

Submit Proposals to the Boards

The **Board of Fisheries** is currently accepting proposals for Lower Cook Inlet, Kodiak and Upper Cook Inlet finfish management areas.

Deadline for the Board of Fisheries: Monday, April 10, 2023

The **Board of Game** is currently accepting proposals for the Interior, Western Arctic areas of Alaska (GMUs 12 and 18–26)

Deadline for the Board of Game: Monday, May 1, 2023

The **Joint Board of Fisheries and Game** is currently accepting proposals for regulations on the advisory committee program and subsistence uses.

Deadline for the Joint Board: Monday, May 1, 2023

Advisory Committee Regulations Up for Consideration

A meeting of the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game has been set for March 25-29, 2024, in Anchorage to address regulations for the advisory committees, board processes, and subsistence uses. This type of meeting occurs once every five years, so now is the time to request adjustments to regulations for the advisory committee program including membership, function, and uniform rules of operation. Your regional coordinators know these regulations inside and out, so contact them directly if you have ideas for changes that may help improve the AC process. The proposal deadline is May 1, 2023. The regulations on the Joint Board Call for Proposals fall under 5 AAC Chapters 96, 97 and 99.

Board of Fisheries 2023-2024 Meetings

Work Session

October 12–13, 2023|Anchorage
Comment deadline: September 27, 2023

Lower Cook Inlet Finfish

Nov. 28–Dec. 1, 2023|Homer
Comment deadline: November 13, 2023

Kodiak Finfish

January 9–12, 2024|Kodiak
Comment deadline: December 26, 2023

Upper Cook Inlet Finfish

Feb. 23–Mar. 7, 2024|Anchorage
Comment deadline: February 8, 2024

Board of Game 2023-2024 Meetings

Work Session

January 25, 2024|Kotzebue
Comment deadline: January 18, 2024

Western Arctic /Western Region

January 26-29, 2024|Kotzebue
Comment deadline: January 12, 2024

Interior & Eastern Arctic Region

March 15-22, 2024|Fairbanks
Comment deadline: March 1, 2024

Joint Board 2024 Meeting

March 26-29, 2024| Anchorage
Comment deadline: March 12, 2024

Alaska Department of Fish & Game Boards Support Newsletter

Winter 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

- Getting to Know Board of Fisheries Director Art Nelson
 - Meet the New Regional Coordinators
 - Stan Zuray Joins the Board of Fisheries
 - 2023 Excellence in Service Awards
- Advisory Committee Regulations Up for Consideration
 - Dates and Deadlines to Remember



BOARDS SUPPORT

Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
907-465-4110
www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us

**Board of Fisheries
Executive Director**

Art Nelson
907-267-2292
art.nelson@alaska.gov

**Board of Game
Executive Director**

Kristy Tibbles
907-465-6098
kristy.tibbles@alaska.gov

Southeast Region (Northern)

Annie Bartholomew
907-465-4046
annie.bartholomew@alaska.gov

Southeast Region (Southern)

Henry Leasia
907-465-6097
henry.leasia@alaska.gov

Southcentral Region

Farí Fernandez
907-267-2354
fari.sylvester@alaska.gov

Southwest Region

Taryn O'Connor-Brito
907-842-5142
taryn.oconnor-brito@alaska.gov

Western Region

Savannah Hollingworth
907-543-2931
savannah.hollingworth@alaska.gov

Arctic Region

Georgie Phillips
907-442-1717
georgie.phillips@alaska.gov

Interior Region

Kyle Campbell
907-459-7263
kyle.campbell@alaska.gov

Dear Advisory Committee Members,

The 2022/2023 meeting cycle has been a busy one! It's impressive that there have been more than 100 advisory committee and subcommittee meetings. The hard work by each and every one of you goes a long way towards helping the boards and the department manage Alaska's fish and game resources. We thank you for your time and dedication.

In this newsletter, we are proud to recognize the four recipients of the 2023 Excellence in Service Awards. We are also pleased to highlight the new members of the Boards Support team, welcome long-serving AC member Stan Zuray to the Board of Fisheries, and hear a thoughtful message from ADF&G Commissioner Vincent-Lang.

On behalf of the Boards Support team, we wish everyone well in 2023, and look forward to continuing our work with the ACs throughout the remainder of the meeting cycle.

Sincerely,

*Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Game*

*Art Nelson, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries*

A Message From the Commissioner

I want to express my sincere appreciation for your service on the local fish and game advisory committees and the contributions you make toward managing Alaska's fish and game resources. Alaska has a long-standing, exceptional public process for adjusting fish and game regulations, and an important part of the process is the local input from the advisory committees.



I also want to take this opportunity to ask you to commit to fostering respect and inclusion for the advisory committee program. We are all passionate about our fish and game resources, and it's important we work together, respect each other, and learn from each other's viewpoints.

No doubt there will be times of frustration or disappointment, and when it occurs, we all need to remain polite and professional with our actions and our words.

