

**OVERVIEW OF THE
LOCAL FISH AND GAME
ADVISORY COMMITTEE SYSTEM**

October 5, 2007

**BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

**Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Meeting
Anchorage, Alaska
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* Note, Western Region committees included in reports on Southcentral, Southwest, and Interior region overviews.

Statewide Overview of Advisory Committee System October, 2007

Jim Marcotte, Board of Fisheries Executive Director
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Boards Support Section

ABOUT BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION

The Board Support Section administers the advisory committee system and ensures the general public is provided an opportunity to participate in the state's regulatory process. We are the smallest section within the department, with a total of 10 employees. There are six of us in the Juneau office and we have seasonal staff in four regional offices (Kotzebue, Dillingham, Fairbanks, and Anchorage). The regional coordinators provide technical and logistical support for the local fish and game advisory committees and serve as the main contact for state fish and game regulatory information for staff from state and federal agencies and for the public. Travel and per diem expenses for committee members to attend committee meetings and for one representative to attend Board of Fisheries and Board of Game meetings are included in our funding base.

INTRODUCTION

The Joint Boards have created a total of 81 local fish and game advisory committees throughout the state. Most are active, although about 12 have been inactive in recent years. For those that have been active, there is a wide range of meeting frequency and participation during board meetings. Some meet monthly and regularly comment on both hunting and fishing topics, while others meet sporadically based on the boards' regulatory cycles or meet on an as needed basis when local issues develop.

The committees play an important role in advising the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game by providing information from local areas. The committees receive coordination and administrative support from the Boards Support Section staff as well as assistance from department staff in other divisions.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The statutory authority for advisory committees comes from AS 16.05.260.

AS 16.05.260 Advisory Committees. The Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game may adopt regulations they consider advisable in accordance with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act) establishing, at places in the state designated by the individual boards, advisory committees to be composed of persons well informed on the fish or game resources of the locality. The boards shall set the number and terms of each of the members of the advisory committees, shall delegate one member of each committee as chairman, and shall give the chairman authority to hold public hearings on fish or game matters. Recommendations from the advisory committees shall be forwarded to the appropriate board for their consideration but if the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game chooses not to follow the recommendations of the local advisory

committee the appropriate board shall inform the appropriate advisory committee of this action and state the reasons for not following the recommendations. The commissioner shall delegate authority to advisory committees for emergency closures during established seasons. The commissioner is empowered to set aside and make null and void only opening of seasons set by the advisory committees under this section. The appropriate board shall adopt the necessary regulations governing these closures.

The regulatory authority for advisory committees comes from portions of Title 5, Chapter 96 of the Alaska Administrative Code, including:

5 AAC 96.010. ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE SYSTEM. There is established a system of local fish and game advisory committees to provide a local forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to the management of fish and wildlife resources.

5 AAC 96.050. FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEES. A committee may

- (1) develop regulatory proposals for submission to the appropriate board;
- (2) evaluate regulatory proposals submitted to them and make recommendations to the appropriate board;
- (3) provide a local forum for fish and wildlife conservation and use, including any matter related to fish and wildlife habitat;
- (4) advise the appropriate regional council regarding the conservation, development, and use of fish and wildlife resources;
- (5) work with the appropriate regional council to develop subsistence management plans and harvest strategy proposals; and
- (6) cooperate and consult with interested persons and organizations, including government agencies, to accomplish (1) - (5) of this section.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The advisory committee system has been in existence since statehood and has expanded over the years. In 1981, there were 67 committees with a total of 665 members. Today there are 81 committees with a total of 825 members throughout the state, some of whom have served for over 25 years.

A 1981 report (Zahn 1981) on the overall effectiveness of the committee system noted several issues, many of which are still pertinent some 26 years later:

- Would an overall limit on the number of committees be useful?
- Should closely adjacent committees have separate committees?
- Is racial balance on committees and issue within Board purview?
- Would separate committees for fisheries and for game be more effective?
- Should inactive committees be dissolved?
- Should Boards expect to settle intra committee disputes regarding conduct at meetings?

Budget reductions in 1992 resulted in fewer staff positions within Boards Support Section and a shift in committee support in three regions (Southeast, Southcentral, and Interior). Department staff from other divisions were assigned the tasks associated with supporting and coordinating the 54 advisory committees that were affected. Funding was restored in

1995 and seasonal regional coordinator positions were re-established in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

In 2003, the Bethel office was closed and support for the four advisory committees in the Western Region was assigned to Boards staff in Dillingham, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.

Budget reductions in 2003 also necessitated reducing the number of meetings to only one meeting a year for those committees with travel costs. Funding was restored by the legislature in 2006, which has allowed committees to hold two meetings annually. This has been a significant help for insuring the advisory committees are able to adequately perform their statutory functions.

JOINT BOARD MEETINGS SINCE 1985

The Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game met to consider proposals on advisory committee regulations in 1985, 1990, 1991, 1997, and 1998 (Table 1). Other Joint Board meetings have been called to address topics of common jurisdiction to both boards such as area-wide management plans, to respond to changes in the state's subsistence law, and to establish nonsubsistence areas.

TABLE 1. JOINT BOARD MEETINGS AND WORK SESSIONS, 1985 TO PRESENT

Date	Location	Topics
March 1985	Anchorage	23 proposals on advisory committees
November 1985	Anchorage	subsistence procedures and habitat protection
March 1990	Anchorage	39 proposals on advisory committees
October 1990	Anchorage	new "All Alaskan" policy on subsistence
February 1991	Juneau	26 proposals on advisory committees
October 1992	Anchorage	work session
November 1992	Anchorage	non-subsistence area determinations
March 1993	Juneau	non-subsistence area revisions, Kachemak Bay Management Plan
April 3-5, 1997	Anchorage	initial action on 19 proposals on advisory committees, additional proposals including Bristol Bay Reserve
Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 1998	Anchorage	final action on 19 proposals
March 21, 2006	Anchorage	Proposal on AC member qualifications

Note, this table does not include the periodic Joint Board meetings convened for purposes of the commissioner selection process.

During meetings in March 1990 and February 1991, the Joint Board considered proposals for modifying specific advisory committees and for addressing general advisory committee rules of operation.

In 1995, the Joint Board issued a call for proposals on the advisory committee system and considered 21 proposals during meetings in 1997 and 1998. The Joint Board made adjustments to the seats on four advisory committees, established two new committees (Central AC and East Prince of Wales AC), and dissolved one inactive committee (English Bay/Port Graham AC) for a net gain of one committee bringing the total number to 81. None of the proposals addressing committee procedures or committee-board interaction were adopted; however, remaining procedural issues were referred to the separate boards. Indirect outcomes of the 1995-1998 review included implementing more stringent requirements for Board of Fisheries agenda change requests as well as non-regulatory changes such as initial development of the Board of Fisheries' committee process and updating the advisory committee manual.

In October 2001 the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game initiated another review of the state's advisory committee system by establishing a task force charged with performing a "scoping function" by identifying issues and examining ways to strengthen the AC system. The 12-member task force had statewide representation that included 11 active or former AC members and an eco-tour operator. The task force held two meetings, both in April 2002. The resulting report was forwarded to each board in December 2002 (*see RC 8*). The task force identified a variety of topics and concerns, most of which fell into the following categories:

- changes that require regulatory or legislative action
- changes in the board process
- items the department could affect through its support, coordination, or training
- changes dependent on additional funding

The Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game took the task force recommendation under advisement but did not schedule a meeting to consider regulatory action due to budget and scheduling limitations until recently.

PLANNING FOR THE OCTOBER 2007 JOINT BOARD MEETING

In March 2006, the two boards met together briefly to consider a proposal on advisory committee member qualifications. Action on this proposal was deferred to this meeting (*see Proposal 26*). During the March 2006 meeting both boards expressed interest in initiating another review of the advisory committee system. Each assigned two members to develop an appropriate schedule. Representatives from each board met in July and August 2006 to set a meeting schedule and determine which topics to include in the call for proposals.

The boards decided to issue a "focused" call for proposals and specifically ask for proposals that would "enhance the effectiveness of the advisory committee system". To do this, the Joint Board asked for options to consolidate committees:

- A) where multiple committees represent the same geographic area or share in the use of the same fish stocks and game populations;
- B) where committees have been inactive for two or more years; or

C) where a change in committee structure would better facilitate resolving resource issues at the local level before coming to the boards.

The Joint Board also asked for proposals on nonsubsistence areas (5 AAC 99.105), which were last considered in 1992 and 1993.

The call was issued in August 2006 and a proposal deadline of December 8, 2006 was set. The proposal booklet was posted on the department website and distributed by mail in January 2007, which has allowed for a public review period of eight months.

The boards received 23 proposals on the structure of advisory committee system, 13 on the guidelines for committee operation, and 2 on nonsubsistence areas. The Joint Board added Proposal A in order to address public comment procedures.

Because this group of proposals has the potential to directly affect fish and game advisory committees throughout the state, the department took additional steps to bring the proposals to the attention of committees and local communities. A letter was mailed to communities where committees have been inactive, a letter was mailed to all advisory committees, and efforts were made by the Boards Support Section regional coordinators to contact former committee members. This outreach effort resulted in several previously inactive committees submitting comments or sending a representative to this meeting.

The Joint Board has received written comments from 26 committees prior to the meeting, and a similar number of committees have sent representatives to this meeting.

GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SYSTEM ISSUES

For two regions of the state, the level of direct assistance for advisory by the Boards Support Section has been less than we would like. Support for the 23 committees in the Southeast Region is provided by our two publications staff as an extra assignment to their main duties. As noted above, the Bethel office was closed in 2003 and support for the four advisory committees in the Western Region was assigned to Boards Support staff in Dillingham, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.

Federal management of subsistence on federal public lands and waters claimed to be under federal jurisdiction for subsistence purposes, with the resulting "dual management", has added to the workload of the advisory committees, particularly for those near federal lands, trying to understand and participate in two regulatory systems. Ongoing education about the state's jurisdiction and subsistence management is important for continued effectiveness of advisory committees. The state has received funding from the federal ANILCA program for coordination, first in a pilot program in 2001 and now on a regular basis, which has allowed for advisory committee member travel to federal regional council meetings. This increased coordination has been very helpful for the advisory committees.

The state funded regional council system has not been active since 1992, the year when federal agencies established the federal regional council system. The lack of state regional council meetings has resulted in a reduced networking among advisory committee chairs at the regional level. However, adjacent committees can and often do hold meetings jointly to address topics of common interest.

Some of the advisory committee members in western Alaska have asked for an *honorarium* or *stipend* to compensate for their time when attending meetings. The state does provide reimbursement for travel expenses (meals and travel) for all AC members based on the state travel per diem formula, but reimbursement does not apply for single-day travel within 50 miles of home. The Joint Board supported legislative funding for a stipend for advisory committee members (*see Joint Board resolution 98-31-JB*), however funding has not been appropriated.

Both the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game afford advisory committee representatives a longer time period during the public testimony portion of the meetings, generally 15 minutes. During the Board of Fisheries committee process, advisory committee representatives are recognized as ex-officio members of all public panels and advisory committee representatives may move between the board committees as they choose. Both boards have the ability to invite advisory committee members back to the table for additional fact finding or for an advisory committee's response to an amendment if the board decides that the additional response would help inform the board prior to its final action.

Nearly all of the fish and game advisory committees have 15 members, which is the maximum specified by the Joint Board. For some, the regulations specify a smaller number of seats, such as 11, 9, or 7. For a few additional committees have chosen operate with a smaller number of seats than currently specified in regulation based on local practical considerations.

In the event that the Joint Board does take action on any of the proposals addressing the advisory committee system, there may be questions about when the implementation of any new regulations might take affect and how would it impact committees during the current meeting cycle. This may be a consideration the board would want to explore further with staff, the regulations specialist and the Department of Law, but one option would be to specify an implementation date in April such that the committees and department would have ample time to hold elections for any committee seats that may change.

OTHER

Copies of the advisory committee regulations (Chapter 96) can be found in:
RC 4 Tab 9,
the large regulation book starting on Page 968, and
copies are available on the table in the back of the room.

**Southeast Region
Advisory Committee Report
Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game
October, 2007**

Scott Crass
Southeast Regional Coordinator

There are 23 advisory committees in Southeast Alaska, 14 are currently active. The Southeast area includes game management units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The Boards Support Section does not have a specific regional coordinator position assigned to these committees. Instead, the committees have been split between two headquarters staff who fulfill other duties. I am responsible for the eleven communities north of Sumner Strait, and the remaining committees in southern southeast are covered by Shannon Stone.

Committees in Southeast Alaska are traditionally, predominantly active in fisheries issues, however, many are also active in game management. For example, because of the harsh preceding winter there has been widespread concern about the deer populations. Some committees in rural Southeast find that the federal regional advisory council system meets their needs. Some advisory committee members also serve on the federal Southeast Regional Advisory Council.

During the 2005/2006 cycle the Alaska Board of Fisheries met in Ketchikan to consider changes to Southeast fisheries. Most active committees met twice to address proposals that affected their area.

During the 2006/2007 cycle the Alaska Board of Game met in Wrangell to deal with game issues for Southeast Alaska. Most of the active committees met twice to address proposals that affected their area.

Northern Southeast Committees

Angoon Advisory Committee: This is an inactive committee. The Boards Support Section has contacted members of this community to offer support but there has been little interest in reactivating the committee. In the past it has been noted that community members believe the Southeast Federal Subsistence Regional Council meets their needs.

Elfin Cove Advisory Community –Greg Howe, Chairman: This committee became active in September, 1996 because of fisheries issues and has met regularly since then when issues affecting southeast Alaska have come before either the Fisheries or Game board. This committee has strong commercial and sport fisheries interests.

Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee –Kathy Hansen, Chair: This committee was previously known as the Gastineau Channel Advisory Committee, having the name changed by

the Joint Boards in 1998 at the behest of the Advisory Committee. This is an active committee with strong commercial fishing, sport fishing, hunting, and conservation interests. The committee meets often to discuss both fish and wildlife issues as well as providing a public forum for conservation concerns. Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee meetings are often well attended by members of the public.

Icy Straits Advisory Committee –Mike See, Chairman: This is an active Advisory Committee. There are currently nine members whom reside in Hoonah and three members whom reside in Gustavus. The Icy Straits Advisory Committee is active in both fisheries and game issues. This committee has strong commercial and sport fishing interests as well as subsistence interests. Hoonah and Gustavus are in separate game management units and travel between communities in the winter is sometimes impossible. There has been ongoing controversy regarding the Gustavus antlerless moose hunt reauthorization in these communities.

Kake Advisory Committee: This is an inactive Advisory Committee. This committee was reactivated due to interest concerning the past joint boards meeting in February, 1998. There are former members of this committee who are now active members of the Southeast Federal Regional Advisory Council. There are strong commercial fishing, sport fishing, and subsistence interests in the community.

Klukwan Advisory Committee: This is an inactive Advisory Committee. This committee was reactivated due to interest concerning the past joint boards meeting in February, 1998. There are former members of this committee who are now active members of the Southeast Federal Regional Advisory Council. The Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee has 1 seat designated to members of the Klukwan community which is currently vacant. There is a strong subsistence interest in the community.

Pelican Advisory Committee –Richard Lundahl, Acting Chairman: This is an active Advisory Committee. The committee reduced its membership to five in 1997 to make it easier to establish a quorum. The community of Pelican has begun gaining residents due to the recent reopening of the fish processing plant. There is a strong commercial fishing interest in this community.

Port Alexander Advisory Committee –Cory Gifford, Chairman: This is an active committee that has strong commercial fishing interests. The committee met frequently during the 2005/2006 board cycle when the Board of Fisheries addressed southeast issues.

Sitka Advisory Committee –Brian Massey, Chairman: The Sitka Advisory Committee is very active, meeting often to solve local fish and game issues. There are strong commercial and sportfishing interests in the community. Sitka meetings are often well attended by the public

Sumner Strait –Mike Mortel, Chairman: This committee was inactive from 2002 to 2007, but reactivated in June of 2007 to discuss joint board proposals and fisheries issues. This community has strong commercial fishing and subsistence interests.

Tenakee Springs Advisory Committee: Tenakee Springs is a small community and has a difficult time gathering a quorum for meetings. The Advisory Committee has been inactive since 1996.

Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee –Gary Hess, Chairman: This is an active Advisory Committee. The current makeup of the committee includes nine members residing in Haines and two members in Skagway. There are strong commercial fishing, sport fishing, subsistence, game, and conservation interests in these communities. The Upper Lynn Canal advisory committee meets often to discuss fish and game issues concerning the local area and is often attended by members of the public.

