



Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) Science, Technology, and Innovation Committee May 27, 2022, 9:00 AM (AST) Meeting Minutes

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84905179386?pwd=TkJSU2JEcTVXOG9DMGpiTUFOcDhIQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 0517 9386

Passcode: 052022

Committee members: Ragnar Alstrom, Linda Kozak, Stephanie Madsen, Peter Micciche, Tommy Sheridan (Chair).

1. Call to order: Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) Science, Technology, and Innovation Committee meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Chair Tommy Sheridan.

2. Roll call of committee and ABRT members:

Committee members present: Ragnar Alstrom, Linda Kozak, Stephanie Madsen, Peter Micciche, Tommy Sheridan (Chair).

ABRT Members present: Chair John Jensen.

3. Approve agenda: May 27, 2022, approved.

4. Approve minutes: none to approve.

5. Old business:

a. Acknowledgement of purpose and scope (draft attached).

i) Review of "ABRT Work Plan and Subcommittees" (attached).

ii) "Subcommittee leaders will work with the science/technology/innovation committee to identify the best available science and to provide resources and/or invite subject experts to present relevant information to the subcommittee."

Committee comments and discussion of organization and future recommendations included:

- Get information requests in earlier. Post agendas and documents online sooner.
- Determine information and data requests other committees have for this group.
- Recommend observer program reports at next full ABRT committee meeting.

- Subcommittee should bring ideas together to form recommendations for full task force.
- Summarize federal and state bycatch mitigation efforts currently in place.
- Identify data gaps. Make recommendations on research and management measures that NPFMC can adopt.
- Compile suggestions for research and funding gaps from the other committees to make recommendations on how the state could develop their own process, such as NPFMC.
- Take a role in helping the public understand complex report data and publications.
- Provide notice on how to attend NPFMC meeting when bycatch talks are happening.

b) Discussion RE: ADF&G committee support and collaboration:

David Loomis was introduced as a new ADF&G employee who will assist providing support to ABRT. **Kozak** proposed that the state develops a bycatch clearinghouse on website. Links such as NOAA bycatch numbers could also be added to the current ABRT web site.

c) Review committee meeting schedule (draft attached).

It was identified that there is a conflict with the proposed July 1 meeting.

d) Committee requests received:

Several of the requests as presented on the meeting agenda had already been addressed in other committees or were in the queue for future committee meetings. For example, during the May 26 Western Alaska Salmon Committee meeting, a presentation was provided regarding swimming behaviors of Chinook salmon versus pollock.

6. Public comment: three-minute (3) limit to individual comments:

Chris Woodley: addressing comments in chat. Important to remember much of the data available on the Internet is not written for a general audience. Only providing links to complex data and research documents can lead to misinterpretation of results. Recommends committee or ABRT website to provide summary of linked articles and data sets, written in layman's terms that can be easily interpreted.

Nasisaq (Krystalynn Nasisaq Scott): recommended that the ABRT provide more access to links and files for research studies, and to enhance the data available. Provide to public media outlets. Compile data and provide factually accurate outline. Identify discrepancies in data and address what/why they exist with easy interpretation.

Jimmy Hurley: commented on management of the Nushagak River. Commercial closures have helped sustain good returns of Chinook salmon. NPFMC has good data available. Concerned about Chinook salmon declines in Western Alaska. Appreciates the committee's work to address salmon declines.

Rebecca Skinner: Questions ability to summarize research and discussion papers down to simplified synopsis for posting to ABRT page. Believes more feasible to create a clearinghouse to provide relevant links. Useful to create a summary catalog of previous meetings to guide people

to recordings and posted material. Science committee should provide foundation for other committees to work on.

Laine Welch (via chat): Regarding media distribution. Have local public radio and newspapers post meeting announcements. Make meetings more accessible to public.

7. Committee comments:

Kozak noted it was a good idea to look at management efforts about what different regions are doing to mitigate bycatch in their area. Suggested reorganizing the ADF&G ABRT webpage to get all presentations in one location.

Committee recommends that the Chair talk to and collaborate with GOA Salmon and Halibut Subcommittee and other committee Chairs to coordinate presentations, discussion topics and needs from other committees to facilitate the most productive future meetings.

8. Next Meeting Date: June 15, 2022, at 1:00 PM.

9. Adjournment at 10:32 AM.