

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
December 4 – 12, 2006
BRISTOL BAY FINFISH

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS (12/13/06)

This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the board's actions.

SUBSISTENCE/PERSONAL USE

- C/A 7 Restrict participation in subsistence fisheries by seasonal sportfishing lodge residents
- F 8 Allow personal use salmon fishing from May 1 – May 15

COMMERCIAL HERRING

- C/A 9 Eliminate inseason management for gear specific allocation.
Amendment: Allow adjustments after 50 percent of each group's allocation is met.
- F 10 Change the allocation percentages for gillnet and purse seine from 30/70 to 35/65
- C 11 Change potential start date of the Togiak herring fishery from April 25 to April 15
- C/A 12 Change amount of time after closure that herring may be retained in a purse seine.
Amendment: Provide for E.O. authority.
- N.A. 13 Allow holders of CFEC spawn on kelp permits to harvest the herring equivalent of the spawn on kelp quota

SALMON

Fishing Gear Specifications and Operations

- F 14 Allow holder of two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms gear, except in SHA's, and also not be subject to 48-hour transfer period
- Tabled 15 Allow holder of two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms of gear and owners of two set gillnet permits to fish them simultaneously.
Tabled to board restructuring committee; possible action next cycle.
- C 16 Prohibit operation of a drift gillnet when gillnet is grounded above water line or if vessel is grounded
- F 17 Remove regulation requiring lights to mark fishing nets
- F 18 Remove requirement to mark ADF&G number on cork every 10 fathoms
- F 19 Require removal of set gillnet gear during any drift gillnet commercial fishing period used to balance allocation
- C 20 Require permit holders to report loss of any drift gillnet gear

Use of 200 Fathoms of Gillnet

- Tabled 21 Allow two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel except in special harvest areas.
Tabled to board restructuring committee; possible action next cycle.
- N.A. 22 Allow two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel except in special harvest areas
- N.A. 23 Allow two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel except in special harvest areas
- N.A. 24 Allow one person to have two active permits and to receive extra benefits or incentives including more time, area, gear
- N.A. 25 Allow two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel except in special harvest areas.
- F 26 Allow 200 fathoms on a vessel with two permit holders only when no SHAs or restricted district boundaries are in effect
- N.A. 27 Allow a CFEC permit holder to own two Bristol Bay set gillnet permits
- N.A. 28 Provide additional fishing time for vessels fishing two drift gillnet permits

Registration and Reregistration

- N.A. 29 Prohibit fishermen who are not Togiak Bay area residents from fishing in the Togiak District
- F 30 Create a super-exclusive salmon fishery in the Ugashik District
- F 31 Repeal regulations regarding holders of both set and drift gillnet permits switching from one gear type to another, including the 48-hour waiting period
- N.A. 32 Repeal regulations regarding holders of both set and drift gillnet permits switching from one gear type to another, including the 48-hour waiting period
- F 33 Allow two permit holders fishing from one drift gillnet vessel to be registered in more than one district, eliminate the transfer requirement and 48-hour waiting period
- N.A. 34 Eliminate 48-hour waiting period when switching gear types, require notifying the department
- N.A. 35 Allow two permit holders fishing one gillnet vessel to be registered in more than one district, eliminate the transfer requirement and the 48-hour waiting period
- F 36 Allow permit holders an opportunity to declare intent to transfer without declaring destination up front
- F 37 Allow permit holders an opportunity to declare intent to transfer without declaring destination up front
- F 38 Require vessels to register to fish in a Bristol Bay district on or after June 23

Vessel Specifications and Operations

- Tabled 39 Eliminate the current 32-foot length restriction.
Tabled to board restructuring committee; possible action next cycle.

- N.A. 40 Eliminate the current 32-foot length restriction
- N.A. 41 Eliminate the current 32-foot length restriction
- N.A. 42 Eliminate the current 32-foot length restriction
- N.A. 43 Eliminate the current 32-foot length restriction
- N.A. 44 Raise the 32-foot length restriction to 42 feet
- N.A. 45 Raise the 32-foot length restriction to 42 feet
- N.A. 46 Raise the 32-foot length restriction to 38 feet
- N.A. 47 Raise the 32-foot length restriction to 38 feet

Bay-wide Management Plans

- F 48 Restrict eastside fisheries to SHAs until Kvichak River sockeye salmon midpoint escapement goal is met
- N.A. 49 Establish individual fishing quotas based on historical harvest records
- F 50 Establish weekly schedule of three 12-hour fishing periods in Bristol Bay fishing districts excluding Togiak
- F 51 Allow fishing in the General District for up to 25 percent of the projected harvest
- F 52 Allow fishing in the General District once escapement goals have been reached