Yakutat Advisory Committee –David Stone, Chairman: The Yakutat Advisory Committee is an active committee. The Yakutat community has strong commercial fishing and subsistence interests. They meet often when issues concerning Southeast Alaska are brought before the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game.

Southern Southeast Advisory Committees

Craig Advisory Committee –Jim Dennis, Chairman: The Craig Advisory Committee has been inactive since January, 2000. Craig is the largest community on Prince of Wales Island.

Edna Bay Advisory Committee –Steve Hendershot, Chairman: The Edna Bay Advisory Committee is limited to seven members by regulation. Edna Bay is located on the southeast coast of Kosciusko Island, northwest of Prince of Wales Island. Accessible only by boat or float plane, there are approximately 35 full time residents. The Advisory Committee is active when the boards discuss issues concerning Southeast Alaska. The community has commercial fishing and subsistence interests.

Hydaburg Advisory Committee: The Hydaburg Advisory Committee has been inactive since 1987. There has been interest expressed by the current mayor in reactivating the committee.

Hyder Advisory Committee –David Doyle, Acting Chairman: The Hyder Advisory Committee has been inactive since January of 2002. This is a small community which often has difficulty achieving a quorum.

Ketchikan Advisory Committee –John Scoblic, Chairman: The Ketchikan Advisory Committee has two seats designated by regulation for the community of Saxman, which are currently unfilled. The committee has 13 seats for the community of Ketchikan which are currently filled, with two alternates and a non-voting seat for a student from the University of Alaska Southeast. In 1992 the Joint Boards approved a designated seat system for the strong commercial fishing and sport fishing interests in the community, which it then removed in 1998 due to increased difficulty in managing the Advisory Committee. The community has strong commercial and sport fishing interests.

Klawock Advisory Committee: The Klawok Advisory Committee was inactive until January of 1998 when the Advisory Committee met and held elections. They have not met again since that time. There has been interest expressed by members of the community in reactivating this committee.

Petersburg Advisory Committee –Arnold Enge, Chairman: This is a very active advisory committee. There are strong commercial fishing interests in the community. The Advisory Committee regularly comments on Fisheries, Game, and Subsistence issues.

Saxman Advisory Committee: By regulation, the Saxman Advisory Committee has nine seats total with six seats designated for the community of Saxman, two seats for Ketchikan, and one undesignated representative. The Saxman Advisory Committee has been inactive since 1991, but there has been some interest expressed by members of the community in reestablishing the Advisory Committee.

Wrangell Advisory Committee –Tom Sims, Chairman: A Department of Fish and Game area biologist described this committee as an “Ideal Advisory Committee” at a 2006 Board of Game meeting. This may be attributed to the extensive experience that the committee possesses in Tom Sims, who been a member of the Wrangell Advisory Committee for over thirty years. The community of Wrangell has strong commercial fishing, sport fishing, game, and subsistence interests.

**Southcentral Region
Advisory Committee Report
Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game
October, 2007**

Sherry Wright, Southcentral Regional Coordinator

Most Southcentral Advisory Committees meet at least once per month, generally from October to March, based on the proposal cycles for each board, unless otherwise noted. Due to the extensive road system there is little or no cost associated with the Southcentral region committee meetings. The areas of jurisdiction include Game Management Units 5 - 9, 11-16, 19, and 20. The major bodies of water within the areas of jurisdiction includes Prince William Sound, Resurrection Bay, Kachemak Bay, and Cook Inlet as well as such major river drainages as Kenai, Susitna and Copper Rivers.

The Advisory Committees dedicate many hours to the board process. They take their role very seriously in providing a local forum, reviewing/drafting proposals, and discussion of the issues. The coordination of meeting dates and deadlines is a primary concern particularly under dual management, which adds to their time volunteered. Finding and keeping secretaries for the committees can be challenging.

I began working in the Anchorage Boards Support office in November, 1999. My time is divided with the duties of advisory committee coordination, support for board meetings, liaison on federal subsistence issues, and working with the general public and other agencies. I also work with the Kodiak and the Lower Yukon Advisory Committees since the regional coordinator position was eliminated in 2003. These two committees are included in this report.

Summary of Advisory Committees

Anchorage Advisory Committee –Aaron Bloomquist, Chair: This committee meets in Anchorage, and has 15 members with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, personal use, outdoorsperson, and conservationist. This committee enjoys a high level of public participation and scrutiny. They have utilized sub-committee chairs (one fish / one game) to help organize their workload. Current members reside in Anchorage, Eagle River and Elmendorf AFB. They are very active in promoting hunting, trapping and fishing heritage and several members are active participants of other resource related associations.

Central Peninsula Advisory Committee –David Martin, Chair: This committee meets in Ninilchik, has ten members with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. Current members reside in Ninilchik and Clam Gulch. There are strong commercial,

subsistence and sportfishing interests in the community. This committee meets two to three times per year, as needed.

Cooper Landing Advisory Committee - Bill Stockwell, Chair: This committee meets in Cooper Landing, has 11 members with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person and conservationist. Current members reside in Cooper Landing and one member resides in Soldotna. The committee is active in local habitat issues and the federal subsistence process. A former Board of Fisheries member serves on this committee. They meet two to three times per year.

Copper Basin Advisory Committee –Don Harrell, Chair: This committee meets in Tazlina, has 11 members (designated community seats) with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person and conservationist. Current members reside in Tazlina, Glennallen, Chitina, Tolsona, Lake Louise area, Gakona, Copper Center and Kenny Lake. This committee primarily focuses on hunting issues and averages two meetings per year. Their chair also serves the Wrangell/St Elias Subsistence Resource Commission.

Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee –Tom Carpenter, Chair: This committee meets in Cordova, has 14 members with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. The committee chairmanship is divided between a fish chair and a game chair, rather than chair and vice chair to divide the work load. Current members reside in Cordova. Commercial fishing is a strong part of this community. They have also been active participants in the federal subsistence process, with the chair also serving on the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council. This committee meets two to three times per year, as needed.

Denali Advisory Committee –Marty Caress, Chair: This committee meets in Cantwell and has nine members. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. The Denali National Park buffer zone proposal held much of their efforts during the fall of 1999. The committee resigned February 25, 2000 in protest to the Denali buffer zone proposal and state policy. On October 6, 2000, the Denali Advisory Committee held elections and became an active committee again. They have been active since that time and set their meeting schedule based on issues pertaining to their area, generally twice per year. Their concerns are primarily with hunting and issues around the park. Current members all reside in Cantwell. One member serves on the Denali Subsistence Resource Commission.

Homer Advisory Committee –Marvin Peters, Chair: This committee meets in Homer, has 15 members, with two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing,

personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. This committee meets monthly from October through April and is involved in nearly all fish and wildlife resource uses. Homer has both commercial and sport fishing interests. Current members reside in Homer, Anchor Point and Fritz Creek. The committee sees higher levels of public participation when there are specific issues addressed during meetings such as ORV use, and the potential removal of the winter king fishery.

Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee –Gary Dawkins, Chair: This committee meets monthly in Kenai or Soldotna and has 15 members with three alternates (one is a non-voting secretary alternate). Since 1992, the committee established designated seats for various user groups, to remedy a concern of community representation. The committee has revised these designated seats repeatedly in an attempt to ensure their comments are recognized by the boards. This committee is under constant scrutiny and endures much political pressure due to the highly diverse uses of the area fisheries and competition for fully allocated fisheries, noted by the volume of proposals regarding the Upper Cook Inlet. Current members reside in Sterling, Kenai, Soldotna, and Kasilof. Six members of this committee serve on the Kenai River Guide Association Board of Directors. This committee has interest in habitat, personal use, sport, guided sport and commercial fisheries, hunting and trapping issues throughout Cook Inlet and the Kenai Peninsula and a strong desire for local public involvement in the board process.

Kodiak Advisory Committee –Oliver Holm, Chair: This committee meets in Kodiak and has 15 members with two alternates. This committee has also created designated seats to ensure representation among the various user groups, as well as subsistence communities. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. Current members reside in Ouzinkie, Kodiak, Old Harbor, Akhiok, and Karluk. The committee holds meetings two to three times per year. This committee enjoys good local participation and is very effective in the board process. Their chair is a former Board of Fisheries member.

Lower Yukon –Ray Oney, Acting Chair: This committee alternates meeting locations between upriver and lower river villages; has 13 members with 13 alternates identified for each village in order to expedite coordination of meetings. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, commercial fishing, hunting, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. This committee holds one face to face meeting per year and other meetings have been scheduled via teleconference due to the costs associated with travel. Two members of the committee also serve on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council. Current members reside in Russian Mission, Marshall, Pilot Station, St. Mary's, Alakanuk, Emmonak, Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Mountain Village, Nunam Iqua, and Kotlik.

Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee – Denny Hamann, Acting Chair: This committee has alternated meeting locations between Palmer and Wasilla and consists of 15 members, with two alternates. They meet twice each month from September through

May and enjoy good local participation, including attendance by our current Governor. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, personal use, outdoors person, and conservationist. Current members reside in Palmer and Wasilla. Two former chairs of this committee now serve on the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game.

Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee – David McHoes, Chair: The Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee meets in Skwentna and has eight members with one alternate. This committee is not on the road system, so travel during the winter meeting cycle occurs by snow machine and/or aircraft. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. This committee meets on an as needed basis when travel is possible with issues that impact the local area. Current members reside in Skwentna, Wasilla, Big Lake, Willow and Anchorage.

Paxson Advisory Committee – John Schandelmeier, Chair: This committee meets as needed at Meier's Roadhouse at mile 70 on the Richardson Highway and has five members. They work very closely with Department of Fish and Game and the Bureau of Land Management staff from Glennallen. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, and conservationist. Current members reside in Paxson, Gakona and Meier's Lake. They have expressed great concern over the Tangle Lakes area and plans for mining there.

Seldovia Advisory Committee –Keith Gain, Chair: This committee meets in Seldovia, and has nine members and two alternates. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. Current members all reside in Seldovia, but interest in participation from Port Graham has recently been expressed. This is primarily a commercial fishing community. They generally meet twice per year.

Seward Advisory Committee – Jim McCracken, Chair: This committee meets in Seward and has 14 members with two alternates. This committee meets generally two or three times per year. Current members reside in Seward, Hope and Moose Pass. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, processing, personal use, outdoors person, and conservationist. Seward has both commercial and sport guided fisheries, are active in promoting fishing heritage to youth by their sponsorship of Youth Days.

Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Advisory Committee – Thumper Williamson, Chair: This committee has seven undesignated members by regulation. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, photography, guiding, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. This committee meets on an as needed basis, typically twice per year. Their meetings may be postponed from time to time due to extreme weather and hazardous driving conditions, as occurred during one

November earthquake when the road split in two. Current members reside in Tok, Slana, and Gakona.

Tyonek Advisory Committee – Cornell Constantine, Chair: This committee has eight members and meets twice per year. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. The committee's concerns have focused on wanton waste, abuse of the streams, the need to rebuild northern Cook Inlet rivers fish stocks, and hunting of beluga whales. They have discussed acquiring federal monies for wildlife enforcement officers to help with enforcement concerns. Tyonek AC sent a letter supporting the Alaska Federation of Natives in their efforts with the United Nations regarding Native subsistence protection. They are interested in a subsistence clamming area. They have also expressed interest in spring waterfowl hunting. Current members reside in Tyonek and Beluga.

Valdez Advisory Committee – Thane Miller, Chair: The Valdez Advisory Committee has six members. Member interests include sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, photography, guiding, personal use, and outdoorspersons. This committee struggles not only with community participation, but member participation. Current members all reside in Valdez.

Whittier Advisory Committee –Jon Van Hyning, Chair: The Whittier Advisory Committee has nine members undesignated by regulation with one alternate. Member interests include trapping, sport fishing, subsistence, hunting, commercial fishing, guiding, processors, personal use, outdoors person, association/corporation and conservationist. This committee primarily focuses on Board of Fisheries issues. The new tunnel has made travel to Whittier much easier, increasing access to Prince William Sound fisheries. The community has also seen an increase of boat activity with cruise ships porting at the Whittier harbor. Current members reside in Anchorage, Whittier, Chugiak, Palmer and Wasilla. The committee generally meets twice per year.

**Southwest Region
Advisory Committee Report
Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game Meeting
October, 2007**

Joe Chythlook
Southwest Regional Coordinator

The Southwest Region covers all of the Bristol Bay; Alaska Peninsula; Aleutian Islands; and Kodiak areas. The area is divided into four main fishery sub-regions: the Area K (Kodiak); Area L (Chignik); Area M (Alaska Peninsula/ Aleutians); and Area T (Bristol Bay). On the game side, the area also covers Game Units 8, 9, 10, and 17.

While the major area of concern for all the Southwest Advisory Committees is to carefully monitor and to ensure their area residents get the most benefit and opportunity from their individual commercial fisheries resources in both state and federal waters, they also focus on the sport and subsistence fishery uses of these same resources. Most of the committees also continue to spend many hours in meetings dealing with more and more challenging and complex game issues that come before them in the form of proposals.

The Board of Fisheries cycles come every three (even/odd) years for the Bristol Bay and Alaska Peninsula/ Aleutian Islands fisheries; and also every three (odd/even) years for the Kodiak and Chignik fisheries. In both cases, the proposals are generally seeking to ensure that the Board of Fisheries does their job of balancing the proper allocation between the area commercial fisheries.

The Board of Game proposal cycle usually comes every two years. As the caribou from both the Mulchatna and North and South Alaska Peninsula herds has drastically declined in recent years, the Advisory Committee members from Units 9 and 17 have been working hard to try to come up with ways to improve their status. Predator control has become one of the major topics of discussion within the last two Board of Game cycles. The thinking of most members in these committees along with some local residents is that predation has a lot more of a link to the decline in numbers of caribou in the area than other factors which are usually presented at board meetings.

There are 12 established fish and game advisory committees in the Southwest Region, including the Kodiak committee which will be discussed in the Southcentral region report. About half of the committees represent more than one community while the rest are considered single community committees. In the last two years, all committees except for False Pass and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor have been active. Most all the Bristol Bay area committees are made up of multiple communities and usually meet at least twice a year. The majority of Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands committees, which are mainly single community committees, need very little supervision and meet whenever the need arises for them to comment to both Boards' proposals.

Chignik Advisory Committee – Johnny Lind, Chairman:

The Chignik Advisory Committee has always been an active committee. During the last several years, they have been faced with many challenges in dealing with their local commercial salmon fishery. They had to deal with the only “Cooperative” type management fishery in the state which did not set very well with some of the members of the committee. Therefore, most of their meetings were done by teleconference within that time period. However, with that issue behind them, I believe the committee is back on track. Individual villages have held elections within the last year to fill vacant seats and they are presently working on a meeting date to hold elections of officers and to comment on the upcoming Board of Fisheries proposals.

False Pass Advisory Committee – Tom Hoblet, Chairman:

The False Pass Committee has not been as active within the last couple years compared to the past. The committee has not submitted a record of their meeting minutes for several years.

King Cove Advisory Committee – Grant Newton, Chairman:

The King Cove Advisory Committee has been very active on fishery issues for both the state and federal fisheries within their area. They have met regularly and submit minutes reflecting comments to all proposals affecting their area. The Chairman of this committee has taken the lead in collaborating with the other area Chairs to come up with consensus on issues before they come before the boards.

Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee – Randy Alvarez, Chairman:

The Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee, which is made of various fish and game user groups from all the Lake Iliamna and Lake Clark communities, has been very active in responding to both boards’ proposals and meets regularly every year. The committee members have been actively discussing the need for predator control for wolf and brown bear with their area of jurisdiction for the last couple of Board of Game cycles.

Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee – Dan Kingsley, Acting Chairman:

The Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee has always been very active in all the issues brought before both boards. Wolf control has been one of the major issues discussed on the Board of Game side for the last couple of board cycles. I recall, Myra Olsen, long time chair, saying in one meeting, that “if nothing is done to curb wolves from eating dogs in surrounding villages, we’ll be next on the food chain.” The fact that they don’t have any North Alaska Peninsula caribou to hunt has been a big concern for the villages that make up the membership of this committee. Moose population has become a topic of concern also due to the shift in hunting pressure now that the caribou is gone.

Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee –Ralph Angasan, Sr., Co-Chairman:

The Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee is very active committee in both fishery and wildlife issues. Presently, they don’t have another co-chair, due to one of the co-chairs (Vince Webster) being moved up the line. The Kvichak sockeye salmon run has been a major area of concern for this committee for several years. They have also shared in the predation problem concern for the caribou and moose in their area. The villagers of Naknek, South Naknek, King Salmon, and

Levelock, from which the committee is made of, also do not have any caribou to hunt as do their neighbors from lower Bristol Bay.

Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee – Paul E. (Butch) Gunderson, Chairman:

The Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee has been active through the years. It is the only committee which is situated on the Westside of the Alaska Peninsula. The committee focuses on the Nelson Lagoon and Port Moller commercial fishery issues whose user group is made up of mostly local village residents.

Nushagak Advisory Committee – Hans Nicholson, Chairman:

The Nushagak Advisory Committee is very active in both Board of Fisheries and Board of Game issues. The membership is comprised of local residents from 9 different communities surrounding the Nushagak and Togiak Bays. Through the years the members of the committee have worked on many comprehensive fish and game management plans which focus on conserving all the areas' resources for all the diverse user groups in the area. For the last several years, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, which has migrated out of its historical habitat, has been one of the main concerns of the members.

Predation by wolves and bears on both caribou and moose calves has become one of the main topics of discussion. The committee hopes that some affirmative action will be taken on the pending proposal to address this issue in this Board of Game cycle.

Sand Point Advisory Committee – John A. Foster, Chairman:

The Sand Point Advisory Committee has been very active through the years in responding to and making many proposals that affect the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands commercial fisheries in both federal and state waters. The committee has been forefront in dealing with allocation issues of sockeye and chum salmon with other areas in Southwest and Western Alaska. They have also worked hard to deal with local issues to protect their local stocks and to provide maximum opportunity for all the user groups involved.

Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee – Moses Kritz, Chairman:

The Togiak Fish and Game Advisory is very active in dealing with both federal and state regulations that affect their area. They have successfully persuaded the Board of Fisheries to create the only super exclusive commercial salmon fishery in Bristol Bay. They have also worked hard and well with both state and federal agencies to create a workable moose management plan within the last few years in Unit 17A. One of the main local concerns the committee has tried to address is the Togiak Herring fishery. Local residents from Togiak and Twin Hills communities feel they are no longer able to benefit from the local Togiak Herring fishery. A reliable market for both herring roe on kelp and the herring sac roe fisheries no longer exists to include the local Togiak area residents to participate in these fisheries in the last few years. The committee members continue to cooperatively work with the both state and federal agencies, along with Bristol Bay Native Association, in management of the local annual fall walrus hunt in the Round Island State Game Sanctuary.

Unalaska/Dutch Harbor – Emil Berikoff, Chairman:

The Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Advisory Committee has not been active over the last five years. However, I have been contacted by the one of the local area commercial fisheries biologist this

past year and one of the members with hopes of getting the committee back on track in the near future. Since the committee deals mainly with federal water fisheries and has not consistently participated in the State Boards of Fisheries and Game system in my tenure as Coordinator, I have pretty much left it up to the local staff and the committee to deal with their local issues. Historically, the members of the community and the committee rely more on the decisions of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council to deal with their fishery concerns.

Western Region

Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee – David O. David, Chairman:

The Central Bering Sea Advisory Committee is active in dealing with all management of fish and game resources in the area for both state and federal lands and waters fish and game resources in the area. The last couple of years I have been coordinating this committee, they have worked hard with the area state and federal biologists on the five year moratorium for moose in Unit 18. They have also worked with the local commercial fisheries biologist to ensure the building up of local Chinook salmon stocks from their low status. They also have been active in giving very valuable advice in the management of the several local herring fisheries within the area. Having enough resources for local subsistence use is always uppermost in management discussions.

The challenge of finding or enticing new and younger members of the communities involved to replace the long standing and elderly members has been discussed at length in most all of their meetings. The idea of not getting compensated enough for coming into Bethel to attend an Advisory Committee meeting has been the focus of discussion on this issue. The high rate of unemployment in the area has been viewed as one reason why younger people, who have no reliable source of income, have not readily accepted appointment of their communities to serve on the Advisory Committee. However, there have been several young people who have jobs in their community that have chosen to serve within the last couple of years.

The other point of concern is not having a local regional coordinator, as they used to have in the past. The committee feels a local coordinator could work more closely with them in coordinating meetings with other local entities (i.e.: AVCP, Fed. RAC & etc).

A conflicting meeting is sometimes scheduled at the same time as when some Advisory Committee members, who also serve on boards and committees of these agencies, are having also meeting. It is quite challenging and generally takes a lot of extra time to try to coordinate travel for this committee because the make up of the committee involves members from all of the communities represented.

Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee – James Charles, Chairman:

The Lower Kuskowkim Advisory Committee has also been very active in the years I've been working with them. The Kuskokwim Chinook salmon continues to be placed as a high priority discussion item at every meeting I have attended. The committee has worked will with the other committees in the area in being involved in supporting the five year moratorium of building up the moose population within Unit 18. The Chinook salmon in the Lower Kuskowkim

commercial and subsistence salmon fisheries has also been discussed in all the meetings I've attended. With the decline of salmon prices for the other species, some members of the committee have been concerned with getting back into commercially harvesting Chinooks because of their economic value to the area. But there has been hesitancy by others until more consistent return of Chinook salmon data has been established.

The above mentioned concerns expressed by the Central Bering Sea Advisory committee concerning per diem and coordination have also been discussed and are shared by this committee.

**Arctic Region
Advisory Committee Report
Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game
October, 2007**

Susan Bucknell
Arctic Regional Coordinator

The Arctic Region has three distinct areas, each having a larger population center and a number of smaller communities.

North Slope

Game Management Unit 26 is roughly the same territory as the North Slope Borough and the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. Barrow is the major population center. The original two advisory committees, the Eastern Arctic and Western Arctic Advisory Committees, were last active in 1991. The North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management Committee, supported by the North Slope Borough's Department of Wildlife Management has served to fill the role of these two advisory committees. Recently, they've looked into participating again in the state advisory committee system.

Northwest Arctic Borough

Game Management Unit 23 is roughly the same territory as the Northwest Arctic Borough, and the NANA Regional Corporation. There are five active advisory committees. Kotzebue is the main population center.

Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee –Pete Schaeffer, Chairman:

This is an active committee involved in game and to a lesser degree fisheries issues. As the only single-community committee in the area, they meet more frequently than the committees that have travel costs associated with meetings. They've been active in issues region-wide.

Lower Kobuk Advisory Committee –Raymond Stoney, Chairman:

This committee represents the communities of Kiana and Noorvik. They are interested primarily in subsistence hunting and fishing issues. The chairman is also a long-time regional advisory committee member under the federal subsistence program.

Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee –Louis Commack, Jr., Chairman:

This committee represents the people of Kobuk, Shungnak and Ambler. They are primarily interested in subsistence hunting and fishing issues.

Noatak/Kivalina Advisory Committee –Thurston Booth, Acting Chairman:

The Noatak Controlled Use Area has been an important issue, not just for this committee, but for other committees in the region. Their concerns have been moose, caribou, brown bear and subsistence issues.

Northern Seward Peninsula Advisory Committee –Ron Moto, Chairman:

This committee, made up of the communities of Deering, Buckland and Selawik, has an uneven history of meetings. Whether it's due to simply few resource problems, logistics of different airline routes that make it harder to pull meetings together, so much federal land nearby, or other contributing factors, this hasn't been a strongly active committee. Even the name of the committee doesn't help (it's hard to think of Selawik as being on the Seward Peninsula). Buckland and Deering were early beneficiaries of the Seward Peninsula Tier II Muskox hunt.

Members of the five Unit 23 advisory committees have been participating in joint meetings in Kotzebue every other summer, (Board of Game cycle) to review department information on game populations and hunting, and to discuss submitting board proposals. These meetings are popular, but to the extent that they replace meetings in villages, we lose the opportunities for public outreach and education, and wider participation that occur when advisory committees meet in a community. We also lose opportunities to hold elections at advisory committee meetings in communities. (The same is true when teleconferences replace face-to-face advisory committee meetings.)

Norton Sound

Norton Sound includes the area of Game Management Unit 22, and the Bering Straits Native Corporation. Nome is the main population center. This area has two active advisory committees, Southern Norton Sound and Northern Norton Sound. Saint Lawrence Island Advisory Committee last met in 1998.

Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee –Roy Ashenfelter, Chairman:

This committee serves Nome, population 3,500, and the communities of Elim, Golovin and White Mountain to the east, and Teller, Brevig Mission, Wales and Shishmaref to the north and west. Village populations range from about 150 to 600 residents. The committee meets regularly on game, commercial and subsistence finfish and shellfish issues.

Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee –Myron Savetiilik, Chairman:

This committee is active in game, finfish and shellfish issues. Unalakleet is the central and largest community, with Shaktoolik and Koyuk to the north and St. Michael and Stebbins to the southwest. Although this committee likes to rotate advisory committee meetings through all five communities, they tend to meet in Unalakleet instead of the smaller villages.

**Interior Region
Advisory Committee Report
Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game
October, 2007**

Rita St. Louis
Interior Regional Coordinator

The Interior Region covers a large geographic area. Predominant concerns of most committees in the interior deal with big game and fur trapping. However, particularly when Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) or Prince William Sound (PWS) fisheries proposals are in cycle, some committees focus most heavily on subsistence, sport, and commercial use of salmon and some non-salmon species.

Nearly all discussions at meetings, and nearly all proposals brought before the boards share the common themes of what to do about declining resources, how to share those declining resources with non local and out of state users while retaining enough for local needs, and how to maintain a hunting, fishing, and trapping lifestyle that is important to each person.

The Interior Region has 15 advisory committees. Most advisory committees represent more than one community. All committees but one, Lake Minchumina, are active committees. The committees on the road system -- Upper Tanana-Fortymile, Delta, Fairbanks, and Middle Nenana -- usually meet on a monthly or bimonthly basis, while the others, because of travel constraints, meet only one or two times per year.

Central Advisory Committee –Bill Glanz Chairman:

The Central Advisory Committee is an active committee whose primary focus is on trapping, and moose and caribou hunting mainly in Unit 25, but some in 20B. Because the 2006-2007 board cycle was not a year for making changes to game regulations in this area, they did not meet very often. I expect in preparation for the upcoming Interior Region Board of Game meeting, they will be more active this year.

Delta Advisory Committee –Don Quarberg, Chairman:

The Delta Advisory Committee is a well organized, active committee that keeps tabs on many statewide issues as well as local issues. They have recently become proactive in assuring the growing moose population in the area stays within the bounds of the carrying capacity. They remain active in dealing with the local bison herds as well as regional sport fishing issues.

Eagle Advisory Committee –Andy Bassich, Chairman:

The Eagle Advisory Committee represents a group of people who are not road connected in the winter, but who clearly stay involved with local as well as statewide issues. The people they represent depend on caribou from the Fortymile Herd and on moose, which are in short supply. They also depend upon fish from the Yukon River and are very active in AYK fisheries issues. Their use patterns are influenced extensively by federal regulations because of the closed proximity of the Yukon Charley National Preserve and Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

Fairbanks Advisory Committee, – Mike Kramer, Chairman:

The Fairbanks Advisory Committee meets at least once a month from October to May with subcommittee meetings in between. They are another one of the very proactive committees who keep close tabs on most game issues throughout the state. They are also very proactive with fisheries issues, particularly sport fishing in the region's lakes and streams, as well as salmon and halibut fishing, especially in Prince William Sound and on the Yukon River.

Grayling-Anvik-Shageluk-Holy Cross (GASH) Advisory Committee –Ken Chase,

Chairman: The GASH Advisory Committee is an active committee representing four communities on the lower Yukon River and the Innoko River. Their main concerns are Yukon and Innoko River fisheries and moose populations in Unit 21. They have also become active in promoting the introduction of wood bison into the Innoko area.

Koyukuk River Advisory Committee – Larry Edwards, Chairman:

The Koyukuk River Advisory Committee represents several villages together with a huge geographic area between the villages. The committee is a very engaged group of people whose main concern revolves around declining moose populations in portions of Unit 24. Recently, the Village of Evansville/Bettles filled two vacant seats on the committee, expanding the overall representation of the committee. As with many of the committees, Koyukuk River Advisory Committee includes elders at most of their meetings to ensure retaining their knowledge and perspective in the committee's decision making.

Lake Minchumina Advisory Committee:

The Lake Minchumina Advisory Committee has not been active since 2000. One of the proposals is to give it a seat on the McGrath Advisory Committee so that the area's concerns can be heard.

McGrath Advisory Committee –Ray Collins, Chairman:

The McGrath Advisory Committee is a solid, well-established committee representing several villages. They have been very active in promoting game research projects such as intensive management research on bears and wolves as they contribute to moose, especially calf, mortality. The committee values good research and usually has a lively discussion regarding its implications.

Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee –Brent Keith, Vice Chairman:

The Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee tragically lost their chairman in an accident during the summer. They have not met to elect a new chair. They are one of the committees on the road system, and they represent an eclectic group of avid hunters and avid non-hunters. This committee is an example of a committee that has lively, respectful debate among diverse user groups. They do not deal with many fisheries issues, but are otherwise very active in moose, wildlife habitat, and human use issues. They are very proactive in the advisory committee system, and theirs is one of the proposals to enhance the advisory committee's role at board meetings.

Middle Yukon River Advisory Committee –Benedict Jones, Chairman:

The Middle Yukon Advisory Committee represents a centrally-located group of people whose fishing interests are mainly subsistence, but they also share commercial interests with communities down river. Their hunting interests revolve mostly around subsistence harvest of moose. As with many other committees, declining moose population is always a part of their discussions.

Minto-Nenana Advisory Committee – Ron Silas, Chairman:

The Minto-Nenana Advisory committee is an active group of people whose concerns revolve around several topics such as moose harvest and drawing permits in the Minto Flats area, pike fishing in the Minto Flats area, and commercial and subsistence fishing on the Tanana River. The committee has actively pursued the introduction of wood bison into the Minto Flats area.

Ruby Advisory Committee –Ed Sarten, Chairman:

The Ruby Advisory Committee is an active committee which becomes more active during the years that Interior Region game issues are addressed by the Board of Game. They did not meet during the 2006-2007 regulatory year.

Tanana-Rampart-Manley (T-R-M) Advisory Committee – Gerald Nicholia, Chairman:

The T-R-M Advisory Committee is an active committee whose concerns revolve primarily around Yukon and Tanana River subsistence and commercial fishing. They are proactive in keeping an eye on the entire Yukon River drainage. Game issues usually do not draw much of their concern.

Upper Tanana-Fortymile Advisory Committee –Terry Brigner, Chairman:

The Upper Tanana-Fortymile Advisory Committee is an active committee whose concerns are mostly with game. They stay active in monitoring moose, sheep, and caribou hunting along with intensive management, predator control, and guiding issues. On-going challenges of that committee revolve around many of the communities not choosing to participate in the meetings.

Yukon Flats Advisory Committee – Davie James, Chairman:

The Yukon Flats Advisory Committee is an active committee, but keeping an engaged membership is one of the greater challenges. Their involvement with the Yukon River fisheries is minimal; while their main focus is on predator-related causes of low moose densities. The geographic area covered by the Yukon Flats Advisory Committee involves a vast checker board of federal, state, and private land; thus there are confusing multiple layers of policies and regulations with which they are confronted.

Western Region

Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee – Doug Carney, Chairman:

The Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee is an active committee which deals mainly with game issues, particularly extreme decline in moose populations, in Unit 19. Recent mining

activity in the area has brought greater awareness of fisheries issues on the Kuskokwim. There is often contention among committee members because of the differing views between the up river villages and the down river villages on various issues. Getting and keeping people to serve on the committee, and getting a quorum at meetings has been an ongoing challenge. The committee has proposed two solutions (proposals 16 & 17) for the joint board's consideration.

