

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
 DECEMBER 8-11, 2013
 LOWER COOK INLET FINFISH**

PROPOSAL SUMMARY ACTION SHELL

PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

(This board summary is for informational purposes only and the actions below will have legal affects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board.)

C=Carried, F=Failed, C/A= Carried as Amended, N/A=No Action

LOWER COOK INLET FINFISH PROPOSALS (44)

Action	Proposal Number	Description
Cook Inlet Sport Fishing and Personal Use Salmon (30 Proposals)		
<i>Sport Fishing and Personal Use (12) Proposals</i>		
F (0-7)	46	Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet saltwater sport fisheries.
NA	47	Prohibit use of barbed hooks while sport fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	48	Designate all waters where catch-and-release fishing occurs on salmon as single, unbaited, barbless-hook waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	49	Establish criteria to designate waters in Cook Inlet as single, unbaited, barbless hooks waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	50	Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
F (0-7)	51	Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for coho salmon in the Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.
NA	52	Prohibit catch-and-release fishing for salmon in all Cook Inlet fresh waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	53	Prohibit anglers who are releasing a fish from removing the head of a fish out of the water. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	54	Prohibit sport fishing in major spawning areas where spawning fish are present in Cook Inlet salmon waters. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	55	Decrease Cook Inlet king salmon annual limit to two king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, of which only one can be from the Kenai River. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish</i>

Action	Proposal Number	Description
		<i>meetings.)</i>
NA	56	Decrease the Cook Inlet saltwater king salmon bag and possession limit to one king salmon and reduce the annual limit to two king salmon. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	57	Limit amount of sport-caught fish that may be exported to 100 pounds of fillets. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
<i>Freshwater – Salmon (5 Proposals)</i>		
F (1-6)	58	Close Anchor River to sport fishing on Wednesdays.
CA (7-0)	59	Delay reopening Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Stariski Creek to sport fishing by two weeks. <i>Adopted substitute language in RC 35 by unanimous consent. The substitute language allows only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure from July 1-July 15 in the Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Stariski Creek.</i>
F (0-7)	60	Modify sport fishing season to allow fishing during November and December on Lower Cook Inlet streams.
CA (7-0)	61	Reduce king salmon bag and possession limit to one fish on the Ninilchik River. <i>Adopted substitute language in RC 23 by unanimous consent. Substitute language specifies that a person who takes and retains a king salmon in from the Ninilchik, Deep Creek, or Anchor River may not fish in those drainages for the rest of the day.</i>
C (7-0)	62	Change the Clearwater Creek drainage closed-waters boundary description for sport fishing.
<i>Saltwater – Salmon and Lingcod (13 Proposals)</i>		
NA	63	Allow use of sport-caught pink and chum salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet. <i>Based on action taken on Proposal 64.</i>
CA (6-1)	64	Allow use of sport-caught pink salmon for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet. RC 24 simply puts the proposal in the correct regulatory language.
F (3-4)	65	Allow use of sport-caught spiny dogfish shark for bait in the salt waters of Cook Inlet.
F (3-4)	66	Allow use of archery gear for sport fishing in Cook Inlet salt waters.
CA (4-3)	67	The South marker of the Anchor River in the Early-Run King Salmon Management Plan is designated as the Anchor Point Light. <i>Adopted substitute language in RC 25 by unanimous consent.</i>
F (0-7)	68	Relocate the Bluff Point marker north to the southern Anchor River marker for management of Cook Inlet king salmon sport fishery.
F (0-7)	69	Open the saltwater king salmon conservation zone in the Deep Creek and Anchor River closed area on June 25.
F (0-7)	70	Modify the date king salmon apply to the annual limit in the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon fishery from April 1 to May 1.
F (0-7)	71	Decrease the Lower Cook Inlet winter saltwater king salmon bag and

