

On-Time Advisory Committee Comment List

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish | Valdez, December 1-5, 2017

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Anchorage ADF&G Advisory Committee
Meeting of the Fish Subcommittee October 17, 2017 RE/MAX Small Conference Room, 3350 Midtown
Place and 11/07/2017 Full Anchorage AC meeting at the Cabela's Conference Room, 155 W 104th
Avenue

October 17, 2017

- I. Call to Order: 6:41 by Kevin Taylor Fish Subcommittee Chair
- II. Members Present: Kevin Taylor, Brian Nelson, Ernie Weiss, Martin Weiser (by phone)
- III. A quorum of the Subcommittee met to discuss Prince William Sound Proposals 1-52 to be taken up at the Board of Fisheries meeting December 1-5, 2017, and to make recommendations for the full Anchorage Advisory Committee. On-time comments by the AC are due November 17, 2017.

November 7, 2017

- IV. Call meeting to order: Frank Neumann, 6:32pm
- V. Invocation: Frank Neumann
- VI. Pledge of Allegiance: Complete
- VII. Advise Guests of Public Testimony signup sheet: Complete
- VIII. Establish a quorum: 13 out of 15, quorum established.
 - a. Members Present: Brian Nelson, Kevin Taylor (Vice Chair), Frank Neumann (Chair), J.R. Gates, Marin Weiser, Shawna Williams, Ernie Weiss, Tyler Loken (alternate), Phillip Calhoun, Neil DeWitt, Willow Hetrick (Secretary), Bryce Eckroth (Alternate), and Matt Moore.
 - b. Excused Absent: Dino Sutherland, Kenny Rogers.
 - c. Unexcused Absent: Gerold Gugel
- IX. Approve Agenda: Frank Neumann motioned to approved agenda, Kevin Taylor seconded; agenda approved.
- X. Introduce Department Guests: Officer Darby from Alaska Wildlife Troopers.
- XI. Approve Minutes of prior Meeting: Minutes from the October 24, 2017 AAC meeting were approved when submitted to the Board of Game for the Statewide BOG meeting scheduled to start November 10, 2017 and ending November 17, 2017 (8 days).
- XII. Public testimony: Guests advised of testimony opportunity; no sing-up/comments were made.
- XIII. Committee Reports: Notes: All proposals that were unanimously supported or opposed by the Fish Subcommittee of the Anchorage Advisory Committee on October 24, 2017 were changed to 13 (the number of ACC members present at the November 7, 2017 meeting) except for proposals 10, 19 & 20 which were brought up to the full committee despite previous unanimous opposition.
 - Game Chair-Frank Neuman; Frank Neumann will be attending the Statewide Board of Game meeting November 10-17, 2017 (8 days).
 - Forty Mile Caribou herd update – Working group formed in 1995 out of concern for the population. In the summer of 2017, the ADFG was able to conduct an updated count of the herd. However, the count wasn't complete until after the fall hunting season. Current census shows the herd at 72,000 animals. At 70,000 animals, the Department is mandated to increase harvest numbers. Previously, the State of Alaska has been harvested up to 2% of the most recent caribou count. Department would like to expand the harvest; it will open December 1, 2017. The goal is to harvest ~1,200 caribou. Meeting scheduled for the third week of January in Fairbanks to continue the working group meetings.
 - Western Arctic Caribou herd: Meeting scheduled December 12, 2017.



- Fish Chair-Kevin Taylor; discussed proposals: 17, 19, 20, 22, 37, 38, 42, 42 at tonight's meeting (November 7, 2017). See notes below.

XIV. Old Business: None

XV. New Business:

- Tentatively moving the planned January 2, 2018 meeting date at the BP Energy Center to January 9, 2018, meeting location TBD.
- Tentatively having the Game subcommittee meeting on Monday, November 13, 2017. Location TBD.
- FYI – the Board of Game starts the Statewide meeting at the Lakefront Hotel from November 10-17, 2017. Highly suggest showing up and making public testimony.
- Board of Fish meeting in Valdez. Shawna Williams will be the AAC member to testify.

XVI. Adjourn: 8:20pm.

The next regular Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee meeting is December 5, 2017 at the King Career Center.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support	13	0	Ling Cod are hard to catch for sport fish in this area, more restrictive limits will not adversely impact fishermen. Agree for reasons stated in the proposal.
2				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in a portion of the Prince William Sound Area.
	No Action	--	--	We believe Proposal 1 is a better proposal with all PWS limited to one ling cod.
3				Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support	13	0	Reasonable change. Agree with ADFG
4				Establish a pelagic rockfish jig fishery with a separate guideline harvest level in the Outside District of the Prince William Sound Area.
	No Action	--	--	Not enough information at this time, unanimous vote of take no action.
5				Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.
	Support	13	0	Technical change. Agree with ADFG.
6				Allow vessels fishing for halibut in the Prince William Sound Area to retain all Pacific cod bycatch when directed Pacific cod fisheries are closed due to reaching the federal halibut bycatch allowance.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
	Support	13	0	Retention of incidentally caught fish that would otherwise be wasted is good policy.
7				Clarify lawful gear requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	Support	13	0	Facilitates easier enforcement. Agree with ADFG.
8				Add specific registration requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	Support	13	0	Provides clarity. Agree with ADFG.
9				Clarify procedures for obtaining, completing, and submitting log sheets for the Prince William Sound Area sablefish fishery.
	Support	13	0	Reasonable specificity for log sheet requirements. Better information will enhance the fishery. Agree with ADFG.
10				Set an optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon.
	Oppose	1	12	<p><u>Support</u>: Fairbanks committee is looking for an escapement goal for the Copper River salmon fishery. Support for reasons stated.</p> <p><u>Opposed</u>: no biological consideration to set an optimal escapement goal. Comparing the Copper River & Kenai is not a relevant comparison however, the two rivers are vastly different and not comparable.</p> <p><u>Overall Comments</u>: suggest using the SEG instead of the OEG.</p>
11				Remove the requirement to open the Batzulnetas subsistence fishery by emergency order.
	Support	13	0	Reasonable Change. Agree with ADFG.
12				Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.
	Oppose	0	13	A live box is a good idea, just not as proposed.
13				Prohibit using a dip net from a boat to harvest salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict.
	Oppose	0	13	Appears to be an allocative grab. Not necessary.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
14				Modify the season dates for the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery based on the preseason king salmon harvest projection.
	Oppose	0	13	Not needed. ADFG already has the authority.
15				Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets.
	Oppose	0	13	Not needed. Unnecessarily restrictive.
16				Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries.
	Support	13	0	More data will help managers, enhance the fishery.
17				Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River.
	Oppose	6	7	<u>Support</u> : This proposal is trying to make more area for personal use fishing and diminish the crowd of people fishing at the Chitina bridge. It would add 8 miles of river and gets people out of dangerous water. This would increase the opportunity to the urban fisherman as the majority of the Copper River is 'off limits' because of federal and Ahtna land ownership. <u>Opposed</u> : Opposition felt that there is enough fishing area at this time. Opposed to any personal use fisheries in general; it's another allocation and now personal use has unbalanced both the major fisheries) the Kenai and Copper rivers) through allocation. Think that it is a conservation concern for the king salmon. This would be hard to enforce while on the river. There are 2 troopers in Glenallen to enforce which is not enough.
18				Repeal the reduction in maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery is closed 13 or more consecutive days.
	Oppose	0	13	<u>Oppose</u> : All users should be expected to participate in conservation efforts. Several confusing typos in the proposal.
19				Allow salmon to be taken for subsistence purposes at any time between May 1 and November 30 in the Copper River District.
	Oppose	0	13	<u>Opposed</u> : Would make enforcement nearly impossible.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				<p>The suggestion of 24-hour subsistence availability was brought up. Suggested 1-2 days per week, separate from the commercial openings. The proposal did not suggest a subsistence limit. Not all people are honest. These proposals give too much leeway and trust to fisherman. Conservation concern for the king salmon. Suggest aligning with the upper Copper River subsistence fishery.</p> <p><u>Overall Comments:</u> Merits to the proposal, but suggest the authors consider more definitive, seasonal dates and suggest enforcement opportunities. Suggest the Department consider EO openings for subsistence harvest. Suggest not offering a 24-hour/7 day a week opening.</p> <p>Public Comment (Pete Jenkins) – Subsistence fishery was a test fishery and those fish may or may not have found their way into commerce. The areas targeted by fisherman (e.g. the Copper River flats) are known to have king salmon. There is a conservation concern with this proposal.</p>
20				Open all waters of the Copper River District to subsistence fishing for salmon from April 20 through October 15.
	Oppose	0	13	See comments for Proposal #19. Same general timeframe, just different dates as proposal #19.
21				Close the Prince William Sound Area subsistence herring fishery, limit gear to 60 feet in length, and monitor the number of permits and area fished.
	Oppose	0	13	Not enough information provided. The goal is unclear.
22				Allow Pacific herring to be taken for personal use in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Oppose	1	12	<p><u>Support:</u> For reasons stated.</p> <p><u>Opposed:</u> Unless a conservation issue, it seems reasonable to allow a personal use fishery. To the best of our knowledge the Sound herring fishery has not recovered from the oil spill.</p>



