

# On-Time Advisory Committee Comment List

Alaska Board of Fisheries Hatchery Committee | Anchorage, AK | March 8, 2019

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

of

### Southeast Alaska Advisory Committees

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#### **A Resolution in Support of the Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program**

WHEREAS, Southeast communities benefit greatly from the State of Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory committees are to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's fishery resource, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, these Advisory Committees represent the voice of coastal communities throughout Southeast Alaska;

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has operated for 45 years and supplements wild salmon harvests throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is an example of sustainable economic development that directly benefits personal use fishermen, sport

fishermen, charter fishermen, commercial fishermen, seafood processors, as well as state and local governments, which receive raw fish tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program employs strong scientific methodology and is built upon precautionary principles and sustainable fisheries policies to protect wild salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulates hatchery operations, production, and permitting through a transparent public process and multi-stakeholder development of annual management plans; and

WHEREAS, returns of hatchery and wild salmon stocks follow similar survival trends over time and the largest returns of both hatchery and wild salmon stocks have largely occurred since hatchery returns began in about 1980; and

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries contributed an annual average of nearly 67 million fish to Alaska's commercial fisheries in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries accounted for 22% of the total common property commercial catch in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has proven to be significant and vital to Alaska's seafood and sportfish industries and the state of Alaska by creating employment and economic opportunities throughout the state and in particular in rural coastal communities; and



WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is non-profit and self-funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes on the resource and is a model partnership between private and public entities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has significantly invested in Alaska's salmon hatchery program and associated research to provide for stable salmon harvests and to bolster the economies of coastal communities while maintaining a wild stock escapement priority; and

WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fisheries, including the hatchery program, continue to be certified as sustainable by two separate programs, Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees in Southeast Alaska affirms its support for Alaska's salmon hatchery programs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees supports unbiased and scientific methods to assess the interaction of Alaska's salmon hatchery programs with natural salmon stocks, such as the Alaska Hatchery-Wild Salmon Interaction Study which began in 2011 and is scheduled to conclude in 2023; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees calls on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to work with the hatchery community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry leaders to further its understanding of the importance of the Alaska salmon hatchery program to all Alaskans.

**Adopted by the following Southeast Advisory Committees**

**Craig**

**East Prince of Wales Island**

**Juneau-Douglas**

**Sitka**

**Ketchikan**

**Petersburg**

**Wrangell**



**Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
February 18, 2019  
Craig City Council Chamber**

I. Call to order: 6:12pm

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Fred Hamilton, Ray Douville, Mike Douville, Kurt Whitehead, Ellen Hannan, Brian Castle

Members Absent (Excused): Chuck Haydu(Excused), Kirk Agnitsch, Steve Merritt (Resigned), Dave Creighton (Excused)

Members Absent (Unexcused): Kirk Agnitsch

Number needed for Quorum for AC:

List of user groups present: POW hatchery Bill Gass & Bill Lundberg, ADFG Craig Schwanke

Guests: Mike Kampnich, Joel Steenstra

III. Approval of Agenda:

IV.

V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From December 12, 2018 accepted minutes from 12.12.18 meeting

VI. Fish and Game Staff present: Craig Schwanke gave presentation on Fisheries meeting, 2019 regulations will be essentially the same as 2018, June 1<sup>st</sup> start date for sportfishing kings near Coffman, Discussion on liberalizing sportfishing in Pt. St. Nick...to expensive to do cost recovery for Craig, troll openings for Kings this year

Hatchery presentation: significant opposition against hatcheries at the next fisheries meeting, reduce current hatcheries production in dramatic fashion, they sent us an email tonight, attacking the statewide hatchery fish and concerned about pinks, sockeye, etc. Not sure if the board of fish can legally manage the hatcheries, Kenai River and Cook Inlet are driving these proposals. Sportfishing in SE AK are usually in large support of hatcheries as well as the commercial fishermen. Port Asumcion Chums and Cohos are going in the water. Boundary line is barely inside the Port Asumcion Bay. Chums are usually done after the first part of August.

VII. Guests: Joel Steenstra & Mike Kampnich

VIII. Old Business: Report from Kurt on BOG meeting. Emailed out and attached.

**Opposed Proposal 171 6-0. Discussed at length and feel the current system is working fine, don't change it.**

Review and updated information

IX. New Business:

Voted in support of the draft resolution 6-0 IN SUPPORT of the statewide hatchery program. Kurt asked the board to withdrawal the joint board proposal #1. Discussion of the logic behind the proposal was to try and encourage the other communities on the island to start their own AC so POW has a larger voice.

Minutes Recorded By: Kurt Whitehead



**East Prince of Wales Fish & Game Advisory Committee  
January 18, 2019  
Coffman Cove, Alaska**

- I. Call to Order: 5:07 pm by Chairman John Ryan
- II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: John Ryan, PJ Olsen, William Pattison, JR Parsley, Ray Slayton, Tyra Huestis, Bryce Brucker, Gary Anderson  
Members Absent (Excused): Dave Egleston,  
Members Absent (Unexcused): Brian Wilson, Gregg Cook  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6
- III. Approval of Agenda:
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved December 27, 2018
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Craig Schwanke
- VI. Guests Present: Mike Huestis, Neil Schoenfelder, Evyonne Somfleth, Gina Kavaretta, Roxy Wilson



VIII. New Business:

- Southeast Alaska AC draft Hatchery Resolution.

Craig Schwanke with F&G shared that further North in Alaska there is stronger feelings about hatchery versus wild salmon. Southern SE has had a fairly positive experience with SSRAA hatcheries.

Chairman John Ryan makes a motion that East POW AC support the Hatchery Resolution; JR Parsley seconds motion.

Discussion: Is there any proposal currently going before the Board of Fisheries regarding hatcheries? Local experience is that hatcheries provide a resource that reaches far beyond the local economy. Some discussion as to how hatchery stock in SSRAA is moved and obtained. Perry Olson shared that he supports hatchery operations anywhere within the state as they offer a huge benefit and shares that hatcheries also help take the pressure off the wild salmon.

Unanimous in favor. Motion passes.

- Discussion as to whether this AC wants to send a representative to the Board of Fisheries. William Pattison explained that being "in person" does carry more weight at these Boards. It is also advantageous to meet the people at these meetings.

Adjournment: 7:58 p.m.

Minutes Recorded By: Tyra Huestis  
Minutes Approved By: John Ryan  
Date: January 25, 2019



**Juneau Douglas Advisory Committee**  
**2.5.19**  
**University of Alaska Southeast, Room 218**

- I. Call to Order: [6:35 pm] by [Kevin Maier]
  
  - II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: Forest Wagner (commercial fishing), Melanie Brown (alternate), Peter Robertson (non-consumptive commercial), Jesse Walker (sport), Atlin Daughtery (hunting guide), Kristine Trott (non-consumptive personal), Richard Yamada (charter, salt), Chris Miller (commercial fish), Thatcher Brouwer (commercial fish), Terry White (charter, salt), Jesse Ross (trapper), Ed Buyarski (sport) Kevin Maier (charter, freshwater).  
Members Absent (Excused): Mike Bethers (sport), Jason Kolhause (processor), Nick Orr(sport)  
Members Absent (Unexcused):  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8  
List of User Groups Present: ADFG, Commercial Fish, Sport Fish, Personnel Use, Hatchery.
  