Naknek River Special Harvest Area Management Plan

- N.A. 53 Provide equal time for both gear types in the NRSHA
- N.A. 54 Provide equal time for both gear types in the NRSHA
- N.A. 55 Alternate commercial fishing periods between set and drift gillnet gear when fishing in Naknek River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 56 Alternate commercial fishing periods between set and drift gillnet gear when fishing in Naknek River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 57 Alternate commercial fishing periods between set and drift gillnet gear when fishing in the NRSHA after escapement goal of 800,000 sockeye salmon reached
- F 58 Add more area to the Naknek River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 59 Add more area to the Naknek River Special Harvest Area
- F 60 Delay moving into the Naknek River Special Harvest Area, delay implementation of management plan based on days behind schedule
- F 61 Allow Naknek Section to remain open to drift and set gillnet gear when Kvichak Section closed. Naknek River Special Harvest Area open to set gillnet gear only.
- F 62 Open Naknek River Special Harvest Area when Naknek or Kvichak sections open
- F 63 Allow both gears to fish at the same time in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 64 Allow vessel to fish up to 75 fathoms of gillnet gear, with no more than 150 fathoms on board, in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area

- C/A 65 Allow set gillnet running lines within 500 feet of 18-foot high tide mark in Naknek River Special Harvest Area to remain in water after each fishing period.
Amendment: Require removal during drift gillnet openings.
- F 66 Require all set gillnet gear in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area be removed from the water when not fishing
- N.A. 67 Require all set gillnet gear in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area be removed from the water when not fishing

Egegik River Special Harvest Area Management Plan

- F 68 Redefine the western boundary of the Egegik River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 69 Redefine the western boundary of the Egegik River Special Harvest Area
- N.A. 70 Redefine the western boundary of the Egegik River Special Harvest Area
- F 71 Redefine boundaries of Egegik River Special Harvest Area as LORAN-C “130 line”
- F 72 Egegik River Special Harvest Area in effect for season when Naknek-Kvichak or Ugashik District is closed
- F 73 Give a 12-hour notice prior to opening or closing the Egegik River Special Harvest Area
- F 74 Define western boundary of Egegik District as LORAN-C “135 line,” until July 2.
- F 75 Limit drift gillnets to 50 fathoms when Egegik River Special Harvest Area management plan is in effect
- F 76 Require the removal of all set gillnet gear during any drift gillnet only fishing periods

Ugashik River Special Harvest Area Management Plan

- F 77 Redefine the Ugashik River Special Harvest Area, coordinate with Naknek River SHA Management Plan
- N.A. 78 Restrict the Ugashik District boundaries
- N.A. 79 Restrict the Ugashik District boundaries
- N.A. 80 Restrict the Ugashik District boundaries

Alagnak River Special Harvest Area Management Plan

- F 81 Place an optimum escapement goal of 100,000 sockeye salmon for Alagnak River
- F 82 Allocate 84 percent of catch in the Alagnak River Special Harvest Area to drift gillnet gear with remaining 16 percent allocated to set gillnet gear
- N.A. 83 Allocate 84 percent of catch in the Alagnak River Special Harvest Area to drift gillnet gear with remaining 16 percent allocated to set gillnet
- F 84 Prohibit commercial gillnet fisheries in the Alagnak River Special Harvest Area
- F 85 Open the Alagnak River Special Harvest Area to set gillnet gear only

N.A. 86 Open the Alagnak River Special Harvest Area to set gillnet gear only

Naknek-Kvichak District Management and Allocation Plan

- F 87 Eliminate allocation of sockeye salmon between drift and set gillnet gear in Naknek/Kvichak District and SHA
- N.A. 88 Eliminate allocation of sockeye salmon between drift and set gillnet gear in Naknek/Kvichak District and SHA
- N.A. 89 Require that the set gillnet fleet would fish one tide in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area for every two tides the drift gillnet fleet fished
- N.A. 90 Change Naknek-Kvichak District allocation plan to 67 percent drift gillnet and 33 percent set gillnet with set gillnet percentage evenly distributed between Naknek and Kvichak Sections. Naknek River Special Harvest Area harvest would be split 67 percent drift and 33 percent set gillnet gear
- N.A. 91 Change allocation for Naknek-Kvichak District and Naknek River SHA based on average harvest by gear group from 1997 to present
- N.A. 92 Require drift and set gillnet gear in Naknek-Kvichak District and Naknek River SHA to fish alternating tides. Delete allocation percentages for the Naknek-Kvichak District and the NRSHA from regulation
- F 93 Open Kvichak Section to set gillnet gear when Naknek Section open for drift or set gillnets. Open Naknek/Kvichak District when preseason projections show a surplus Kvichak River sockeye salmon. If Kvichak forecast projects less than one million surplus fish, restrict set gillnet gear in Kvichak Section to 25 fathoms of gillnet. Allow additional set gillnet periods to achieve 8 percent allocation
- N.A. 94 Allocate catch on daily basis in Naknek River Special Harvest Area based on number of set and drift gillnet participants
- C/A 95 Limit drift gear to three fishing periods or less in Naknek River Special Harvest Area before a set gillnet period is allowed.
Amendment: Set ratio of three drift gillnet periods to one set gillnet period.
- F 96 Change Naknek-Kvichak District management, close Kvichak 5 years
- F 97 Change current biological escapement goals for Kvichak River to optimum escapement goals
- N.A. 98 Change current biological escapement goals for Kvichak River to optimum escapement goals

