

On Time AC Comment List

Pelican AC1
Kenai Soldotna AC2
Craig AC3
Upper Lynn Canal AC4
Edna Bay AC5
Sitka AC6
Ketchikan AC7
Juneau/Douglas (JDAC) AC8
Yakutat AC9
Wrangell AC10
Petersburg AC11

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: 12-20-2011

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME: ADFG Pelican Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Location (City, town, village): Pelican, Alaska

Members Present: William Combs, Patricia Phillips, James E. Phillips, Steve Young, Terry Wirta

Members Absent _____

Members Excused _____

QUORUM PRESENT: YES NO

ADF&G Staff Present: _____

Time meeting called to order 4:00 AM / PM

Old Business and New Business: -- Use additional pages

Time Meeting Adjourned 5:30 AM / PM

Signature: 
Committee Secretary

Sign-in
12-20-2011

Pelican Advisory Committee

TELLY E. WIMTA
(SPORT
GUIDED SPORT
COMMUNISM
SUBSISTANCE

PO Box 775 PELICAN
907-735-1199

Patricia Phillips
Patricia Phillips
Commercial, subsistence

PO Box 109 Pelican
907 735 2240

JAMES E. PHILLIPS
James E Phillips
Commercial, sport, subsistence

P.O. Box 109 PELICAN AK
907 735-2240 - 907-321-1755

William E Combs
William E Combs
PO Box 401

735-2262 "unlisted"

Steve D Young
S D Young
P.O. Box 7415

735-2273

Commercial sport Subsistence

ELECTION/NOMINATION RECORD

Advisory Committee Name: ADFG Pelican Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Date of Meeting: 12-20-2011

NUMBER OF SEATS OPEN FOR MEMBERSHIP: 5

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE TALLY</u>
William Combs	5
James E. Phillips	5
Steve Young	5
Terry Wirta	5
Patricia Phillips	5

ELECTION RESULTS

MEMBERS ELECTED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LENGTH OF TERM</u>
Williams Combs	3 yrs.
James E. Phillips	3 yrs.
Steve Young	3 yrs.
Terry Wirta	3 yrs.
Patricia Phillips	3 yrs.

OFFICERS ELECTED

CHAIR: Patricia Phillips

VICE CHAIR: _____

SECRETARY: James E. Phillips

HAVE NEW AND RE-ELECTED MEMBERS COMPLETED AND RETURNED NEW MEMBER NOMINATION FORM?

ADFG Pelican Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
C/O P.O. Box 737
Pelican, Alaska 99832
December 20, 2011
4:00 p.m. Meeting called to order

Voter Record/Comments

Proposal No. 141/142/143/144: W. Combs/J. Phillips move to support proposals 141, 142, 143, 144. Discussion: Do not agree with any proposal that establishes Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ). Once an area is shutdown it is never going to get reopened. What gets started in one area almost always spreads to other areas of the region. The Pelican AC does not want to establish MCZ's in our area. Should not shutdown resident use of areas. 5 No Votes. Motion fails.

Proposal No. 249: W. Combs/T. Wirta move to support. Discussion: There should be a ceiling on the number of fish taken. Limit to 100 lbs. fish per non-resident person. The Pelican AC supports every fish being caught being counted. Every resident of Alaska suffers because of the depletion of the stocks. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal No. 308: W. Combs/S. Young move to support. Already below allotted allocation of enhanced salmon stocks already. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal No. 312: S. Young/W. Combs move to support. Emergency closure only when a low catch justifies a closure. Only want a closure, in the season, when there is a conservation problem. Every year that ADFG has had closures, the number of fish caught is always provided for all other users except salmon trollers, because the salmon trollers are shut down and there is adequate escapement. Hook & line has less impact on overall catch rates. 5 No Votes. Motion fails.

Proposal 311: J. Phillips/W. Combs move to support. Run of coho salmon runs early with a seven pound average. Open the season early and retain what is caught. If someone wants to fish those areas of early coho runs they should be able to fish those areas of early coho runs; they should be able to keep what they catch. Cohos used to be open June 1st. Hatchery production is changing the dynamics of the wild stock salmon runs. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal 313: S. Young/J. Phillips move to support. Extend coho season to end of month with ability for ADFG to do an emergency closure. This is the way it should be. The north end cohos show up October/November and are larger in size. It is more local residents fishing the end of the season. Support having more fish available to catch later in the season in Cross Sound. Hatchery production is changing the dynamics of the wild stock salmon runs. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal 343: W. Combs/T. Wirta move to support. Pelican has local resident trollers that utilize the Hidden Falls fishery in August and September. Trollers need a greater percentage of enhanced fish. Salmon trollers provide 35% of the enhancement money with a 17% return for trollers. Need to give trollers a chance to raise the percentage of enhanced fish caught. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal 219: W. Combs/T. Wirta move to support. By-catch for trollers is 1800 lbs. There is an abundance of lingcod in the Northern Southeast (NSE) outside waters. ADFG does not allow commercial trollers to keep any because by-catch limits are so low. Certain areas are closed before other areas catch limits are caught. So fishermen end up turning loose fish. Want to be able to keep winter troll caught lingcod for a year-round market. Sport-fishing in Area 2C can only keep a 37" halibut and have to turn loose the ling cod. Clients would be a lot happier if they could keep the lingcod caught instead of having to hook and release. Lingcod is a good substitute white fish. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposals 307 and 309: W. Combs/S. Young move to support proposals 307 and 309. Still be limited to winter fishery only. Hand trollers are better off using regular hand troll gear in the summer season. Hand trollers have the four fishing rods as a gear method that is effective. AC members are seeing more yachts with downriggers and HT letters on them. The yachters are using the HT permit to write-off their yachts. 5 No Votes. Motion fails.

Proposal 310: W. Combs/S. Young move to support. All enhanced king salmon in winter season. Good to move fish to markets in the winter-time; need more fish caught to make a season. With more people winter king fishing, the quota gets caught quicker. Adding the hatchery fish on will allow more days. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal 269: J. Phillips/S. Young move to support. Harvest record required with annual limits. The proposal supports the sustainability of all marine resources. There is a lack of enforcement and a lack of hard data. Self-guided boats have no check-ins/no punch cards required. All a matter of accounting – keeping account of the number of fish caught. Technology has advanced to allow greater accountability of fish caught. 5 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal 148: W. Combs/J. Phillips move to support. Oppose any efforts to shut-down commercial fishing on any crab stock in Southeast Alaska. This is an effort to displace commercial fishermen. 5 No Votes. Motion fails.

The Pelican AC discussed submitting a proposal in the next regulatory cycle (2015) to close Lisianski Inlet from Nose Head to Lisianski River to commercial shrimp fishing. This area is already fully utilized by local users and is heavily impacted by summer recreational users.

T. Wirta/W. Combs move to adjourn. Meeting adjourns 5:30 p.m.

ADF&G PELICAN FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Pelican Fish and Game Advisory Committee is having a meeting and elections on December 20th, 2011. There are 5 seats up for election/re-election. Anyone interested in serving on this committee is highly encouraged to attend this meeting. The Pelican AC will, following elections, be discussing upcoming issues which have been brought before the Board of Fisheries for this cycle year and the proposed changes to the Board of Game cycle calendar and proposal deadlines. If you are interested in any of the issues on the table you are highly encouraged to attend this meeting. As always, this meeting is open to the public.

The Pelican Fish and Game Advisory Committee is a collection of community members from all user groups that come together and discuss fish and game issues and recommend changes to current regulations. They also represent their community before the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game at board meetings.

Location: Pelican Community Center

Time: Tuesday, December 20th, 2011 4:00pm

For more information you can contact:

Shannon Stone, ADF&G Regional Coordinator – 465- 6097; or Patricia Phillips-735-2240

For more information contact Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator for Alaska Department of Fish and Game (465-4110).



Posted 12-5-2011

3 locations

Pelican, Alaska Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 20th, 2011

4:00 p.m.

Location: Pelican Community Center

Agenda:

Election of Committee Members

Comments to Alaska Board of Fisheries

2011/2012 Proposals

Southeast AK, Yakutat and Statewide

Alaska Board of Game proposals

*Pending arrival in mail: Proposal booklet available to review at Pelican Library

Posted 12-5-2011 3 locations

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: 01-13-2012

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME: ADFG Pelican Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Location (City, town, village): Pelican, Alaska

Members Present: _____
William Combs, James E. Phillips, Patricia Phillips, Steve Young

Members Absent _____

Members Excused _____
Terry Wirta

QUORUM PRESENT: YES NO

ADF&G Staff Present: _____

Time meeting called to order 4:00 AM / PM

Old Business and New Business: -- Use additional pages

Time Meeting Adjourned 5:30 AM / PM

Signature: 
Committee Secretary

ADFG Pelican Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
C/O P.O. Box 737
Pelican, Alaska 99832
January 13, 2012
4:00 p.m. Meeting called to order

Voter Record/Comments

J. Phillips/W. Combs move to approve the 12-20-2011 AC meeting minutes. 4 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Proposal No. 325: W. Combs/J. Phillips move to support proposal 325. Discussion: Troll sector pays in 35% to enhancement but takes 17 – 19% of the overall harvest. Homeshore chums are bright and go right into the food market; this fishery improves the price of fish, extends the fishing season during better weather. Some fishermen are making more money than trying to catch a king salmon.

There is disagreement about putting so many chums in the water. The chum fishery is interfering with already long-established salmon fisheries. The chum fishery, in effect, is a starting of a new fishery. There should be an enhancing of existing salmon stocks. The system is putting millions of fish into the water that are eating the same feed that wild stocks feed on.

Further discussion: The chum fishermen at Homeshore are shaking immature king salmon and salmon of all species in Icy Straits during the chum season. When small wild stock king salmon are coming out of the river systems; these immature king salmon are being slaughtered as incidental catch. Even the chum fishermen, if they are honest about it, will admit to it. One fisherman present troll fished up until mid-July at Homeshore, his observations are that he did not see face wounds in the king salmon he caught and it is likely there is high immature king salmon mortality. Additionally, he fished gillnet chums and observed chums with black hooks in the gillnet gear- making it difficult to pick chums from the net.

Huge herring biomass forecast. Herring are spawning in Lisianski Inlet in July and August. The herring spawning during this time are females only/no males. When catching chum at Cape Spencer the chums are puking herring, salmon, and squid; whatever they can feed on.

W. Combs/J. Phillips move to amend Proposal 325 as approved by the Chum Trollers Association as stated in the 12-28-2011 correspondence to the BOF and Boards Support:

Proposal #325 (chum hatchery access to trolling in June in sub-districts of districts 9, 12, and 14)
The JRPT conditionally supports the proposal with the following recommendations: that the proposal sunsets in three years; and that a chum salmon management plan is developed in that three year period. It is expected that the proposed management plan is brought back to the JRPT for review and possible submittal as a BOF proposal for the next cycle. This proposal could help the troll fleet who is below their allocated range of enhanced stocks. Since this fishery would be expanding into new areas and amount of effort there are concerns about the composition of stocks that will be harvested and effects on other fisheries. (See attached)

4 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

Discussion on the amended motion to support Proposal 325: Expanded area – hatcheries making chums – trollers should get their share of enhanced fish – the gillnetters and seiners are. It could decimate king salmon stocks and might have to have closures to reduce king salmon mortality. Fishermen are forced into having to fish chums because that is all there will be to fish.

The whole idea of hatchery openings is to confine trollers to small areas; it is a form of management control. Ocean trollers are only controlled by closures. Three of the troll fishermen present will not be fishing chums. One fisherman present will fish chums. There are several (8-10) local fishermen not present at the meeting who will be fishing chums. Trollers can pick and choose where they want to fish; they are not confined to one little area.

One fisherman present said he is a no vote no matter what; because the hatchery/enhanced chum fishery is a new fishery and according to Alaska's Constitution is "unconstitutional". Idaho Inlet and Excursion Inlet have local wild stock salmon populations. After hearing all comments, this fisherman does supports leaving it as it is. Is concerned that there could be political pay-offs/trade-offs in getting support for this proposal.

Motion to support the amended Proposal 325: 4 Yes Votes. Motion passes.

One fisherman stated that the proposals in the proposal book are confusing. The piece-meal proposal process could put in place regulations that can have a detrimental effect overall. Need to stay involved to keep current on potential changes to fishery regulations.

The Pelican AC agrees to meet again on January 31, 2012.

Meeting adjourns 5:30 p.m.

ATTN: BOF COMMENTS
Boards Support Section
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Fax: 907-465-6094

Sitka, AK
Dec. 28th, 2011

Dear BOF and Boards Support.

Chum Trollers Association would like to notify the BOF, ADF&G, and Boards Support Section that we support the amended wording for BOF proposal #325 adopted by the JRPT. Amended proposal (Sections to be omitted highlighted in yellow) attached.

Following is the wording adopted by the JRPT on proposal #325, page 306 of the proposal book:

- Proposal #325 (chum hatchery access to trolling in June in sub-districts of districts 9, 12, and 14) The JRPT conditionally supports the proposal with the following recommendations: that section (iii) District 9 and sub-district 114-50 is withdrawn from the proposal, and that the proposal sunsets in 3 years; and that a chum salmon management plan is developed in that three year period. It is expected that the proposed management plan is brought back to the JRPT for review and possible submittal as a BOF proposal for the next cycle. This proposal could help the troll fleet who is below their allocated range of enhanced stocks. Since this fishery would be expanding into new areas and amount of effort there are concerns about the composition of stocks that will be harvested and effects on other fisheries.

Regulation Proposal Form 1. Alaska Administrative Code Number: 5AAC 29.090. Book Page No.93

2. What is the problem you would like the Board to address?

- There is a Board of Fisheries plan, 5 AAC 33.364, which allocates SE enhanced salmon. The troll allocation range is 27-32%. Trollers have harvested 19% since plan inception. Trollers are short approximately \$2.3 million per year.

3. What will happen if this problem is not solved?

In recent years trollers have been paying 35% of the SE salmon enhancement tax while only receiving 19% of the benefit. Without passage of this or similar proposals trollers will continue to be well short of their harvest share.

4. What solution do you prefer? In other words, if the Board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5AAC 29.090 (k) Notwithstanding (a) – (d) of this section the commissioner may, by emergency order, extend the length of, or set, weekly fishing periods during the spring fishery to optimize the troll harvest of hatchery chum salmon in the following areas:

(i) District 14, subdistricts, [114-50], 114-21, 114-23, 114-25

(ii) District 12, South of the latitude of Pt. Howard and North of the latitude of Hawk Pt.

[(iii) District 9, (Within Section 9A,) South of latitude 56 degrees 21' and North of latitude 56 degrees 15.83']

5. Does your proposal address improving the quality of the resource harvested or products produced? If so, how?

Troll harvested June chums are usually exceptional "chrome brite" quality and individually handled with great care, live-bled, and immediately chilled.

6. Solutions to difficult problems benefit some people and hurt others:

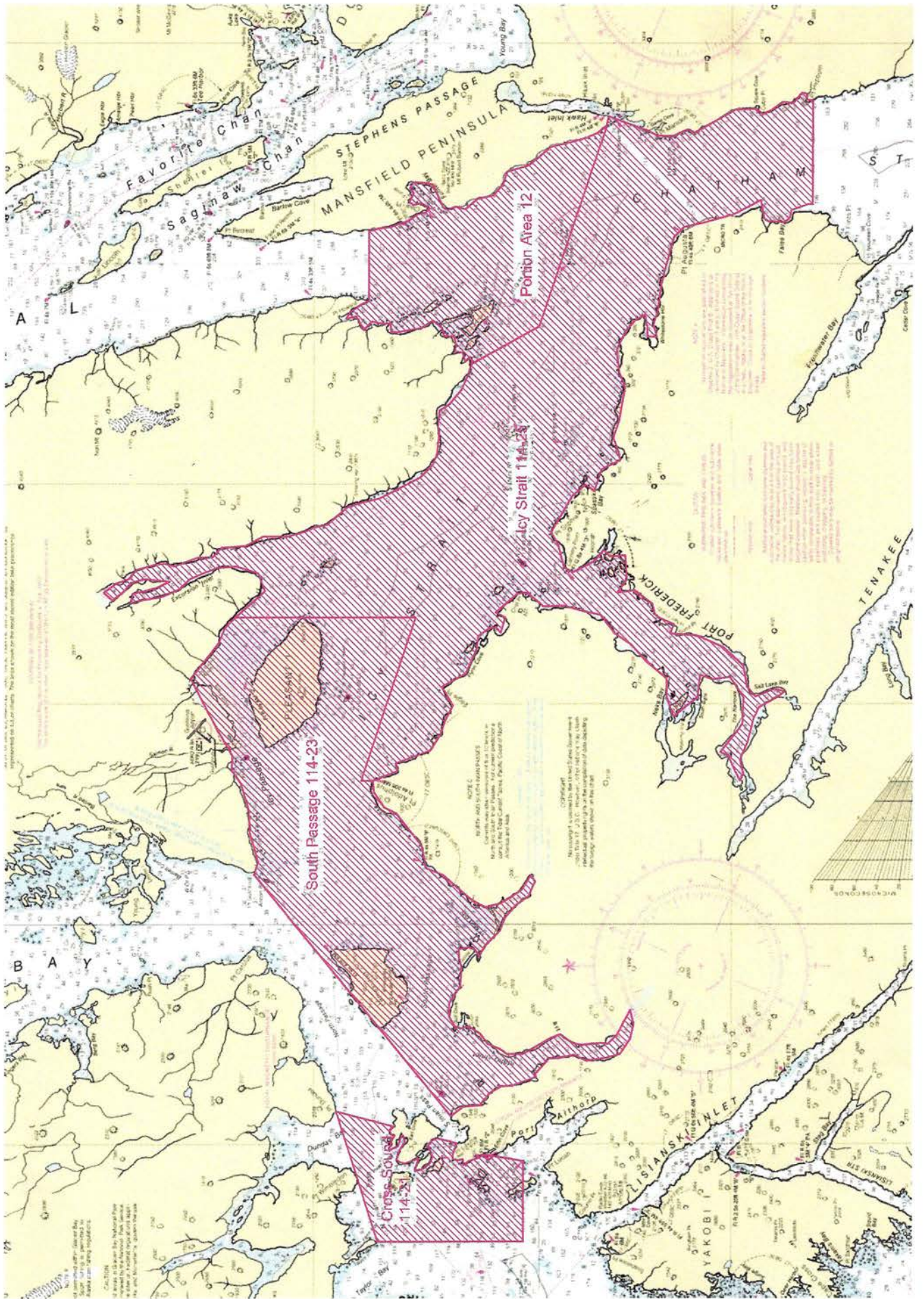
- A. Who is likely to benefit if your solution is adopted?** Trollers, processors, tenders, processing workers, local communities, and consumers.
- B. Who is likely to suffer if your solution is adopted?**

If approved this proposal will move harvest rates toward allocation goals causing a slight reduction in net groups catch.

7. List any other solutions you considered and why you rejected them.

We developed and brought 22 ideas to improve troll harvest share of SE enhanced salmon to the December 2009 Joint Regional Planning Team. Based on feedback from other groups we honed those ideas down to less than 10 in the winter of 2010. They included ideas such as chum trolling in parts of 15 and all of 12 in June.

We thought about proposing that SE hatchery operators and Joint Regional Planning Team be directed by the BOF to prepare and submit individual and regional plans for bringing trollers within their allocation as soon as possible. In March of 2011, after hearing from numerous individuals, groups, ADF&G personnel, and our membership, we decided to submit this proposal for June and another for July.



1-13-2012 mtg

Sign up list

Patricia Phillips
William Combs
Ethan Knuthson
JAMES E. PHILLIPS
Steve Young

*Ath: Shannon
on time BOF PWS
AC Comments*

Kenai/Soldotna Fish & Game AC Comments re: Prince William Sound BOF Dec 2011 meeting proposals

Proposal 47 **Action: Unanimous Support**

Description: Permit requirements for skates and rays.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: With the Asian market for skates on the uptake this proposal permits utilizing a well populated resource that otherwise is a nuisance.

Proposal 48 **Action: Unanimous Support**

Description: Fishing season, landing requirements, and utilization for sharks.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: Allows utilization of a bycatch that there is currently a market for. The proliferation of dogfish is well known and they are essentially a nuisance, seems no reason to restrict their harvest when they can be utilized.

Proposal 49 **Action: Unanimous support**

Description: Trawl gear unlawful.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: Proposal seems to address the issue of confusion in gear for commercial fisherman in these venues and allows for a better ability to enforce gear issues in these fisheries.

Proposal 51 **Action: Unanimous appose**

Description: Customary and subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: This issue has been previously addressed and the fishery is deemed a personal use fishery. At no time have the allotted harvest numbers been met, there is no need to re-visit this issue.

Proposal 52 **Action: Unanimous appose**

Description: Fishing seasons.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: See comments for proposal #51. There appears to be no justification to allot further fishing time for a fishery that is a personal use fishery and where opportunity to harvest is ample.

Proposal 54 **Action: Unanimous appose**

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Description: Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amounts necessary for subsistence uses.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: There is no need for a subsistence finding in this fishery. The allotted fish for the personal use fishery has never been achieved. The utilization of this fishery bears no resemblance to "subsistence." True subsistence users are not suffering and it is the opinion of this committee that true "subsistence" users are not and will not be restricted from utilizing Alaska resources to survive.

Proposal 55

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amount necessary for subsistence uses.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: See comments for proposal #54.

Proposal 56

Action: Unanimous support

Description: Copper River King Salmon Management Plan

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: Proposal appears to enhance the ability for the DF&G to better manage the Cooper River King salmon fishery with no detriment to utilization.

Proposal 57-65

Action: Unanimous support

Description: Prohibit netting of fish in Lake Louise, Lake Susitna, and Lake Tyone.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: The committee supports each of these proposals as they address what has been a developing problem in this area. The netting of fresh water lake fish for subsistence/personal use appears to be detrimental to the fish populations. Lake trout in particular are a slow growth fish, depleting these stocks would mean a very long-term recovery period. Much of the information regarding this fishery is anecdotal and there is not enough enforcement personnel available to consistently monitor the fishery. It appears in the best interest of the resource and the various user groups, to halt net fishing. More concrete data on this fishery should be developed before considering future such methods.

Proposal 77

Action: Oppose

Description: Gillnet specifications and operations.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: A very small majority opposed this regulation change believing it would elicit practices that would be detrimental to the resource. Those in favor feel it would allow more practical utilization of permits with no significant harm to the resource.

Proposal 81 **Action: Support****Description:** Gillnet specifications and operations.**Amendment:** N/A**Discussion:** Supported due to the reality of the area it is specific to. There are special circumstances that make this area particularly ripe for "crossing the line" and turning drift gillnets into set nets. Removing the "intent" and making the regulation more specific should promote easier enforcement and better support the intent of the two distinctly different fisheries.**Proposal 114 & 115** **Action: Unanimous appose****Description:** Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan**Amendment:** N/A**Discussion:** These two proposals address a hatchery issue in a manner that is far too broad and as proposed could be detrimental to a sound fishery. Hatchery fish are a reality in a world whose demand for fish has exceeded the ability to satisfy with wild stocks. There does not appear to be significant evidence that these hatchery fish are harming wild stock returns.**Proposal 116** **Action: Appose****Description:** New Regulations.**Amendment:** N/A**Discussion:** Proposal is not enforceable and makes no sense to put into place. Commercial fisherman are catching X number of fish, if they chose to keep them for their personal use instead of selling on the open market makes no difference to the resource and only affects the fisherman's ability to provide for their personal needs.**Proposal 123** **Action: Unanimous No Action****Description:** Waters closed to sport fishing.**Amendment:** N/A**Discussion:** After this proposal was brought to the floor and discussed the committee realized there was not enough local knowledge to adequately address it.**Proposal 124** **Action: Unanimous No Action****Description:** Waters closed to sport fishing.**Amendment:** N/A**Discussion:** See comments for proposal # 123.

Proposal 125**Action: Support****Description: General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area.****Amendment: N/A****Discussion: Slot limits are a reasonable method of protecting a resource while allowing some utilization.****Proposal 126****Action: Unanimous No Action****Description: Special provisions for seasons and bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River areas.****Amendment: N/A****Discussion: This proposal seems at cross purpose. Elected to take no action without additional information.****Proposal 127****Action: Unanimous No Action****Description: Special provisions for seasons and bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River areas.****Amendment: N/A****Discussion: Not enough information, there seems to be no connection between up river issues and commercial issues in this proposal.****Proposal 134****Action: Appose****Description: Freshwater guiding requirements.****Amendment: N/A****Discussion: Given what has happened in other areas, this proposal is understandable however, this seems more of an attempt to limit non-resident fisherman from utilizing the resource. If it in fact is threatened regulations should be enacted accordingly.****Proposal 135****Action: Appose****Description: Increase the bag limit and lengthen the season for ptarmigan in Unit 18.****Amendment: N/A****Discussion: See discussion for proposal #134.****Proposal 136****Action: Unanimous support****Description: Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River area.****Amendment: N/A**

Discussion: This proposal seems to be a reasonable step toward augmenting the rainbow fishery in the area.

Proposal 138

Action: Unanimous support

Description: Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River area.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: The resource has recovered to harvestable numbers, it should be utilized.

Proposal 206

Action: Unanimous support

Description: Fishing seasons. Landing requirements, and utilization for sharks.

Amendment: "Create a directed long line" spiny dogfish fishery

Discussion: Committee supports the utilization of dogfish however, feels the long line fishery would have less by-catch issues than the pot fishery.

Proposal 207

Action: Support

Description: General provisions.

Amendment: N/A

Discussion: Spiny dogfish are prolific and are not often utilized, there appears to be no reason not to increase the limit for those who would like to utilize these fish.

Craig F&G Advisory council meeting Jan. 9, 2012

AC Quorum in attendance

Ellen Hannan, Steve Stumpf, William Farmer, Fred Hamilton, Charles Haydu, Bill Russell, Corky Timpe, Steve Merritt

Public in attendance: Mike Douville, Kirk Agnitsch, Jeff Reeves

Meeting called to order: 6:10PM

Minutes discussed and accepted from last meeting held Dec. 5, 2011

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Crab, Shrimp & Shellfish meeting January 15 - 21, 2012 in Petersburg
Southeast Finfish meeting Feb. 24 - March 4, 2012 in Ketchikan

The following AC member's term and seat were up for election:

Steve Merritt - Trollers
Carl Demmert - Seiners
Fred Hamilton - Subsistence
Ellen Hannan - Hunting
Bill Russell - Sportfishing

The following people **were elected** to the following seats on the Craig AC with a majority vote:

Steve Merritt - Trollers
Carl Demmert - Seiners
Fred Hamilton - Subsistence
Ellen Hannan - Hunting
Mike Douville - Longlining
Kirk Agnitsch - Sportfishing

After elections the Craig AC quorum in attendance:

Ellen Hannan, Charles Haydu, Steve Merritt, Steve Stumpf, Corky Timpe, William Farmer, Fred Hamilton, Mike Douville, Kirk Agnitsch

The Craig AC quorum discussed and voted on the following proposals:

Finfish Proposals January 9, 2012				
Proposal #	Support	Oppose	Abstain	Comments
207	9	0	0	
210	9	0	0	
212	4	5	0	Those that supported this proposal felt that the current allocation is too small to sustain the current and future sport fishery and potential area and time closures would place a heavy burden on

				the sport fishery.
216	0	9	0	
221	3	6	0	Although the majority was opposed to the proposal of re-allocating lingcod guidelines they were in agreement that the current restrictions were too restrictive. They suggested that the “slot limit” for non-resident lingcod be more liberal (smaller and larger) to allow easier harvest of a fish. By increasing and decreasing the “slot limit” the Craig AC felt this would allow for a quicker harvest of lingcod and offer less potential for harvesting unintended Demersal Shelf Rockfish.
240	9	0	0	
248	8	1	0	The majority felt this proposal would act as a conservation tool. Example: One angler has already harvested a king salmon and inadvertently hooks another one that comes to the boat bleeding. That fish can and should be kept. This would allow that.
249	7	0	2	The AC felt that a number should be established, however, there were no recommendations on what the numbers should be.
252	9	0	0	
254	9	0	0	
263	9	0	0	
273	0	9	0	
274	0	9	0	
275	9	0	0	
276	3	5	1	“Support as Amended” The AC supports the following amendment to the proposal. <i>Allow fishing 5 days a week with a Monday and Tuesday closure between July 7 and August 7. After August 7 fishery to remain open 7 days per week.</i> ***Please note*** one person from the public in attendance was in favor of the original proposal.

Meeting set for Monday January 16, 2012 Craig City Hall @ 6PM. Agenda: completion of finfish proposals

Meeting adjourned @ 8:37 PM

Craig F&G Advisory council meeting Jan. 16, 2012

AC Quorum in attendance

Ellen Hannan, Steve Stumpf, Fred Hamilton, Steve Merritt, Brian Castle, Kirk Agnitsch, Mike Douville

Public in attendance: Jim Williams, Jim Farmer

Meeting called to order: 6:10PM

Elections of Officers: the following members were nominated and sustained by a unanimous vote for the following offices.

Ellen Hannan – Chairman

Mike Douville – Vice-Chairman

Steve Stumpf - Secretary

Minutes adopted from last meeting held January 9, 2012

Old Business:

Discussed taking clear notes in the comment section on the proposals. Also discussed what “support as amended” means. No clear understanding was determined. Decided to follow up with Shannon Stone for clarification.

New Business:

Prior to discussing proposals we looked at the opposing proposals brought up in a letter titled Industry Consensus 12/8/11 by the JRPT (Joint Regional Planning Team). We decided not to address many of the proposals noted in this letter assuming the board will adopt the position of the letter over the proposals listed in the book.

The Craig AC quorum discussed, commented, and voted on the following proposals:

Finfish Proposals January 16, 2012

Proposal #	Support	Oppose	Abstain	Comments
296	0	0	0	No vote was taken but a discussion was conducted. In Summary, gillnetters felt that this was an underutilized fishery that could benefit their users. The Trollers said this was an area where they fished for king salmon and that if it was open to gillnetters they would target king salmon during a time when there were no pink salmon present. The mid-June opening was the big concern as there are no pink salmon present in this area at this time.

Proposal #	Support	Oppose	Abstain	Comments
297	4	2	1	We voted on this proposal instead of 296 due to the difference in opening dates (1st Sunday in August compared to 2nd week of June) that more closely time with the pink salmon run.
310	0	7	0	Opposed in order to keep summer king salmon fishery open as long as possible. This proposal goes against the original board of fish task force recommendation.
311	5	2	0	Trollers are coming in 10% under their allocation and are looking for an opportunity to make up this deficit up by fishing summer run silver salmon in the Neck Lake area.
312	0	7	0	There was no justification to have a mandatory 10-day closure. We felt it was up to the state to determine any closure.
313	4	3	0	No real discussion
314	6	1	0	It was brought up for Trollers to take advantage of late run hatchery silver salmon. Some concerns on how it might also impact wild runs.
315	7	0	0	
316	7	0	0	
317	7	0	0	
319	3	1	3	Open new areas to a chum troll fishery. Those that abstained did not clearly understand the proposal.
325	7	0	0	Discussion included the need for Trollers to open this chum salmon fishery to make up for losses in other fisheries. We moved to take action on the following amendment and it was carried. We then took action on the proposal as amended which was also carried by a unanimous vote. "Support as Amended" by adopting the JRPT amendments to the original proposal.
326	5	1	1	Open new areas for a hatchery chum salmon troll fishery.
329	7	0	0	
337	6	1	0	
343	7	0	0	

Looking for a representative to go to Ketchikan for the board of fish meetings Feb 24 - March 4, 2012. No volunteers so far.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:20 PM

Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee Comments to Board of Fisheries 2011/2012

oppose #163 motion passes 5 in favor, 1 opposed- it was felt the closure area in Excursion inlet was too small and would lead to many similar requests for small closures and create a problem

support # 168 unanimous vote

oppose # 172 with information from Randy Bachman, local ADFG fisheries biologist about commercial harvest in the area, it did not seem necessary to close the waters to shrimping as the commercial harvest didn't seem excessive. Two dissenting board members from Skagway would like to keep an eye on the situation and might resubmit the proposal in the future. 3 oppose, 2 abstain motion

support #280 unanimous vote

oppose #291 must maintain the integrity of the local run. Opposed to fishing in the icy straits interception corridor. unanimous vote

oppose # 325 and #326 felt these proposals opened up too much additional pressure on stocks already depleted by other gear groups unanimous vote

Tim McJannet
ULC F+G AC
Secretary
12/18/11

**Official Minutes of the
Edna Bay Advisory Committee**

February 01, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Gerry Misner – Chair

Nine members were in attendance.

Gerry Misner, Chair – Bill Dodson, Vice Chair – Myla Poelstra, Secretary
Lee Greif, Patrick Richter, John Dodson, Heather Richter (alt), and Spencer Richter (alt) were present.
Eric Wyatt attended by correspondence.

Order of Business –

1. Review and comments on 2012 Southeast & Yakutat Finfish proposals.

1. Board of Fisheries Proposals –

Discussion was held on the 2012 Southeast & Yakutat Finfish Proposals. Votes were tallied and comments recorded. See attached comment pages.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08p.m. – All in favor

PROPOSAL 208 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish commercial fishing seasons for Pacific cod for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game

PROPOSAL 209 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish commercial fishing seasons for black rockfish for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game

PROPOSAL 210 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Require release of demersal shelf rockfish at depth.
DISCUSSION: For sport fishing, release of DSR at depth might be practical. For commercial long line this method won't work due to the fact that the boat is always going forward at a knot or two. Unneeded waste of the resource needs to be avoided.

PROPOSAL 211 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Require release of rockfish at 40 feet or greater.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 212 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the sport allocation of demersal shelf rockfish to 25 percent.
DISCUSSION: From the perspective of a rural, small boat halibut IFQ fisherman, the huge reduction in 2C IFQ has really hurt their business. This reduction in halibut has also had an equally (by percentage) huge reduction in DSR by-catch, which has added to their economic distress. Rather than reallocate this resource away from long liners, the percentage of allowed by-catch with relation to halibut IFQ pounds should be *increased*. When 2C halibut TAC recovers to previous levels, then a reduced allowable DSR by-catch will become a huge limiting factor. In some local areas, by-catch of DSR is a limiting factor now (in the reverse sense) because DSR are more abundant in relation to the allowed halibut IFQ to DSR ratio.

PROPOSAL 213 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a point system for retention of rockfish.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 214 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Standardize sablefish retention and reporting requirements in regulation.
DISCUSSION: Less waste, better resource management.

PROPOSAL 215 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend the sablefish fishing season to allow permit holders to participate in stock assessment surveys.
DISCUSSION: Good idea.

PROPOSAL 216 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.
DISCUSSION: Current regulations are adequate.

PROPOSAL 217 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend lingcod allocation between commercial fisheries.
DISCUSSION: In agreement with Yakutat Advisory Committee

PROPOSAL 218 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow for retention of lingcod in other commercial fisheries.
DISCUSSION: Sport fishermen are limited to (1) lingcod per day. Why allow commercial fishermen to impact an already reduced harvest species.

PROPOSAL 219 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the allocation for commercially caught lingcod in North Southeast Outside Section.
DISCUSSION: Lingcod by-catch is unnecessary as they return well.

PROPOSAL 220 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Reallocate a portion of the Eastern Yakutat Section lingcod GHL.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 221 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase sport allocation of lingcod in Central Southeast Outside and Southern Southeast Outside sections.
DISCUSSION: Reallocation of Lingcod by-catch away from halibut IFQ fishery would add insult to injury. The total allowed by-catch has been lowered in direct proportion to the lowering of 2C halibut quota. Our small time long liners have always retained as much lingcod and by-catch as allowed. If anything, the allowed by-catch percentage should be raised to maintain harvest levels. From observations, the lingcod biomass in this area (Sea Otter Sound/Warren Channel) seems to be fairly stable. Significant numbers have been released in recent years (because of reduced quota) with no apparent harm.

PROPOSAL 222 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the lingcod GHL in EYKT Section.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 223 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify dinglebar gear in the lingcod fishery allows only one line.
DISCUSSION: Clarification is always a good thing. Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 224 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow lingcod to be used as commercial bait.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 225 **ACTION: (6) In Favor (0) Oppose (1) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow combining two units of gear in herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 226 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend spawn-on-kelp gear marking and removal requirements.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 227 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend to clarify that only the purse seine fishery is an equal quota share fishery.
DISCUSSION: Better clarification – support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 228 **ACTION: (2) In Favor (5) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.
DISCUSSION: Support – Standardizing the gear.
Oppose – Can’t go this direction for the sake of the resource.

PROPOSAL 229 **ACTION: (2) In Favor (5) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.
DISCUSSION: Support – Standardizing the gear.
Oppose – Can’t go this direction for the sake of the resource.

PROPOSAL 230 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Revise the commercial herring fishery management plan for Sitka Sound.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 231 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Amend management for the herring sac roe fishery GHF in Sections 13-A and 13-B.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 232 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal regulations for establishing the herring fishery GHF for Sections 13-A and 13-B.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 233 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 234 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 235 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Restrict fishing vessels from entry into the announced fishing area prior to openings in the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 236 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seines to reduce depth of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 237 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seine to reduce length of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.
DISCUSSION: Need to control the fishery.

PROPOSAL 238 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish closed waters for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery in order to provide an area only open for subsistence.
DISCUSSION: Support Sitka Advisory Committee

PROPOSAL 239

ACTION: No Comment

DESCRIPTION: Exclude commercial herring fishing within a defined core spawning area within Sitka Sound to allow for a harvest of herring spawn to meet the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 240

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Re-allocate Sitka Sound herring to provide up to 1,000 tons of herring for commercial bait when the sac roe fishery GHL exceeds 10,000 tons.

DISCUSSION: The proposal affects us in the Sea Otter Sound area. The bait needed to be put up in Sitka (and Ketchikan – we believe) has frequently come from the Noyes Island area or not much at all. Herring stocks are much more abundant in the Sitka area. A reasonable bait fishery in Sitka could supply bait that is needed, but been in short supply for several of the past years, and not deplete our more local populations.

PROPOSAL 241

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Revise the herring allocation for Hobart Bay to eliminate winter bait and to provide all the available GHL for gillnet sac roe.

DISCUSSION: Bait fishery is better than roe fishery.

PROPOSAL 242

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Increase threshold for the West Behm Canal Herring Fishery from 6,000 tons to 15,000 tons.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 243

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 244

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 245

ACTION: (2) In Favor (3) Oppose (2) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Allocate of equal shares in the Southeast sac roe fishery in Section 1-E and 1-F by designation of permit holders to harvest herring for others.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 246

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Clarify that the management measures for the use of two rods is for king salmon only.

DISCUSSION: Resident only. Clarifies management - support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 247

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Develop a management plan to protect and enhance the Juneau roadside sport fisheries.

DISCUSSION: Nothing wrong with developing a management plan.

PROPOSAL 248 **ACTION: (1) In Favor (6) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Change the definition of “bag limit” for anglers fishing from a vessel.
DISCUSSION: Support – This proposal seems to make good sense and more accurately mirrors practice that is actually happening. This applies especially to families with small children, and those that fish to eat, that find the current rules impractical.
Oppose – Too much potential for abuse.

PROPOSAL 249 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye, coho, chum, and pink salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area.
DISCUSSION: Allow for better management.

PROPOSAL 250 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow retention of king salmon in the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area..
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 251 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of two rods by non-guided anglers in salt water.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 252 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of power assisted reels by disabled anglers only.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 253 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish system for distinguishing between vessels participating in hand troll and guided charter fishing in Southeast Alaska.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 254 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow youth and disabled anglers to use bait in high use and small cutthroat lakes.
DISCUSSION: With the exception of including “disabled persons” this is a good idea. A youth only rule would be much easier to enforce and more fair.

PROPOSAL 255 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a Taku River king salmon sport fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 256 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit snagging at the mouth of Auke Creek.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 257 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in Cowee Creek.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 258 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Reopen Sitkoh Bay Sockeye sport fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 259 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (3) Oppose (5) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Make fishing within the Sitka Historical Park on the Indian River a fly fishing only, catch and release fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 260 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Liberalize king salmon regulations in the vicinity of Ketchikan.
DISCUSSION: Adequate opportunity already in place.

PROPOSAL 261 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase king salmon bag limits in the vicinity of Neets Bay.
DISCUSSION: Adequate opportunity already in place.

PROPOSAL 262 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Extend the open season and the period bait may be used in City Park Ponds until August 31, and modify the bag and possession limit for cutthroat trout, king, and coho salmon.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 263 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in the Klawock River.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 264 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of bait in the Klawock River.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 265 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal Klawock River regulations applying to adipose fin-clipped steelhead.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 266 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify Klawock Harbor area closed to snagging and retention of sockeye.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 267 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Align Post Office Lake regulations with the Yakutat roadside systems regulations.
DISCUSSION: Clarifying where regulations apply – support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 268 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify where personal use finfish regulations apply.
DISCUSSION: Clarifying where regulations apply – support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 269 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a catch report card system for subsistence, personal use, and sport finfish fisheries.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 270 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence or personal use harvest of sablefish.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 271 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify prohibitions to commercial, subsistence, and personal use fishing by commercial sablefish permit holders.
DISCUSSION: Clarifying where regulations apply – support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 272 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify subsistence herring and herring spawn customary and traditional use findings for waters of Sections 3-A and 3-B.
DISCUSSION: Clarifying where regulations apply – support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 273 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence herring eggs on branches in Sitka Sound or alter the harvest monitoring program to measure landed weights.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 274 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Modify the personal use fishery for salmon in Southeast Alaska to target king and coho and to include additional gear types.
DISCUSSION: Not a well-defined proposal.

PROPOSAL 275 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Remove the horsepower limit for the Klawock subsistence area.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 276 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Change the subsistence sockeye fishery in the Klawock River from five to seven days per week.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 277 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Allow dip nets in the Taku River for personal use.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 278 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Extend the personal use fishery season on the Taku River from mid-June through August.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 279 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Increase Taku River sockeye salmon daily and annual bag limit per household based on number of persons in the household.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 280 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify that subsistence in District 15 includes Lutak Inlet and opens the day before commercial openings.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 281 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow 75 fathom gillnet length in the Yakutat Bay subsistence fishery.
DISCUSSION: Support Yakutat Advisory Committee.