LOCAL FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEES
(as of September 2007)

Southeast Region: 23

Angoon
 Craig
 East Prince of Wales
 Edna Bay
 Elfin Cove
 Hydaburg
 Hyder
 Icy Straits
 Juneau-Douglas
 Kake
 Ketchikan
 Klawock
 Klukwan
 Pelican
 Petersburg
 Port Alexander
 Saxman
 Sitka
 Sumner Strait
 Tenakee
 Upper Lynn Canal
 Wrangell
 Yakutat

Western Region: 4

Central Bering Sea
 Lower Kuskokwim
 Central Kuskokwim
 Lower Yukon

Southwest Region: 12

Nushagak
 Naknek/Kvichak
 Lake Iliamna
 Nelson Lagoon
 Chignik
 Kodiak
 Sand Point
 King Cove
 False Pass
 Unalaska/Dutch Harbor
 Lower Bristol Bay
 Togiak

Interior Region: 15

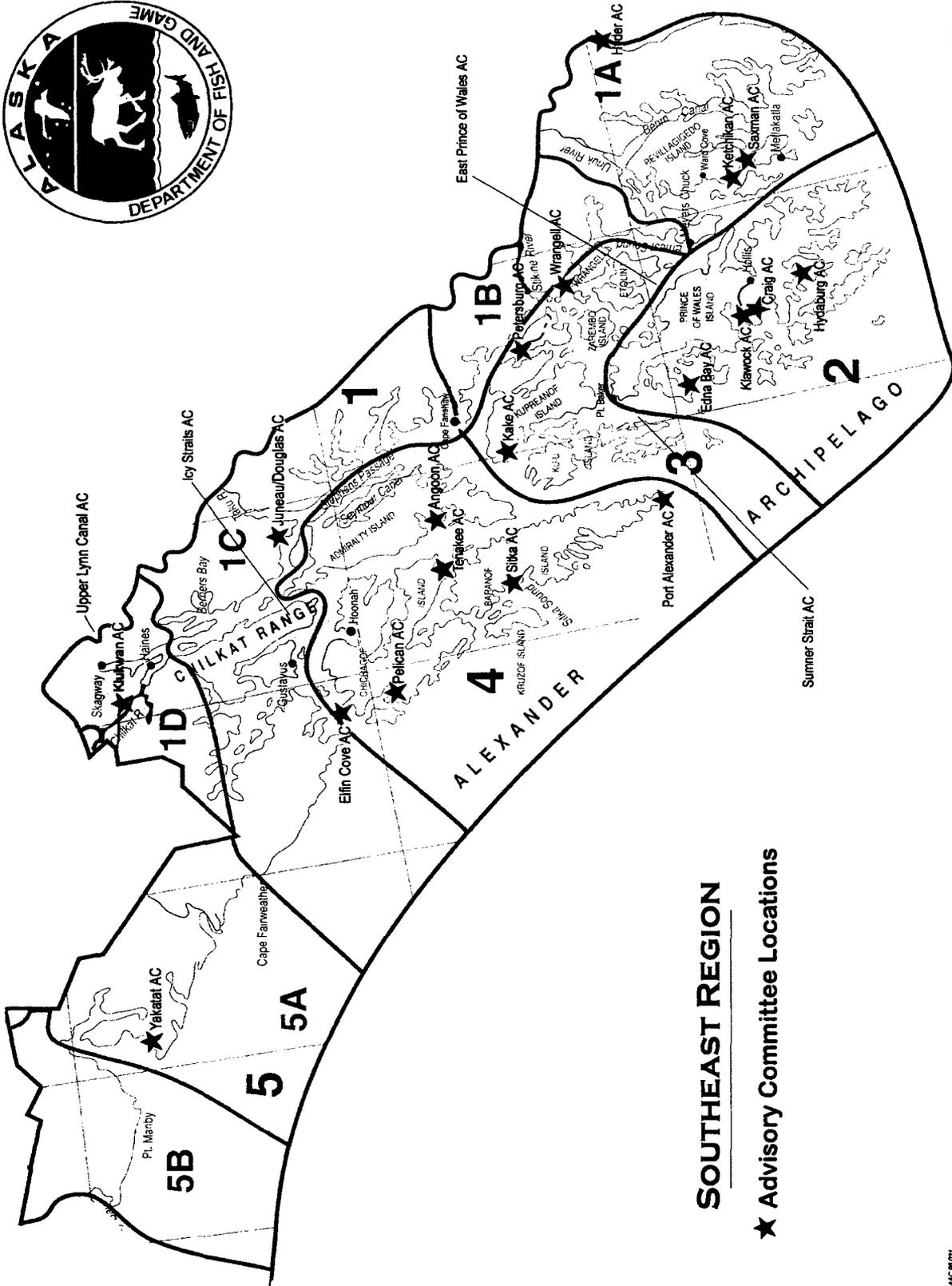
Central
 Delta
 Eagle
 Fairbanks
 Grayling/Anvik/Shageluk/
 Holy Cross (G.A.S.H)
 Koyukuk River
 Lake Minchumina
 McGrath
 Middle Nenana River
 Middle Yukon
 Minto/Nenana
 Ruby
 Tanana/Rampart/Manley
 Upper Tanana/Fortymile
 Yukon Flats

Southcentral Region: 17

Anchorage
 Central Peninsula
 Cooper Landing
 Copper Basin
 Copper River/PWS
 Denali
 Homer
 Kenai/Soldotna
 Matanuska Valley
 Mt. Yenlo
 Paxson
 Seldovia
 Seward
 Tok Cutoff/Nebesna Road
 Tyonek
 Valdez
 Whittier

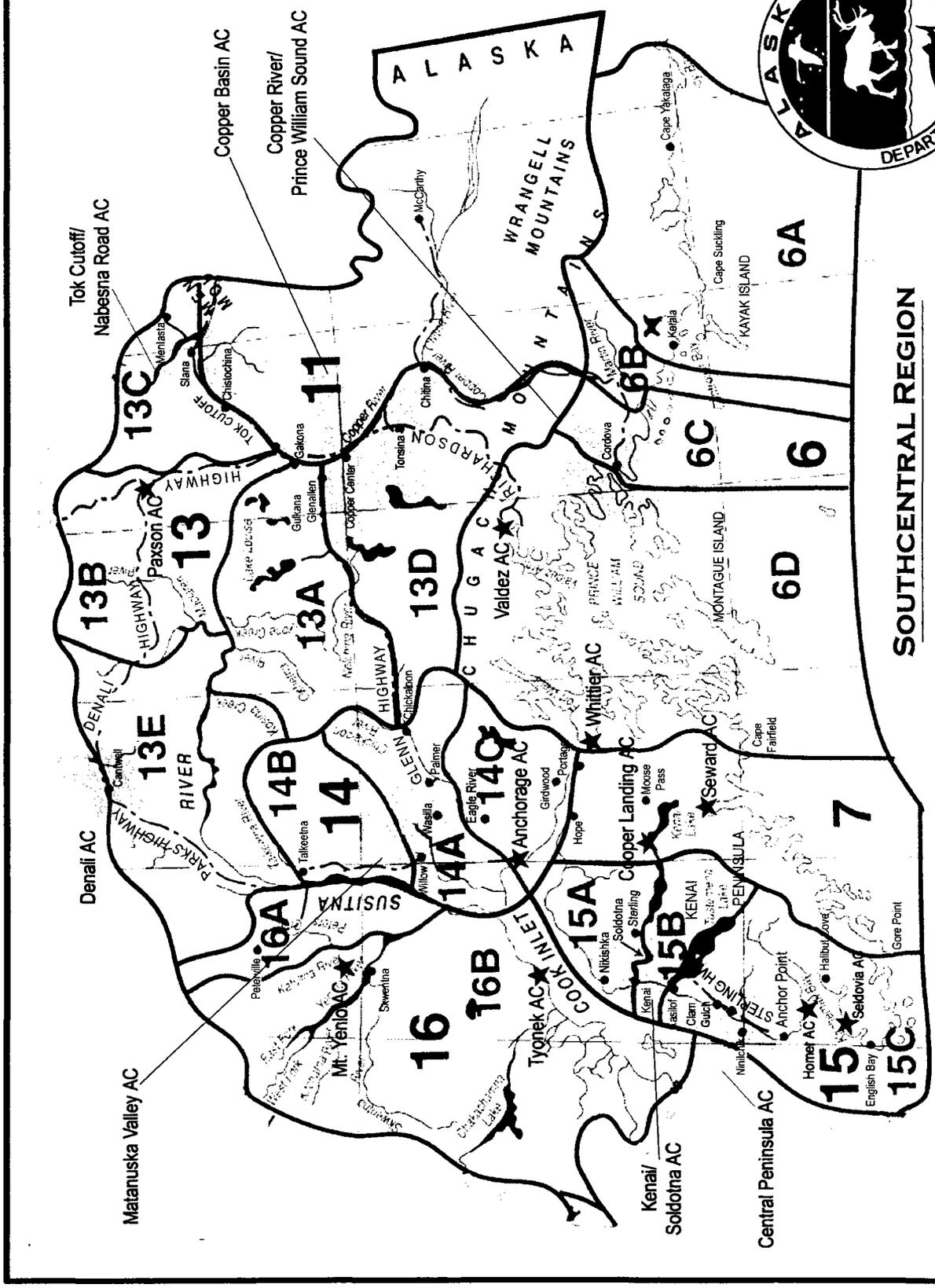
Arctic Region: 10

Northern Norton Sound
 Kotzebue
 Northern Seward Peninsula
 Upper Kobuk
 Lower Kobuk
 Noatak/Kivalina
 Western Arctic
 Eastern Arctic
 St. Lawrence Island
 Southern Norton Sound