  - III. Approval of Agenda: Approved by unanimous consent.
  
  - IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Previously approved.
  
  - V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Dan Teske (ADFG), Dave Love, (ADFG) Matt Catterson (ADFG), Flip Pryor (ADFG)
  
  - VI. Guests Present: Eric Prestegard (DIPAC)
  
  - VII. Old Business:
  
  - VIII. New Business:  
  
Statewide Board of Fish Proposals, Joint Board Proposals and Hatchery Resolution.
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**OTHER BUSINESS FOR BOARD OF FISH CONSIDERATION**

**Vote and Discussion of the Resolution Below in Support of Hatcheries.**

**JDAC voted to support the resolution below by a vote of 9 support, 3 opposed, and 1 abstain.**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**

**Southeast Alaska Advisory Committees**

**A Resolution in Support of the Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program**

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and

WHEREAS, the Advisory committees are to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's fishery resource, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being; and

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WHEREAS, the Advisory Committees represent the voice of \_\_\_\_\_ coastal communities throughout Southeast Alaska;

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has operated for 45 years and supplements wild salmon harvests throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is an example of sustainable economic development that directly benefits subsistence fishermen, personal use fishermen, sport fishermen, charter fishermen, commercial fishermen, seafood processors, as well as state and local governments, which receive raw fish tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program employs strong scientific methodology and is built upon precautionary principles and sustainable fisheries policies to protect wild salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulates hatchery operations, production, and permitting through a transparent public process and multi-stakeholder development of annual management plans; and

WHEREAS, returns of hatchery and wild salmon stocks follow similar survival trends over time and the largest returns of both hatchery and wild salmon stocks have largely occurred since hatchery returns began in about 1980; and

WHEREAS, there are no stocks of concern where most hatchery production occurs, indicating that adequate escapements to wild stock systems are being met in these areas over time; and

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries contributed an annual average of nearly 67 million fish to Alaska's commercial fisheries in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries accounted for 22% of the total common property commercial catch in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has proven to be significant and vital to Alaska's seafood and sportfish industries and the state of Alaska by creating employment and economic opportunities throughout the state and in particular in rural coastal communities; and

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WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is non-profit and self-funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes on the resource and is a model partnership between private and public entities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has significantly invested in Alaska's salmon hatchery program and associated research to provide for stable salmon harvests and to bolster the economies of coastal communities while maintaining a wild stock escapement priority; and

WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fisheries, including the hatchery program, continue to be certified as sustainable by two separate programs, Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees in Southeast Alaska affirms its support for Alaska's salmon hatchery programs; and

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FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees calls on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to work with the hatchery community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry leaders to further its understanding of the importance of the Alaska salmon hatchery program to all Alaskans

### **Discussion**

Atlin Daugherty: Resolution is to show community support of hatcheries.

Eric Prestegard: The statewide hatchery program is being challenged from multiple directions. A number of positions and ACRs have been put forward to the board of fish. The idea of this resolution is to get as much support for hatcheries as possible. Nothing is perfect. Alaska hatchery program started

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in 1970s. We have been able to cherry pick the best, statutes, regulations and policies. Lots of public input in process. The resolution is circulating around Advisory Committees.

Richard Yamada: Carrying capacity of ocean. Rise and fall of king salmon with hatchery pink salmon production. Do we still have hatchery production of pinks?

Flip Pryor: In southeast only one hatchery producing pink salmon. Not much production. Not a scientific link between pink salmon production and king salmon decline.

Eric Pestegard: Referenced a scientific paper that refutes the claim in Prince William Sound that an increase in pink salmon production corresponds with a decrease in king salmon survival. Submitted as a RC and will be made available to Juneau Douglas Advisory Committee.

Ed Buyarski: What about all the Chum salmon?

Eric Prestegard: Chum salmon have a very different diet than king salmon. No correlation what so ever.

Jesse Walker: The huge number of chum salmon has been boon for commercial fleet. Concerned about the interception of juvenile wild kings and adult wild kings.

Flip Pryor: All that would be captured on fish tickets. If they see too many wild fish the department shuts things down or change lines.

Jesse Walker: What incentive do trollers have to report juvenile king salmon?

Eric Prestegard: There is now a log book program and onboard observers for chum fishermen in Icy Strait.

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Thatcher Brouwer: King salmon are one of the primary species trollers target. It is in our best interest to report catch of juvenile salmon and change the way we fish if we are negatively impacting king salmon runs.

Kristine Trott: Can commercial fishing wipe out a small wild population?

Eric Prestegard: Southeast is experiencing a dramatic shift in pink salmon. Worst pink harvest since 1975. Natural fluctuation. Pink salmon are targeted further from us. The Department is adopting more conservative management practices to protect pink salmon

Melanie Brown: Appreciates the be it resolved provisions in the resolution. I fish Bristol bay where there are not hatcheries. Believes hatchery production was intended to enhance runs. Concerned that hatcheries are now creating runs and that it can result in an ecological disaster. Pointed to the number of fish that returned to Crawfish. Benefited fishermen, but had to be caught because there were so many.

Flip Pryor: The intent of hatcheries is to augment the fisheries.

Ed Buyarski: How are the numbers of hatchery fish justified.

Eric Prestegard: They did some analysis on the abundance of plankton and how much hatchery fish consume. Hatchery fish consume half a percent in Southeast and 2 percent in Prince William Sound.

Ed Buyarski: suspicious that introducing so many more chum salmon that is not having an impact.

Eric Prestegard: 97% of chum salmon perish. Providing a food source. Not unbalanced. Permit is to work with the resource and be a good steward of the resource. \$20 million study. Public process in hatcheries.

Atlin Daugherty: Makes it possible to take pressure off wild stocks.

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Melanie Brown: At a recent board of fish meeting the board chose to take no action on a hatchery proposal.

Eric Prestegard: The board chose to take no action. Many people there in support of hatcheries. A grass roots effort that hatcheries are important to fishermen and are managed with sound science.

Kristine Trott: What have hatcheries done to our wild fish?

Eric Prestegard: Nothing. Overall the state of Alaska has had record high catches of wild fish recently. Community catching coho at sheep creek. Wild runs have benefited because has taken pressure off wild stocks.

Atlin Daugherty: Echos that wild runs are doing well.

Eric Prestegard: DIPAC is mass marking all fish. It is a tool researchers are using to monitor fisheries.

Jesse Walker: Entire gillnet fleet in Lynn Canal in the summer. Impact on Chilkat king salmon. Homeshore king salmon in chum fishery.

Kevin Maier: Hatcheries in Washington a bad deal. Local impacts of hatcheries. KRSA principal is to limit hatchery production. Lets back off a little on hatchery production and have an honest conversation about the trade offs. If there is a real conservation issue? Is this timely?

Thatcher Brouwer: This is a very timely resolution. The Board of Fish is discussing hatcheries. I support this proposal.

Terry White: In support of hatcheries. Had a king salmon fishery in Lena cove this past year thanks to hatcheries.

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Jesse Walker: Personally would rather catch one wild king over multiple hatchery fish.

