining facilities/capacity for the Board of Fisheries, Fish and Game staff, and expected members of the public travelling from other communities.
5. Adequate meeting room facility and associated staff requirements (i.e.: copy machine, etc.).
6. Relative comfort (temperature inside, tables/chairs, etc.)
7. Adequate ground transportation
8. Adequate hotel rooms and capacity of rooms for expected influx.
9. Hospital.
10. Relationship of community to Board of Fisheries topic of discussion.
11. Cost to Department of Fish and Game.
12. Travel time required.
13. Economic and cultural importance to the location.
14. Economic impact on stakeholder travel.”

Selected Fisheries Permits and Licenses Issued to Kenai, Anchorage, and Mat-Su Residents

	Residents of:				
	Total	Kenai Peninsula Borough	Municipality of Anchorage	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	Other

2013 Total Population		56,862	301,134	96,074	
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Cook Inlet Personal Use Permits Issued						
Number of:						
	2011	34,515	7,731	19,915	6,799	69
	2012	34,315	7,481	20,074	6,691	103
	2013	35,211	7,183	21,549	6,408	70
Percent of total Cook Inlet P/U permits:						
	2011		22.4%	57.7%	19.7%	0.2%
	2012		21.8%	58.5%	19.5%	0.3%
	2013		20.4%	61.2%	18.2%	0.2%

Resident Sport Fish Licenses Issued						
Number of sport fish licenses issued to Kenai, Anchorage, and Mat-Su residents:						
	2011	122,223	23,798	68,595	29,831	n/a
	2012	114,373	22,761	65,135	26,478	n/a
	2013	115,845	22,636	66,548	26,662	n/a
Percent of total Kenai, Anchorage, and Mat-Su resident licenses:						
	2011		19.5%	56.1%	24.4%	
	2012		19.9%	56.9%	23.2%	
	2013		19.5%	57.4%	23.0%	

Cook Inlet Salmon Drift Net Permits Issued						
Number of:						
	2011	736	412	133	57	134
	2012	736	423	133	57	123
	2013	736	423	134	55	124
Percent of Cook Inlet salmon drift net permits:						
	2011		56.0%	18.1%	7.7%	18.2%
	2012		57.5%	18.1%	7.7%	16.7%
	2013		57.5%	18.2%	7.5%	16.8%

Cook Inlet Salmon Set Net Permits Issued						
Number of:						
	2011	569	339	36	17	177
	2012	569	336	35	18	180
	2013	569	336	28	21	184
Percent of Cook Inlet salmon set net permits:						
	2011		59.6%	6.3%	3.0%	31.1%
	2012		59.1%	6.2%	3.2%	31.6%
	2013		59.1%	4.9%	3.7%	32.3%

Notes

Population estimates are from the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development.

Personal use permits:

- The data is for the Cook Inlet personal use fishery as a whole, which includes Kenai River dip net, Kasilof River dip net, Kasilof River gillnet, and Fish Creek dip net. The Kenai River dip net fishery is by far the largest. There is not a way to breakout participation by residency specifically for the Kenai River dip net fishery. The link below directs to a department report summarizing the Cook Inlet personal use fishery, with additional detail regarding participation.

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FDS13-59.pdf>

- 2014 data is still being processed and is not available yet.
- The "other" category includes other Alaska residents that do not live in the Kenai, Anchorage, or Mat-Su areas, but still participated in the Cook Inlet personal use fishery.

Sport fish licenses:

- The following information is for sport fish licenses. Sport fish licenses do not distinguish activity in a particular place. It is not known if individuals with these licenses fished in locations other than the Mat-Su, Anchorage, or the Kenai Peninsula.
- The licenses may include hunting and trapping activity. The licenses are sold as Resident Sport Fishing, Resident Sport Fish & Hunt, Resident Sport Fish, Hunt, and Trap, Resident Blind Sport Fishing, Resident Low Income Sport Fish, Hunt, and Trap, Resident Senior Resident License, Disabled Veteran Resident License, and Resident ANG/Mil Reserves Fish and Hunt.
- The category Disabled Veteran Resident License was provided by community, but for the span of years requested rather than by individual years. An estimated annual average was determined through simple division and the estimated number of licenses were added back to each of the annual numbers for each community.

