



ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Work Session

October 18–20, 2016

Soldotna Regional Sports Complex, Kenai-Soldotna

AGENDA CHANGE REQUESTS
PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

(This summary is informational only. The actions indicated below will have legal effects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board. All references to meeting materials, including this summary, may be located on the Board of Fisheries meeting website at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo&date=10-18-2016&meeting=kenai>.)

Board Members Present

John Jensen, Chair

Robert Ruffner

Sue Jeffrey, Vice Chair

Israel Payton

Orville Huntington

Reed Morisky

Al Cain

C=Carried, F=Failed

Agenda Change Requests (12)

SUBJECT (# Proposals)			Audio tracking info*
Action	ACR	Description	
Statewide Sport Fishing Guide Licensing and Reporting (1)			<i>Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 2:40:42</i>
C <i>(7-0)</i>	1	Align regulations for sport fishing services and sport fishing guide services in salt water with those in statute and update fresh water guide registration and reporting regulations (5 AAC 75.075, 5 AAC 75.076, 5 AAC 75.077, and 5 AAC 75.085).	
Unalaska Bay Sport and Subsistence Salmon Fisheries (2)			<i>Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 2:51:37</i>
F <i>(1-6)</i>	2	Increase the duration of the 250 yard sport fish closure around the mouth of the Summer Bay Lake outlet stream, decrease the sockeye salmon bag limit from two per day to one per day, and establish these same restrictions around the mouth of Morris Cove Lake outlet stream (5 AAC 65.020 and 5 AAC 65.051).	
C <i>(7-0)</i>	3	Decrease the number of sockeye salmon that may be retained in the subsistence salmon fishery on Front Beach in the Unalaska Bay	<i>Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:01:49</i>



SUBJECT (# Proposals)			<i>Audio tracking info*</i>
Action	ACR	Description	
		District to no more than 10 fish (5 AAC 01.380).	
South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (1)			
F (1-6)	4	Reduce fishing time allowed under the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, to reduce commercial king salmon harvest to historical levels (5 AAC 09.365).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:13:48
Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Commercial Fishery (1)			
F (2-5)	5	Change the opening date for seine gear in the Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery from July 15 to July 1 (5 AAC 27.610).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:25:31
Kenai River Personal Use Salmon Fishery (1)			
F (0-7)	6	Create vessel restrictions for the Kenai River personal use dipnet fishery (5 AAC 77.540).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:35:08
Cook Inlet Drift Gillnet Specifications (1)			
F (0-7)	7	Remove 45-mesh depth restriction for drift gillnets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery (5 AAC 21.331).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:46:37
Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Commercial Fishery (1)			
F (0-7)	8	Change Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery season closure date from May 1 to May 15 (5 AAC 34.610).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 3:50:48
Southeast Alaska Commercial Herring Fishery (1)			
F (0-7)	9	Determine regulatory responsibility for allowing a new harvesting method in the Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery.	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 4:08:02
Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict Sablefish Commercial Fishery (1)			
F (3-4)	10	Allow holders of Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish fishery Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry longline permits to use pot gear and reopen the season for longline gear after September 25 (5 AAC 28.110, 5 AAC 28.130).	Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 4:19:44
Kendrick Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan (1)			
F (0-7)	11	Amend the Kendrick Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan to reduce harvest of local sockeye salmon stocks (5 AAC 33.377).	Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 0:06:11
Yukon River Subsistence Salmon Fishery (1)			
F (0-7)	12	Provide emergency order authority to allow retention of king salmon from dip net and beach seine gear when subsistence fishing is restricted during times of king salmon conservation (5 AAC 01.220).	Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 0:17:29



* The audio tracking information correlates with the meeting audio available at the bottom of each meeting page. The entry “Day 2, October 19, 2016” indicates the meeting day. The start time indicates when board discussion on the proposal began according to the meeting audio.

Other Board Action/Issues/Discussion:

1. **Election of Officials:** John Jensen was voted as Chair by unanimous consent. Sue Jeffrey was voted as Vice-Chair 4-3 in a run off with Reed Morisky. *Day 1, October 18,
2016 – 0:07:21*

2. **Public Testimony:** When setting its 2016/2017 meeting cycle schedule at its 2014 work session, the board selected Anchorage as the location for the 2017 Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) meeting. In order to provide an opportunity for residents of the Kenai Peninsula to speak to the board about in-cycle Cook Inlet proposals, the board provided an opportunity for public comment at its work session. Forty-two individuals provided public testimony on Day 1 of the three day meeting. *Day 1, October 18,
2016 – 0:12:29*

3. **2016/2017 Committee Assignments:** The Board Chair made 2016/2017 committee assignments as outlined in record copy (RC) 35. Assignments include – *Day 2, October 19,
2016 – 0:19:24*
 - a. Committees, Jeffrey/Chair, Jensen, Ruffner
 - b. Board of Fisheries/Board of Game, Cain/Chair, Huntington, Morisky, Jensen (Alternate)
 - c. Federal/State Subsistence, Huntington/Chair, Jensen, Jeffrey
 - d. Habitat, Payton/Chair, Morisky, Huntington
 - e. Joint BOF/NPFMC Protocol, Jensen/Chair, Jeffrey, Payton
 - f. Legislation, Morisky/Chair, Cain, Ruffner

4. **ADF&G Escapement Goal and Stock of Concern Review:** The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) staff provided information on Escapement Goals and Stocks of Concern. All reports can be found on the Board of Fisheries website under RCs 3-8. *Day 2, October 19,
2016 – 0:24:50*