Richard Yamada: There are a lot of factors. Economic factors and social factors. Hatcheries are not culprit of unsustainable fisheries. It is a balancing act. The biologists would have put the breaks on a long time ago if there was a problem. Built hatcheries to supplement wild runs in Washington. It was a proactive step. Supports this resolution.

Forrest Wagner: Will DIPAC scale back production if the report shows that there is a problem?

Eric Prestegard: Absolutely. Precautionary principal. Fish and Game management is good. We are so different from Washington. Alaska has one of the best management systems in the world.

9 support 3 opposed and 1 abstain.

Adjournment: Moved to adjourn 9:06 pm.

Minutes Recorded By: Thatcher Brouwer

Minutes Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: 12/13/18

Location: ADFG Conference Room

Call to Order: 5:30pm

## Roll Call:

Name	Seat	Check if present
John Scoblic	Chair	X
Sue Doherty	Vice Chair	X
Whitney Crittenden	Secretary	X
Matt Allen	Secretary	X
Beau Dale		X
Clay Bezenek	Alternate	Phone
Daryle James	Saxman Rep	X
Don Westlund		X
Frank James, Sr.	Saxman	X
Joe Roth		X
Josh Cohen	Alternate	
Kenny Shaw		Excused
Larry McQuarrie		Excused
Norm Skan		Excused
Perry Leach		Excused
Randy Williams	Alternate	X
Rudy Franulovich		X
Russell Miller		Excused

**Public Present:** Liz Harpold, Enforcement Officer Mark Eldridge

**Department Present:** Beau Meredith ADF&G

**Introductions:** Reintroduction of Committee Members present, introduction of public and ADF&G personnel in attendance.

**Approve Meeting Agenda:** Scoblic requested to add BOF proposal #171 to the agenda and to strike #2, Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis (POW LLA) from the agenda.

**Westlund** moves to strike #2 and **D. James** seconds it. **Allen** spoke to addressing the POW LLA, which does pertain to the Ketchikan AC. Changes to regulations could affect Ketchikan hunters



and there is the potential for a decrease in deer populations due to logging efforts and this will also hurt Ketchikan hunters. **Allen** would like to see Ketchikan AC members be added to their mailing list so we can stay informed on the issues and have adequate time to weigh in on the them. **Scoblic** asked to take action item #7 from old business up at the next meeting because comments are not due until 2/20/19. **Doherty** agreed due to not all committee members having accessed it. **Allen** suggested inviting an ADF&G member to provide information. **Meredith (ADF&G)** can speak to this as well. **Westlund** moves to take no action on BOF proposals in old business action #7. **Roth** seconds the motion and it passes unanimously. Meeting agenda is accepted with revisions. A break was taken from 5:45-5:50 to fix the phone so members could call in.

**Approve Previous Meeting's Minutes:** **F. James** moves to accept the previous meetings minutes, **Westlund** seconds the motion. **Roth** would like to see a revision to the minutes to fix a typo about the date of the next meeting. Motion passes unanimously.

## Reports:

**Chair: Scoblic** started with stating that we are thick into the meeting season. Southeast Alaska RPT and task force meetings happened the last week of November and provided a review of 2018 and a forecast for 2019. The review demonstrated hatchery contributions and the amount of catch by each gear group. The total seine harvest increased, gillnet decreased and troll remained at the same harvest level. The SE pink return was forecasted for 2019 harvest season to be between 15-23 million fish. The forecast for SE chum salmon was 18 million fish. Doug Vincent-Lang is the acting Commissioner, and he is expected to run the Department differently than his predecessor Sam Cotten.

**Department: Meredith** the Chinook Technical Committee and North Pacific Fisheries Management Council met with ADF&G for a few days and got Vincent-Lang up to speed.

**Members Comment: F. James** spoke to pink runs and weather. Warm summers with wind and how it affects pink salmon runs. Westerly winds tend to blow fish into Canada and are subsequently caught outside Alaskan fisheries. **Westlund** shared a Ketchikan Daily News article about the three moose that were illegally harvested and left as want/waste as an example that people do get reported and have to face punishment. Officer Eldridge spoke to if self-reporting and it generally results in leniency. Roth chimed in that one of the benefits of living in SE is that for most hunts it's any male of any size.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

## Old Business:





- 1. Dale** was selected to represent the Ketchikan AC at the upcoming BOG meeting in January. **Allen** will be traveling with him.
- 2.** POW LLA action item was removed from the agenda.
- 3.** Anti-hatchery group from the Kenia area. This committee will provide avenue for the public and stakeholders to provide input to BOF. **Westlund** spoke to the presentation and believes that it is a Prince William Sound (PWS) problem and not a SE problem. **Doherty** said that in this situation all aquaculture associations are painted with the same brush. **Doherty** then handed out “Draft Resolution” to send to other Southeast Advisory Committees and submit to BOF. **Franulovich** asked if there was scientific support for the anti-hatchery sentiment. **Scoblic** responded that we should send this resolution to chairs of other AC’s in Southeast Alaska; Martin in Petersburg, Guggenbickler in Wrangell, Merit in Craig. **Westlund** offered a negative impact of hatcheries being the Fort Heckman hatchery and when it raised fish decades earlier.
- 4. Westlund** moves to amend Proposal #176, seconded by **Doherty**. **Westlund** aims for this amendment to have a moratorium for sport fisher operator permits in SE. Currently, there is periods of non-retention, and there was some debate regarding the level of mortality. **Harpold** informed the AC that the best avenue to change statute is through the legislature. She invited **Westlund** to come discuss the manner in her office. **Scoblic** felt uncomfortable with the amendment. **Westlund** is concerned about sportfish industry and wants to limit the number of sport fishermen guides entering the industry. **Westlund** moves to amend Proposal #176, and it dies due to lack of a second. The AC as a whole voted unanimously to approve the original proposal (13 favor, 0 oppose).
- 5. Crittenden** moves to adopt Proposal #177, **Doherty** seconds. **Crittenden** shared that this proposal stems from the extraordinarily large return at Crawfish this past summer. The gillnet fleet was not allowed opportunity due to the lack of management plan in place. It is historically not a gillnet area so only the seine and troll fleet were allowed to fish. This proposal would enable the gillnet fleet to have an opportunity to fish there. **Doherty** shared that the Department of Law ruled that it was not a gillnet area and therefore could not fish in this area. **Meredith** stated that other associations will be putting in similar proposals like this to address harvest in THA. There was a brief discussion amongst members between THA and SHA, where SHA allow hatchery associations to conduct brood stock programs and collect cost recovery. Question was called, and members voted. The proposal passed unanimously (13 favor, 0 oppose).
- 6. Doherty** moves to adopt Proposal #168, **Westlund** seconds. **Roth** asks if this proposal hurts seiners, and **Doherty** assured him it did not. **Westlund** asks if the current regulation length of a seine net is 250 feet, and **Dale** asks if 60 feet is enough. **D. James** stated that 60 feet is adequate. **Franulovich** called the proposal questions, **Roth** seconds. The proposal passes unanimously (13 favor, 0 oppose).



**7. Proposal #169: Scoblic** shared that Fox is former ADF&G from Cook Inlet. He is looking for several things. 1. That the report would come out earlier. 2. Be more consistent. 3. Adds management targets. 4. BOF is given regulatory power to approve escapement, not ADF&G. 5. It removes Sustainable Escapement Goals (SEG) and keeps Biological Escapement Goals (BEG). **Meredith** currently sets BEG for fish streams that ADF&G monitors (index streams). Discussion was had, and no vote was held.