PROPOSAL 282 **ACTION: (4) In Favor (0) Oppose (3) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Modify the Situk-Ahrnklin and Lost River King Salmon Management Plan to redefine closed waters, specify nonretention, and clarify action points.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 283 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Revise the *Situk River Management Plan* to delink Situk escapement from a spring troll in Yakutat Bay.
DISCUSSION: Support Yakutat Advisory Committee.

PROPOSAL 284 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish increased fishing periods for troll when the directed drift gillnet fishery is open in Sections 11-A and 11-B.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 285 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal the 58' vessel limit in the Southeast salmon purse seine fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 286 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase length limit for Southeast salmon seine vessel to 75 feet.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 287 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Exclude stern ramps and rollers in the 58 foot length limit for the Southeast Alaska area.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 288 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow seine vessels to transport two seine nets.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 289 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Close District 5 to seining and open to gillnet fishing.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 290 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Increase seining and reduce gillnet fishing in District 6 in September.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 291 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Allow harvest of pink salmon along the Pt. Adolphus shoreline in District 14 during years of large pink salmon returns.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 292 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Change gillnet fishery openings from noon Sundays to 8:00 a.m. on Mondays.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 293 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Provide minimum mesh size of six inches in districts 1, 6, 8, 11, or 15 by emergency order when needed to conserve sockeye and access chum.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game

PROPOSAL 294 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Require reporting of commercially-caught salmon and steelhead retained for personal use.
DISCUSSION: *Although better data gathering on retention of commercial caught salmon for personal use is fine, there's got to be a better way to get the data than the Creel Census.*

PROPOSAL 295 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Modify drift gillnet fishery in Zimovia Strait and Chichagof Pass based on chum:sockeye ratio to provide for increased terminal seine harvest of enhanced chum in the Anita Bay THA.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 296 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D all season to provide pink salmon fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 297 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D during pink season when not open to seining.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 298 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Limit District 10 seine fishery to 2 days per week to increase gillnet pink salmon harvest in District 6.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 299 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Extend commercial closed waters in Taku Inlet to Point Greely–Point Bishop.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 300 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow multiple permit holders to fish from the same vessel and to pool and divide harvests on fish tickets in Yakutat Area salmon fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 301 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Relocate boundary for commercial setnet fishing on Tsiu River to provide a separate sport fishing area.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 302 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit using power boats to drive fish into nets on the Tsiu River.
DISCUSSION: Driving fish is harassment.

PROPOSAL 303 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Establish criteria to determine the first commercial opening on the Tsiu River.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 304 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Amend Ankau Creek closed waters.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 305 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Amend Akwe River closed waters.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 306

ACTION: No Comment

DESCRIPTION: Change the day when allowable gear increases on the Alsek River from Monday to Sunday.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 307

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Allow downriggers in the commercial hand troll fishery all season.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 308

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Allow six trolling lines on specified inside waters of Southeast Alaska to increase the harvest of enhanced salmon.

DISCUSSION: Our trollers feel it could easily lead to increased multi-line abuse.

PROPOSAL 309

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Allow four hand troll gurdies in the summer troll fishery following the initial king salmon retention period.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 310

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Amend the winter king salmon guideline harvest range by adding hatchery-produced kings.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 311

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Change beginning date for coho salmon retention in the spring king salmon fishery from June 15 to June 1.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 312

ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Require 10-day mid-August troll closures for conservation and allocation based on the department's midseason assessment.

DISCUSSION: Coho usually become scarce in this area following the summer closure. The few days in mid-August time are important to our harvest goals.

PROPOSAL 313

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Extend season for the troll coho fishery in Southeast to September 30 but closed earlier by emergency order when warranted.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 314

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: Through September lengthen the troll season in Districts 1, 6, and 8 each week gillnet fisheries are opened in these districts.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 315

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling and extend the summer closure date from September 20 to September 30.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 316

ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling.

DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game – makes sense.

PROPOSAL 317 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Extend the summer closure date in a portion of Section 1-E to September 30.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 318 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Clarify when Section 1-F is open to trolling.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 319 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase troll opening in Chichagof Pass to seven days a week to access enhanced Anita Bay chum.
DISCUSSION: Support Wrangell Advisory Committee.

PROPOSAL 320 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the area of Section 11-A open to trolling in the directed Taku king salmon fishery.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 321 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend closed waters for the Situk River troll fishery.
DISCUSSION: Support Yakutat Advisory Committee.

PROPOSAL 322 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Amend closed waters for the Situk River troll fishery.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 323 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Revise basis for the Southeast Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan to include only production by regional associations.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 324 **ACTION: (0) In Favor (7) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Create separate enhanced salmon allocation plans for northern and southern Southeast Alaska.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 325 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Redirect spring troll fishery management to target chum salmon to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.
DISCUSSION: Increased fishing opportunities for trollers helps all of us do better.

PROPOSAL 326 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Provide a targeted chum salmon fishery for troll gear in Section 11-A to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.
DISCUSSION: Increased fishing opportunities for trollers help all of us do better.

PROPOSAL 327 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Define open fishing periods in regulation for DIPAC, Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, and Prince of Wales Hatchery Area special harvest areas.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 328 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Allow new gear type for broodstock capture in Districts 12 and 13.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 329 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Adopt a new Special Harvest Area for the Port Saint Nicholas hatchery in District 3.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 330 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Close a portion of Bear Cove in the Silver Bay Special Harvest Area to protect broodstock and provide for safety.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 331 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Revise the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to allow cost recovery and distribute harvests according to the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association board of director's annual plan for allocation.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 332 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Change the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to provide common property access based on enhanced salmon allocation status.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 333 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Remove 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation schedule for Neets Bay hatchery common property openings after the 2011 season.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 334 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Continue 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation in Anita Bay THA through 2017.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 335 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Continue 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation in Deep Inlet THA through 2017.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 336 **ACTION: No Comment**
DESCRIPTION: Allow for a rotational seine and gillnet fishery in the Nakat Inlet THA.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 337 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a new Herring Cove THA management plan to distribute harvest between commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 338 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Expand the Kendrick Bay THA to include McLean Arm for commercial seining.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 339 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Change the opening date for the Anita Bay THA to May 1.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 340 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Modify the open area in the Anita Bay THA to enhance salmon quality.
DISCUSSION: Support Wrangell Advisory Committee.

PROPOSAL 341 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a THA in Southeast Cove for seine and troll gear.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 342 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a registration fishery for the Hidden Falls THA to replace cost recovery harvest with tax assessment.
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 343 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Open the Hidden Falls THA August 1 through September 20 to allow trolling for enhanced coho and provide for an area during the troll closure.
DISCUSSION: Support Dept. of Fish & Game.

PROPOSAL 344 **ACTION: (7) In Favor (0) Oppose (0) Abstain**
DESCRIPTION: Revise the western Deep Inlet THA boundary and season to increase troll fishery access to enhanced king salmon.
DISCUSSION:

Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Tad Fujioka, Chairman
214 Shotgun Alley, Sitka, AK 99835

The following is a collection of minutes of the portions of seven meetings totaling approximately 21 hours that the Sitka Fish & Game Advisory Committee held between Nov 10 2011 and Jan 24 2012 to discuss proposals to change the fishing regulations for Southeast Alaska finfish that will be addressed by the Board of Fish beginning Feb 24 2012.

The following is a list of AC members and the designated seats that they held during the AC meetings. The minutes typically refer to members by first & last initials:

Tad Fujioka-Trapping Representative; chairman
Tory O'Connell-Alternate; Secretary
Floyd Tomkins-Conservation Representative; elected vice-chair in Dec
Jerry Barber-Hand troll Representative; outgoing vice-chair
John Murray-Power troll Representative
Mo Johnson-Seine Representative
Randy Gluth-Hunting Representative
Pete Roddy-Shellfish Representative
Eli Underhill-outgoing Longline Representative
Dick Curren -elected as Longline Representative to unexpired term in Nov.
Karen Johnson-At-Large Representative
Aaron Bean-Charter Representative
Jon Hickman- outgoing Processor Representative
John Baird- elected as Processor Representative in Dec.
Mike Baines- outgoing Sportfish Representative
Brian Massey- elected Resident Sportfish (renamed-originally was Sportfish) Representative in Jan.
Brad Shaffer- At-Large Representative
Jack Lorrigan- outgoing Subsistence Representative
Kim Elliot- elected as Subsistence Representative to unexpired term in Jan.
Cody Loomis-(multi-day) Guide Representative
Eric Jordan- Alternate

The following ADF&G staff attended one or more of these meetings. They are referred to in the minutes either by first name or by first & last initials:

Patrick Fowler-sportfish	David Gordon- commercial fish
Troy Tydinco-sportfish	Kevin Monagle- commercial fish
Mike Vaughn-groundfish	Bill Davidson- commercial fish
Kristen Green -groundfish	Lauren Sill- Subsistence
Forrest Bowers- groundfish	Pattie Skannes (Troll Biologist)
Eric Coonrad- commercial fish	Grant Hagerman (Ass. Troll Biologist)

The following members of the public attended one or more meetings. They are normally referred to in the minutes by first and/or last name:

Dick Curran-longliner	Mike White-hand troller/ sport fisherman
Joel Hanson-multi-day charter operator	Andy Scorzelli -power troller
John Baird- Sitka Sound Seafoods	Matt Lawrie-power troller
Rich Riggs-Silver Bay Seafoods	Matt Donahoe -power troller/ ATA voice
Heather Riggs- Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA)	Botso Eliason -gillnetter
Steve Reifstuhl-SE Herring Conservation Alliance; also NSRAA executive	
Ed Ronco -KCAW radio	Fred Fayette -power troller
Mitch Eide- Seiner	Stan Eliason- Sitka Harbormaster

Kristen: These are the ones with the most value and most concern historically. The other species can be used for bait, but the fisherman is required to account for them. For the most part these other species don't have management concerns.

EJ: Ok- if there is a reporting requirement and little management concern, I'm satisfied.

PROPOSAL 206

ACTION: passes 7-0-3

DESCRIPTION: Pot fishery for dogfish.

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: EJ/JM

Kristen: No stock assessment therefore over-harvest is a concern. They are long-lived and relatively slow to reproduce. No money to conduct stock assessment anytime soon. There is an opportunity to harvest dogfish as bycatch but it is under utilized by the industry.

FT: How mobile are the stocks? I.e. is it even possible for a localized fishery to create an over harvest issue?

Kristen: No data on local stocks, but research other places indicates that they are quite mobile.

FT: maybe somebody could use dogfish to feed the sharkfin soup market.

PR: I'm sure that the Ketchikan AC is well aware of their life history and abundance levels and is comfortable putting forth this proposal to harvest a reasonable number of them.

JM: I like the idea, but don't like that they propose to use pots due to the pot/longline conflicts. ADF&G is always opposed to this sort of proposal. The reason that the by-catch has not been utilized is that there isn't enough poundage at a time to make it worthwhile for a relatively low-value fish. A directed fishery would be different. The Dept should get the funding to do an assessment that would allow them to set a responsible GHL. Without harvest pressure on dogfish they are expanding their population at the expense of the other species that we do harvest like halibut and blackcod. Dogfish are harvested commercially on the East Coast, BC and Washington. There's no reason that we couldn't do it here.

Forrest: We don't have a dogfish survey, but we do have the IPHC's halibut survey and they keep track of dogfish that they catch. In their survey, dogfish CPUE has been doing down since 2006 in outer SE and going down since 2008 in inside SE.

EJ: That's just looking at a few recent years. The long term picture is one of a huge increase. I've trolled here for my whole life. I never caught a dogfish on troll gear until the 2000. Now they are abundant enough to be a nuisance at times. Another reason that the bycatch allowance is going unused is the urea in dogfish requires a lot of attention in handling. In a bycatch situation you aren't set up to give the dogfish the attention that they need to be a good product the way that you would be in a directed fishery. I support pot gear since longline gear would have too much bycatch of other species. Unfortunately, a pot fishery would keep the smaller boats out. I support the proposal.

PR: You can already use pots in the Clarence Strait blackcod fishery. You can fish Pcod with pots too. The use of pots isn't precedent setting..

Forrest: Do any of the local processors want them?

Mike: We recognize that the bycatch mortality is likely quite high for dogfish caught in other fisheries- even for the fish that aren't landed.

JL: I grew up in the Ketchikan area. There were too many dogfish even back then. A fishery would be a good thing.

MJ: I can't speak to the Ketchikan area, but in the local area, I longline the same area year after year for 20 years at about the same time of year. Dogfish bycatch has been down over the last 5 years.

PROPOSAL 208

ACTION: passed 10-0

DESCRIPTION: Establish Pcod season in regulation.

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: PR/FT

Mike explained how this is a housekeeping proposal necessitated by the change from a historic "if it isn't mentioned in the regs you can catch all you want" to the current "if it isn't mentioned, the season is closed" policy.

Forrest: There will be no functional change to how the fishery is managed- It will just save us some paperwork

FT: Do you expect any closures?

Mike: We have an area-wide GHL of 750,000-1.5 m lbs for all of SE. If we are nearing the limit, we have closed some relatively small hotspots in order to make sure that the season stays open in the great majority of the region.

PROPOSAL 209

ACTION: passed 10-0

DESCRIPTION: Establish black rockfish season in regulation

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: JL/RG

JM: Sounds like the last one- just more housekeeping

Mike: yes; there hasn't been much participation in this fishery recently

TF: are there still closed areas off of Kruzof?

Mike: yes

EJ: The charter fleet is starting to target black rockfish now- particularly with the halibut restrictions. You might have to watch their harvest more closely than in the past.

Patrick: We do have sport data on black rockfish from the SWHS. I don't have the numbers with me tonight though.

PROPOSAL 210 & 211

ACTION: passes 12-0

DESCRIPTION: Require release of demersal shelf rockfish at depth.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MTA 210- TO

JB - 2nd

PR - it looks like our proposal 211 has better and more specific language so I would prefer it over 210

JB - I think we can support both.

FT - Can we move to adopt both simultaneously? TO: Friendly amendment

TF - 3 years ago the Dept was opposed to these proposals, but I talked with regional sportfish manager Bob Chadwick back when we submitted this, and he said that now they support at least the concept.

TT - we have come up with some preliminary evidence that show increased survival - we have a News Release out that encourages the release of fish and moving locations. This is a change in our approach. I can't say whether we will officially support the proposals, but we have changed our philosophical opposition from three years ago.

TO - I think that we should write a letter to the graduate students and ACF letting them know that in part because of the presentation that they gave here about 4 years ago on rockfish release, we are moving on to the next steps in the process.

TF - Even rockfish caught at 300 to 400 fm have been shown to survive repressurization and subsequent gradual acclimation to aquarium depths - They have some rougheyes on display in Juneau. If fish can survive from this depth, usual sportfishing depths shouldn't be a problem.

JB ?

PROPOSAL 211

ACTION: passes 12-0

DESCRIPTION: Require release of rockfish at 40 feet or greater.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: See prop 210

PROPOSAL 212

ACTION: fails 0-9-1

DESCRIPTION: Reallocate DSR from 84% / 16% commercial / sport to 75% / 25%

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: PR/JL

PR: Historically DSR was fully allocated to the commercial fleet before the growth in the charter fleet. It isn't right to give more of these fish to the charter fleet given this historic perspective.

JM: Are there any directed commercial fisheries for DSR anymore?

Kristen: A few, not many- no consistency- there usually isn't enough leftover quota in any area for an orderly fishery.

JM: I know that the longline fleet has worked hard to get their bycatch numbers down and they have made very good progress. Is there much possibly of further reductions?

Kristen: The bycatch goes with the halibut quota. There has been a recent strong downward trend in the halibut quota and DSR bycatch has fallen too. The 2012 forecast though looks like the halibut quota will go up.

FT: Has the DSR bycatch been down recently only because the halibut quota has been down?

Linda: Six years ago the BOF set this current allocation and directed both the longline and charter sectors to work to reduce their bycatch since both gear groups were at 100% of their allocation. Since that time some of the longline fleet has formed the Fishery Conservation Network which allows us to work together to identify localized areas of rockfish habitat and high rockfish abundance. This has translated into a 20% bycatch reduction for member of the network. The commercial halibut quota has fallen 76% so that accounts for a lot of the reduction, but we all hope that someday the halibut stocks will rebound. The improvements made by the FCN are here to stay. We shouldn't reward the charter fleet for past overages. The BOF said as much three years ago when this proposal was brought before them then.

FT: Does the dept account for decreased mortality of sport-caught rockfish that are released using recompression devices?

Patrick: No, right now we assume 100% mortality.

JM: The charter fleet makes it sound like by catch is unavoidable. Why can't they move off the rock piles? The problem is with the charter fleet's technique and methods.

Kim: I have experience both as a charter skipper and as a troller. If the charters have an allocation, they need to figure out how to live within it. The commercial fleet has a much longer history of using the resource.

Mike: Changes to the sport regs have helped to keep the sport take under the allocation- see table in handout.

Linda: Three years ago we had the same discussion around this same proposal. At the time the FCN offered to help the charter fleet to set up a similar network for them or to use our data to help them identify rockfish hotspots so they could stay away from them. We didn't hear any follow up from them.

Kristen: Part of the problem is that the DSR biomass has been decreasing so everybody's piece of the pie is shrinking.

PROPOSAL 213

ACTION:proposal passes 6-4-2

DESCRIPTION: Establish a point system for retention of rockfish.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

EU – MTA

JB 2nd

CL – practically this will be difficult. We never really target yelloweye, from a guided angler standpoint this is difficult.

TO – I have some concerns about how this really works out – it seems to complicated and might not be practical, hard for me to support although I appreciate the sentiment.

JH – I don't understand this

TF – this is like duck hunting, you have so many points. Some fish are worth more points than others. If you harvest indiscriminately, you'll reach your bag limit sooner than if you are careful about where/how you fish. If you stay away from yelloweye- or release them if allowed, you can take home more black rockfish.

JM – (to TT) You said last spring that there could be closures if the sport sector goes over the allowable catch with DSR

TT – ADF&G has cranked back on limits for DSR – we have finally gotten to the place where we are within the quota, but the limits are so low now that we can't hardly go any lower. One of the next one steps is time and area closures. I don't foresee that in the short term but there is that potential there.

TF – any increased effort could put the catch back above the GHF

CL – well if this went though, I think that I would have clients tell me: Let's get our black rockfish first and keep more than our currently allowed 5 per day – then release any by-catch yelloweye that we get while fishing for halibut– so DSR catch will be the same -since we aren't targeting them anyway and undervalued species catch would be higher. We go after every species daily.

PR – if I came here to catch a halibut I would want my guide to take me halibut fishing – I don't think they will want to spent the time to catch blacks first.

JM – Can't you avoid DSR? - you don't have to fish halibut on rockpile. The longliners have done a good job of reducing their bycatch.

CL – yes we can in theory, but we only have so many hours in a day and we need to be efficient. We first go to where the salmon are biting. After we catch our salmon limits, then we go for halibut. With fuel so expensive, we can't afford to go too far out of the way to go to a halibut spot that doesn't have yelloweye. Some areas have more yelloweye than others. I don't like to fish halibut off Cape Edgecumbe because there are a lot of DSR there, but Cape Edgecumbe is a good place for kings. If I'm there already I don't want to go a long ways away just to avoid the yelloweye. I'm real happy if I can get a client though a whole trip without him catching any yelloweye. About 1 fisherman per boat will make it through his three day trip without a yelloweye, but somebody else on the boat will have caught and released 3 or 4. The charter guides will always have to please the client and reduce costs, so resource bycatch issues are secondary.

JM – my comment on this is that this is another tool in the tool box.

TF – A real good thing about this is that it gives anglers an incentive to stay off of high value fish – if you don't take yelloweye you can have more fish of other species. I haven't seen any other option out there that gives the individual angler an incentive to stay off of a particular species. Also, it gives the dept a management tool with much finer focus. Right now, yelloweye are 1/day. You can't go any lower than 1 with a closure. Under a point system, yelloweye could be 51 to 100 points. Anything in that range would still be 1/day, but the number of other fish allowed would vary and so the incentive would become stronger.

PR – The proposal says that yelloweye would be 60 points. A resident could have 2 yelloweye per day. Isn't this doubling the bag limit?

TF – these were example points. The BOF and the dept will set the points just as they currently set the bag limits.

PR – I don't want the BOF to double the bag limit for yelloweye rockfish

FT – sounds like the proposal is to replace a daily bag limit with a weighted species system - is there another management system like this – other than ducks?. Can we make it understandable.

MV – for ducks, you are seeing a duck and identifying what it is – you can't tell what you are going to catch so this could lead to more discard –

AB – but with that being said, maybe people will go the direction that they think this is written to kind of head.

CL – I like the intent of this proposal but I think it is not very practical

MJ – This proposal and the other sponsored for the committee – they were passed late in the spring. I was fishing then.

PROPOSAL 215

ACTION: passes 10-0

DESCRIPTION: make it easier for permit holders to participate in the blackcod stock assessments

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: RG/JM

Kristen explained the proposed amendment that would change "shall" to "may". The dept's goal here is to reduce the amount of the dept's take as test fish so that more of the resource can be caught by the fishermen.

Linda: ALFA supports this.

TF: Why would a permit holder volunteer for this? The fishery is a non-competitive PQS fishery, not a derby fishery. Fishing ahead of the season isn't likely to be very much of an advantage.

Kristen: Volunteers get paid by dept in addition to getting to sell the fish.

RG: Sounds like a win-win

PROPOSAL 216

ACTION: fails 0-12

DESCRIPTION: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

JM – MTA

EU- 2nd

CL – what is the allocation to sportfish? What do they actually catch?

KG – 31,000 pounds in 2010.

TT – 2009: SWHS 4700 fish

TO- what size did the dept use to come up with the poundage? KG- we used the average size in the commercial fishery in Chatham.

TO – I am strongly against this proposal. This is a very valuable commercial fishery, the Board violated their Allocation Criteria in allowing this sport fishery to develop. The stock has declined in Chatham Strait where most of this catch occurs.

DC – power gear was legalized recently. It had never been legal before – the guide in Juneau got busted with power reels. He got off because the regulation was badly written. When he got busted he had a deck load of fish – that is what will happen if you allow these regulations to get changed.

CL – clarification – I was taking this proposal into account – I think 8 is plenty – I can't get a group of clients together who want to put up with the long rough ride that you need to in order to go from here to where you need to go to get blackcod. As far as Chatham situation goes, that resource is fully utilized. But there are other areas.

TO –It is very naïve to say no one will go for this fish – They said that about halibut at one time too. Now the halibut is staring us in the face.

AB – no one here asks to go blackcod fishing, electric reels are commercial gear-or should be.

EU – 4 fish is \$800 worth of fish – if one client can get \$1600 worth of fish then this becomes a meat hunting situation. You can pay for your trip just on blackcod.

CL – what is the catch in federal waters? In SE and WY – is there any amount of quota left on the table by commercial fishery?

DC – Some of the Bering Sea quota is not caught. In SE it is about 99%.

TT – preliminary estimates for 2010 are 1400 sport blackcod were taken in the Sitka area although some-but not very much were from Chatham.

CL – don't expect it to pass the BOF – I am happy with the limits.

JB?

PROPOSAL 218

ACTION: passes 8-0-2

DESCRIPTION: Allow retention of lingcod in Sitka LAMP as troll bycatch

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: EJ/JM

JM: I submitted this proposal because the change in regulations at the LAMP line causes problems.

Trollers fishing outside of the line can retain lings, but if you troll over the line with a ling aboard you are in violation. The line cuts across a traditional drag, you've going back and forth over the line all day so you can't keep lings at all. I don't see this as having a big impact on lingcod in the LAMP since you generally only catch them when you are targeting king salmon.

PR: Looking at the attached table- it doesn't look like the commercial fleet is taking many lingcod at all out of the LAMP.

Mike: That's because the only segment of the commercial fleet allowed to take any is the halibut fleet and they aren't allowed to fish in the LAMP in the summer and during the rest of the season, only small boats can fish the LAMP. The LAMP has been closed to directed lingcod fishing and troll bycatch since 1997.

JM: Why the big drop in sport take between 2008-9?

JBarber: Most charter boats don't fish in the LAMP anymore.

Mike: As of August 2011 there will be a 20% bycatch cap on lingcod in the troll fishery via EO. It will apply even next season to keep boats that are actually targeting ling cod from landing them as troll bycatch.

EJ: I don't know when the lingcod restrictions were applied to the LAMP, but it wasn't part of the original LAMP rules. I don't want to see a targeted lingcod fishery in the LAMP, but it is ok outside. Right now, John is right. The complete closure is a nuisance. One day I was scratching coho outside of the LAMP and had a few lingcod aboard when I heard from a coding partner of a big smash inside.

There was a lot of temptation to discard a few dollars worth of lingcod to be able to catch a bunch of salmon. Most trollers who have been in that situation once will shake their lingcod rather than put themselves there again.

Linda: Would it be a problem to allow possession, but not retention within the LAMP?

Mike: The typical groundfish bycatch allowance is no more than 20%.

Forrest: We can address conservation concerns via EO; Not sure about allowing possession, but not allowing retention.

PROPOSAL 219

ACTION: proposal fails 1-8-1

DESCRIPTION: Increase NSEO troll lingcod bycatch allocation by 2,500 lbs

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: JM/EJ

JM: I sponsored this because when NSEO closes to lingcod bycatch it is very inconvenient. The traditional troll drag spans over the boundary between the NSEO & CSEO, so if you are fishing anywhere near the boundary you can't keep lingcod once NSEO closes, even if you caught them in CSEO.

PR: Are you asking to reallocate lingcod form one of the other user groups or to increase the GHL? JM: Increase the GHL, the lingcod population seems healthy and the overall quota seems small for the amount of habitat in NSEO.

Mike: The GHL was set in 2000 by the lingcod task force. They set a range of 0-40,000 lbs. We've been managing for the upper end of that range since.

Forrest: 2,500 lbs would be an overall increase of 6-1/2%. We are leary of approving any increase since we don't have a stock assessment, and thus no way to know if the increase is hurting the stock until / unless the effect is dramatic.

Kristen: We haven't had the funds to do a stock assessment for a long time. It is a SE-wide need. The original GHR was set based on the amount of habitat.

EJ: I'm disturbed that the sportfish take was 48% over their allocation last year in a year with low halibut limits. It looks to me like the charter fleet is targeting lingcod in NSEO.

TF: The 2C/3A halibut line splits the NSEO district. Maybe charter boats that used to fish inside- around Icy Strait ran out past the 3A line this summer in order to get away from the restrictions in 2C. In the past if they had fished Icy Strait they probably didn't catch any lings, but out in 3A they would catch a bunch of them as by catch even if they didn't target them.

EJ: (To JM) Would it work to just combine the CSEO & NSEO troll bycatch quotas so that they would close simultaneously when the combined quota was caught?

JM: There are enough fish left in the water every year in NSEO that you wouldn't need to do that. This proposal is simpler.

MJ: The halibut quota looks like it will go up in the 2C portion of NSEO, thus the lingcod bycatch in the longline fishery will too. We can't count on the underage of last year still being there in the future. From what I've seen of longlining the area, the lingcod population is pretty normal- not low, but not high either. I don't think we necessarily want to allow more catch. We saw what happened to DSR when there was high harvest in that area in the past. Stocks when down. They have rebounded nicely since we closed the directed DSR fishery, but we don't want drive the lingcod population down the same way that we did the DSR.

PROPOSAL 220

ACTION: Fails 1-9

DESCRIPTION: Reallocate East Yakutat lingcod from longline bycatch to directed fishery.

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: EJ/MJ

EJ: I know the proposer, I understand the reasoning behind the proposal. The halibut quota in 3A is going down, therefore the bycatch in the longline fishery will be down too. The directed lingcod fishery would be a better use for those fish.

Mike: The GHR for lingcod in this area was increased in 2006- see attached table. The directed fishery currently only last as about 2-1/2 days.

Linda: ALFA is opposed because the longline bycatch numbers are down only because the halibut quota is down. Is the directed fishery going to be willing to give those fish back when the halibut quota goes back up?

Forrest: Generally the by catch in the halibut fishery is quite a bit below the allocation according to Mike's table- why?

Mike: From 2000-8, the longline fishery was only allowed 5% bycatch on lingcod, even as the halibut quotas dropped. In 2009, the bycatch allowance was bumped up to 15%, then to 20% in 2011. In 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2008 & 2009 there was a directed DSR longline fishery in the area. That fishery has a 35% lingcod bycatch allowance and that lingcod bycatch is included in the longline bycatch totals in the table. That's why it looks like it bounces around so much.

EJ: Historically when we first set up these gear group allocations, the longliners took a big decrease to their allocation in order to allow for a directed fishery.

MJ: Are the lingcod stocks in the area healthy?

Mike: Hard to say without a stock assessment. The CPUE in the directed fishery is about all that we have to go on. It is the highest in SE and recently been stable to slightly increasing, but this could be the result of fishermen getting more experienced or getting better technology. We don't think that there are any big problems.

JM: This proposal asks for too much reallocation. I might be able to support a little change, but not this much.

PROPOSAL 221

ACTION: motion fails 0-10

DESCRIPTION: reallocate lingcod in SSEO & CSEO from commercial gear groups to sport

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: PR/unknown second

PR: Somebody is seeking a reward for being above allocation at the expense of well-managed fisheries. That's not right.

RG: I'm not sure I trust the accuracy of the guided sport sector anyway since the data is all self-reported. The more fish they are allowed, the more problems it creates.

JM: What is the 4% mechanical jig quota?

Mike: That's the misc jig fishery- primarily black rockfish. That fishery didn't have representation at the table when the lingcod allocation was initially made, so they got left out. Later when they asked for some quota, the 4% & 7% came out of the directed fishery's quota. This quota has not been caught (only a few hundred pounds) for some time.

EJ: The problem isn't sportfishing in general. It is the guides in particular. We need to separate the sport quota into different user groups like the commercial side is separated. There should be separate allocations for residents, and for non-guided non-residents. Guided non-residents should be the lowest priority.

JM: What year did the non-resident sport lingcod slot limit go into effect? Patrick: 2006

PR: If there wasn't a slot limit would the sport take be way over their allocation? Patrick: Yes- probably; Non residents harvested the great majority of the lingcod.

EJ: I would like the BOF to look at guided non-resident, resident & non-guided non-resident separately.

Patrick: I don't have that data here, but it could be compiled easily.

PROPOSAL 222

ACTION: motion fails 0-10

DESCRIPTION: Increase the upper end of the lingcod GHR in East Yakutat

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: JM/MJ

Kristen: We don't have stock assessment in the area. This would be a huge increase in the GHR. The only information that we have about how much harvest the stock can bear is from the pre-GHR days when we had catches around 400,000 lbs. That time period had historically low CPUE. Since the GHR has been in effect, the CPUE as rebounded and remained stable.

Forrest: The attached table shows that the fleet isn't fully utilizing the existing GHR.

Mike: The upper end of this proposed GHR would exceed the highest harvest that we have ever seen.

JM: Would you be comfortable with any increase?

Kristen: I can't defend any specific number without any data from a stock assessment. Forrest: The only data that we have is CPUE and that is notoriously hard to interpret. Changes in CPUE could be due to changes in weather, or changes in the individual fishermen- are there a bunch on new fishermen? Is the fleet getting more experienced? It could be that there is room for some allowable increase, but we don't know.

EJ: I think that we should be conservative here. The technology has really improved with 3D-mapping GPS units it is much easier to find and fish lingcod habitat than it used to be. I wouldn't trust CPUE.

PROPOSAL 223

ACTION: motion passes 10-0

DESCRIPTION: clarify one line limitation for dinglebar gear

AMENDMENT: n/a

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: PR/RG

PR: This is interesting; we now need a definition of what one (1) means. I support clear regulations.

EJ: Historically, most of us who fished the dinglebar fishery single-handed so we only could run one line. Then some boats started to bring deckhands. We wanted the 1-line limit to keep the catches down to ensure a longer season and make sure it would stay an entry level fishery.

PROPOSAL 224

ACTION: motion fails 0-10

DESCRIPTION: Allow lingcod to be used for bait

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MTA/2nd: EJ/PR

EJ: I can't believe that this is in the proposal book!

PR: The old time dory fishermen on the Grand Banks used to cut up halibut to use as bait for cod. They didn't have ice and they had to salt their fish to preserve them. The cod salted well, the halibut didn't. If this passes, I want to be able to use halibut for bait in my crab pots.

Prior to discussion of proposals 230-240, Dave Gordon gave a PowerPoint presentation on ADFG stock assessment and management of herring.

Discussion about Dave's presentation. First sac roe fishery was in early 1970s, a few hundred tons in bait fishery before that for this area. The stock was quite low then so quotas were also small.

FT – Is there any consensus on the apparent regime change in the late 1970s? DG – This is due to a warming trend in the North Pacific – It increased the productivity of many fish stocks in the eastern gulf – pink salmon, sablefish, halibut, herring all benefited from this.

FT – Has the herring biomass ever been this high before? DG – This is the highest since we began monitoring in 1964, but we don't know about the stock before that.

AB – How does the 2011 miles of spawn compare to other years? DG – It has been higher but be aware that miles of spawn is not a good representation of stock size (A linear doesn't account for days of spawning i.e. thickness of spawning). In 1988 there was a large linear spawn but 85% of population were 4 year old herring, and they were skinny for their size (35% smaller than today's age 4 fish) – a large number of fish but biomass was lower as was the spawn. Bigger, older fish tend to deposit denser spawn.

DG – will provide copy of presentation.

Public STA – there are some consistencies in areas that always have spawn even if overall area shifts over years. Do you also have a graphic of where fishery has occurred over time? DG – I do have some of that data with me and I can present those as we go into the meat of the proposals.

MB – When will the 2011 price per pound be available. DG – it is likely between \$100 to \$200 per ton but I wait for the official amount from CFEC

JM – What is the MOU with the STA? Is it active? DG- The MOU was canceled by the State 2 years ago because of concerns by industry that it provided privileges to a group that weren't available to other users, Dept of Law ruled that we were violating equal access rules. JM – what are the consultations now? DG – everyone has the same access.

Prop 225:

Action: opposed 1-7-1

Description: Allow permit staking in roe-on-kelp fisheries resulting in double-sized pounds

M/S

Dave: Explained that the proposal is intended to increase the quality of the product based on the observation that the highest quality roe-on-kelp typically comes from the middle of the pound. By allowing the pounds to be larger, there is more middle and proportionally less edge. It also reduces the proportional amount of webbing, so that fewer eggs will get wasted on the web. The dept has some minor concerns from an enforcement standpoint in that the larger pounds are harder to measure accurately because the

webbing tend to sink in the middle of the pound. He did not consider that to be an overriding issue though. This proposal failed 3 years ago at the previous BOF meeting when no proponents were present. However, they were granted an experimental permit to combine pounds in the manner of this proposal by the dept for the past three seasons. The results of the experiment were mixed. It was not clear that the roe quality was any higher, but quality tends to be highly variable from pound to pound for unknown reasons even in pounds placed near one another that have similar amounts of herring and kelp.

Suggested that this proposal be modified to require pre-registration of double-sized pounds so that enforcement would have a heads up.

Noted that double-sized pounds are physically a lot of work since much of the work is done by hand and the double-sized pounds are bigger, heavier & more awkward.

BM: Does this improve the economies of scale for the permit holders?

Dave: Not much; maybe to some degree when placing herring, they only have to dump into one pound instead of trying to separate the catch into two pounds.

EJ: Is there an industry association for the SOK industry? What do they think of the proposal?

Dave: I don't think that there is an association.

EJ: I'm reluctant to support this without seeing more support from the industry. -Maybe if the proponents had been here to more fully explain the situation.

Harvey Kitka: Does mortality increase as the size of the pounds increase?

Dave: I would say that the herring might be in better shape in a larger pound, certainly they are not in any worse shape.

JM: Both permit holders would still need to be on-site -wouldn't they?

Dave: Yes, this proposal doesn't change any of that. The permit holders have to be on site whenever kelp or herring goes into or comes out of the pound. You don't need to be there if the pound is just sitting there. These requirement has been adjusted several times in the past.

Kim: Are there predation problems? It seems that this makes you go double or nothing. If a seal or a sea lion busts into your pound you'll loose everything.

Dave: There haven't been many issue in the past. There are occasional seals or lions, but not many problems.

FT: What limits the amount of herring that a permit holder is allowed to use?

Dave: Just the size and capacity of the pound. Currently the herring stock is in good shape. When the stocks are down and we want the fishery to not use as many fish, there are incentives for permit holders to double up or triple up in the same standard sized pound. We limit the amount of kelp that they can use and give more to permit holders that go together. For simplicity I would suggest that this proposal be limited to times when the stocks are high and we are not encouraging the doubling / tripling in the traditional sized pounds. Things could get confusing when 4 permit holders want to double per this proposal and also double in the traditional manner.

RG: How is the kelp held in the pound? Is each blade strung individually?

Dave: When the stocks were low and the single-permit limit was 150 blades of kelp, they were typically handled individually. Now that stocks are high and individual pounds can have up to 2,000 blades, the blades are harvested by the frond, with each frond having about 10 blades. The fronts are held on ropes on an aluminum frame which is lowered into the pound.

RG: What is the purpose of the traditional doubling/ tripling provision? How does that work?

Dave: If herring stocks are low, and we want to reduce the amount of herring that the fishery uses then we allow permit holders to use a lot more kelp if they double or triple up in the same standard sized pound. Since the pound is the same size it won't hold any more herring, but with more kelp in the pound there is more product in the end. So if we can get everybody to double up, we've reduced the number of pounds, hence the amount of herring used by half. If they triple up, then the amount of herring used is only 1/3 as much as if everybody had their own pound.

?

Proposal 226

Action: Passed as amended 9-0

Description: Require marking of gear used in herring roe-on-kelp pound fisheries

Amendment:(k) (2) a permit holder must plainly and legibly mark all floats equipment (anchors, buoys, floats etc.) used in support of the fishery with the ADF&G number of the support vessel; the floats equipment must be permanently marked and clearly visible above and/or below the surface of the water at all times.

M/S

TF: This issue was brought to our attention this spring around the time that proposals were to be submitted. We all agreed that this issue of gear being left in place was a significant one that needed addressing. We were going to sponsor our own proposal, but when we learned that the dept was going to sponsor one, we decided to let them handle the issue instead. After reading over this proposal, I'm disappointed. I wish that we had pursued our own proposal. This doesn't go far enough. This only requires that the floating gear be marked. It doesn't address the sunken gear at all. The stuff that you can't see is the big problem. That's what catches your anchor and / or damages your boat.

Mike White: I brought this up last spring. There are many users of this area, but the pounders have left this area a pig sty. It is horrible. Tory O'Connell had been pursuing some grant money to clean it up, does anybody know what happened to that?

TF: Their proposal didn't get funded.

Mike White: The department was going to try to use the *Kestrel* to do some clean up, but I don't think that happened either. Heck, you can still see the effects of the pound fishery in Tenakee Inlet, and they haven't had a fishery there in how many years?

Dave: 4 or 5 years

Mike White: The regulations are already on the books. It says that you have to remove all of your gear- *all of it*, not just the pounds or the floats, but the anchors and the ropes too. The deadline for the removal is June 10, but that time of year the pound fishermen are busy in other fisheries, so they ignore the rule. They know that there isn't any enforcement and they get away with it. Meanwhile, nobody else can safely use that anchorage and there aren't any other good anchorages in that area. I've been nearby when the wind has changed at night and I've had to move somewhere else at 2 AM because I couldn't anchor in the Vixen Island area where all the pound debris is.

I appreciate this attempt by the dept, but it doesn't go far enough. This spring we tossed around some ideas. Maybe the dept could run a pound, call it a test fishery and use the money to clean up the mess.

Dave: I thought that this year was better than in the past. Enforcement was more active. They wrote some tickets. Some of the fishermen were pretty upset that enforcement was coming down on them this year when they hadn't in the past. It would be pretty hard to enforce marking requirements on anchors without divers working for enforcement.

I think that things are improving and will get better. I know that there are a lot of permit holders who don't want to pull a 3,000 or 4,000 lb anchor-but it can be done.

KE: Why not require that anchors be marked too?

Dave: Might not be a bad idea. If we did have a diver around, we could yank out the unmarked anchors, but it isn't any easier for us than it is for them.

Mike: Those anchors are a huge safety issue. There aren't many anchorages in the Vixen Island area. There's no reason not to mark everything so it can be traced back to a permit holder. It isn't fair to other users of the area for the pounders to destroy that anchorage. The only reason that they leave the anchors there is to preempt other pounders from setting up their own pound in the first guy's favorite spot. Some of these anchors are actually multiple anchors roped together. That really snags boat anchors. Not all of these pounders are divers. Some of them, if they loose an anchor, they just bring another one. It just adds to the debris.

EJ: Move to amend (k)(2) changing "~~floats~~" to "equipment (anchors, bouys, floats, etc.)"; and adding above "and/or below" the surface

KE: 2nd

Amendment passes 8-0 without debate

JM: Why don't they just move the anchors to another location when they re done, where they don't conflict with out other users. They don't have to bring them all the way back to town.

Dave: At one point DNR wanted to require that the pounders get permits for their anchors at \$250 apiece since technically you are supposed to get a permit if you leave an anchor in place for more than a certain length of time. They decided not to require that of these fisheries. I don't know that they would exempt the anchors elsewhere.

Dave: Before you vote on the proposal, you should also know that the language also includes setting the closure date in regulation instead of requiring us to write an EO. In practice, the fishery closes itself since the herring are only around for a short period of time before they spawn.

?

Excerpt from Sitka AC Meeting Feb 3 2011 discussion related to Proposal 226

Mike White (MW)- **Hoonah Sound Herring Pound Fishery** is a sad fishery – it should be a well managed, green fishery but what a garbage dump it has turned into. In the regulations it is clearly stated that any and all gear associated with that fishery must be removed from the water by June 10. For whatever reason that regulation has not been enforced. Four agencies have permitting processes. What a bureaucratic mess and a physical one.

There was a pleasure boat that had suffered damage from the debris in the Vixen Island area – it is a land mine of buoys – 100s of them. Lines going everywhere. Anchors- some close enough to the surface at low tide to damage a boat. What a mess! The bottom is littered with anchors. Once the herring pounds are removed, the buoys and anchors are left. This keeps other users from using the area. You can't anchor there without great risk that you won't get your anchor back. I am asking the advisory committee if they can draft something to send to the Dept to move this problem forward.