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				Public Comment (Pete Jenkins): do not know how it could be done legally. See the Prince William Sound Science Center for research information on the species. Would not support opening a fishery for a species that is not biologically sound.
23				Prohibit catch-and-release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages.
	Oppose	0	13	Disagree with reasoning provided in the proposal. Prohibiting catch/release not necessary.
24				Amend sockeye salmon regulations in the Gulkana River drainage.
	Support	13	0	Support the changes proposed by ADFG.
25				Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage.
	Support	13	0	Needed clarification. Agree with ADFG.
26				Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.
	Oppose	0	13	Could potentially create a hazardous environment for all users. Safety concerns.
27				Remove a closed water provision for Clear Creek.
	No Action	--	--	Committee does not have enough information to evaluate this proposal at this time.
28				Repeal mandatory inside waters commercial salmon fishery closures in the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.
	Support	13	0	Proposal allows more management flexibility.
29				Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal takes away flexibility, makes management more difficult.
30				Repeal certain closed waters provisions in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	13	Not necessary. Could threaten inside water stocks.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
31				Reduce the maximum depth of drift gill nets in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery to 29 meshes through the start of Statistical Week 24.
	Oppose	0	13	No scientific evidence that this change is necessary.
32				Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District, during the month of May, if the preseason forecast for Copper River king salmon is below the 20-year average, or 35,000 king salmon.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal would make a fishery that is already hard to manage, extremely difficult to manage. This action is not needed as proposed.
33				Prohibit sale of commercially caught king salmon in the Copper River District if restrictions on Copper River drainage subsistence fisheries have been implemented.
	Oppose	0	13	Prohibiting the sale of commercially caught salmon simply makes no sense.
34				Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal adds unnecessary verbiage, and would make management extremely difficult.
35				Open commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear in the Copper River District on the Monday or Thursday closest to May 1.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal would unnecessarily start the fishery too early. Fleet readiness should be considered.
36				Open the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery for a minimum of two twelve-hour periods per week.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal takes away flexibility, unduly restricting ADFG management.
37				Repeal commercial salmon fishery closed waters near Kayak Island and allow commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear near Kayak Island with the same boundaries in effect in 1980.
	Support	7	5	<u>Support</u> : Would like to see more area for commercial fishery. In the 1980's there was inconclusive evidence



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				for the closure. <u>Opposed</u> : There is no evidence this change is needed, no biological concern; should be left up to ADFG. <u>Abstain</u> : 1, not enough knowledge/information.
38				Modify purse seine gear length in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support	9	1	<u>Support</u> : Change the need for the lead gear if not wanted; can fish full seine. The 225 fathoms will not change. When seiners are tasked to harvest an area for chums (typically hatchery fish) in the late season, those fish will go through the lead lines and they are not efficient. <u>Opposed</u> : This proposal changes the time-area-gear management tools dynamics. <u>Abstain</u> - 3: Do not know enough to make an informed decision.
39				Allow permit stacking and increase the amount of purse seine gear that may be operated from a vessel with two limited entry purse seine permit holders onboard in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
	Support	13	0	Permit stacking has worked well for Bristol Bay and Cook Inlet and is a viable option for PWS.
40				Establish minimum operation depth for drift gillnet gear fished within 90 fathoms of a set gillnet in the Crafton Island Subdistrict.
	Oppose	0	13	This proposal is more restrictive could be a problem for enforcement.
41				Prohibit operation of commercial salmon drift gillnet gear within 60 fathoms of the shoreward of a set gillnet in the Crafton Island Subdistrict.
	Support	13	0	<u>Support</u> : Would like to be able to set off the shore and the buoy end of the set gillnet. For reasons stated. <u>Overall Comments</u> : this proposal was written and submitted but the information that was submitted was



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				not properly included in the proposal book. The correct information may be included by the BOF meeting in December, but that is not definite. The first word of the proposal title needs to be changed from “prohibit” to “allow” as the description does not match the proposal title. Correct wording is as follows: “In the Crafton Island Subdistrict, no part of a drift gillnet may be operated within 60 fathoms of a set gillnet, except in the zone outside of the offshore end or shore end (as long as the regulations are adhered) of the set gillnet. “
42				Repeal maximum length for set gillnet gear in the Main Bay Salmon Hatchery Harvest Management Plan and prohibit operation of a drift gillnet within 20 fathoms of a set gillnet.
	No Action	--	--	Committee does not have enough information to evaluate this proposal. 13 votes for no action.
43				Clarify provisions for operation of drift gillnet and set gillnet gear in the Main Bay Subdistrict.
	No Action	--	--	Committee does not have enough information to evaluate this proposal at this time. 13 votes for no action.
44				Specify that operation of each set gillnet or drift gillnet must be performed or assisted by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
	No Action	--	--	Already in regulation. Board of Fisheries cannot mandate enforcement.
45				Limit each Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder to no more than four set gillnet sites deployed with lines and buoys in the Prince William Sound Area commercial set gillnet fishery.
	Support	13	0	This is a reasonable limit.
46				Change boundary description of the Main Bay Subdistrict.
	No Action	--	--	Committee is not familiar enough with this boundary issue to evaluate this proposal at this time. Take no



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				action.
47				Include the value of all enhanced salmon produced in the Prince William Sound Area in the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.
	No Action	--	--	Committee does not have enough information to evaluate this proposal at this time. What is the purpose of the proposal and how is the added expense paid for?
48				Allow commercial fishing for salmon in the Armin F. Koernig Hatchery Terminal and Special Harvest Areas prior to July 18.
	Oppose	0	13	This change is unnecessary.
49				Reduce harvest of sockeye salmon in the directed chum salmon fishery prior to July 18 in the Armin F. Koernig Hatchery Terminal and Special Harvest Areas.
	Oppose	0	13	This change is unnecessary and allocative.
50				Define Copper and Bering River District seaward boundaries with geographic coordinates.
	Support	13	0	The proposed changes will be helpful. Agree with ADFG.
51				Amend district and subdistrict boundaries to match Alaska Department of Fish and Game statistical area boundaries within the Prince William Sound Management Area.
	Support	13	0	These technical changes are needed. Agree with ADFG
52				Amend Prince William Sound Area description to specify lines of longitude for the eastern and western boundaries.
	Support	13	0	The proposed clarification will be helpful. Agree with ADFG.

