



Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Board of Fisheries

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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

December 2–8, 2015

BRISTOL BAY FINFISH

Egan Convention and Civic Center, Anchorage

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

(This summary is informational only. The actions indicated below will have legal affects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board.)

Board Members Present

Tom Kluberton, Chair

Fritz Johnson

Orville Huntington

Robert Mumford

John Jensen, Vice-Chair

Sue Jeffrey

Reed Morisky

C=Carried, F=Failed, C/A=Carried as Amended, F/A=Failed as Amended, N/A=No Action, P=Postpone

BRISTOL BAY FINFISH PROPOSALS (73 Proposals)

SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, GEAR, MARKERS (17 Proposals)			
<i>Alaska Peninsula Area/Bristol Bay Area Boundary (3 proposals): This set of proposals will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Alaska Peninsula/Chignik/Aleutian Islands Finfish meeting.</i>			
--	22	Move the Cinder River, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections of the Northern District from the Alaska Peninsula Area to the Bristol Bay Area.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:20:17</i>
--	23	Move the Cinder River, Inner Port Heiden, and Outer Port Heiden sections of the Northern District from the Alaska Peninsula Area to the Bristol Bay Area.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:20:17</i>
--	24	Move all waters of the Northern District east of the latitude of Cape Seniavin from the Alaska Peninsula Area to the Bristol Bay Area.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:20:17</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
<i>District Boundaries/Gear (7 proposals)</i>			
F (0-7)	25	Expand district boundary lines.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:21:41</i>
F (0-7)	26	Create new general fishing sections that are in effect following achievement of escapement goals, or July 17, until July 27.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:31:22</i>
--	27	Require that a CFEC permit holder's name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers. <i>(This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:38:09</i>
--	28	Change the character size requirements for set gillnet marking signs. <i>(This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:38:09</i>
C/A (7-0)	29	Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's setnet site. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 105.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:38:50</i>
N/A	220	Prohibit net barges, floating processors, tenders, and hard fixed buoys in waters of the Egegik District during open drift gillnet fishing periods. <i>(No action taken based on a lack of statutory authority.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:48:35</i>
F/A (0-7)	221	Prohibit tenders, fish buyers, and fish transport vessels from anchoring within 1,500 feet of set gillnet sites. <i>(Amended to apply only to the Kulukak Section in the Togiak District.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 2:52:43</i>
<i>Replace Reference to Markers with GPS Coordinates (7 proposals)</i>			
C (7-0)	30	Change the description of set gillnet exemptions that allow operations where beaches at mean low tide are not connected to either exposed land or land not covered at high tide, by deleting references to regulatory markers.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:01:41</i>
C (7-0)	71	Update the description of the Wood River Special Harvest Area by deleting references to regulatory markers.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:06:31</i>
C (7-0)	72	Change the description of statistical areas in the Nushagak District by deleting references to department regulatory markers, and renaming the Nushagak Statistical Area.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:08:48</i>
C (7-0)	73	Redefine the description of the Nushagak District and the Igushik Section in the Nushagak District by deleting references to department regulatory markers.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:10:04</i>
C (7-0)	74	Redefine the description of closed waters for salmon in the Snake River in the Nushagak District by deleting a reference to department regulatory markers.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:11:27</i>
C	80	Re-describe the subsistence fishing area in the Nushagak District that	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 -</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
(7-0)		is restricted to three days per week by removing references to regulatory markers.	3:14:22
C (7-0)	91	Redefine the description of closed waters for the Togiak herring fishery by deleting references to department regulatory markers.	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:16:04
REGISTRATION, PERMIT STACKING (23 Proposals)			
<i>Registration (14 proposals)</i>			
N/A	31	Change the area registration requirements to require district registration prior to fishing in a district in Bristol Bay. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:31:15
N/A	32	Change the area registration date requirement for the Bristol Bay commercial salmon fishery. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:31:15
N/A	33	Change the area registration date requirement for the Bristol Bay commercial salmon fishery. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:33:04
F (0-7)	34	Reduce the required waiting period when registering for a new district from 48 hours to 12 hours. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:37:32
N/A	35	Require drift gillnet operations to register the day of fishing during emergency order periods. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:31:15
N/A	36	Change the registration requirement for commercial salmon fishing in the Egegik District. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:41:13
N/A	37	Change the area registration date requirement from June 25 to June 1 for the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, and Ugashik districts for the drift gillnet fleet. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:31:15
N/A	38	Change registration requirements for fisheries under emergency order conditions and change the registration date for the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, and Ugashik districts from June 25 to June 18. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:42:16
N/A	39	For the Naknek-Kvichak District, eliminate the registration date of June 25, and require registration only before fishing in the district. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41 and the proposer's request to withdraw the proposer through RC98.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:43:17
N/A	40	Change the drift gillnet registration date in the Naknek-Kvichak District from June 25 to June 17. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 41 and the proposer's request to withdraw the proposal through RC98.)</i>	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:44:00
C/A (7-0)	41	Change the area registration requirement for the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, and Ugashik districts by removing the June 25 start date.	Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:19:04