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		possession limit to one fish, and establish an annual limit of two king salmon.
C (7-0)	72	Eliminate the third Saturday in August (late-run coho) from the youth-only fishery in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon.
C (7-0)	73	Require personal use-caught salmon in the China Poot dip net fishery to be marked.
F (2-5)	74	Decrease lingcod bag and possession limit in Cook Inlet from two to one.
F (0-7)	75	Change the lingcod sport fishing season to begin on June 1 instead of July 1.
Cook Inlet Subsistence Fisheries (1 Proposal)		
C (7-0)	76	Clarify open periods for subsistence salmon fishing in August in Seldovia Bay.
Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries (14)		
Salmon Fishing Districts, Subdistricts, and Sections (3 Proposals)		
CA (7-0)	77	Change line and descriptions separating the Port Dick North and South sections in the Outer District. <i>Adopted substitute language in RC 19 by unanimous consent; defining coordinates of Port Dick Subdistrict section boundaries.</i>
CA (7-0)	78	Remove the "300 yards offshore" reference, and remove references to regulatory markers and replace with latitude and longitude coordinates for certain waters. <i>Adopted substitute language in RC 20 by unanimous consent; limited scope of proposal based on action on proposal 77.</i>
NA	79	Close waters to commercial fishing within one statute mile of the terminus of any anadromous fish stream in Cook Inlet as measured from mean lower low tide, not mean high tide. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meetings.)</i>
Salmon Closed Waters (2 Proposal)		
CA (7-0)	80	Amend waters closed to commercial fishing in Lower Cook Inlet. <i>Unanimous consent on an administrative correction of a typographical error in a boundary location described in the original proposal.</i>
NA	81	Establish various management measures to address decline in returning king salmon to Cook Inlet, including requiring net gear be certified as avoiding king salmon interception and closing commercial herring fisheries. <i>(The finfish aspects of this proposal will be considered at the Lower and Upper Cook Inlet meetings. The king and Tanner crab aspects of this proposal will be considered at the Statewide king and Tanner Crab meeting.)</i>
Salmon Hatchery Management Plans and Special Harvest Areas (4 Proposals)		
CA (7-0)	82	Create a management plan for Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery to

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		determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the Tutka Bay Lagoon, Paint River, and Halibut Cove Lagoon SHAs. <i>Adopted amended language in RC 26 by unanimous consent; specifies how the sport fishery would be managed based on achievement of broodstock goals.</i>
CA (7-0)	83	Modify management plan for Port Graham Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA) and describe the location of the SHA. <i>Adopted amended language in RC 26 by unanimous consent; specifies how the sport fishery would be managed based on achievement of broodstock goals.</i>
CA (7-0)	84	Create a management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA); describe the location of the Bear Lake, China Poot and Hazel Lake, Tutka Bay Lagoon, and Kirchner Lake SHAs; and define fishing seasons within the SHAs. <i>Adopted amended language in RC 26 by vote 7-0; specifies how the sport fishery would be managed based on achievement of broodstock goals.</i>
F (0-7)	85	Prohibit sport fishing in Resurrection River until the Bear Lake sockeye salmon broodstock goal is met.
Cook Inlet Groundfish Pot Storage and Landing Requirements (2 Proposals)		
C (7-0)	86	Modify Cook Inlet groundfish pot storage requirements.
C (7-0)	87	Modify offloading requirements for groundfish.
Groundfish Trawl & Pollock Management Plans & Observer Coverage (3 Proposals)		
NA	43	Create management plans for state-managed fisheries for all Gulf of Alaska groundfish for vessels less than 58 feet using trawl gear. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	44	Adopt a state-waters pollock fishery management plan, including provisions for seasons, gear, quotas, landing requirements, and observer coverage. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>
NA	45	Require 100 percent observer coverage on vessels fishing for groundfish with trawl gear in state-waters management areas. <i>(This proposal will be considered at the Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, and Kodiak Finfish meetings.)</i>

Miscellaneous Business

- Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association emergency petition.** The board voted 4-3 in finding an emergency for YDFDA's petition to develop a seine fishery on the Yukon River. The board will generate a proposal for discussion at the Statewide King and Tanner Crab meeting.

2. United Cook Inlet Drift Association emergency petition. There was no finding of emergency.

3. Motion to rescind discussion. The board adopted a policy that they will not use motions to rescind. The action carried 7-0.

4. Draft board policy for advisory committee recommendations. The board established a policy on advisory committee recommendation provided in RC37. The action carried 7-0.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 21.320 and 5 AAC 21.330, and except as otherwise provided by emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, a person holding a permit under AS 16.10.400 for the Port Graham Salmon Hatchery, and an agent, contractor, or employee of that person who is authorized under 5 AAC 40.005 (g) may harvest salmon within the Port Graham Salmon Hatchery Special Harvest Area from 6:00 AM July 15 until 6:00 PM September 15 using purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

ISSUE: Describes the special harvest area (SHA) for the Port Graham Hatchery and outlines hatchery harvest within the SHA. The current hatchery management plan lacks a description of the historic hatchery SHA, as well as a section that outlines hatchery harvest within the SHA.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Confusion will continue regarding the management structure within which this hatchery facility operates.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen, department staff, the general public, and the hatchery nonprofit will benefit from a clear regulatory definition of the Port Graham Hatchery Program. This plan is similar to proposed plans for Tutka Bay Lagoon and Trail Lakes hatcheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. This plan puts into regulation what is already being done.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (HQ-F13-145)