Commercial salmon permits:

Sport Fish Licenses Issued by Community

Community	2011	2012	2013
Kenai Peninsula Borough			
Anchor Point	1,027	972	967
Clam Gulch	118	125	124
Cooper Landing	230	235	228
Homer	4,311	4,025	4,038
Hope	96	79	109
Kasilof	1,171	1,115	1,099
Kenai	5,220	4,984	4,828
Moose Pass	121	136	118
Nikiski	740	734	767
Ninilchik	632	578	543
Seldovia	179	166	170
Seward	1,752	1,691	1,685
Soldotna	6,625	6,418	6,416
Sterling	1,552	1,463	1,501
Tyonek	26	42	45
Mat-Su Borough			
Big Lake	1,075	996	1,008
Houston	194	185	193
Palmer	8,717	8,243	8,371
Skwentna	66	57	63
Sutton	514	500	480
Talkeetna	675	630	610
Trapper Creek	193	193	183
Wasilla	17,285	14,662	14,740
Willow	1,113	1,013	1,015
Municipality of Anchorage			
Anchorage	55,624	52,801	54,093
Chugiak	3,064	2,995	2,897
Eagle River	8,859	8,324	8,566
Girdwood	957	914	896
Indian	91	101	96

**Boards Support Section
Board of Fisheries
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ACR Form Revision Information

1. Memorandum on ACR Form Revision Request
2. Sample draft ACR Form with requested revision

MEMORANDUM

STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Boards Support Section

TO: Alaska Board of Fisheries

DATE: October 3, 2014

THRU:

PHONE: 907-465-6095

FROM: Glenn Haight, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

SUBJECT: Recommended changes to
the Agenda Change Request
Form

Boards Support is seeking the Board's approval to make two changes to the agenda change request (ACR) form.

The first change adds a submission deadline date on the form. This technical change should provide greater clarity to the individual considering submission. This would be revised accordingly each year.

The second addition is to add language directing the ACR author to answer questions directly and in the space provided. This year Boards Support received an ACR where the author referenced attachments to address the important elements of whether the ACR meets the criteria in 5 AAC 39.999. The attachments were detailed letters that contained elements that addressed the criteria, but it was not appropriate for us to interpret those points in the ACR list that receives wide distribution and is an important document for board review.

Boards Support encourages individuals submitting ACRs to put their best effort forward and without completing the form as requested, it leaves the door open for confusion. Incomplete ACRs would continue to be accepted and any attachments would be included as public comment.



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AGENDA CHANGE REQUEST FORM
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

The deadline for ACR submission for the 2015/2016 Board of Fisheries meeting cycle is August 20, 2015.

Comment [g1]: This date would be changed each year.

The Board of Fisheries will accept an agenda change request only:

- 1) for a fishery conservation purpose or reason; or
- 2) to correct an error in regulation; or
- 3) to correct an effect on a fishery that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted.

The board will not accept an agenda change request that is predominantly allocative in nature in the absence of new information found by the board to be compelling (5 AAC 39.999).

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. Answers must be provided in the boxes below, or in an attachment that clearly identifies a response to questions. Board Support will not interpret information that does not clearly correspond to questions, nor will it accept charts or other non-written materials. Additional information may be submitted as a written comment at the Board’s Work Session.

Comment [g2]: This language would be inserted to strongly urge submitters to answer the questions directly.

<p>1. CITE THE REGULATION THAT WILL BE CHANGED IF THIS ACR IS HEARD. If possible, enter the series of letters and numbers that identify the regulation to be changed. If it will be a new section, enter “5 AAC NEW”.</p> <p>Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC <u> 2T </u></p>
<p>2. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM YOU WOULD LIKE THE BOARD TO ADDRESS? STATE IN DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE CURRENT PROBLEM. Address only one issue. State the problem clearly and concisely. The board will reject multiple or confusing issues. 2T</p>
<p>3. STATE WHY WHAT SOLUTION DO YOU PREFER? Or, if the board adopted your solution, what would the new or amended regulation say? 2T</p>
<p>4. STATE IN DETAIL HOW THIS ACR MEETS THE CRITERIA STATED ABOVE. If one or more of the three criteria set forth above is not applicable, state that it is not.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for a fishery conservation purpose or reason: 2T • to correct an error in regulation: 2T • to correct an effect on a fishery that was unforeseen when a regulation was adopted: 2T

Alaska Board of Fisheries Agenda Change Request Form

5. WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED PRIOR TO THE REGULAR CYCLE? 2T
6. STATE WHY THIS ACR IS NOT PREDOMINANTLY ALLOCATIVE. 2T IF THIS REQUEST IS ALLOCATIVE, STATE THE NEW INFORMATION THAT COMPELS THE BOARD TO CONSIDER AN ALLOCATIVE PROPOSAL OUTSIDE OF THE REGULAR CYCLE. 2T
7. STATE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE FISHERY THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS ACR (e.g., commercial fisherman, subsistence user, sport angler, etc.) 2T
8. STATE WHETHER THIS ACR HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BEFORE, EITHER AS A PROPOSAL OR AS AN ACR, AND IF SO, DURING WHICH BOARD OF FISHERIES MEETING. 2T

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
City State Zip

TELEPHONE: _____
Day Evening

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Note: Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.