**Proposal #170: Policy for the Management of Sustainable Fisheries.** The aim of this proposal is to remove all escapement goals and replace with management target. **Scoblic** informed the committee that Cook Inlet region may have different feelings towards fisheries management but some things in this proposal are ok. **Doherty** shared that the Department report is due January 10<sup>th</sup>. **Meredith** stated that if this proposal passes that reports would be lacking the most recent years' data if they were required to report earlier.

**New Business: Scoblic** informed the committee that there is a spot open on the BOG and that interested persons should submit an application to serve.

**Westlund** shared a proposal that he is developing with the committee related to commercial shrimp regulations. **Westlund** stated that historically the commercial shrimp season lasted 5 months and now it is generally conducted in a 2 to 3 week season. This fishery has basically become a derby, and derby style fishing has main downfalls. The shrimp fishery is dictated by a harvest goal set in pounds. The derby style fishing that currently occurs leads to a great number of small shrimp harvested due to a lack of soak time. **Roth** wanted to know if shrimp are asexual. **Meredith** informed that they are hermaphroditic and asked the question what happens if you decrease the number of pots, but people than double haul said pots or short soak them? **Westlund** would prefer a reduction of pots and only allow one pull per day. **Meredith** informed the committee that this is not feasible for management. This system works for Canada because they have larger enforcement budget due to the high cost of permits. **Scoblic** asked if the point was to reduce the number of pots or to address the number of permits not fishing? **Westlund** responded to reduce the number of pots to extend the season so that ADF&G can have more data by evaluating the fishery later. Currently they evaluate before the season begins but not during or after because the fishery ends so quickly. **Meredith** asked if **Westlund** had already proposed this several years ago? **Westlund** had previous proposed to standardize the gear. **Doherty** requested the old proposals be provided so that the AC can learn from what had been previously discussed. **Westlund** said that the industry doesn't want to be responsible, they have gone from 165 tons to 65 tons. This past season 215 permits registered to fish and 131 did not register to participate in the fishery. **Franulovich** asked ADF&G stance. **Meredith** responded "completely neutral." **Roth** asked how many non-transferrable and transferrable permits are actively fishing? **Scoblic** commented that this could be going towards limited entry. **Roth** said that this established the shrimp gold rush, but that permit holders are dropping out. **Westlund** says it's hard to sell small shrimp in the frozen



market; it is easier in the fresh market. A longer season would be easier to sell small shrimp in the fresh market for obvious reasons.

**Set Next Meeting Date:** 1/24/19 at 5:30 at ADF&G Conference Room

**Adjourn:** 7:33pm



# Ketchikan Advisory Committee Minutes

**Date:** 1/24/19

**Location:** ADFG Conference Room

**Call to Order:** 5:32pm

**Roll Call:** 12 voting members present

Name	Seat	Check if present
John Scoblic	Chair	X
Sue Doherty	Vice Chair	Excused
Whitney Crittenden	Secretary	X
Matt Allen	Secretary	X
Beau Dale		X
Clay Bezenek	Alternate	Excused
Daryle James	Saxman Rep	X
Don Westlund		X
Frank James, Sr.	Saxman Rep	X
Joe Roth		X
Josh Cohen	Alternate	Absent
Kenny Shaw		X
Larry McQuarrie		Excused
Norm Skan		Excused
Perry Leach		Phone
Randy Williams	Alternate	X
Rudy Franulovich		Excused
Russell Miller		X

**Public Present:** None

**Department Present:** Kelly Reppert, Justin Breese, Mark Eldridge

**Introductions:** None

**Approve Meeting Agenda:** **Westlund**, new business, wanted to add discussion on haggfish and herring harvest reduction in Sitka and district 1. **Westlund** moved to approve. **Roth** seconded. The motion passed unanimously (12-0). Motion to amend agenda under new business to include Joint Board Proposals. Motion to approve amended agenda by **Crittenden**. Seconded by **Roth**. Motion passes unanimously (12-0)



**Approve Previous Meeting's Minutes:** Westlund moves to approve minutes. Seconded by Dale. The motion passes unanimously (12-0).

## Reports:

**Chair:** None

**Department:** None

**Board of Game Report:** Allen brought to the attention of the AC that Sam Rabung is the new director for ADFG commercial fish and Rutz is the new director for sport fish. Allen provided summary of the Board of Game proceedings that he and Dale attended in January. Doug Vincent-Lang was in attendance and communicated that the new administration wants to ensure opportunity for future generations. Food security is a concern and he discussed states' rights to manage natural resources. Vincent-Lang also share that the new governor is stressing efficiencies in the department and restore public trust and confidence. Allen indicated that Dale was an excellent representative for the Ketchikan AC and conducted himself well. Dale and Allen were both encouraged by the Board of Game process. Both realized that it would be beneficial to reach out to other communities' AC, especially when addressing proposals outside of area in order to acquire their perspectives of the issue. Allen, Dale, and Westlund were in agreement that it is important for AC representatives to stay for the duration of the meeting.

**Committee Member Comments:** Allen commented on the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Resolution 2798. He provided public testimony at the January 21<sup>st</sup> Borough Assembly meeting regarding the resolution. He informed the assembly why the Board of Game voted against the emergency order due to it being outside their purview. The Board of Game expects to see a proposal at a future meeting in cycle that would be a collaboration/compromise between user groups.

**Public Comment:** None

## Old Business:

Hatchery Draft Resolution: Westlund moves to adopt, and Roth seconds. Scoblic, other AC's in the region have or will be reviewing and taking action on the Resolution. Westlund states that the SE region does not experience the same issues in relation to negative hatchery sentiment. He believes that hatcheries are important because of their positive economic impact. Roth, hatcheries are important because of the enhancement benefit they provide. Crittenden brought up apprehension regarding the stocks of concern portion of the draft resolution. She asked ADFG if that was a completely true statement. Justin Breese replied that it was not totally true. Scoblic, we could strike the Whereas that refers to stocks of concern. Allen, could be fine



with the language but felt we are missing an opportunity to inform through this resolution that Enhancement organizations have worked cooperatively with the Department when stocks of concern exist. **Leach** called the question. **Roth** seconded. It passed unanimously (12-0).

**Prop 161/162 – Westlund** moved to adopt. **Dale** seconded. **Scoblic** provided the synopsis that some people do not appreciate the timeliness for how things are reported. He stated “if it’s not broke, don’t fix it.” **Westlund** was concerned about expense and enforcement issues. I’m somewhat neutral on these proposals. **Dale** shared his opinion that creel at the end of the season is inadequate and not accurate. **Allen** asked ADFG if there was a benefit and if it would increase costs or financial hardship for the Department. **Reppert** shared that it would be a huge burden for ADFG and Alaska residents. Reppert provided clarification on the differences between the two proposals. The charter fleet has to submit their logbooks within a week, creel occurs at the dock, and there is a statewide harvest survey at the end of the year, these three sampling techniques do a good job at covering the states bases. **Scoblic**, how does Enforcement view these proposals? Considering the current climate in the state I can’t support this. **Eldridge** stated that it wouldn’t be an enforcement issue. **Crittenden** offered that it could be challenging for rural Alaskans to comply due to the remoteness of their living situations i.e. mail and internet access. **Westlund** questions, and **Dale** seconds. **Proposal 161 and proposal 162 failed unanimously.**

**Proposal 163 – Westlund** moves to adopt, **Dale** seconded. Conversation occurred regarding our disapproval of want and waste. **Williams** calls the question. It fails (10 against – 2 for).

