

Advisory Committee Comments

Pacific Cod | Anchorage, October 27-28, 2022

Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee.....	AC1
Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Fish and Game Advisory Committee	AC2

Kodiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee

October 10, 2022 5:30 pm @ ADF&G

Call to order 5:33 pm by Chair Chervenak

Roll Call:

Paul Chervenak, Chair	Rolan Ruoss
Julie Kavanaugh	Tyler Schmeil
Brandon Bartleson	Ronald Kavanaugh
Andrew Finke	Duncan Fields
Wallace Fields	Theresa Peterson
Patrick O'Donnell	Oliver Holm

Excused:

Garmin Squartsoff
Melissa Berns

Absent:

Alexus Kwachka
Nate Rose
Jon McElwain

12 members present – need 8 for a quorum

Department present: Taryn O'Connor-Brito, Nat Nichols

Public: Coral Chernoff, Rebecca Skinner, Jose Rodrigues, Konrad Kinsitila, Josh Arndt,
Mason Wilson, Steve Beard

Approve agenda: Motion-Theresa Peterson, 2nd-Julie Kavanaugh
Amended to add Report from NPFMC meeting under new business
Motion as amended passes: 12-0

Chair announcements: Explanation of online voting for election meeting

Old business: Marine Transporter sub-committee still a work in progress

New Business:

- 1) **Elections for expired/vacant 3 year seats:**
 - Kodiak, Subsistence
 - Kodiak, Small Boat Crab/Herring/Salmon
 - South End Setnet
 - Transporter/Sportfish Charter
 - Concerned Citizen
 - Kodiak, Processor
 - 2- (1 year) Alternate seats

Nominations:

Kodiak, Subsistence – Andy Finke
 Kodiak, Small Boat Crab/Herring/Salmon – Ron Kavanaugh
 South End Setnet – Theresa Peterson
 Transporter/Sportfish Charter -Rolan Ruoss
 Concerned Citizen – Rebecca Skinner
 Kodiak, Processor – Alexis Kwachka
 Alternate – Nate Rose
 Alternate – Coral Chernoff

Motion to seat nominees - Duncan Fields, 2nd-Julie Kavanaugh

Motion passes: 12-0

New members seated: 13 members present – need 8 for a quorum

2) Election of Officers

Nominations: Paul Chervenak-Chairman
 Julie Kavanaugh-Vice-chairman
 Nate Rose-Secretary

Motion to seat nominees – Theresa Peterson, 2nd-Duncan Fields

Motion passes: 13-0

3) Discussion of BOF AK Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, Bering Sea and Chignik Pacific Cod Proposals

Proposal 1 – Aleutian Islands Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan: Season dates, reporting and landing requirements

Proposer-ADF&G Move to adopt: Oliver Holmes, 2nd-Julie Kavanaugh

- 2nd trigger hasn't occurred at time of 3rd trigger, they occur simultaneously
- No objection from less than 60' boats
- Good to clarify regulations-so many moving parts
- Housekeeping

Motion passes: 13-0

Proposal 2 – Aleutian Islands Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan: Restrict legal gear, increase pot limit and limit total harvest

Proposer-Ron Kavanaugh Move to adopt: Theresa Peterson, 2nd-Rolan Ruoss

In Support:

- Align AI management plan with other State Pcod fisheries
- Want small boats and processors to have opportunities which benefits local communities
- The proposer is working with the Adak community
- Needed to make business plans-both processors and fishermen
- This management would support State waters habitat protection and reduce bycatch

In Opposition:

- Need to identify a trigger to allow harvest of any remaining GHL (don't want to have stranded fish)
- Proposal is still under development due to changes since submission, proposer is not seeking to implement as written, and it is not clear what the final proposal will actually do
- Trawlers have historical use

Motion passes: 9-2 (2 Abstain)

Proposal 3&4 – Aleutian Islands Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan:

Proposers-Chris Allison/Steve Beard Move to adopt: Ron Kavanaugh, 2nd-Theresa Peterson

In Support:

- Trawlers have historical use
- Trawlers need fish aggregated, current March 15 date is pretty late
- Concerns about increased crab Bycatch from fixed gear pot vessels

In Opposition:

- Change would hurt smaller boats by further compressing season and reducing safety
- Change would increase bycatch
- Vessel operator participated in a crab survey for ADFG and found no crab in trawl or fixed gear areas of operation

Motion fails: 1-9 (3 Abstain)

Proposal 5 – Dutch Harbor Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan: Reduce maximum vessel size

Proposer-Unalaska Native Fisherman’s Association Move to adopt: Duncan Fields, 2nd
Theresa Peterson

In Support:

- Provides better fishing opportunity for small vessels (55 feet and less) based in Unalaska
- Impacted area is small, basically Unalaska Bay according to ADFG
- Historical catch in this area averaged only 5% of total GHL catch in DHS

In Opposition:

- May be a non-issue with the change in federal waters
- Cutting off a lot of fishing grounds
- 58’ not that much bigger
- Would make it difficult for boats to participate in the voluntary measures to avoid BS Red King Crab
- Some members may abstain, not knowing enough about local area

