

March 5, 2018

## **BOF Hatchery Committee**

### **Charge Statement**

- In accordance with the practice of the Board of Fisheries to form standing committees to receive information and consider public comment regarding certain discrete topics, and provide recommendations and information to the full board, the following is proposed:
  - Under the Board of Fisheries standing committee structure, move to form a permanent standing hatchery committee.
  - One of the main functions of this permanent hatchery committee would be to keep the Board of Fisheries informed about issues related to hatcheries and hatchery produced fish and to provide a public forum for receiving reports, hearing testimony and producing reports and recommendations to be forwarded to the full Board.
  - Proposed Hatchery Committee meeting dates for the next winter (2018-2019) would be at the end of the following three meetings: 2018 Work Session in Anchorage (October), 2018 Lower Cook Inlet in Seward (December), and 2019 Statewide in Anchorage (March).
  - Hatchery Committee meetings would be conducted to seek public comment on hatchery issues related to the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy, straying of hatchery salmon and other issues and concerns related to hatchery production.

Summary of Actions  
Alaska Board of Fisheries  
Work Session to Review Committees  
July 28, 1999

**DESIGNATED REPORTER:** Art Hughes

This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect, or fully interpret the reasons for the board's actions.

**Status of Board Committees**

On July 28, 1999, the board reviewed the status and progress of the various ongoing Board of Fisheries committees. After the status of the committees was determined, the committees met and gave reports to the full board.

The board heard reports from the various committee chairs and based on information and recommendations from the chairs the board made determinations on each committee to be standing committees, ad hoc committees, or task forces. Standing committees are defined as committees whose work is ongoing and incomplete to date. Ad hoc committees are defined as committees whose work has been completed and will reactivate on an issue basis. The third designation was task force status. A task force is defined as a panel made up of various user groups but differs from a committee in that the funding sources are private, and not out of state budgets. Eleven committees have been created by the board: AYK/Area M (task force), Federal/State Subsistence (standing), Habitat (standing), Hatchery (ad hoc), Joint BOF/BOG (standing), Joint BOF/NPFMC (standing), Legislation (standing), Rod and Reel Subsistence (ad hoc), Shellfish (ad hoc), Southeast Herring (ad hoc), and Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (standing).

**Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Committee**

The committee will make changes to the July 20, 1999 draft report. The revised report will be made available on August 12 to the board for final review and the report will be made available to the public (including advisory committees) on August 15. The board will also take up sustainable fisheries at its October work session where there will be a review of public comments, and further distribution of the report. The board also decided that oral comments would be heard at the work session and at each meeting this cycle. During the March 2000 statewide meeting final action will be taken. Furthermore, it was decided that at this time there was no longer a need for public and technical panels to meet.

**Joint BOF/NPFMC**

Active committee that identifies issues whose regulatory oversight is under both federal and state management. Committee format discussed which resulted in the nomination of a chairperson. New board committee member will be needed in October. Committee membership will coordinate themselves so that member terms are staggered. Ideas for better coordination between the board and council were discussed especially with regards to the pending crab decisions. January 2000 picked as joint BOF/NPFMC meeting date. Report to be given in October for September 13, 1999 meeting.

**Habitat Committee**

Committee which looks at land issues and their effect of fish habitat. Contact needs to be made with the new ADF&G, Director of Division of Habitat. Developing issues need to be



concerning advisory committees. Nothing is in front of committee at the moment although the status of committee is a standing committee. Parking lot committee has not met yet and needs to ferret out issues that have not been resolved as of yet. In the future there is a need for one teleconference and one meeting to deal with remaining issues. Report to be given in October addressing budget estimates and need for Joint Board meeting.

#### **Legislation Committee**

New standing committee that works on issues concerning the Board of Fisheries and the legislature and relevant legislation. Two pieces of legislation of concern to the committee: 1) Subsistence Special Session; 2) Senator Pearce legislation regarding creation of a professional Board of Fisheries. Senator Pearce has asked the board to respond to the piece of legislation. Senator's staff will be present at October work session. Committee meeting desired once staffed. Joint Board previously wrote a resolution in response to similar legislation regarding a professional guide board. This committee is very important, particularly this year, considering subsistence dilemma and federal takeover. Board should continue to monitor as professional board issue is very important. Last year legislature dissolved Public Utilities Commission and created entirely new entity and could possibly do the same with Board of Fisheries. One meeting requested prior to October work session. Board chairman will serve ex-officio.

#### **Federal/State Subsistence Committee**

Committee formed to address possible federal takeover of fish and wildlife subsistence management on federal lands and waters in Alaska. The committee chairman briefed the board on the June 1999 summit meeting. Currently the committee is in a holding pattern until there is some movement by the legislature on the issue. A position statement is being written for both boards, and will be cosigned by the Board of Fisheries chairman. The deputy commissioner provided the board with a summary discussion of the lawsuit.

