



COMMISSIONER ORDER No. 1

I, Douglas Vincent-Lang, Commissioner of the Alaska Fish and Game for the State of Alaska, hereby order the establishment of the Bycatch Advisory Council.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Bycatch is defined as fish which are harvested in a fishery but are not sold or kept. Simply put, bycatch occurs when fishermen unintentionally catch fish, or other marine species, they do not want, cannot sell, or are not allowed to keep.

The Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) was established for the purpose of exploring the issue of bycatch and providing recommendations to policy makers with the goal of improving the health and sustainability of Alaska's fisheries and protecting Alaska's record as a leader of fisheries' conservation and sustainability.

The Bycatch Advisory Council will advise ADF&G on ways to implement the recommendations contained in the final report of the Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force. It is envisioned the Council will meet telephonically 3-4 times annually and prepare an annual report to the Commissioner.

COMPOSITION

The Bycatch Advisory Council will consist of 6 members who are:

- Linda Kozak
- Karma Ulvi
- Brian Gabriel
- Stephanie Madsen
- John Jensen
- Kevin Delaney

The Council will elect its chair.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The Bycatch Advisory Council is assigned to the Department of Fish and Game, Boards Support Section for administrative purposes.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Council members receive no compensation or other remuneration from the State as members of the Bycatch Advisory Council. However, members of the Bycatch Advisory Council who are not state or federal employees are entitled to per diem and travel expenses in the same manner permitted for members of state boards and commissions under AS 39.20.180. Per diem and travel expenses for members of the Bycatch Advisory Council who are a representative of a state or federal agency are the responsibility of that agency.

The Bycatch Advisory Council may create advisory-only subcommittees.

The Bycatch Advisory Council will meet 3 to 4 times a year, at a minimum. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair. The Bycatch Advisory Council and its subcommittees will use teleconferencing and other electronic means, to the extent practicable, in order to gain maximum public participation at minimum cost.

At times and locations to be determined by the Chair, the Bycatch Advisory Council may convene public meetings to present information and receive comments.

Meetings of the Bycatch Advisory Council and any subcommittee shall be conducted in accordance with AS 44.62.310 – 44.62.319 (Open Meetings Act).

Records of the Bycatch Advisory Council and any subcommittee are subject to inspection and copying as public records under AS 40.25.110 – 40.25.220.

EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION

This Order takes effect immediately.

The Bycatch Advisory Council will sunset on the 7th of December 2026.

DATED this 10 day of March 2023.