

**Boards Support Section**  
**Board of Fisheries**  
**Glenn Haight, Executive Director**  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
(907) 465-4110



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Sam Cotten, Commissioner**  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

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## PRESS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Glenn Haight, 907-465-6095**

### **Alaska Board of Fisheries to Meet in Sitka, February 23-March 3, 2015 on Southeast and Yakutat Finfish**

The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) will meet February 23-March 3, 2015, at the Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, Alaska. During this nine day public meeting, the board will meet to consider 121 finfish proposals submitted by the general public, fishing organizations, local Fish and Game Advisory Committees, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

In addition to submitting written public comments, the board invites the public to give oral public testimony during the meeting beginning February 23. Any person intending to testify must sign up at the meeting site at the Centennial Hall in Sitka. The tentative deadline for signing up is 2:00pm on Monday, February 23. Public testimony will continue until members of the public who signed up before the deadline and are present have been given an opportunity to testify.

All portions of the meeting are open to the public and a live audio stream is intended to be available on the Board of Fisheries website at [www.boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov). Documents submitted to the board are intended to be posted online throughout the meeting. Copies of advanced meeting materials, including the agenda and roadmap, are available from Boards Support Section, 907-465-4110, or online at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.meetinginfo>.

The board encourages the public to submit written comments on specific proposals and is accepting on-time public comment until February 9. After February 9, written public comments are limited to 10 single-sided or 5 double-sided pages in length from any one individual or group. These comments are recorded as record copies and inserted in board member workbooks at the beginning of the meeting, and accepted until the board begins deliberation of proposals.

Once proposal deliberations begin, the board will **ONLY** accept written public comments not more than five single-sided pages, or the equivalent double-sided pages. The board may relax this requirement if specific information is requested by the board requiring more pages than allowed under this standard. See <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=process.comments> for details on public comment.

During the meeting, written public comments from any one individual or group may be submitted by hand delivery at any time if 28 copies are provided. As a practical matter, comments submitted after the board begins deliberations on relevant proposals are likely to receive less consideration than comments submitted earlier. Individuals not in attendance can submit written comments by fax to (907) 465-6094.

**Seine Vessel Length Informational Meeting:** Members of the board will host an evening meeting on February 24, starting at 7:00pm, to hear from agencies and stakeholders on regulations and considerations for determining the seine vessel length. The board is set to deliberate on Proposal 202 at the Southeast finfish meeting, and Proposal 276 at the Statewide meeting in Anchorage in March.

**Training opportunity:** The Boards Support Section is offering a new training course, [How to be Effective at Board Meeting](#). The training course is open for public and advisory committee members. It will be at the



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Centennial Hall's main meeting area, starting at 7pm on February 22. Call Boards Support, 907-465-4110, for more information.