10/24/2017 Adjournment: 7:41 PM

11/07/2017 Adjournment: 8:20 PM

Minutes Recorded By: Ernie Weiss (10/24) & Willow Hetrick (11/7/2014)

Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor (Fish Subcommittee Chair) and Frank Neumann (AAC Chair)

Date: November 15, 2017



Copper Basin Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Date: 11/15/17

Location of Meeting: Glennallen School

- I. The meeting was called to order: 5:47 PM by Chuck McMahan
II. Roll Call: Chuck McMahan
Members Present: Alysia White, Frank Hobson, Chuck McMahan, Mike Roscovius, Nick Jackson, Jim Oden, Dave Sarafin, David Bruss, Chad Gerlach

Members Absent Excused: Don Horrell, Brad Henspeter

Members Absent Unexcused: Christopher Gene, Aaron Bloomquist

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 7

List of User Groups Present:

Approval of Agenda:

- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

- IV. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jon Simeon AWT, Mark Somerville F&G

- V. Guests Present: Gloria Stickwan

- VI. Public Testimony

- VII. Old Business: none

- VIII. New Business:

Alaska Board of Fisheries 2017/2018 proposals			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
10			Set optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon
oppose	0	8	Don't think most people will like this. With this proposal we would have over escapement every year. You would have to close fishery to meet escapement goal. Two very different rivers. Why mess with the reds for kings



Alaska Board of Fisheries 2017/2018 proposals

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
11	Remove the requirement to open the Batzulnetas subsistence fishery by EO		
support	8	0	Fish and Game has to write a EO every year. This would allow Fish and Game to open without a EO. Question rational for state to have a fishery here anyway. Maybe a proposal should be done to get rid of this. Issues with private lands to get to the fishery.
12	Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict		
oppose	0	8	Hard to take a king out of a live box. If fish are running then the box gets filled and kill many fish anyway. Not sure it will even really help King Salmon. Fish and Game has EO authority to have closely attended wheels anyway.
13	Prohibit using a dip net from a boat to harvest salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict.		
oppose	2	6	<p>Increase in people dip netting above the bridge by boat but decrease in fish wheels. So if you get rid of dip net from boat those folks may go back to fish wheels and fish wheels will catch a lot more fish. Not many areas to put fish wheels.</p> <p>Not seeing an increase in harvest.</p> <p>A lot of gear gets lost by dip netters that can't handle holding nets because of current when on boats, usually if you are on shore they can control better. From a boat it is harder to handle a dip net once it gets caught up.</p> <p>People in boats only have one or two places where they can get out, so better to check people.</p> <p>Used to be that you could only dip net below the bridge, they take a lot of fish by taking boats down river.</p> <p>Taking this away would take opportunity away from users. If this goes away and you don't know someone who has a fish wheel on private property then you may not be able to get any fish.</p>
14	Modify the season dates for the Glennallen subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery based on the preseason king salmon harvest projection		
oppose	2	5 (1 abstain)	<p>If estimate is below 10000 then delay start of season a week, this would put a trigger on subsistence fishery so you may have to take action of commercial and sportfish first since subsistence has a priority.</p> <p>All based on a forecast. Using the forecast as a trigger can't be counted on. But forecast is all we have until we have other indicators.</p> <p>Concern with chinook salmon is what brought this proposal up. Seems like disconnect with the copper river king salmon plan.</p> <p>Ties with proposal 32 with similar idea of looking for a trigger. Proposal 14 would delay commercial first then proposal 32 would kick in. Other triggers would end up having to be made.</p> <p>How soon can you predict in-season management, hard to make the call when numbers are down.</p> <p>In 2012 commercial fishery delayed a week. It was a change of when commercial could fish in the inside area. Seemed like more kings came up river. Water has been getting higher every year since this, warmer temps, seems like fish are smaller.</p> <p>Do we want to amend to say delay until you know you have a reasonable comfortable number of Kings? Don't put a week time frame on it.</p> <p>Can use EO action to do this similar thing without it being mandated to do.</p>



Alaska Board of Fisheries 2017/2018 proposals

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			This way everyone would share in the burden subsistence, personal and commercial.
15	Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets.		
oppose	0	7 (1 abstain)	<p>We are concerned that this is a problem and more discussion needs to be had. We are not sure this proposal is really the right answer.</p> <p>Lack of other materials for net, is monofilament or gill net mesh really the problem.</p> <p>We think that depth of the net is probably causing more of an issue. If you keep the same mesh size you could cut net and tie it if you just made depth of net shorter. But what number would you put for depth?</p> <p>Monofilament is harder for fish to see so they are more affective.</p>
16	Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries		
oppose	0	8	<p>Sportfish guides have log books. All permit holders have to log fish anyways on boat.</p> <p>Does it really matter if it is on a personal boat versus charter boat. Still get the numbers.</p>
17	Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River		
oppose	0	8	<p>This would double the size of the fishery. Make it about 20 miles.</p> <p>Access to it by atv's and trucks is not going to happen without major road construction.</p> <p>Tunnels caved in, major brush/trees... So this would be a boat access fishery.</p> <p>May play a role in mark recapture study. What would the effect be.</p> <p>By extending this you will increase trooper time with search and rescues because of getting calls of overdue people, when they are farther away it takes longer to find them.</p>
18	Repeal the reduction in maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use fishery when the copper river commercial fishery is closed 13 or more consecutive days.		
support	8	0	<p>This is a one way trigger. We don't like it.</p> <p>If I have to suffer then so do you.</p> <p>If the fish come in late then the commercial will benefit and personal will suffer.</p> <p>Get rid of the regulation.</p>
23	Prohibit catch-and-release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages		
Support As amended	8	0	<p>Amend to: In the Upper Copper River and Susitna river drainages, it is unlawful under sport fisheries to catch and release king salmon after you have reached your daily bag limit.</p> <p>High catch and release in the area. Most people fishing catch and release.</p> <p>Here you can catch and release King Salmon, this doesn't happen in other areas.</p> <p>This proposal is for all finfish. We don't like that it is for all.</p> <p>Economic impacts of this for local economy, if you can't continue to fish after you catch one, would people even come here. It costs a lot of money to just get here.</p> <p>Fish mortality is higher with warmer waters</p> <p>For Gulkana you can't keep rainbow so if you catch one you won't be able to release but you can't keep it, So you what do you do.</p> <p>A lot of people catch and release grayling.</p>
24	Amend sockeye salmon regulations in the Gulkana river drainage.		
support	9	0	House keeping item, makes it clearer
25	Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River		



Alaska Board of Fisheries 2017/2018 proposals

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			drainage.
support	9	0	No Rainbow in Upper Susitna River Regulations are confusing now with so many drainages with different restrictions. Very hard to try follow as it is now.
26	Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area		
Support As amended	8	1	Amend: Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area, excluding the Valdez Harbor. Would rather see it exclude the Valdez harbor, we don't think you should be able to use a bow for fishing in the harbor. Concerned about people shooting boats etc.

Other items: Discussed holding next meeting to go over Board of Game Southcentral Proposals and hold a election meeting mid January 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 07:56 PM

Minutes Recorded By: Alysia White
Minutes Approved By: Chuck McMahan
Date: 11/16/17

Copper River/ PWS Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Combined minutes of 10/24/2017 and 11/13/17
P.W.S.A.C. building main st. cdv. ak.