**Proposal 164 – No action, Not applicable**

**Proposal 165 – Westlund** move to adopt, **Dale** seconded. **Westlund** informed the committee that subsistence communities can use their boats only for charter when registered under the federal government. This proposal would address the issue of allowing subsistence users who own charter boats to then allow family and friends who qualify for subsistence to fish on their vessel after they had de-registered. **Miller** asked if this regulation was changed at the state level, would it cause issues with regulation at the federal level? **Reppert**, provided information regarding the current regulation for clarification on what the proposal would allow. This proposal would not be at odds with Federal regulation because the charter boat would not be registered. **Westlund** replied that this proposal is solid, he didn’t write it but assisted with the legwork. **Miller** calls the question, **Westlund** seconded. **The proposal passes 10 - 1.**

**Proposal 166- Westlund** moves to adopt. **Dale** seconds the motion. **Westlund** asks ADFG if we had already done this. **Reppert** informed him that in SE Alaska that it is non-pelagic only, and this proposal would impose statewide regulation. Pelagic rockfish experience the effects of decompression at a lesser degree and therefore were not originally included in the regulation. This proposal simplifies the regulation to release all rockfish instead of having to determine if it was pelagic or non-pelagic. The Department had discussions to address the use of release at depth mechanisms on an area basis to pertain to regions of concern rather than a blanket



policy. **Westlund** shared that not everyone can tell the difference between the different types of rockfish. This would make the regulations simpler. **Scoblic** would not support the proposal because it does not pertain to our region. **Reppert** added that there is a low level of harvest of pelagic rockfish in SE. **Westlund** calls the questions. **The proposal failed 2 – 9.**

**Proposal 167 – No action, not applicable to our region**

**Proposal 168 – Westlund** moves to adopt, **Roth** seconds. **Scoblic** indicated that this was important because it was an enforcement issue, this would close a loophole. **Westlund**, questioned its ability to be enforced. **James and James Sr.** both shared that this would not affect SE seiners, 60 ft of tow lines is enough. **Roth** calls the question. **The proposal passes 11 – 0.**

**Proposal 169 – Allen** moves to adopt, and **Roth** seconds. **Scoblic** provided some context regarding the proposal. This proposal would speed up the process and get reports to the public sooner. The spirit of this proposal is to remove SEG, implement management targets and give the Board authority to determine escapement goals. **Breese** shared that Fox has issues with ADFG in the interior and calls for quicker reporting. **Scoblic**, doesn't agree to how it is written and will not be supporting. **Crittenden** asks if this affected our region. **Breese** replied that it does affect how management would be conducted in SE Alaska. **Allen** asked if the Department produced reports quicker, would it be excluding the most recent data? **Westlund** commented on the authors concern regarding unknown allocation, what is he trying to address. **Breese** indicated that it would change how we defined things, but wouldn't necessarily change how our fisheries worked. Interior allocation is different because of the extensive fishing activities that occur in the interior compared to SE AK. **Scoblic** called the question. **This proposal failed 11 – 0.**

**Proposal 170 – Westlund** moves to adopt, **seconded by AC members.** **Scoblic** discussed how this would directly apply to the sustainable fisheries policy. This would establish management targets and do away with the old way of doing business. **Breese** said that it would get rid of lots of words and definitions. Currently, there are tiered levels of information based on data available that are used to answer specific management questions. **Allen** asked how many rivers in SE do we have good biological data on, such as index streams? **Breese** answered that it is difficult to directly compare river systems and species. Not all species will fit one management style. **Reppert**, some areas are managed by areas/aggregate and others are river/stream specific. This proposal would change/remove stocks of management concern and how they should/could be addressed. **Scoblic** shared his opinion that it would not be good to remove protection for stocks of concern. **James Sr.** has concerns and has witnessed lots of mismanagement of escapement during his life. **Westlund** calls the question. **The proposal fails 11 – 0.**

**Proposal 171 – Westlund** moves to adopt the proposal. **Shaw** seconds the motion. **Scoblic** informed the committee that this is one gear group trying to fix an allocation problem. He felt



that “it didn’t add up” and that if there was a problem it should be solved in a collaborative way. If it’s not broken we don’t need to fix it. **Perry** we should keep our eyes open on issues like this. **Roth** asked enforcement to share what it was like up there. **Eldridge** shared that it could be very contentious. **Roth** is wary of proposals put in by groups who are known to be divisive and controversial. **Westlund** called the question. The proposal failed 11 – 0.

**Proposal 172 – Allen** moves to adopt, **Dale** seconds. **Breese** indicates that bow and arrow are defined differently across the different units of the state. This cleans up the current regulations. This proposal does not apply to game. **Dale** informed the committee that current regulations for this is that the user must be fully submerged. **Breese** stated that this just defines what a bow and arrow is in the eyes of the law. **Westlund** calls the question, and the **proposal passes 11 – 0.**

**Proposal 173 – Westlund** moves to adopt. **Roth** seconds the motion. **Reppert** informed the committee that this would provide a definition for ecotourism activities and would allow the Department to evaluate those activities. **Roth** questions why is it important to further define or define ecotourism **Scoblic** stated that it is important to have these terms defined as this industry grows. **Reppert** pointed out that they were adding more adjectives to the term and that those wishing to participate in ecotourism, guided sport ecotourism will replace ecotourism, have to register with the Department similar to guided fisheries. **Westlund**, expressed concern with releasing harvest unharmed. **Miller** called the question. **The motion passes 10 – 0.**

## **New Business:**

**Westlund** brought up the topic of the hagfish fishery. He was concerned about potential bycatch and would like more information about how this fishery is being conducted. **Breese** informed Westlund that to his knowledge, there is not a lot of bycatch in this fishery. The pots are very specific to the target species, and that hagfish tend to eat whatever else may get into the pot with them. **Scoblic** shared that this is an experimental fishery and that permit holders are only permitted to catch 10-20k pounds. **Westlund** wants bycatch reported. **Scoblic** would look into it with his ties to the industry. **Miller** weighed in with personal knowledge that for the thousands of pots he has seen unloaded there is very little bycatch.

**Westlund** discussed concerns regarding the herring fishery. The BOF has closed the sac roe fishery in Juneau and the state of Maine has classified herring as a forage fish. **Westlund** builds his case to support his belief that the herring fishery should be cut back. The recent herring fishery has seen reduced catches. **Scoblic** replied that the herring fishery is market driven. **Roth** agreed with Scoblic that it was quota and market driven. **Leach** brought up the idea of permit buybacks. **James Sr.** speaks to the fact that there are no longer historic large returns of herring. He shared personal testimony of herring schools so large that you could hear them swimming down Chatham Strait. “We have to wake up, we are losing our fisheries,” said James Sr. He also raised concerns about Unuk Chinook potentially being poisoned from mine tailings.