Dave Gordon (DG) – I am glad you brought this up to this body – there has been a mess created. There are some rules on the books but they are not tight enough – we are submitting our own regulations to be able to identify the gear to a specific boat. Without being able to do that enforcement of the requirement that the gear be removed at the end of the season is difficult. It is a real problem. This year it came to a head with one guy that did 6K\$ damage to his boat. Anchorages in the Hoonah Sound area are very limited and the fishery occurs behind Emmons Island and Vixen Island. Troopers are stepping up and will try to enforce these regulations – Try to bring in some big boats in there to deal with heavy anchors. Try to get GPS coordinates on the gear when it is being used and we know who is using it. Just having the fleet see that we are keeping track of whos gear is where should help, but some of it will be hard to deal with. Education is important. It is a great fishery but that is a blight on that fishery.

TO – The SSSC has a grant proposal in to get money to clean up Hoonah Sound, but it wouldn't happen until July if it happens at all. Our expectation is that ADFG and USFS enforcement will be working with the fleet this spring to clean up and cite violations – all agencies have it as a priority this year.

EU – I seined for someone up there and I have never seen such a piggery of a fishery – there is junk on top of junk on top of junk because the fishermen are trying to claim their site so nobody else can set up a pound there. Not just the anchors and line, but some guys even sink their webbing. Stiff fines are what is needed.

DG – Part of what has exacerbated this is that we require them to leave their gear in the water for a month after the fishery to make sure that the eggs on the gear have a chance to hatch. Fishermen from ports farther away than Sitka find it inconvenient to return to the Hoonah Sound area a month after they are done fishing. By then they are engaged in other fisheries. Some of them have hired Sitka folks to remove their gear for them. We are considering submitting two proposals – The first to require that all gear (anchors, ropes, etc) be marked with the permit holder's number so that we can connect a piece of derelict gear to a fisherman. The other would not allow the fishermen to put any gear in the water until about a month or so before the fishery. Right now the regulation says that they have to take it out after the fishery, but doesn't say that they can't immediately put it back -Plop. This makes it difficult to enforce the removal requirement.

FT – I was wondering if there are Hazards to Navigation, is the Coast Guard involved?

PR – If Tory doesn't get the grant, can we assess the fleet a charge for removals? We may be able to fund cleaning up the area. Could we use the test-fish procedure which would basically tax them? We don't want to clean up their mess for them. There may be some room for that.

TO/EJ Move that SFGAC write ADFG USFS and FW enforcement strongly requesting enforcement of regulation to remove gear associated with herring roe on kelp fishery.

PR 2nd

MW – can you require the fleet to tag their gear before the fishery this year instead of waiting until next board cycle?

DG – I can't put it in regs this year but we can make it clear that we intend to remove any gear if it is left.

JM – isn't there a place that they can logically put the gear that doesn't mean that they have to haul it all the way home with the?.

EU – they can get storage permits for the pounds but no one is going to want to haul their anchor up

PR ?

Motion passes 9, 0,0

EJ – move that SFGAC propose to the Board of fish that the herring pound fishery be discontinued until marine debris and hazards to navigation are removed and cleaned up and the clam bed restored.

RG 2nd

EJ – this proposal in the BOF book will get that place cleaned up

TO – we could put in our own proposal.

DG – we can think about whether or not they need to keep their webbing in the water for a month afterwards- they might remove their anchors if they could take it all out when they are done.

MW – The idea is that those eggs are going to produce fish, not a good idea to waste them.

PR motion to table

Motion to table Passes 9,1, 0

End of excerpt

Proposal 228

Action: opposed 0-6-3

Description: remove the 2-1/4" mesh restriction on West Behm Canal gillnet herring fishery

M/S

KE: What is this about? Why do they need to catch smaller herring?

Dave: Herring in this area - West Behm are smaller on average for their age and are younger fish too. This was a big issue this past year when it was apparent that the 2-1/4" mesh couldn't have caught the GHL. There weren't enough big fish in the spawning population.

EJ: After talking with many folks from the Ketchikan area, I wish that the dept had never established a West Behm Canal fishery. These fish move around a lot. The populations is very erratic. A lot Ketchikan fishermen are very upset about the West Behm fishery.

KE: If there aren't enough big fish, they shouldn't fish. The eggs from the larger fish have a higher survival rate.

RG: Given how much controversy there is surrounding the West Behm Canal fishery, I'm opposed.

PROPOSAL 230

ACTION:motion fails 4-10

DESCRIPTION: Append commercial herring fishery management plan for Sitka Sound.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: JM MTA, MB 2nd

Harvey Kitka -My name is on these proposals, but they are the work of many in the tribe.

Steve Reifentstahl – the first few proposals are unnecessary and burdensome to ADFG. As Dave showed, the biomass has been increasing. It has increased by an order of magnitude since the Dept started managing the fishery. The amount of money that the Dept puts into assessing the resource is 2nd to none. There is strong science. This is the largest biomass of herring anywhere for the size of the area. Additional data collection is nice but not critical and shouldn't be required.

AB – I wouldn't hurt to err on the side of caution - regulatory needs to protect these fish. Can anyone tell me what happened to the herring in PWS? That used to be a large herring population too.

SR – What happened in PWS is thought to be disease. The consensus of the science is that it was disease. Currently the most recent information according to whale biologists is that whales are keeping that population down.

AB – What is to keep whales from being super predator here?

SR – this model is judged to be conservative and does take into account predation. The estimate of the biomass has been underestimated the model in most years. Management has slow up fast down in the model.

TO – I appreciate the intent of Mr. Kitka to be precautionary, herring is integral to the ocean. However, 2 of the 3 parts proposed to be added are already incorporated in the assessment of the Department and the "ecosystem function" without being specific is in the eye of the beholder. I can not support the proposal because I don't think it's sufficiently constructed for evaluation.

Harvey Kitka – the Canadian model that the ADF&G model is based on is a poor model, the DFO has fished down all of their areas. This proposal represents the Sitka Tribe Herring Committee position.

Mitch Eide – Actually the Canada stocks are fine. Of the 5 fishery areas in Canada last year there are plans to fish in 3 next year.

AB – What has happened to the other stocks in SE? If you ask people from Kake, Angoon, Hoonah people from those villages- all of them- will tell you today that they get their herring eggs from Sitka. 40 years ago they would have gotten them locally. I believe this will help sustain what is left of the SE stock.

SR – I agree that the resource needs to be protected and subsistence is first to come off the top. I believe it already is though.

BS – (To AB) Are you saying you don't trust the State's population estimate?

AB – I would like to see a little more caution – Dave explained that they recently found out that they had been mis-aging scales for years. What other mistakes might they be making that they don't know about?

BS – I trust the Government. I think there is adequate evidence that there is caution and no evidence of calamity. I don't support this proposal.

JM – I would like to ask the Herring Committee – I don't understand your language in “what will happen if nothing is done” – can you explain. HK – I think that we need to take a more cautionary measure towards this thing. If we are more conservative there will be more herring and the fishery will get better. A long time ago I asked one of the AC members about the harvest rate of 10% - I begged them to stay at that level, but they increased it. There are things going on in the environment that we don't understand. The 100 year old halibut are smaller than they used to be. We know that there are changes in the environment and there should be more studies so we understand.

DG – Our current model incorporates age class strength and sex composition, maintenance and geographic distribution of the resource seems to be fine given the history that we have. Ecosystem functions are poorly defined and it is a very complex thing, so what would we be assessing? It would require a tremendous amount of financial and staff support to go in that direction.

EJ – As I look at this list of criteria I recall that our advisory committee had some involvement in this – we proposed #2 (spawning thresholds). What you are telling me that you are already doing #7 and some of #9 anyway. I'm inclined to make a motion to just add #7 and strike the rest.

DG – that is the basis of our stock assessment so I'm not sure why you would put it into regulation?

HK – Last year was the first time we got smelt back in Sitka Sound. A long time ago we used to have them around in the early spring. It was a good food source. They have not been seen for many years until this spring. I think that the smelt came back because the seiners were kept out of the conservation zone.

Tom Gamble – the STA tribal council supports this. There shouldn't be any fear on erring on the side of conservation. There have been some issues – there have been 3 years where the model has failed to meet our subsistence needs. The commercial fishery has never been shut down. Spawning biomass is being determined in January before the fish are even here. The 3 year olds are not the big spawners. There are substocks and you can't put them all together in one group. We respect that people fish for a living but we ask for caution.

EJ ?

PROPOSAL 231

ACTION: fails 2-12

DESCRIPTION: Do not reopen herring sac roe fishery after an opening when 90% of GHL has been caught

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: AB – MTA, MB 2nd

AB – this doesn't seem unreasonable. Have there been any times in the past when you've gotten within 10% and then had another opening? DG – 3 seasons in the past 10 years have had openings for less than 10% of the GHL. 2 times we did a coop, one year we had a competitive fishery. The final harvests were 102%, 96%, 102%. I think this proposal is trying to address our precision in management and I looked at that fairly closely. We did go over on the GHL 3 years in a gross manner – That was many years ago and the quotas were quite small back then. Our average is about 1% over. So I'm not sure what the proposal is trying to address. It doesn't seem to add to conservation and it provides a loss of opportunity to fishermen.

SR – If you look at the overages do you account for the fact that the biomass has been underestimated each year? DG – I can't answer that.

JH – When you look at how well managed the fishery is I can't support his.

Tom Gamble – well it has been 60% in number of years.

FT – Is it possible with a different manager, precision could become worse?

DG – I don't think it is me, I think we are very careful, we don't want to go over that amount. Quotas are often exceeded or have underages. The fishermen could make the argument the other way.

EJ-?

PROPOSAL 232**ACTION: fails 3 to 11**

DESCRIPTION: Change formula for setting GHL for Sections 13-A and 13-B to same as rest of SE.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MB, mta, AB 2nd

EJ – Dave, please explain what this would have done to the quota in past seasons.

DG – the past 10 years it would have meant an annual reductions of about 4000 tons- about 38,000 tons total over ten years for an exvessel value of 19 million dollars.

Harvey Kitka – this proposal was to have same guidelines that the rest of the State uses. Why would Sitka be different than everywhere else?

DG – The history of this is that there is a standard harvest rate based on formula. There is a threshold for all stocks – when you are at threshold the harvest rate is 10% - for each multiple of the threshold in the biomass, the harvest rate increases by 2% - so you don't get to a 20% harvest rate until you have 6x the threshold in biomass. This is a conservative harvest rate policy and is appropriate for the smaller more erratic stocks. In 1980 the threshold for Sitka Sound was set at 7,500 tons. That is one of the multipliers in this formula – but in 1997 based on a proposal to increase the threshold to 15,000 tons, the department reanalyzed the threshold and came up with a model generated threshold of 17,000 tons. When BOF addressed this proposal they voted to support a 20,000 threshold for allocative reasons. In a compromise three years ago, the BOF has in regulation (unlike the other areas) changed the harvest policy: when the stock is at 45,000 there is a 20% harvest rate, but the threshold went up to 25,000 tons. The harvest rate will be between 12 and 20%.

TF – Did you say that the typical threshold is set at 25% of the theoretical unfished biomass? DG – Yes but we haven't analyzed the unfished biomass since 1997.

EJ – The original 7,500 ton was Larry Calvin's idea for the SFGAC – It wasn't based on anything but a guess. It was a groundbreaking deal. The year after it was adopted there was no fishery because the threshold wasn't met. DG – Sitka Sound is the only place where there is a threshold in regulation as well – otherwise it is a dept decision outside of regulation.

SR – Togiak has a harvest rate of 20%. As does the Canadian coast. This is typical for large biomasses - The north Atlantic is a huge biomass. They use 20%

JM – Why are other stocks in SE managed differently? Too risky? DG – I don't know the history of the development of the sliding harvest rate for other areas. Sitka Sound is a stable area with a healthy population far from the threshold.

FT – If the HR were to be confined to the red line (on DG's powerpoint that represents the proposed HR) would it be a fair presumption that the biomass would increase faster than if is at the yellow line (representing the current HR)? DG – not necessarily – this population could decline with no harvest.

EJ – what I think is being left out here is the threshold of 25,000 tons. That is where the real conservation is in Sitka. We have a biomass at 100,000 tons last year – setting the minimum threshold so high is the important part. This is a management program that has worked although I'm sure luck is involved. This is 12 or 15 times more herring than when I got here – I got on this committee to help save herring. I think we should stick with what is working.

Harvey Kitka – we want this to go back to the State to allow more caution – it won't change GHL.

MJ – You said that 1997 was the last time the threshold was analyzed. What determines when you look at it? The analysis was done in response to a proposal to increase the threshold. EJ – You increased the threshold in 2009. Why wasn't the analysis done then?

AB – When do you decide how many fish are in the water before the seiners fish? How do you know that there really are enough fish to meet the threshold?

DG – well my whole presentation was about that – it is a forecast based on what was in the water last year with recruitment, survival. We do survey the area before we open the fishery, but it isn't a biomass estimate.

EJ – They used to do sonar surveys of the herring in the spring just before spawning back in the 1970's, but you can't do that with this large a resource now.

TF ?

PROPOSAL 233& 234 considered together

ACTION: motion to table passes 12-2

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:JH mta, AB 2nd

EJ – I'd like to hear from the herring fishermen especially.

KE - I would suggest that you think about how this could affect the economy of our town. It eliminates the much of need for crew, as well as much of the cork skiff fleet. The fishermen don't need to buy as much gas in town. They don't need to be in town quite as early. There are gear changes that could work to make the fishery safer and saner instead.

MB – how would this effect length of season? DG – I wouldn't think it would change the length of fishing opportunity – that is a pretty well defined time period.

Harvey Kitka – would this allow a better dispersal of fishery? DG – it does open up more options to disperse the fishery.

MB – what about test fishing? Would it decrease it?

DG – my view of this would be that we would continue to do some test fishery to avoid set releases, but it might reduce it some.

JH – I'm curious to hear this discussion. If you look at it in an equal split scenario it brings safety to the fishery, quality comes up, management becomes easier. The company I work for has fishermen on both sides.

Joe Lindstrom – there are good, bads, & uglies with this and with the current system. The majority of the seiners would like to have something like this so we don't have an Olympic style fishery – we would have higher roe percentages, more value in the fish. The bad thing is you don't have the big scores from the knowledgeable or lucky fisherman.

MB – From the processor side how would it effect number of jobs?

Lindstrom – I don't see this getting rid of boats because of the big stock sizes.

JM – There have been years when it was a coop fishery. How does this get determined? If 70% of the permit holders say yes? -80%

Lindstrom- 100% Right now it has to be unanimous.

FT – what would you do if a boat can't make it to Sitka?

DG – I don't think that has happened in a long time. But it could be divided between permits with any fish allocated to no shows left in water.

EJ – I support the EQS but I don't think this is our business. This is for the fishermen to decide.

Move to table

MB 2nd

PROPOSAL 234-considered with 233

ACTION: tabled-see 233

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:See 233

PROPOSAL 236

ACTION: fails 2-8-4

DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seines to reduce depth of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:MJ mta, JB 2nd

MB – I would like to look at them having the biggest nets they can so they can fish faster and get out of town.

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Prior to discussion of proposals 238-240 & 273, Lauren Sill – ADFG Subsistence Division gives PowerPoint Presentation on history of the subsistence survey and recent resulting record of recent subsistence harvest.

In 2009 BOF revised the ANS to 136,000-227,000 lb herring spawn.

In 2010 changes were made to the subsistence survey. Household list improvements are based on known harvesters. Conversion factors will be estimated annually based on weight of sample harvest for common container sizes; In 2010 this resulted in a large decrease in the assumed density of herring roe from previous ~8 lbs/gallon to ~4 lbs/gallon. In 2010 the harvest estimate is not expanded.

TF – You assume that you know all the harvesters and you talk to all of them?

LS – yes.

TF – Have you tried to identify how many harvesters have not been included in the survey? Do you do a random phone survey or something?

BS – so what is your total population that you refer to in this graphic that you come up to 100%

LS – the 100% was the 132 households identified as harvesting sac roe. We contacted all 132 households on the list.

SR – Are you personally talking to the people? – Who actually conducts the interviews? How do you know that the harvesters are giving you accurate information?

LS – STA hires a survey technician. We figure that most of the harvesters would give good information to STA. In 2010 adfg staff was there for 10 surveys.

RG – how many individual harvesters did not take eggs because of the Julia Kay?

Did you interview other communities?

LS – 24 households took eggs from Julia Kay; in 2010 we couldn't get a hold of other communities.

EJ – The numbers that the harvesters provide are all estimates? Seems potentially very inaccurate.

LS – The eggs that get shipped out of town (34%) have known weights.

EJ – did you do any calibration on the harvesters estimations?

LS – no.

EJ – the reason I bring this up is that I volunteer for the Sitka Derby. My boat is a weigh station and when people bring fish to get weighed, my estimate of how big the fish is and the fishermen's estimate of how big the fish is and the reality is usually skewed-often badly. Generally their guess is larger than reality. I think everyone is trying to be truthful, but has there been any regression analysis to see if these estimates have any basis in reality.

LS – in 2010 they tried to have the surveyor estimate the poundage on the survey boat. They were pretty close.

PROPOSAL 238

ACTION: proposal fails 7-7

DESCRIPTION: Establish unspecified closed waters for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery in order to provide an area only open for subsistence.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

EJ – Move to withdraw our proposal 238. JH 2nd

EJ – When the AC has made such controversial, allocative proposals in the past- and we have- we had a task force or subcommittee work on the details. Redoubt Sockeye is an example. On this issue, I see that the tribe has its own proposal that has lines clearly defined. I see no community consensus. I think the tribe would be in a better position than our AC representative in Ketchikan. I thought of taking no action, but I think we should withdraw and make our comments for or against the tribes proposal

RG – I disagree that there are a number of people in this community that support this type of proposal and we could step forward beside the native community, rather than rubber stamping their proposal. We need to promote some of our own views with the sac row fishery. I think that would be stepping away from controversy when it shouldn't happen. There have been many people that support this subsistence issues.

MJ – I'm with EJ – I'm in favor of withdrawing it – this proposal got drawn up late in the season and I wasn't there – I think the committee members that voted for it shouldn't have come up with it on such short notice. I don't know how many members were there, but there should have been a full discussion on this. This should have been advertised ahead of the meeting.

AB – I agree with RG 100%, it is reasonable, it is not asking too much. Subsistence should probably be considered over commercial. History speaks for itself.

JH – support EJ and fall in line with MO – there was a herring fishery that day.

JB – this came up last March. I don't recall which of our March meetings this was adopted at, but both meetings had 11 members present. We had staff from ADFG there. I like the fact that we did this proposal. Sanctuaries are good to have there.

TO – I didn't support the proposal at that time as we did not have any information on the fleet distribution, the subsistence harvest, and the real issue – will this help, is this the right area? I have no information. It should have been a more thoughtful process with more input. Although I appreciate Tad's excellent work in writing the proposal and the intentions to protect subsistence.

RG – I would like to have us put the proposal forward and have the discussion with everyone here, let's move to adopt and then vote up or down tonight.

JM – our announcement said we would draw up proposals about groundfish so I don't think that we had much public notice of this proposal. I feel that 239 is the vehicle to do the same thing that this proposal would do. I feel like we could table this and move on to 239.

Tom Gamble – I have to agree with RG – that you had 11 members there. That's well more than a bare quorum. Subsistence doesn't discriminate on being native or not native – having AC support on its own merit would be good with subsistence. It would have a lot of weight.

PR – I was not at the meeting in the spring either and I will support withdrawing it.

MJ – It was advertised as a groundfish meeting. I think we have to be consistent with how we handle proposals – the halibut LAMP the Redoubt task force – these were long processes – any time you are talking about closing areas we have to include all users in the discussion or we lose credibility – we want it to be fair.

JB – I think we should move forward with this proposal, I support a conservation closure area and we can modify this proposal to specify an area after discussion.

MB ? on motion

Motion to withdraw fails 7-7

MTA Proposal 238 MB, AB, 2nd

JL – I support this proposal. I'm hearing that we have worked on other proposals at length. I think we need to send the idea to the Board that this time has come and we should promote this idea. I have been in plenty of proposal debates that end in a lack of consensus. We need to take action, not just talk.

FT – Setting aside the procedural motion that we just voted on, I'd like to know the differences between this one and 239.

TF – In proposal 238 the boundaries are not specified. They would be defined by the Board. Proposal 239 has specific boundaries in the proposal.

JM – in the regulation book under 5 AAC 27.195 2. Or b. – one is distribute by fishing time area if Dept determines it is necessary, and then there is "shall consider." How do you do that in season?

DG – it is difficult. This issue has been a big part of this for all 16 years I have been involved. This particular management plan came into effect in 2001. The BOF considered a proposal out of cycle to address the subsistence issue. As a manager you look at that, as there is a concern about the area of Middle Island and Kasiana Islands and try and take advantage of opportunities away from there when you can. This is allocative and there is disagreement of the effect of the fishery on subsistence fishery Personally – I don't think it is that direct a relationship. We have changed our fishing pattern based on that consideration.

PR – Is this area off Middle Island and Kasiana – is that a really major staging area for herring?

DG – yes it is. There is also a trench between the break water and Starrigavan Bay that is important for prespawning herring.

Tom Gamble – supporting 238 removes some of the mystery of the regulation through the management plan. We are confident that if that area is left alone we will be fine. All within that area there have consistently been subsistence uses. Herring are free to move anywhere. But subsistence fishermen can not.

EJ – well, I think unless people change their vote, it is going to be a 7 to 7 vote so we will oppose our own proposal. If we were going to set some area aside and we would if there was going to be some industry support, the area would be quite a bit smaller, but I don't think that accomplishes your goals. We see the map – the herring go to different areas every year. What if you don't have fish here? Plus any time you draw a boundary, you set up a line fishery – and the dept will still need to fish on them and will wait for them to move. I have a long record of supporting good ideas but I don't see this solving the issues. There is some merit to having a subsistence proposal. This committee is split on it for the way that the meeting that the proposal was adopted was announced, because of the large area, and for other reasons. I supported the adoption of the proposal, and if there was a way to come to consensus I would support it, but I think I made a mistake.

John Duncan – I've been a subsistence fisherman since 1959. Somebody mentioned that the herring will move around – if you bother them as much as the fishery has, then yes they will move. If you don't bother them they don't move around. There is a reason why they called it herring rock- back before the fishery, the herring always used to spawn there. They want to come back to the same area that they were born-if you let them. Up in Hoonah Sound if the spawn wasn't thick on our hemlock we would leave the rest of the

tree in the water so that the eggs on it would hatch. Now sometimes if you leave a hemlock bough hanging over the side of the boat, the herring jump on it they are so happy to see their hemlock.

We are more concerned about getting eggs for the Japanese than we are for getting eggs for Alaskans.

SR – in a spirit of compromise the Dept has done a good job to try and stay out of core subsistence areas – that demonstrates respect, community support, and sentiments. I don't think that gets acknowledged enough. This proposal is assuming that when there is fishing in the subsistence areas subsistence needs will not be met. There is no science that shows that. The subsistence division has no information that is scientific. This is chipping away at the edges and it is not necessary to do.

AB – I hear you saying a lot that subsistence has been met. Call Angoon and ask them if they meet their subsistence needs locally. Why aren't the herring there anymore? What does science say about that? We are asking for a small section of the area. What is the big problem – it ensures a future for subsistence and the commercial fishery.

MB – I will vote in favor of this as I have seen fish getting ready to spawn at Kasiana and then they held a fishery on the road system and it scared them away.

John Berry – Credibility has been thrown around a few times – the fishermen helped supply eggs via the Julia Kay out of respect. There is no information here about how this proposal helps the resource This is an emotional discussion with hard boundaries. A few years ago they spawned on Kruzof

Troy Denkinger – my wife is native we know how important subsistence is. This proposal does not have the right balance. How many miles of beach is in that area? I think it is a third of the fishing area every year. This puts a huge impact on the commercial fishery – this could close the commercial fishery many years when we have healthy resources. I see the need with carving something out but these lines are too large- particularly when there may not be any relation between area closure and subsistence opportunity.

JB – One thing about 238 is that this boundary is just a place holder. It is an example the lines could be different. Deciding on those boundaries that should be hacked out at the BOF. This line on the map is a suggestion.

EJ – It is really irresponsible to say we want a closed are but we don't know what we want. You in the majority you figure out the real boundary. One of the most difficult things in this whole process is the subsistence stuff because it involves spirituality in addition to regulation. It is hard because I have friends that feel so strongly – my heart is with them – but the details are not there. What does it do to the commercial fishery. I think Troy went a little ways towards that when he said there is probably a smaller area that might be acceptable to him.

John Duncan – I would like to ask the question of the commercial fishermen, if they would like to go to Auke Bay to fish this year. That is why we are trying to protect this area so we don't look like Auke Bay. They used to walk on the backs of herring there. If you are so concerned about this area you are going to be in trouble like Auke Bay.

TO – When should we look at where the commercial fishery has been distributed compared to this closed area. Is this the appropriate time? I don't want to wait until after we vote on the proposal.

Dave Gordon presented some information on zones of fishing – 10-20 years ago the fishery was 68% on Halibut Point Road area, now only 20%. However, there isn't a good relationship between removals from that area and subsistence harvest.

AB – Given this data, would there be years with unsuccessful commercial fisheries under a sanctuary area like the one in proposal 239?

DG – I think there would be years when the GHF would not be achieved.

JM – is there any correlation between biomass and availability of commercial harvest? Is it harder to get the quota on low abundance years?

DG – I don't really know because the recent trend has been increasing.

EJ – I think there is a real good possibility this goes either way at the BOF – The Tribe could end up with nothing, or the fleet could end up with a big closure- even with the AC split. I think if we had some support for a smaller area- one that nobody would like but was acceptable to most, we could get a majority here and probably get the BOF to accept it. However, I don't see the Tribe stepping forward with a smaller area, or the industry proposing anything. I guess we will have a split vote and roll the marbles here.

Tom Gamble – In 2005 the tribe had trouble getting eggs and 95% of the quota was taken from that zone. Cumulatively more than 19,000 tons has been harvested within that zone. Science is right there. It doesn't show the number of test sets and we know that has been a problem with mortality of test sets. I think DG is a great guy but I'm trying to do my job as a subsistence user. Test sets are an issue. Some years there are 40 or more sets. We know this stresses and kills fish. We've seen the dead fish on video.

TD – we had the largest spawn ever and it was close to town this year. It was a huge spawn, there was no harvest in the core subsistence area, yet still the subsistence harvest was still low. This was not our fault this year – maybe there is another place to look to have community take their needs. Elimination of the commercial fishery isn't the answer.

SR – weather, particularly weekend weather, how the fish move, lots of other things all are contributing factors to the subsistence harvest. The science isn't so clear as the numbers show. Science is cause and effect not just correlation. We should all want real science and to solve this problem. We can solve this problem. If it is to get whatever the true need is we can work together to solve this.

Harvey Kitka – The baseline population for these fish are is considerably smaller than what used to be there. I started fishing in the 1950s and there were way more fish then. We used to have to go out to Redoubt and beyond for our eggs because at that time the sewer lines went into Sitka Sound – so we had to go further south, but the biomass was so big that even there we could use rakes to catch our herring. You can't catch fish with rakes now. Back then there were 10,000 natives that came here to fish herring because it was so good. Right now we are trying to close one little spot for conservation. We want to see them come back.

George Bennett – It looks like a stalemate with many stakeholders here – I remember when we first started the herring committee to be responsible to our tribal citizens. Now we are in a political dilemma. We should try to reach a compromise. The only way that will happen is if we can come together then have a workshop discussion and then talk about these some more. If you vote on this tonight 2 out of 3 will be unhappy. When Bill Davidson compromised we were happy. Now here we sit discussing something that no one will be happy with – we are not all about subsistence all the time either – some of us are commercial fishermen. There has to be a compromise. I don't think a lot of us will be open to coming back to these meetings with an open mind. We need to compromise for ownership. Culturally we Tlingit are built to conserve. If you agree with this you will table this proposal and let us all discuss this with Troy and others. This is a small community, I don't want to have to cross the street when I see you coming.

JL – what is our time frame on this proposal?

TF – comments aren't due until early February so we do have time to talk about this.

JL – is the industry willing to have a group meeting that we could talk about with in that area?

Mitch Eide – I don't see that there is any effect on the subsistence fishery from our fishing.

AB – Mr. Gamble has mentioned several times that there has not been subsistence needs met several times.

TD – would you be willing to entertain that we somehow make sure we can accomplish this harvest so the needs are met? We took our own initiative to meet the need and the STA got that stopped. So let's talk about a compromise that solves the real problem.

Kim Elliot – I know that the seiners offered to go gather herring eggs – but part of subsistence is to actually gather – handing it to us is not the same thing. I don't think the seiners should have to do that – but we do appreciate the gesture.

Keep in mind that regardless of what happens to this proposal, some part of the area may need to be closed anyway because of invasive tunicates. They are spreading from where they were first found in Whiting Harbor. If a seine scrapes bottom where they are at, the tunicates could get spread all over the sound. I think we need to do some more investigating. Consider some compromise.

SR – the beauty of helping with the harvest that we did in 2009 and 2010 is that it does not preclude anyone from harvesting on their own – people that can't go out were helped by the commercial fishery.

TG – this area is already a compromise we proposed a larger area in 2005 and 2006. How many of the commercial fishermen are willing to take a smaller percentage? Just for one second put yourself in our shoes. We don't gain anything as a community by having someone harvest for us.

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PROPOSAL 239

ACTION: proposal fails 5-9

DESCRIPTION: Exclude commercial herring fishing within a defined core spawning area within Sitka Sound to allow for a harvest of herring spawn to meet the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: JM mta, MB 2nd

JM – one of the problems I have about this is it is going to push more fishing into other areas and we may be affecting other stocks in Goddard and Salisbury. Maybe these are part of the larger Sitka Sound stock, but maybe they are distinct stocks and we are over harvesting them in an effort to stay off of the core of the

Sitka Sound stock. I think Mr. Bennett was on the right track. There is a lot of hurt in this fishery – a lot of misunderstanding – there isn't a lot of data on some of the effects of the test fishery.

FT – I would like to know if the Tribe's feeling is that is the last set of lines they will consider or if there is still room for compromise.

Harvey Kitka – might be some, but not a whole lot. I think we have compromised far beyond what we could have. This small area is not going to hurt the fishery that much. We are not talking about closing the fishery. This is a fishery that happens during a reproductive cycle – this is a conservation zone. This is a double kill situation. You take the adults and the eggs. I can see where it will crash.

TO – I can't support this proposal because I don't understand the boundary impacts and the effects on subsistence or fishery. I notice a real shift towards harvesting in Eastern Channel because of the MOU and I wonder if that isn't going to bite everyone by affecting stocks differently. I don't see any data that would indicate any relationship between the commercial harvest and the subsistence opportunity. If it is about emotionally protecting an area then perhaps a smaller area could be a compromise but I see no spirit of compromise here. Also, you may find you don't want to harvest here because of housing and others problems and you don't want to force yourself into a specific area that might not meet your needs

TG – the BOF will meet again in 3 years and the tribe could compromise in the future to close a smaller area if the commercial fishery is suffering too much. You should support this tribal proposal.

PR – BOF rarely reopens areas once they have been closed for conservation.

SR – in the spirit of compromise I would like to suggest if the real goal is to meet subsistence needs that we do a good job of crafting a proposal that is a compromise and it will take some time . I propose to offer my services to work on something like that for the next BOF cycle. The vote is split here but I would like to table this and move forward. We can come out of this room with this.

EJ – I don't know the process, but now I have heard Mr. Bennett (STA) & Mr. Reifentstahl (industry) say that they want to work on a compromise. Three years is a long time to wait. We could do an agenda change request. The time has to be right for that stuff to work – this community and this committee have always supported subsistence. We have been a leader in this state. If I thought we could craft a zone that would work, I would propose it right now. I don't think I can agree with this. There seems to be no correlation between the fishery and the subsistence fishery – if there was we should set aside an area. We could pass a resolution to do that.

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EJ – I move that the SFGAC encourage the industry and STA work together with the Department to develop a common ground proposal for facilitating subsistence herring roe harvest.

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Motion passes 11-1-1

PROPOSAL 240

ACTION: Passes 8-1-3

DESCRIPTION: Re-allocate Sitka Sound herring to provide up to 1,000 tons of herring for commercial bait when the sac roe fishery GHL exceeds 10,000 tons.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MTA JM

PR 2nd

Kim Elliot – Does this come out of sac roe GHL or is it in addition to the sac roe harvest?

FT – Comes out of the sac roe, but it has a different trigger biomass.

DG – This would have 5% of the GHL be allocated to a Bait fishery when the GHL is above 10,000t.

Mitch Eide – how would you manage an open access fishery on a 1,000 tons of fishery on a fishery that typically occurs at night time-in January?

DG – there is provisions within the current winter bait fishery to establish trip limits. We would probably have registration permits.

Roger Ingman – would you have to have CFEC change permitting?

DG – no southeast bait permit. The BOF can decide there is an area for sac roe.

FT – Is the idea is to target bait for longline rather than troll?

John Baird – I'm not the author, but I believe it would be used for longline bait.

TO – I like the concept – it is a good price and we do have local need for good quality bait.

PR – the price is certainly better for bait than sac roe.

ME – will the trip limits be a problem if they go over? You could easily go way over in the dark. It isn't a simple thing to catch say 20 tons, you might have 100 tons in the net.

DG – I think there is a way to manage this.

Baird – what about the Tenakee bait fishery?

DG – that population is below threshold now, so it hasn't been fished in recent years.

Troy – The prices don't add up. I fished some of these bait fisheries, The box frozen price is different – Fishermen get 18 cents per pound - not \$800 per ton. The quota in Craig has been uncaught because they can get cheaper bait elsewhere.

AB – isn't there still a bait fishery in Sitka? DG – the Dept harvests 50 tons as a test fishery for winter samples. Those fish are sold – there is 100 tons of bait harvest for fresh bait pound or tray pack.

Baird – we aren't looking for an adversarial position with seiners, we are looking for high quality bait for our local longliners. This is high quality, big fish product.

MB –you would use local workers? Baird-Yes

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Proposal 242

Action: No action -discussion only

Description: Increase the threshold in West Behm Canal herring fishery from 6,000 tons to 15,000 tons

Dave: The average biomass in this area since 1980 has been about 5,000 tons. The forecast has been above 6,000 tons 8 times, but has been above 15,000 tons only once.

M/S

FT: Why so volatile?

Dave: It certainly is erratic, but we don't know why. Small stocks tend to be more erratic than large ones in general.

EJ: I've fished down that way for the last 4 years in July. There is hardly any herring there. At least I don't see them the way that I do here. Maybe I'm not in the right places, and since I'm fishing chum, not kings or coho, I'm not searching out the herring, but there aren't little herring in the bays and there aren't schools of big herring showing up on the sounder.

KE: I would err on the side of caution if the dept forecasts are off by this much, it seems that more than the usual amount of caution is justified.

Steve Reifentstul: Herring do move around. NMFS studies in Lynn Canal, Sitka Sound & Prince William Sound have shown that. Their mortality rate changes in different locations. Consider that the dept does a good job of meeting their constitutional mandate to manage for sustainable yield. This proposal is based on a bunch of hearsay.

BM: Look at who is sponsoring the proposal. It looks to me like a classic user allocation issue. This isn't our area. I think that we ought to leave the fight to those whose area it is.

EJ: Move to postpone indefinitely.

RG: I did some herring research after our marathon Sitka Sound herring meeting. There were once 16 reduction plants in Chatham Strait alone. We heard about how much herring there used to be in this area long ago. We wonder where those herring went- They got ground up. That's where they went! We are still grinding them up. We take the eggs out and grind up what is left. Give the herring a break! The amount of herring that is out there now is a drop in the bucket compared to what was once there. We have all of these hatchery salmon that we are pumping out and we are starving them by grinding up their herring. We are not giving the herring a chance to come back. Every fisherman in every other fishery should support letting the herring population come back.

Motion to postpone 2nded, and passes 5-4.

Proposal 245

Action: tabled-discussion only

Description: create equal share seine fisheries where permit holder need not be present

M/S

KE: I'm concerned about this equal share proposal.

Dave: The dept figures that the only way to harvest a small quota with a seine fishery is a cooperative fishery. This proposal would not require that the permit holder be present to have their quota fished. After a discussion with the Dept of Law, we have been told that this is not permissible.

Motion to table M/S passes 6-1-1

PROPOSAL 246**ACTION: tabled 7-2****DESCRIPTION:** Clarify that the management measures for the use of two rods is for king salmon only.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****MTA – JB – RG 2nd**

TT – We consider this a housekeeping proposal – when you are fishing with 2 rods that is for king salmon. That prohibits you from retaining other species when using 2 rods.

TF – what would you do if this doesn't pass the BOF? Would you take a failed vote to mean that they want you to change how you are interpreting the rule?

TO – is there a problem with catch and release?

TT – no, you can't keep fish you have to release them but the Dept isn't worried about that

JM – is there a conflict with proposal 251? I would like to cover them together.

RG – this means they can have 4 fish? This is confusing? Why to the repeat the same thing in c, d, & e?

TT – c, d, and e are portions of the king salmon management plan – the abundance indices allows for 2 rods in the winter time.

JM – motion to table

RG – 2nd

8 – 3

At later point in the meeting, this proposal was again moved & 2nd:

2nd discussion:

TO – can't you amend this to put a new line in the king salmon management plan: Item z. nonguided residents can fish for king salmon with 2 rods unless the king salmon index is under XXX?

JM – What abundance index did you have in mind? Move to table until we can discuss with regional sportfish Chadwick; 2nd & passed 7-2

PROPOSAL 248**ACTION: fails 1-11****DESCRIPTION:** Change the definition of “bag limit” for anglers fishing from a vessel.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:**

PR – MTA

JB – 2nd

PR – I oppose this. The justification is because people are violating the regulations

You are doing away with the bag limit. Punch cards and charter logs would work better. This is like keeping all the deer tags on the boat and have someone bring back 10 deer.

CL – I appreciate that and can understand the moral issue. In the charter industry they support this.

Enforcement of the existing rule is very hard unless there is an enforcement person on your boat. There are lots of situations when you have some people fishing that aren't good at fishing and others that are. If you could keep boat limit then there would be much less dead loss of king salmon.

TO – I don't support this – a person should stop fishing when they catch their limit. Period. Does the Dept know about the effect of this? Will it increase or decrease the total removals? Seems to me it would increase the mortality? TT – It will likely increase the mortality.

CL – You can't make people stop fishing just because they've caught their limit of one species when there are other species to catch.

TO – Yes, the individual should have to stop fishing when they have their limit of the first species.

JM – isn't a resident allowed to take 2 king per day? This proposal is written like the limit is only one. TT – it varies by year

CL – A lot of people are doing this anyway.

EU – this regulation would allow a family to go out and have the father catch all of the kids' fish. This would allow one person to take multiple bag limits

FT – does ADFG think present regulations are fashioned to accommodate elastic and uncertain take that we are hearing anecdotally and still keep resources healthy? Is this a serious issue for management? I.e. are your harvest estimated based on the assumption that everybody is following the rules? If that's the case, from what it sounds like, the take might be quite a bit higher. TT – this is really more of an enforcement question – this wouldn't really effect how we estimate harvest.

EU – this would also allow one charter client to keep all of the fish for the boat.

CL – I don't think so?

EU – the captain and crew could catch all the fish for the clients

TO - that was my point, it would increase catching efficiency and I don't see this as a protection to the resource

AB – I don't see this as hurting the resource, I see it helping the resource.

PR- by that logic I should keep all my mortalities, but I am not allowed to – incidental mortality is part of our catch already.

CL – I have to disagree with this. In the charter industry there isn't an accounting for the mortality factor. In the released fish there is assumed no mortality - In practice though, over half of them are floating away belly up – we killed all of those and eventually get our limit too. On a few days, when the fishing is hot, but I have some clients that aren't good enough fishermen to get a fish to the boat, and others who can land fish ok, but can't figure out how to set the hook soon enough to keep the fish from swallowing the bait, I've released 15 dead kings by the time we finally got 6 kings to keep.

TO – there must be a proportion of released fish that are considered dead? TT – yes there is – I believe it is 27%

TO – I can not support this – it doesn't really stop the problem – if you are fishing for coho you are still going to be killing kings. I appreciate your sincerity but I just don't believe this will fix the problem. There is really something wrong with 15 fish dying so there can be a 6 fish bag limit

JB – I don't like the idea of party fishing, I think the client or child needs to catch their own fish. I don't support it.

MJ – It doesn't sound like a regulation problem. It sounds like a technique problem – how can so many fish die? Why use treble hooks and bait? I haven't had a fish bleeding in 3 years. Why can't you use a single hook.

AB – I couldn't speak to the mooching aspect – I usually troll. A single hook is usually better than a treble hook – the problem you run into is that the standard mooching rig is a double hook. Often times one of the hooks is right where you want it- in the hinge or outer lip, but the other hook has become lodged in the gills, or in the eye.

CL – from an information standpoint, most guys aren't using bait when they are trolling. Mooching is 2 hooks in a herring. You are right, when its done correctly it is fine but some clients have no idea what they are doing. I try to do some client education, but it is a service industry. Clients like to fish the way they have caught fish in the past.

Joel – I just want to add, that we (The Boat Company) have been doing this (giving fishing charters) for a long time. We can't support party fishing at any rate – it raising the level of blood lust. Good education overcomes all of that – the fish you catch is your catch and you extend your own effort.

PROPOSAL 249

ACTION: Passes 10-1-1

DESCRIPTION: Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye, coho, chum, and pink salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

JM MTA

JB – 2nd

JM - I like this proposal. It's a complicated issue and it gets bogged down on BOF – they have it on different species

CL – everyone I've talk to that is engaged in the charter industry is for this except for – pink salmon and chum salmon which we are allowed to be used for bait. Accounting for fish that aren't in the angler's possession anymore because they were used for bait would be problematic. I personally like it

TO – what would the limits be? What would the charter industry need? How many days does a typical charter client book for?

CL – now the daily limit– is 6 coho, 6 pinks, 6 sockeye & 6 chum. For some species it may not be needed.

Joel – it seems that this proposal brings up both accounting and the annual cap – it gets them both in the same proposal without being specific with either – the accounting has a lot of merit. Proposal 294 has an accounting of all home pack by commercial fishermen. I would say the proposal need to be broken up into two component. The cap component has more challenges. What is the impact on the resource if non residents keep pink salmon? It seems like there are plenty of them. Last year the total harvest was over 50 million fish.