5. **State of the Kings:** ADF&G provided a report on king salmon status around the state. The report included findings on fresh and marine water survival, production and escapement, and size and return per spawner information. The presentation is found under RC 9. *Day 2, October 19,
2016 – 1:33:48*

6. **Federal Waters:** The board noted the inclusion in meeting material as RC 18 of a North Pacific Fishery Management Council newsletter describing its recent actions. *Day 2, October 19,
2016 – 2:00:39*

7. **Federal Subsistence Board update:** The Office of Subsistence Management provided an overview of the current slate of fisheries proposals before the Federal Subsistence Board in 2016/2017. More information is provided in public comment (PC) 44. *Day 2: October 19,
2016 – 2:00:59*

8. **Federal/State Subsistence Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Review Update:** ADF&G provided a brief report on the status and timeline for the MOU revision project between federal and state agencies. More information, including a copy of the draft MOU out for review with Regional Advisory Councils and Advisory *Day 2: October 19,
2016 – 2:13:33*



Committees, may be found in RC 15.

9. **2017/2018 Call for Proposals Approval:** The board approved the 2017/2018 call for proposals. The call for proposals will be made in late November or early December and will be for the following regions and fisheries: *Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 2:15:40*
- a. All finfish for all uses in the Prince William Sound / Upper Copper & Upper Susitna River regions.
 - b. All finfish and shellfish for all uses in the Southeast and Yakutat regions.
 - c. All Dungeness, shrimp, and other miscellaneous shellfish in all regions except Southeast and Yakutat.
10. **2018/2019 Meeting Locations and Dates:** The board established the following locations and dates for its 2018/2019 meetings. *Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 2:19:08*
- a. Work session, Anchorage, October 17-18, 2018.
 - b. Bristol Bay Finfish, Dillingham, November 28-December 4, 2018.
 - c. Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim Finfish, Anchorage, January 15-19, 2019.
 - d. Alaska Peninsula / Chignik / Aleutian Islands Finfish, Anchorage, February 21-27, 2019.
 - e. Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues, Anchorage, March 8-11, 2019.
11. **Review and changes to the 2016/2017 Meeting Schedule:** The board reviewed its workload for the 2016/2017 meeting schedule based on the number of proposals set for each meeting. Based on that review, the board determined under its miscellaneous agenda no change in its current schedule is advisable at this time. *Day 2, October 19, 2016 – 2:38:13*
- Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:25:57*
12. **ACR Scheduling:** The board determined which scheduled regulatory meetings to review accepted ACRs as follows: *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 0:33:29*
- a. ACR 1 was scheduled for the Lower Cook Inlet meeting in Homer, November 30-December 3, 2016.
 - b. ACR 3 was scheduled for the Statewide Finfish meeting in Anchorage, March 20-24, 2017.
13. **Board generated proposal:** The board reviewed three board generated proposals for adoption. It adopted two of these proposals for review at meetings later in the cycle. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 0:36:27*
- Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:28:50*

Action	Description	RC#	Scheduled for
C (7-0)	Kuskokwim Non-Salmon Subsistence Use of 4" Mesh	38	Upper Cook Inlet February 23-March 8, 2017
C (6-0)	Bering Sea Tanner Crab Fishery Harvest Strategy (<i>Jeffrey recused on an ethics determination</i>).	40	Kodiak January 10-13, 2017
F (2-5)	50hp Limitations on Kenai River	42	n/a



Board of Fisheries
2016 Work Session
Summary of Actions

- 14. Stock of Concern Recovery Plan Concept:** Prompted by a non-regulatory proposal listed as E in the miscellaneous section of the board's workbook, the board initiated a discussion with the department on how salmon species listed as stocks of concern are eventually delisted. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:29:46*
- 15. Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy in Title 16:** The board discussed a non-regulatory proposal listed as N in the miscellaneous section of the board's workbook, which seeks that the board write to the Legislature supporting portions of the board's *Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy* be added to Alaska Statute Title 16 for the purpose of guiding habitat permitting activities. The board decided to jointly convene its Habitat and Legislation committees on November 29 in Homer prior to its Lower Cook Inlet meeting to review the subject in greater detail. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:41:17*
- 16. Crab Observer Oversight Task Force:** The board's Crab Observer Oversight Task Force, set up in 1999 and reauthorized for the third time in March 2014, sought the appointment of Craig Lowenberg to replace a resigning member. Mr. Lowenberg's recommendation is provided under PC 5. The board approved the recommendation. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:54:32*
- 17. Letter to CFEC Regarding Southeast Sablefish Longline Permit Conversion:** The board agreed to send a letter to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission to consider allowing pot gear to be used under limited entry longline permits by conducting a regulatory review on the subject. A draft letter is provided under RC 44. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 1:55:54*
- 18. Update on eLogBooks:** ADF&G provided an update on its eLogBooks program, an online reporting system available for sport fishing guides to report harvest records. The department began testing the system with freshwater guides in 2015 and conducted a pilot study in 2016. In 2017, all freshwater guides may request to use the program, while the program expands to saltwater guides in a testing capacity. *Day 3, October 20, 2016 – 2:07:41*

Other items:

The board received opening remarks on Day 3 from District O's Senator Peter Micciche. Representative Mike Chenault, Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor Mike Navarre, and Board of Game Chairman Ted Spraker also attended portions of the meeting. The board went into executive session on Day 3.