Joint Board of Fish and Game will occur March 21-25<sup>th</sup>. The comment deadline is March 7<sup>th</sup>.

KIC meetings have been causing scheduling conflicts for AC members and we hope to solve this problem for upcoming meetings.

**Westlund** discussed his shrimp proposal. Central to its purpose is to reduce the number of pots, by standardizing the gear or allowing the stacking of permits. He wants to get rid of the current derby style fishery and shift to a longer season which focuses on the capture of more mature shrimp.

**Set Next Meeting Date: February 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the ADFG Conference room.**

Leach will need to be excused from that meeting due to a prior arrangement.

**Adjourn: 8 pm**



**Petersburg of Advisory Committee  
2.12.2019  
Dorothy Engel Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order: 6:34 by Max Worhatch
- II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: Ted Sandhofer, Clyde Curry, Stan Malcolm, Ben Case, Dave Benitz, Megan O'Neil, and Joel Randrup (via teleconference)  
Members Absent (Excused): Bob Martin, Don Spigelmyre, Arnold Enge, Frank Neidiffer, Jerry Dahl, Kirt Marsh  
Members Absent (Unexcused):  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:  
List of User Groups Present: subsistence fish, sport fish, commercial fish, game
- III. Approval of Agenda: not done
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: not done
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Kevin Clark
- VI. Guests Present: none
- VII. Old Business: statewide proposals 169 and 170
- VIII. New Business: joint board proposals, resolution for BOF Hatchery Committee March 8th [record minutes here. Add comments template for relevant BOF/BOG meetings as needed.]

AC Members had a thorough discussion on the Hatchery Resolution being reviewed by numerous ADF&G Advisory Committees. Points of discussion include:

- Concern over the exploding chum production in Southeast and an increase of production at each Regional Planning Team meeting
- Difficulties of increasing Chinook and Coho to mitigate cost under the new Pacific Salmon Treaty.
- Concerns for ocean carrying capacity.
- Validity of the 9<sup>th</sup> 'Where As' claiming there are no stocks of concern where most hatchery production occurs



-The amount of fish in the entire ocean today compared to 30 years ago and ocean carrying capacity, ie some areas such as the Fraser River was a much larger contributor to the ocean 30 years ago even though hatchery production was much lower.

-The record 2018 harvest of pink salmon in Russia as an indicator of the amount of fish in the ocean.

-Nature of fisheries shifting from targeting wild stocks to becoming slaves to the hatchery programs.

-Hatchery production accounting for 70% of the value of the gillnet fishery.

-Several members spoke of the presentation given by Bill Templin on hatcheries at the October Board of Fisheries Work Session. They felt it clearly explained straying in a way that made it understandable to the public.

-All members voiced their support of the hatchery programs, but also question what level of production is appropriate and how much enhancement is enough.

AC members voted unanimously, with 8 affirmative votes, to strike the 9<sup>th</sup> where as from the resolution.

Next, AC members voted unanimously, with 8 affirmative votes, to support the Hatchery Resolution printed below:

### **Southeast Alaska Advisory Committees**

#### **A Resolution in Support of the Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program**

WHEREAS, Southeast communities benefit greatly from the State of Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory committees are to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's fishery resource, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committees represent the voice of \_\_\_\_\_ coastal communities throughout Southeast Alaska;

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has operated for 45 years and supplements wild salmon harvests throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is an example of sustainable economic development that directly benefits subsistence fishermen, personal use fishermen, sport fishermen, charter fishermen, commercial fishermen, seafood processors, as well as state and local governments, which receive raw fish tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program employs strong scientific methodology and is



built upon precautionary principles and sustainable fisheries policies to protect wild salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulates hatchery operations, production, and permitting through a transparent public process and multi-stakeholder development of annual management plans; and

WHEREAS, returns of hatchery and wild salmon stocks follow similar survival trends over time and the largest returns of both hatchery and wild salmon stocks have largely occurred since hatchery returns began in about 1980; and

~~WHEREAS, there are no stocks of concern where most hatchery production occurs, indicating that adequate escapements to wild stock systems are being met in these areas over time; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries contributed an annual average of nearly 67 million fish to Alaska's commercial fisheries in the past decade; and~~

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries accounted for 22% of the total common property commercial catch in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has proven to be significant and vital to Alaska's seafood and sportfish industries and the state of Alaska by creating employment and economic opportunities throughout the state and in particular in rural coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is non-profit and self-funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes on the resource and is a model partnership between private and public entities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has significantly invested in Alaska's salmon hatchery program and associated research to provide for stable salmon harvests and to bolster the economies of coastal communities while maintaining a wild stock escapement priority; and

WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fisheries, including the hatchery program, continue to be certified as sustainable by two separate programs, Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) and Marine



Stewardship Council (MSC);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees in Southeast Alaska affirms its support for Alaska's salmon hatchery programs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees supports unbiased and scientific methods to assess the interaction of Alaska's salmon hatchery programs with natural salmon stocks, such as the Alaska Hatchery-Wild Salmon Interaction Study which began in 2011 and is scheduled to conclude in 2023; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees calls on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to work with the hatchery community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry leaders to further its understanding of the importance of the Alaska salmon hatchery program to all Alaskans

Adjournment: 9:20

Minutes Recorded By: \_\_\_\_Megan O'Neil\_\_\_\_  
Minutes Approved By: \_\_\_\_Max Worhatch\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_2.17.2019\_\_\_\_



**Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Sitka Sound Science Center**

- I. Call to Order: [6:00] by [John Murray/Vice-Chair]
  
  - II. Roll Call:  
Members Present: Karen Johnson, Eric Jordan, John Murray, Tad Fujioka, Andrew Thoms, Wayne Unger, Dick Curran, Moe Johnson, Jeff Feldpausch, Stacey Wayne  
Members Absent (Excused): Steve Ramp, Jon Martin, Heather Bauscher, Randy Gluth  
Members Absent (Unexcused): Luke Bastian, Joel Markis,  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8  
List of User Groups Present: At large, Power troll, Sein, Longline, Conservation, Trapping, shellfish, hunting, Processor, Subsistence
  
  - III. Approval of Agenda:  
  
Move to hold off considering proposal 171 to a January meeting. Moved by Eric Jordan, seconded by Andrew Thoms. Unanimous vote to hold off.  
Move to take up designating board members to approve minutes  
Agenda approved with additions
  
  - IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:  
Randy Guluth moved to approve minutes  
Stacey Wayne Seconded.  
Board Voted in favor of approving minutes.
  
  - V. Fish and Game Staff Present: none
  
  - VI. Guests Present: Paul Cotter, Scott Wagner, Angie Bowers
  
  - VII. Old Business: none
  
  - VIII. New Business:
-



- A) Eric Jordan Moves to add addition comments to proposal 176 to state that section G + H needs to be re-considered and re-thought both in terms of time, area, and less resident sport fish restrictions on king salmon retention because we believe a more area and time specific plan could better protect resident harvest and SE Alaska and Canadian wild stock conservation.