AC03
1 of 12

- I. Call to order; 7:10 pm by John Renner chairman, fish
- II. Roll Call:
 Members Present: John Bocci, Mike Collins, Ardy Hanson, Mark King, Teal Lohse, John Renner, Troy Tirrell, John Wiese, Dave O'brien
 Members Absent: Torie Baker, Tom Carpenter, John Greenwood, Kevin Kimber, Robert Masolini, Brad Sapp, Dennis Zadra
 Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
 List of User Groups Present: sport fisherman, commercial fisherman, subsistence fisherman, business owner, guide
- III. Approval of Agenda: continuation of deliberation on B.O.F. proposals
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: unavailable for review at the time of the meeting
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present; Stormy Haight, Elisa Russ, Charles Russel, Jeremy Botz, Stacy Vega
- VI. Guests Present: Diane Debuze, Seaward A.C., Thea Thomas, Bob Smith
- VII. Old Business: continue B.O.F. proposal discussion
- VIII. New Business: Certificates of appreciation handed out

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1	assessment of lingcod biomass is weak and harvest is decreasing	9	0	Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
3	assessment of rockfish stocks is weak and there has been a large increase in harvest	9	0	Modify and align bag and possession



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
4	Kodiak has a similar fishery, increased opportunity for cordova fleet needed/ minority- no stock assessment for black rockfish in waters for proposed fishery, most rockfish taken as by-catch in other directed fisheries	6	3	Establish a pelagic rockfish jig fishery with a separate guideline harvest level in the Outside District of the Prince William Sound Area.
5	clarifies how weight of by-catch of lingcod is calculated in directed fisheries	9	0	Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.
6	managers gave assurance that the situation would not repeat again making the proposal unnecessary	7	2- abstain	Allow vessels fishing for halibut in the Prince William Sound Area to retain all Pacific cod bycatch when directed Pacific cod fisheries are closed due to reaching the federal halibut



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				bycatch allowance.
10	Copper and Kenai rivers are not similar, the Copper river has a directed King salmon fishery a reallocation of this magnitude is out of line and would destroy a 100 year old sustainable commercial fishery that has coexisted with other user groups for 40 years	0	9	Set an optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon.
11	E.O. authority still available for unforeseen management concerns	9	0	Remove the requirement to open the Batzulnetas subsistence fishery by emergency order.
12	would help with escapement in times of low abundance/ minority undue burden, smaller fish wheels on copper ,increased costs for some users	6	3	Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.
13	the committee saw this as locals trying to prevent major changes in a traditional subsistence fishery, the C.and T. finding talked of platforms not boats as traditional harvest means in this fishery	9	0	Prohibit using a dip net from a boat to harvest salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict.



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
14	error factors in forecast models make bad tools to use for management most cases they are little more than a educated guess	0	9	Modify the season dates for the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery based on the preseason king salmon harvest projection.
15	this would make a dinet a dipnet again, nets with mono and or gillnet can damage fish destined to be released	9	0	Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets.
16	this would help to fill some of the voids in up river harvest information	9	0	Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries.
17	this would more than double the size of the dipnet area causing conflicts with other user groups and exasperate land use issuses, there would be effects to the N.V.E. mark and recapture fishwheels that determine king salmon esscapment	0	9	Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River.



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
18	this feature of the management plan helps share the conservation burden. In times of low abundance it could provide more subsistence opportunity, in times of low abundance it would not be prudent to increase the harvest potential of a fishery located just down river from the subsistence fishery	0	9	Repeal the reduction in maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery is closed 13 or more consecutive days.
19	likely result would be increased down river harvest and competition with locals from out of area residents/ the committee was generally in favor of more opportunity for people who work 5 days a week with out changes to the historical make-up of the fishery	3	6	Allow salmon to be taken for subsistence purposes at any time between May 1 and November 30 in the Copper River District.
21	the committee was in favor of a permit with some restrictions but not as this proposal was written	0	9	Close the Prince William Sound Area subsistence herring fishery, limit gear to 60 feet in length, and monitor the number of permits



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				and area fished.
22	no-action see 21			Allow Pacific herring to be taken for personal use in the Prince William Sound Area.
23	in areas where methods and means are harmful to fish(i.e. treble hooks) it would be prudent to regulate catch and realease	9	0	Prohibit catch-and- release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages.
26		8	1	Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.
27	our committee has a long history of coho habitat protection on the copper river delta	1	8	Remove a closed water provision for Clear Creek.
28	management utilizes inside closers as needed depending on run strength tying their hands with mandatory closers is no necessary and would be detrimental in times of abundance	9	0	Repeal mandatory inside waters commercial salmon fishery closures in the Copper



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				River King Salmon Management Plan.
29	king salmon is part of a directed fishery on the copper river flats an unintended consequence could be an increase in fishing time with a decrease in productivity leading to increased costs for the fleet	0	9	Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
30	this could lead to a reduction in fishing time with unintended consequences for the market and processing	1	5 3 abstain	Repeal certain closed waters provisions in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
31	major expense for fleet king salmon is directed fishery	0	8	Reduce the maximum depth of drift gill nets in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery to 29 meshes through the start of



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				Statistical Week 24.
32	inherent error factors in forecasts would make this a terrible management tool	0	8	Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District, during the month of May, if the preseason forecast for Copper River king salmon is below the 20-year average, or 35,000 king salmon.
33	restrictions come and go depending on the real return that must be actively managed	0	8	Prohibit sale of commercially caught king salmon in the Copper River District if restrictions on Copper River drainage subsistence fisheries have been implemented.
34	the commercial fleet is one of the tools used to determine abundance, and there is more than one sonar on the copper river, there could be hundreds of thousands of fish between commercial fishery and the sonars	0	8	Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.
35	opening on the copper should be dictated by environmental conditions not a set date	0	8	Open commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear in the Copper River District on the Monday or Thursday closest to May 1.
36	openers should be determined by run entry identified by the department using all the tools at their disposal	0	8	Open the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery for a minimum of two twelve-hour periods per week.
37	area was closed due to perceived interception of situk river reds, studies indicate this was not the case	5	2 1 abstain	Repeal commercial salmon fishery closed waters near Kayak Island and allow commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear near Kayak



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				Island with the same boundaries in effect in 1980.
39	not healthy for coastal communities	0	8	Allow permit stacking and increase the amount of purse seine gear that may be operated from a vessel with two limited entry purse seine permit holders onboard in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
44	clarification of existing law	5	3 abstain	Specify that operation of each set gillnet or drift gillnet must be performed or assisted by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder in the Prince William



Alaska Board of Fisheries
Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals | December 1-5, 2017

Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
50	to be discussed at B.O.F.			Define Copper and Bering River District seaward boundaries with geographic coordinates.
51	to be discussed at B.O.F.			Amend district and subdistrict boundaries to match Alaska Department of Fish and Game statistical area boundaries within the Prince William Sound Management Area.
52	to be discussed at B.O.F.			Amend Prince William Sound Area description to specify lines of longitude for the eastern and western boundaries.



Adjournment: 10:35pm

Minutes Recorded By: Torie Baker and John Renner

Minutes Approved By: John Renner

Date: 11/17/2017



**Delta Fish & Game Advisory Committee
15 NOV 2017
Delta Junction City Hall Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order: 6:46 PM by Jeff Lipscomb
- II. Roll Call:
MEMBERS PRESENT: Officers:, ,
Regular Members: Jeff Lipscomb Tim Webb, , Jacob White, Paul Dudgeon, Earl McNabb, Ross Baker
Alternates:, Don Quarberg, : Jack Windsor, Tony Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: OFFICERS: Carl Taylor, Rusty Craig, Robert Matthews, , (ALT)
Regular Members: Liz Neipert, Vern Aiton
Alternates: Don Bunselmeier

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6 needed, 9 present
List of User Groups Present: None
- III. Approval of Agenda: Approved
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the OCT meeting were approved with one Amendment – add Sean Osborne to list of USARAK Guests..
- V. Comments from the public – NONE
- VI. Correspondence – None
- VII. Fish and Game Staff Present: Bob Schmidt , Tim Viavant
- VIII. Guests Present: None
- IX. Old Business: NONE
- X. New Business:
 - A. ADF&G Staff Update: Bob Schmidt:
 - 1. Does the AC prefer the new or old format in which proposals to the boards are prepared/presented? Consensus that the new format is preferred.
 - 2. Delta Bison Harvest is 52 bison so far – 37 Bulls, 15 Cows
 - 3. Is the Delta AC still interested in having Cam Carroll come to the DEC meeting to talk about the habitat improvement projects that are funded by the Founding Forty? Jeff Lipscomb and Tim Webb said yes. In hindsight, Jeff Lipscomb will not be at the DEC meeting, so request that presentation at the January meeting.