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
		<i>(Amended with substitute language found in RC103.)</i>	
F <i>(0-7)</i>	42	Allow set gillnet operators to transfer within the Nushagak statistical areas without the 48-hour time requirement.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:44:47</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	43	Repeal set gillnet reregistration requirement for statistical areas within the Nushagak District.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:53:09</i>
C <i>(7-0)</i>	44	Modify Togiak District registration restriction requirements that apply until July 27 to include a fishing vessel.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:56:55</i>
Permit Stacking (9 proposals)			
F <i>(0-7)</i>	45	Reauthorize Bristol Bay set gillnet permit stacking.	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:00:38</i>
N/A	46	Allow permit stacking for set gillnet operations. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 45.)</i>	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:20:09</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	47	Allow permit stacking for set gillnet operations and up to one and one-half the current legal limit of gear for one permit to be operated when permit stacking.	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:23:26</i>
N/A	48	Allow permit stacking for set gillnet operations in the Bristol Bay Area. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 45.)</i>	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:21:03</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	49	Allow two set gillnet permit holders to jointly operate with up to 75 fathoms of set gillnet gear and require both permit numbers on identification sign.	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:28:12</i>
N/A	50	Allow permit stacking for set gillnet operations in the Egegik District.	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:21:55</i>
F <i>(1-5)</i>	51	Allow drift gillnet permit stacking for an individual who owns two drift gillnet permits in Bristol Bay. <i>(Member Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 0:32:11</i>
N/A	52	Allow drift gillnet permit stacking for an individual who owns two drift gillnet permits in Bristol Bay and the operation of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a vessel with an individual holding two drift gillnet permits. <i>(Member Johnson recused. No action based on action taken under Proposal 51.)</i>	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 1:00:58</i>
F <i>(0-6)</i>	53	Increase the amount of drift gillnet gear allowed when two permit holders are jointly operating. <i>(Member Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>bb_12-5-15 - 1:01:24</i>
COMMERCIAL SALMON MANAGEMENT PLANS AND DISTRICT-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS (21 PROPOSALS)			
Egegik/Ugashik (2 proposals)			
F <i>(0-7)</i>	54	Close by the Egegik District Special Harvest Area to commercial salmon fishing for five days during times of high intercept fishing.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 - 0:01:43</i>
F <i>(0-7)</i>	55	Modify set gillnet operations in the Ugashik District.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 - 0:12:43</i>
Naknek/Kvichak (5 proposals)			
C/A <i>(7-0)</i>	56	Create an inriver Alagnak River Salmon Fishery Management Plan. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 143.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 - 0:15:23</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
F (0-7)	57	Create an inriver Kvichak River Salmon Fishery Management Plan.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 0:28:55</i>
N/A	58	Expand the boundaries of the Naknek Section of the Naknek-Kvichak District. <i>(No action taken based the proposer’s request to withdraw the proposal through RC128.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 0:42:51</i>
P (7-0)	59	Revise boundaries of closed waters at Graveyard Point in the Naknek-Kvichak District. <i>(The board approved postponing the proposal indefinitely until such time as it could convene a committee of the board to create criteria to guide the board in handling proposals dealing with coastal erosion and natural changes to the environment. See miscellaneous business below.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 0:43:53</i>
F (0-7)	60	Create a special harvest area in the Graveyard Creek area.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 1:09:52</i>
Nushagak (11 proposals)			
F (0-6)	61	Increase the minimum distance drift gillnet operations must maintain from a set gillnet operation in the Nushagak District. <i>(Member Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 2:38:50</i>
F (0-6)	62	Increase the minimum distance drift gillnet operations must maintain from a set gillnet operation in the Nushagak District. <i>(Member Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 2:55:38</i>
P (6-1)	63	Change the seaward minimum distance between set gillnet gear in the Clark’s Point area in the Nushagak District. <i>(The board approved postponing the proposal indefinitely until such time as it could convene a committee of the board to create criteria to guide the board in handling proposals dealing with coastal erosion and natural changes to the environment. See miscellaneous business below.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:05:13</i>
N/A	64	Increase fishing time for drift gillnet gear during incoming tides in the Nushagak District. <i>(Member Johnson recused. The board took no action based on the proposer’s request to withdraw the proposal through RC148.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:18:24</i>
F (0-7)	65	In the Nushagak District repeal emergency order authority to limit gillnet mesh to not exceed four and three-quarters inches.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:19:31</i>
C/A (7-0)	66	Amend the Nushagak River Coho Salmon Management Plan to establish a fixed escapement goal, change the fishery start date, and repeal language pertaining to pink salmon escapement. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 134.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:38:46</i>
N/A	67	Change the Nushagak River Coho Salmon Management Plan to reflect changes in escapement goals that have previously been implemented. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 66.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:46:21</i>
N/A	219	Address allocation impacts that may come from potential changes in escapement goals and trigger points in the Nushagak River Coho	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:46:28</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
		Salmon Management Plan. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 66.)</i>	
C/A (7-0)	68	Repeal Wood River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 145, and further amended to add the language “and to control escapement” as a second purpose for the subsection (c).)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 3:47:07</i>
F (0-6)	69	Amend the Wood River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan to eliminate management based on Nushagak District drift and set gillnet gear allocations. <i>(Member Johnson recused.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 4:02:59</i>
N/A	70	Modify the Wood River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan to open separate drift and set gillnet fishing periods based on achievement of gear allocation instead of a fixed seasonal fishing period ratio. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposals 68 and 69.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 4:18:53</i>
Togiak (3 proposals)			
F (0-7)	75	Reduce the amount of time that certain waters in the Togiak District are closed to commercial fishing for salmon with a drift gillnet.	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 4:20:21</i>
C (7-0)	76	Change the current description of the Osviak Section in the Togiak District by correcting a GPS coordinate in the description.	<i>Meeting 12-04-15 - 3:13:00</i>
C/A (7-0)	77	Change the Togiak District Salmon Management Plan to reflect recent department escapement goal changes, and remove coho and king salmon goals. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 132.)</i>	<i>Meeting 12-07-15 – 4:27:06</i>
SUBSISTENCE, SPORT, COMMERCIAL HERRING (12 PROPOSALS)			
Bristol Bay Subsistence (4 proposals)			
C/A (7-0)	78	Change the boundaries, methods of harvest, and seasons for subsistence harvests of sockeye salmon in the Naknek River drainage. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 136.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:10:08</i>
C/A (7-0)	79	Eliminate subsistence fishing period for the Naknek, Egegik, and Ugashik Rivers to allow subsistence salmon fishery to occur any time. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 141.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:15:11</i>
C (7-0)	81	Define subsistence fishing boundaries so that the 10 fathom net restriction applies to Dillingham beaches and the 25 fathom net length restriction applies elsewhere, and remove reference to department regulatory markers.	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:19:56</i>
C/A (7-0)	82	Establish and adopt amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence uses for herring spawn on kelp in waters of the Togiak District. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 73.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:24:55</i>
Bristol Bay Sport Fisheries (5 proposals)			
C/A	83	Allow the traditional harvest of whitefish and non-salmon	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:31:51</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	Proposal	Description	
(7-0)		subsistence fish in specific waters of the Newhalen River. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 157.)</i>	
C (7-0)	84	Establish non-retention king salmon sport fishing in the Big Creek drainage of the Naknek River drainage.	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:39:13</i>
N/A	85	Redefine the sport fishing boundary description for non-retention of king salmon in the Big Creek drainage. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 84.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:45:49</i>
N/A	86	Implement a mail-in requirement for all king salmon harvest tickets in Bristol Bay sport fisheries. <i>(No action taken based on a lack of statutory authority.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:46:51</i>
F (0-7)	87	Eliminate the use of egg-simulating lures in rainbow trout fishing.	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:50:36</i>
<i>Bristol Bay Herring (3 proposals)</i>			
C (7-0)	88	Change the regulatory description for herring purse seine and hand purse seine.	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 0:59:53</i>
C/A (7-0)	89	Delete references to sac roe in the Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan. <i>(Amended through substitute language found in RC 150. The board also provided direction to clarify its intent regarding the meaning of “other herring products”.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 1:02:48</i>
N/A	90	Change the management plan to allow the department to waive the catch allocation requirement for gillnet and purse seine fleets. <i>(No action taken based on action taken on Proposal 89.)</i>	<i>bb_12-8-15 – 1:14:06</i>