Motion fails: 1-9 (3 Abstain)

Proposal 6 – Dutch Harbor Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan: Establish new frame work for setting GHL

Proposer-APICDA, BBEDC, CVRF and YDFDA Move to adopt: Julie Kavanaugh, 2nd
Theresa Peterson

In Support:

- Moving cod from federal fishery to GHL harms Alaskan fishing businesses (and Alaska resident owners, captains and crew) that are allowed to participate in the federal cod fishery, but not the DHS GHL fishery (which allows only under-60 cod boats)
- Federal fishery participants, including Alaskan trawlers, have been negatively impacted by loss in stability from the increase in state waters GHL
- No step down provisions currently

In Opposition:

- Current fishery very successful
- Best policy-stick with current plan and complete
- Only revisit if there’s a problem (i.e. stranded GHL)
- State shouldn’t relinquish fish in years of low abundance

- Cap is 15%, modest compared to other fisheries
- BOF should provide more opportunity in state waters
- Most young fishermen can't get into federal fisheries

Motion fails: 2-11

Proposal 7 – Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands: Legal Gear, Landing Requirements

Proposer-ADF&G Move to adopt: Theresa Peterson, 2nd Oliver Holmes

In Support:

- Attempt to align requirements
- Fisheries have gone through a lot of changes, a way to get out in front of possible new regulations
- Potentially easier for enforcement
- The AC would like clarification on the definition of the top third of the buoy. Is it the vertical top or the third as it lays in the water?

Motion passes: 13-0

Proposal 8 – South Alaska Peninsula Area Pacific Cod Management Plan: Season opener weather delay criteria

Proposer-ADF&G Move to adopt: Oliver Holmes, 2nd-Theresa Peterson

In Support:

- Aligning with Weather Service forecast periods
- This is requested by the fleet
- “Gale Warning” is binary
- Aligns with Kodiak Tanner Crab regulations

Motion passes: 13-0

Proposal 9 – Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, Dutch Harbor Subdistrict, Aleutian Islands Subdistrict Jig Gear Registration and Season Dates: remove vessel exclusivity

Amendment: Ron Kavanaugh, 2nd Theresa Peterson

- Delete “and Rockfish” from 2nd paragraph

Amendment passes: 10-1 (2 Abstain)

Proposer-Gregory Gabriel Move to adopt: Oliver Holmes, 2nd-Theresa Peterson

In support:

- A lot of management plans already have mechanism to relax exclusivity
- This is an entry level fishery and good for these new fishermen

In Opposition:

- Would support if not causing pressure in another area
- Would support if just for cod
- Concerns for rockfish fisheries
- Jig Association did not support or oppose. Language including rock fish was divisive.

Amended Motion passes: 11-1 (1 Abstain)

Proposal 10 – Aleutian Islands District and Western District of South AK Peninsula Sablefish Management Plan: Establish set GHM allocation

Proposer-ADF&G Move to adopt: Julie Kavanaugh, 2nd Ron Kavanaugh

- Establishes in regulation the current and historical practice
- Provides transparency
- Fisherman would have a regulation to address
- Policy since 2006
- Provides stability in a high value fishery

Motion passes: 13-0

Proposal 161 – Policy: Create and establish BOF policy regarding management of ground fish in Alaska

Proposer-Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation Move to adopt: Ron Kavanaugh, 2nd Theresa Peterson

In Support of Proposal 161:

- In order to maintain MSC certification for groundfish the State needs a groundfish management policy in place
- Language mirrors majority of language in Board's previous ground fish policy

Motion to Table: Oliver Holmes, 2nd Theresa Peterson

Motion passes: 13-0 Tabled to next Meeting

In Support of Motion to Table:

- Problems with some of the current wording (i.e. “best available information”)
- Need to look closer at details of-proposal
- AC members would like to support, but feel more diverse input would benefit the final document

4) Discussion for a single person to Approve Minutes to facilitate comment deadline of October 11th**Motion:** Rolan Ruoss, 2nd Andy Finke

- Julie Kavanaugh, Rebecca Skinner and Paul Chervenak to do minutes
- No more than 3 people can meet
- Paul Chervenak to Approve

Motion passes: 13-0**5) Discuss Representation at Upcoming BOF and BOG meetings**

- Need to have Kodiak represented at all upcoming meetings for 2022/2023 cycle (Except Arctic, Yukon, Kuskokwim Finfish)
- Kodiak has diverse fisherman and fish all area of the state
- Kodiak is on cycle for BOG
- Work with Taryn to try and get funding for all meetings

Motion to have Julie Kavanaugh represent KAC at Pacific Cod Meeting (Oct 27-28):
Duncan Fields, 2nd-Theresa Peterson**Motion passes: 13-0****6) Committee Comments:**

- Rolan Ruoss would like to get Mt. Goat subcommittee together to discuss current management.
- Past deadline for Unit 8 proposals- might be able to weigh in on goat proposals already submitted
- Chairman will call meeting of subcommittee this winter