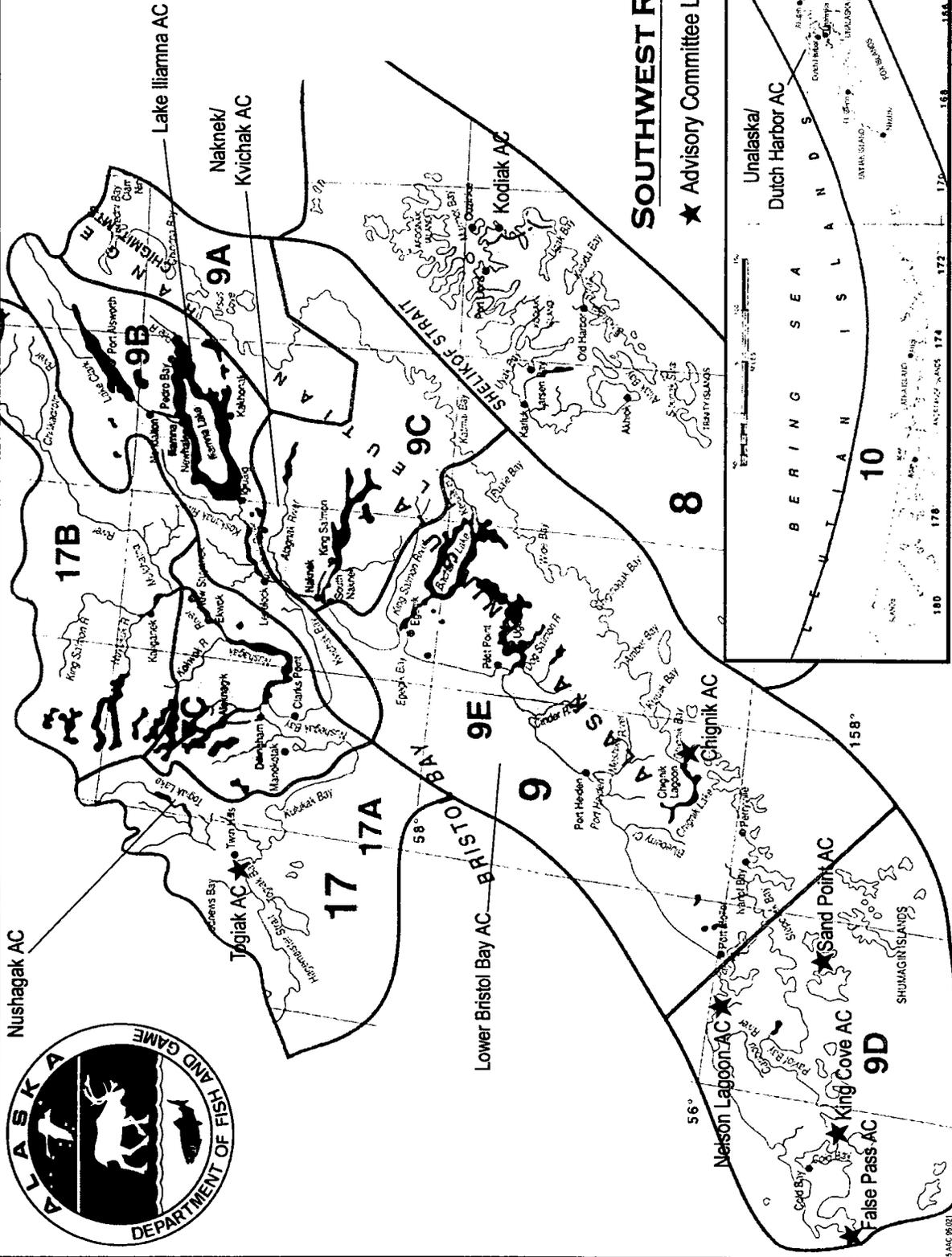


SOUTHEAST REGION

★ Advisory Committee Locations

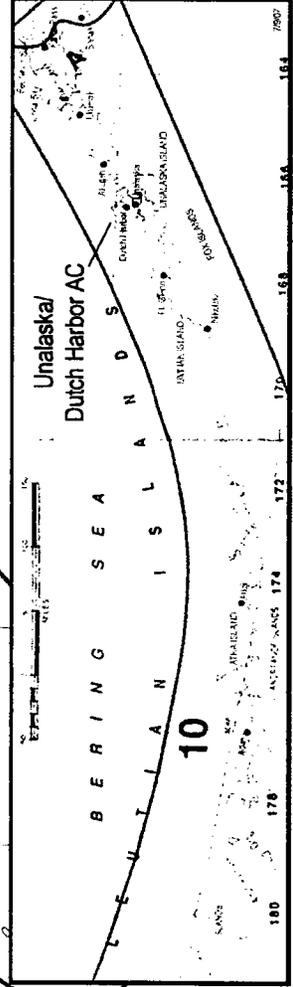


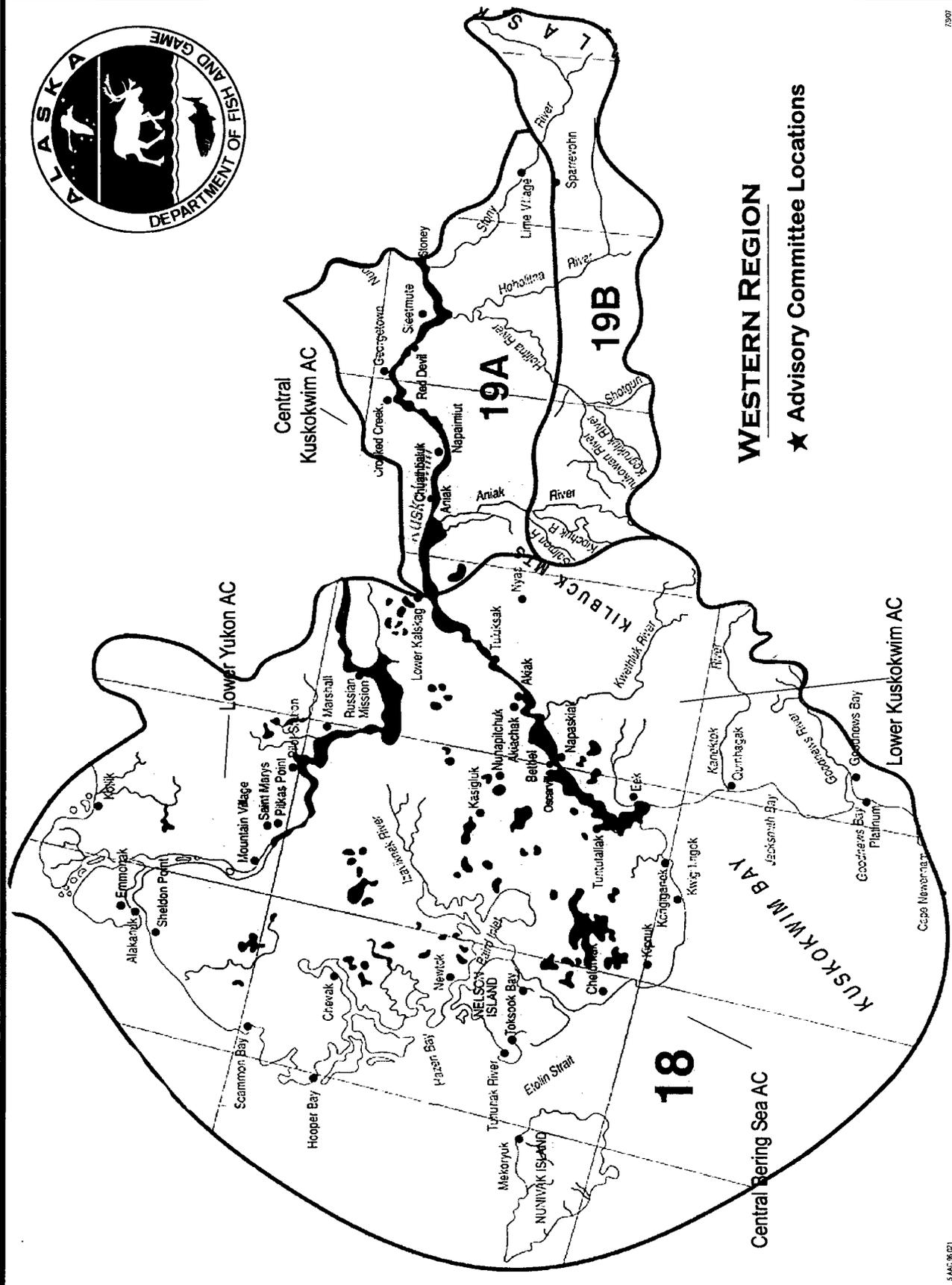
★ Advisory Committee Locations



SOUTHWEST REGION

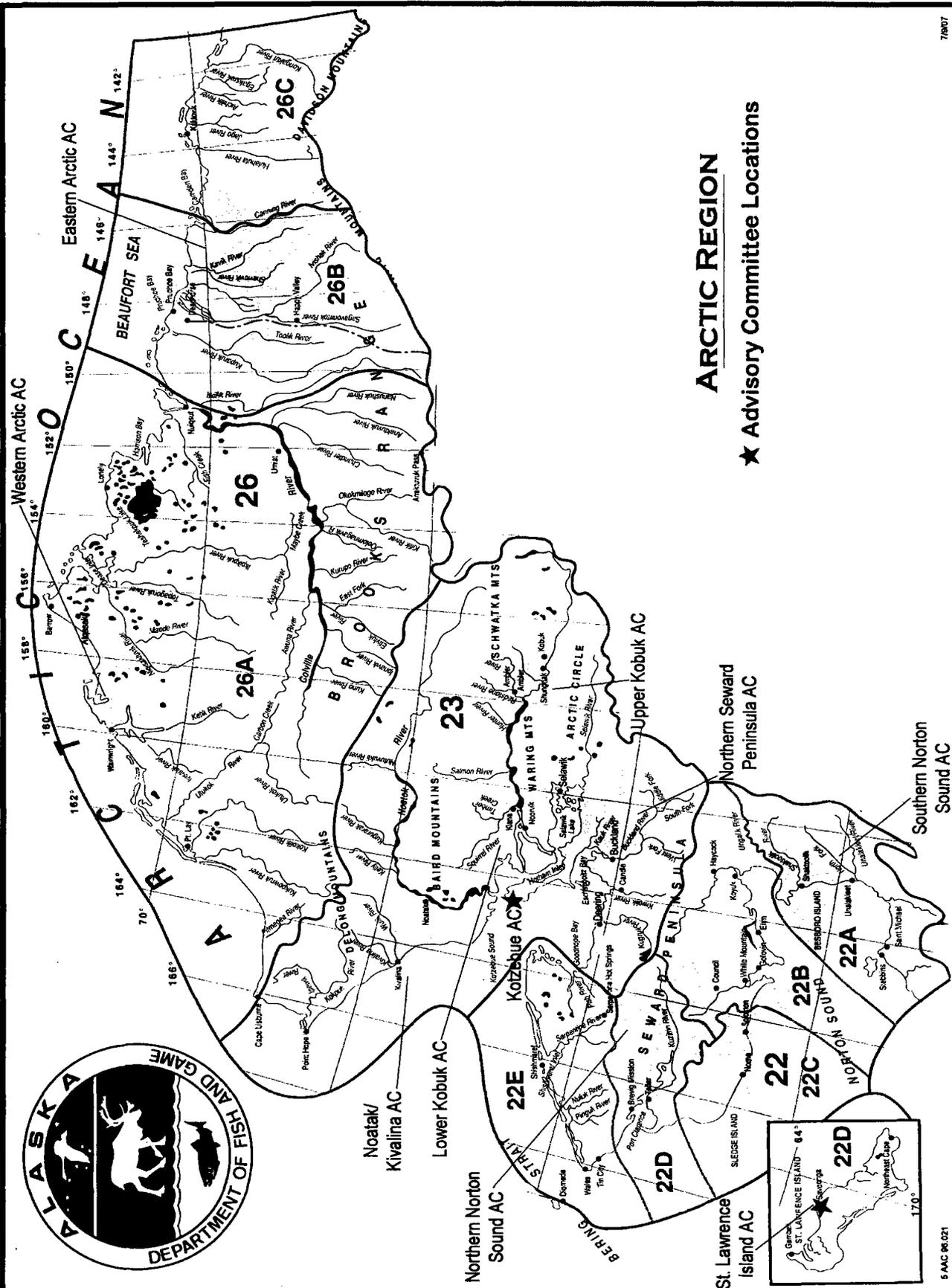
★ Advisory Committee Locations



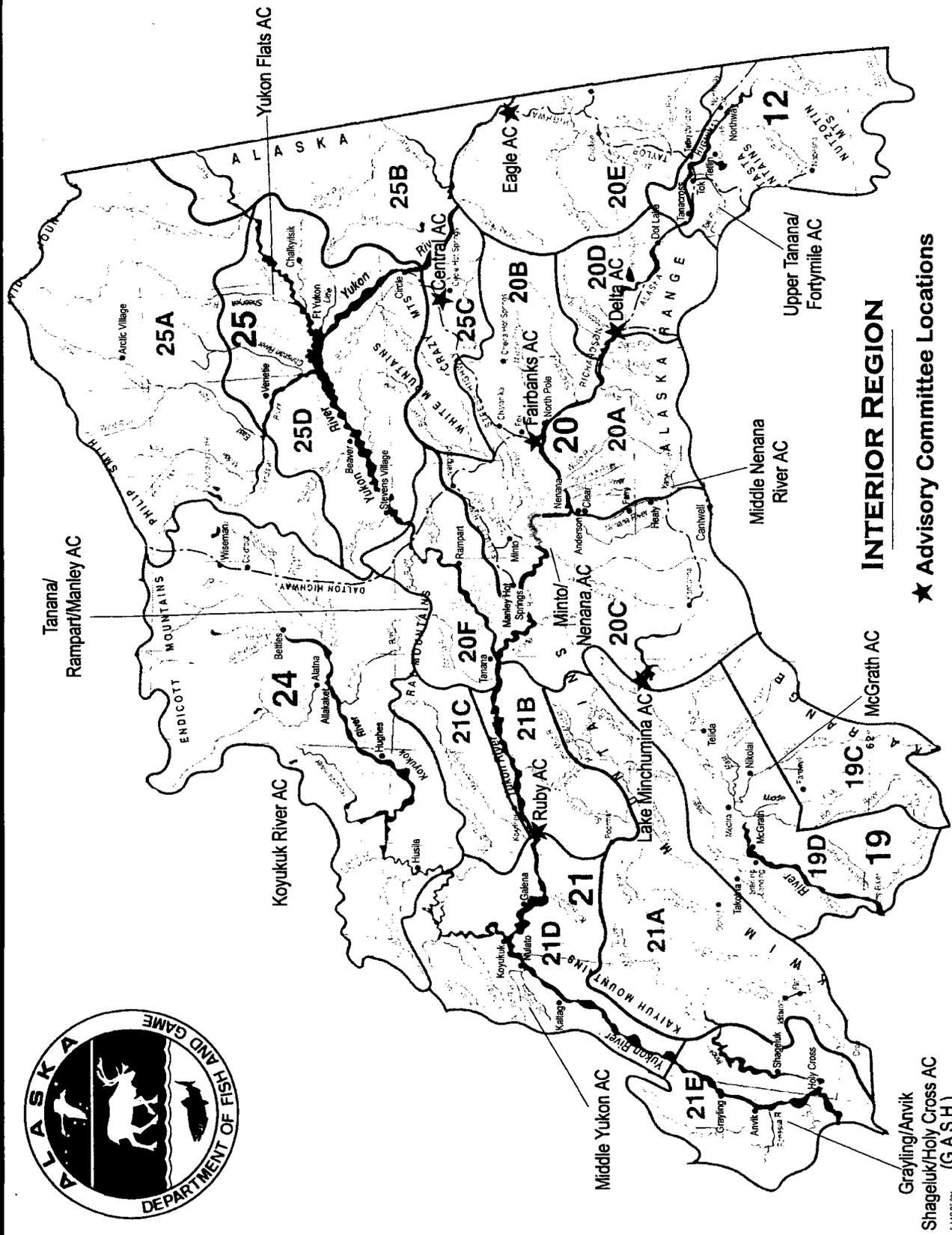


WESTERN REGION

★ Advisory Committee Locations



ARCTIC REGION
 ★ Advisory Committee Locations



INTERIOR REGION

★ Advisory Committee Locations

3-AC-9-021

Part 6
Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Chapter

- 96. Local Fish and Game Advisory Committees and Regional Fish and Game Councils. (5 AAC 96.010 - 5 AAC 96.920)
- 97. Advisory Committee Closures. (5 AAC 97.005 - 5 AAC 97.020)
- 98. Areas of Jurisdiction for Antlerless Moose Seasons. (5 AAC 98.005)

Chapter 96
Local Fish and Game Advisory Committees and Regional Fish and Game Councils

Article

- 1. Local Fish and Game Advisory Committees. (5 AAC 96.010 - 5 AAC 96.080)
- 2. Regional Fish and Game Councils. (5 AAC 96.200 - 5 AAC 96.280)
- 3. Administration of Local Fish and Game Committees. (5 AAC 96.400 - 5 AAC 96.460)
- 4. Administration of Regional Fish and Game Councils. (5 AAC 96.500 - 5 AAC 96.540)
- 5. Adoption of Fish and Game Regulations. (5 AAC 96.600 - 5 AAC 96.660)
- 6. General Provisions. (5 AAC 96.900 - 5 AAC 96.920)

Article 1
Local Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Section

- 10. Establishment of a local fish and game advisory committee system.
- 20. Creation of local fish and game advisory committees.
- 21. Establishment of advisory committees.
- 22. (Repealed).
- 25. (Repealed).
- 30. (Repealed).
- 40. Qualifications for members.
- 45. (Repealed).
- 50. Functions of local fish and game advisory committees.
- 60. Uniform rules of operation.
- 70. (Repealed).
- 80. Interaction of local advisory committees with regional fish and game councils.

5 AAC 96.010. Establishment of a local fish and game advisory committee system

There is established a system of local fish and game advisory committees to provide a local forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to the management of fish and wildlife resources.

History: In effect before 1988

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.020. Creation of local fish and game advisory committees

The joint board, as defined in 5 AAC 96.910(2), in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), will establish advisory committees within each of the fish and

game resource management regions described in 5 AAC 96.210. A committee must represent user groups in the region as required in 5 AAC 96.060(e) (1). A group of 25 interested people may request the joint board to create a committee. When considering a request to create a committee, the joint board will consider the factors set out in 5 AAC 96.420. A committee must be approved by the joint board before starting its operations.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees

(a) The following local fish and game advisory committees are established:

(1) in the Southeast Alaska Region: Angoon, Craig, East Prince of Wales, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Juneau-Douglas, Hydaburg, Hyder, Icy Straits, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Klukwan, Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, Saxman, Sitka, Sumner Strait, Tenakee, Upper Lynn Canal, Wrangell, Yakutat;

(2) in the Southcentral Alaska Region: Copper River/Prince William Sound, Valdez, Copper Basin, Anchorage, Seward, Kenai/Soldotna, Central Peninsula, Homer, Seldovia, Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road, Paxson, Denali, Matanuska Valley, Mt. Yenlo, Tyonek, Cooper Landing, and Whittier;

(3) in the Southwest Alaska Region: Nushagak, Naknek/Kvichak, Lake Iliamna, Nelson Lagoon, Chignik, Kodiak, Sand Point, King Cove, False Pass, Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, Lower Bristol Bay, Togiak;

(4) in the Western Alaska Region: Central Bering Sea, Lower Kuskokwim, Central Kuskokwim, Lower Yukon;

(5) in the Arctic Alaska Region: Northern Norton Sound, Kotzebue, Northern Seward Peninsula, Upper Kobuk, Lower Kobuk, Noatak/Kivalina, Western Arctic, Eastern Arctic, St. Lawrence Island, Southern Norton Sound; and

(6) in the Interior Alaska Region: Central, Middle Nenana River, Delta, Eagle, Fairbanks, Lake Minchumina, Middle Yukon, Grayling/Anvik/Shageluk/Holy Cross, Koyukuk, McGrath, Ruby, Tanana/Rampart/Manley, Minto/Nenana, Upper Tanana/Forty-Mile, Yukon Flats.

(b) The joint board will, in its discretion, identify a committee established in (a) of this section as representing more than one community, and will, in its discretion, designate one or more seats on the committee for a specific community. Each community is entitled to elect up to the designated number of representatives for the committee, in accordance with 5 AAC 96.060(e) (3).

(c) The following committees are identified as representing more than one community, or, additionally, as having less than 15 members, and the following seats on the committee are designated for each community:

(1) in the Southeast Alaska Region:

(A) Upper Lynn Canal

Haines	8 representatives
Skagway	2 representatives
Klukwan	1 representative
Undesignated	4 representatives

(B) Icy Straits

Hoonah	9 representatives
Gustavus	2 representatives

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Undesignated 4 representatives

(C) Ketchikan

Saxman 2 representatives
Undesignated 13 representatives

(D) Saxman

Saxman 6 representatives
Ketchikan 2 representatives
Undesignated 1 representative

(E) Edna Bay (7 members)

Edna Bay 6 representatives
Undesignated 1 representative

(F) East Prince of Wales

Thorne Bay 1 representative
Coffman Cove 1 representative
Whale Pass 1 representative
Kassan 1 representative
Undesignated 11 representatives

(2) in the Southcentral Alaska Region:

(A) Copper Basin (11 members)

Glennallen 2 representatives
Lake Louise 1 representative
Tazlina 2 representatives
Copper Center 1 representative
Gakona/Gulkana 1 representative
Kenney Lake 1 representative
Chitina 1 representative
Undesignated 2 representatives

(B) repealed 7/12/98;

(C) Mount Yenlo

Talkeetna 4 representatives
Skwentna 4 representatives
Undesignated 7 representatives

(D) Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road

(7 members)
Undesignated 7 representatives

(E) Whittier (9 members)

Undesignated 9 representatives

(3) in the Southwest Alaska Region:

(A) Chignik

Chignik Lagoon 3 representatives
Ivanoff 3 representatives
Chignik Lake 3 representatives
Perryville 3 representatives

(B) Kodiak

Kodiak 7 representatives
Old Harbor 1 representative
Ouzinkie 1 representative
Port Lions 1 representative
Undesignated 5 representatives

(C) Lake Iliamna

Iliamna 3 representatives
Nondalton 2 representatives
Pedro Bay 1 representative
Kokhanok 1 representative
Igiugig 1 representative
Newhalen 1 representative
Undesignated 6 representatives

(D) Lower Bristol Bay

Ugashik 1 representative
Egegik 2 representatives
Pilot Point 2 representatives
Port Heiden 2 representatives
Undesignated 8 representatives

(E) Nushagak

Dillingham 5 representatives
Clarks Point 1 representative
Ekwok 1 representative
New Stuyahok 1 representative
Koliganek 1 representative
Aleknagik 1 representative
Togiak 1 representative
Portage Creek 1 representative
Manokotak 1 representative
Undesignated 2 representatives

(F) Togiak

Togiak 3 representatives
Manokotak 3 representatives
Twin Hills 1 representative
Undesignated 8 representatives

(4) in the Western Alaska Region:

(A) Central Bering Sea

Chevak 1 representative
Chefornak 1 representative
Goodnews Bay 1 representative
Kipnuk 1 representative
Kongiganak 1 representative
Kwigillingok 1 representative
Mekoryuk 1 representative
Newtok 1 representative
Nightmute 1 representative
Platinum 1 representative
Quinhagak 1 representative
Toksook Bay 1 representative
Tanunak 1 representative
Undesignated 2 representatives