4. Moose Survey is ongoing. Best conditions for a survey in years with all the fresh snow. Seeing good numbers in the area flown so far, between Delta Junction and the Johnson River. Only doing 20D South this year. Asked about survey in 20A, Bob responded that the Fairbanks office does that one and it is normally scheduled every other year, with 20B taking the off years. This is a 20B survey year, so that has priority, and some or all of 20A might get surveyed if there is time and money left when 20B is completed.

B. Board of Fish Proposals for Prince William Sound – see attached matrix.

C. Other New Business

1. Motion Made by Jacob White and Seconded by Don Quarberg to send a letter from the Delta AC asking that Wes Pinkleman's DS203 Sheep permit for 2017 be reissued for 2018 without being re-drawn. Wes's wife was in an accident that left her paralyzed and required Wes to accompany her out of state for treatment, causing him to miss the entire season. This has resulted in incredible mental and financial stress for the family and we would like to support Wes being able to get his hunt. Motion carried unanimously. Jacob White will draft the letter for consideration at the DEC meeting.

2. Don Quarberg had several questions for Bob Schmidt:

- i. What is the rationale for the Early Openings on the 40-mile caribou season?
ANSWER: At 70,000 animals, more harvest is sustainable to prevent further herd growth.
- ii. Why the regulation changes on Delta Bison – from single sex to either sex, and the 60 day periods restrictions? And why did this come out of the blue with no prior discussions at Bison Working Group or Delta AC meetings? Answer: We considered several options providing flexibility in managing the herd, and chose this as most viable and palatable to the hunters. Bob Acknowledged that this should have been more well socialized with the AC prior to public announcement.
- iii. How many Applicants were there last year for Delta bison permits, and how much money was allocated for bison management in Delta junction? ANSWER: More than 25,000 applicants and around \$50K came to Delta for the Bison herd management. This prompted more discussion on the fact that both the Bison Working Group and the Delta AC supported increased application fees for Bison based on assurances that the additional revenue would be applied to supporting Bison Management. The numbers above indicate that only 20% of the funds generated by bison permit application fees were spent on bison management. The AC asked Bob to ask the Department for an explanation.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
	S	4	2	3 abstain



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
3				Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
	S	4	1	4 abstain
5				Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.
	S	7	2	
7				Clarify lawful gear requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	S	3	0	6 abstain
10				Set an optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon.
	S	8	1	
13				Prohibit using a dip net from a boat to harvest salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict.
	N	0	9	
14				Modify the season dates for the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery based on the preseason king salmon harvest projection.
	N	0	9	
15				Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets.
	Y	8	1	
16				Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries.
	N	0	7	2 abstain
17				Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River.
	Y	9	0	
18				Repeal the reduction in maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery is closed 13 or more consecutive days.
	Y	4	0	5 abstain
23				Prohibit catch-and-release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages.
	N	0	9	



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
24				Amend sockeye salmon regulations in the Gulkana River drainage.
	Y	3	0	6 abstain
25				Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage.
	Y	8	1	
26				Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.
	Y	3	0	6 abstain
28				Repeal mandatory inside waters commercial salmon fishery closures in the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.
	N	0	9	
29				Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Y	9	0	
30				Repeal certain closed waters provisions in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	N	0	9	
35				Open commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear in the Copper River District on the Monday or Thursday closest to May 1.
	N	0	9	
36				Open the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery for a minimum of two twelve-hour periods per week.
	N	0	9	
50				Define Copper and Bering River District seaward boundaries with geographic coordinates.
	Y	9	0	
51				Amend district and subdistrict boundaries to match Alaska Department of Fish and Game statistical area boundaries within the Prince William Sound Management Area.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
	Y	9	0	
52				Amend Prince William Sound Area description to specify lines of longitude for the eastern and western boundaries.
	Y	9	0	
228				
	N	0	7	2 abstain

Meeting Adjourned at 9:33 PM.

Minutes Recorded By: _Jeff Lipscomb_____

Minutes Approved By: __Carl Taylor_____

Date: ____11/17/2017_____



Fairbanks Advisory Committee (FAC) comments on 2017 Prince William Sound and Upper Copper River Finfish Proposals