PR – move to amend with 5 daily bag limits of each species

FT – I'll second that

TO – can't support this with a 5 daily bag limit – too high for cohos, I would support a two daily for coho and leave the rest alone for now but I like the accounting

TT – F&G would not use this for accounting. We don't require people to return their licenses at the end of the year. We would still continue to use the Harvest Survey.

CL – what is the split in terms of catch between guided and nonguided? The charters have the logbooks so you can get a very good number of retained catch by species.

CL – The clients can never remember what they caught and what planet they were on when I ask them year to year. I can't image that the data that you get from the harvest survey that you send out at the end of the year is all that accurate. Some of them even call me to ask what they caught.

JM – what is the typical length of the charter client's trip?

CL – 3 to 4 days of fishing – but they usually spend one day hung over or one day hung over and on the river doing catch and release – We see a lot of 3 day trips. On the other hand, a lot of people who come fishing with us, also have another trip planned, say to Homer later in the year. An annual limit that was only 2 day's bag limit would keep them from making the 2nd trip.

MJ – this proposal is just for SE – if they went to Homer they would be starting over.

Joel – Another thing to think about here – there are quite a lot of non-residents that have summer homes through out Southeast Alaska particularly Sitka. They come up here and they spend 4 or 5 months up here in the summer time. These regulations would affect those nonresidents as well.

PR – If they have 2 houses, they can afford to feed themselves. I'm not sympathetic.

JB – I sympathize, but there are privileges to being a real resident. A summer-person can't hunt under resident regulations. This would be the same sort of thing.

TO – is it a friendly amendment to change this to coho-only and to a 2 daily bag limit for non-resident with reporting.

PR-accepted as friendly

CL – just a comment, the other charter guides that I talked to were for this proposal when it was modeled after an abundance based allocation type of thing – so the coho stocks would need be indexed?

TF – (to CL) So were they talking about in-season management? The dept doesn't do a pre-season coho index like they do for kings.

CL– something like the abundance based management of king salmon

JM – can you come in on this – do they do an abundance on coho? Can't say there is a conservation concern. This is a reasonable amount of fish to take home.

JB – a limit of two daily bag limits for coho is fairly restrictive –

? on amendment

6-6 fails for tie

Unamended proposal

? JB

PROPOSAL 250

ACTION: fails 0-12

DESCRIPTION: Allow retention of king salmon in the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR mta

EU 2nd

TT – there are 24 populations of natural occurring king salmon, 15 of them produces less than 1500 fish annually, only 2 -Taku & Stikine produce more than 10,000 fish.

PR – those rivers are managed by the treaty. We couldn't allow a new fishery to develop there. There already is ample opportunity to catch these kings sport fishing in salt water. I can't see any merit in this.

FT – we were encouraged to catch strays from Medvejie hatchery by EO – this could be a management device in this case too.

TT – fresh water in Sitka Sound are open for King Salmon – they are all hatchery fish here.

JB ?

PROPOSAL 251

ACTION: passes as amended 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of two rods by non-guided anglers in salt water.

AMENDMENT: clarify that it is to apply to non-guided resident anglers only- amendment passed 11-0

DISCUSSION:

JM – MTA

?

TO – why doesn't this say residents? It seems odd to propose for all non-guided anglers.

TF – I think the Dept mis-labeled – Looking at the proposal language itself, it is clear that it should have said resident.

PR – might be treaty concerns if they increase harvest in the summer – wouldn't this increase the catch. You will get your bag limit more often.

AB – disagreed – this isn't linear...

TT – I think it would be difficult to estimate how much harvest would increase. Around Haines and Juneau, harvest increased about 15% when they could use 2 rods.

JM – I think TO was on to something, amend this allow the use of 2 rods by non-guided resident anglers, the non-guided nonresident sector is a loophole. (to TO) Do you want to offer that as an amendment? TO:

Yes

JB – 2nd

? amendment passed

JM – I think a lot of times the sport quota they don't get their number so letting residents have an easier time of it is ok.

JB – I would assume that regulation 47.021 is just for Kings, or is this for all salmon? TT – all fish.

PROPOSAL 252

ACTION: Passes 9-2

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of power assisted reels by disabled anglers only.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR – MTA

EU – 2nd

CL – I understand this and I agree with it but there will be an enforcement issue with this.

Every down rigger could be considered an electric reel. Will I be in trouble if I have an electric reel on board? As a practical matter I don't being specific gear on and off the boat on a daily basis. All the gear goes on in the spring and doesn't come off until fall. These reels are cost prohibitive on a wide scale, I can't afford to buy them. There could be citations without needed.

PR – the genesis of this proposal was mechanical jigging machines for blackcod in Chatham.

CL – I can catch them without electric reels.

TF- Was there an issue at the BOF meeting about whether or not they had the authority to provide special regulations for disabled people?

TO- There was an issue, but I think that they could have done it if they wanted to. It was a mostly an excuse.

TF- I remember when this came up the first time three years ago, our subsistence representative Jack Lorrigan gave a very good testimony about how his crippled 80 year old grandmother fished for blackcod with a manual reel and caught plenty. If she didn't need an electric reel, I don't see why anybody in this room needs one.

Excerpt of Minutes from Sitka AC meeting Feb 25 2010 related to proposal 252:

Proposal 182 (from previous proposal book)– Sitka AC proposal Electric Reels only for handicapped Critical to get our proposal passed – sets the correct tone for sport fishing statewide; As an AC it is our job to provide guidance of this sort. This isn't the image of sportfishing that is best for Alaska.

EB- we worked hard to reach consensus and we had all users there and we think is the best conservation for this resource.

TO – The department opposed our proposal and they are to be neutral on these types of issues, worth discussing the staff and Board.

The number of fish (blackcod) reported for 2009 from logbooks are all self- reported by operators but they exceed the expectations of the Sport fish division staff and the Board already.

However, the 8 business reporting most of the catch statewide is a reason to limit electric reels before it takes off – very little statewide impact at this time.

JL – Electric reels are not necessary: I grew up commercial trolling in Meyers Chuck – my grandparents watched fish trap at foggy bay – My Grandmother’s name was Blanche Isaacs Ohneck she was Haida, she was severely burned in a boat fire, hands were fused together because of this – when they lived in Ketchikan she had a Boston Whaler and we would tow her down to Duke Island – she used a Penn Reel and deepsea rod and jig for blackcod and we while we would troll in the big boat she sat in the skiff and would be cranking her Penn reel – she caught blackcod – she would wave her hat and we would pick her up – she was in her late 70s, did not have the use of her fingers, and she fished with a hand crank reel so I don’t understand why able bodied sport fishermen have to use an electric reel.

RG – Allowing handicapped exception opens up the door for abuse, the best approach is to disallow the gear for everybody – this AC proposal is already a compromise proposal that weakens it’s utility – the Board should support this.

End of excerpt

PROPOSAL 253

ACTION: fails 3-6-1

DESCRIPTION: Establish system for distinguishing between vessels participating in hand troll and guided charter fishing in Southeast Alaska.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR MTA –

JB 2nd

PR – It is already a violation to do this (sell sport caught fish)

CL – I have fished both hand troll and charter out of the same boat – the long waiting period to switch between fisheries is not realistic. Hand trolling was a big part of my livelihood, and I need to do multiple things. You can’t legally sell sport-caught fish. This is overkill

PR – The proposer is listing a bunch of possibilities, Maybe the waiting period is too much of an inconvenience, but it isn’t too much of an issue to cover up the HT marking or the charter sticker before you start fishing for the day.

CL – I don’t like the 2 week language.

AB – this is discriminatory – enforcement is either going to check them or not.

JM – I think that if enforcement gets that this is a problem they will come up with something.

AB – to me charter fishing is commercial fishing anyway.

RG – Unless we know there is really a problem with this, I don’t know if it is worth moving this forward.

EU – I am against this because it is obvious what someone is doing. If there are a bunch of guys in yellow rain jackets on deck, the boat is chartering. If one or two guys are running four rods, they are hand trolling. I don’t think that a regular charter client would want the skipper to sell his fish even if they could get away with it.

TT – There are 30 vessels that are dual registered for hand troll and charter.

JB – proposal not necessary

PR – the

?

PROPOSAL 254

ACTION: 1-8-1

DESCRIPTION: Allow youth and disabled anglers to use bait in high use and small cutthroat lakes.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

JB MTA

PR 2nd

PR: Kind of a silly basis for the proposal

PROPOSAL 258

ACTION: passes 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Reopen Sitkoh Bay Sockeye sport fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

JB MTA

CL 2nd

TT – the Dept has reopened the lake, but through a clerical error the bay was not reopened.

TF – If we want to make sure that folks couldn't snag the fish we could get the dept to mark a very liberal fresh/salt boundary.

TO ?

This is an excerpt from Sitka AC minutes of Feb 3 2011 meeting regarding sponsoring Proposal 258

2005 Sitkoh Bay proposal – rescinding the closure for the sport fishery for sockeye just in drainage.

TT - I checked the proposal book from 2005 and couldn't tell why the action that the board took re-opened only the stream, but not the bay. The proposal as originally written would have re-opened both the stream and bay. I didn't see any discussion that changed from "Bay and Drainage" to only the Drainage. This could be a housekeeping proposal due to clerical error. Right now sockeye sportfishing is open only in freshwater in the Sitkoh area.

DG – The stocks are doing well. Subsistence harvest is fairly limited there due to distance from communities. There are no conservation issues there.

EJ – I have spent hundreds of hours sportfishing for sockeye. They can be made to bite in freshwater, but as far as I am aware, not in saltwater. Saltwater sockeye fisheries tend to become snag fisheries. I am not in support of snagging salmon.

PR – I move that we submit a proposal identical to proposal 215 (from 5 years ago) to open the waters of Sitkoh Bay for sport fishing for sockeye.

JB 2nd

TF - My memory is hazy, but as I recall we had this discussion back in 2004 as well. I had thought that we had agreed to leave the bay closed due to snagging concerns, but if the published proposal says otherwise, apparently I mis-remembered. Does anybody else recall this discussion?

TT-It is just an administrative issue. But "Bay" was left out of what was read before the Board....

EJ – We did a big Redoubt Lake plan because guides were snagging fish. Do we have a problem.

JB ?

Motion Passes 9, 1, 0

End of Excerpt

PROPOSAL 259

ACTION: fails 0-10-1

DESCRIPTION: Make fishing within the Sitka Historical Park on the Indian River a fly fishing only, catch and release fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR – MTA

JB – 2nd

TF – the proposer can't make the meeting – he lives at Arrowhead Trailer Park at the mouth of the river. He is concerned about dolly varden population (which he says are down 80% from 5 years ago). Though he mentioned that he suspects that high-volume subsistence dolly fishing for halibut bait is more likely to be the problem than sport take. He says that the Park Service is in favor of this. Actually, when we last changed regulations in Indian River 6 years ago to allow pinks to be taken, the park folks were opposed to any fishing in the park. We compromised by not changing the old regs in the park and only allowing pinks to be kept above the bridge. The proposer is also concerned about snagging of coho at mouth of river as well. He says that opening the upper river to pink salmon has caused more people to catch coho salmon illegally as well.

PR – I don't think we need to do anything to encourage the Park Service to restrict fishing

AB _ I agree .

JB – not a conservation issue

AB – is there a problem with Dolly Varden?

TT – no conservation concerns with Dolly's

JB?

PROPOSAL 260

ACTION: fails 0-7-3

DESCRIPTION: Liberalize king salmon regulations in the vicinity of Ketchikan.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR MTA

JM 2nd

PR – once they are out of the hatchery they are considered common property – this is trying to get more of SSRAA fish but it can have impacts on wild runs.

JM – didn't NSRAA liberalize the bag limit by Bear Cove? Maybe he should work to SSRAA and get them to allow more fish.

CL – I can't support this without knowing what the local situation is.

PR – terminal harvest areas do have carefully drawn lines so you avoid catching treaty fish. We shouldn't be messing about with those lines

RG – I can't support increasing the area to get bright fish, the lines are important to protect wild stocks so I can't support this.

?

PROPOSAL 263

ACTION: fails 1-5-5

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in the Klawock River.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

AB MTA; 2nd

AB: I've fished this river for fall coho for many years. I used bait all the time. You ought to be allowed to continue to use bait. I don't think that I caught more than 1 or 2 steelhead.

PROPOSAL 268

ACTION:10-1 passes

DESCRIPTION: Clarify where personal use finfish regulations apply.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: EJ – MTA, PR 2nd

PR – when we were talking about the shellfish things we went over the rationale for these proposals regarding PU and subsistence.

?

PROPOSAL 269

ACTION:0-10-1 fails

DESCRIPTION: Establish a catch report card system for subsistence, personal use, and sport finfish fisheries.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: JL – MTA, RG – 2nd

JL – I'm opposed to this because we have catch recording systems already.

EC –this is a paperwork nightmare and might collect information that is not necessarily used for anything. Subsistence salmon permit takes weeks of our time as it is.

PROPOSAL 270

ACTION: amended proposal passes 6-3-1

DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence or personal use harvest of sablefish.

AMENDMENT: The department ~~may~~ SHALL establish permit possession limits ~~or~~ AND annual limits prior to the season.

DISCUSSION: JL – mta, RG 2nd.

TO – I think that there is a need for limits. The personal use limit should be equal to the sport limit, and the subsistence limit should be the same as for subsistence halibut (20/day).

EJ – Well I think 20 is too high, I agree with Tory – we should amend it.

EJ – Move to amend by adding possession limits up to 10 sablefish and annual limits up to 20 sablefish.

TF – Most subsistence fishermen only want to make one blackcod trip a year. They freeze well. Blackcod grounds are a long ways away. I don't think that the possession limit should be any lower than the annual limit.

JB – I think that would not make it economical to make a trip to Chatham. When we did this, we took 200 to 250 pounds.

EJ – amend to 20 in possession and 40 annually. Why didn't Kristen Green (ADF&G Groundfish Project manager) put some limits in? TF – she wanted some data before she set a limit. She didn't know what numbers might be appropriate.

TO – I managed this fishery for 10 years and I think that we do need limits.

FT – heard of one guy that took 14,000 pounds of PU fish last summer!

RG – I think Dick alluded to that awhile back. I'm nervous about putting limits on subsistence. Why are we talking about Personal Use? I think we should be liberal with subsistence.

EJ – motion to amend possession limit to 15 sablefish

TO – I think we should set a possession limit and I think 15 sablefish per person is a lot – this is 120 pounds times \$9.00/lb. That's a lot of value. If they want to get more they can go multiple times, I didn't suggest an annual limit so they could go multiple times.

JL – I am hesitant to set limits on subsistence, there is a lot of cost in fuel and time. Given the depth, it is hard to do and you may not get your gear back. I don't think there should be 14,000 pounds coming out of resource, but 15 fish is too low

TO – but we do this all the time, we have subsistence limits on everything.

JB – I think 15 is too low for the trip, maybe 50 is ok.

TO – what about limiting the gear to the same as halibut gear? (30 hooks/boat) They are fishing that already.

EJ – I like the gear idea, I think JL and JB are right that there should be limits.

MJ – I agree with TO, this is our job to set a limit, if we don't do it, the BOF won't do it. Why not spend some time to set a gear limit or bag limit, I am in favor of sending some limits to BOF.

FT – I am subsistence oriented but I think numbers are warranted. I can't see any justification for a personal use fishery at all, as the fish are already limited.

RG – I like the gear restriction rather than the bag limits. This would prevent black marketing blackcod.

PR – I've eaten some of the blackcod from that 14,000 lb trips. I can tell you it was spread all over Petersburg. That would be an average of about 3 lbs/person. Now I know that not everybody got 3 lbs, and some got more, but that's the idea. To go out and do a longline trip for subsistence you are probably combining it with a hunting trip.

TF – I don't like the relatively small hook limit. If you try and set a short section of groundline in that deep of water you are going to get your gear in a big mess. If you make the investment of enough buoy line you are going to want to set enough gear to catch enough fish to justify your investment.

TO- You don't have to put your hooks as close together as a commercial skate. You could spread your 30 hooks out over three skates. They would probably fish better that way- less competition for the bait.

JB – When I did this I used a 17' whaler– about a third of my boat cargo was buoy line. I was so concerned about potential weight issues that we used rocks for anchors so that we didn't have to carry our anchors back to town. The first set we caught 1,500 lbs of halibut. We let them all go. There's no way I wanted to pay for the fuel to bring the halibut back from Chatham when I can get halibut right here. The next set we loaded up with blackcod. I would stay with the proposal as written and not add amendments. On a small subsistence boat there are limitations just because the boat is so small and the gear is so bulky.

EJ – I'd like to withdraw my amendment and make another one.

EJ – amendment: possession limits of 30 fish from a total of no more than 30 hooks.; 2nd?

JB – I'm still against fish limit.

? on amendment

Amendment fails 5 - 5

TO –MT Amend: subsistence and personal use longlines limited to 30 hooks.

EJ 2nd?

JL – You need more hooks and gear for blackcod than for halibut.

EJ – how would you enforce the number of hooks if halibut and blackcod aren't the same. TF- The number of hooks allowed for commercial trolling is unlimited. If you catch a subsistence halibut while trolling you can keep it if you aren't running more than 30 hooks, otherwise you let it go. Could be same for blackcod.

RG – I would want to have more hooks than that. I would not keep my halibut if I was on a blackcod trip.

EJ – If the limit is too liberal, the charter lodge operators will use this PU/Subsistence fishery to fill out their clients fish boxes –
? on amendment
Amendment fails 4-5-1

PR – MTA Substitute the department ~~may~~ SHALL establish permit possession limits ~~or~~ AND annual limits prior to the season.

EJ?

PR – I think commanding the Dept to establish limits will give the Department justification for picking numbers and they would not have to specify means.

EJ – I think you have captured this real well but our comments should record that we were 5-5-1 on number of fish.

RG – I agree with JB- the Dept wants to get a record for what the harvest is. I'm uncertain about what is appropriate. They don't have the data to make the call

PR – People have been arguing over the number of hooks. Keep in mind that pots are legal gear too.

BS – there is a misconception that subsistence is done in a smaller boat. What is wrong if someone uses a commercial boat for taking subsistence fishing if it is safer and more economical?

TO – it is a limited resource and we should be making that statement

JB – I don't like the idea of annual limits.

RG – is it possible that we could go for a gear limit, and not worry about the number?

Amendment passes 6-3-1; proposal passes as amended 6-3-1

PROPOSAL 271

ACTION: passes 9-0-1

DESCRIPTION: Clarify prohibitions to commercial, subsistence, and personal use fishing by commercial sablefish permit holders.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

RG – mta, JL – 2nd

RG – would this partially address the issue of commercial longliners taking large amounts of personal use fish?

TF – No- this makes it easier actually

?

PROPOSAL 273

ACTION: motion fails 0-13

DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence herring eggs on branches in Sitka Sound or alter the harvest monitoring program to measure landed weights.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: (Note that details of presentation by Lauren Sill ADF&G Subsistence Division are included prior to discussion of Proposal 238.)

JB MTA, RG 2nd

SR – this was proposed by SHCA – this is to have a full accounting for herring eggs on hemlock or other seaweed. The only reason for proposing this is because the ANS is used as a wedge issue against the fishery. In 2009 and 2010 the F/V Julia Kay harvested subsistence roe on branches – We weighed just the eggs on branches less than 1/4" diameter. We have data records on that. We distributed about 30,000 pounds in Sitka and 30,000 lbs to other communities. Throughout the state it is not required to have a permit to weigh or show harvest and I fully support that. But when the harvest is being used to curtail another fishery that is another matter. The subsistence reporting are only estimates even though it would be relatively easy to do this and then we would truly know what was happening.

John Duncan – totally against this proposal. We are trying to protect subsistence area, a very small percentage, of total area. Our people are going to fight this. Not right. The history for our people is such that we have very little freedom left. There aren't many of our traditional foods that you can gather without a permit, but herring roe is one of them.

RG – I can understand Steve's reason for doing this but I don't think it warrants requiring measuring – not worth the paperwork.

Tom Gamble – this proposal is unnecessary and burdensome to the state. It has been said here that this biomass is increasing and continues to grow – the science that is used is second to none. The subsistence

take is a small amount. We think these permits are criminalizing this fishery. It's discriminatory – this isn't about data. The problem is never going to be us going out to get subsistence eggs. If we can't get our eggs we are going to take you to court.

I want a roll call vote on this motion.

George Bennett – what about the doing our traditional part for the clan parties? There isn't a permit in this world that will stop us from doing that. I don't say that out of malice, it is the truth though. I understand that accuracy is at the center of this but don't be surprised if we bring in more than the individual limit.

PR – Would this proposal require the Dept to survey dockside?

SR – there are a couple alternate methods proposed. The most preferred is to do the survey at the dock- like creel census. This is not a proposal to limit anything. The right is there for subsistence to be taken.

MB – I'm voting against this for a lot of reasons – It is not practical for large harvesters. Our data is good enough from the STA survey. It would be inaccurate to weigh eggs at the dockside because they are too wet. The eggs are perishable. To take them out in the sun and weigh and measure large quantities would take too much time. Sometimes many boats come to the dock together. The lines would be long.

EJ – I think of my old friend Ralph Guthrie and I can't imagine him counting all the eggs that he would have in various holds all over his boat the *Illiee*. I do understand the purpose but I'm going to vote against this one. I do hear the point.

Jeff Feldpauch STA – STA has sent the BOF a letter concerning this proposal. A copy was sent to this AC. TF-We've seen it. That copy was passed around the table at the beginning of this meeting before you showed up.

Feldpauch-This proposal is not necessary. It is expensive. We have improved our way of monitoring the catch already. There is a 3% difference from unprocessed eggs to processed. The proposal is discriminatory. They would require you to get a permit in order to protect the industry. Wasteful as you lose eggs every time you handle them. Time is also an issue.

?

PROPOSAL 274

ACTION: fails 0-10-1

DESCRIPTION: Modify the personal use fishery for salmon in Southeast Alaska to target king and coho and to include additional gear types.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PR – mta

TO 2nd

PR – this guy wants to go commercial fishing with power troll gear for his personal use fishing.

I take exception that he states that this is in the broad public interest.

?

Prop 283:

Action: Supported 6-2

Description: De-couple Yakutat spring king fishery from the need to have a 1,050 king forecast on the Situk River

Pattie: Explained that based on CWT analysis of fish caught in the troll fishery in late April and early July there is likely a low AK Hatchery % in the fish that would be caught in May & June in the area. Also explains that the setnet fishery that goes on during that time catches 944 king/yr on average. Based on genetic testing of sport fish caught in May and June, the percent of Situk fish in Yakutat Bay is very low (~1%). Most of the fish are from Vancouver BC.

JM: Why are they asking for this?

TF: While, this would cost the rest of the troll fleet a few fish – no more than 1000, and most likely nowhere near this many, as a Sitka troller, I support this. It is the fair thing to do. The rest of the SE fleet gets to fish this time of year, the Yakutat fleet has to sit on the beach. If all of us only supported the spring fisheries that we participated in, none of those fisheries would have very much support. It is the right thing to do to let Yakutat have their share too.

Matt Donahoe: The fishery has been on the books for years, so this isn't an argument about whether or not Yakutat should get those fish. It has already been decided that they ought to have that chance- the BOF approved that in the past. The problem is that the fishery has been contingent on a very high forecast for the Situk. Now though the Yakutat biologist says that this fishery won't be a problem for the Situk. The fishery would only be 1 day/wk. In the past there was an issue about the 3% hatchery tax, that the rest of

SE paid, but Yakutat didn't have to pay since they didn't have a hatchery, and some thought that it wasn't fair for them to get a spring fishery without paying into the hatchery program. But now they pay the tax, so that's not an issue. ATA opposed this due to the conservation concern about the Situk, but at that meeting, we didn't have the biological information that Pattie just presented. From what I've heard they will likely change their mind and support this as a test fishery.

JM: When would this fishery occur?

Pattie: 1 day/wk in May and June – unless they catch 1,000 fish, then the season will end.

JM: Is this precedent setting, fishing before they know that they will reach escapement on the Situk?

Pattie: No, based on the stock composition, very few Situk fish will be caught.

Matt Donahoe: If they do catch a bunch of Situk fish, they will be closed down.

EJ: How many kings does the gillnet fishery there take?

Pattie: 944/yr based on the 5 yr average

EJ: Would you do genetic tests on the troll fish?

Pattie: Yes

EJ: These hatchery opening in the rest of SE in the spring are supposed to target hatchery fish, but there are many areas that routinely have low hatchery percentages. Yakutat lost opportunity when the BOF agreed to allow uncaught winter quota to roll over into the spring, rather than summer fisheries. This would give them something back. While this might be a precedent for other areas to ask for their own spring openings, I think that it is a good idea.

Kim E: Would this be managed by EO?

Pattie: Yes

Proposal 284

Action: Passed 7-0-1

Description: Expand troll time and area during directed Taku spring fisheries

Pattie: Most years that this fishery has been open there has been very little effort or harvest. Effort has been so small that it is confidential in almost all cases. The total troll harvest over all years combined has likely been less than 20 kings.

Matt Donahoe: The reason for the low effort and the low catch is that the areas that are opened to trolling were carefully designed by the gillnetters to be very poor areas for trolling!

JM: I've heard the gillnetters claim that trollers are catching Taku-bound fish in other spring areas like Icy Strait and Chatham. Is this true?

Pattie: To some degree, but not very many fish. The take is fairly minimal.

Botso: What is the 2012 projection for the Taku?

Pattie: Official projection has not yet been released.

Matt Donahoe: Enough to allow an all-gear catch of about 5,000.

TF: In comparison to the less than 20 fish that the trollers have taken over several years of fishing, how many kings have the gillnetters caught in those same years?

Pattie: The gillnet harvest is several 1000 per year when it is open. The additional sport harvest is between 1000 to 3000 per year.

EJ: I was on the subcommittee of the Juneau-Douglas AC that proposed the commercial closure of the gillnet and troll fisheries that targeted the Taku fish back in the 70's to allow the run to rebuild. Trollers have lost out to the gillnet and sport fleets in comparison to their historic catches. Historically the troll fleet caught about 10,000 fish per year in that fishery.

PROPOSAL 285

ACTION: 0-8-1 fails

DESCRIPTION: Repeal the 58' vessel limit in the Southeast salmon purse seine fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MTA: EJ, MJ 2nd

MJ (Seine rep)– I am not in favor of changing the limit at this time. The current 58' limit keeps the fleet down to a manageable level. There are 440 permits and only about 262 fished this past summer despite the forecast for the best season in many years. There was a prediction that we would see many more boats this summer than in past years, but there were actually only a few more than in the recent past. There is a limited number of usable 58' seine boats out there. That's what is keeping the fleet size in check, not the number of permits. There is a federal buyback program by Southeast Seiners in process. That program had a reverse bid (24 million dollars to buy back 30 permits) – the winning bids were picked, but it wasn't

approved by feds so it was disallowed and they had to start over. This is on slow mode now. There is already processor capacity issues in the fishery and we don't have room for a bunch more boats. If the 58' limit was lifted you would see the California squid boats etc. In the future if there was a reduced number of permits- say under 300, then you could look at removing the size limit.

JB – What about the value added portion of the proposal?

MJ – One of the proposers wants to blast freeze aboard. You can already custom process given the 26' width of the new 58' seiners- that's plenty big enough.

RG – are there a lot of inactive permits?

MJ – a lot – I thought this was going to be the year that lots of those guys reentered the fishery but there weren't that many more. The Sitka fleet used to be larger but with retired fishermen we are finally starting to see young fishermen entering the fishery. We need that.

EJ – (To MJ) How much does a power block cost? What about a net and a seine skiff? MJ- \$20K, \$30-\$80K, \$120K. It is a pretty expensive fishery to get into.

?

PROPOSAL 286

ACTION: no action; but concept opposed per 285

DESCRIPTION: Increase length limit for Southeast salmon seine vessel to 75 feet.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 287

ACTION: 6-2-1 motion passes

DESCRIPTION: Exclude stern ramps and rollers in the 58 foot length limit for Southeast Alaska area.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: MJ – MTA, RG 2nd

MJ-I don't see any problem with the stern ramp being on there – they don't want to have to take them off. They aren't really part of the boat – its just an aluminum ramp. This wouldn't add boats to the fleet. I would support this.

RG – is it that big of an inconvenience?

MJ – No, there is time to do it, and not many people have them to begin with, but the aluminum boats have to cut them off. That's an unnecessary expense.

JB – so when they measure seine boats they count everything stem to stern so roller count? MJ – yes documentation length is different than overall length.

TF- Is there any advantage in this fishery to having a ramp? MJ-No- I would think it would be a disadvantage, but maybe not a big enough one to be worth removing.

JL ?

PROPOSAL 288

ACTION:10-0 motion to table

DESCRIPTION: Allow seine vessels to transport two seine nets.

AMENDMENT: motion to table

DISCUSSION: MJ – MTA, RG 2nd

Eric C – Dept has had some concerns about this sort of proposal in the past- enforcement and creek robbing and increasing catch in some areas.

MJ – The last time this came up the proposal was quite vague. This proposal has a minimum depth of 300 meshes for at least 100 fms, this might keep them from creek robbing.

TF – Does the change address your concern?

MJ – the 300 meshes makes sense, but the 100 fm isn't a meaningful limit.

JL – how would you store a second net aboard? MJ – just pile in on deck and put a tarp on it. There is an advantage to this if you put a big hole in your net, you could have another net handy to finish the opener.

Not all boats could handle 2 full-sized nets aboard, but some of the bigger boats could.

MJ – move to table until after seine task force meeting next week

TO – 2nd

PROPOSAL 289

ACTION:0-9-1 fails

DESCRIPTION: Close District 5 to seining and open to gillnet fishing.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: EJ – MTA, MJ 2nd.

EJ – I don't think this is a good idea – this is a historic seine area and it is an efficient fishery. Gillnet caught pinks are poor quality.

PR – anecdotally I know that some gillnetters bought nets for pinks. They caught fish but did have poor quality.

PROPOSAL 290

ACTION: 2-3-5 fails

DESCRIPTION: Increase seining and reduce gillnet fishing in District 6 in September.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: EJ – MTA, MJ – 2nd. EJ – gillnetters have been gouging the seiners on fish for years and I think they need to get some balance back.

Eric C – the Southeast Alaska Seiners Assoc doesn't think they have enough opportunity at the end of the season and gillnetters have been getting more opportunity. They want late season coho opportunity. This is highly allocative.

MJ – any numbers for catch in that time period? Eric C – no

PROPOSAL 291

ACTION: 0-10-1 fails

DESCRIPTION: Allow harvest of pink salmon along the Pt. Adolphus shoreline in District 14 during years of large pink salmon returns.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: PR – MTA, MJ 2nd

PR – there was a seine fishery all the way up to the Inian Islands once upon a time. A test fishery could be valuable.

EJ – in 1963 my Dad had a charter in August to collect Peterson disk tags put on fish in the Inian Island area. They found that the fish from that area went all over northern southeast and went back and forth throughout southeast. Based in part on that information, the BOF took seiners out of that fishery as part of a move away from mixed-stock seine fisheries. Pink salmon prices are high now and there is going to be a troll fishery on those pink salmon. It won't amount to much in terms of the number of fish caught, but will be a good indicator of run strength- so a seine test fishery won't be needed.

TF – Am I misunderstanding this? The fishery is only going to occur in high abundance years, but one of the reasons for the fishery is to test for high abundance?

Eric C – it is a mixed stock fishery and mixed stock fisheries led to low abundance back in the 1960s and 1970s. There is a test fishery around the corner at Pt Augustus.

PR – Isn't there seine opening in Lisianski? That's even closer to the ocean. EC – There are seine openings there. It had been thought that fishery caught just the local stock, but the incredibly high catches there this year couldn't have all been Lisianski fish- had to have been a mixed bag..

MJ (seine rep)– I think the Dept showed this past season that they can do a great job allowing access when there are lots of fish to catch. That might not have been apparent to the proposer this spring when proposal was written. I don't think a new regulation or plan is needed.

?

PROPOSAL 292

ACTION: Comment only

DESCRIPTION: Change gillnet fishery openings from noon Sundays to 8:00 a.m. on Mondays.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

Baird– This has been argued about for years and they fight between Juneau and Petersburg.

TF- 20 years ago gillnet openings in the Juneau districts opened at noon on Sundays. It's been that way for awhile.

PROPOSAL 293

ACTION: 9-0-2 passes

DESCRIPTION: Provide minimum mesh size of six inches in districts 1, 6, 8, 11, or 15 by emergency order when needed to conserve sockeye and access chum.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: EJ – MTA, MJ 2nd EJ – what is the Dept comment?

Eric C – we have this for Deep Inlet already to prevent them from catching too much sockeye, we would like to use this seasonally in other districts as well – provides chum and king opportunity put avoids sockeye.

RG – The proposal indicates that there is some confusion here? Seems straightforward to me, why the need for clarification?
JL?

PROPOSAL 294

ACTION: 0-11-0 fails

DESCRIPTION: Require reporting of commercially-caught salmon and steelhead retained for personal use.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: PR MTA, MJ 2nd

PR – there is no problem here. I know that when I keep fish they are on the fish ticket. I don't see how I am supposed to find a creel census taker.

TO – I would like to see a change that would allow commercial fishermen to be able to keep a sport bag limit to eat aboard the boat before coming into deliver, but as for this proposal, these are commercial fish and are reported on fish tickets.

TF- Might be nice to have an alternative means of reporting homepack. Sometimes you don't want the processor to know that you are keeping a fish instead of selling it.
?

PROPOSAL 295

ACTION: motion to table passes 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Modify drift gillnet fishery in Zimovia Strait and Chichagof Pass based on chum:sockeye ratio to provide for increased terminal seine harvest of enhanced chum in the Anita Bay THA.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: EJ – MTA, MJ 2nd

EJ – I can see why you (MJ) don't belong to SEAS. We are all catching a bunch of enhanced fish when we are "supposed" to be catching wild fish. I can't imagine why SEAS claims that its illegal to catch Anita Bay chums, it has bad ramifications for trollers and seiners.

PR – sounds like they are addressing a perceived problem in allocation of Anita Bay hatchery chums.

MJ - I suggest tabling it,

JL – 2nd

Proposal 307

Action: Passes 8-0

Description: Allow manual downriggers year-round for Hand Troll vessels

Mike White (proposal author): I brought this idea to the Sitka AC this past spring and presented it. It was very well received then. You folks gave me some ideas to incorporate and advised me to write it up and submit it. I followed your advice. The motive behind the proposal is to allow fishermen with back or shoulder injuries to be able to continue hand trolling. This also allows for a cheaper entry into the fishery. Furthermore, it reduces bycatch since you'll use fewer hooks with 4 sport poles than with 2 gurdies. It also results in a higher quality product- at least in the spring. These spring hatchery spawners are notoriously finicky. They often don't bite well, but sometimes they will smash the lure with their bodies and get snagged. If you are using traditional heavy commercial gear, a snagged fish will usually rip free with a big wound. If you do land the fish, it still has a big rip in it. The same fish foul-hooked on a sport rod can be landed most of the time, and with a much smaller wound.

Matt Donahoe: ATA was opposed due to hand trollers taking too many fish.

Kim: I've charter fished in the past. If you put down four lines, you've got a definite possibility of hooking four fish at once. There is a reason that charter boats don't run four lines on downriggers even though they are allowed to. Four fish at once is a big mess. You would be lucky if you landed one them. The proposal only talks about manual downriggers- not electrics, so why not support this? This is still only 4 lures; That's a lot less than the amount of gear you would have on two gurdies.

RG: This is about making fishing with less gear a reasonable alternative. It gives hand trollers a better opportunity to fish in different areas. If they can catch more fish with 4 hooks than with 10 or 12, well so be it. This is a harmless proposal.

EJ: What is the percent of kings and coho caught by hand troll vs power troll?

Pattie: I don't have specific numbers by species, but for all salmon in 2001-2011, the ratio is 6% HT : 94% PT.

JM: How heavy are downrigger leads (in comparison to regular hand gurdy leads)?

Mike: downrigger leads are only 10-15 lbs; 12 lbs is most common. That's much easier to crank. They are less effective overall, but this allows someone with injuries to keep fishing.

Harvey: I've hand trolled for over 50 years. To use sport poles with downriggers is very cumbersome for a single fisherman since you can't clear the downrigger wires and the other lines in time. Usually the fish will get tangled up and you lose it. It might work if there were two people aboard. Regardless, the catch rates for hand trollers are so low, it won't make any difference.

Kim: My experience is the same as Harvey's. Even if it were allowed, I would only use 1 downrigger. I fish by myself. There's no way you can afford to pay a crewman with as few fish as you catch on a hand troller.

JM: I recall that there were issues with enforcement when this came up 3 years ago.

JB: I think that this is a good proposal. If the hand trollers catch a few more fish, that's a good thing. ATA doesn't like anything that might increase the hand troller's catch.

Mike: (exasperated) How are 4 hooks going to out-fish 12? I've never seen any data to support that claim.

Grant: How many rods did you (Mike) have in mind? The way that this is written it would allow 4 rods.

Mike: I tried to keep things simple. 4 rods is the current limit. I didn't see any reason to change that. It would just make the proposal more complicated. Two rods is the practical limit.

Grant: When this came up before, some people were worried that effort might increase. They were worried about dual charter/HT boats.

EJ: Hand trollers were allowed to use downriggers for the winter fishery starting in 2006. Has the hand troll catch gone up in the winter fishery since then?

Pattie: No

Kim: Hand trollers are so limited by bad weather anyway. This isn't going to change catches.

Matt Donahoe: Efficiency in the winter fishery isn't comparable to spring fisheries. I suspect that this will increase efficiency.

Proposal 308

Action: No action on account of proposal being withdrawn

Description: Allow power trollers to use 6 lines in hatchery areas

EJ: The proposal was withdrawn by the proposer.

TF: Hence, I suggest that we take no action on it and suggest that the BOF do the same.

Proposal 309

Action: Passes 7-0-1

Description: Allow hand trollers to have spare rods aboard (Note that the title that is published in the proposal book is incorrect. The proposal does not address changing the number of hand gurdies allowed.)

After some initial discussion figuring out that the proposal deals with spare rods, not with extra gurdies:

EJ: I didn't realize that I wasn't supposed to carry any spare rods back when I hand trolled. I had them aboard. I needed them too, since I broke quite a few.

JM: Can't you have extra rods aboard so long as they aren't rigged?

Matt Donahoe: I thought that you could have extra rods too.

Grant: Nope- and he cites regulations.

Proposal 310

Action: Passed 8-0

Description: Exclude AK hatchery fish from being counted against the winter troll quota

TF: This is a proposal that we sponsored. We discussed it at length this past spring at that time. I'll try to include a copy of that discussion with the minutes for this meeting.

Pattie: Currently the winter cap assumes a 13% AK hatchery percentage, but the recent average has been more like 10%.

JM: If this were to pass, would the dept be able to use the actual percentage for that season, or would you do some sort of average of the past years? I.e. can you take samples and get data back in time for inseason management?

Pattie: We would do it inseason. We could easily have inseason data current within only a week or two. Shouldn't be a problem. In the spring season we have data within a few days.

TF: Pattie- you said that the current AK hatchery percentage has been about 10%. So given a 45,000 fish quota, that's about 4,500 kings. How many days longer would the winter season be given late April catch rates, and how many days shorter would the July opener be?

Pattie: Using the highest catch rates at the very end of April, 4,500 fish would last about 3-4 days. Using the catch rates towards the end of the July opener, the season would have to close about ½ a day earlier.

Matt Donahoe: Sometimes the April catch rates are that high, but not every year. Some years it would extend the season even longer than that.

Matt Donahoe: I personally support this, but ATA does not. The other areas think that this is an allocation towards Sitka and Yakutat. The folks in Yakutat like the proposal though.

MJ: I like this proposal. Right now, we winter trollers are getting penalized for catching hatchery fish. They don't count against the treaty cap. They don't count against the summer quota. Why should they count against the winter quota? The seine fleet had a similar issue in the Chatham area where we were catching hatchery sockeye. They used to count against our sockeye cap, but that got changed. We ought to change this too.

EJ: I helped set up the winter quota. The 45,000 cap was assumed to be the number of treaty fish allowed. Hatchery fish weren't supposed to count.

JM: Would it be feasible to have this only come into effect in years where the Chinook Abundance Index was at least a certain number? Is the AI published before the winter season is over?

Pattie: Yes- we could do that.

Matt Donahoe: That might make it more popular, but it still wouldn't make the other areas happy.

EJ: I agree with MJ- Winter fishermen loose time when the hatchery percentage is high. That's not right.

Excerpt of Sitka AC meeting March 31 2011 when Proposal 310 was sponsored

Exclude non-treaty king salmon from winter troll quota.

JM – this has been submitted for several cycles by various people.

TF – Are you asking for AC sponsorship of this tonight or just letting us know about the topic?

EJ – It would benefit the economy of Sitka.

EJ – I was a cosponsor of a proposal to do this last time. I'll move that the AC sponsor this proposal this time.

JB – 2nd

FT – How often does the winter troll fishery go over the harvest level?

JM- most years it won't make much difference, but in high abundance years it would.

John Littlefield – I would like to see this supported. This benefits the locals.

TF – One other potentially overlooked thing that it will do is to leave more fish on the table in the medium abundance years. As of two years ago, now those fish will get rolled into the spring fishery. So it will help locals in medium abundance years too even if we don't hit the winter quota.

JB ?

Motion passes: 10, 0

End of excerpt

Proposal 311

Action: Passes 8-0

Description: Allow coho to be retained beginning June 1 instead of June 15

JM: I think that this is mostly a Neck Lake hatchery issue. They have some early returning fish there.

Matt Donahoe: This would apply to the chum fleet in Icy Strait too. There are some early DIPAC coho that get caught there.

Fred: Are there any biological concerns with this?

Pattie: It used to be a size and market issue. Early fish were small. There wasn't much market for such small fish. The thinking was to let them grow up and catch them later. There isn't much size difference now days. In 2012, the average size actually got smaller as the season went on.

Fred: If there is no biological reason for this, why not?

EJ: The regulation goes back to when the general summer season started April 1, not July 1. The coho on the outside were small early in the season. We wanted to let them grow up. Now with the only waters

open until July 1 being inside waters, the situation is different. These fish coming back to spawn in mid summer are nice big fish.