(B) Lower Kuskokwim

Kwethluk 2 representatives
Napaskiak 2 representatives
Napakiak 1 representative
Kasigluk 1 representative
Oscarville 1 representative
Nunapitchuk 1 representative
Tuntutuliak 1 representative
Tuluksak 1 representative
Atmauthluak 1 representative
Akiak 1 representative
Akiachak 1 representative

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Bethel 1 representative
 Eek 1 representative

(C) Central Kuskokwim

Sleetmute 3 representatives
 Crooked Creek 2 representatives
 Lime Village 2 representatives
 Aniak 2 representatives
 Chuathbaluk 1 representative
 Lower Kalskag 1 representative
 Upper Kalskag 1 representative
 Red Devil 1 representative
 Stoney River 1 representative
 Undesignated 1 representative

(D) Lower Yukon

Marshall 1 representative
 Russian Mission 1 representative
 St. Marys 1 representative
 Andreafski 1 representative
 Mountain Village 1 representative
 Sheldons Point 1 representative
 Scammon Bay 1 representative
 Alakanuk 1 representative
 Pilot Station 1 representative
 Kotlik 1 representative
 Emmonak 1 representative
 Hooper Bay 1 representative
 Pitkas Point 1 representative
 Undesignated 2 representatives

(5) in the Arctic Alaska Region:

(A) Northern Norton Sound

Nome 6 representatives
 Elim 1 representative
 Wales 1 representative
 Golovin 1 representative
 White Mountain 1 representative
 Shishmaref 1 representative
 Teller 1 representative
 Brevig Mission 1 representative
 Undesignated 2 representatives

(B) Northern Seward Peninsula

Buckland 3 representatives
 Selawik 2 representatives
 Deering 2 representatives
 Undesignated 8 representatives

(C) Upper Kobuk

Ambler 3 representatives
 Shungnak 1 representative
 Kobuk 1 representative
 Undesignated 10 representatives

(D) Lower Kobuk

Noorvik 3 representatives
 Kiana 2 representatives
 Undesignated 10 representatives

(E) Noatak/Kivalina

Noatak 3 representatives
 Kivalina 2 representatives

Undesignated 10 representatives

(F) Western Arctic

Barrow 2 representatives
 Point Hope 1 representative
 Point Lay 1 representative
 Wainwright 1 representative
 Atkasuk 1 representative
 Undesignated 9 representatives

(G) Eastern Arctic

Kaktovik 5 representatives
 Nuiqsut 5 representatives
 Anaktuvuk Pass 5 representatives
 Undesignated 0 representatives

(H) Southern Norton Sound

Unalakleet 6 representatives
 St. Michael 2 representatives
 Shaktoolik 2 representatives
 Stebbins 2 representatives
 Koyuk 2 representatives
 Undesignated 1 representative

(6) in the Interior Alaska Region:

(A) McGrath

McGrath 6 representatives
 Nikolai 3 representatives
 Telida 1 representative
 Takotna 2 representatives
 Undesignated 3 representatives

(B) Middle Nenana River

Healy 5 representatives
 Clear 4 representatives
 McKinley Village 2 representatives
 Kantishna 1 representative
 Undesignated 3 representatives

(C) Upper Tanana/Forty Mile

(9 members)
 Tok 3 representatives
 Northway 1 representative
 Tetlin 1 representative
 Dot Lake 1 representative
 Tanacross 1 representative
 Healy Lake 1 representative
 Undesignated 1 representative

(D) Yukon Flats

Birch Creek 1 representative
 Beaver 2 representatives
 Chalkyitsik 2 representatives
 Fort Yukon 2 representatives
 Arctic Village 2 representatives
 Circle 2 representatives
 Venetie 2 representatives
 Stevens Village 2 representatives
 Undesignated 0 representatives

(E) Tanana/Rampart/Manley

(9 members)
 Manley Hot Springs 2 representatives

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Rampart 3 representatives
Tanana 3 representatives
Undesignated 1 representative

(F) Middle Yukon

Galena 4 representatives
Kaltag 4 representatives
Nulato 3 representatives
Koyukuk 1 representative
Undesignated 3 representatives

(G) Koyukuk River

Allakaket 3 representatives
Huslia 3 representatives
Hughes 2 representatives
Alatna 2 representatives
Bettles 2 representatives
Undesignated 3 representatives

(H) Grayling/Anvik/Shageluk/Holy Cross (9 members)

Holy Cross 3 representatives
Grayling 2 representatives
Anvik 1 representative
Shageluk 1 representative
Undesignated 2 representatives

(I) Minto/Nenana

Nenana 5 representatives
Minto 5 representatives
Undesignated 1 representative

(J) Ruby (9 members)

Undesignated 9 representatives

(K) Eagle (9 members)

Undesignated 9 representatives

(L) Delta (11 members)

Undesignated 11 representatives

(M) Central (9 members)

Undesignated 9 representatives

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95; am 8/2/86, Register 99; am 9/15/88, Register 107; am 3/16/89, Register 109; am 11/30/89, Register 112; am 9/26/90, Register 115; am 8/28/91, Register 119; am 6/26/93, Register 126; am 8/16/97, Register 143; am 7/12/98, Register 147
Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.022. Determination of compliances
Repealed 12/13/79.

5 AAC 96.025. Qualification of members
Repealed 12/13/79.

5 AAC 96.030. Composition of local fish and game advisory committees
Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.040. Qualifications for members

To qualify for membership on a committee, a candidate must have knowledge of and experience with the fish and wildlife resources and their uses in the area, and have a reputation within the community consistent with the responsibilities of committee membership.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88
Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.045. Removal for cause
Repealed 12/13/79.

5 AAC 96.050. Functions of local fish and game advisory committees

A committee may

- (1) develop regulatory proposals for submission to the appropriate board;
- (2) evaluate regulatory proposals submitted to them and make recommendations to the appropriate board;
- (3) provide a local forum for fish and wildlife conservation and use, including any matter related to fish and wildlife habitat;
- (4) advise the appropriate regional council regarding the conservation, development, and use of fish and wildlife resources;
- (5) work with the appropriate regional council to develop subsistence management plans and harvest strategy proposals; and
- (6) cooperate and consult with interested persons and organizations, including government agencies, to accomplish (1) - (5) of this section.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95
Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.060. Uniform rules of operation

- (a) Each committee must comply with the uniform rules of operation contained in this section.
- (b) **Organization.** Each committee is organized under AS 16.05.260 and is administered by the joint board.
- (c) **Responsibilities.** Each committee is responsible for performing the functions described in 5 AAC 96.010 and 5 AAC 96.050 in accordance with provisions of 5 AAC 96 - 5 AAC 99.
- (d) **Title.** Each committee must have a title.
- (e) **Membership.**

(1) Each committee must have at least five but not more than 15 members. The joint board will, in its discretion, limit the size of a committee to less than 15 members at the time the committee is established or at committee request. The members must be representative of fish and game user groups in the area served by the committee. To the extent possible, at least three user groups must be represented on each committee, and membership must include representatives from each town or village located in the area that the committee represents. To ensure full representation of an area, the joint board will, in its discretion, assign a seat on the committee to represent a specific user group or specific community.

(2) The joint board will appoint the original five members of each committee. An additional member will be confirmed by the joint board from names submitted to it after a committee election.

(3) Each committee member, and each voting-age resident of the area of committee jurisdiction under 5 AAC 97.005 who attends a committee election, may vote on a nomination for

membership. Nominees receiving the most votes are elected. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a committee need not establish a quorum to elect a new member. The election for a seat specified in 5 AAC 96.021(c) must take place in the community for which the seat is specified. An undesignated seat may be filled at a regularly scheduled committee meeting if a quorum is present. No committee may refuse membership to a nominee if committee membership is less than the number of members authorized by the joint board.

(4) A committee shall forward election results, and each newly-elected or re-elected member shall forward a new member form, to the appropriate regional office of the division of boards within 14 days after the election. A newly-elected or re-elected member has full voting and office-holding privileges upon election, but is subject to confirmation by the joint board.

(5) A newly-elected or re-elected member loses membership status if he or she fails to submit a new member form within 14 days after the election, or if his or her confirmation is refused by the joint board.

(6) A committee shall begin its duties when the joint board appoints the first five members.

(7) Each advisory committee may appoint two alternates. However, any member of an advisory committee who is the sole representative from a village or town may also appoint an alternate. Each alternate must meet the qualifications under this chapter. When acting as a member of an advisory committee, an alternate is entitled to the benefits, privileges, and responsibilities of a regular member.

(f) **Terms of Members.** Each committee shall establish the terms of its members so that not more than one-third of the committee members' terms expire in one calendar year. Terms commence on January 1 and expire on December 31 of the year designated or until a successor has been duly elected at the next committee meeting. Maximum length of a term is three years.

(g) **Vacancy.** A committee shall fill a vacancy through nomination and election under (e) of this section. A committee shall give at least 14 days' public notice of a vacancy. The term of a member filling a vacancy must be set as required by (f) of this section. A chairman shall declare a vacancy on a committee when any of the following occurs:

- (1) a member's death, resignation, or refusal accept election;
- (2) a member's absence from three consecutive, regularly advertised meetings without reasonable justification, as determined by a majority vote of the committee; or
- (3) a member's removal by the joint board for cause.

(h) **Nomination.** A committee member or resident of the area served by the committee who qualifies under this section may submit a nomination for committee membership to the committee orally or in writing, at any regular meeting, regardless of whether a quorum is present. The committee may set a time period during which it will accept nominations. If the committee establishes a time period, it shall give adequate public notice of the time before it accepts nominations. A committee shall vote on each nomination under (e) of this section either at the next regular meeting after it accepts nominations, or at the same meeting at which it accepts a nomination. The committee shall decide whether to vote on nominations at the same or at a subsequent meeting and shall provide appropriate notice of this decision. A person qualifies as a resident of the area served by the committee if the person is a resident as defined in AS 16.05.940 who

maintains an abode in the area served by a committee described in 5 AAC 97.005.

(i) **Officers.** The officers of a committee consist of a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary. The term of office for officers is two years starting January 1 and ending December 31 of the following year, or until the next meeting when new officers can be elected.

(j) **Chairman.** The chairman is elected by a majority vote of a quorum of the committee and is the presiding officer. A chairman must meet the qualifications set out in 5 AAC 96.040. The chairman of a committee, or a designee, is also a member of the regional council established under 5 AAC 96.220. However, any committee member who is a member of the council must be a resident of the region.

(k) **Vice-chairman.** The vice-chairman is elected by a majority vote of a quorum of a committee and shall assist the chairman and assume chairman's duties when the chairman is absent.

(l) **Secretary.** The secretary is elected by a majority vote of a quorum of a committee and may be, but need not be, a member of the committee. The secretary shall carry out the usual duties associated with the office. If the secretary is not a committee member, the secretary has no vote on committee business other than nominations for committee membership.

(m) **Replacement of an Officer.** A committee may replace an officer if

(1) the officer resigns from office or from committee membership before his or her term in office, or on the committee, expires;

(2) the committee declares the officer's seat vacant under (g) of this section; or

(3) a quorum of the committee meets and a majority of the full committee membership votes to remove the committee member from office, after giving the officer written notice at least 14 days before the meeting.

(n) **Removal for Cause.** The joint board will, in its discretion, remove any member of a committee for cause. As used in this subsection, "cause" includes

(1) unjustifiable absence from three consecutive meetings;

(2) conviction of a crime or administrative disciplinary action for behavior inconsistent with the responsibility of committee or council membership within the preceding five years;

(3) disregard for or violation of the provisions of 5 AAC 96 or 5 AAC 97 governing the committee and council system; or

(4) failure, at any time, to meet the qualifications for committee membership.

(o) **Meetings.**

(1) **Regular meeting.** A committee shall meet at least twice a year to remain active under 5 AAC 96.450. A committee may meet at times appropriate to the process described in 5 AAC 96.610, and at other times to formulate regulatory proposals, review and comment on proposals, and consider matters appropriate to the committee's functions under 5 AAC 96.050. A chairman or a majority of the full committee membership may call a regular meeting.

(2) **Special meeting.** A chairman or a majority of the full committee membership may call a special meeting at which any person may submit a statement to the committee on any matter relating to the committee's functions under 5 AAC 96.050 or 5 AAC 96.060(g), (h), or (m).

(p) **Joint Committee Meeting.** Each committee shall cooperate with other committees on matters of mutual interest and concern, and may, upon approval of the chairman of the

joint board or the chairman's designee, hold a joint meeting to accomplish this purpose.

(q) **Quorum.** A majority of all the members serving on a committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. Every action or decision of a majority of the members present at a duly held meeting of a committee, at which a quorum is present, is an act of the committee.

(r) **Rules of Meetings.** Meetings of a committee must be conducted according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

(s) **Record of Meetings.** Preliminary minutes of each committee meeting must be recorded in writing and forwarded to the director of the division of boards within three weeks after the meeting. Before an advisory committee chair or a designee will be allowed to represent the advisory committee before the joint board, the Board of Fisheries, or the Board of Game, the advisory committee must submit to the respective board a set of its relevant minutes.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95; am 11/30/89, Register 112; am 9/26/90, Register 115; am 7/12/98, Register 147
Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.070. Report of activities
Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.080. Interaction of local advisory committees with regional fish and game councils

(a) A committee chairman, or the chairman's designee, is a member of a council established in 5 AAC 96.220. The chairman of each committee, or a designee, shall attend meetings of the applicable council. Any committee member who is a member of a council must be a resident of the region.
(b) A committee is the primary forum for discussion by local residents of fisheries and wildlife management issues in their area. Councils shall assist the committees to this end.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88
Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 2 Regional Fish and Game Councils

Section

200. Establishment of a regional fish and game council system.

210. Fish and game resource management regions.

220. Regional fish and game councils.

230. (Repealed).

240. (Repealed).

245. Non-voting member.

250. Functions of regional fish and game councils.

260. Uniform rules of operation.

270. (Repealed).

280. Attendance at meetings.

5 AAC 96.200. Establishment of a regional fish and game council system

A system of regional fish and game councils is established to provide a regional forum for the collection and expression of opinions and recommendations on matters relating to fish and wildlife resources, to assist the boards in deliberations concerning regulations, and to provide for public participation

in the regulatory process to help adequately protect subsistence uses.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.210. Fish and game resource management regions

(a) For the purposes of conservation and management of the fish and wildlife resources of the state, the following fish and game resource management regions are created:

(1) Southeast Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 1 - 5, that part of Unit 6 east of Cape Suckling, and adjacent marine waters;

(2) Southcentral Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 6 west of Cape Suckling, 7, 9A, 11, 13 - 16, and adjacent marine waters;

(3) Southwest Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 8, 9B - E, 10, 17, and adjacent marine waters;

(4) Western Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Unit 18 and that portion of the Kuskokwim River drainage in Game Management Unit 19 downstream from, and including, the George River drainage and the Hoholitna River drainage, and adjacent marine waters;

(5) Arctic Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 22, 23, 26, and adjacent marine waters; and

(6) Interior Alaska, consisting of all lands and waters of Game Management Units 12, 20, 21, 24, 25, and that portion of the Kuskokwim River drainage in Unit 19 upstream from the George River drainage and the Hoholitna River drainage.

(b) The Game Management Units listed in (a) of this section are described in 5 AAC 90.010.

(c) A board will, in its discretion, temporarily change the boundaries of regions for individual resource issues.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.220. Regional fish and game councils

The joint board will establish a council within each region described in 5 AAC 96.210. Each council will consist of the chairmen, or their designees, of the active committees established within the region. Any committee member who is a member of a council must be a resident of the region.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.230. Qualifications for membership

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.240. Non-voting members

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.245. Non-voting member

Each regional council may establish two seats for non-voting members if necessary to perform the functions set out in 5 AAC 96.250.

History: Eff. 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.250. Functions of regional fish and game councils

(a) Each council is authorized to:

- (1) hold public meetings on fish and wildlife matters;
- (2) elect officers;
- (3) in consultation with the local fish and game advisory committees in its region and with the department, review, evaluate, and make a recommendation to a board on any existing or proposed regulation, policy, or management plan, or any other matter relating to the use of fish and wildlife, including any matter related to fish and wildlife habitat, within its region;
- (4) perform other duties specified by a board; and
- (5) submit to the joint board, the department, and the Secretary of Interior of the United States, by November 15 of each year, an annual report, containing:

- (A) an identification of current and anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the region, and other fish and wildlife uses that the council identifies;
- (B) an evaluation of current and anticipated subsistence needs for use of fish and wildlife populations within the region, and of other fish and wildlife needs that the council identifies;
- (C) a recommended strategy for the management of fish and wildlife populations within the region to accommodate the identified fish and wildlife uses and needs; and
- (D) recommendations concerning policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to implement the strategy.