On November 8, 2017, the FAC met and unanimously adopted the recommendations of the Fisheries Subcommittee. The Subcommittee (SC) consisted of 7 voting members. The majority position is reflected in comments, and where appropriate, the minority position is also stated.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Oppose			
2				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in a portion of the Prince William Sound Area.
	Oppose			
3				Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support			
4				Establish a pelagic rockfish jig fishery with a separate guideline harvest level in the Outside District of the Prince William Sound Area.
5				Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.
	Support			
6				Allow vessels fishing for halibut in the Prince William Sound Area to retain all Pacific cod bycatch when directed Pacific cod fisheries are closed due to reaching the federal halibut bycatch allowance.
7				Clarify lawful gear requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
8				Add specific registration requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
9				Clarify procedures for obtaining, completing, and submitting log sheets for the Prince William Sound Area sablefish fishery.
10				Set an optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon.
	Support			The board should also establish a separate OEG of 28,000 for kings. The department will be asking the board to consider an SEG range of 18,500-33,000. If adopted, the defacto management goal would be lowered 25% to 18,500 and the commercial fishery would be managed to meet this goal instead of the current long-range management goal of 27,000. The end result of adopting an SEG of 18,500-33,000 will be more kings harvested in Cordova and less kings harvested upstream. An OEG of 28,000 would not result in such a reallocation and would be consistent with the current management goal. King stocks have been depressed below historical averages for more than ten years. Now is not the time to once again adjust the escapement goal downward, particularly when there is acknowledged 25% margin of error in escapement calculations. The department could believe 18,500 kings escaped when only 13,875 actually escaped. Until kings stocks are healthy again, we should not lower the management goal. While a lowered SEG might be mathematically attractive, it is poor public policy and in practice would have disproportionate negative impact on upriver users.
11				Remove the requirement to open the Batzulnetas subsistence fishery by emergency order.
12				Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.
	Oppose			
13				Prohibit using a dip net from a boat to harvest salmon in the Glennallen Subdistrict.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
	Oppose			
14				Modify the season dates for the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon fishery based on the preseason king salmon harvest projection.
	Oppose			There is often a large margin of error in the preseason projection as demonstrated this year.
15				Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets.
	Oppose			Gillnet mesh can be made out of anything. There is no evidence that mono nets increase mortality of released fish. There is anecdotal evidence that mesh larger than 3.5 inches can damage gills and split tailfins. There was considerable decision about this proposal. Many agreed that large diameter mesh (of any type) damages gills and splits tail. We worried about the availability and cost to convert nets. When the board has approved such a gear change in the past, implementation is often delayed. The committee authorized its representative to support any amendment that would have a demonstrated positive effect on released kings without putting undue financial hardship on dipnetters or retailers or measurably decrease effectiveness in harvesting sockeye. Retailers in Fairbanks have already ordered supplies for next summer and state that 3.5-inch mesh is readily available and that fewer people are using the problematic 4.5 inch mesh. Net depth is believed to be a factor in fish rolling themselves up, but dipnetters can simply tie a knot to reduce the depth of net.
16				Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries.
	Oppose			
17				Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River.
	Support			The dipnet fishery is driven by sonar numbers. Increasing the fishing area will simply disperse crowding and not increase harvest.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
18				Repeal the reduction in maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery is closed 13 or more consecutive days.
	Support			
19				Allow salmon to be taken for subsistence purposes at any time between May 1 and November 30 in the Copper River District.
	Oppose			The FAC opposes any proposal that would expand opportunities to harvest kings. This is a general objection that applies to many of the proposals that follow.
20				Open all waters of the Copper River District to subsistence fishing for salmon from April 20 through October 15.
	Oppose			
21				Close the Prince William Sound Area subsistence herring fishery, limit gear to 60 feet in length, and monitor the number of permits and area fished.
22				Allow Pacific herring to be taken for personal use in the Prince William Sound Area.
23				Prohibit catch-and-release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages.
	Oppose			
24				Amend sockeye salmon regulations in the Gulkana River drainage.
25				Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage.
	Support			There are no rainbows and steelhead in these waters, and the artificial lure restriction was only intended to protect them. This would legalize using bait to catch burbot.
26				Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
	Support			
27				Remove a closed water provision for Clear Creek.
28				Repeal mandatory inside waters commercial salmon fishery closures in the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.
	Oppose			See comment to proposal 19.
29				Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Support			See comment to proposal 19. This proposal accounts for the fact that the gillnet fleet has become more effective at harvesting kings outside the Barrier Islands in recent years, including setting nets in shallow water up against the Seaward shore of the Barrier Islands. The board should take steps to militate the increased efficiency at catching Chinook in the outside waters.
30				Repeal certain closed waters provisions in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Oppose			See comment to proposal 19. No data to support.
31				Reduce the maximum depth of drift gill nets in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery to 29 meshes through the start of Statistical Week 24.
	Support			This would conserve king or at least serve to neutralize the increased efficiency of the gillnet fleet in targeting kings outside the Barrier Islands.
32				Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District, during the month of May, if the preseason forecast for Copper River king salmon is below the 20-year average, or 35,000 king salmon.
	Support			
33				Prohibit sale of commercially caught king salmon in the Copper River District if restrictions on Copper River drainage subsistence fisheries have been implemented.
	Support			This was effective in restricting king harvests on the Yukon.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
34				Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.
	Support			Just 1 fish, that is all we ask. Conservation should trump marketing.
35				Open commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear in the Copper River District on the Monday or Thursday closest to May 1.
	Oppose			See comment to proposal 19.
36				Open the Copper River District commercial salmon fishery for a minimum of two twelve-hour periods per week.
	Oppose			See comment to proposal 19.
37				Repeal commercial salmon fishery closed waters near Kayak Island and allow commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear near Kayak Island with the same boundaries in effect in 1980.
	Oppose			See comment to proposal 19. Opening Copper River Chinook stocks for increased exploitation in the commercial fishery. Should not be considered by this board until the stock has rebounded, and ocean survival has stabilized.
38				Modify purse seine gear length in the Prince William Sound Area.
39				Allow permit stacking and increase the amount of purse seine gear that may be operated from a vessel with two limited entry purse seine permit holders onboard in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
40				Establish minimum operation depth for drift gillnet gear fished within 90 fathoms of a set gillnet in the Crafton Island Subdistrict.
41				Prohibit operation of commercial salmon drift gillnet gear within 60 fathoms of the shoreward of a set gillnet in the Crafton Island Subdistrict.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
42				Repeal maximum length for set gillnet gear in the Main Bay Salmon Hatchery Harvest Management Plan and prohibit operation of a drift gillnet within 20 fathoms of a set gillnet.
43				Clarify provisions for operation of drift gillnet and set gillnet gear in the Main Bay Subdistrict.
44				Specify that operation of each set gillnet or drift gillnet must be performed or assisted by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
45				Limit each Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder to no more than four set gillnet sites deployed with lines and buoys in the Prince William Sound Area commercial set gillnet fishery.
46				Change boundary description of the Main Bay Subdistrict.
47				Include the value of all enhanced salmon produced in the Prince William Sound Area in the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.
48				Allow commercial fishing for salmon in the Armin F. Koernig Hatchery Terminal and Special Harvest Areas prior to July 18.
49				Reduce harvest of sockeye salmon in the directed chum salmon fishery prior to July 18 in the Armin F. Koernig Hatchery Terminal and Special Harvest Areas.
50				Define Copper and Bering River District seaward boundaries with geographic coordinates.
	Support			



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
51				Amend district and subdistrict boundaries to match Alaska Department of Fish and Game statistical area boundaries within the Prince William Sound Management Area.
52				Amend Prince William Sound Area description to specify lines of longitude for the eastern and western boundaries.
228				<p>This would change to lower boundary for subsistence pike fishing from 3 miles above the Goldstream confluence to 1 mile above. For reasons unexplained in the record, the board amended the original proposal and moved the boundary up to the three-mile mark. The unintended consequence was that this new boundary did not provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence. The department opposes this proposal by stating that past surveys show that many fish should be available above the 3-mile marker, and comment that pike are available in the summer. The department fails to acknowledge that 14 anglers reported harvesting any 12 pike and instead suggests that low participation and harvest was related to "perception" that fishing would be poor.</p> <p>The numbers show that fishing was in fact poor and that subsistence needs were not met. The department comments about unrestricted subsistence opportunities being available year round are misleading. This is a traditional winter subsistence opportunity to many Alaskans. The law requires the board to provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence and the current closed area prevents that.</p>



Adjournment:

Respectfully Submitted,

Virgil Umphenour
Chair Fairbanks Advisory Committee

Mike Kramer
Chair, Fisheries

**Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of Nov. 14, 2017**



AC06
1 of 2

Call to Order: 6:10 by Tom Young (vice chair) at the NERRS building.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Tom Young (vice chair), George Matz (secretary), Michael Craig, Jim Meesis, Thomas Hagberg, Joey Alred, , Ty Gates, Lee Martin.

Members Absent: Dave Lyon (chair) at BOG meeting, Gary Sinnhuber, Dan Anderson, Marvin Peters, Dennis Wade, Doug Malone (at BOG meeting), Wes Humbyrd, Phillip Jones.

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: At least three.