Proposal 312

Action: fails 0-8

Description: Mandatory 10 day troll closure, rather than “up to 10 days”

Matt Donahoe: This was sponsored by the gillnetters. The department figures that I saw showed that the gillnetters were over their allocation of coho. Trollers were over too, but were closer as a percentage of the allocation. The seine fleet was the one that was under allocation. This doesn't appear to be based on conservation concerns.

Botso: How does the department currently decide the length of the closures? What is the history?

Pattie: Leon Shawl is the dept coho guy. He told me that in the past the troll fishery had moved from being mostly inside to being most outside. This caused interception concerns, since the outside fishery is a mixed stock fishery. This was addressed by the coho closure. In the early 90's the returns were strengthening. This meant that the closures could be shorter. Overall exploitation rates are currently lower than they have been in the past. We can now get adequate escapement, even in mediocre or poor years. The recent trend in trollers targeting chum instead of coho during the summer has meant about 350,000 fewer coho being harvested each year. This allows the closures to be shorter.

Botso: The closures mean that fish can get inside. The fish that go inside are more valuable because they are bigger.

Pattie: Historically there is little relationship between the length of the closure and the percent of the coho harvest that is taken by the inside gillnet fleet.

JM: Year-by-year data shows no correlation between length of closure and gillnet catches. The closures aren't helping the gillnetters, but it does hurt the trollers. The closure comes at the time of year that coho trollers are making about \$1,000/day.

Botso: Those coho that the trollers don't catch are worth the same to a gillnetter.

TF: What about replacing a blanket closure with rolling closures in the transition areas? Perhaps Cross Sound would be closed for a day or two, followed by a short closure in Icy Strait? Similar things could be done in Chatham and other migratory routes.

Pattie: It would be hard to predict exactly when the fish would be moving though.

EJ: This closure would affect trollers targeting pinks and chums too. We can fish a few of the hatchery areas, but most of the waters would be closed -even to boats not fishing for coho.

Matt Donahoe: Trollers and gillnetters are both over their allocations. Why should gillnetters get more coho?

Botso: Gillnetters would support more areas opened to chum trolling during the coho closure.

TF: The way that I see this, the gillnetters are being pretty short sighted. Right now the majority of the troll fleet -60%-70% doesn't fish chum. They don't really want to. With a relatively short coho closure, those boats come in to port, off load, clean up the boat, maybe take a day or two off, then it is time to get ready for the king opener. Not really all that much down time during the closure- just a day or two once all of the other chores are taken care of. If the closure was a full 10 days, there would be quite a bit of downtime- time that a lot of fishermen couldn't afford to be off the water. Financially they would be forced to fish dogs even if they didn't really want to. There is a physiological barrier there for a lot of fishermen, not to mention a fair investment to get your boat set up for the dog fishery. Once these fishermen get in the mindset to fish dogs and invest in the gear they need to do it, and learn how to catch chum, then next June, they are likely to be up in Icy Strait targeting DIPAC dogs headed for the Juneau gillnet grounds instead of scratching for hatchery kings around here. Any coho that the gillnetters think that they are going to be gaining will be outweighed by the chums they will lose once the number of trollers targeting dogs increases.

Botso: There are extra wild chum to be harvested. Furthermore, we encourage harvest of hatchery chum by trollers.

Fred: I don't want to restrict the dept's latitude when it comes to making the closure.

Proposal 313

Action: fails 1-6-1

Description: Extend summer troll season to Sept 30 (from Sept 20)

Pattie: While the proposal indicates that the season could be shorted by EO, it might be harder for the dept to justify an early closure than it is to justify extending the season. We've extended the season-at least in parts of SE- 10 times in the past 18 years since we have been allowed to do so.. This has resulted in the

harvest of only 12,000 fish per year- less than 1% of the total harvest. The numbers were 3,700 in 2009, 6,500 in 2006, 7,000 in 2004 and 18,000 in 2003. We have better inseason data than we have had in the past, so we can consider a little more aggressive management now.

EJ: The Sept 20 date was based on a pre-statehood regulation that was set for the convenience of the canneries. They wanted to have a firm closure date and not have to worry about a trickle of fish coming in. In the many many seasons, that I have trolled, I have never fished as late as the 20th. The weather is so bad that harvest is going to be way down. This proposal won't have much impact on harvest.

Matt Donahoe: It seems like this might make things a little easier on the dept. This way they won't have to go to the trouble of writing an EO to extend the season which they do more often than not according to Pattie.

JM: Would it be hard to close some areas, but not others?

Pattie:No

MJ: I've seen this proposal 3 cycles in a row now. Earlier, there was an issue with the extension being given so late in the season that fishermen had already had scheduled to quit and couldn't change their plans. The past several years there has been plenty of lead time. The dept has gotten better about making the announcement in a timely manner. The system isn't broke. Don't fix it.

I'm concerned about the small size of many of the coho runs. Fishing late in the year when fish are no longer mixed up, but instead are concentrated at individual streams makes these small runs vulnerable.

TF: Good point MJ- There are 1,500 – 2,000 coho streams in SE. The dept only counts fish in about 2% or so of these systems. It would be very easy to overfish a run without the dept being aware.

JM: The Neets Bay hatchery run is a big run that passes by Sitka late in the year- mid/late Sept. It would be nice to have full access to these fish. Though the weather is so bad late in the year that mostly only the inside gets fished.

MJ: The local stocks are too small to sustain any focused effort. Per Dept figures, Starrigavan Creek averages 157 coho/year. Nakwasina: 485. Mentions several other local streams with runs on the 100-500 fish/year range.

Proposal 314

Action: Passed 5-2-2

Description: Lengthen summer Coho Troll Season in Districts 1, 6 & 8 if there is a gillnet fishery
M/S

JM: Not our within area, generally speaking. It's an attempt to bring troll allocation in line with net fisheries.

FT: What is the troll effort and can it be regulated?

JM: It can be closed by regulation.

JM: Gillnetters get to fish later in the fall.

RG: Is it trollable that time of year?

JM: Yes, but more uncertain bite.

F&G: Fishing time would increase. There is some concern about harvest of wild stocks, but enhanced fish are available.

Proposal 315

Action: Passed 9-0-1

Description: Extend summer coho season in area 1-E to Sept 30 & change area open to trolling
M/S

JM: An allocation proposal accomplished by adjusting boundaries.

EJ: This is supported by some in the net fisheries.

Matt: Local knowledge comments were provided. This would help reduce the imbalance in allocation of enhanced fish. JRPT supports the coho season being extended to Sept. 30 in portions of Behm Canal.

Proposal 316

Action: Tabled 8-2

Description: Change portion of area 1-E open to trolling
M/S

F&G: Same as 315 but boundaries are slightly different. FT: The date, too. EJ: To reduce confusion since 315 & 316 are essentially the same, take action on only one. BLS: Board will be reviewing in the aggregate, so moves to table.

Proposal 317

Action: Defeated 2-5-3

Description: Extend summer coho season in area 1-E to Sept 30

M/S

JM: Similar to last proposals.

F&G: Catch area is the issue with the state. This proposal would extend fishing time as well.

Matt: It would benefit Ketchikan fishers.

KE: No wild stocks at risk?

F&G:No.

Proposal 318

Action: Passed 8-0-2

Description: Clarify Section 1-F Open Dates

M/S

F&G: Housekeeping issue.

EJ: We don't know anything, and F&G needs to make the clarification for good reasons.

Proposal 319

Action: Passed 8-0-2

Description: Increase troll access to Chichagof Pass Chum to 7 days/ week

M/S

EJ: It does not say, but the intention is to increase troll chum harvest.

F&G: Only three trollers fished this area last year (511 chum delivered vs 150K for net fishers) Why so few trollers?

EJ: Because they can only fish behind multiple gear net openings.

Proposal 320

Action: Passed 8-0-2

Description: Increase Area Open to Directed Taku King Troll Fishery

M/S

JM: Trollers gave up access for a long time to rebuild stocks; also, trollers shared harvest in days when the area was open. Since the Taku area reopened, trollers have caught very little because of limited fishing grounds and time. Proposal 284 deals with time; this one expands the grounds.

EJ: Trollers don't normally catch much in the allotted grounds. Territorial Sportsmen oppose this measure, possibly because of more competition with trollers.

Proposal 325

Action: Passed 9-0-1

Description: Open Icy Strait & Northern Chatham Strait Trolling Grounds for Chum

M/S

EJ: Troll take of DIPAC chum is short of harvest share as measured against the enhancement tax. The east shore of Chatham Strait would provide a substantial troll ground selecting for DIPAC return. Chum trolling is a clean fishery with little bycatch. This proposal is well worth a try as an experimental fishery. RPT supports the proposal with some recommendations.

F&G: There is no history of managing chum outside of HSAs. The department has no concerns with the proposal.

Proposal 326

Action: Passed 9-0-1

Targeted Chum Troll Fishery

M/S

EJ: The DIPAC release area in 11A has historically been closed for trolling despite enjoying enhancement tax proceeds. The proposed area is small and compact. For only twenty days in July this could be a million dollar fishery. Gillnetters in the existing gillnet fishery oppose this proposal.

Proposal 327

Action: Passed 6-0-2

Description: Establish dates for SHA harvest in regulation

M/S

Dave: We have opened and closed these areas by EO for many years. This proposal would save us some paperwork.

TF: Are cost recovery fisheries like these open to all species, or just the species that the hatchery released?

Dave: Yes- all species may be sold

Steve Reifentul: Generally THAs have very low bycatch <1%.

?

Proposal 328

Action: Passes 6-2

Description: Allow fishtraps for brood stock in NSRAA Deep Inlet and Hidden Falls SHAs

M/S

Steve Reifentul: The capture of broodstock at our facilities often requires that we shut down the common property fisheries. These devices would capture fish without much effort on our part. We used them under EO authority last summer and they were effective in 1 of the 3 places that we tried them at the Hidden Falls site.

FT: This sounds like an old time fish trap.

JM: If you get too many fish in the trap, I guess you just let some of them go?

Steve: They won't go in if the trap is already too full.

TF: This proposal really makes me nervous. Alaskans fought too long and too hard to outlaw fish traps to bring them back just to make things a little easier for NSRAA, Right now we have a nice clean line of demarcation. If it is a fish trap, it is illegal. This proposal could open the door for much more than what is written here. This makes me quiver. Steve, can you help alleviate my concerns?

Steve: We are just using 40'x40' pens in the THA. It is just another method to get our broodstock. It is not on the scale of the old commercial traps. Those traps were huge. They were out in mixed-stock areas and caught everything. Our traps are specie-specific because they are in a THA.

KE: Will these be at the end of Deep Inlet, or where will they be?

Steve: Likely at Silver Point (at edge of THA boundary) or maybe at the neck of Deep Inlet. Not back at the end, because the fish have to be moving for these traps to work. Once the fish get to the end of the inlet they stop traveling and just mill about. We can catch them with a seine there. What we are trying to do is to catch them more efficiently.

KE: I live in the area near Silver Point. I can't support this. That area has a lot of boat traffic.

Mike White: How big are the wings of the traps?

Steve: We have used two wings each 150'-200'.

FT: Would it be a problem for you if the maximum size of the trap was specified in regulation?

Steve: Actually we used two 40' x 40' pens side by side with a fyke between them in order to make sure that the fish stayed inside.

EJ: I intend to support this, but TF has a point. This is a fish trap. I share concerns about the precedent that this sets. I'm on the NSRAA board and I probably voted for it there. NSRAA might be ok, but I'm not sure about all of the other potential hatchery operators.

Steve: I don't see what there is to be nervous about.

RG: You talk about catching relatively few fish in the trap, but this is a big area that is preempted from use by others. For instance you couldn't troll, or seine or gillnet in that water. You couldn't even run a boat through the area at all.

Steve: Well, we couldn't do this during a fishery.

RG: So you would have to shut down the fishery anyway.

Steve: Normally broodstock isn't taken at Deep Inlet anyway. We try to manage releases so that we can meet our broodstock needs from the Medivjie release site alone, but in poor survival years we have had to close the Deep Inlet fisheries in order to get broodstock.

Dave: NSRAA will get broodstock one way or another. The difference is how long the fishery is shut down. The dept supports this proposal, but we haven't talked with the Legal Dept. yet. They might say that this is a prohibited fish trap so the proposal wouldn't go anywhere. If it did pass, we would retain EO authority to stop the use of these traps if there were unintended consequences- at least I think that we would.

KE: I'm opposed to the use of these traps in the portions of the Deep Inlet THA where there are residences. I'm not necessarily opposed to their use at Hidden Falls.

Proposal 330

Action: Passed 9-0-1

Description: Close a portion of Silver Bay SHA to commercial trolling

M/S

RG: The real issue is commercial snagging, mostly hand troll, right in front of the hatchery. It's legal, messy, and getting dangerous.

EJ: I am an NSRAA board member, and small boat operators have been arguing over ethics, with many urging support.

JB: Sitka Sound Seafoods won't buy snagged fish.

EJ: The new line would keep fishers just outside the net pens, and the fleet will not be hurt.

JM: Snagging should be illegal as a commercial fishing technique.

Proposal 331

Action: JRPT language supported 6-0-2

Description: Allow SSRAA to manage Neets Bay return

Amendment: In keeping with the JRPT request, if the proposal is not passed, the first opening should not be required to be for the gillnet fishery.

Dave: It isn't clear that the BOF would be allowed to delegate allocation rights to SSRAA. This would be precedental.

EJ: We should support the Joint Regional Planning Team's consensus. Hence I move that we ask the BOF to either support the proposal or delete the portion of 5AAC 33.370(b) 2 (A) which requires that the first net opening be a gillnet opening.

2nd

?

Proposal 335

Action: supported as amended 8-0

Description: extend the sunset date for the 1:1 gillnet:seine ratio in Deep Inlet

Amendment: change sunset date from 2017 to 2014 per the JRPT recommendation

M/S

TF: Move to amend from 1:1 ratio between gillnet:seine to 1:1:1 gillnet:seine:troll

No second to this amendment

Steve: This was an NSRAA proposal 3 years ago. This would just keep things running the same way that they have run for the last three years.

EJ: As an NSRAA board member I have made a deal to support the 1:1 gillnet:seine ratio in exchange for adjusting the line at Pirate's Cove. However, I understand TF's point. The trollers are way below their allocation range of hatchery fish and likely to remain below.

I move to amend the proposal to conform to the JRPT recommendation that the sunset date be 2014, not 2017.

2nd

? on amendment- passes 8-0

? on amended proposal

Proposal 341

Action: supported 7-0-1

Description: Create a THA at Southeast Cove for Gunnuk Creek hatchery

Steve: I would like to see the AC support this one. NSRAA is moving towards a cooperative project to get Kake's Gunnuk Creek Hatchery going again. Southeast Cove is where the fish will be coming back to. Commercial fishermen should be allowed to catch them there.

M/S

EJ: The Chum Trollers Association passed a resolution in support of the cooperative agreement. This project is designed to benefit the gear groups currently behind in their allocation- trollers and seiners. This is likely to result in several hundred thousand returning chum.

?

Proposal 342

Action: supported as amended 7-0-1

Description: Impose a tax on Hidden Falls seine chum fishery in lieu of having a cost recovery fishery

Amendment: delete reference to registration fishery;

M/S

Steve: This proposal has been modified to no longer include the registration element as a result of NSRAA's discussion with many groups. The main issue here is for NSRAA to be able to obtain cost recovery moneys in an alternative fashion that does not require shutting down the common property fishery.

EJ: Move to amend to eliminate references to the registration aspects.

Friendly amendment

MJ: How do the details of this work? How will the tax be set?

Steve: Our authority lies with House Bill 218 which says that the Dept of Revenue -but actually it will be NSRAA telling the Dept of Revenue what our needs are -will set the tax rate. This year, thanks to unusually high 3% enhancement tax- primarily on the huge humpy return in 2011, our cost recovery needs will be low. We figure that the tax will only need to be about 2.5-3%. The tax will just be on chum.

MJ: What about enforcement? What if I fish both inside and outside of the THA?

Steve: The tax will be imposed on all chum delivered if you fished in the THA at all since your last delivery. So if you make a few sets in the THA then leave to fish Icy Strait before you deliver, you'll pay the tax on all of your chum, the ones from Hidden Falls and the ones from Icy Strait. The penalties will be severe since in most years the tax might be as high as 20-25%, which would be a pretty strong incentive to cheat.

KE: Is it practical to sell on site at Hidden Falls if you did want to go somewhere else, or are you basically forced to pay the tax on fish caught elsewhere if you get there, make a few sets and decide that the fishing is crummy?

Steve: There generally are buyers on site, but some boats typically bring their loads back to port. Remember that is was the fishermen who pushed for this. They are the ones who want it.

Dave: We decided that the registration element wasn't needed for enforcement and was too cumbersome. We fly over the area frequently anyway. We can check to see which boats are there. NSRAA will be running skiffs through the grounds too.

EJ: I really support this, but I would think that it would be improved by going to a flat fee- say a certain number of cents per pound, not a percentage tax. With a percentage, you never know who is playing games with the processors- maybe getting some kickback under the table that aren't taxed.

Steve: We talked about that with the Dept of Law, but they had some concerns about that.

RG: Does HB 218 limit this to chum or would potentially other species be involved?

Steve: We would only do this for net-caught chum.

?

Proposal 343

Action: Passed 9-0-1

Description: Open Hidden Falls THA to Retention of troll coho Aug 1 -Sept 20

M/S

EJ: This would establish as default an autumn coho trolling opportunity.

F&G: Proposal 343 puts into regulation something that is now done by EO.

Proposal 344

Action: Amended, approved as amended 8-0-2

Description: Change the net/troll line in the Deep Inlet THA during part of the season

Amendment: ...beginning with the first emergency opening of the season through [THE THIRD SATURDAY IN] June 15.

M/S

JM: This proposal would modestly address catch imbalances and improve access to hatchery fish for local trollers.

MJ: I troll and seine in the area and have no problem with the line, but the dates might cause problems in certain years, depending on the rotation of gear groups. Amendment offered changing date to 15th of June rather than third Saturday in June. Amendment 2nd and approved.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

TELECONFERENCE 1-800-504-8071 PASS CODE 465-4046

___Ketchikan, AK___ Advisory Committee (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

KETCHIKAN ADF&G CONFERENCE ROOM 2030 SEA LEVEL DRIVE

Call to Order and establish quorum (8)

Introductions

Approve meeting agenda

Approve previous meeting minutes

Reports:

- Chairman's report-
- ADF&G
- Others

Public comment: (MAY BE LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES).

Old business items:

New business:

- 1) MOU with RAC & ADF&G
- 2) Shellfish proposals (written comment deadline 12/30/11)
- 3) Finfish proposals (written comment deadline 02/09/12)

Set next meeting date (Nov.TBD?)

Adjourn

In attendance for meeting 01-04-12

- John Scoblic – Chairman
- Larry McQuarrie
- Steve Hoffman
- Darell Welk
- Bev Davies
- Kirk Thomas
- Stephen LaCroux
- Ron Moyer
- Brad Saalsaa
- Jess Mickelson
- Don Westlund
- Justin Breese
- Kelly Piazza
- Frank James
- Christy Ruby
- Norman Arriola
- Ed Marksheffel
- Douglas McGraw
- Shannon Stone

In attendance for meeting 1-11-2012

- John Scoblic – Chairman
- Ed Toribio
- Steve Fhoffman
- Ron Moyer
- Brad Saalsaa
- Darell Welk
- Jeff Wedekind
- Kelly Piazza
- Justin Breese
- Ron Porter
- Shannon Stone
- Frank James
- Norman Arriola
- Janet Brand
- Dennis Brnad
- Steve Lacroix
- Bev Davies
- Clay Bezenek
- Mac McQuarrie
- Rudy Franolovich
- Dan Castle

KETCHIKAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Jan 4th, Jan 11th & Jan 12th 2012 MEETING MINUTES
FOR
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
February 24- March 4, 2012
SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT FINFISH

DESIGNATED REPORTER: JOHN SCOBLIC & ED TORIBIO

PROPOSAL 199 Motion to TAKE NO Action Steve H. 2nd Mac ACTION: 8-0 motion CARRIES.

DESCRIPTION: Amend ground fish area registration to specify registration by vessel.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION due to this being OUT OF OUR AREA.

PROPOSAL 200 Motion to Adopt Steve H. 2nd Ron ACTION: 8-0 motion CARRIES.

DESCRIPTION: Clarify use of post-processed and reported commercial fish as bait.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: seemed reasonable to the group

PROPOSAL 141 Motion to Adopt Proposals 141,142,143&144 Darrel 2nd Steve L. ACTION: 0-8 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit fishing for bottom fish and shellfish near Cache Island by all users. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 142

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottom fish and shellfish in a portion of Behm Canal. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 143

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottom fish and shellfish near Naha Bay. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 144

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottom fish and shellfish near Cedar Island. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 206 Motion to Adopt Steve H. 2nd Ron ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Create a commercial spiny dogfish pot fishery in the Ketchikan area.

AMENDMENT: This was meant to include all of Southeast Region

DISCUSSION: This was written to include the entire Southeast Region.

PROPOSAL 207 Motion to Adopt Steve H. 2nd Mac ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Increase the dogfish daily bag limit.
AMENDMENT: This was meant to include all of Southeast Region
DISCUSSION: This was written to include all of the Southeast Region.

PROPOSAL 208 Motion to Adopt Steve H.- 2nd Ron ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Establish comm. fishing seasons for Pacific cod for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: This is housekeeping. The department does this by EO authority every year.

PROPOSAL 209 Motion to Adopt Brad 2nd Steve H. ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Establish comm. fishing seasons for black rockfish for the E. Gulf of Alaska area.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: This is housekeeping. The department does this by EO authority every year.

PROPOSAL 210 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Ron ACTION: 4-4 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Require release of demersal shelf rockfish at depth.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: There is concern that this would be required by all, this could lead to high grading, enforcement could be an issue, it is unclear of the mean and methods to get this done. There is support for conservation of the resource.

PROPOSAL 211 Motion to Adopt Brad 2nd Darrel ACTION: 1-7 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Require release of rockfish at 40 feet or greater.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: What is so magical about 40'? What would the means and methods be? There could be enforcement issues; there is support for conservation of the resource.

PROPOSAL 212 Motion to Adopt Steve H 2nd Ron ACTION: 7-1 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Increase the sport allocation of demersal shelf rockfish to 25 percent.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: purely allocative.

PROPOSAL 213 Motion to Adopt Mac 2nd Steve H. ACTION: 0-8 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Establish a point system for retention of rockfish.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: Poorly written, confusing, enforcement nightmare...

PROPOSAL 214 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Brad ACTION: 6-1-1 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Standardize sablefish retention and reporting requirements in regulation.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: What makes an injured sablefish?

PROPOSAL 215 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve L ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES
DESCRIPTION: Amend the sablefish fishing season to allow permit holders to participate in stock assessment surveys.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: Let all the harvested fish go to the permit holders.

PROPOSAL 216 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve H ACTION: 3-5 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Annual limit versus Daily limit was the major sticking point. Minority was in favor as a sign to the board they should revisit this issue. It was handled poorly by the BOF during the last cycle majority agrees.

PROPOSAL 217 Motion to Take NO ACTION ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Amend lingcod allocation between commercial fisheries.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION due to this being OUT OF OUR AREA

PROPOSAL 218 Motion to Adopt Bev 2nd Brad ACTION: 1-7 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow for retention of lingcod in other commercial fisheries.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: One pro-commercial use member

PROPOSAL 219 Motion to Adopt Steve L. 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-7 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Increase the allocation for commercially caught lingcod in North Southeast outside Section.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: One pro-commercial use member

PROPOSAL 220 Motion to Adopt Mac 2nd Steve H. ACTION: 1-7 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Reallocate a portion of the Eastern Yakutat Section lingcod GHL.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: One pro-commercial use member

PROPOSAL 221 ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Increase sport allocation of lingcod in Central Southeast Outside and Southern Southeast Outside sections.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 222 Motion to Adopt Steve L 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-8 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Increase the lingcod GHL in EYKT Section.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Where do the fish come from?

PROPOSAL 223 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve H. ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Clarify dinglebar gear in the lingcod fishery allows only one line.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Seems like clarification was needed for TOTAL enforceability.

PROPOSAL 224 Motion to Adopt Bev 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-8 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow lingcod to be used as commercial bait.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 225 Motion to Adopt Steve L. 2nd Bev ACTION: Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow combining two units of gear in herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This is already clearly in Regulations.

PROPOSAL 226 Motion to Adopt Steve H 2nd Mac ACTION: 8-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Amend spawn-on-kelp gear marking and removal requirements.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Good housekeeping proposal by ADF&G.

PROPOSAL 227 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 13-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Amend to clarify that only the purse seine fishery is an equal quota share fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 228 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 12-1 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: one member is concerned a smaller mesh size will adversely affect the herring stocks.

PROPOSAL 229 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION Darrel 2nd Steve ACTION: 13-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION

PROPOSAL 230, 231, 238 & 239 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION ACTION:13-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Revise the commercial herring fishery management plan for Sitka Sound.

DESCRIPTION: Amend management for the herring sac roe fishery GHM in Sections 13-A and 13-B.

DESCRIPTION: Establish closed waters for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery in order to provide an area only open for subsistence.

DESCRIPTION: Exclude commercial herring fishing within a defined core spawning area within Sitka Sound to allow for a harvest of herring spawn to meet the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence.

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION ON 230,231,232,238 & 239 Support was withdrawn from supporters at the Sitka AC meeting.

PROPOSAL 233 Motion to Adopt is 2nd ACTION: 3-5-5 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: One seiner on the committee supports. One seiner in the public opposes. Dept. is neutral. One member mentions there is potential for law suit.

PROPOSAL 234 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION ACTION: 13-0 Motion CARRIES

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION

PROPOSAL 235 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Restrict fishing vessels from entry into the announced fishing area prior to openings in the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Moving everyone out of the area then starting the fishery would create complete chaos.

PROPOSAL 236 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Steve ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seines to reduce depth of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: the expense of implementing this would be very high to every fisherman.

PROPOSAL 237 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Brad ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seine to reduce length of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: the expense of implementing this would be very high to every fisherman.

PROPOSAL 240 Motion to Adopt Steve L. 2nd Steve H. ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Re-allocate Sitka Sound herring to provide up to 1,000 tons of herring for commercial bait when the sac roe fishery GHL exceeds 10,000 tons.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: The consensus was there was plenty of bait herring GHL already.

PROPOSAL 241 Motion to Adopt Jeff 2nd Steve H ACTION: 12-0-1 Motion PASSES.

DESCRIPTION: Revise the herring allocation for Hobart Bay to eliminate winter bait and to provide all the available GHL for gillnet sac roe.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 242 Motion to Adopt Steve H 2nd Steve L. ACTION: 7-5-1 Motion PASSES.

DESCRIPTION: Increase threshold for the West Behm Canal Herring Fishery from 6,000 tons to 15,000 tons.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: The majority thought the threshold was too low and the minority thought the threshold was high enough.

PROPOSAL 243 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Clay ACTION: 1-11-1 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: one gillnetter was in favor of this.

PROPOSAL 244 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-12 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: one gillnetter was in favor of this.

PROPOSAL 245 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 12-1 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Allocate of equal shares in the Southeast sac roe fishery in Section 1-E and 1-F by designation of permit holders to harvest herring for others.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Best way to have a controlled fishery.

PROPOSAL 246 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Bev ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Clarify that the management measures for the use of two rods is for king salmon only.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 247 Motion to TAKE NOT ACTION ACTION: 12-0 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Develop a management plan to protect and enhance the Juneau roadside sport fisheries.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area

PROPOSAL 248 Motion to Adopt moved and 2nd ACTION: 6-5-1 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Change the definition of “bag limit” for anglers fishing from a vessel.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This would allow party fishing. The majority thinks this already happens to some degree and would allow it by regulation. The minority thinks bag limits are intended for the individual angler not a group of anglers.

PROPOSAL 249 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 2-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye, coho, chum, and pink salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 250 Motion to Adopt Bev 2nd Steve ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow retention of king salmon in the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: this has not been a practice in SE and nobody thought this was a good idea. Transboundry rivers are and issue in SE.

PROPOSAL 251 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of two rods by non-guided anglers in salt water.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 252 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-11-1

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of power assisted reels by disabled anglers only.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 253 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 0-10-3 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Establish system for distinguishing between vessels participating in hand troll and guided charter fishing in Southeast Alaska.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 254 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-11-1 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow youth and disabled anglers to use bait in high use and small cutthroat lakes.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 255,256,257,258,259 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION

ACTION: 12-1 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Establish a Taku River king salmon sport fishery.

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit snagging at the mouth of Auke Creek.

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in Cowee Creek.

DESCRIPTION: Reopen Sitkoh Bay Sockeye sport fishery.

DESCRIPTION: Make fishing within the Sitka Historical Park on the Indian River a fly fishing only, catch and release fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: TAKE NOT ACTION out of our area.

PROPOSAL 260 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Steve ACTION: 0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Liberalize king salmon regulations in the vicinity of Ketchikan.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: if adopted this could increase the take of wild kings harvested and have treaty implications.

PROPOSAL 261 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 6-6-1 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Increase king salmon bag limits in the vicinity of Neets Bay.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: the major concern was this would include 101-85 and that would allow for a higher harvest of wild kings. If it were only 101-95 there may have been more support.

PROPOSAL 262 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Extend the open season and the period bait may be used in City Park Ponds until August 31, and modify the bag and possession limit for cutthroat trout, king, and coho salmon.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: housekeeping measure to keep kids from getting a ticket.

PROPOSAL 263 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 1-10-2 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in the Klawock River.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 264 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Steve ACTION:0-13 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of bait in the Klawock River.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 265 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Repeal Klawock River regulations applying to adipose fin-clipped steelhead.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: Department explained this was an un-needed regulation.

PROPOSAL 266 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Clarify Klawock Harbor area closed to snagging and retention of sockeye.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: simply clarifies regulation

PROPOSAL 267& 268 Motion to TAKE NOT ACTION ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Align Post Office Lake regulations with the Yakutat roadside systems regulations.
DESCRIPTION: Clarify where personal use finfish regulations apply.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area.

PROPOSAL 269 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd John ACTION: 3-10 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Establish a catch report card system for subsistence, personal use, and sport finfish fisheries.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: Majority thought this was already being reported accurately. The minority thought accurate accounting was needed to properly manage.

PROPOSAL 270 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-1 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence or personal use harvest of sablefish.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 271 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 12-0 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Clarify prohibitions to commercial, subsistence, and personal use fishing by commercial sablefish permit holders.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 272 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Brad ACTION: 12-0 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Clarify subsistence herring and herring spawn customary and traditional use findings for waters of Sections 3-A and 3-B.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: Housekeeping

PROPOSAL 273 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION ACTION: 12-0 Motion PASSES
DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence herring eggs on branches in Sitka Sound or alter the harvest monitoring program to measure landed weights.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area.

PROPOSAL 274 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-12 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Modify the personal use fishery for salmon in Southeast Alaska to target king and coho and to include additional gear types.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: it was felt using commercial gear for personal use was not a good idea.

PROPOSAL 275 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 1-11 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Remove the horsepower limit for the Klawock subsistence area.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: minority thought this HP issues was outdated and should be changed.

PROPOSAL 276 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-12 Motion FAILS
DESCRIPTION: Change the subsistence sockeye fishery in the Klawock River from five to seven days per week.
AMENDMENT: N/A
DISCUSSION: it was generally felt there was ample opportunity to participate in the fishery as is.

PROPOSAL 277,278,279,280,281,282,283,284 Motion 13-0 TAKE NO ACTION

ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Allow dip nets in the Taku River for personal use.

DESCRIPTION: Extend the personal use fishery season on the Taku River from mid-June through August.

DESCRIPTION: Increase Taku River sockeye salmon daily and annual bag limit per household based on number of persons in the household.

DESCRIPTION: Clarify that subsistence in District 15 includes Lutak Inlet and opens the day before commercial openings.

DESCRIPTION: Allow 75 fathom gillnet length in the Yakutat Bay subsistence fishery.

DESCRIPTION: Modify the Situk-Ahrnklin and Lost River King Salmon Management Plan to redefine closed waters, specify nonretention, and clarify action points.

DESCRIPTION: Revise the *Situk River Management Plan* to delink Situk escapement from a spring troll in Yakutat Bay.

DESCRIPTION: Establish increased fishing periods for troll when the directed drift gillnet fishery is open in Sections 11-A and 11-B.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area.

PROPOSAL 285 Motion to Adopt Jeff 2nd Steve ACTION: 1-12

DESCRIPTION: Repeal the 58' vessel limit in the Southeast salmon purse seine fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: the minority thought it was time to repeal the limit as the boats have grown very large at 58' just wider and wider every time a new 58' boat is built.

PROPOSAL 286 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-12

DESCRIPTION: Increase length limit for Southeast salmon seine vessel to 75 feet.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 287 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-13 Motion PASSED

DESCRIPTION: Exclude stern ramps and rollers in the 58 foot length limit for the Southeast Alaska area.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 288 Motion to Adopt Darrel 2nd Ron ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSED

DESCRIPTION: Allow seine vessels to transport two seine nets.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 289 ,296,297,298,323,324,333,290,291,295,332,&336 TAKE NO ACTION ACTION: 13-0

DESCRIPTION: Close District 5 to seining and open to gillnet fishing.

DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D all season to provide pink salmon fishery.

DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D during pink season when not open to seining.

DESCRIPTION: Limit District 10 seine fishery to 2 days per week to increase gillnet pink salmon harvest in District 6.

DESCRIPTION: Revise basis for the Southeast Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan to include only production by regional associations.

DESCRIPTION: Create separate enhanced salmon allocation plans for northern and southern Southeast Alaska.

DESCRIPTION: Remove 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation schedule for Neets Bay hatchery common property openings after the 2011 season.

DESCRIPTION: Increase seining and reduce gillnet fishing in District 6 in September.

DESCRIPTION: Allow harvest of pink salmon along the Pt. Adolphus shoreline in District 14 during years of large pink salmon returns.

DESCRIPTION: Modify drift gillnet fishery in Zimovia Strait and Chichagof Pass based on chum:sockeye ratio to provide for increased terminal seine harvest of enhanced chum in the Anita Bay THA.

DESCRIPTION: Change the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to provide common property access based on enhanced salmon allocation status.

DESCRIPTION: Allow for a rotational seine and gillnet fishery in the Nakat Inlet THA.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION due to the actions taken at the SE Joint RPT Meetings.

PROPOSAL 292 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-10 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Change gillnet fishery openings from noon Sundays to 8:00 a.m. on Mondays.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 293 Motion to Adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Provide minimum mesh size of six inches in districts 1, 6, 8, 11, or 15 by emergency order when needed to conserve sockeye and access chum.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Housekeeping

PROPOSAL 294 Motion to Adopt Steve 2nd Jeff ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Require reporting of commercially-caught salmon and steelhead retained for personal use.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 299 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Jeff ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Extend commercial closed waters in Taku Inlet to Point Greely–Point Bishop.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: would increase closed areas to commercial fishing group can't figure out why.

PROPOSAL 300,301,302,303,304,305,306 Motion to TAKE NO ACTION

ACTION: 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Allow multiple permit holders to fish from the same vessel and to pool and divide harvests on fish tickets in Yakutat Area salmon fishery.

DESCRIPTION: Relocate boundary for commercial setnet fishing on Tsiu River to provide a separate sport fishing area.

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit using power boats to drive fish into nets on the Tsiu River.

DESCRIPTION: Establish criteria to determine the first commercial opening on the Tsiu River.

DESCRIPTION: Amend Ankau Creek closed waters.

DESCRIPTION: Amend Akwe River closed waters.

DESCRIPTION: Change the day when allowable gear increases on the Alsek River from Monday to Sunday.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area.

PROPOSAL 307 Motion to adopt Darrel 2nd Steve ACTION: 5-6 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow downriggers in the commercial hand troll fishery all season.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 308 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-10-1 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow six trolling lines on specified inside waters of Southeast Alaska to increase the harvest of enhanced salmon.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: this could allow for a higher harvest of non-enhanced fish.

PROPOSAL 309 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Allow four hand troll gurdies in the summer troll fishery following the initial king salmon retention period.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 310 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Darrel ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Amend the winter king salmon guideline harvest range by adding hatchery-produced kings.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 311 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Change beginning date for coho salmon retention in the spring king salmon fishery from June 15 to June 1.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 312 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-9-1

DESCRIPTION: Require 10-day mid-August troll closures for conservation and allocation based on the department's midseason assessment.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: the department already has tools in place to manage this issue.

PROPOSAL 313 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Brad ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Extend season for the troll coho fishery in Southeast to September 30 but closed earlier by emergency order when warranted.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: The potential could be that extending the season could be detrimental because most coho surveys are done in October after the fisheries.

PROPOSAL 314 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Through September lengthen the troll season in Districts 1, 6, and 8 each week gillnet fisheries are opened in these districts.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: all thought the trollers are below there enhanced allocation this could allow for the trollers to fish hard on the last of the run (female fish).

PROPOSAL 315 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 1-9-1 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling and extend the summer closure date from September 20 to September 30.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: this could allow for more harvest of enhanced coho but could also increase the amount of wild coho caught too. In 2010 & 2011 the coho has trended down and is in the low average range.

PROPOSAL 316 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This will clean up the lines in west Behm Canal and clear up current confusion. "Housekeeping"

PROPOSAL 317 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Extend the summer closure date in a portion of Section 1-E to September 30.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 318 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Clarify when Section 1-F is open to trolling.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Housekeeping

PROPOSAL 319 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Increase troll opening in Chichagof Pass to seven days a week to access enhanced Anita Bay chum.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This has traditionally been a gillnet area. Trollers have opportunity on the other side of the line.

PROPOSAL 320 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-11 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Increase the area of Section 11-A open to trolling in the directed Taku king salmon fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 321 & 322 Motion to adopt moved and seconded TAKE NO ACTION

ACTION: 11-0

DESCRIPTION: Amend closed waters for the Situk River troll fishery.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: TAKE NO ACTION out of our area

PROPOSAL 325 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Redirect spring troll fishery management to target chum salmon to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 326 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 0-10 Motion FAILS

DESCRIPTION: Provide a targeted chum salmon fishery for troll gear in Section 11-A to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 327 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 10-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Define open fishing periods in regulation for DIPAC, Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, and Prince of Wales Hatchery Area special harvest areas.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 328 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Allow new gear type for broodstock capture in Districts 12 and 13.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 329 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Brad ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Adopt a new Special Harvest Area for the Port Saint Nicholas hatchery in District 3.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 330 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Close a portion of Bear Cove in the Silver Bay Special Harvest Area to protect broodstock and provide for safety.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 331 Motion to Adopt Clay 2nd Rudy ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Revise the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to allow cost recovery and distribute harvests according to the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association board of director's annual plan for allocation.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: eliminates gillnet start first and allows gear group that is under there enhanced allocation to start first instead.

PROPOSAL 334 & 335 Motion to Adopt moved and 2nd ACTION: 13-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Continue 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation in Anita Bay THA through 2017.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 337 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron

ACTION: 11-0 AS Amended Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Establish a new Herring Cove THA management plan to distribute harvest between commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries.

AMENDMENT: In the Herring Cove SHA, NO SNAGGING, 2 hours before and 2 hours after mean low water and/or 7AM-7PM

DISCUSSION: Consider one or all of the following options; no snagging in the SHA, restrict hours to fishing just before and after low tide, limit fishing to certain hours like 6am-9pm. There could be enforcement issues related to time and tide restrictions.

PROPOSAL 338 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Expand the Kendrick Bay THA to include McLean Arm for commercial seining.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This would help the seiners and SSRAA.

PROPOSAL 339 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Change the opening date for the Anita Bay THA to May 1.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 340 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Modify the open area in the Anita Bay THA to enhance salmon quality.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: The net fisherman and crabbers have agreed this could work out.

PROPOSAL 341 Motion to adopt Steve 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Establish a THA in Southeast Cove for seine and troll gear.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: This could give much needed opportunity to the seine and troll fleet in a northern hatchery enhanced area.

PROPOSAL 342 Motion to adopt Brad 2nd Ron ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Establish a registration fishery for the Hidden Falls THA to replace cost recovery harvest with tax assessment.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: The AK State legislature passed a law to make this ok already. If the seiners register in the area they will have to pay a tax. The tax will pay for NSRAA cost recovery. This would allow all the boats to participate more and spread it out among the processors too.

PROPOSAL 343 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Brad ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Open the Hidden Falls THA August 1 through September 20 to allow trolling for enhanced coho and provide for an area during the troll closure.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION: Department Proposal.

PROPOSAL 344 Motion to adopt Ron 2nd Steve ACTION: 11-0 Motion PASSES

DESCRIPTION: Revise the western Deep Inlet THA boundary and season to increase troll fishery access to enhanced king salmon.

AMENDMENT: N/A

DISCUSSION:

Juneau-Douglas AC Meeting/Centennial Hall

January 27th, Friday, in the Egan Room: Agenda

8:30AM: Call to Order (cell phones quieted down)

Quorum

Elections: Trapping(2014); Charter Fishing-Freshwater(2014)

Hunting Guide(2013); Alternate (2012)

MOU

9AM: Comm. Proposals: #'s 268, 270, 294, 310, 311, 312, 320, 284,

325, 326, 299, 277, 278, 279, and 287.

After Lunch: Sport Fish Proposals: #'s 250, 255, 216, 248, 249, 251,

253, 257, 247, and 256.

Sea Otters

Next Meeting & Adjourn

ADFG Advisory Committee MT

1.27.12

Centennial Hall

Egan Room

Present: Mike Peterson- Chair, Jenny Pursell, Bill Bahleda, Forest Wagner, Chris Casey, Chris Miller, Thatcher Brower, Chris Condor, Mike Bethers, Greg Brown - Vice Chair, Henry Webb, Tina Brown (voted in as alternate this meeting) (12)

Guests: Forrest Bowers (ADFG Commercial Fish), David Harris (ADFG), Kevin Monagle (ADFG), Leon Shaul (ADFG)

Mike Peterson: Call to Order, Quorum 8:35 am

Additions to Agenda

Jenny: MOU?

Mike P: Added after elections and before hunting guide

Mike P: Replace 229 for 299. I should have included 299 on the agenda.