(b) A council shall provide a forum for, and assist its local fish and game advisory committees in, obtaining the opinions and recommendations of people interested in fish and wildlife matters so as to achieve the greatest possible local participation in the decision-making process. If differences of opinion exist among the committees, the council shall attempt to develop areas of compromise and to reach a regional consensus on matters of controversy.

(c) A council will, in its discretion, present recommendations concerning the conservation, regulation, management, and use of fish and wildlife resources within its region, along with the evidence upon which the recommendations are based, to the appropriate board.

(d) A council may make recommendations to the joint board on the creation, consolidation, distribution, or operation of the committee system.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.260. Uniform rules of operation

(a) **Rules.** Every action taken by a council must comply with the uniform rules of operation for committees set out in 5 AAC 96.060(j), (k), (m), and (q) - (s). The rules in (b) - (d) of this section supersede the corresponding rules in 5 AAC 96.060(c), (e), (o), and (t).

(b) **Responsibilities.** A council shall perform the functions described in 5 AAC 96.250 in accordance with the provisions of 5 AAC 96 and 97.

(c) **Membership.** Membership on a council is as provided in 5 AAC 96.220.

(d) **Meetings.** Each council shall hold regular meetings at times appropriate to the process described in 5 AAC 96.610. The chairman or a majority of a council's members may call a special meeting at which any interested person may submit statements to the council on any matter related to the purposes for which the meeting is called. Council meetings are public

meetings under AS 44.62.310 and 44.62.312 and must be advertised in the region. The council shall allow public testimony at every council meeting.

(e) **Recommendations.** A council must convey any recommendation to the appropriate board in writing and with a justification or explanation before the start of the board meeting.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/26/90, Register 115

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Editor's note: An amendment to 5 AAC 96.260(e) was adopted jointly by the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game in 1990, took effect 9/26/90, and should have appeared in Register 115, October 1990. The amendment, however, was inadvertently omitted when Register 115 was published, and did not appear in print until Register 122, July 1992.

5 AAC 96.270. Report of activities

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.280. Attendance at meetings

When adequate funding exists, the chairman, or his designee, shall attend regulatory meetings of the boards. Each council shall cooperate with other councils on matters of mutual interest and concern, and will, in its discretion, hold joint meetings, authorized by the boards, to accomplish this purpose.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 3

Administration of Local Fish and Game Committees

Section

400. (Repealed).

410. Distribution of local fish and game advisory committees.

420. Review of requests for local fish and game advisory committees.

430. (Repealed).

440. Board assistance.

450. Committee status and change of status.

460. Attendance at meetings.

5 AAC 96.400. Operation of local fish and game advisory committee system

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.410. Distribution of local fish and game advisory committees

The joint board will, to the extent feasible, establish and locate committees to allow an opportunity for all citizens of the state to participate in the regulatory system.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.420. Review of requests for local fish and game advisory committees

The joint board will review requests to create committees. Factors that it will evaluate include

- (1) whether an existing committee could be expanded to include members who represent the interest of the persons making the request;
- (2) whether representation of all user groups on existing committees in the area is adequate;
- (3) whether residents of the local area are likely to participate actively on the proposed committee;
- (4) whether there are likely to be enough qualified people interested in serving on the proposed committee;
- (5) whether logistical problems would make it difficult to provide assistance to the proposed committee;
- (6) whether the proposed committee would enhance participation in the decision-making process;
- (7) the recommendation of the appropriate council; and
- (8) the efficiency of existing committees.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.430. Review of nominations for membership on local fish and game advisory committees
Repealed 11/30/89.

5 AAC 96.440. Board assistance

The boards will provide information regarding board meetings to committees so that committees may plan maximum participation in the boards' deliberations. In addition, a board may request a committee to meet and to formulate recommendations on a subject or issue identified by the board.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.450. Committee status and change of status

(a) A committee is active if it forwards minutes from at least two meetings per year to the appropriate regional office of the division of boards.

(b) The joint board will, in its discretion, place a committee on an inactive list by committee request or joint board action. The committee may reactivate by holding a meeting and informing the joint board of its active status through committee minutes.

(c) Committees may merge if each affected committee votes to request merger, and if the boards determine that the merger should occur, after considering the factors set out in 5 AAC 96.420.

(d) The joint board will, in its discretion, merge an inactive committee with an active committee if the joint board gives the committees notice of the proposed merger, if the inactive committee does not express an intention to reactivate or if it does not do so within a reasonable time after notice, and if the joint board determines that the merger should occur, after considering the factors in 5 AAC 96.420.

(e) The joint board will, in its discretion, dissolve a committee if the committee has been inactive for two years and fails to respond to joint board inquiries about its desire to remain in existence. The joint board will, in its discretion, dissolve a committee for failure to act in accordance with the provisions of 5 AAC 96 and 5 AAC 97.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.460. Attendance at meetings

When adequate funding exists the boards will, in their discretion, request the department to reimburse committee members for the following:

- (1) travel to local committee meetings and necessary related expenses;
- (2) travel, approved in advance, for the purpose of joint meetings between two or more committees; and
- (3) travel and other necessary expenses approved in advance by the boards for committee chairmen or their designees to attend board meetings. A chairman's designee must be a committee member.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 4

Administration of Regional Fish and Game Councils

Section

500. Operation of regional fish and game council system.

510. Staff assistance.

520. Regular and special meetings.

530. Attendance at meetings.

540. Direction from the boards.

5 AAC 96.500. Operation of regional fish and game council system

The boards will, in their discretion, provide assistance to councils and maintain the council system so as to enable the councils to comply with the purposes and functions described in 5 AAC 96.200 and 5 AAC 96.250.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.510. Staff assistance

The commissioner will, in his discretion, assign staff or hire regional coordinators to aid councils in achieving maximum interaction with committees, the boards, and the department.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.520. Regular and special meetings

The boards will provide information to councils so that councils can schedule meetings at times that will maximize the council's participation in the boards' deliberations concerning fish and wildlife resources. In addition, a board may request a council to meet and to formulate recommendations on other issues affecting fish and wildlife resources. A board may require a regional fish and game council to review and comment on any recommendation received by a board from a committee or from a council, or require that a council meet with another council on matters of mutual concern.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.530. Attendance at meetings

(a) When adequate funding exists, the boards will request the department to reimburse council members for travel and expenses incurred in attending council meetings approved by the boards, and will request reimbursement for each council chairman or his designee for travel and other approved expenses incurred in attending board meetings. A chairman's designee must be a council member.

(b) When adequate funding exists, the boards will request the department to provide funds to councils for travel to joint council meetings approved by the boards and for other approved expenses necessary for joint council business and meetings.

(c) Repealed 10/9/83.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.540. Direction from the boards

The boards will, in their discretion, give direction to the councils on the nature and format of council actions in order to enhance council assistance to the boards.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 5

Adoption of Fish and Game Regulations

Section

600. Meetings.

610. Procedure for developing fish and game regulations.

615. Subsistence proposal policy.

620. (Repealed).

625. Joint board petition policy.

630. Special meetings.

640. Regular meetings.

650. (Repealed).

660. Compliance.

5 AAC 96.600. Meetings

(a) Each board will hold at least one regular meeting a year. Other meetings, including special meetings on specific issues, will be held as the boards consider necessary.

(b) The attendance of a Board of Fisheries member at a committee or council meeting constitutes a board hearing in accordance with AS 16.05.300 (b). For the purposes of AS 16.05.300 (b), "year" means the 12 month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

(c) The joint board will meet at least once each year to consider matters of mutual concern, including matters relating to committees and councils.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95; am 10/1/93, Register 127

Authority: AS 16.05.260

AS 16.05.300

AS 16.05.310

AS 16.05.315

5 AAC 96.610. Procedure for developing fish and game regulations

(a) For the purpose of developing fish and game regulations, each board will observe the procedures set out in this section. The deadlines for each phase will be set by the appropriate board for each meeting and will be announced to committees, councils, and the public.

(b) Phase 1. Each board will solicit regulatory proposals or comments to facilitate their deliberations. The boards will, in their discretion, limit those sections or portions of the existing regulations that will be open for change. The boards will provide forms to be used in preparing proposals. Notices soliciting proposals will be distributed statewide. In order to be considered, a proposal must be received by the boards

before the designated deadline unless provided otherwise by a board.

(c) Phase 2. After the deadline for receiving proposals, the division of boards shall compile all proposals received on time, including proposals from department staff and other government agencies, distribute them to the public through department offices, and send them to committees and councils. Proposals postmarked after the deadline may be considered if the proposal is covered in the legal notice.

(d) Phase 3. Committees and councils will, in their discretion, review the proposals at a public meeting in accordance with the following:

(1) each council shall attempt to reach a consensus before making its recommendation to the board;

(2) each committee and council may request technical and scientific support data and prepared testimony from the department; and

(3) each recommendation to a board from a council must include a justification or explanation.

(e) Phase 4. Each board will give legal notice of timely received proposals. In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), each board will hold a public hearing and will act on proposals or develop alternatives on the subject matter legally noticed, after reviewing the recommendations by a council. The final decision on all proposals remains the responsibility of a board. However, if a council recommendation is on any proposal concerning the subsistence use of fish or wildlife within its region, a board will, in its discretion, choose not to follow the recommendation if the board determines that it is not supported by substantial evidence presented during the course of the board's administrative proceedings, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. If a council recommendation on any proposal regarding subsistence use of fish or wildlife within its region is not adopted by a board, the board will set out in writing the factual basis and the reasons for its decision.

(f) Phase 5. After completion of procedures required by the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), a board will notify each committee and council of the actions taken on their respective recommendations and proposals and the reasons for those actions, including any decision made under (e) of this section regarding a council recommendation on any proposal concerning the subsistence use of fish or wildlife within its region.

History: In effect before 1982; am 6/2/82, Register 82; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 8/28/91, Register 119

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.615. Subsistence proposal policy

(a) It is the policy of the Boards of Fisheries and Game to consider subsistence proposals for topics that are not covered by the notice soliciting proposals under 5 AAC 96.610(a). To be considered by a board, a subsistence proposal must be timely submitted under 5 AAC 96.610(a), and

(1) the proposal must address a fish or game population that has not previously been considered by the board for identification as a population customarily and traditionally used for subsistence under AS 16.05.258; or

(2) the circumstances of the proposal otherwise must require expedited consideration by the board, such as where the proposal is the result of a court decision or is the subject of

federal administrative action that might impact state game management authority.

(b) A board may delegate authority to a review committee, consisting of members of the board, to review all subsistence proposals for any meeting to determine whether the conditions in (a) of this section apply.

(c) A board may decline to act on a subsistence proposal for any reason, including the following:

(1) the board has previously considered the same issue and there is no substantial new evidence warranting reconsideration; or

(2) board action on the proposal would affect other subsistence users who have not had a reasonable opportunity to address the board on the matter.

History: Eff. 8/17/91, Register 119; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258

Editor's note: At its November 1 - 7, 1992 meeting, the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game readopted 5 AAC 96.615 in its entirety, without change, under ch. 1, SSSLA 1992 (the 1992 subsistence law), which repealed and reenacted AS 16.05.258.

AAC 96.620. Supplemental regulations and actions

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.625. Joint board petition policy

(a) Under AS 44.62.220, an interested person may petition an agency, including the Boards of Fisheries and Game, for the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation. The petition must clearly and concisely state the substance or nature of the regulation, amendment, or repeal requested, the reason for the request, and must reference the agency's authority to take the requested action. Within 30 days after receiving a petition, a board will deny the petition in writing, or schedule the matter for public hearing under AS 44.62.190 - 44.62.210, which require that any agency publish legal notice describing the proposed change and solicit comment for 30 days before taking action. AS 44.62.230 also provides that if the petition is for an emergency regulation, and the agency finds that an emergency exists, the agency may submit the regulation to the lieutenant governor immediately after making the finding of emergency and putting the regulation into proper form.

(b) Fish and game regulations are adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Board of Game. At least twice annually, the boards solicit regulation changes. Several hundred proposed changes are usually submitted to each board annually. The Department of Fish and Game compiles the proposals and mails them to all fish and game advisory committees, regional fish and game councils, and to over 500 other interested individuals.

(c) Copies of all proposals are available at local Department of Fish and Game offices. When the proposal books are available, the advisory committees and regional councils then hold public meetings in the communities and regions they represent, to gather local comment on the proposed changes. Finally, the boards convene public meetings, which have lasted as long as six weeks, taking department staff reports, public comment, and advisory committee and regional council reports before voting in public session on the proposed changes.

(d) The public has come to rely on this regularly scheduled participatory process as the basis for changing fish and game

regulations. Commercial fishermen, processors, guides, trappers, hunters, sport fishermen, subsistence fishermen, and others plan business and recreational ventures around the outcome of these public meetings.

(e) The Boards of Fisheries and Game recognize the importance of public participation in developing management regulations, and recognize that public reliance on the predictability of the normal board process is a critical element in regulatory changes. The boards find that petitions can detrimentally circumvent this process and that an adequate and more reasonable opportunity for public participation is provided by regularly scheduled meetings.

(f) The Boards of Fisheries and Game recognize that in rare instances circumstances may require regulatory changes outside the process described in (b) - (d) of this section. Except for petitions dealing with subsistence hunting or fishing, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis under the criteria in 5 AAC 96.615(a), it is the policy of the boards that a petition will be denied and not scheduled for hearing unless the problem outlined in the petition justifies a finding of emergency. In accordance with state policy expressed in AS 44.62.270, emergencies will be held to a minimum and are rarely found to exist. In this section, an emergency is an unforeseen, unexpected event that either threatens a fish or game resource, or an unforeseen, unexpected resource situation where a biologically allowable resource harvest would be precluded by delayed regulatory action and such delay would be significantly burdensome to the petitioners because the resource would be unavailable in the future.

History: Eff. 9/22/85, Register 95; am 8/17/91, Register 119; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258

Editor's note: At its November 1 - 7, 1992 meeting, the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game readopted 5 AAC 96.625 in its entirety, without change, under ch. 1, SSSLA 1992 (the 1992 subsistence law), which repealed and reenacted AS 16.05.258.

5 AAC 96.630. Special meetings

In conjunction with any special meeting called under 5 AAC 96.600, each board will follow the procedures set out in 5 AAC 96.610 to the extent time permits. However, a board will, in its discretion, modify the procedures, if it would be more suitable for any particular special meeting.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.640. Regular meetings

A board will, in its discretion, modify the procedures set out in 5 AAC 96.610 in conjunction with any regular meeting, if to do so would enhance public, committee, or council participation in the board's deliberations.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 96.650. Staff assistance

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.660. Compliance

The failure of a committee, council, or a board to observe procedures set out in 5 AAC 96 - 5 AAC 97, except as may be

required by the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), does not invalidate a regulation adopted by a board.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Article 6 General Provisions

Section

900. (Repealed).

910. Definitions.

920. (Repealed).

5 AAC 96.900. Removal for cause

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 96.910. Definitions

In 5 AAC 96 - 5 AAC 99

(1) "board" means the Board of Fisheries or the Board of Game acting individually;

(2) "joint board" means the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game acting jointly;

(3) "committee" means a local fish and game advisory committee;

(4) "council" means a regional fish and game council;

(5) "designee" means a committee or council member who has been designated by the chairman;

(6) "region" means a fish and game resource management region; and

(7) "designated seat" means any seat the joint board assigns, under 5 AAC 96.060, to represent a particular user group or a particular community.

History: In effect before 1983; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 9/22/85, Register 95

Authority: AS 16.05.251

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.260

AS 16.05.315

5 AAC 96.920. Supplemental action

Repealed 10/9/83.

