



State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game Board of Fisheries

Public is Welcome

The State of Alaska has one of the most open systems in the nation, if not the world, for public input into the state's fishery policies. The public often plays a key role in proposing changes, reviewing and commenting on proposals, and working with the Department of Fish & Game to develop management plans.

The Board of Fisheries

Members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature to three-year terms.

Meeting Cycles

The Board meetings usually take place between October and March. The Board of Fisheries reviews areas and certain topics on a fixed three-year cycle. Cook Inlet sport fisheries, for example, are scheduled to be examined in 2004/2005, then again in 2007/2008.

However, through an "Agenda Change Request" or through emergency petition, the Board may take up issues "out of cycle."

A "call for proposals" is issued every winter and specifies which topics or areas will be open for regulatory change and when proposals are due (usually in April). After proposals are

received, the ADF&G Boards Support Section compiles them for comment (usually in making decisions on the proposals).

Check with Boards Support Section on the deadline to sign up for public testimony.

ADF&G and local Fish & Game Advisory Committees also provide comments on proposals.

Fish & Game Advisory Committees

Fish & Game Advisory Committee members are the "local experts" for the Board of Fisheries. AC meetings provide a local forum for discussing and recommending regulatory changes.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate in AC meetings. Some committees meet every month while others meet less often.

There are 81 Fish and Game Advisory Committees in Alaska. ACs range in size from five to 15 members. Each member must be at least 18 years old, maintain a residence in the area he/she represents, and be knowledgeable about local resources. ACs hold annual elections to fill vacant seats. The community nominates and elects the members.

Southcentral Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

There are 18 Southcentral Alaska Advisory Committees:

- ◆ Anchorage
- ◆ Central Peninsula
- ◆ Cooper Landing
- ◆ Copper Basin
- ◆ Copper River/Prince William Sound
- ◆ Denali
- ◆ Homer
- ◆ Kenai/Soldotna
- ◆ Kodiak
- ◆ Matanuska Valley
- ◆ Mt. Yenlo
- ◆ Paxson
- ◆ Seldovia
- ◆ Seward
- ◆ Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road
- ◆ Tyonek
- ◆ Valdez
- ◆ Whittier

Getting Involved

You or your organization can submit proposals directly to the Board of Fisheries; submit written and/or oral testimony to the Board of Fisheries; and/or attend (or perhaps serve on) your local Fish & Game Advisory Committee meetings.

Meeting schedules, topics, and proposal deadlines are available on the Boards Support website or from any ADF&G Office.

Board of Fisheries Members:

Ed Dersham, Chair

#7 Holly Lane, PO Box 537

Anchor Point, AK 99556
Term Expires 6/30/2006

Fred Bouse

4020 Dunlap Ave
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Term Expires 6/30/2006

Art Nelson

2132 Clark St.
Anchorage, AK 99504
Term Expires 6/30/2004

Russell Nelson

PO Box 161
Dillingham, AK 99576
Term Expires 6/30/2004

Rupe Andrews

9416 Long Run Dr.
Juneau, AK 99801
Term Expires 6/30/2005

John Jensen

Box 681
Petersburg, AK 99833
Term Expires 6/30/2005

Mel Morris

Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
Term Expires 6/30/2005

Or Contact: Southcentral Region Boards Support in Anchorage at (907) 267-2354 or Juneau Boards Support Section (907) 465-4110, P.O. Box 25525, Juneau, AK 99802

On the Internet:

www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/FISH.GAME/boards/fishinfo/bofhome.htm

How to Fill out the Board Proposal Form

The same form is used by both the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game. Always feel free to contact any Alaska Department of Fish and Game office if you have questions or need help

1. Begin in the top left hand corner and check the box labeled **FISHING AREA**.
2. Write in the fishing area, i.e., Cook Inlet, Bristol Bay, Kodiak, etc....
3. Check the appropriate box for the type of fishery your proposal addresses. Fishery types are **SUBSISTENCE, SPORT, PERSONAL USE, or COMMERCIAL**.
4. Ignore the three boxes under "Joint Board Regulations"

You are now to the proposal portion of the form. This portion is split into seven sections.

5. Section #1 - asks for the appropriate Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) regulation number and the regulation book page number. If you know the AAC number fill it in. If you do not know the correct AAC number (and most folks don't) either leave it blank or contact your local ADF&G biologist for help!
6. Section #2 - describe the problem you would like the Board of Fisheries to address.
7. Section #3 - briefly describe what will happen if the Board of Fisheries does NOT solve your problem.
8. Section #4 - Print or type your proposal as you would like to see it appear in the regulation book. New or amended language should appear first and be underlined. Deleted wording from existing regulations should be CAPITALIZED and enclosed in [BRACKETS]. Again, if you need help, contact your local ADF&G office.
9. Section #5 - This section asks you to consider how your proposal may improve the quality of the resource or products produced, if at all.
10. Section #6 - This section asks you to list who would benefit and who would suffer if it was passed. A well-thought-out proposal identifies the group or groups that will be impacted.
11. Section #7 - List any and all other alternative ideas or solutions to your proposal that you thought about.
12. Legibly write the name of the organization, if any, or individual who is submitting this proposal. This name (names) will be published in the proposal summary booklet. **The Board of Fisheries will not consider anonymous proposals.**
13. Fill in your address, zip code, and phone number. These **ARE NOT** printed in the proposal summary booklet but are needed in case a question arises.
14. Mail the completed form to the address at the top of the proposal form: **State Of Alaska, Boards of Fisheries and Game, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526** or submit the proposal form in person to one of the regional Boards Support offices. In Anchorage, contact Sherry Wright 267-2354 or fax 267-2489. Coordinators are also located in Dillingham, Fairbanks, Kotzebue, or Juneau.

Southeast Region

Margaret Edens
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802
(907) 465-4110 ph
(907) 465-6094 fax

Southwest Region

Joe Chythlook
P.O. Box 1030
Dillingham, AK 99576
(907) 842-5142 ph
(907) 842-5514 fax

Southcentral Region

Sherry Wright
333 Raspberry Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99518
(907)267-2354 ph
(907) 267-2489 fax

Western Region

Ida Alexie
P.O. Box 1788
Bethel, AK 99559
(907) 543-4467 ph
(907) 543-4477 fax

Arctic Region

Susan Bucknell
P.O. Box 689
Kotzebue, AK 99752
(907) 442-1717 ph
(907) 442-2420 fax

Interior Region

Jim Marcotte
1300 College Rd.
Fairbanks, AK 99701
(907) 459-7215 ph
(907) 474-8558 fax

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If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire further information please write to ADF&G, P.O. Box 25526, Juneau, AK 99802-5526; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300 Webb, Arlington, VA 22203; or O.E.O., U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240.

For information on alternative formats for this and other department publications, please contact the department ADA Coordinator at (voice) 907-465-4120, (TDD) 907-465-3646, or (FAX) 907-465-2440.