Agenda

Elections

Trapping seat is still open

Chris Casey- re-elected to charter fishing/freshwater seat (3 year term, expires 12/31/2014)

Tina Brown- elected to alternate seat (1 year term, expires 12/31/2012)

MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)

Unanimous consent on accepting the MOU

Commercial Fish Proposals

268- Applicability of personal use regulations in the Yakutat Area; applicability of personal use regulation in Southeast Alaska.

Kevin M.F&G: Seeks to clarify the difference between personal use and subsistence in SE AK- clarifying that you can't 'double dip'- no personal use and subsistence use together- there is confusion about which use takes preference. There are certain areas that are outlined as subsistence use – outside those areas are considered personal use. However, there is some confusion about which regulations take

precedence in areas where there is both personal use and subsistence use allowed in the same area (such as Sitka).

Forrest B F&G: Two pronged proposal – a shellfish and finfish piece- the board took no action on the shellfish side of things in Petersburg.

Jenny P: Can you give us written/oral definition of subsistence and personal use?

Kevin M F&G: Subsistence is a priority fishery – BOF has designated customary and traditional areas where subsistence is priority. Outside of those areas there are harvested surplus of fish that could be harvested by the public- however personal use fishery does not have a priority. We want to define the priorities to which user groups have outside of the designated areas for subsistence use.

Jenny P: Within the personal use genre of users would that include sport and non-resident? Or is specific to local resident users.

Kevin M F&G: Any state of Alaska resident. Need a sport fish license. There is a difference between sport fish and personal use fishery. You can go out and set a personal use shrimp pot and go out salmon trolling. Non-residents do not qualify for personal use fishery.

Jenny P: With personal use permit- does one need a license?

Kevin M. F&G: Salmon requires a permit, but most do not. Basket bay example outside of Hoonah. A personal use fisherman/woman comes down from Juneau can fish the sockeye fishery; however, the area is designated as a subsistence area.

Greg B: If there is double-dipping the harvest is being reduced, is that correct?

Kevin M. F&G: Yes. There are plenty of smaller sockeye systems that need permits and permit limits so you don't overwhelm the stock and you get the escapements you need.

Chris Condor: What is the difference between personal use and having a sport fishing license.

Forrest B. F&G : Bag limits and gear types are the main differences.

Kevin M. F&G: This proposal seeks to clarify if the person can or cannot double dip.

Forrest B. F&G: Proposal 139- shellfish version of this proposal- the BOF found that the issue was more complex than they realized. There are many areas in southeast that have these overlaps. It would take a more detailed analysis to deal with these. The BOF looked at an option to have the bag limits be additive. You can't catch a bag limit of personal use and subsistence use of crab. Due to the complexity, the BOF withdrew its support with proposal 139.

Chris M.: I move to take no action.

N/A # 268 (Yes: 12 No: 0)

270: Subsistence fishing permits; personal use and bottom fish fishery.

Forrest B. F&G: We set an ABC for sablefish from stock surveys- we account for sources of removals and subtract them from the ABC and arrive at another level of Annual Harvest Limit (AHL). There are varying levels of consistence in values of removals. Estimates are improving. Statewide harvest survey is less precise. This proposal would allow the department to improve estimates for personal use and subsistence use for these fisheries. In 2011 we estimate that 1.2-1.3% of the catch is from personal and subsistence use.

Chris: This has nothing to do with sport fishing?

Forrest B F&G: Right.

Chris: How are people living in a remote area able to get permits?

Forrest B. F&G: We can issue them through the mail/fax.

Henry: With Sport black cod do you use rod and reel?

Chris: I go out for black cod with an electric reel.

Mike Bethers: The people who utilize this fishery I can count on one hand- the catch is nothing. Have you thought about what kind of limits?

Forrest B. F&G: The language we have on the proposal- the dept. can establish personal catch limits. Our intent is not to start off with a limit. We want to get a better handle on what the harvest is.

Mike P.: Is there a fee for this permit?

Forrest B. F&G: No.

Mike P.: You are talking about 1.2-1.5% of ABC of sablefish – is there a feeling that there might be more harvest than is reported?

Forrest B. F&G: We have heard anecdotal reports about higher catches than are reported.

Mike P: How are sablefish stocks doing?

Forrest B. F&G: Chatham stock is steadily decreasing in biomass. Southern southeast stocks are ok. Northern Southeast stocks have been decreasing in abundance for the past decade.

Mike P: If permit goes through, would it give you fodder to restrict harvesting sablefish in areas?

Forrest B. F&G: The board has not established any kind of allocation plan for sablefish. We set an ABC which represents total removals- the only regulatory policy is that we have to designate commercial annual harvest limit based on removals recorded. There are no allocations- no group has a set percentage of ABC. The dept. is not anticipating submitting a proposal to allocate this stock.

Mike B: Call the question.

Proposal#270 Passes (Yes: 12 No: 0)

294 – Retention of fish taken in a commercial fishery

Kevin M> F&G: Seeks to have reports of commercially caught salmon and steelhead retained for personal use and not sold. There is a big difference between creel census and sport fish interviews. Steelhead cannot be sold. This proposal wants to get rid of current regulations and implement a new reporting process. The dept. would have some concerns with this proposal- right now a creel program like this would require a change in ramping up- a whole new program would have to be developed.

Alaska Trollers Association(ATA member and seafood marketer Rick Davis): We oppose this proposal. We write down on the fish tickets our 'home pack' numbers. The fish tickets have to be filled out. We have to put down the species on the fish tickets. The last thing that the commercial fisherman wants to do is seek out a creel reporter.

ATA(another member): There are fish techs around that can screen this process.

Mike P: Does the department have any problem with the system that is in place now? Are there any enforcement issues?

Kevin M. F&G: I suspect that there are people that do think that there is a problem with reporting. I am not aware of enforcement issues.

Chris: A creel survey person is hard to find in the Juneau area- it is really random and I don't think that it is a practical method to monitor home packs.

Kevin M. F&G: The big difference between the creel program and the commercial program- creel people would have to be at every processing plant- a very different creel survey- remote or close- huge budget requirements.

Chris Casey: I believe that the ATA gentlemen are correct; this is an erroneous issue.

Mike P: To ATA- Of those fish tickets that come in- does each fish ticket indicate that there is personal use harvest?

ATA: There is a spot on the fish ticket so that you can legally retain these fish. I don't know exact numbers.

Proposal #294 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 12)

310- Management of the winter salmon troll fishery

Kevin M. F&G: Current range is 45,000 king salmon- this proposal would like to change the language so that the 45,000 king salmon are treaty king salmon with an addition of hatchery king salmon. There would be an increase for the winter fishery. The winter king salmon caught as hatchery added to the 45,000 will be subtracted from the summer troll fishery.

ATA: ATA decided to oppose this. In the early 90s ATA wanted to keep the summer troll separate from the winter troll. The BOF looked at it and put a cap on the winter catch. The treaty king salmon was decreased by 15% but that came from the summer troll while the winter troll was left the same.

Kevin M. F&G: The 45,000 fish would be non-Alaska hatchery fish (treaty fish). If adopted would change the winter troll harvest from the 45,000 king salmon caught to 45,000 treaty fish plus the additional hatchery fish caught.

Mike P: If 45,000 fish becomes all treaty fish will that have an effect on the Canadian side?

Kevin M. F&G: No. It is still targeting the 45,000 treaty fish- it is taking away from the summer fish. There is always some treaty fish remaining after the winter fishery.

ATA: It is an internal struggle within the troll fishery. We want the winter troll capped at 45,000 so outside water communities can't take advantage have a better opportunity to fish year round.

Thatcher: The Juneau based trollers will have decreased fishery time so I think that our advisory committee should take a stance on this issue.

Jenny: Should this proposal carry that the summer harvest days may be shortened with the result of retention days creating more mortality of the fish- what are the departments thoughts – is this a significant issue related to mortality?

Kevin M. F&G: Potentially, yes. Chinook non-retention was an issue looked at with this proposal.

Leon Shaw (ADFG): When targeting summer Coho, trollers encounter Chinook fish. If the season was reduced due to the heightened winter troll numbers, the Chinook cannot be retained and could increase mortality of the non-retained fish.

Proposal# 310 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 12)

311- Management of the Coho Salmon Troll Fishery. Change beginning date for Coho salmon retention in the spring king salmon fishery from June 15th to June 1.

Leon S.F&G: Why the June 15th date? That was established back in 1962. The size of fish probably drove the dates chosen for this regulation. This is a complex issue, because over time this could be a different matter. This proposal would increase when Coho could be kept in the spring fisheries. Currently the spring fisheries (in June) trolling accounted for 0.3% of total annual Coho troll harvest (4500).

ATA: We support this proposal. These harvest areas would only be in the hatchery harvest areas for Chinook.

Mike B: to ATA: closest area that is a hatchery access point?

ATA: Hawk Point.

Mike B: How many trollers would be participating in the fishery here- how much would that impact any additional fish that might be heading this direction?

Leon S.F&G: There are some mature stocks coming through at this time (early Taku, Pavolov Lake on Chichagof). Early Taku has been doing very well in recent years. Those would be the fish that would be coming through at this time. Only 1 year of studies (1988) suggest that they move through pretty quickly- they get caught heavily in the Canadian fishery in the Taku.

Mike B: Would there be many boats participating in the Icy Strait area?

ATA: Probably around 36, mostly out of Hoonah. It would allow us to sell the early Coho that we are already catching in these hatchery sites.

Chris Condor: As a sport fisherman, I would hate to see reduction in Coho's in inner waters.

Bill: There is new siding on the DIPAC facility and they are going to start focusing on Coho and King. Are we going to see earlier and earlier runs of Coho?

Leon S> F&G: The brood stock that DIPAC uses has been switched to lower Taku. Nice sized fish, but I don't know when they are showing up. Generally, with the wild Taku run you get a few more of those in inside waters. With the current brood stock it wouldn't have much effect. However, down in Sumner strait there is an early run that could impact this.

Kevin M.F&G: Pavlov stock is a summer run Coho stock. DIPAC changed Coho brood stocks to a larger fish and it is a fall run fish.

Forest W(AC): When you are catching Coho and it is a King salmon fishery, what is the mortality?

Thatcher(AC member responding): I would say that the mortality is a low percentage- we are running different gear to target King so we are catching small numbers of Coho's.

ATA: I have fished a lot in areas around hatchery access areas and I have not had catches of Coho's- probably only in Sumner Strait areas.

Mike P: Can this be issued by emergency order?

Kevin M F&G: It is in regulation, so the dept. does not have the latitude to change the dates.

Thatcher: I think it will be an insignificant impact on sport fishing in the Juneau area.

Proposal# 311 Passes (Yes: 7 No: 5)

Proposal 312- Management of Coho salmon troll fishery. Require 10-day mid-August troll closures for conservation and allocation based on the department's midseason assessment. And a 7 day closure in late July if projection is less than 1.1 million fish.

Leon S. F&G: The dept. is neutral on this b/c of the allocation issues with it. We don't see a need for it from a conservation perspective. We have been able to achieve escapement goals. Historically, in 1980 the BOF decided to put in the provision for a 10 day closure and was implemented every year based on in-season performance. In the early 90s we started getting huge run so we cut back on the 10 day closures.

ATA: We oppose the proposal. The dept. has done a great job in managing the Coho. Almost always end up with a 4-5 day closure.

Chris: I am going to support this to secure more fish inside.

Mike B: Hopefully the streams will get more Coho and add some consistency to the run strength.

Thatcher: I am opposing this proposal- the current system seems to be working well.

Mike P.: Does the staff (ADFG) lose the emergency order?

Kevin: yes.

Chris Miller: What is the percentage break down of the Coho caught by fishery (gillnet, troll, seine)?

Leon S.F&G: The allocations were established in 1989 (based on catches 1969-1988)- 61% -troll 19% - seine 13%- drift gillnet and 7% - set gillnet gear.

Proposal# 312 Fails (yes: 5 No: 7)

320- District 11 King Salmon Management Plan. Increase the area of section 11-An open to trolling in the directed Taku King Salmon Fishery

Kevin M. F&G: The first fishery to occur in recent years was in 2005. There is a defined area in regulations. This proposal seeks to extend this area from Piling Pt. to Outer Pt. This will open the Taku to troll fisheries. Troll catch in recent fisheries has been very small component of overall catch. This is an allocative proposal. There are no conservation issues.

ATA: Wants to provide access for the troll fishery to Taku fisheries. This increase will square the regulated area to make it easier to fish. I don't think there is anything to fear with this proposal.

Mike B.: The bigger the area gets the more troll boats you can attract. This will impact the local sport fishing area – fish numbers and gear conflicts.

Chris Condor: This is a primary ground for sport fishing for King salmon fishing.

Thatcher: To department: What is the catch of the gillnet fishery compared to troll fishery?

Kevin M.F&G: Taku River Chinook- the number might be larger due to the hatchery King- 2005: gillnet 18,100 with total catch 22,000 (plus harvest) with troll harvest with less than 100 or 50. 2006: gillnet 9,000 with total around 12 Or 13,000 with troll harvest was 11 fish. 2009: gillnet 4,400 troll was confidential. All those years have sport around 2,000 fish.

Bill: To Mr. Brown(AC member): Conflict to whale watching fleet?

Greg: No.

Thatcher: I am going to support this proposal. Creates opportunity for a handful of Juneau trollers.

Mike P.: When is the season open?

Kevin M.F&G: Can open first Monday in May. Every year there is a pre-season forecast made- depending on harvestable surplus. Can delay the opening for a couple of weeks.

ATA: Could the troll fleet be used as a tool for run strength on the Taku?

Kevin M.F&G: Difficult to say. Historical CPUE is an extremely valuable tool. It would take a time series of CPUE to develop that. Yes, potentially.

Mike P. (to ATA): Why such a small area?

ATA: Just want to extend the area a little bit in order to not encroach on the sport fishing areas.

Henry: Is this about more area? Or making it easier to approach the area that you already have?

ATA: It goes hand in hand. By squaring it up more it will make it easier.

Chris Miller: Why was this area delineated the way it was?

Kevin: BOF task force was set up to hash out the details and that was the line that they came up with.

Proposal# 320 Fails (Yes: 4 No: 8)

284-District 11 King Salmon Management Plan. Establish increased fishing periods for troll when the directed drift gillnet fishery is open in Section 11-A and 11-B.

Kevin M F&G: Current regulations are linked (troll and gillnet) – if we open the gillnet fishery for 1 day there is certain amount of days allocated to troll fishery. This proposals would increase the time that trollers are allowed. This is not an area increase, but a time increase.

ATA: We put this proposal in focusing on the efficiency of the gear type.

Mike B: Not in an increase in area?

Kevin M F&G: That is correct. This uses the Outer pt. line. If the gillnet fishery opens for 1 day, the troll fishery opens on the backside of Douglas for 5 days. From Circle pt. south in Stephen's Passage the troll fishery is open for 7 days.

Chris Condor: If we vote in favor of this, we negated our vote on the previous proposal (320).

ATA: You can adopt substitute additional language to clarify this proposal.

Chris Condor: Motion- Substitute language in line 1 and line 3(A) to clarify area allotted to troll fishery in order to have area be from Piling Pt. to Middle Pt. (instead of Outer Pt.).

Greg: 2nd motion

Motion to amend passes- Yes: 12 No: 0

Mike P: With more time does this have any conflict with salmon treaty issues?

Kevin M F&G: No. We go after the quota with the certain allocation of the fisheries. We need to stay within the allowed catch.

Jenny: How frequently has there been an opening for Chinook in this area?

Kevin M F&G: Directed fishery for Chinook was closed for 25 years up until 2005 for troll and gillnet. The board acted in 2006 to finalize the process of this open fishery. Agreement with Canada- gives Canada first 5,000 Chinook surplus. In years of small runs there is not a lot of economic incentive for our gear groups whereas in Canada they only have 3-10 permits that are fished. Spring 2012 is forecasted for around 6,300 available- we have a number of fish we are going after this year. If there are regulatory changes they would be in place this year.

Chris Casey: Steady decline in Taku run Chinook- numbers diminish to around 30,000- I don't understand opening up the fishery if this is happening.

Kevin M F&G: The escapement goal previously was 36,000 fish. This was based on smolts and not on the adult ricker curve. Since that was looked at we now have the escapement goal around 27,000. The rebuilding process worked, but there were issues with Treaty. We needed to have an agreement with Canada in order to go through with opening the fishery. For this fishery to occur there were a lot of hurdles that were overcome. From 1985-2005 escapement levels actually were larger than those recorded from 1972-1984.

Chris Miller: Does the department know the proportion of Kings caught by gear type?

Kevin M F&G: I don't have them in front of me.

Chris Miller: Between the Taku and Stikine are there any other areas that are directed fisheries for Chinook for gillnetters.

Kevin M F&G: No.

ATA: There are Chinook access fisheries (Deep inlet, Medvije, Neets Bay) as directed fishery. These are hatchery stocks and not wild.

Proposal #284 as amended passes (Yes: 7 No: 5)

325- Management of spring salmon troll fisheries. Re-direct spring troll fishery management to target chum salmon to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

Kevin M F&G: Proposal seeks to modify harvest to chum salmon for spring season. Effects of this proposal will allow troll fisheries to harvest hatchery chum salmon. The only department concern is that over the years with similar proposals the dept. is going to object to the directive to manage the wild stock area for hatchery fish. This is a big issue. This fishery last year was very effective- chum salmon harvest last year was 150,000 chum salmon. This is a new fishery- what impacts does this have on wild stock in this area? Regional planning team has put a formal request to research this issue. We want to know if shaker mortality is increased with this fishery.

Brad Baldwin (Chum Trollers Association): Bycatch of legal King salmon- last year Chum trollers caught 154,000 Chum with 245 Chinook. Last year 192 legal and 124 sublegal of King salmon. Every day 1 boat gets around 1 sublegal King salmon. Our gear is very selective to Chum salmon. When you are running the right chum gear you are only targeting them. Our biggest bycatch is Sockeye (1200).

ATA: We did vote to support it if we could amend the area of 114-50 (north of Funter Bay – from the end of Pt. Howard across to the Admiralty side) Lizard Head.

Brad B -Chum Trollers: We don't want to be on the shore, we want to be on the edge which is indicated on the area allotments.

Thatcher: This area 114-50 was amended already. Not in proposal.

Mike B: This would put a lot more effort to fish the Chinook that could be coming in here.

Thatcher: Currently there is a spring troll area in Icy Strait and there is a max number of King caught-how would this change with this proposal?

Kevin M F&G: I don't think the department knows how it would change the regulations. We would now have to manage a wild stock quarter within the hatchery fishery. The department needs to pay more attention to this fishery in order to get more data.

Mike P: Are there any issues with funding?

Kevin M F&G: I don't believe funding is that big of an issue- however if we needed to put on an onboard observer there might be some addition costs.

Proposal #325 Fails (Yes: 3 No: 6 Abstain: 3)

326 – Management of the summer salmon troll fishery. Provide a targeted chum salmon fishery for troll gear in Section 11-A to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

Kevin M F&G: This area is close to DIPAC's terminal area. A lot of chum salmon will be caught with some incidentals being caught. The time July1 – July 20th is the peak time of Chum returns to this area. Bycatch of other species (not pink and chum) has not been alarming in the Amalga special harvest area.

Jim Becker (Comm. Gillnetter/ DIPAC Board): DIPAC has no opinion of this proposal. Gillnetters are opposed to it- there would be targeted troll fishery in front of two cost-recovery fisheries of gillnetters.

ATA: We supported this proposal for the chum trollers to remedy some of the imbalance.

Mike B: Is there an interception problem in the Boat Harbor area?

Kevin M F&G: We do have Boat Harbor bycatch information- last year had very small numbers. They are going to catch some other species; however, I am not so sure if it is a conservation issue. At Amalga Harbor King for peak weeks is at 6 or 7 Chinook with sockeye at 100-150 for bycatch.

Mike B: The rearing King salmon is my only concern (Chilkat reared).

Bill: To Jim Becker DIPAC: Do we know what the returns of Chum to DIPAC last summer? Would there be any impact on DIPAC?

Jim B.: 1.9 million- DIPAC does not have any concern and I foresee no impact to DIPAC.

Kevin M F&G: The dept. is required to work with hatchery associations to help ensure that they meet cost-recovery/ brood stock needs. The department would have emergency order to close the fishery if these needs were not met.

Chris C: I would feel better about this after some research is done about bycatch around this area.

Thatcher: Could the dept. explain the enhanced salmon allocation?

Kevin M F&G: Trollers have been below their allocation range (27%-32%) and they are 17%- it has been many years since it has been in range.

Chris Miller: Can that be in part due to lack of effort?

Kevin M F&G: Complicated issue. Enhanced value pie that is split up between species also is split up between user groups. Prices have changed the incentive for trollers to go after Chum when they hadn't before.

Jim B.: I was on the group that allocated the enhanced fish in 1994- we allocated to each perspective gear group the amount of harvest. There never was an allocation for Chum salmon for the troll fleet.

Jenny: To Kevin M F&G: Clarification- 1. Are there concerns from the department with bycatch? 2. Does the department have any specific statements about bycatch of halibut.

Kevin M F&G: I really wouldn't anticipate any halibut being caught in this fishery. Bycatch in general is a concern, but not as much of a concern than in 325. Bycatch will be released. There are small local stocks that are in the area, but we don't know if they are going to be affected.

Chris Casey: Comparing bycatch of chum trollers (1.5 fish/1000) to sport fishing is interesting.

Proposal #326 Fails (Yes: 6 No: 5 Abstain: 1)

299 – Closed Waters. Extend the waters closed to commercial fishing in Taku Inlet to Point Greely-Point Bishop.

Kevin M F&G: The effect of this proposal would be to essentially take away half of the fishing area (111-32: the most productive gillnet area in 11-B).

Neil McKinnon (Taku User Groups): Brief history on the line changes over the years. This is a very dynamic system and we need to re-assess the lines for this area. Huge seal population (600) on the tide flats in this area could be affecting the escapement of Chinook.

Jim B: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters: We are opposed to moving the line down. We fish both ends of the line. In the middle on high tides and set out in deep enough water to drift to fish it. We don't want to lose area.

ATA: We opposed this proposal. We feel the department does a good job at managing this area.

Mike B.: Escapement is your main concern (directed toward Neil).

Neil M.: With low flow and low tides the salmon are getting hammered.

Mike B.(to Jim B. gillnetter): What is the upper boundary depth- are your nets on the boundary?

Jim B: 6-7 fathoms.

Mike P: Are there any biological concerns?

Kevin M F&G: There are none. The department has the ability to make that line wherever we think that line should be. We use the Jaw Point Line for Chinook studies.

Chris C.: You are not concerned about predation by seals on the Chinook salmon stock.

Kevin M F&G: We are not concerned. We just want consistent numbers and that is what we are getting right now. Seals may be an issue, but really what we are talking about is fish hitting the spawning grounds.

Ed Jones F&G: Our assessments generate our escapement numbers in the upper areas of the Taku (Canyon Island) - so the salmon have to get through the seal gauntlet to reach us.

Proposal #299 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 12)

277- Personal use salmon fishery. Allow for use dip nets in the Taku River for personal use.

Kevin M F&G: Current regulations the fishery opens in July 1 to July 31st and set gillnet is the only fishery allowed.

Neil M T.U.G.: This is another means to catch the fish when this area gets crowded. We also wanted to clarify the ambiguity about the ability to use a dip net, the regulation now only states a net length.

Kevin M F&G: The permit is very specific. In the case of the Taku- we don't have a lot of latitude. Most of what we have on the permit is in regulation.

Neil M.: It is somewhat confusing- and we still need clarification. The concern is how many fish are you going to catch.

Mike B.: If this goes into effect, will the staff have any problems with following the permit?

Kevin M F&G: The department is neutral on this matter; this is a gear type issue through BOF. No concerns on the department's side.

Chris M.: Why was it set as just a set net?

Kevin: I do know that the dept. would be concerned with drift nets on the Taku. Loss of nets would be a concern. I couldn't tell you why they specifically chose set nets.

Chris C.: Dip netting seems to be more selective.

Proposal #277 Passes (Yes: 12 No: 0)

278- Personal use salmon fishery. Extend the personal use fishery season on the Taku River from mid-June through August.

Kevin M F&G: Current reg- allow sockeye to be taken from Taku River Lodge to Canadian border only in the month of July. Might allow more fish to be harvested with the extension of fishing time. Bycatch of Coho in August and Chinook in June would probably increase. Incidental catch of Chinook and Coho is within the sport fish limit.

Neil M- TUG: To fish safely with dynamic river conditions was the background for this proposal.

Jim B-gillnetter: In June there will definitely be more King salmon catch. Gillnetters start the 3rd Sunday in June and try to let the King salmon run get up the river. I don't want to deny personal use fishery up the river. Extending the season earlier bothers me when we are already trying to allow for escapement.

Kevin M F&G: If there is a year when we can't make escapement goals- we always have the latitude to close the fishery or start it later when we know when all the Chinook have passed.

ATA: We oppose this proposal. Don't want to support any more fish caught in river. We have concerns Salmon on rod and reel in fresh water- there is a certain amount of risk when you establish a dip net fishery.

Jim B-gillnetter: Anything harvested in Alaska will come out of our allocation.

Chris M.: Is there a possibility of steelhead bycatch in August?

Kevin M F&G: Sure. Typically, the steelhead that we see are late August/September fish.

Thatcher: I'm curious how you keep track of the bycatch in the personal use fishery?

Kevin M F&G: Yes. The regulations are that incidental trout or other salmon species are recorded on the catch calendar which is on the permit. Sport fishing regs exist: 2 king and 6 coho.

Proposal #278 Fails (Yes: 2 No: 10)

279- Personal use salmon fishery. Increase Taku River sockeye salmon daily and annual bag limit per household based on number of persons in the household.

Kevin M F&G: Currently 5 sockeye salmon/household of 1 or 10 sockeye salmon/household of 2 or more. If adopted there would be some increment about what is harvested now. The average harvest now for Taku permit holders is 1100 sockeye salmon per year from 125 permits. This will probably cause additional fish harvested.

Neil M- TUG: We proposed this because my next door neighbor has 12 kids and is allow only 10 sockeye and he can't feed his family on that amount. There is an imbalance here. What you are seeing now is about what you will be seeing in the future.

ATA: We oppose this proposal, because there are other places that can make up for this imbalance (Sweetheart Creek). What is going on with bycatch at this time?

Kevin M F&G: There is incidentals of Coho, but very few. By-catch has not been an issue in July.

Jim B- gillnetter: I think we opposed this. Sweetheart is run by DIPAC, and they have the potential to release more fish down there.

Mike B.: To staff: If this was amended to put a max on the amount of sockeye that could be harvested what would that look like compared to the harvest by the Canadians?

Kevin M F&G: Since the treaty 84-2009 is 90,000 sockeye for US and 24,000 for Canadian. Escapement average is 103,000 sockeye. The escapement goal is 71-80,000. 2008 was our lowest sockeye escapement.

Mike B.: It seems like there should be a maximum on the numbers of personal use sockeye. I motion to amend the proposal to have **5 per person and 25 per household per season**.

Jenny: To staff: Should this amendment with this proposal carry would that only pertain to Taku River or would it apply broadly to Alaska?

Kevin M F&G: This proposal is specific to Taku- this would not carry over to other rivers/watersheds.

Motion: **5 per person or with households of 5 or more not to exceed 25 per season**

Motion to amend passes(Chair regrets vote count not captured

Proposal #279 as amended passes (Yes: 10 No: 2)

287- Maximum length of salmon seine vessel. Exclude stern ramps and rollers in the 58 foot line for the Southeast Alaska area.

Kevin M F&G: Current regs. don't allow this. The department is neutral on this. There is allocative and not biological- the dept. doesn't really have anything to say on this proposal.

Henry (AC member): I have a conflict. I won't be voting on it. I work with the proposal writer.

Mike B: To staff: Would this make any difference in the seine catch?

Kevin M F&G: I don't believe it would have any impact on seine harvest.

Mike P: Usable space that other boats don't have- I can't support it.

Henry: It would be an extensive amount of work to take it off.

Greg to Henry: How many boats is this affecting?

Henry: Drum seining is illegal in Southeast. It is hard to say how many boats this could be affecting. What I could see happening is that the 58 ft. limit was an early form of limited entry- it kept the boats from the south out of Southeast. This doesn't really give you more fishing power.

Rich Davis (audience member): This proposal has been up to BOF every year. The Southeast Alaska Seiners don't have unanimity on this issue.

*Proposal 287 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 4) Henry Webb
not voting.*

Sport fish Proposals

New Guests: Brian Glenn (ADFG), Dan Teske (ADFG)

250- General provisions for seasons and bag, possessions, annual, and size limits for the freshwaters of the Southeast Alaska area. Allow for retention of king salmon in freshwater streams in Southeast Alaska.

Brian G F&G: Currently in Juneau June 1 Aug 30 we open Fish Creek by emergency order. Currently there are 25 streams that have wild King runs- now there is no fishery for freshwater catch of king salmon. Taku and Stikine has 10,000 or more fish annually.

Mike P: Is this a treaty issue?

Brian G F&G: For small streams there might not be enough fish in them to sustain a harvest. The Taku and Stikine there is directed fishery for King in saltwater. When there is allowable catch there is ample fish for harvest. In years where there isn't an allowable catch having a freshwater fishery would violate terms in the treaty.

Jim Becker: Canada has a moratorium against any new fishery.(to Brian): Is this a problem?

Brian M F&G: This isn't a new fishery. There is already a directed fishery in this area.

Chris Condor: I am concerned that it would open up all the streams.

Mike B.: I think we could have a management plan where there is harvestable fish available- there needs to have a management plan to provide sport fish opportunity is a good idea.

Henry: Why there isn't king salmon sport fish in freshwater in Southeast.

Brian G. F&G: Freshwater streams were closed in Southeast in 1963. Prior to the directed fishing opportunities on the Taku and Stikine the river mouths were closed to commercial fishing as well as freshwater.

Bill B: No mention about what proposed methods would be allowed- that would open bait and other catching devices.

Greg B: This is such a broad statement- taking away a blanket prohibition is a big deal. There is a lot of work that would have to be done to enforce this.

Mike B.: You can use bait or flies- you can't use snagging hooks- there is already regulations about that and it would be up to the department to figure this out.

Proposal# 250 Fails (Yes: 2 No: 9 Abstain: 1)

255- Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of Southeast Alaska. Establish a Taku River king salmon sport fishery.

Brian G. F&G: The Taku does have a return that could sustain a sport harvest. It is an allocative issue.

Mike P: With our (AC) action on #250 shall we take No Action?

N/A # 255 (Yes: 12 No: 0)

216- General provisions for seasons, and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.

Brian G F&G: Current reg is 4 fish per day and no annual limits for residents. Non-residents have 8 fish annually. These are new regulations for black cod. 80% of harvested black cod were taken by a small number of businesses.

Forrest B F&G: In 2009 156 people (0.5 % of guided nonresident anglers) reached their annual limit for sablefish and 2010 had 1.2% reached annual limit.

Chris Condor: I don't think there is a real problem with an annual limit of 8. I don't see any reason why we need to increase the sport catch.

Forrest B. F&G: The resource has not been allocated among the user groups- the surplus harvest is utilized, but not allocated.

Henry W(to AC member Chris Condor): With the moratorium on halibut for charter does it apply to black cod?

Chris Condor: No. Only a special group of people fish sablefish. For charter this year(2012) for halibut you get 1 fish per person per day under 45 inches or over 68 inches.

Henry: I think the halibut issue got out of hand- I don't want to see black cod to have higher limits where we can't see where this is going down the road.

Chris Casey: Populations of sablefish are actually in decline.

Forrest B F&G: Inside waters sablefish fisheries (Chatham) state managed sablefish fisheries. You wouldn't see halibut catch share plan. You could see an allocation plan through the board process for this fishery that would define a percentage of the ABC that would be allocated to different user groups. The commercial is limited entry and the harvest objective is divided equally among permit holders. That is the extent from the state on the commercial side.

Mike B.: To staff: In recent years what has the individual equal quota share been for a skipper's share in the commercial fishery

Forrest B F&G: In 2011- 10,000 lbs. around 1500 fish. It is in decline. The guided sport harvest is 30,000 and unguided sport 31,000 combined is 3.3% of ABC.

Mike B.: I don't see much of a problem.

Proposal # 216 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 12)

248- Special provision for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska area.

Brian G F&G: There are no boat limits anywhere in the state- they use individual bag limits. The definition of bag limit is the max take of legal take per person per day. Rockfish example- once individual has reached bag limit you stop retaining them.

Chris Condor: The family on the boat is probably going to have a boat catch anyways this proposal takes care of that.

Henry: I voted against this because it takes more fish out of the water. Selling fish and selling an experience are different. I don't buy that most of the fish caught are going to die. Rockfish excluded.

Mike P: I think we are asking of a different set of rules for the charter boats. (to AC member Chris Condor): Captain/crew cannot retain the fish right?

Chris Condor: With kings, halibut and rockfish- captain/crew cannot catch and retain. I know pinks and chums are not considered part of this.

Thatcher: To staff: will this affect how you manage the fishery?

Brian G F&G: We assume that not everybody is operating the boat harvest and individuals are putting their poles away- we think that this might change management.

Jenny: With a family, would each one of the children have to have a license to fish?

Brian G F&G: Children under 16 don't need a license, but they have to comply with daily limits.

Jenny: In that regard would that lend into the concept or idea- will this regulation have more of a species harvest.

Brian G F&G: Bringing more people on your boat to make up a better boat quota.

Proposal # 248 Fails (Yes: 4 No: 7 Abstain: 1)

249- General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. General revisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye, coho, chum, and pink salmon in the SE Alaska area.

Brian G F&G: There are no current conservation or allocation issues among the users groups.

Mike B.: It seems that we would want to be careful about restricting sport fishing licensing, due to how much they support ADFG.

Chris C: This is an unnecessary regulation, because it is not a conservation issue.

Mike P: It seems like there is a push to identify how many fish are leaving the state.

Chris: We want these fish in the log books. It is not a very big amount overall .

Henry: Have you ever been to waterfall?

Chris Condor: Well they are only going after coho and king. There are a lot of people. As long as there is not a conservation issue.

Thatcher: What are the daily bag limits for these species.

Brian: 6 fish per day per fish in saltwater.

Proposal #249 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 9 Abstain: 3)

251- Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska area. Allow the use of two rods by non-guided anglers in salt waters.

Brian G F&G: Currently everyone is restricted to the use of 1 rod- no differentiation for guided/non-guided and resident/non-resident. The two rod opportunity between residents and non-residents for king is when the abundance index level is above 1.5. If below two rods only applies to residents targeting king salmon. It could increase harvest and might require changes in management for some species that are fully allocated and reached harvest levels. In the areas around Juneau the two rod rule from 2005-2011 would have given the harvest levels a 15% bump.

Mike B.: With that 15% additional catch cause conservation problems?

Brian G. F&G: In the sport fishery there is not specific allocation for king salmon – the 15% just gets added to the whole total of King caught. We might have to alter the management plan down the road. Catches would increase and bag limits during high catches would change.

Bill: Time out on the water will be controlled by cost of fuel and fishing two rods would be more efficient.

Brian G. F&G: We view this as an allocative issue. This could provide an opportunity for people to use more than 1 rod. The resource is there.

Chris Condor: I might see some problems with different rules for guided/non-guided, resident/non-resident. I could see some enforcement issues between user groups.

Mike B.: It is hard to manage different times of two rod versus 1 rod. It would be more of a problem potentially for fish and game to enforce.

Proposal #251 Passes (Yes: 10 No: 0 Abstain: 2)

253- Vessel Identification; new regulation. Establish system for distinguishing vessels participating in hand troll and guided charter fishing in Southeast Alaska.

Brian G. F&G: Intended to prohibit the sale of sport caught fish for vessels that are dual registered as hand trollers and charter fishing boats. Changing the identification with decals/numbers particular to the certain fishery they are participating in. If a troller is sport fishing in waters that are closed to commercial fishing they are required to remove the dorsal fin with any salmon that are brought on board.

Chris Miller: How many boats have charter permits and hand troll permits?

Brian G. F&G: 2007-2011 there are 30 dually registered vessels – 1.5% registered commercial troll fleet, and 3% of registered charter fleet.

Mike P: If a boat does this, isn't it something that is pretty obvious?

Brian G F&G: If there is a problem it is occurring with relatively few vessels. I think we ran this past enforcement and said there doesn't appear to be a large problem.

Mike B.: Quick comment- When the enhancement kings come, the individuals who have unmarked hand troll boats come in and take some of this fish. This is totally an enforcement deal.

Proposal # 253 Fails (Yes: 0 No: 11 Abstain: 1)

257- Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska area. Prohibit use of bait on Cowee Creek.

Brian G. F&G: Bait is prohibited two months out of the year (allowed mid-Sept. to mid-Nov)- we don't know frequency of bait is.

Tony S.: Author of Proposal# 257: There are very few people that use bait, but they do injure the fish and could cause decreases in numbers in this area.

Brian G. F&G: Would improve catch rates by decreasing mortality. The bait prohibition was developed in 1994 in most streams in 10 months out of the year- they allowed it in the fall, because of anglers who wanted to fish for Coho. Windfall Lake was also included in year round bait free lake regulation in 1994- now Peterson creek salt chuck, Mendenhall Lake and Auke Lake now also fall within the year round bait free regulations. Peterson Creek, Kowee Creek have 10 month prohibition and Montana has year round bait prohibition. We don't know how frequently bait is used. We don't know the proportion of fish caught with bait.

Tony S: Ten month prohibition sounds like a lot, but the silver run in the streams is very short. It would be good to keep this wild run going.

Jenny: When the angler uses bait does it somehow enrich the experience?

Brian: It is a personal choice. It can be effective. People have been using bait for a long time.

Greg B.: Is bait more successful?

Brian G. F&G: Depends on the fisherman.

Mike P: To Tony S.- is there enforcement out there?

Tony S.: There is no enforcement. If a person catches his/her limit and catches another fish with bait the fish is released dead as a result.

Chris Casey: When they hit bait they hit it hard. So it is probably lethal.

Mike B.: Bait kills more fish. To Roger(in audience): What is your opinion?

Roger: The bait ban was proposed in 1994 and designed for cutthroat- some studies show that there is a 45% mortality rate after release of a bait caught cutthroat.

Forest W.(AC Member): This seems like an enforcement issue and not a regulation issue. Sometimes more regulation is not necessarily better.

Tony S.: Cutthroat in Cowee Ck. has just about bottomed out.

Jenny: To Brian G. F&G: Is there more angling activity on Cowee Ck. compared to Peterson Ck.

Brian G. F&G: Cowee ck. Is a much bigger watershed and has a lot more fish in general and attracts more anglers. (Handed out chart)

Chris Casey: To Brian/Roger: Studies on Davies Ck. and upper Cowee ck. are spawning habitats for cutthroat....

Roger: Several telemetry studies on Cutties as they migrated out of windfall lake to find spawning streams- three went into Davies Ck. which identified it as an important spawning stream.

Mike B.: Alluding to chart handed out- have you identified any conservation issues out at Cowee Ck.

Brian G. F&G: We don't have an ongoing monitoring program except for out of Auke Ck. weir. We have catch rates which are sporadic and I would tend to think that Cuttie populations are small in general- often people don't target cutties.

Proposal# 257 Passes (Yes: 9 No: 2 Abstain: 1)

247- New regulation. Develop a management plan to protect and enhance a roadside sport fishery in Juneau.

Brian G. F&G: Identifies collaborating with US Forest Service and DIPAC to better protect these fisheries. The sustainable salmon policy has language for salmon to serve as a resource for the board. The proposal itself doesn't identify a specific area or species – it generally applies to the entire road system. Many items offered as suggestions are not under the board's authority.

Greg Capito (author # 247): Historic overview of roadside streams for fisheries. Productive Jordan Ck. urban ditch. This proposal intends to not let history repeat itself. I have no specific species in mind, I'm looking at the systems more comprehensively. The idea of a fishery management plan has to be based on sound science. We have to manage for the future. I view this proposal as an investment for the future. Pass this proposal for the kids, do it for our future!

Jenny: I very much appreciate your comprehensive objective you have presented here.

Mike P: For staff: On page 224 under methods – you mentioned the methods are expansive and the BOF can only do limited action. What actions?

Brian G.F&G: The BOF deals with sport fishing regulations and allocation among user groups.

Chris Condor: We need to have the BOF to direct a management plan for roadside fisheries for all species. The BOF can start the ball rolling and direct ADFG to start developing a management plan.

Mike P: For Scott Crass (Board Support): Is there such a thing as a philosophical proposal?

Scott Crass: Yes. They can support things that are outside their power of fishing regulations.

Jenny: During the BOF meeting in Petersburg there was at least 3 times the BOF could not enact regulations, but could be directive in their authority.

Forrest W(AC member): As a public forum and with support from a local level, couldn't we modify this by striking the methods to pass this on- I will support this from the standpoint of a conservation and community issue.

Chris Condor: Can we support this type of proposal 'in spirit'?

Henry W: Is this proposal pertaining to specific issues between riparian areas and mining activities?

Greg B.: No. We need a science based baseline in order to protect these fisheries in order to have a database to use in the future for whatever issue comes up in the future.

Bill B: Freshwater fishing opportunities in Juneau are an embarrassment.

Forest W.: To Staff: Is there any baseline data for these streams?

Brian G F&G: We do these walking assessments on Montana Ck. and Peterson Ck. (Handed out chart- Montana Ck counts compared to Berners River (off road system)) Over the years they track each other quite well- changes in Montana Ck. counts are not indicative of what is happening on the road system.

Mike B.: I support the concept of this proposal.

Greg B: I also support the concept of a management roadside plan. I am not sure what the capabilities are here. The concept should be put forward.

Chris Condor: When we present our opinion on this proposal – we as a committee strongly support the idea behind this and urge F&G to take action on this.

Bill B: On page 223 – we can adopt to 'develop a management plan to protect and implement a management plan to protect and enhance the Juneau Roadside Sport Fishery within one year of adoption of the proposal—but strike the methods and scope of work.

Mike P: To staff: On # 223- let's say this goes forward- is the sport fish division in Juneau able to implement a management plan in 1 year?

Brian G F&G: If specific objectives identified, it is possible. There are financial issues there and those would be a consideration. A management plan is more for allocation and conservation or special management. Read list of sport fishing capabilities and duties.