7) Set meeting date for next meeting:

- Tentative date of November 8th to discuss Bristol Bay Finfish proposals
- Chairman will send out email to confirm

Motion to Adjourn: Julie Kavanaugh, 2nd Theresa Peterson

Motion passes: 13-0

Meeting Adjourns at 9:13pm

**Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Meeting
September 27, 2022
Unalaska City Council Chambers
Minutes**

Call to Order:

1304 by Secretary Shari Coleman

Past Committee Members present:

Shari Coleman
Tim Mahoney
Jeff Hancock
Chris Price
Dustan Dickerson

Guests present:

In Chambers: Vince Tutiakoff Sr., Darin Nicholson, Thom Bell

Telephonic: Taryn O'Connor-Brito, ADF&G Board Support; Asia Beder, ADF&G Groundfish Manager; Tyler Lawson, ADF&G Kodiak; Lisa Fox, ADF&G Kodiak; Frank Kelty; Ernie Weiss; Jay King

Appointment of Acting Chair:

Shari Coleman nominated to serve as temporary Committee Chair. Approved by unanimous consent.

Approve Agenda:

Agenda adopted with no dissent.

Approve Prior Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of February 18, 2020 approved with no dissent.

Elections for Advisory Committee Members:

Nominations were opened by the Acting Chair, and time was allowed for anyone interested in serving to express their interests. All Past Committee Members who are present expressed interest to continue to serve. There were no other nominees.

Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Fish and Game Advisory Committee Members elected through unanimous consent are:

Shari Coleman
Tim Mahoney
Jeff Hancock
Chris Price
Dustan Dickerson

Numbers were drawn from a hat to determine staggered terms for each member. Term results are as follows:

June 2023: Price and Dickerson

June 2024: Coleman and Mahoney

June 2025: Hancock

Elections for Officers:

Nominations opened for Committee Chair. Shari Coleman and Tim Mahoney were nominated to serve as chair. Committee members poll result: Shari Coleman elected as Committee Chair.

Nominations opened for Committee Vice Chair. Tim Mahoney and Dustan Dickerson were nominated to serve as Vice Chair. Committee members poll result: Tim Mahoney elected as Vice Chair.

Nominations opened for Committee Secretary. Jeff Hancock was nominated to serve as Secretary. Result: Jeff Hancock seated as Secretary by unanimous consent.

Fisheries Update

Asia Beder gives update of current local fisheries.

Comments

Chair Coleman recognizes public in attendance in chambers and by phone for comments.

Frank Kely offers comments thanking Committee members for meeting after extended absence.

New Business

Address Alaska Board of Fisheries Pacific Cod proposals

Motion by Dickerson, seconded by Mahoney to support Proposal #5

Discussion. History of fishery. Current participation. Potential exclusions. Entry level, small boat fishing opportunities.

Committee vote: Coleman-Y, Mahoney-Y, Hancock-Y, Price-Y, Dickerson-Y

Motion to support Proposal #5 passes unanimously.

Motion by Mahoney, seconded by Dickerson to support Proposal #6

Chair Coleman distributes email from Miranda Westphal of ADF&G with brief interpretations of tier framework. Department unable to share any comments at this time.

Discussion.

Public Comments: Leave state water fishery alone. More quota, more capitalization, shorter seasons.

Committee vote: Coleman-N, Mahoney-Y, Hancock-N, Price-Y, Dickerson-Y

Motion to support Proposal #6 passes 3-2

Motion by Mahoney, seconded by Dickerson to support Proposal #161

Discussion. Little information regarding reason for proposal or organization which sponsored it. Committee Member Mahoney said he tried to contact the organization with questions but was unable to reach anyone. No staff member input.

Committee vote: Coleman-N, Mahoney-N, Hancock-N, Price-N, Dickerson-N

Motion to support Proposal #161 fails 0-5.

Miscellaneous Business

Projected Travel

Discussion of upcoming meetings in October and early 2023, and projecting who would be able to travel from committee. Dustan Dickerson said he was available and able to travel to attend October BOF meeting. Committee consensus and appointment of Dustan Dickerson by Chair Coleman to attend October BOF meeting.

Proposed next meeting date for Unalaska/Dutch Harbor AC meeting. Discussion that committee should try to meet again before the end of 2022. No dates were suggested or agreed.

Committee Member Chris Price would like to add local subsistence fisheries and issues to the next meeting agenda for discussion.

Guest Vince Tutiakoff Sr representing Unalaska Native Fisherman's Association board and Mayor of City of Unalaska, offered comments and concerns regarding local subsistence issues, concerns over a lack of fisheries enforcement around local lake and river systems. There has been no active enforcement or presence by AK State Troopers. There has been overfishing, and observances of jet skis running far upstream in Summer Bay, Broad Bay, and Nateekin Bay. Tutiakoff also commented on fishery quota reductions or complete closures of crab fisheries, and said there may be requests for emergency crab openings even for small quotas.

Comment from Taryn O'Connor-Brito, Board Support staff, that it is good to see the Unalaska AC back to meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 1440.