Chapter 97 Advisory Committee Closures

Article

1. Areas of Jurisdiction. (5 AAC 97.005)

2. Emergency Closures. (5 AAC 97.010 - 5 AAC 97.020)

Article 1 Areas of Jurisdiction

Section

5. Areas of jurisdiction for advisory committees.

5 AAC 97.005. Areas of jurisdiction for advisory committees

For the purpose of emergency closures on taking fish and game during established seasons, the following areas of jurisdiction are established for the advisory committees specified in this section:

(1) finfish

(A) Southeastern Alaska Area

(i) all waters of Alaska between the latitude of Cape Fairweather and the International Boundary at Dixon Entrance;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Angoon Advisory Committee, Tenakee Advisory Committee, Hyder Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Klukwan Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Hydaburg Advisory Committee, Icy Straits Advisory Committee, Saxman Advisory Committee, Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee;

(B) Yakutat-Yakataga Area

(i) all waters of Alaska north of the latitude of Cape Fairweather and east of the longitude of Cape Suckling;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Yakutat Advisory Committee and Copper River-Prince William Sound Advisory Committee;

(C) Prince William Sound-Lower Copper River Area

(i) all waters of Alaska west of the longitude of Cape Suckling and east of the longitude of Cape Fairfield, and the Copper River below the Million Dollar Bridge;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee, Copper Basin Advisory Committee, Valdez Advisory Committee, and Whittier Advisory Committee;

(D) Upper Copper River Area

(i) all waters of the Copper River drainage above the Million Dollar Bridge;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Copper Basin Advisory Committee, Tok Cutoff-Nebesna Road Advisory Committee, and Paxson Advisory Committee;

(E) Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Area

(i) all waters of Alaska north of the latitude of Cape Douglas and west of the longitude of Cape Fairfield;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Seward Advisory Committee, Cooper Landing Advisory Committee, Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee, Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee, Homer Advisory Committee, Anchorage Advisory Committee, Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee, Central Peninsula Advisory Committee, Seldovia Advisory Committee, Denali Advisory Committee, and Tyonek Advisory Committee;

(F) Kodiak-Chignik Area

(i) all waters of Alaska south of the latitude of Cape Douglas and east of a line extending southeast from Kupreanof Point;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Kodiak Advisory Committee and Chignik Advisory Committee;

(G) Alaska Peninsula-Aleutian Islands Area

(i) all Pacific Ocean waters of Alaska west of a line extending southeast from Kupreanof Point and Bering Sea waters south and west of a line extending northwest from Cape Menshikof;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove

Advisory Committee, False Pass Advisory Committee, Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee and Unalaska Advisory Committee;

(H) Bristol Bay Area

(i) all waters of Alaska east of a line from Cape Newenham to Cape Mensehikof;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Iliamna Advisory Committee, Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee, Nushagak Advisory Committee, Naknek-Kvichak Advisory Committee, and Togiak Advisory Committee;

(I) Kuskokwim Area

(i) all waters of the Kuskokwim River drainage and all waters of Alaska south of the latitude of Cape Romanzof, north of the latitude of Cape Newenham and including Nunivak and St. Matthew Island waters;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Central Bering Sea Coast Advisory Committee, and McGrath Advisory Committee;

(J) Lower Yukon Area

(i) all waters of the Yukon River drainage below the mouth of the Bonasila River and waters of Alaska between the latitude of Canal Point Light and the latitude of Cape Romanzof;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Lower Yukon Advisory Committee, Grayling-Anvik-Shageluk-Holy Cross Advisory Committee, and Central Bering Sea Coast Advisory Committee;

(K) Upper Yukon River Area

(i) all waters of the Yukon River drainage from the mouth of the Bonasila River to the U.S.-Canada border, excluding the Tanana River drainage;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Yukon Flats Advisory Committee, Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee, Middle Yukon Advisory Committee, Eagle Advisory Committee, Ruby Advisory Committee, Lower Yukon Advisory Committee, Grayling/Anvik/Shageluk/Holy Cross Advisory Committee, Minto/Nenana Advisory Committee, Koyukuk River Advisory Committee, and Central Advisory Committee;

(L) Tanana River Area

(i) all waters of the Tanana River drainage;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee, Minto/Nenana Advisory Committee, Delta Advisory Committee, Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee, Tok Cutoff/Nebesna Road Advisory Committee, Upper Tanana/Forty Mile Advisory Committee, and Fairbanks Advisory Committee;

(M) Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area

(i) all waters of Alaska between the latitude of Cape Prince of Wales and the latitude of Canal Point Light;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee and Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee;

(N) Kotzebue Sound Area

(i) all waters of Alaska between the latitude of Point Hope and the latitude of Cape Prince of Wales;

(ii) fish and game Advisory Committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Kotzebue Advisory Committee, Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee, Lower Kobuk Advisory Committee, Northern Seward Peninsula Advisory Committee, and Kivalina-Noatak Advisory Committee;

(2) shellfish

(A) Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area

(i) all waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state between the longitude of Cape Suckling and the International Boundary at Dixon Entrance;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Angoon Advisory Committee, Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Tenakee Advisory Committee, Hyder Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Klukwan Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, Yakutat Advisory Committee, Hydaburg Advisory Committee, Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, Saxman Advisory Committee, Icy Straits Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee;

(B) Prince William Sound Area

(i) all waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state between the longitude of Cape Suckling and the longitude of Cape Fairfield;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee, Valdez Advisory Committee, Seward Advisory Committee, and Whittier Advisory Committee;

(C) Cook Inlet Area

(i) all waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state west of the longitude of Cape Fairfield and north of the latitude of Cape Douglas;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Seward Advisory Committee, Cooper Landing Advisory Committee, Seldovia Advisory Committee, Homer Advisory Committee, Tyonek Advisory Committee, and Central Peninsula Advisory Committee;

(D) westward area shellfish other than king crab

(i) all Pacific Ocean waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state south of the latitude of Cape Douglas, east of 172°E. longitude and Bering Sea waters east of 172°E. longitude;

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Kodiak Advisory Committee, Chignik Advisory Committee, Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove Advisory Committee, False Pass Advisory Committee, and Unalaska Advisory Committee;

(E) westward area king crab

(i) in king crab Statistical Area K described in 5 AAC 34.400, the Kodiak Advisory Committee shall have jurisdiction;

(ii) in king crab Statistical Area M described in 5 AAC 34.500, the Chignik Advisory Committee, Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove Advisory Committee, and False Pass Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in king crab Statistical Area O described in 5 AAC 34.600, the Unalaska Advisory Committee, Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove Advisory Committee, and False Pass Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in king crab Registration Area Q described in 5 AAC 34.900, the Kodiak Advisory Committee, Chignik Advisory Committee, Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove Advisory Committee, False Pass Advisory Committee, Unalaska Advisory Committee, and Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(3) **game**

(A) **Southeastern Alaska**

(i) in Game Management Unit 1A described in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (A), the Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Hyder Advisory Committee, Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Saxman Advisory Committee, Hydaburg Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ii) in Game Management Unit 1B described in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (B), the Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in Game Management Unit 1C described in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (C), the Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Klukwan Advisory Committee, Angoon Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Tenakee Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in Game Management Unit 1D described in 5 AAC 92.450(1) (D), the Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Klukwan Advisory Committee, and Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(v) in Game Management Unit 2 described in 5 AAC 92.450(2), the Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, Hyder Advisory Committee, Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Saxman Advisory Committee, Hydaburg Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vi) in Game Management Unit 3 described in 5 AAC 92.450(3), the Petersburg Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vii) in Game Management Unit 4 described in 5 AAC 92.450(4), the Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Angoon Advisory Committee, Tenakee Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Klukwan Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Icy Straits Advisory Committee, Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(viii) in Game Management Unit 5 as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(5), the Yakutat Advisory Committee, Gastineau Channel (Juneau-Douglas) Advisory Committee, and Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(B) **Southcentral Alaska**

(i) in Game Management Unit 6 described in 5 AAC 92.450(6), the Seward Advisory Committee, Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee, Valdez Advisory Committee, Copper Basin Advisory Committee, Yakutat Advisory Committee, Whittier Advisory Committee, and Anchorage Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ii) in Game Management Unit 7 described in 5 AAC 92.450(7), the Seward Advisory Committee, Anchorage Advisory Committee, Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee, Central Peninsula Advisory Committee, Homer Advisory Committee, Whittier Advisory Committee, and Cooper Landing Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in Game Management Unit 8 described in 5 AAC 92.450(8), the Kodiak Advisory Committee and the Anchorage Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in Game Management Unit 11 described in 5 AAC 92.450(11), the Copper Basin Advisory Committee, the Tok Cutoff/Nebesna Road Advisory Committee, the Paxson Advisory Committee, and the Anchorage Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction;

(v) in Game Management Unit 12 described in 5 AAC 92.450(12), the Tok Cutoff/Nebesna Road Advisory Committee, Fairbanks Advisory Committee, Delta Advisory Committee, and Paxson Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vi) in Game Management Unit 13 described in 5 AAC 92.450(13), the Paxson Advisory Committee, Copper Basin Advisory Committee, Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee, Tok Cutoff/Nebesna Road Advisory Committee, Denali Advisory Committee, Anchorage Advisory Committee, Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee, and Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vii) in Game Management Unit 14 described in 5 AAC 92.450(14), the Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee, Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee, Anchorage Advisory Committee, Whittier Advisory Committee, and Denali Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(viii) in Game Management Unit 15 described in 5 AAC 92.450(15), the Central Peninsula Advisory Committee, Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee, Cooper Landing Advisory Committee, Homer Advisory Committee, Seldovia Advisory Committee, Seward Advisory Committee, and Anchorage Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ix) in Game Management Unit 16 described in 5 AAC 92.450(16), the Central Peninsula Advisory Committee, Anchorage Advisory Committee, Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee, Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee, Denali Advisory Committee, Cooper Landing Advisory Committee, Tyonek Advisory Committee, and Kenai/Soldotna Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(C) **Bristol Bay-Western Alaska**

(i) in Game Management Unit 9 as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(9), the Naknek-Kvichak Advisory Committee, Iliamna Advisory Committee, Nelson Lagoon Advisory Committee, Chignik Advisory Committee, Kodiak Advisory Committee, Sand Point Advisory Committee, King Cove Advisory Committee, False Pass Advisory Committee, and Anchorage Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ii) in Game Management Unit 10 as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(10), the False Pass Advisory Committee and the Unalaska Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in Game Management Unit 17 as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(17), the Nushagak Advisory Committee, the Naknek-Kvichak Advisory Committee, and the Iliamna Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in Game Management Unit 18 as defined by 5 AAC 92.450(18), the Central Bering Coast Advisory Committee,

Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Lower Yukon Advisory Committee, and Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(D) Northern Alaska

(i) in Game Management Unit 19 described in 5 AAC 92.450(19) , the McGrath Advisory Committee, Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Lake Minchumina Advisory Committee, and Anchorage Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ii) in Game Management Unit 20 described in 5 AAC 92.450(20) , the Central Advisory Committee, Fairbanks Advisory Committee, Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee, Paxson Advisory Committee, Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Advisory Committee, Eagle Advisory Committee, Denali Advisory Committee, Delta Advisory Committee, Yukon Flats Advisory Committee, Lake Minchumina Advisory Committee, Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee, Minto/Nenana Advisory Committee, and Upper Tanana/Forty-Mile Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in Game Management Unit 21 described in 5 AAC 92.450(21) (D), the Ruby Advisory Committee, Galena Advisory Committee, Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee, Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, Lower Yukon Advisory Committee, Koyukuk Advisory Committee, Grayling/Anvik/Shageluk/Holy Cross Advisory Committee, Fairbanks Advisory Committee, Lake Minchumina Advisory Committee, and Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in Game Management Unit 22 described in 5 AAC 92.450(22) , the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee, Kotzebue Advisory Committee, Northern Seward Peninsula, and Southern Norton Sound Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(v) in Game Management Unit 23 described in 5 AAC 92.450(23) , the Kotzebue Advisory Committee, Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee, Northern Seward Peninsula Advisory Committee, Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee, Lower Kobuk Advisory Committee, and Kivalina-Noatak Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vi) in Game Management Unit 24 described in 5 AAC 92.450(24) , the Galena Advisory Committee, Koyukuk Advisory Committee, Ruby Advisory Committee, Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee, and Fairbanks Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vii) in Game Management Unit 25 described in 5 AAC 92.450(25) , the Central Advisory Committee, Yukon Flats Advisory Committee, Tanana/Rampart/Manley Advisory Committee, Minto/Nenana Advisory Committee, Eagle Advisory Committee, and Fairbanks Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(viii) in Game Management Unit 26 described in 5 AAC 92.450(26) , the Barrow Advisory Committee and the Fairbanks Advisory Committee shall have concurrent jurisdiction.

History: In effect before 1980; am 7/11/81, Register 79; am 10/9/83, Register 88; am 8/2/86, Register 99; am 11/30/89, Register 112; am 9/26/90, Register 115; am 4/1/93, Register 125; am 7/12/98, Register 147

Authority: AS 16.05.260

Editor's note: Under the authority of AS 44.62.125 (b), the regulations attorney added sub-subparagraph (3)(A)(viii) to 5 AAC 97.005 as of Register 151, October 1999. The Joint

Boards of Fisheries and Game had adopted that sub-subparagraph, but it was inadvertently omitted by the publisher in 1990.

Article 2 Emergency Closures

Section

10. Advisory committee emergency closures.

15. (Repealed).

20. (Repealed).

5 AAC 97.010. Advisory committee emergency closures

(a) After delegation of authority from the commissioner, a committee may initiate an emergency closure during an established season for the taking of fish or game within its area of jurisdiction described in 5 AAC 97.005, under the procedures in this section. No committee may initiate an emergency opening.

(b) After initiation of an emergency closure by a committee, a majority of the members of a majority of the committees in the affected area of jurisdiction described in 5 AAC 97.005 must, by affirmative vote, ratify the action. A committee member may not vote by proxy or delegation. An emergency closure initiated by a committee is not effective until reviewed by the commissioner under (c) and (d) of this section and until field announcement is made under (f) of this section.

(c) An emergency closure initiated by a committee must be based on sound conservation reasoning and the sustained-yield principle. An emergency closure initiated by a committee must be necessary for the immediate protection of a stock, species, or population, and may not be initiated for the purpose of achieving primarily social, economic, or other nonbiological goals. The commissioner or his authorized representative shall review the emergency closure initiated by a local advisory committee to ensure compliance with these standards.

(d) At least 48 hours before an emergency closure is to become effective, the chairman of a committee voting to initiate an emergency closure must

(1) notify the commissioner by telegram, telephone, or in writing, of

(A) the decision to initiate the emergency closure;

(B) the time, area, and species involved;

(C) which committees the initiating committee contacted; and

(D) the vote of each committee regarding the closure; and

(2) deliver to the department office nearest the affected area a signed affidavit identifying the roll call vote of the committee, and a written emergency order, following the format specified in the *Advisory Committee Emergency Order Manual* printed by the department, stating the findings of fact made by the committee to justify the closure, and specifying the evidence relied upon by the committee.

(e) Upon receipt of the documents specified in (d)(2) of this section, the commissioner shall make a reasonable effort to contact the chairman of other committees of the appropriate council, so that the committee can vote for or against ratifying the closure. The commissioner shall notify the chairman or vice-chairman of the appropriate board, of a committee's emergency closure action. The commissioner shall provide the appropriate board with a copy of all written material pertinent to the emergency closure.

(f) The commissioner shall take appropriate action to make field announcement of the emergency closure within 48 hours after receipt of the documents specified in (d)(2) of this section, if the commissioner finds that the closure meets the standards of (b), (c), and (d) of this section. An emergency closure becomes effective after formal field announcement by the commissioner or his authorized representative.

(g) An emergency closure adopted by a committee under this section expires 120 days after its effective date or when superseded by regulation.

History: In effect before 1980; am 7/11/81, Register 79; am 10/9/83, Register 88

Authority: AS 16.05.260

5 AAC 97.015. Authority of the boards over emergency closures

Repealed 10/9/83.

5 AAC 97.020. Notice to the public of emergency closures

Repealed 10/9/83.

Chapter 98

Areas of Jurisdiction for Antlerless Moose Seasons

Article

1. Areas of Jurisdiction. (5 AAC 98.005)

Article 1

Areas of Jurisdiction

Section

5. Areas of jurisdiction for antlerless moose seasons.

5 AAC 98.005. Areas of jurisdiction for antlerless moose seasons

For the purpose of implementing AS 16.05.780 , antlerless moose seasons require approval by a majority of the active advisory committees located in, or the majority of whose members reside in, the affected unit or subunit. For the purpose of this section, an "active advisory committee" is a committee that holds a meeting and acts on the proposal.

(1) repealed 12/13/79;

(2) repealed 12/13/79;

(3) repealed 12/13/79;

(4) repealed 12/13/79.

History: In effect before 1983; am 4/21/83, Register 86

Authority: AS 16.05.260

AS 16.05.780

Editor's note: In Register 88 (January 1984) all of 5 AAC 98.005 was erroneously shown as repealed. As of Register 89 (April 1984), that error has been corrected and only the 1979 repeals of paragraphs (1) - (4) of that section are shown.