Tad Fujioka seconds

Vote in favor: unanimous

Also, members of the Sitka AC would like more timely data on king salmon harvest—especially sport and guided harvest—especially when it relates to changes created if specific groups go over their allocation

- B) Hatchery Resolutions:

a. Resolution Number 1: Joint AC resolution on hatcheries: Eric Jordan moves to support the joint advisory committee resolution on support for hatcheries, Wayne Unger seconds it.

i. Tad Fujioka moves to strike subsistence language, Eric Jordan accepts the amendment.

ii. Vote: 8 in favor, 2 oppose. motion passes in support of resolution.

b. Resolution Number 2: Sitka AC specific resolution: Eric Jordan moves to adopt the resolution of the Sitka specific resolution in support of the hatchery program. Wayne Unger seconds. 8 in support. 1 oppose. motion passes 8-1

- C) Andrew Thoms moved to have Acting Chair and Tad Fujioka named as designated members to approve minutes if needed to get comments in by deadline.

Unanimous vote in favor

Adjournment: 7:14pm adjourned

Minutes Recorded By: Andrew Thoms  
Minutes Approved By: John Murray, Tad Fujioka  
Date: January 1, 2019

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**APPROVED RESOLUTION**

**SITKA FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**A Resolution in Support of the Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program**

**APPROVED BY SITKA FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

WHEREAS, Sitka benefits greatly from the State of Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program; and

WHEREAS, the local Advisory committees are to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's fishery resource, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Sitka Advisory Committee represent the voice of Sitka.

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has operated for 45 years and supplements wild salmon harvests throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is an example of sustainable economic development that directly benefits personal use fishermen, sport fishermen, charter fishermen, commercial fishermen, seafood processors, as well as state and local governments, which receive raw fish tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program employs strong scientific methodology and is built upon precautionary principles and sustainable fisheries policies to protect wild salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulates hatchery operations, production, and permitting through a transparent public process and multi-stakeholder development of annual management plans; and

WHEREAS, returns of hatchery and wild salmon stocks follow similar survival trends over time and the largest returns of both hatchery and wild salmon stocks have largely occurred since hatchery returns began in about 1980; and

WHEREAS, there are no stocks of concern where most hatchery production occurs, indicating that adequate escapements to wild stock systems are being met in these areas over time; and





WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries contributed an annual average of nearly 67 million fish to Alaska's commercial fisheries in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries accounted for 22% of the total common property commercial catch in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has proven to be significant and vital to Alaska's seafood and sport fish industries and the state of Alaska by creating employment and economic opportunities throughout the state and in particular in rural coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is non-profit and self-funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes on the resource and is a model partnership between private and public entities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has significantly invested in Alaska's salmon hatchery program and associated research to provide for stable salmon harvests and to bolster the economies of coastal communities while maintaining a wild stock escapement priority; and

WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fisheries, including the hatchery program, continue to be certified as sustainable by two separate programs, Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sitka F&GAC affirms its support for Alaska's salmon hatchery programs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Sitka F&GAC supports unbiased and scientific methods to assess the interaction of Alaska's salmon hatchery programs with natural salmon stocks, such as the Alaska Hatchery-Wild Salmon Interaction Study which began in 2011 and is scheduled to conclude in 2023; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Sitka F&GAC calls on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to work with the hatchery community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry leaders to further its understanding of the importance of the Alaska salmon hatchery program to all Alaskans



**Upper Lynn Canal ADF&G Advisory Committee  
20 December 2018  
Haines, Alaska**

**Call to Order** at 5:00 pm by Ryan Cook

**Roll Call:**

Members	Present/ Absent/ Teleconference
Tim McDonough (TM) - Chair	A
Ryan Cook (RC) - Vice Chair	P
Derek Poinsette (DP) - Secretary	P
Darren Belisle (DB) - Skagway	A
Stuart DeWitt (SdW) - Haines	A
Shannon Donahue (SD) - Haines	P
Daniel Hotch (DH) - Klukwan	A
Kip Kermoian (KK) - Haines	P
Will Prisciandaro (WP) - Haines	P
Luke Rauscher (LR) - Skagway	A
Marie Rose (MR) - Haines	P

Members Present: 6

Members Absent: 5

Number Needed for Quorum: 6

Quorum Present: Yes

**Fish and Game Staff Present**

Commercial Fish:

Sport Fish: Rich Chapell (RCh)

Wildlife:

**Others Present**

Bill Thomas, former state legislator



## Previous Meeting Minutes

DP moves to add Jackie Timothy emails to NOV 30 minutes. WP 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

## Agenda

Approved.

## Agency Reports

None.

KK moves that we send an email to every AC member before each meeting. WP 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

## BOF Hatchery Committee letter from Chris Guggenbicker

Email to Tim McDonough:

From: **Chris Guggenbicker** <[ccgugg@gci.net](mailto:ccgugg@gci.net)>

Date: Monday, December 17, 2018

Subject: Hatchery Resolution

To: [mylapoelstra@hotmail.com](mailto:mylapoelstra@hotmail.com), [ehannan32@gmail.com](mailto:ehannan32@gmail.com), [jscobic@tridentseafoods.com](mailto:jscobic@tridentseafoods.com), Max Worhatch  
<[mnmnwiv60@gmail.com](mailto:mnmnwiv60@gmail.com)>, Bob Martin

<[bobwmartin@yahoo.com](mailto:bobwmartin@yahoo.com)>, [rmulliganak@live.com](mailto:rmulliganak@live.com), [ccgugg@gci.net](mailto:ccgugg@gci.net), [kevinmaier@gmail.com](mailto:kevinmaier@gmail.com), [jmart118@alaska.edu](mailto:jmart118@alaska.edu), [annandtim1@gmail.com](mailto:annandtim1@gmail.com), [yak2you2@yahoo.com](mailto:yak2you2@yahoo.com)

Cc: Susan Doherty <[sdoherty@ssraa.org](mailto:sdoherty@ssraa.org)>

All,

I would like to reach out to all the advisory committees in SE Alaska in hopes of reaching a cooperative consensus for a resolution in support of our hatchery programs.

Hatchery programs in SE Alaska contributed over \$65 million dollars to commercial fleets in 2018 alone. Furthermore hatchery programs benefit heavily to sport, charter and personal use fisheries in king and coho salmon opportunity throughout SE.

Recently attempts have been made through the Board of Fish to significantly negatively impact the hatchery program. One proposal this fall would have reduced our hatchery production by 25% of the 2000 level of releases, which would include the last 18 years of growth. This would have curtailed SE hatcheries to the



point of not making their cost recovery goals. It is likely king and coho programs would have had to be cut if this proposal passed.

As a board member of SSRAA and a representative on the Regional Planning Team (RPT). I have been involved in the planning and permitting process for hatchery releases and understand the stringent criteria for these releases. This public process allows stakeholders the opportunity to comment and many times compromises are made or permits are just denied. We follow the SE comprehensive salmon plan which has guidelines for these permitting processes.

I have been in contact with John Scoblic and Sue Doherty of the Ketchikan AC. They are present at many hatchery and RPT meetings and understand this process very well.

The Ketchikan AC has been working on a draft resolution of support for the SE hatchery program. It is our hope we can find resolution language we can all agree on.

Attached is the draft language. If you are unable to open it please let me know and I will try another format. If you have any questions please call my

Cell at 907-305-0531. I may be out of service at times but leave a message and I will get back to you.