#### **List of Board Committees**

Sustainable Salmon Fisheries

Joint BOF/NNPFMC

Habitat

Shellfish

Hatchery

AYK/Area M (task force)

Rod and Reel Subsistence

Joint BOF/BOG

Legislation

Current issues: Spec Session – Subsistence; Professional Board

Federal/State Subsistence

There is substantial debate as to the carrying capacity of the north Pacific and the Bering Sea. A study is currently being conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The results of this study will be available in seven (7) more years. The study will be completed far in advance of loan repayments to the state<sup>1</sup>.

#### COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

There is no unanimity among the committee members as to any particular recommendations to the full Board. Therefore, the committee submits the following options for consideration by the full Board. The Board may also consider other options as well. It is the Committee's hope that, by presenting these options, a discussion will take place as to the efficacy and appropriateness of these various options with the Board adopting such options as the Board deems appropriate under the circumstances.

- 1) The Regional Planning Teams could report to the Board of Fisheries at a public meeting annually or "in cycle" as to how it is incorporating the concept of substantial public benefit into its planning and oversight processes.
- 2) The Board of Fisheries could set levels of hatchery production, including reductions in production levels in order to insure that hatchery production confers a substantial public benefit and do not jeopardize natural stocks.
- 3) The Board of Fisheries could provide oversight to the Regional Planning Teams to insure that they supervise and manage hatchery operations in such a manner as to confer a substantial public benefit and do not jeopardize natural stocks.
- 4) The Board could require that there be no further increases in hatchery production beyond current levels without further review and approval by the Board of Fisheries to insure that future increases have substantial public benefit and do not jeopardize natural stocks.
- 5) The Board of Fisheries could exercise more controls over hatcheries through its authority on brood stock, egg take and special harvest areas.

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<sup>1</sup> Kodiak Aquaculture and Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Associations have no debt to the State of Alaska.



**Alaska Board of Fisheries  
and  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game**

***Joint Protocol on Salmon Enhancement***  
**#2002-FB-215**

**Background:** In actions taken in January 2001 and June 2002 the Alaska Board of Fisheries stated its intent to institutionalize a public forum to bring a statewide perspective to issues associated with hatchery production of salmon. Accordingly, the department and board agreed to enter into this joint protocol to coordinate department and board interaction on certain aspects of salmon hatchery policy and regulation.

**Authorities:** The commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game has exclusive authority to issue permits for the construction and operation of salmon hatcheries. The Board of Fisheries has clear authority to regulate access to returning hatchery salmon and to amend, by regulation, the terms of the hatchery permit relating to the source and number of salmon eggs. The Board of Fisheries' authorities also include the harvest of fish by hatchery operators and the specific locations designated by the department for harvest (see AS 16.10.440(b) and Department of Law memorandum to the board dated November 6, 1997).

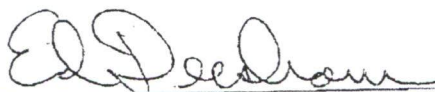
**Statement of Intent:** It is the intention of the commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game and the chairman of the Board of Fisheries that meetings be held on a regular basis wherein the department will update the board and the public on management, production, and research relating to Alaska's salmon enhancement program

**Protocol:** The joint department-board meeting on hatchery described here will take place at a mutually agreeable time and place during regularly scheduled meetings of the board. The meetings will provide a forum for open discussion on a mutually agreed upon agenda of hatchery topics. The agenda may include site-specific as well as regional or statewide hatchery issues. These salmon enhancement meetings will not be open for regulatory actions and no hatchery-related petitions or agenda change requests (ACRs) will be considered as action items. These meetings are open to the public. At its discretion and upon appropriate notice, the board may open the meeting to public comment.

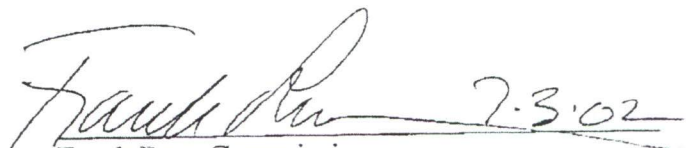
The hatchery meetings will provide an opportunity for the board and the public to receive reports from the department on hatchery issues including: production trends, management issues, updates on hatchery planning efforts, wild and hatchery stock interactions, biological considerations, and research. Requests for report from the department may be made during the board's work session during meeting years when there is a hatchery forum scheduled.

As appropriate, the board and department may agree to invite other state and federal agencies, professional societies, scientists, or industry spokespersons to attend and to contribute information on particular topics, or sponsor other discussions, such as marketing or intrastate effects.

Dated: June 28, 2002



Ed Dersham, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Fisheries

 7-3-02

Frank Rue, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game