Sincerely,
ADF&G Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang

Alaska Department of
Fish & Game
Boards Support
PO Box 115526
Juneau AK 99811-5526



Phone: 907-465-4110
Fax: 907-465-6094

Art Nelson Takes the Helm for Board of Fisheries as Executive Director



Art Nelson, Executive Director

Art Nelson started serving as the new Executive Director of the Board of Fisheries at the beginning of the 2022-2023 meeting cycle.

Art has been involved in Alaska's fisheries throughout his entire career. His parents were commercial fishermen in Prince William Sound and he spent many of his summers working as crew on the family's boats while growing up. He worked on western Alaska fishery issues for many years in a variety of capacities and has been involved in the North Pacific

Fishery Management Council and the Board of Fisheries—and he served on the Board of Fisheries from 2003 to 2007, including two years as chairman. Before joining the Boards Support team as Executive Director for the Board of Fisheries, Art was an Information Officer for the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

In his spare time, Art and his family love spending time on their boat in Prince William Sound doing sport and subsistence fishing.

Advisory Committee Excellence in Service Awards

We are pleased to recognize this year's Excellence in Service Award winners and thank them for their dedication and service. The following excerpts are from their fellow AC members who nominated them.

Willow Hetrick, Anchorage Advisory Committee

Ms. Hetrick has served on the AC for 7 years and is currently the Secretary. She is respected by her peers on the committee and brings professionalism, focus and fairness to the meetings so the AC can best serve the people and resources of Alaska. She participated in the Wood Bison Planning Team and Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group.

Randy Alvarez, Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee

Mr. Alvarez has served on the Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee for over 20 years, much of this time as chairman. Randy has extensive knowledge of the area and has shown strong commitment to the sustainability of fish and game resources for all user groups. Randy has been instrumental as an advocate for the AC on many important local issues.

Mike Kramer, Fairbanks Advisory Committee

Mr. Kramer has served on the Fairbanks Advisory Committee for over 20 years, as a member, Chair, and Vice-Chair. In his leadership roles, he worked hard to find common ground and solutions for diverse issues such as antlerless moose hunting and Copper River dip net fishing. Mike is a valued resource for newer committee members.

John Renner, Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee

Mr. Renner has been a very active member of the AC for 32 years serving as a member, Secretary, and most recently Co-Chair. John's knowledge and experience have made a huge difference in the issues affecting his region. John's tireless work on the AC and at Board of Fisheries meetings have ensured that Cordovans can continue their commercial fishing lifestyle.



Mike Kramer and Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang

Get to Know the New Regional Coordinators

Western Region

Savannah Hollingworth grew up in Oscoda, Michigan and has lived and worked in many places around the country before landing in Bethel in 2020. She draws on many years of experience in management to support the Department of Fish and Game.



Savannah Hollingworth

Interior Region

Kyle Campbell is a lifelong Fairbanks resident. He earned a masters degree in biology from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and runs a guiding business with his family in northern Alaska. He became the Interior Region Coordinator for Boards Support in 2021.



Kyle Campbell

Southeast Region (South of Fredrick Sound)

Henry Leasia grew up in Portland, Oregon and moved to Alaska in 2018 shortly after studying International Relations at the University of St Andrews. He joined the Boards Support team after working as a public radio reporter for three years in Haines.



Henry Leasia

Southcentral Region

Farí Fernandez grew up in Dillingham, moving to Anchorage in her pre-teen years. She continues to spend time in Dillingham during the summers fishing with her family. Fari worked for Southcentral Foundation for 19 years before joining the Boards Support team in 2021.



Farí Fernandez

Arctic Region

Georgianna 'Georgie' Phillips is the Boards Support team's regional coordinator for the Arctic Region. She grew up in Kotzebue and enjoys the adventures provided with fishing, hunting, and camping in the region. She studied at the Chukchi Campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

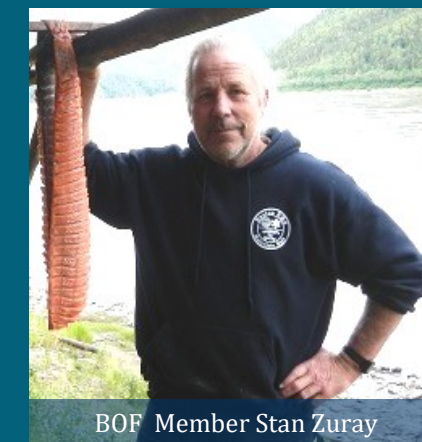


Georgie Phillips

2023 Meeting Cycle Summaries

Did you know that audio recordings from every board meeting are posted online after each meeting concludes? Following the meeting, a summary is posted at the top of the meeting web page that lists the important decisions made by the board along with the date and time that the board discussed each proposal and item of business. The time stamps in the summary can help you listen back to important discussions that took place during the meeting.

The Newest Member of the Board of Fisheries



BOF Member Stan Zuray

Stan Zuray of Tanana was appointed to the Board of Fisheries in January following the resignation of David Weisz. He comes to the board after years of service on his local Fish and Game Advisory Committee and the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association.