Chris Condor: I think we are making more of a problem out of this than it really is. All we are saying is that we think this is an important aspect.

Brian G F&G: We need an objective. We need to see a certain objective in order to establish a management plan. We have baseline data on Montana ck. for silver and chum as well as other roadside streams. We have escapement goals for Peterson Ck. and Montana Ck.

Chris Condor: There are more species of fish in these streams other than salmon. A roadside sport fishing would encompass so much more.

Forest W: To Brian: Do you feel like you are protecting and enhancing sport fishing in the road system? Is there an umbrella goal to protect and enhance the road side fishery?

Brian G F&G: There are a variety of regulations that are utilized statewide. Escapement goals, stock assessments....

Bill B: Motion-Delete language from "Objective" thru on page 224? Delete language from 'Objective through Scope of Work (j)'

Motion passes (Yes: 9 No: 3 Abstain: 0) - Delete language from 'Objective through Scope of Work (j)'

Proposal# 247 as amended passes (Yes: 10 No: 1 Abstain: 1)

256- Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. Prohibit snagging at the mouth of Auke Creek.

(Chris Miller exits, previous engagement)

Brian G F&G: South of Auke Bay boat harbor- snagging is generally allowed throughout the state in saltwater- the situation at Auke Creek is an old one- it was a popular sport fishery quite some time ago- around 1970 the sockeye run took a hit and declined substantially and never quite recovered. After that occurred, the harvest opportunity was taken away- in recent years (over the past 20) we started to prohibit fishing in the area. More recently, 7-8 years ago, we thought to include language to prohibit snagging in a small area by emergency order. We would like to see that it is put in the books so we don't have to act on it every year.

Proposal 256 Passes (Yes: 11 No: 0)

Sea Otters

Henry W: Summer Southern Southeast Dungeness Crab fishing is closed. Announced this morning.

Mike P: March 20-21 the Southeast RAC will meet concurrently with Federal Subsistence board- and this meeting might address government issues.

Forest: Did the de-listing of sea otters come up in the meeting?

Mike P: No. It did not. A particular proposal wanted to open up sea cucumbers to open up the fishery before the sea otters go to the fishery. The chair indicated that they just really didn't know the data that is out there with sea cucumbers.

Jenny: The BOF does not have the authority to place a higher value on sea otters over sea cucumbers. There was talk about the possibilities of increasing harvest levels for subsistence in which the hides could be: 1. Sent to taxidermy 2. Be tanned/preserved in the way Alaska natives have done it traditionally.

Mike: It seems like we should just follow this issue and see where it goes.

Next Meeting

Mike: BoF Comment deadline is March 5th. BoG is calling for proposals May 1st. If you want to develop proposals as a committee we could meet in April to submit before May 1st.

Brian G F&G: Sport fishing opportunities are on the road system. I don't think you can find better diversity in SE- we are lucky to have a road system that connects all of these rivers and streams. (Shows poster)

Meeting Adjourned - 5:00 pm

Minutes submitted to AC Chair & vice -Chair by Michael Kohan

Yakutat Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2011

I. Call to order

Casey Mapes called to order the meeting of the Yakutat Fish & Game Advisory Committee at 7:15 p.m. on December 7th, 2011 at the High School Library.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present:

Casey Mapes
Jeff Fraker Sr
Scott Chadwick
Larry Bemis
Herb Holcomb
Jeremiah Pavlik
Dave Stone
Bob Fraker
Jessie Pavlik

Absent:

Jonathan Pavlik
Reggie Kirkovich
Greg Dierick
Gary Gray
Wayne Gray

Quorum established (9).

Others in attendance:

Sheri Nelson
Gordy Woods
John Vale
Jason Stened
Nate Catterson
Trooper Abbott
Wayne Ivers
Susan Ohlers

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting
April 1st, 2011. Approved, unanimous.

IV. January 2012 Elections

Nominated Candidates:

1. Bob Fraker - cm/ds 1 year term - sportfishing, hunting - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
2. Jeff Fraker Sr. - ds/sc 3 year term- sportfishing, hunting, subsistence, trolling - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
3. Scott Chadwick - cm/hh 2 year term- sportfishing, trolling, hunting - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
4. Greg Dierick - sa/jf 1 year term- sportfishing/ lodge owner, hunting - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
5. Larry Bemis - bf/sc 2 year term- gillnetting, sportfishing, trolling, sub - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
6. Herb Holcomb - sc/ds 2 year term- longlining, trolling - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
7. Sheri Nelson - cm/ds 3 year term- gillnetting, subsistence - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
8. Jeremiah Pavlik - hh/sc 3 year term- gillnetting, hunting, subsistence - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
9. Casey Mapes - sc/jf 3 year term- trolling, gillnetting, hunting, subsistence - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
10. David Stone - jf/hh 1 year term- sportfishing - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
11. Reggie Kirkovich - ds/jf 2 year term- sportfishing/ lodge owner - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
12. Jessie Pavlik - hh/bf 1 year term- longlining, gillnetting - 9 ayes- 0 nyes
13. Jonathan Pavlik - ds/hh 3 year term- gillnetting, longlining, hunting - 9 ayes- 0 nyes

Alternates

14. Loren Clark - ds/jf 3 year term- gillnetting, trolling, subsistence - 9 ayes- 0 nyes

Officers:

- Casey Mapes, Chair - bf/sc - 8 ayes, 1 opposed
Scott Chadwick, Vice Chair - ds/cm - 9 ayes, 0 opposed
Sheri Nelson, Secretary - cm/ds -- 9 ayes- 0 nyes

V - Comments on proposals to the Board of Fisheries

- **Proposal 165 – Support** - Buoy marking in the Dungeness crab pot fishery. M/S to support - CM/ SC
Discussion- comments were made that having exact buoys markers was not realistic. Sun fading, bird pecking, and buoys that have been run over are examples of things that happen, that can make buoys look different. It was felt that buoys similar is important, but having them exact is unrealistic, and would put undo hardship on the fishermen. Question- 9 ayes 0- nyes
- **Proposal 167 - Support** -Reduce Dungeness pot limit in the Yakutat area. M/S to support- JP/ DS
Discussion- comments were made that this is the only realistic proposal that the Yakutat A.C. can put forth to attempt to aid our failed crab stocks. Hopefully, there will be more effort to help the stocks rebound. Q- 9 ayes 0- nyes
- **Proposal 199 – Support** Amend super-exclusive groundfish registration. M/S to support- HH/ SC
Discussion- comments were made that hopefully this will fix the loophole that allows one vessel to harvest the lion's share out of both the East Yakutat, and the Icy Bay Lingcod areas. Q- 9 ayes 0- nyes

- **Proposal 207 - Support** Increase the dogfish daily bag limit. M/S to support- DS/ SC
Discussion- it was asked what areas this will apply to? It was felt that the Yakutat area could definitely use some ideas to thin down the dogfish population. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 208 - Support** - Establish Pacific cod season. M/S to support HH/SC
Discussion- housekeeping by the Dept. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 209 - Support** - Establish Black rockfish season. M/S to support HH/SC
Discussion- housekeeping by the Dept. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 212 – Opposed** - Adjustment of GHL ranges for DSR in eastern gulf. M/S to oppose DS/HH
Discussion- comments were made that this is an allocate grab by one user from another. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 217 - Support** - Establish lingcod allocation between commercial users, and increase the GHL. M/S to support HH/BF
Discussion- we considered again adjusting the percentages, but it was decided to leave it as is. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 220 – Opposed** - reallocate Lingcod GHL. M/S to oppose DS/SC
Discussion- It was felt that this was an extreme allocation. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 222 - Oppose** - increase lingcod GHL M/S to oppose DS/SC
Discussion- 200,000 lbs. was excessive for GHL. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 223 – Support** - clarify dingbar fishery in lingcod fishery. M/S to support CM/DS
Discussion- house keeping by the Dept. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 246 - Support** - clarify use of 2 rods for king salmon M/S to support DS/JF
Discussion- house keeping by the Dept. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 251 - Support** - allow the use of 2 rods by non-guided anglers in salt water. M/S to support LB/ DS
Discussion- it was felt that this prop. won't change the baglimit, it will just give a resident angle a better chance of catching. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 267 - Support** no bait in post office lake in Yakutat
Discussion- house keeping by the Dept. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 268 No Action** - clarify where personal use finfish regs. apply. M/S to support DS/SC
Discussion - much confusion on this proposal, more info was needed. Q- 4 ayes 5 to take no

action, motion fails, no action.

- **Proposal 281 – Support** - allow 75 fathom gillnet in Yakutat bay for subsistence. M/S to support SC/HH
Discussion- proposal should make it easier for subsistence users to use existing commercial nets, and hopefully take some of the subsistence pressure off of the Situk River. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes.
- **Proposal 282 - Support** - Modify Situk/ Ahrnklin and lost river king salmon management plan M/S to support DS/SC
Discussion- House keeping by the dept., attempting to redesign how king salmon are retained when a nonsale is in effect. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 283 – Support** - Revise the Situk management plan M/S HH/CM
Discussion- concerns about harvesting situk river king salmon and effecting a potential gillnet closure later in the season are voiced. It is pointed out that the existing data of scale samples taken from sport caught king salmon in the saltwater charter fishery indicate a 3% situk king salmon percentage. This is a 1000 king salmon test fishery, so your looking at a probable 30 Situk king salmon harvest, which is tolerable. the data will be helpful to ADF & G. Q- 7 ayes 2 nyes (J. Pavlik, and J. Pavlik) felt it would hamper gillnetting
- **Proposal 300 - Support** - allow multiple gillnet permit holders to fish from the same vessel and divide harvests in Yakutat area.
Discussion- considered to be extremely important to get passed for the gillnet fishery. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 301 – Oppose** - relocate commercial setnet boundary on the Tsiu River. M/S to oppose DS/HH
Discussion- This is a purely allocative redistribution attempt. markers should left up to ADFG, thats what they are for. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 302 – Oppose** - Prohibit using power boats to drive fish on the Tsiu river. M/S to oppose DS/HH
Discussion- This is how commercial fishing is accomplished on rivers like Tsiu, without the ability to drive fish, the gillnetters would be severely limited. This prop. is allocative, and is not supported by other guide/sportfish users in the area. Q- 9 ayes, 0 nyes
- **Proposal 303 – Oppose** - Establish criteria to determine the first commercial opening on the Tsiu river. M/S to oppose SC/ JP
Discussion- should simply be left up to ADFG, thats what they are for. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 304 - Support** - Amend Ankau Inlet closed waters. M/S to support DS/ CM
Discussion- house keeping by ADFG. Q- 9 ayes 0 Nyes

- **Proposal 305 - Support** - Amend Akwe river closed waters. M/S to support. DS/SC
Discussion- House keeping by ADFG. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 306 – Support** - Change the day when allowable gear increases on the Alsek River from Monday to Sunday M/S to support SC/ BF
Discussion- House keeping by ADFG. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 309 – Support** - Allow four handtroll gurdies in the summer troll fishery. M/S to support LB/CM
Discussion- as stated, the allowable number of rods that can be fished is already established, it is not needed to take away the ability to carry spare rods. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 310 – Support** - Amend the winter king salmon troll fishery GHL by adding hatchery produced kings. M/S to support SC/BF
Discussion- Fish should be accounted for when they were caught, to the season they were caught in. Also, it behooves the troll fleet to harvest king salmon in the winter when they are worth twice as much. Tired of the troll fishery being unable to adapt as needed because of the preordained treaty agreements. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes
- **Proposal 311 - Support** - Change the beginning date for coho salmon retention in the spring king salmon fishery from June 15th to June 1st. M/S to support CM/ HH
Discussion- this proposal won't affect the Yakutat area, but may affect some of our local fishermen with permits that can fish in the spring hatchery areas. It makes good sense to utilize the cohos if they are market quality, giving the fishermen opportunity, and possibly lowering by catch mortality. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes.
- **Proposal 312 - Oppose** - Require a mandatory 10 day troll closure. M/S to oppose. HH/ CM
Discussion- This is an allocative proposal that takes away from the dept. the ability to manage. It is based on data that is in-accurate, and it will be detrimental to the troll fleet. Q- 7 ayes 2 nyes (J. Pavik, J. pavlik) felt it would hamper gillnetting
- **Proposal 313 – Support** - Extend troll coho fishery in S.E. to Sept. 30th, but closed earlier by emergency order when warranted. M/S to support SC/HH
Discussion- this proposal just gives the dept. another tool to manage with. The troll fleet has been below every year in their GHL, the extra days might help this. Weather is such in this area that generally the effort is minimal by then anyway. Q- 7 ayes, 2 nyes (J. Pavlik, J. Pavlik) felt it would hamper gillnetting
- **Proposal 321 – Support** - Amend waters closed to trolling near the Situk river. M/S to support DS/ HH
Discussion- this prop. will adjust the no trolling corridor according to the river's westward migration, without hampering existing fisheries. Q- 9 ayes 0 nyes

- **Proposal 322 – Opposed** - Amend waters closed to trolling near the Situk river. M/S to oppose HH/ BF
Discussion- the dept. proposal would put undue hardship on the troll fleet, and have potential other adverse ramifications. The Lat. and Longs. as listed are inaccurate. Q- 9 ayes
 0 nyes.

Official Yakutat Advisory comments on proposals to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

Proposal 206- Create a commercial Spiny Dogfish pot fishery in Ketchikan area.

The Yakutat Advisory Committee voted unanimously to support this proposal. We found it to be well written, and timely for calling to attention the issue of over abundance of Dogfish in S.E. Alaska. Yakutat has a very serious over population of Dogfish, and we would ask that you consider including the Yakutat area in this proposal, if not all of S.E. Alaska.

We understand the Department's position for not wanting to allow this fishery based on not having enough bio mass data, but find it to be less of a risk to fisheries resources than to do nothing at all. Our A.C. has been repeatedly told of, and our entire community has experienced on numerous occasions Dogfish over population related issues. Gillnets sunk and destroyed, longlines set out over and over again only to come back with thousands of Dogfish on every hook, charter boats unable to reach bottom all day long to catch Halibut because of too many Dogfish in the water column, trollers being stripped of all the hooks, wind rows of dogfish stranded and dying on the beaches because they are so numerous along the shoreline that they are unable to recede fast enough to avoid the tide, to name only a few. It is widely felt in this community that the Dogfish over population is the main cause of our failed crab stocks. We urge you to give serious consideration to this proposal.

Proposal 217- Allocation of GHL Lingcod in Icy Bay Sub-district

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of proposal 217 as written. The main intention of this proposal is to establish designated quota amongst the various users of the overall Lingcod quota in the Icy Bay subdistrict. Currently, 33% is allocated to sportfish efforts, and the rest is divided on a first come, first serve basis amongst the commercial users. Longliners in pursuit of Halibut are allowed by-catch retention of Lingcod when their season opens in mid March. Next is the directed dingle bar season which opens mid May. The effort in this fishery, which has increased substantially over the last few years typically caps the allocation, and shuts retention of any kind down to the commercial fisheries.

The issue is, longlining continues into the fall, commercial trolling opens July 1 through September 20, and there is no quota left to allow for by-catch retention in either fisheries. This leads to the potential for mortally hooked Lingcod to go un-utilized.

The Yakutat Advisory Committee felt establishing allocations to each individual user group was the answer to the problem. We considered at length what the allocations should be. Historically Longliners have harvested more lingcod as by-catch than trollers have, but it was thought that this was mostly attributable to longliners having by far the longest harvest season overall. It was decided that sport should remain the same, and the fairest way to divide what was left was an equal allocation of 10% of the overall quota be set aside for longline and troll to facilitate a Lingcod by-catch in each fishery, with the remaining quota being absorbed by the Directed fishery.

The second part of this proposal asks for the GHL of 100,000 lbs. to be increased to

120,000 lbs. We are aware that the Department will likely oppose this request based on a lack of stock assessment data. We felt differently for these reasons.

1) The Icy Bay subdistrict is a vast area, the largest geographically in S.E. Alaska, and it is quite remote in relation to where most of the various fisheries are taking place. The allocation it currently has, seems very conservative.

2) Based on catch data from the directed fishery, which has closed in as little as 7 days, and anecdotal reports from the commercial and sport fishermen who report high abundance of Lingcod to the point of making it hard to fish for other species in some areas, we felt that we could comfortably ask for an increase of 20,000 lbs. to the overall GHL.

3) Ultimately, we hope to call to light that stock assessments should be done for all fisheries in order for proper management to take place. Without a stock assessment, how can we even be sure that 100,000 lbs. is a sustainable number on a year by year basis? The common prevailing feeling amongst all fishermen in the Yakutat area is that we have a serious predator fish over abundance. Dogfish, Skates, and Lingcod are vastly under utilized in this area, and most feel this directly corresponds to the crash of our crab stocks in this area. Under article VIII of the Alaska Constitution; The Predator Control Program is a tool for the state to manage fish and wildlife populations for sustained yields. It is the state's constitutional duty to monitor, and control the largely unabated growth of predator fish in our waters.

Proposal 283- Change *Shall to May* in the Situk River management plan.

Since 2006, the Yakutat area has had 1000 king salmon allocated annually to a potential troll spring test fishery. The goal of this test fishery is to see what percentage of hatchery-bound fish can be harvested in Yakutat Bay at that time of year. Unfortunately, it has never been implemented because of the language used in the Situk River Management plan, which currently states that Department **shall** keep the fishery closed unless the projected run of Situk River king salmon is 1,050 fish or greater. By simply changing the word **shall** to **may**, it will give the Department the flexibility to **manage** as it sees fit.

This proposal was written and ratified by the Yakutat area Advisory Committee, with the help of the ADF & G. Regulations allow this test fishery to occur one day per week, during the months of May and June, with a maximum harvest of 1,000 fish.

The main concerns about this proposal voiced at our A.C. meetings were:

1) Would it impact the returns of king salmon to the nearby Situk River?

The only realistic data we have to work from is the existing data collected by the Department from the sport/charter industry that currently harvests king salmon during this time in the same general area this proposed fishery would take place. Genetic tissue samples taken in 2009 indicate ***less than 1 % Situk river king salmon in the harvest.***

So, even if this proposed fishery were to harvest the allotted 1,000 king salmon, which is doubtful, one wouldn't expect to see more than ***10 Situk River bound king salmon taken.*** The A.C. felt like this was an acceptable number.

2) The other concern voiced was whether or not there would be possible treaty implications?

The answer is no, the fishery has been approved of for quite some time, but never implemented. Yakutat fishermen worked with the trollers from all over the region to come up with a plan that would allow them to have a spring fishery. It was agreed that capping the number at 1,000 fish would provide important local access in May and June, while securing the overall goal not to take too many treaty fish in the spring. It is also possible that Alaska hatchery fish will be found in this area, which would be important information for ADFG and hatchery managers.

The Yakutat troll fleet is comprised of a small number of boats, with a high percentage of those being hand trollers, so the fishery will be easy to control. The 1,000 fish allocation is not likely to attract any boats from other parts of S.E. Alaska due to the travel distance involved. With short one day per week openings during a 2 month period, it is not likely that the allocation would be taken, but the added fishing time will help Yakutat trollers through a lean part of the year.

Proposal 300- Allow multiple gillnet permit holders to fish from the same vessel and to pool and divide the harvest on fish tickets in the Yakutat area.

This proposal was put forth by the Yakutat A.C., and is considered to be vital to the way gillnetting is conducted in the Yakutat area. Historically, we have always gillnetted out of small, 20 ft. open skiffs in this set gillnet fishery. In order to conserve fuel, to split the work load, and for general safety, ***it is common place for gillnetters to incorporate and fish multiple nets together from one vessel.*** It is not practical, or realistic to expect that salmon harvested from each individual net be kept separate within the confines of a tiny, open skiff, and sold accordingly, as the law currently now reads. ***This pooling has been practiced this way for decades, and was generally over looked until a recent court case called it to light. Now it is being strictly enforced, and the processor foremen are ordered to no longer allow split fish tickets, creating undue hardship on the gillnetters.***

It is unrealistic to keep the salmon from multiple nets separate in a skiff. My grave concern is, if this proposal doesn't pass, some fisherman may choose to go off on their own to harvest, rather than risk getting a ticket. The Yakutat gillnet fishery is the most dangerous set gillnet fishery in the state by far. ***We just lost 2 more young men this past summer. Anything that we can do to help make the fishery safer for our fishermen should be given serious consideration.***

The only information that the Department needs from fish tickets is to know what the general overall harvest of salmon is, rather than which net they came from. This proposed change would not increase the impact on the resource. All the current law does, is hamper the efforts of the fishermen.

Proposals 301, 302, & 303 - Tsiu River Coalition

The Yakutat Advisory Committee strongly opposes these proposals, or any variation of them. They are extremely allocative in nature, largely misguiding and unsubstantiated, and at times somewhat inflammatory in nature towards the Department and the commercial gillnet fishermen. All of the sportfish and guiding representatives we have on our board, and in the audience opposed these proposals. There are other sportfishing lodges in the Tsiu area, and we have never had any complaints from them. One lodge owner from the Tsiu stated that, "his clients didn't feel that sharing the resource was an issue, there was

plenty of fish for everybody." When asked if he felt that commercial operations were diminishing his clientele's experience, he said, " no, in fact, they actually enjoy watching how the process of commercial fishing worked." So, it would appear that the Tsiu River coalition is actually one person and some of his clients.

The facts are, for as small of a river that the Tsiu is, it has enjoyed phenomenal, and on occasion record returns of coho since records have been kept, and this due in no small part to the good stewardship of the resource by the Yakutat regional ADF& G, and the commercial and sport users.

Anyone one of these proposals has the potential to all but terminate the commercial gillnet fishery should they be adopted. The commercial gillnet fishery on the Tsiu River is a major contributor to the economy of the community of Yakutat, and we strongly urge you to oppose proposals 301, 302, & 303.

Proposal 310- Attach Alaska hatchery King Salmon caught in the winter to the winter quota

Thank you for the opportunity to address the board in support of proposal # 310. This proposal seeks to discount Alaska Hatchery King Salmon from the overall winter King Salmon quota that they were caught during. Alaska hatchery fish should not count against the treaty quota, and on average this amounts to around 4,000-5,000, but instead of not counting against the winter fishery, these fish are added on to the summer fishery.

First, this is just wrong. Fish should be accounted for when you caught them, period. Second, the argument that moving these fish back to the winter fishery will jeopardize the 10 day total per summer king salmon mortality / number of coho days is wrong. Wrong because those who use this argument are pointing in the wrong direction for a shortage of summer king quota. It wasn't the winter fishermen who slashed the summer quota. It wasn't the winter fishermen who wrongfully withheld the 50,000 king salmon total mortality implementation that Alaska was supposed to receive according to language in the treaty it's self, but was reneged upon. The troll fleet needs the ability to make adjustments to meet market trends, and seasonal fluctuations the way other fisheries have recently. All we want is for fish to be accounted for when they were actually caught.

The price for troll caught King salmon is usually double in the winter what it is in the summer, it makes good fiscal sense to the troll fleet as a whole to credit Alaska Hatchery fish harvested in the winter to the winter fishery. In the overall scope of the summer quota, 5,000 fish is a pretty small amount. In most cases it won't even add an extra day to the summer season. In the winter season however, it could make a big difference. 5,000 fish could mean an extra week of fishing time.

Lastly, it is simply wrong to look at it like there are 2 distinctly different groups of fishermen here, we are all trollers. All of our permits are good in both the summer, and the winter fisheries. Decisions should be made based on what is best for the fleet as a whole, not best for those who only want to fish in the summer time.

Proposal 321- Troll Boundary near Ocean Cape.

Over 30 years ago the Yakutat area A.C. submitted a proposal to the board, which was adopted, to implement a no-trolling corridor around the mouth of the Situk River during the fall coho fishery. This was designed to allow for passage of cohos into the mouth of the

Situk to provide for gillnet harvest, and escapement. The beach between the Situk River and Ocean Cape is an area frequently fished by the troll fleet, and pressure can become high in some years. The corridor had the intended affect of allowing adequate catches by all user groups, and meeting escapement goals.

The Situk River mouth has migrated westward substantially, so now it is time to adjust the troll closure boundaries to accommodate this movement. On paper the new boundary should move somewhere between what is proposed to be the new Northwestern marker in proposal 321, and Ocean Cape, in order to accommodate the migration of the river, but we are not living on paper.

The Department's proposal, 322, would move the Northwestern boundry up to Ocean Cape because of the geographical ease of determining who's over the line. Based on that same theory the A.C. chose the Northwestern boundries presented in proposal 321, because it is the site of an old Coast Guard Loran Station. There is an obvious clearing in the timber on the beach fringe which is highly visible from off shore, so presents an excellent line-of-sight navigational aid to trollers. In addition, it was made abundantly clear that ***the small section of beach between the old Loran station sight and Ocean Cape was the most productive coho trolling area in the Yakutat vicinity, and would do great harm to the productivity of the troll fleet were it to be closed.*** The department's proposal 322 also would move the eastern boundary, which is currently set at the mouth of the Dangerous River for the same reasoning that it is easy to identify, west approximately half the distance between the Dangerous and Situk rivers. ***The A.C. felt that leaving this boundry in place as it is currently, and splitting the distance on the Western side would allow trollers to maintain their foothold on the ocean beach, while increasing the overall closed waters area by several miles and would accommodate the needs of the other user groups.***

Sincerely,

Casey Mapes- Chairman Yakutat Advisory Committee

VI- Move to adjourn SC/HH @ 10:20 Pm Q- all in favor - unanimous.

ACTIONS OF THE WRANGELL FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AT IT'S MEETING OF DECEMBER 29, 2011

Members Present: Tom Sims David Rak John Yeager
(9) Marlin Benedict Janice Churchill Chris Guggenbickler
Robert Rooney Alan Reeves Otto Florschutz

ADF&G Employees Present: Tom Kowalske - Wrangell
Troy Thynes – Petersburg video conference
Doug Fleming – Petersburg video conference
Kevin Clark – Petersburg video conference

USFS Employee Present: Robert Larson – Petersburg video conference

The meeting was called to order by Tom Sims, Committee Chair at about 7 PM. Introductions were made in the room and for the videoconference. To set the tone for the meeting, Tom stated that although many proposals may allocate resources among user groups, he expects all participants to be civil when making their points, and remember we are all neighbors.

Following are the results of the Wrangell Advisory Committee's actions on the proposals presented in the Alaska Board of Fisheries, 2011/2012 Proposal Book. Listed here are the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish proposals the Wrangell Committee chose to act upon during its meeting. Actions on other proposals in that Book will be considered at a meeting planned for January 5, 2012.

Robert Larson addressed the AC and requested proposal 249 submitted by the Southeast Alaska Subsistence RAC be considered first.

Proposal #249 PASSED AS AMENDED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Alan

Number in favor of proposal as amended: 9

Number opposed to proposal as amended: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Amendment to Proposal 249: The annual limit for nonresidents is one daily bag limit (of 6 fish) per salmon species; with no more than 10 salmon overall combined total, excluding King salmon. (King salmon were first included, but later excluded.)

Motion to amend by: Chris Second by: Janice

Number in favor of amendment: 9

Number opposed to amendment: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: Robert explained to the AC that the proposal was submitted with "XX" for the annual nonresident salmon limits, with the expectation that the ACs will recommend different numbers to the BOF. Two possession limits have been recommended by other ACs.

Doug shared with the AC it is typical to take other steps, such as reducing bag and/or possession limits, before setting an annual limit.

Discussion on Proposal: It could be ok to set an annual limit for Coho salmon, but not other salmon. Setting the annual limit on Kings has caused a shift to silvers, and the sport take of silvers is now very large.

SSRAA is trying to raise more Cohoes, because there is not enough Cohoes in the water. Other salmon such as pinks, dogs and sockeye are generally targeted for charter fishing. With the current limits on halibut take, placing limits on salmon take would result in an unmarketable charter fishing opportunity to non-residents.

There are too many sport caught salmon leaving the state: with an example of a yacht having to buy another freezer, prior to heading south, to hold their sport catch. SSRAA is working hard to put more salmon in the water and the commercial gear groups are fighting for those fish. It is OK to have a yearly bag limit for non-resident salmon take, and two bag limits is plenty of salmon for a non-resident. All AC members favor

limiting the number of salmon leaving AK by non-resident sport fishers. Limiting the number of sport charters has been attempted and failed due to other actions at the State.

Discussion on Amendment: Ten salmon is quite enough to a non-resident angler to take home. At the end of the day a charter business needs enough fishing opportunity to market. There were 20,250 salmon produced by SSRAA at Neck Lake that were paid for by commercial fishers that were caught by sport anglers. There is a need to limit the non-resident sport take of salmon. Remember the middle class house wife in the south 48 who cannot afford a sport charter, but wants to feed her family salmon needs to rely on commercially caught salmon. How will the annual non-resident limit on salmon be enforced? Expectation: would be recorded on back of non-resident license, same as other species.

Proposal #199 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Proposal #200 PASSED AS AMENDED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor of proposal as amended: 9

Number opposed to proposal as amended: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Amendment to Proposal 200: Strike the words "delivered and processed" from the proposal, so it reads in part: "...except that the head, tail, fins and viscera of commercial sablefish, lingcod and..."

Motion to amend by: Chris Second by: Otto

Number in favor of amendment 9

Number opposed to amendment: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Discussion on Proposal: The AC views the proposal as housekeeping by the Department, as it addresses the use of fish parts (head, tail, viscera) for bait.

Discussion on Amendment: If when fishing blackcod and, want to be able to use a cut off fish head for bait without having to return to town to deliver and process fish.

Proposals #141 to 144 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Otto

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 9

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: These proposals are the same as proposals considered for shellfish. Comments are the same.

Shellfish Comments: The Department already has the authority through EO to close waters as needed, and once the closure is made by regulation of the BOF it is more difficult to open/close as needed. Troy explained the Department has no reason to close these waters at this time.

Proposal #206 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Marlin

Number in favor: 8

Number opposed: 1

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: It is understood that spiny dog fish are a shark and their reproduction rate is very low compared to other fish. Spiny dog fish is a predator fish which needs to be managed in order to manage other fish.

Why not use other harvest methods, such as long line, gillnet or other gear type? Is the need for a new directed pot fishery the ability to have escape rings suited for small dog fish? Halibut may not be able to get into a dog fish pot, making the directed pot fishery a better management option. The AC would like to see something done to reduce the number of dog fish. The AC accepts a directed pot fishery (without other gear types) but questions that a pot fishery may not be an effective tool in catching dog fish. The management/control of dog fish could need open access from other gear groups.

Proposal #207 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Marlin Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 9

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: Spiny dog fish is a predator fish which needs to be managed in order to manage other fish. The AC would like to see something done to reduce the number of dog fish. The current annual sport fish limit of two spiny dog fish is too low.

Proposals #208 and 209 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Comments on 208: No P-cod fishers present.

Proposal #210 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Otto

Number in favor: 9

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The AC supports the correct release and preservation of demersal shelf rock fish. Doug explained that rock fish released at the surface have only a 20% survival, and that rock fish released at depth have a 90% survival.

Proposal #211 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Alan

Number in favor: 9

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The AC supports the correct release and preservation of non-pelagic rock fish. It was noted that release needs to be a depth of at least 40 ft.

Proposal #212 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 9

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The AC supports methods of release at depth with 90% rockfish survival, and recognizes that rock fish have a long life span and are susceptible to over fishing. The AC questions the need to increase the sport allocation of demersal shelf rock fish. As sport fishers can catch and successfully release rock fish, there should be no need to expand the fisheries allocation. If the sport allocation for rockfish is not increased; the possible decrease in fishing effort for rock fish, would likely decrease the effort and by-catch of halibut, which is a good thing.

Proposals #213 to 215 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Comments on 213: Could be a good concept, but AC favors keeping regulations simple. Replacing the bag limit with a point system could result in an unnecessarily complex system.

Proposal #216 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 9

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: Setting a bag limit for black cod was a major point at the 2009 BOF meeting. Need to keep the bag limit previously set for nonresidents. Doug relayed the log book data for 2009 was about 2000 fish and 2010 was about 3,000 fish. Most nonresident anglers did not reach their annual limit. No need to change.

Proposals #217 to 220 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Proposal #221 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 7

Number abstaining: 2

Comments: The proposal would move the lingcod allocation from one user group to another. Currently the fish are currently fully utilized. The AC favors the current allocation, and is not in favor of changing the allocation between user groups.

Proposals #222 and 223 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Comments on 222: Crabbers in the area are catching lingcod in their pots. There is a high abundance of lingcod in the area as experienced by crabbers.

Proposal #224 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Otto

Number in favor: 5

Number opposed: 4

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal was submitted by Wrangell AC member Tony Guggenbickler. It was stated that ADF&G is restricting lingcod sport fishers due to low ling cod numbers, and if this is true than ling cod should not be used for bait. It was explained that lingcod by-catch that is dead or badly flea bit should be able to be used and not wasted. Historically this has been allowed. Don't want to waste lingcod. Some AC members believe that lingcod numbers are not really low.

Proposal #225 Considered but NO ACTION taken.

Proposal #226 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Rob Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 9

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: It is reasonable to expect fishers to remove gear after fishery and clean up after themselves. Fishers would not want to catch spawn on kelp pound abandoned residue on their troll gear. Currently there is no clear deadline to completely remove all spawn on kelp gear from the water. This is needed. Spawn on kelp fishers are required to leave nets/gear in the water for a time after the fishery to allow for all herring eggs to hatch.

Proposals #227 through 245. Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

The meeting was recessed until 7 PM on January 5, 2012.

DAVID RAK
Secretary

ACTIONS OF THE WRANGELL FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AT IT'S MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2012

Members Present: Tom Sims Brennon Eagle David Rak
(12) Winston Davies Jason Rooney Brian Merritt
Robert Rooney Alan Reeves Otto Florschutz
Janice Churchill Chris Guggenbickler John Yeager

ADF&G Employees Present: Tom Kowalske - Wrangell
Troy Thynes – Petersburg video conference
Doug Fleming – Petersburg video conference (later half)
Kevin Clark – Petersburg video conference
Shannon Stone – Juneau teleconference

The meeting was called to order by Tom Sims, Committee Chair at about 7 PM. First order of business is 2012 elections. Fifteen people attending the meeting participate in the elections.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS for 2012.

The Chairperson opened the meeting for nominations to refill 5 expiring Committee positions. Alan made a motion, second by Janice, to nominate Tom Sims, Tony Guggenbickler, Brennon Eagle, Mike Bauer, and Otto Florschutz as candidates. Alan made a motion; second by Brennon nominate Jason Rooney. Alan made a motion; second by Brian to close nominations. The election was held by secret paper ballot with the following results:

Tom Sims: 13 votes
Brennon Eagle: 13 votes
Otto Florschutz: 13 votes
Tony Guggenbickler: 12 votes
Jason Rooney: 10 votes
Mike Bauer: 3 votes

The top 5 vote getters were seated on the Committee for a three year term.

OFFICERS ELECTED

A motion was made by Alan, second by Brian, to accept the previous officers: Tom Sims, Chair; Brennon Eagle, Vice-Chair; and David Rak, Secretary, for 2012. Vote by a show of hands

Number in favor: 12
Number opposed: 0
Number abstaining: 0

APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Tom Sims appointed Mike Bauer as an alternate member of the Wrangell AC for 2012.

New and reelected member forms were distributed. Discussion determined that although the Wrangell AC does not have designated seats for its members, it is a well rounded committee representing the many user groups in Wrangell.

Tom lead a discussion on the proposal by the Board of Game to change their meeting schedule and handle game proposals for Southeast Alaska on January 11 through 15, 2014. The Wrangell AC has no issue with the change of dates.

Following are the results of the Wrangell Advisory Committee's actions on the proposals presented in the Alaska Board of Fisheries, 2011/2012 Proposal Book. Listed here are the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish proposals the Wrangell Committee chose to act upon during its meeting. Actions on other proposals in that Book will be considered at future meetings.

Tom stated the AC would delay consideration of Sport Fin Fish proposals until Doug Fleming arrived at the meeting.

Proposal s#282 and 283 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Proposal #284 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 5

Number opposed: 1

Number abstaining: 6

Comments: In concept the Wrangell AC supports the ATA getting fair access to fish stocks they helped to rebuild, and should have a chance to catch. We normally prefer to defer to the local Juneau AC who have better local knowledge, and not make a decision for others when we don't have complete information. If a proposal is in someone else's backyard we don't deal with it. In this case we don't have enough knowledge of the lines described in the proposal. Troy provided data on past harvest in the Taku area to the Wrangell AC which indicated there are very few trollers participating in that fishery

Proposal #285 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Rob Second by: Otto

Number in favor: 1

Number opposed: 10

Number abstaining: 1

Comments: Requiring vessels greater than 58 ft to have a second permit would reduce the number of boats in the fishery. This proposal may be premature until the buyback of permits is complete and its effect on the fishery, if the intent is to decrease effort in the fishery. There are already some very wide seiners less than 58 ft with capacity greater than some boats greater than 58 ft. There may be less boats on the fishing grounds, but those boats would be more efficient. As long as all boats, whatever their length, have the same amount of gear on board having a longer boat should not require another permit. If a seiner is required to have 2 permits for their boat, they should be able to have one and one half limits of gear on board. This proposal could open the door to stacking permits in other fisheries, and that would change the nature of the way fishing is conducted in AK.

Proposals #286 and 287 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Comments: Proposal 285 requires a change in State statute, while proposal 286 requires a change in regulation, only.

Proposal #288 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Rob Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: It would be OK for the larger seine boats to carry 2 nets, if they have the room, but they should not be allowed to fish 2 nets. It is often nice to have easy access to 2 nets aboard for faster switching between different fisheries; a shallow net for THA and a larger net for the common property fisheries. The AC supports the proposal with the requirement that the second net not be allowed to be stored in the water, and the second net could not be used a lead.

Proposal #289 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Motion to adopt by: Rob WITHDRAWN Second by: Brian WITHDRAWN

Comments: There is a typo in the proposal. The proposal has been withdrawn by USAG who submitted it.

1.) Motion by Chris; Second by Brian PASSED

The Wrangell AC asks the BOF to take no action on USAG proposals 289, 296, 297, 298, 323, 324 and 333; and to take no action on SEAS proposals 290, 291, 295, 332, and 336.

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The Wrangell AC supports other proposals by USAG and SEAS. The Wrangell AC supports the RPT joint use agreement.

2.) Motion by Chris; Second by Alan PASSED

The Wrangell AC supports the 12/8/11 joint *RPT Industry Consensus, 2011/2012 BOF Cycle*, to the BOF.

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The Industry Consensus supports proposals 315, 344, 340, 311, 338 and 343 modifications.

Discussion included weather proposal 311 is region wide or just for Neck Lake?

Proposal # 291 SUPPORTS (see motion #1 above)

*Note: Doug Fleming joins the meeting via teleconference.

Proposal #292 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Otto Second by: Chris

Number in favor: 2

Number opposed: 6

Number abstaining: 4

Comments: This proposal was submitted by Wrangell AC member Otto Florschutz who addressed the AC in support of the proposal. The gillnet fisheries should begin on Monday, not Sunday which is the Sabbath for Christians, not "fishtians". Otto has submitted a similar proposal in the past, but it was not passed by the BOF. The current proposal would open the gillnet fishery at 8 AM, change from 12 noon, so that fish would get to market earlier. Other AC members' discussion included that if the fishery were open for 5 days starting on Monday, fisheries would need to get food, fuel and ice on Sunday. ADF&G employees would need to work on weekends to process data and open fishery on Monday. Currently ADF&G puts out the announcement for the following week on Thursday afternoon. The proposal would result in ADF&G posting their announcement on Friday afternoon. Receiving the announcement on Friday afternoon would not allow fishers the time for feed back to ADF&G, which could result in ADF&G changing the opening based on the input they receive from the fishers. The impact of the proposals on the fish processors is unknown.

BEGIN SPORT FISH PROPOSALS

Proposals #246 and 247 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Proposal #248 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Brennon Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 12

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: Alaska has a long standing good reason to have person limits, not boat limits. This proposal is an attempt to liberalize the bag limits, which the resource cannot tolerate.

Proposal #249 PASSED AS AMENDED

See Wrangell AC meeting notes page 1 for 12/29/2011.

Proposal #250 FAILED

Motion to adopt by: Brennon Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 0

Number opposed: 12

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: With few exceptions for Sitka and Yakutat, there is no sport fishing for king salmon in the fresh waters of SEAK. There is a federal subsistence fishery for King Salmon on the main channel of the Stikine River. Allowing a fresh water sport fishery for king salmon would be a new fishery under the US/Canada Treaty. The question was asked: As the areas were closed in 1963 for conservation and to allow stocks to rebuild, and some systems are rebuilt; why not remove the closure on the rebuilt systems. General feeling is that because stock are limited, once kings get into fresh water they should be left alone to spawn new kings.

Proposal #251 Considered but NO ACTION was taken.

Proposal #252 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: The AC has no problem with disabled fishers using power assisted gear keeping their hand in the sport. The proposal provides an opportunity for fishing to be a more equal opportunity, and charters to work with disabled angler's organizations. A member of the AC is against the use of any power downriggers in sport fishery because the fisher misses the feel of the first nip of the fish biting and fighting the fish. How would the regulation be enforced?

Proposal #253 PASSED FAVOR CONCEPT NOT SPECIFICALLY THE EXACT PROPOSAL.

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Marlin

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: Provided there is a troll opening in the area, there appears to be nothing specific to prohibit both guided fish and hand troll in the same day. Sport fish clients would need to have a deck hand license to participate in hand troll fishery. As sure as smoke equals fire, is there a problem that has resulted in this proposal? Is there sport fishing in a closed commercial area by persons who are then selling the fish? Is action needed to further prevent the sale of sport caught fish? It is noted the proposal includes a stand down period of 5 days between sport and commercial fishing. Currently do not need to remove a fin from a sport caught salmon to mark it as not saleable. Doug reported to the AC that one and one half percent of boats are dual registered for sport charter and commercial troll fisheries. The Wrangell AC favors a regulation system to distinguish between the sport and commercial systems, by they are not in favor of the 5-day stand down. There is a need for some way to mark fish as to how they are caught (sport or commercial); marking the boat is not effective. Sport caught fish need to be marked so they are not saleable. THE WRANGELL AC FAVORS THE CONCEPT BUT NOT THE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL.