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: NA

Fish and Game Staff Present: None

Guests Present: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
3				Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support	8	0	Consistent with other areas.
5				Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.
	Support	8	0	This would be an easier way of figuring out bycatch and should be more enforceable.
7				Clarify lawful gear requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	Support	7	1	Would make enforcement simpler.
12				Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.
	Support	8	0	Reduces waste.
26				Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.
	Oppose	0	8	Use of a bow and arrow for fishing in congested areas

**Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of Nov. 14, 2017**



AC06
2 of 2

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				may present a safety issue. Location an important factor.
28				Repeal mandatory inside waters commercial salmon fishery closures in the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.
	Support	8	0	This proposal gives more discretion to ADF&G staff to manage based on locality and current conditions. Mandatory closure may unnecessarily deny opportunity.
29				Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	7, A-1	This proposal would have serious impact on the Cordova commercial fishery, essentially blocking this fishery from a necessary option. What is being proposed is an allocation issue that is not supported with sufficient data to justify reducing the allocation to commercial fisherman.
44				Specify that operation of each set gillnet or drift gillnet must be performed or assisted by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	7, A-1	Creates an unfair allocation.
45				Limit each Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder to no more than four set gillnet sites deployed with lines and buoys in the Prince William Sound Area commercial set gillnet fishery.
		4	4	AC uncertain about this proposal.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: George Matz
Minutes Approved By: Dave Lyon
Date: 11/15/2017



Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
11/13/2017
CIAA

I. Call to Order: Meeting called @ 6:30pm by Paul Shadura, Vice Chair

II. Roll Call:

Name	Member Present	Member Absent	Member Excused
Al Belknap – At Large	x		
Alex Agosti – At Large		x	
Andrew Carmichael – Subsistence		x	
Vacant – Commercial Fishing			
Dick Dykema - Trapping		x	
Dyer Van Devere – Commercial Fishing	x		
Greg Geller – Sport Fishing Guide Seat, Alternate	x		
Jerry Strieby – Sport Fishing Guide Seat	x		
Joe Thomas – At Large	X @6:40		
Michelle Williams – Hunting		x	
Mike Crawford – Chair, Sport Fishing Guide Seat			x
Monte Roberts – Sport Fishing Guide Seat			x
Paul Shadura II – Commercial Fish – Vice Chair	x		
Todd Smith – Commercial Fish, Alternate	x		
Will Lee – Secretary, Personal Use	x		
Greg Calloway – At Large		x	
Open Seat – At Large			

Number Needed for Quorum on AC:

List of User Groups Present: AK State Troopers

III. Approval of Agenda:

IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Elisa Russ (called in)



VI. Guests Present:

VII. Old Business:

VIII. New Business: Next meeting December 4th, starting at 6:30pm @ CIAA

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1		Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.		
	Support	8	0	Would like to see an overall reduction in lingcod retention. There might be a concern as pressure has increased and harvest has decreased. This would also make the law easier to enforce from the different lingcod fisheries in cross port waters.
2		Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in a portion of the Prince William Sound Area.		
	Support	8	0	Would like to see an overall reduction in lingcod retention. There might be a concern as pressure has increased and harvest has decreased. This would also make the law easier to enforce from the different lingcod fisheries in cross port waters.
3		Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.		
	Support	8	0	This would make season and bag limits easier to understand as wells help the conservation of nonpelagic fish.
5		Specify that bycatch allowance of lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area is measured as round weight.		
	Support	8	0	
6		Allow vessels fishing for halibut in the Prince William Sound Area to retain all Pacific cod bycatch when directed Pacific cod fisheries are closed due to reaching the federal halibut bycatch allowance.		
	Oppose	0	8	Enforcement issue, loop hold for an already closed fishing season. There is already and EO opportunity from Fish and game to manage this if needed. There is also enough complexity between state and federal management on ground fish, this could make a complex



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				situation more complex.
7				Clarify lawful gear requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	Support	8	0	Easy to clean up language and define lawful gear.
8				Add specific registration requirements for Prince William Sound Area groundfish fisheries.
	Support	8	0	Making the registration for these fisheries would make it easier to track who's fishing for what and protect some of the other registration fisheries.
9				Clarify procedures for obtaining, completing, and submitting log sheets for the Prince William Sound Area sablefish fishery.
	Support	8	0	
10				Set an optimal escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon.
	oppose	0	8	This is not scientifically supported and should be taken up with the Copper River Management Plan
12				Require operators of fish wheels without live boxes to be present when fishing in the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery.
	Support	8	0	The use of fish wheels as a subsistence means is a privilege and having dead fish due to the lack of no fish box is a waste. Manning a fish wheel with no live box makes good sense to not waste a resource.
16				Require log books for all charters operating in personal use and subsistence fisheries.
	Opposed	4	4	Good idea, but this could be a lot of useful data and possible regulation, but this could also create an extra burden on the Department.
25				Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage.
	Support	8	0	This would align conservation efforts in the upper Susitna and upper copper river drainages.
26				Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.
	Oppose	0	8	This is not practical



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
29				Extend inside closure area to 1/4 mile off the southern shores of all barrier islands in the Copper River commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	8	Too restrictive and no biological justification, and very hard to enforce.
31				Reduce the maximum depth of drift gill nets in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery to 29 meshes through the start of Statistical Week 24.
	Oppose	0	8	There is no need to change the depth as the fishery is already restricted. Changing the mesh size would just add another restriction.
33				Prohibit sale of commercially caught king salmon in the Copper River District if restrictions on Copper River drainage subsistence fisheries have been implemented.
	oppose	0	8	
34				Prohibit commercial salmon fishing in the Copper River District until a salmon is recorded at the Copper River sonar.
	Oppose	0	8	Sometime the sonar cannot be placed in time for the early run fishery. Having to wait for the sonar and the ice flows does not make any sense.
44				Specify that operation of each set gillnet or drift gillnet must be performed or assisted by a Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit holder in the Prince William Sound Area commercial salmon fishery.
	Oppose	0	8	This would limit that all nets would have be set physically by the permit holder. This would eliminate jobs, crew, and family fisheries.

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned @ 9:45pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford
Date: 11-17-2017



Paxson Fish & Game Advisory Committee
September 28, 2017
Met at the home of Gary Alcott

- I. Call to Order by Chair John Schandelmeier at 6 pm.
- II. Members Present: John Schandelmeier, Gary Alcott, Steve Chmielowski, Alan Echols, Mark Schlenker,
Members Absent: Lee Harper, David Hoffmeister, Greg Swope
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present:

Paxson Fish & Game Advisory Committee			
First Name	Last Name	Profile	Interests
Gary	Alcott		1-4, 6, 9-10
Steve	Chmielowski	Secretary	
Alan	Echols	Alternate	2-4, 6, 9-11
John	Schandelmeier	Chair	1-6, 9-10, 12
Mark	Schlenker	Vice Chair	1-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12

INTERESTS REPRESENTED

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 - Trapping | 7 - Guiding |
| 2 - Sport Fishing | 8 - Processing |
| 3 - Subsistence | 9 - Personal Use |
| 4 - Hunting | 10 - Outdoorsperson |
| 5 - Commercial Fishing | 11 - Association/Corporation |
| 6 - Photography | 12 - Conservationist |

- III. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Not applicable
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Frank Robbins
- VI. Guests Present: Bryan Aber
- VII. Old Business: None
- VIII. New Business: BOG Central / SW Region Proposal recommendations



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop .	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
23				Prohibit catch-and-release sport fishing in the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River drainages.
	No action			Discussed but did not vote as they can see both sides. We don't see pressure here.
24				Amend sockeye salmon regulations in the Gulkana River drainage.
	Support	4	0	1 abstain
25				Remove the unbaited, single-hook artificial lure restriction in flowing waters of the Upper Susitna River drainage.
	Support	4	0	We support based on fish pressure. 1 abstain

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11 pm.