* The audio tracking information correlates with the meeting audio available at the bottom of each meeting page. The entry “bof_worksession_10_15_14” indicates the meeting day. The start time indicates when board discussion on the proposal began according to the meeting audio.

Miscellaneous Business

1. 2017 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish Meeting Location: The board failed to pass a motion (2-5) to move the 2017 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting from Anchorage to the Kenai/Soldotna area *bb_12-8-15 – 1:16:23*

2. Yukon Panel Report: Member Huntington provided an update to the board regarding his efforts and involvement in the Yukon Panel. The board approved his continued work with the panel. *bb_12-8-15 – 1:50:31*

3. Erosion Criteria and Temporary Committee: The board discussed its lack of criteria to be followed when deliberating on proposals impacted by coastal erosion and changes in the natural environment. To assist in developing criteria for handling regulatory changes due to coastal erosion, the board appointed Members Morisky and Mumford to a temporary committee. The Committee on Coastal Erosion *bb_12-8-15 – 1:52:25*



Impacts on Set Gillnet Operations, authorized through 2015-279-FB, will work with representatives from the departments of Law and Natural Resources, and affected stakeholders, will work to develop criteria. The committee will provide an interim report to the board at the upcoming Alaska-Yukon-Kuskokwim Finfish meeting.

4. Delegation on Changing Regulations to Incorporate Fish Resource Permits within 5 AAC 41: The board approved a delegation of authority to the department to merge current regulations for the collection of fish resource permits into regulations for fish transport permits. No substantive change is anticipated and the Division of Sport Fish will carry out the regulatory change. This is viewed as a streamlining of regulations and done in support of the Administrative Order 266 to streamline regulations.

*bb_12-8-15 –
2:00:50*