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**  
**Southeast Alaska Advisory Committees**  
**A Resolution in Support of the Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program**

WHEREAS, Southeast communities benefit greatly from the State of Alaska Salmon Hatchery Program; and  
WHEREAS, the Advisory committees are to promote and protect the common interest of Alaska's fishery resource, as a vital component of Alaska's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committees represent the voice of \_\_\_\_\_ coastal communities throughout Southeast Alaska;

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has operated for 45 years and supplements wild salmon harvests throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is an example of sustainable economic development that directly benefits subsistence fishermen, personal use fishermen, sport fishermen, charter fishermen, commercial fishermen, seafood processors, as well as state and local governments, which receive raw fish tax dollars; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program employs strong scientific methodology and is built upon precautionary principles and sustainable fisheries policies to protect wild salmon populations; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Fish and Game regulates hatchery operations, production, and permitting through a transparent public process and multi-stakeholder development of annual management plans; and

WHEREAS, returns of hatchery and wild salmon stocks follow similar survival trends over time and the largest returns of both hatchery and wild salmon stocks have largely occurred since hatchery returns began in about 1980; and

WHEREAS, there are no stocks of concern where most hatchery production occurs, indicating



that adequate escapements to wild stock systems are being met in these areas over time; and  
WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries contributed an annual average of nearly 67 million fish to Alaska's commercial fisheries in the past decade; and  
WHEREAS, Alaska hatcheries accounted for 22% of the total common property commercial catch in Alaska; and  
WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program has proven to be significant and vital to Alaska's seafood and sportfish industries and the state of Alaska by creating employment and economic opportunities throughout the state and in particular in rural coastal communities; and  
WHEREAS, Alaska's salmon hatchery program is non-profit and self-funded through cost recovery and enhancement taxes on the resource and is a model partnership between private and public entities; and  
WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has significantly invested in Alaska's salmon hatchery program and associated research to provide for stable salmon harvests and to bolster the economies of coastal communities while maintaining a wild stock escapement priority; and  
WHEREAS, Alaska salmon fisheries, including the hatchery program, continue to be certified as sustainable by two separate programs, Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC);  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees in Southeast Alaska affirms its support for Alaska's salmon hatchery programs; and  
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees supports unbiased and scientific methods to assess the interaction of Alaska's salmon hatchery programs with natural salmon stocks, such as the Alaska Hatchery-Wild Salmon Interaction Study which began in 2011 and is scheduled to conclude in 2023; and  
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the joint Advisory Committees calls on the Alaska Board of Fisheries to work with the hatchery community, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and industry leaders to further its understanding of the importance of the Alaska salmon hatchery program to all Alaskans

WP: NSRAA board would like to wait until final study is complete before reducing hatchery releases.

WP moves to support the resolution. RC 2<sup>nd</sup>.

KK: Is there opposition to this resolution. WP: There are always anti-hatchery people out there. DP: There are a number of statements in that resolution that I don't believe are true, and I can't support. WP tables the motion.

**Next Meeting 13 FEB. 500PM. ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS.**

Adjournment: 615pm

Minutes Recorded By: DP

Minutes Approved By:     

Date: DEC 20, 2018



**Upper Lynn Canal ADF&G Advisory Committee  
4 February 2019  
Haines, Alaska**

**Call to Order** at 5:00 pm by Tim McDonough

**Roll Call:**

Members	Present/ Absent/ Teleconference
Tim McDonough (TM) - Chair	P
Ryan Cook (RC) - Vice Chair	P
Derek Poinsette (DP) - Secretary	P
Darren Belisle (DB) - Skagway	T
Stuart DeWitt (SdW) - Haines	P
Shannon Donahue (SD) - Haines	T
Daniel Hotch (DH) - Klukwan	A
Kip Kermoian (KK) - Haines	P
Will Prisciandaro (WP) - Haines	P
Luke Rauscher (LR) - Skagway	T
Marie Rose (MR) - Haines	P

Members Present: 10

Members Absent: 1

Number Needed for Quorum: 6

Quorum Present: Yes

**Fish and Game Staff Present**

Commercial Fish: Nicole Zeiser (Telephone)

Sport Fish: Rich Chapell (RCh)

Wildlife: Carl Koch (Telephone) (CK)

**Others Present**

KHNS and CVN



## Officer Elections

RC nominates TM for Chair.

TM nominates RC for Vice Chair.

TM nominates DP for Secretary.

Vote on all nominations: Unanimous.

## Hatchery Resolution

DP: There are statements made in the resolution that I can't support.

KK: There are potential problems with hatcheries that should be addressed.

DP: I wouldn't pass want to pass a resolution opposing the hatchery program, but I don't want to give support to it at this time either.

WP: I will pass this along—no action taken by ULCAC on the resolution.

**Next Meeting 10 APR. 500PM. Assembly Chambers.**

Adjournment: 745pm

Minutes Recorded By: DP

Minutes Approved By:     

Date:



## **Wrangell Fish & Game Advisory Committee Notes for Meeting January 7, 2019 Wrangell, Alaska**

- I. Call to Order: 6:30 PM by Chris Guggenbickler, Chair
  
- I. Roll Call:  
Members Present: (12) Chris Guggenbickler, Brennon Eagle, David Rak, Tom Sims (late arrival), Jason Rooney, John Yeager, Dave Brown, Otto Florschutz, Alan Reeves, Robert Rooney, Winston Davies, Janis Churchill.  
Members Absent: (5) Marlin Benedict, Mike Bauer, Brian Merritt, Bill Knecht, Brett Stillwaugh.  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: eight (8)  
List of User Groups Present: NA
  
- II. Approval of Agenda: Board of Game SE Proposals 42 – 44; Board of Fish State Wide Proposals; Joint Boards of Fish and Game; Resolution in support of Alaska’s salmon hatchery programs; Distribution of confiscated moose meat in Wrangell; Private airplane use in Stikine River valley during moose hunting season; Moose antler hunter education in Wrangell.
  
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: NA
  
- IV. Fish and Game Staff Present: Tom Kowalske (Wrangell), AST Cody Lister (Petersburg) AST Sgt. Robert Welch (Juneau)

Guests Present: 31 people including Jim Nelson (FS-LEO), Bruce Smith (WRG PD), David Powell (WRG Mayor), Einar Haaseth, June Leffler (KSTK Radio).

- V. Old Business: Board of Game SE Proposals 42 – 44 for wolves on POW Island; Private airplane use in Stikine River valley during moose hunting season.
  
- VI. New Business: Board of Fish State Wide Proposals; Joint Boards of Fish and Game; Resolution in support of Alaska’s salmon hatchery programs; Distribution of confiscated moose meat in Wrangell; Moose antler hunter education in Wrangell.





**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA'S SALMON HATCHERY PROGRAMS:** The Wrangell AC voted 12 to 0 in support of the resolution supporting the salmon hatchery proposal in Alaska. The proposal is attached to the end of these meeting notes. The Ketchikan AC prepared the resolution and would like a unified voice of support from all of the ACs in SE Alaska. The Wrangell AC supports the resolution because: hatchery produced salmon benefit all of the fisheries in Alaska; many communities rely on hatchery produced salmon for commercial, sport and personal use fisheries; the hatchery program is highly regulated and works well in SE Alaska.

Adjournment: 9:21 PM

Minutes Recorded By: David Rak  
Minutes Approved By: Chris Guggenbickler  
Date: 02/13/2019