Nushagak District Management and Allocation Plan

- F 99 Change end of accounting period for allocations from July 17 to July 12
- C 100 Allow separate but equal periods for set and drift gillnet gear groups during directed Chinook salmon fishing periods
- C/A 101 Create regulations and areas for permit holders interested in taking tourists on commercial fishing vessels.
Amendment: Specified various permit requirements.
- F 102 Change boundaries of Nushagak District after July 5 if preseason forecast for Kvichak insufficient to provide for 40 percent exploitation rate

Egegik District Management and Allocation Plan

- F 103 Allow 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear to enable drift fleet to catch up on allocation if behind by 2 percent. Allow both gear groups to fish concurrently if drift fleet is less than 200 vessels. Rescind allocation plan if drift fleet unable to catch up after three tides
- F 104 Change the allocation accounting period to June 1 until the escapement goal is met
- N.A. 105 Define western boundary of Egegik District as LORAN-C "110 line, set western boundary of Egegik River Special Harvest Area as Goose Point-Bishop Creek line
- F 106 Require removal of set gillnet gear during set gillnet closures

Fishing Districts and Fishing Periods

- F 107 Change the boundaries of the Nushagak District
- N.A. 108 Change the boundaries of the Nushagak District
- N.A. 109 Change the boundaries of the Nushagak District
- F 110 Restrict the Ugashik District boundaries
- N.A. 111 Redefine the Ugashik District Boundaries
- C 112 Redefine the northern boundary of the Ugashik District
- C 113 Connect the eastern and southern boundary lines of the Igushik Section
- F 114 Reduce Egegik District permanently to the LORAN - C "110 line"
- F 115 Add 12 hours to weekly fishing period in Kulukak Section of Togiak District

Sport Fishing

- C/A 116 Prohibit retention of northern pike 30 inches in length and longer in Lake Kulik and the Chulitna River drainage.
Amendment: Require immediate release of pike 30 inches or greater in length.
- C/A 117 Allow sport fishing in Brooks Lake year round
Set seasons and bag limits for rainbow trout in Brooks River drainage.
- F 118 Base sport fishery management on inseason fishery performance data
- F 119 Allow anglers to harvest one rainbow trout over 24 inches in the upper Nushagak
- F 120 Allow anglers to harvest one king salmon per year in the upper Nushagak River
- Tabled 121 Recommend Talarik/Koktuli area be designated a fish refuge.
Tabled to board committee. Charge statement for board committee on reviewing Bristol Bay habitat protections: The purpose is to 1) Review the current protections for fish and habitat in order to judge whether additional protections are necessary for Bristol Bay fisheries; 2) If additional protections seem warranted, identify appropriate options including consideration of state refuge status. For this step, the committee may rely on information brought forward by stakeholders which specifically identifies the advantages of refuge status; 3) If

refuge status is determined to be warranted, consider expanding the area to include all waters of the Nushagak and Kvichak river drainages; 4) Make recommendations to the board about what additional actions should be taken. The committee will keep the board informed of its progress and will report back at the March 9-13, 2007 board meeting; 5) Additionally, the committee should monitor any pending legislation and make recommendations back to the full board. Committee to be made of three board members: Heyano (chair), Williams, and Nelson.

F 122 Require anglers fishing the Alagnak River to use barbless hooks at all times

Subsistence Proposals

C/A 251 Allow drift gillnet gear to harvest salmon for subsistence in the Togiak River.
Amendment: Specified area for drift gillnets up to 10 fathoms in length and established marking requirements.

C/A 252 Allow snagging, spear, arrow, or capture by bare hand in Lake Clark and its tributaries by Bristol Bay subsistence salmon permit holders.
Amendment: Allowed spear and beach seine use in specific areas.

N.A. 253 Allow beach seine gear to take salmon in Lake Clark and its tributaries

OTHER

C/A 260 Modify Adak pollock fishery starting date.
Amendment: Set guideline harvest level (GHL) of 3,000 metric tons, reduced by amount authorized to be taken by federal Exempted Fishery Permit (EFP); and start season seven days after beginning of federal EFP fishery, or on or after March 1.

Adopted board finding 2006-250-FB to update #99-192-FB regarding delegation of authority to correct technical errors.

Repealed 5 AAC 06.355(c) Bristol Bay guiding principles.

Repealed 5 AAC 06.356 Bristol Bay general district salmon management plan.