Minutes Recorded By: Steve Chmielowski
Minutes Approved By: Chair John Schandelmeier
Date: 10/19/2017



Seward Fish and Game Advisory Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2017

1. Call to order 7:00
2. Roll Call:
Members Present: Bacon, Campbell, Carpenter, Casey, Clemens, Dubuc, Foldager, McCracken, Smith, White
Excused: Flood, Hatch, Hubbard
3. Approval of Previous meeting minutes: unanimous
Motion to adopt meeting agenda: unanimous
4. Correspondence: Diane Watson notified the AC about the 10/17 work session of BOF. Up for consideration is making Seward the meeting place for LCI BOF meetings in 2019. Will get an answer back on Tuesday. There have been letters of support from various organizations in Seward including Chamber of Commerce.
5. Introduction of committee members, agency reps: Jeff Salinger ADF&G Soldotna, AWT- Ken Acton
6. Citizens comments: none
7. Old biz:
Ken Carpenter gave a recap of kids' fish day. Success overall. Was able to solicit loaner rod donations, lots of prize donations- Fish House, Bass Pro Shops, Trustworthy Hardware, & Shimano. Safeway and 3 Bears donated food for the event. Grand prize drawing was held for a charter fishing trip. Attendees came from all over the state, including Valdez, Fairbanks and Soldotna. Ken sent thank you letters to donors
8. New biz:
Meeting authorization:
Casey moves, McCracken seconds authorization for Diane Dubuc to attend PWS BOF meeting on December 1 – 5 in Valdez

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support	8	0	motion to adopt: Dubuc, second Clemens Discussion involving continued concern over lingcod abundance. Seward AC was in favor of one fish bag limit on past board cycle. Smith expressed concern over more restrictive halibut regulations leading to increased harvest of lingcod by sport charter fishermen. Denise Hawks, author of proposal, then made public comment, noting that the same regulations for lingcod have been in place since 1993. Hawks cited the Thalhauser (ADF&G) report indicating declining sport harvest of lingcod since a 2010 peak. Hawks reiterated Smith's concern over increased harvest in response to



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
				heightened Federal halibut regulations. The Seward AC continued discussion in favor of adopting the proposal, also mentioning the importance of uniform bag limit regulations between PWS and NGC waters to lessen confusion over the legality of fishing both areas in one day and easing enforceability of the regulation. 2 abstain Dubuc made a motion to write a letter supporting Proposal 1 as written. Campbell seconds it. Motion passes. Dubuc will write the letter of support, to be included with Seward AC comments on PWS proposals.
2		Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in a portion of the Prince William Sound Area.		
	Oppose	0	7	Dubuc: motion to adopt. Dubuc & Smith do not agree with setting areas within PWS off limits to lingcod, as it is difficult to enforce. 3 abstain
26		Allow bow fishing for pink and coho salmon in the Valdez terminal harvest area.		
	Oppose	0	7	Dubuc motion to adopt Dubuc and Bacon concerned for angler safety issues. Foldager expressed concern over public perception by nonresidents. White brings up the popularity of bow fishing in lower 48. 3 abstain

Schedule next meeting: April 2018

Move to adjourn 9:41

Minutes taken by Andy Bacon
Verbally approved by Chair
10/27/2017



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Jim McCracken, Chair
PO Box 691
Seward, AK 99664

Home: 907-224-3701
Email: rvcampak@ptialaska.net

November 13, 2017

Dear Chair Jensen and Members of the Alaska Board of Fisheries,

As reflected in our minutes, the Seward Fish & Game Advisory Committee would like to reiterate our support for Proposal 1 which seeks to reduce the bag and possession limits of lingcod in PWS.

47% of the Seward charter fleet fishes in the PWSMA. We have strong anecdotal evidence through various stakeholders in this fishery that lingcod numbers are in decline. Research provided by the Department makes a solid statement in support of this.

There are a number of charters in the Seward fleet that have begun offering multi-day trips in PWS. We have witnessed large numbers of lingcod being landed and hung for photos.

Many day-charter vessels in the Seward fleet have chosen to allow their guests to keep only one ling in an effort to stem the overfishing in the PWS area. As the Board is aware, lings are slow growing and non-pelagic. They do not move significantly from their home pinnacles. The reports we have received tell a story of lings getting harder and harder to catch in areas that traditionally were able to support a fishery.

The Seward AC believes there are a couple of factors which come into play when we look at the stock evidence. One is the expansion of the overnight fleet with the capability of bringing in 24 legal size lings on a 6 passenger charter every two days. The other is the reduction of fishing time in the halibut fishery. With two days per week of no halibut fishing this year, charter operators were hard pressed for options to get their clients fish. Pressure on the ling fishery is increasing.

Another factor to support this proposal would be to align the bag and possession limits for lingcod in PWS with the bag and possession limits on the North Gulf Coast. Clients have questioned at the cleaning tables why some boats are landing so many lings and others are not. The answer is the discrepancy between regulations for PWS and the NGC. We feel that by adopting this proposal, enforcement would be easier job.

We discussed Proposal 2 which also seeks to reduce the bag and possession limits of lingcod but only in specific areas with other areas kept at the status quo. We dismissed this proposal because we felt the fleet would congregate in the area of more liberal limits and put an even larger effort on a species already in decline.

The Seward AC strongly supports Proposal 1 as written and asks the Board also support it. It is always best to err on the side of conservation. Our AC supported a similar proposal during the last meeting cycle.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dianne M. Dubuc
On behalf of the
Seward Fish & Game Advisory Committee



**Whittier Advisory Committee
11/4/2017
Anchor Inn**

- I. Call to Order: at 1:15 pm by Chair Jon Van Hyning
- II. Members Present: Jon Van Hyning, David Pinquoch, Dave Goldstein, James Norris, Jody Mason, Steve Aberle, Ric Vrsalovic

Members Absent Excused: Mike Durtschi, Gordon Scott

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5

Certificates of Appreciation were handed out by the Chair to David Pinquoch (12 years, 8 months), Steve Aberle (15 years, 5 months), Ric Vrsalovic (25 years, 2 months), Mike Durtschi (11 years, 5 months), Brad Von Wichman (19 years, 1 month), Milt Stevens (15 years, 5 months), David Goldstein (9 years, 5 months), Gordon Scott (10 years, 6 months)

- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Sherry Wright
- IV. Guests Present: Sergeant Doug Massie, Trooper Jesse Darby
- V. Minutes of previous minutes re-approved with note that Steve Aberle should have been listed as excused absent. Jody Mason's Proposal 2 was clarified about a Ling Cod proposal to reduce the allowable catch under discussion on Proposal 2.
- VI. Old Business: none
- VII. New Business: AC elections were held with the following results:

Steve Aberle, David Goldstein and David Pinquoch were elected for 3 years terms (6/20)
Mike Durtschi and Brad Von Wichman were elected for 1 year alternates (6/18)

Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
1				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Oppose	0	7	This reduces daily and bag limit throughout the North Gulf Coast. Support the concept of a reduced limit, but not area wide and prefer Proposal 2.



Alaska Board of Fisheries Prince William Sound Finfish Proposals December 1-5, 2017				
Prop.	Position	# Support	# Oppose	AC Comments, Discussion, Amendments, Voting Notes
2				Reduce the bag and possession limits for lingcod in a portion of the Prince William Sound Area.
	Support as amended	7	0	<p>Amended to clarify the area referenced is Wessel Reef. South of 60 degrees 0 minutes latitude, east of 147 degrees 0 minutes longitude.</p> <p>The purpose of this proposal was a compromise with the charter fleet and to reduce harvest within the smaller area where the decline is happening. Fish are getting smaller and it takes longer to catch them. The number of sport fishermen is increasing. 8 years ago you caught more lingcod over 35 inches. Changes in regulations have put more pressure on the lingcod.</p>
3				Modify and align bag and possession limits for rockfish in the Prince William Sound Area.
	Oppose	0	7	<p>There are very few people that fish rockfish in the winter months. This would simplify the regulations. Support aligning the season, but not the mandatory retention of non-pelagic, especially if we are reduced to one fish. A hydrostatic or barotrauma release identified by the state for the purpose of safely releasing non-pelagic fish may be discussed by the boards or department. The problem is, once you have retained the fish, if I catch a 2nd non-pelagic fish I have to release it, but that is wanton waste.</p>

Next meeting will discuss the Shellfish BOF proposals 216 -227. Whittier AC did not submit Proposal 223 and they do not support that proposal. Next meeting will be held February 10, 2018 at 1 pm in order to submit comments by February 23.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:51 pm

Minutes Recorded By: James Norris
 Minutes Approved By: Chair
 Date: 11/13/2017