Proposal #254 PASSED

Motion to adopt by: Chris Second by: Brian

Number in favor: 12

Number opposed: 0

Number abstaining: 0

Comments: This proposal was submitted by the Wrangell AC who favors the use of bait by anglers less than 10 years of age or older & disabled anglers, in high use and small (less than 12 inch) cutthroat trout lakes. We recognize that the proposal could cause a problem if carried out on a wide scale. The Federal regulations that allow the use of bait have diffused some of the drive for a change in State regulations. It is assumed that the mortality of bait caught fish is an issue with ADF&G. The issue is best if handled with the local identification of the bait allowed lake. Whose responsibility is it to identify the local bait allowed lake? Doug explained the designated bait allowed trout fishing lake needs to not be connected to salt water and anadromous fish. Highbush Lake may be such a lake in the Wrangell area. Would the bait allowed trout fishing fish out the small lake as there is no recharge/restocking of the lake from salt water; and that is no hatchery program for restocking lakes in SEAK? If the proposal was adopted and Pats Lake was hit hard and in danger of being fished out, ADF&G could close the lake to bait (or all fishing) by EO. Is there a lake that is better off today as a result of the current cutthroat trout conservation regulations?

The meeting was recessed until 7 PM on January 10, 2012.

DAVID RAK
Secretary

Wrangell Advisory Committee

January 10, 2012

Members Present: Janice Churchill, Jason Rooney, Winston Davies, Brian Merritt, John Yeager, Alan Reeves, Marlin Benedict, Tom Sims, Chair, Brennon Eagle, Vice-Chair

Others Present: Clay Bezenek, Ketchikan AC, Dennis Reed, Tom Kowalske, ADF&G Wrangell, Kevin Clark, ADF&G Petersburg, Doug Fleming, ADF&G Petersburg, Russ Landers, AWT

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

The following are the actions taken by the Wrangell Advisory Committee.

Proposals 255-259 NO ACTION.

Proposal 260 Motion to adopt Brennon/ Second by Brian FAILED 0-9. Opening this area would increase the catch of wild fish by sport users and they are currently over their allocation of wild fish. These fish are paid for by Commercial fishermen.

Proposal 261 Brennon/Alan FAILED 0-9. If more wild fish are harvested in this area then less wild fish will be available for harvest by sport fishermen in other areas or they will go over their allocated amount of King Salmon. The wild harvest of King Salmon is fully allocated and exploited in Southeast.

Proposals 262-273 NO ACTION.

Proposal 274 Brennon/Brian FAILED 0-9. Allowing this change in personal use gear that is allowed would cause many enforcement problems with identifying who is fishing what type of gear and could lead to abuse. We feel that personal use fishermen already have ample opportunity to harvest and meet their needs.

Proposals 275-281 NO ACTION.

Proposal 293 Brennon/Brian PASSED 9-0. This mesh restriction is used in some areas of Southeast by the department and it works well. We would like this clarified that it can be used in all areas when appropriate.

Proposal 294 Brennon/Brian FAILED 0-9. A system is already in place that requires steelhead to be reported on the commercial fish ticket. There is no need to require a new system of reporting when the current one works.

Proposal 299 Brennon/Brian FAILED 0-9. This would severely restrict the amount of area that is currently open in District 11. The department does a good job of currently managing this area and takes appropriate action when necessary for conservation. The Taku river returns are currently meeting goals and this action is not necessary.

Proposal 300-306 NO ACTION.

Proposal 307 Brennon/Marlin FAILED 0-9. This would be a modification of gear that would be more effective and would be allocative between the power and hand troll fleet. There would be an enforcement issue with not being able to tell the difference on the grounds in the spring and summer between sport and commercial fishermen.

Proposal 308 Brian/Brennon FAILED 0-9. The power troll fleet is effective enough on inside waters with 4 lines. This could lead to gear conflict in congested trolling areas.

Proposal 309 Brennon/Brian FAILED 0-9. This would upset the balance which now exists in the troll fishery. This issue was settled at previous Board of Fish meeting and does not need to be addressed again.

Proposal 310 Brennon/Brian PASSED 9-0. The original cap on this fishery was for total Kings harvested, however more Alaska hatchery fish are now harvested in the winter fishery than in the past. This closes the fishery earlier. This change would allow the winter season to be longer and the fish are more valuable in the winter fishery. This change would only be allocative between the winter and summer troll seasons, not between gear groups.

AC Member Chris Guggenbickler joined the meeting at this time.

Proposal 312 Brian/Brennon FAILED 3-6-1. Currently the department closes trolling for two reasons, conservation and allocation amongst user groups. Some members felt this would ensure that more fish would move to the inside waters for harvest but it was pointed out that the inside user groups, specifically gillnetters are getting their allocated amount of cohos. The gillnetters wanted to make sure that they weren't bearing the entire burden of conservation in years of weak returns, they felt in the past this has happened when there has not been a full 10 day closure but then they have had conservation restrictions placed on their fishery.

Proposal 313 Brennon/Brian FAILED 0-10. The current system of allowing an additional 10 days in times of high coho abundance works well and there is no need to change.

Proposal 314 Chris/Brennon FAILED 0-10. The current system works well and we see no need to change.

Proposal 316 Brennon/Chris PASSED 10-0. This is viewed as a housekeeping proposal and is consistent with what the department is currently doing.

Proposal 317 Brian/Chris FAILED 4-6. The committee is supporting Proposal 315 which is viewed as a better solution.

Proposal 318 NO ACTION

Proposal 319 Chris/Brian As Amended PASSED 8-2. Amendment Chris/Brennon to allow this fishery only when the trollers are below their five year rolling average range. Amendment passed 7-3. The Wrangell advisory committee has a long history of supporting this fishery and feel that this is an appropriate tool to used to access these fish by the troll fleet.

Minutes Submitted by Brennon Eagle.

Wrangell Advisory Committee

January 12, 2012

Members Present: Janice Churchill, Jason Rooney, John Yeager, Otto Florschutz, Winston Davies, Alan Reeves, Brian Merritt, Tom Sims, Chair, Brennon Eagle, Vice-chair.

Others Present: Tom Kowalske, ADF&G Wrangell, Dennis Reed.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

The following are the actions taken by the Wrangell Advisory Committee.

Proposal 320 Motion to Adopt Alan/ Second by Brian PASSED 9-0. This area would be good to open to the commercial trollers to allow them to access these Kings in areas that are not currently open to them.

Proposal 325 Otto/Brian PASSED AS AMENDED 9-0. Amendment by Otto/Winston to support the Joint RPT consensus on this proposal to remove District 9, District 114-50 and to sunset this proposal in 3 years. Amendment passed 9-0. Concerns were raised over the impact that this new fishery would have on the wild stocks but the consensus was to allow it for 3 years and then re-evaluate this fishery.

Chris Guggenbickler joined the meeting.

Proposal 326 Otto/Brian PASSED 6-4. This was a very divisive proposal for this committee. Those in the minority felt that Proposal 325 would go a long way to allowing access to these fish and that there would be wild stock concerns over harvesting chums in this area which is close to a very active net fishery. The majority felt that we should do as much as possible to help the troll fleet as they are under their allocated range by a large amount.

Proposal 327-328 NO ACTION.

Proposal 329 Chris/Brennon PASSED 10-0. It is important to establish this cost recovery area so that the returning fish can be harvested by the hatchery or other user groups.

Proposal 330 NO ACTION

Proposal 331 Chris/Brennon PASSED 9-1. Adoption of this proposal would allow SSRAA to vary which gear group starts first when there is a rotational fisher in Neets Bay. This is another good tool to use when trying to fix allocation imbalances.

Proposal 339 Chris/Brennon PASSED 10-0. This proposal is viewed as housekeeping since the department currently does this each year.

Proposal 340 Chris/Brennon PASSED 10-0. This is our proposal to change the open area in the Anita Bay THA. We fully support this as it is in keeping with the intent of the original closures to protect the Dungeness Crab grounds while allowing the timely harvest of the King salmon in the bay. After we have seen where crabbers fish and where the Kings gather this solution should work for both users. This will maximize the value of the King salmon by harvesting them in a timely manner while it minimizes the conflict with the Dungeness crab fleet.

Proposal 341 Chris/Brian PASSED AS AMENDED 10-0. Amendment Chris/Otto to allow gillnet access when they are below their five year allocation range. Amendment passed 8-2. We feel that it would be good to ensure gillnet access to this fishery so that it can be used as a tool to rebalance catches should the need arise.

Proposal 342 Chris/Brian FAILED 0-10. NSRAA has been very successful in getting a high price for these fish and there may be less overall value in these fish if they are harvested as proposed. Concern was expressed over how this would affect the enhanced allocation of fish. The committee was supportive of this as a concept but needs to see a detailed plan before they can support it.

Proposal 374 Brennon/Brian PASSED 10-0. This AC has been supportive of this in Southeast and feels it should be put into Statewide Regulation. If the guide is providing their personal or sport caught fish to clients then they are selling it and this is a commercial venture and needs to be illegal.

Proposal 375 Otto/Alan PASSED 10-0. We are supportive of this but want to make sure that regulations are not changed in regard to the current view of a commercial Dungeness pot that is webbed using stainless wire and using the cotton on the door hook for the escape mechanism.

Submitted by Brennon Eagle

PETERSBURG FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 01/21/2010

Call to order By Chairman Mike Bangs at 6:30pm.

Mike Bangs addresses the sitting committee and public announcing his resignation from the Advisory Committee, turns the meeting over to Arnold Enge and leaves.

In attendance:

ADF&G Staff:

Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator
Troy Thynes – Fisheries Biologist III – Comm Fish
Doug Flemming – Fisheries Biologist III – Sport Fish

Public:

Julianne Curry – PVOA Executive Director
Judith Behary – Salmon Fisherman
Charles E. Wood – Troll/Halibut/Sportfish
Joel Randrup – Gillnet/Herring Pound
Donald H. – SE RAC
Mark Roberts – ATA

Advisory Committee Members:

Jeremy Jensen – Teleconference
Andy Knight
Wes Malcom
Lance Watkins
Arnold Enge
Kurt Marsh
Frank Neidefer
Skip Behary

First item of business – Elections.

Nominations:

1. Dive seat – 1 year term
Nominee - Lance Watkins – 11 votes
2. Gillnetter – 2 year term
Nominee – Arnold Enge – 11 votes
3. Gillnetter – 3 year term
Nominees – Ralph – 3 votes
Bob Martin – 3 votes
Max Warhatch – 5 votes
4. Hunting/Trapping – 2 year term
Nominee – David Bentz – 11 votes
5. Archery – 1 year term
Nominee – Kirt Marsh – 11 votes
6. Sport/Charter – 3 year term

- Nominee – Stan Malcom – 11 votes
7. Sport/PU – 2 year term
Nominee – Wes Malom – 11 votes
8. Crab – 3 year term
Nominees – Ralph – 0 votes
Yancy Nielsen – 3 votes
Bob Martin – 6 votes
Ryan Littelton – 2 votes
9. Longline – 2 year term
Nominees – **Yancey Nielsen – 10 votes**
Ryan Littelton – 1 vote
10. Seine – 2 year term
Nominee – Alec Pfundt – 11 votes
11. Seine – 3 year term
Nominee – Jeremy Jensen – 11 votes
12. Power Troll – 1 year term
Nominee – Frank Neidifer – 11 votes
13. Power Troll – 3 year term
Nominee – Skip Behary – 11 votes
14. Hand Troll – 2 year term
Nominee – Andrew Knight – 11 votes
15. Conservation/Crab – 1 year term
Nominee – Ryan Littelton – 11 votes

Election of officers – Arnonld Enge – Chairman – unanimous
Lance Watkins – Vice Chair – unanimous
Jeremy Jensen – Secretary – unanimous

Review of AC process, expectations and responsibilities by Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator.

Quorum established, 7 AC members of 15 physically present – 1 present via teleconference – 8 members.

Begin review and discussion of Board of Fisheries Southeast Finfish Proposals. Discussion includes members of the public present, ADF&G biologists and AC members. Comments and notes of discussion attached.

Next meeting scheduled and noticed for January 22, 2012, 6:30pm to continue discussion of finfish proposals.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

**Petersburg Fish & Game Advisory Committee Comments for
BOARD OF FISHERIES SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT FINFISH MEETING
February 24- March 4, 2012**

DESIGNATED REPORTER: Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator

PROPOSAL 199

ACTION: No Action

DESCRIPTION: Amend groundfish area registration to specify registration by vessel.

DISCUSSION: Out of Area

PROPOSAL 200

ACTION: Support - unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Clarify use of post-processed and reported commercial fish as bait.

DISCUSSION: Members of the public commented to the Committee - PVOA Supported Proposal. Fix in regulation.

PROPOSAL 141

ACTION: Opposed - unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Cache Island by all users. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

DISCUSSION: Not sure if we want to deal with this as it is out of our area. Shellfish portions of these failed at the BOF meeting. Members of the public: ATA – (Alaska Troll Association) is against this. PVOA – opposed to this as there is not a biological concern.

PROPOSAL 142

ACTION: Opposed - unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish in a portion of Behm Canal. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

DISCUSSION: Consensus was to oppose due to concern regarding “postage stamp” closures. What that could eventually lead to. Not a biological concern. Public comment was: ATA – opposed, PVOA - Opposed

PROPOSAL 143

ACTION: Opposed - unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Naha Bay. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

DISCUSSION: See comments from Proposal 142

PROPOSAL 144

ACTION: Opposed - unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Cedar Island. (*This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Crab, Shrimp, Miscellaneous Shellfish meeting.*)

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION: See comments from Proposal 142

PROPOSAL 206

ACTION: Support as Amended - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Create a commercial spiny dogfish pot fishery in the Ketchikan area.

AMENDMENT: Expand area to include all of Southeast/Yakutat Area and add 3 year sunset clause.

DISCUSSION: Consensus was, there are a lot of these. Perhaps an experimental fishery to collect data and see what the numbers are. Comment was made that processors want these. Much support from the public on this including support from PVOA and ATA.

- PROPOSAL 207** **ACTION: Support - unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the dogfish daily bag limit.
DISCUSSION: Consensus was to support – Public panel was to support by both PVOA and ATA. Clarification provided that this is specifically directed at Spiny Dogfish. Questions was posed – is Spiny Dogfish broken out from Sharks in the charter log books and Statewide harvest survey. Staff clarified – with a daily bag limit of 5 dogfish with no annual limit, they are considered separate.
- PROPOSAL 208** **ACTION: Support - Unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Establish commercial fishing seasons for Pacific cod for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area.
DISCUSSION: Makes Sense
- PROPOSAL 209** **ACTION: Support - Unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Establish commercial fishing seasons for black rockfish for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION: Make sense
- PROPOSAL 210** **ACTION: 5 Support- 3 Opposed**
DESCRIPTION: Require release of demersal shelf rockfish at depth.
DISCUSSION: Question posed regarding enforceability. Staff communicated there has been a 95% survival rate (tagged fish) with this practice. Skepticism was communicated as to how practice would be enacted. Further communicated that if this moves into the commercial arena, it will become a nightmare. Hydrating issue communicated.
- PROPOSAL 211** **ACTION: No Action based on 210**
DESCRIPTION: Require release of rockfish at 40 feet or greater.
DISCUSSION: based on 210
- PROPOSAL 212** **ACTION: Opposed-unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the sport allocation of demersal shelf rockfish to 25 percent.
DISCUSSION:
- PROPOSAL 213** **ACTION: Opposed-unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a point system for retention of rockfish.
DISCUSSION: Seems like an enforcement nightmare
- PROPOSAL 214** **ACTION: Support-unanimous**
DESCRIPTION: Standardize sablefish retention and reporting requirements in regulation.
DISCUSSION: Question asked if this is currently in Regulation for Clarence? Intent to align regulations? Effect Clarence Strait Pot fish fishery as well?
- PROPOSAL 215** **ACTION: 7 –support- 1 oppose**
DESCRIPTION: Amend the sablefish fishing season to allow permit holders to participate in stock assessment surveys.
DISCUSSION: Comment from public support as it would streamline process.
- PROPOSAL 216** **ACTION: Tabled**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION: Wait till author can address proposal.
- PROPOSAL 217** **ACTION: 5 Support 3 oppose**
DESCRIPTION: Amend lingcod allocation between commercial fisheries.

DISCUSSION: Question as to coverage area. User groups effected? Will there be re-allocation? 66.6% Comm. 33.3% Sport is current allocation with 10% to dinglebar fishery. 100 to 120 thousand increase? Current GHR is 100 lbs.-would increase to 120000 lbs. Is there enough resource to do this increase? 2 fold issues to reallocate between commercial user groups.

PROPOSAL 218

ACTION: Tabled

DESCRIPTION: Allow for retention of lingcod in other commercial fisheries.

DISCUSSION: Is this just confined to Sitka Sound Area? There is a LAMP in Sitka found area. What would this accomplish? Is Sitka Sound area special because it is a LAMP? Explained by staff-can retain lingcod as bycatch.

To begin discussion of proposal at 1/22/12 Meeting

<p style="text-align: center;">PETERSBURG FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 01/22/2012</p>
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Call to order By Chairman Arnold Enge at 6:30pm.

In attendance:

ADF&G Staff:

Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator
Troy Thynes – Fisheries Biologist III – Comm Fish
Doug Flemming – Fisheries Biologist III – Sport Fish
Kevin Clark - Fisheries Biologist II – Comm. Fish

Public:

Julianne Curry – PVOA Executive Director
Judith Behary – Salmon Fisherman
Charles E. Wood – Troll/Halibut/Sportfish
Joel Randrup – Gillnet/Herring Pound
Donald H. – SE RAC
Mark Roberts – ATA

Advisory Committee Members:

Jeremy Jensen – Teleconference
Max Worhatch - Teleconference
Andy Knight
Wes Malcom
Lance Watkins
Arnold Enge
Kirt Marsh
Frank Neidefer
Skip Behary
Stan Malcom

Quorum established, 8 AC members of 15 physically present – 2 present via teleconference – 10 members.

Begin continued review and discussion of Board of Fisheries Southeast Finfish Proposals. Discussion includes members of the public present, ADF&G biologists and AC members. Comments and notes of discussion attached.

Next meeting scheduled and noticed for January 28, 2012, 9:00am to whenever - continue discussion of finfish proposals.

PROPOSAL 216 **ACTION: 3 Support – 6 Oppose**

DESCRIPTION: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.

DISCUSSION: Communicated that it did not make sense to remove limit here when every other user group is decreasing. Suggested that perhaps a better idea would be to educate users (non-guided) sport as to what they are catching instead of just getting rid of the limit. Author spoke to proposal's intent. Was communicated that the current impact of total catch from Sport Fish is only 3 ½ %.

PROPOSAL 217 **ACTION: 5 Support - 3 oppose**

DESCRIPTION: Amend lingcod allocation between commercial fisheries.

DISCUSSION: Question as to coverage area. User groups effected? Will there be re-allocation? 66.6% Comm. 33.3% Sport is current allocation with 10% to dinglebar fishery. 100 to 120 thousand increase? Current GHR is 100 lbs.-would increase to 120000 lbs. Is there enough resource to do this increase? 2 fold issues to reallocate between commercial user groups.

PROPOSAL 218 **ACTION: 4 Support – 6 Oppose**

DESCRIPTION: Allow for retention of lingcod in other commercial fisheries.

DISCUSSION: Is this just confined to Sitka Sound Area? There is a LAMP in Sitka found area. What would this accomplish? Is Sitka Sound area special because it is a LAMP? Explained by staff-can retain lingcod as bycatch. How does Sitka feel about this? Feel it would be more appropriate if the Sitka AC were authoring this instead?

PROPOSAL 219 **ACTION: Support - Unanimous**

DESCRIPTION: Increase the allocation for commercially caught lingcod in North Southeast Outside Section.

DISCUSSION: Referenced support of proposal 217. Felt that this seemed fair as the other commercial fisheries begin before the Trollers and this just tacks a little more on for the troll fleet.

PROPOSAL 220 **ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous**

DESCRIPTION: Reallocate a portion of the Eastern Yakutat Section lingcod GHG.

DISCUSSION: Question was asked if there is a current stock assessment and if this passed, it seems there would be a potential for harvest increase. Further communicated if GHG was re-allocated, would take away from current users. Comment was made that currently the longliners do not fill their quota.

PROPOSAL 221 **ACTION: 1 Support – 9 Opposed**

DESCRIPTION: Increase sport allocation of lingcod in Central Southeast Outside and Southern Southeast Outside sections.

DISCUSSION: Was communicated by supporter that the current allocation has not been taken in the last few years while the sport allocation is rather restrictive. Why not let the user group who wants it, have it? Opposition was of the consensus that it did not make sense to re-allocate a stock that is currently down. If the one user group is not taking their full quota, it just gives the stock that much more of a chance to rebound.

PROPOSAL 222 **ACTION: Oppose - Unanimous**

DESCRIPTION: Increase the lingcod GHL in EYKT Section.

DISCUSSION: Was communicated concern almost doubling quota without data to justify increase.

PROPOSAL 223

ACTION: Support - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Clarify dinglebar gear in the lingcod fishery allows only one line.

DISCUSSION: Feel this would provide clarity and fully agree.

PROPOSAL 224

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Allow lingcod to be used as commercial bait.

DISCUSSION: Was communicated cannot support use of lingcod as bait when there is not enough data regarding stock assessment and it is already fully allocated. Feel department would need more data before anyone could justify this.

PROPOSAL 225

ACTION: Support - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Allow combining two units of gear in herring spawn-on-kelp fishery.

DISCUSSION: Would this cause an enforcement issue? Was discussed what current procedure is. Seemed this is pretty strait forward, would improve quality of fish. Public commented that one downside they could see is that some may try to cram a lot more Herring in the larger pounds.

PROPOSAL 226

ACTION: 8 Support as Amended – 2 Opposed

DESCRIPTION: Amend spawn-on-kelp gear marking and removal requirements.

AMENDMENT: Leave anchor with single sinking line attached to appropriate buoy clearly marked with the ADFG permit# and support vessel or allow for leaving anchor with ability to reattach line at the beginning of the fishery. 2 – Oppose – **8 Support**

DISCUSSION: Much discussion regarding issue of hauling anchors out of the water. Understand the need for portions of this proposal. Committee agreed with needing to clean up the area, not leave gear, garbage, etc. Causes damage to vessels. Concern was with difficulty of hauling anchors due to size. Amendment was suggested, could clearly mark anchors and leave them there, create mooring buoy, but then the issue with DNR. Members Jensen and Warhatch did not agree with the amendment, but Jensen and Warhatch did agree with the proposal as originally written. The rest of the committee supported as amended.

PROPOSAL 227

ACTION: Support - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Amend to clarify that only the purse seine fishery is an equal quota share fishery.

DISCUSSION: Provides clarification, basically housekeeping.

PROPOSAL 228

ACTION: Support - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.

DISCUSSION: This would just change it back to statewide regulation. Agree.

PROPOSAL 229

ACTION: Support - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Remove the mesh restriction in the Gillnet Sac Roe Herring Fishery.

DISCUSSION: See comments for 228.

PROPOSAL 230

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Revise the commercial herring fishery management plan for Sitka Sound.

DISCUSSION: Do not see a need to revise a management plan that currently works.

PROPOSAL 231

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Amend management for the herring sac roe fishery GHG in Sections 13-A and 13-B.

DISCUSSION: Seems like needless over-management of fishery.

PROPOSAL 232

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Repeal regulations for establishing the herring fishery GHG for Sections 13-A and 13-B.

DISCUSSION: See comments for 231.

PROPOSAL 233

ACTION: 7 Support – 3 Opposed

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

DISCUSSION: Seemed to be majority support, this basically addresses safety issues, helps with enforcement and helps with improvement of product. Though there were three members opposed, there were not any comments in opposition.

PROPOSAL 234

ACTION: No Action

DESCRIPTION: Establish an equal-share fishery for herring sac roe in Sitka Sound.

DISCUSSION: Based on action taken on 233.

PROPOSAL 235

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Restrict fishing vessels from entry into the announced fishing area prior to openings in the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

DISCUSSION: Do not agree with this.

PROPOSAL 236

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seines to reduce depth of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

DISCUSSION: Do not agree, not see the necessity.

PROPOSAL 237

ACTION: Opposed – Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Change specifications for herring purse seine to reduce length of nets for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery.

DISCUSSION: Comment was made that this seems like someone is trying to get the regulations to reflect something they already own, do not see conservation concern here.

PROPOSAL 238

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Establish closed waters for the Sitka Sound commercial herring fishery in order to provide an area only open for subsistence.

DISCUSSION: Was noted that there was not support for this from this AC or from the Sitka AC as well.

PROPOSAL 239

ACTION: Opposed - Unanimous

DESCRIPTION: Exclude commercial herring fishing within a defined core spawning area within Sitka Sound to allow for a harvest of herring spawn to meet the amount reasonably necessary for subsistence.

DISCUSSION: See comments from 238.

PROPOSAL 240

ACTION: 8 Support – 2 Opposed

DESCRIPTION: Re-allocate Sitka Sound herring to provide up to 1,000 tons of herring for commercial bait when the sac roe fishery GHLL exceeds 10,000 tons.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 241

ACTION: 3 Support – 7 Opposed

DESCRIPTION: Revise the herring allocation for Hobart Bay to eliminate winter bait and to provide all the available GHLL for gillnet sac roe.

DISCUSSION:

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

PETERSBURG FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 01/28/2012

Call to order By Chairman Arnold Enge at 9:00am.

In attendance:

ADF&G Staff:

Shannon Stone, Regional Coordinator – via Teleconference
Troy Thynes – Fisheries Biologist III – Comm Fish
Doug Flemming – Fisheries Biologist III – Sport Fish
Kevin Clark - Fisheries Biologist II – Comm. Fish

Public:

Julianne Curry – PVOA Executive Director
Judith Behary – Salmon Fisherman
Charles E. Wood – Troll/Halibut/Sportfish
Cynthia Wallesz – Self
George Meintel - Fisherman
Donald H. – SE RAC
Mark Roberts – ATA
Dave Thynes – Fisherman
Mitch Eide – Fisherman
John Jensen - Self

Advisory Committee Members:

Jeremy Jensen – Secretary
Max Worhatch - Teleconference
Andy Knight
Wes Malcom
Lance Watkins – Vice Chair
Arnold Enge - Chairman
Kirt Marsh
Frank Neidefer
Skip Behary - Teleconference
Stan Malcom
Bob Martin

Quorum established, 9 AC members of 15 physically present – 2 present via teleconference – 11 members. Begin continued review and discussion of Board of Fisheries Southeast Finfish Proposals. Discussion includes members of the public present, ADF&G biologists and AC members. Comments and notes of discussion attached.

RECONVENE, JANUARY 28 2012

WES MALCOLM
KURT MARSH
STAN MALCOLM
FRANK NEIDERER
CHAIRMAN; ARNOLD ENGE
VICE CHAIR; LANCE WATKINS
ANDY KNIGHT
MAX WORHATCH, VIA TELE
RYAN LITTLETON, VIA TELE
SKIP ?, TELE
BOB MARTEN
SECRETARY; JEREMY JENSEN
ADFG STAFF, DOUG FLEMMING, TROY THYNES, KEVIN ? COMFISH
SHANNON STONE, TELE

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	28.12	# of pages	13
To	Shannon Stone		From	Jeremy Jensen	
Co./Dept.			Co.		
Phone #			Phone #		
Fax #			Fax #		

PROPOSAL 243**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Before 1975 timing of herring fisheries whether it be winter halt, roe, food, were caught with the combined efforts of seiners and gillnetters collectively. With the advent of management it was determined that the combined efforts would not work therefore splitting areas and designating accordingly. It is requested to adopt a gillnet only fishery.

PASS: 12-0)

PROPOSAL 244**ACTION:NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate rotational fishing opportunity for purse seining in West Behm Canal herring sac roe fishery and allow only gillnet sac roe fishing.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 245****ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allocate of equal shares in the Southeast sac roe fishery in Section 1-E and 1-F by designation of permit holders to harvest herring for others.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Petersburg Vessel Owners oppose: Although it would result in a more cost effective method of catch, it may fail because of allocation within a fishery will not work.

FAIL: 0-12

PROPOSAL 246**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Clarify that the management measures for the use of two rods is for king salmon only.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: There are concerns with halibut management. Support of clarification

PASS 11-1

PROPOSAL 247**ACTION:NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: Develop a management plan to protect and enhance the Juneau roadside sport fisheries.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 248****ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Change the definition of "bag limit" for anglers fishing from a vessel.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Alaska trollers' association oppose. Charter operations will not benefit, violations stem from current law. Sports fisherman should take it upon themselves to move areas once bag limit of species it reached in order to keep fishing for other species. Unenforceable!
FAIL: 1-10, WITH 1 ABSTAIN

PROPOSAL 249**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye, coho, chum, and pink salmon in the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Alaska trollers' support. Alaska sportfish oppose. An enormous cost will be associated with adoption. PVOA supports. There should be a fixed annual limit for future management plans for non-residents.

PASS: 9-3

PROPOSAL 250**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allow retention of king salmon in the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Opposition because of conflicts with treaty.

FAIL: 0-12

PROPOSAL 251**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of two rods by non-guided anglers in salt water.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Southeast Sportsfish oppose. It is poorly written, one can't differentiate between resident and non-resident.

FAIL 0-12

PROPOSAL 252**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of power assisted reels by disabled anglers only.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Alaska trollers support. Require proof of disability. Alaska sportfish oppose.

FAIL: 2-10

PROPOSAL 253**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Establish system for distinguishing between vessels participating in hand troll and guided charter fishing in Southeast Alaska.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Alaska trollers support. Illegal fishing may be likely with the combination of guide and commercial fishing. Alaska sportfish oppose. May become an enforcement burden.

FAIL: 5-7

PROPOSAL 254**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allow youth and disabled anglers to use bait in high use and small cutthroat lakes.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: Increased mortality will be a direct result.

FAIL: 2-10

PROPOSAL 255**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Establish a Taku River king salmon sport fishery.

AMENDMENT:**DISCUSSION:**

COMMENT: NONE

FAIL: 0-12

PROPOSAL 256 **ACTION:**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit snagging at the mouth of Auke Creek.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: General support
PASS: 12-0

PROPOSAL 257 **ACTION:NO ACTION**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in Cowee Creek.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 258 **ACTION:**
DESCRIPTION: Reopen Sitkoh Bay Sockeye sport fishery.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: General support
PASS: 11-1

PROPOSAL 259 **ACTION:NO ACTION**
DESCRIPTION: Make fishing within the Sitka Historical Park on the Indian River a fly fishing only, catch and release fishery.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 260 **ACTION:**
DESCRIPTION: Liberalize king salmon regulations in the vicinity of Ketchikan.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: Has been a proposal in past, and has failed. Alaska sportfish is in support.
FAIL: 0-12

PROPOSAL 261 **ACTION:**
DESCRIPTION: Increase king salmon bag limits in the vicinity of Neets Bay.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: Alaska sportfish are in support. There are questions as to who were to pay for the sport fish catch, if commercial fishing were closed. There appears to be plenty of area outside the already.
FAIL: 2-10

PROPOSAL 262 **ACTION:NO ACTION**
DESCRIPTION: Extend the open season and the period bait may be used in City Park Ponds until August 31, and modify the bag and possession limit for cutthroat trout, king, and coho salmon.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 263 **ACTION:NO ACTION**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the use of bait in the Klawock River.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 264 **ACTION:NO ACTION**
DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of bait in the Klawock River.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 265 **ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Repeal Klawock River regulations applying to adipose fin-clipped steelhead.
AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: NO COMMENT

PASS 12-0
PROPOSAL 266

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Clarify Klawock Harbor area closed to snagging and retention of sockeye.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:
COMMENT: NONE
PASS 12-0

ACTION: NO ACTION

PROPOSAL 267

DESCRIPTION: Align Post Office Lake regulations with the Yakutat roadside systems regulations.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 268

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Clarify where personal use finfish regulations apply.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 269

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Establish a catch report card system for subsistence, personal use, and sport finfish fisheries.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: No action from committee, suggest better record keeping by sports fishermen and personal use fishers.

FAIL: 2-10

PROPOSAL 270

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence or personal use harvest of sablefish.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Subsistence use continues to increase while stocks are continuing downward. Need better record keeping for management.

PASS: 11-0

PROPOSAL 271

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Clarify prohibitions to commercial, subsistence, and personal use fishing by commercial sablefish permit holders.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: PVOA supports, should be standard practice

PASS: 11-0

PROPOSAL 272

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Clarify subsistence herring and herring spawn customary and traditional use findings for waters of Sections 3-A and 3-B.

AMENDMENT:
DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Committee has no comment

PASS: 11-0

PROPOSAL 273

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Require a permit for subsistence herring eggs on branches in Sitka Sound or alter the harvest monitoring program to measure landed weights.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:**COMMENT:** PVOA support. Assess take harvest.**PASS 11-0****PROPOSAL 274****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Modify the personal use fishery for salmon in Southeast Alaska to target king and coho and to include additional gear types.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Opposition throughout committee.**Fail: 0-11****PROPOSAL 275****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Remove the horsepower limit for the Klawock subsistence area.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 276****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Change the subsistence sockeye fishery in the Klawock River from five to seven days per week.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 277****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Allow dip nets in the Taku River for personal use.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Is dipnetting more effective than currwnt methods? Will bag limits change? May turn into standard method for personal use and will exceed other methods.**FAIL: 0-11****PROPOSAL 278****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Extend the personal use fishery season on the Taku River from mid-June through August.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** No discussion**FAIL 1-10****PROPOSAL 279****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Increase Taku River sockeye salmon daily and annual bag limit per household based on number of persons in the household.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Is this approved of and including other areas? Not conservational. 129 permits issued annually over ten years.**Fail: 0-11****PROPOSAL 280****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Clarify that subsistence in District 15 includes Lutak Inlet and opens the day before commercial openings.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** No discussion**PASS: 11-0****PROPOSAL 281****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Allow 75 fathom gillnet length in the Yakutat Bay subsistence fishery.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:**

PROPOSAL 282**ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Modify the Situk-Ahrnklin and Lost River King Salmon Management Plan to redefine closed waters, specify nonretention, and clarify action points.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 283****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Revise the *Situk River Management Plan* to delink Situk escapement from a spring troll in Yakutat Bay.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** AK Trollers support. Preliminary tests need to be conducted to determine run strength.**PASS:** 10-1**PROPOSAL 284****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Establish increased fishing periods for troll when the directed drift gillnet fishery is open in Sections 11-A and 11-B.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Comparative catch between gear groups, time allowance equal to that of other gear groups.**FAIL:** 5-6**PROPOSAL 285****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Repeal the 58' vessel limit in the Southeast salmon purse seine fishery.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Opposition from SEAS, PVOA. Larger vessel allowance would be detrimental to town, region. Sticking would not decrease effort.**FAIL:** 0-11**PROPOSAL 286****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Increase length limit for Southeast salmon seine vessel to 75 feet.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** No discussion**FAIL:** 0-11**PROPOSAL 287****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Exclude stern ramps and rollers in the 58 foot length limit for the Southeast Alaska area.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Unfair advantage to 58' limit.**FAIL:** 0-11**PROPOSAL 288****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Allow seine vessels to transport two seine nets.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** No opposition**PASS:** 10-1**PROPOSAL 289****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Close District 5 to seining and open to gillnet fishing.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENT:** Adopt consensus as a whole**PASS:** 11-0**PROPOSAL 290****ACTION: NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: Increase seining and reduce gillnet fishing in District 6 in September.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 291

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Allow harvest of pink salmon along the Pt. Adolphus shoreline in District 14 during years of large pink salmon returns.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 292

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Change gillnet fishery openings from noon Sundays to 8:00 a.m. on Mondays.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Opposition to change because of reduction of sales. Fresh sales would be effected.

Resulting shipping delays leading to loss of revenue. Opposition to religious conflicts i.e. no fishing on Sundays.

FAIL: 1-8

PROPOSAL 293

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Provide minimum mesh size of six inches in districts 1, 6, 8, 11, or 15 by emergency order when needed to conserve sockeye and access chum.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: No discussion

PASS: 9-0

PROPOSAL 294

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Require reporting of commercially-caught salmon and steelhead retained for personal use.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Already required, unnecessary proposal

FAIL: 0-9

PROPOSAL 295

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Modify drift gillnet fishery in Zimovia Strait and Chichagof Pass based on chum:sockeye ratio to provide for increased terminal seine harvest of enhanced chum in the Anita Bay THA.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 296

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D all season to provide pink salmon fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 297

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Open gillnet fishery in Section 6-D during pink season when not open to seining.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 298

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Limit District 10 seine fishery to 2 days per week to increase gillnet pink salmon harvest in District 6.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 299

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Extend commercial closed waters in Taku Inlet to Point Greely-Point Bishop.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: AK trollers oppose.

FAIL: 0-9

PROPOSAL 300

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Allow multiple permit holders to fish from the same vessel and to pool and divide harvests on fish tickets in Yakutat Area salmon fishery.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 301

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Relocate boundary for commercial setnet fishing on Tsiu River to provide a separate sport fishing area.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 302

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit using power boats to drive fish into nets on the Tsiu River.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 303

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Establish criteria to determine the first commercial opening on the Tsiu River.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 304

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Amend Ankau Creek closed waters.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 305

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Amend Akwe River closed waters.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 306

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Change the day when allowable gear increases on the Alsek River from Monday to Sunday.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 307

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Allow downriggers in the commercial hand troll fishery all season.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: AK trollers oppose

FAIL: 0-9

PROPOSAL 308

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Allow six trolling lines on specified inside waters of Southeast Alaska to increase the harvest of enhanced salmon.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 309**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Allow four hand troll gurdies in the summer troll fishery following the initial king salmon retention period.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Allow for extra gear. Alaska trollers' oppose, rod and reel only!

FAIL: 2-7

PROPOSAL 310**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Amend the winter king salmon guideline harvest range by adding hatchery-produced kings.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: AK trollers' association opposes. Winter fishing could cut into summer allotment. Concerns with reducing time during coho fishing.

FAIL: 0-9

PROPOSAL 311**ACTION: NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: Change beginning date for coho salmon retention in the spring king salmon fishery from June 15 to June 1.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 312**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Require 10-day mid-August troll closures for conservation and allocation based on the department's midseason assessment.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: AK trollers' association opposes. Gillnetters consistently exceed allocation. A ten day closure is thought to be excessive.

PASS: 6-3

PROPOSAL 313**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Extend season for the troll coho fishery in Southeast to September 30 but closed earlier by emergency order when warranted.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: AK trollers' support. Open after 9/20 only by emergency order.

FAIL: 0-9

PROPOSAL 314**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: Through September lengthen the troll season in Districts 1, 6, and 8 each week gillnet fisheries are opened in these districts.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Trollers want more access to enhanced fish.

FAIL: 3-6

PROPOSAL 315**ACTION: NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling and extend the summer closure date from September 20 to September 30.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 316**ACTION:**

DESCRIPTION: In Section 1-E redefine the area open for trolling.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENT: Group support.

PASS: 9-0

PROPOSAL 317**ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Extend the summer closure date in a portion of Section 1-E to September 30.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** Trollers want more access.**PASS:** 8-1**PROPOSAL 318****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Clarify when Section 1-F is open to trolling.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** All in support**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 319****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Increase troll opening in Chichagof Pass to seven days a week to access enhanced Arlita Bay chum.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** Mixed opinions.**FAIL:** 4-5**PROPOSAL 320****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Increase the area of Section 11-A open to trolling in the directed Taku king salmon fishery.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** Trollers are requesting more operating area for more effectiveness.**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 321****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Amend closed waters for the Situk River troll fishery.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 322****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Amend closed waters for the Situk River troll fishery.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 323****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Revise basis for the Southeast Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan to include only production by regional associations.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 324****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Create separate enhanced salmon allocation plans for northern and southern Southeast Alaska.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 325****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Redirect spring troll fishery management to target chum salmon to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 326****ACTION: NO ACTION**

DESCRIPTION: Provide a targeted chum salmon fishery for troll gear in Section 11-A to address the enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 327

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Define open fishing periods in regulation for DIPAC, Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, and Prince of Wales Hatchery Area special harvest areas.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: Mutual agreement

PASS: 9-0

PROPOSAL 328

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Allow new gear type for broodstock capture in Districts 12 and 13.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: Need other methods for recovering broodstock.

PASS: 9-0

PROPOSAL 329

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Adopt a new Special Harvest Area for the Port Saint Nicholas hatchery in District 3

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: NONE

PASS: 8-1-1 Abstain

PROPOSAL 330

ACTION:

DESCRIPTION: Close a portion of Bear Cove in the Silver Bay Special Harvest Area to protect broodstock and provide for safety.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS: Mutual support

PASS: 9-0

PROPOSAL 331

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Revise the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to allow cost recovery and distribute harvests according to the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association board of director's annual plan for allocation.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 332

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Change the Neets Bay hatchery management plan to provide common property access based on enhanced salmon allocation status.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 333

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Remove 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation schedule for Neets Bay hatchery common property openings after the 2011 season.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL 334

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Continue 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation in Anita Bay THA through 2017.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:**PROPOSAL 335****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Continue 1:1 gillnet to seine fishing rotation in Deep Inlet THA through 2017.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 336****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Allow for a rotational seine and gillnet fishery in the Nakat Inlet THA.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 337****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Establish a new Herring Cove THA management plan to distribute harvest between commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** Group support**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 338****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Expand the Kendrick Bay THA to include McLean Arm for commercial seining.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 339****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Change the opening date for the Anita Bay THA to May 1.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** Group support**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 340****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Modify the open area in the Anita Bay THA to enhance salmon quality.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** SRA supported**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 341****ACTION:****DESCRIPTION:** Establish a THA in Southeast Cove for seine and troll gear.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****COMMENTS:** General support**PASS:** 9-0**PROPOSAL 342****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Establish a registration fishery for the Hidden Falls THA to replace cost recovery harvest with tax assessment.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:****PROPOSAL 343****ACTION: NO ACTION****DESCRIPTION:** Open the Hidden Falls THA August 1 through September 20 to allow trolling for enhanced coho and provide for an area during the troll closure.**AMENDMENT:****DISCUSSION:**

PROPOSAL 344

ACTION: NO ACTION

DESCRIPTION: Revise the western Deep Inlet THA boundary and season to increase troll fishery access to enhanced king salmon.

AMENDMENT:

DISCUSSION:

MOTION TO ADJOURN

SECOND