PROPOSAL 84 - 5 AAC 21.373. Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. Create a management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery to determine harvest priorities within the special harvest area (SHA); describe the location of the Bear Lake, China Poot and Hazel Lake, Tutka Bay Lagoon, and Kirchner Lake SHAs; and define fishing seasons within the SHAs, as follows:

5 AAC 21.XXX Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan

(a) The department, in consultation with the hatchery operator, shall manage the Resurrection Bay North Subdistrict, China Poot Subdistrict, Tutka Bay Subdistrict, and the Kirchner Lake Section of the Bruin Bay Subdistrict to provide for a common property fishery and achieve the hatchery harvest and broodstock goals set by the hatchery operator and approved by the department for the Trail Lakes Hatchery.

(b) The Trail Lakes Hatchery Special Harvest Areas are as follows:

(1) Bear Lake Special Harvest Area: the marine waters of Resurrection Bay in the Eastern District north of the latitude of Caines Head at approximately 59° 58.93' N.

lat., and the fresh waters of Bear Creek, Salmon Creek, and Resurrection River downstream from, and including, the Bear Creek weir;

(2) China Poot and Hazel Lake Special Harvest Area: the marine waters of China Poot Bay Subdistrict in the Southern District inshore of, and enclosed by, a line connecting 59° 34.66' N. lat., 151° 19.27' W. long., then to 59° 35.08' N. lat., 151° 19.77' W. long., then to 59° 33.09' N. lat., 151° 25.22' W. long., and then to 59° 32.84' N. lat., 151° 24.90' W. long.

(3) Tutka Bay Lagoon Special Harvest Area: the marine waters of the Tutka Bay Subdistrict in the Southern District southeast and shoreward of a line from 59° 30.23' N. lat., 151° 28.23' W. long. to 59° 28.63' N. lat., 151° 30.37' W. long., including Tutka Bay Lagoon;

(4) Kirschner Lake Special Harvest Area: marine waters of the Bruin Bay Subdistrict in the Kamishak Bay District northwest of a line connecting 59° 25.17' N. lat., 153° 50.50' W. long. And 59° 23.17' N. lat., 153° 56.90' W. long.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 21.320 and 5 AAC 21.330, and except as otherwise provided by emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, a person holding a permit under AS 16.10.400 for the Trail Lakes Hatchery, and an agent, contractor, or employee of that person who is authorized under 5 AAC 40.005 (g) may:

(1) harvest salmon within the Bear Lake Special Harvest Area from 6:00 AM May 15 until 6:00 PM October 31 using weirs, purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

(2) harvest salmon within the China Poot and Hazel Lake Special Harvest Area from 6:00 AM June 1 until 6:00 PM July 31 using purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

(3) harvest salmon within the Tutka Bay Lagoon Special Harvest Area from 6:00 AM June 1 until 6:00 PM September 15 using purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

(4) harvest salmon within the Kirschner Lake Special Harvest Area from 6:00 AM June 1 until 6:00 PM August 15 using purse seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines.

ISSUE: Create a hatchery management plan for Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery. Currently, there is no hatchery management plan in regulation for this facility. This has resulted in some confusion regarding the defined location of the Trail Lakes Hatchery Special Harvest Areas, as well as department priorities in managing salmon harvest in the Resurrection Bay North Subdistrict, China Poot Subdistrict, Tutka Bay Subdistrict, and the Kirschner Lake Section of the Bruin Bay Subdistrict.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Confusion will continue regarding the regulatory structure that guides operation of this hatchery facility.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen, department staff, the general public, and the hatchery nonprofit will benefit from a clear regulatory definition of the Trail Lakes Hatchery Program. This plan is similar to proposed plans for Port Graham and Tutka Bay Lagoon hatcheries.

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at request of Board member Kluberton

December 10, 2013

Amendments to Proposals 82 – 84.

Proposal 82

5 AAC 21.XXX Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. (a) The department, in consultation with the hatchery operator, shall manage the Tutka Bay Subdistrict and the Paint River Subdistrict to provide for a common property fishery and achieve the hatchery harvest and broodstock goals set by the hatchery operator and approved by the department for the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery. **The department will manage the sport fisheries in accordance with regulations in 5 AAC 47 – 5 AAC 75. The commissioner may issue emergency orders to liberalize or restrict sport fisheries based on achievement of broodstock goals.**

Proposal 83

5 AAC 21.377. Port Graham Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. (a) The department, in consultation with the hatchery operator, shall manage the Port Graham Subdistrict to provide for a common property fishery and to achieve the **hatchery broodstock and harvest goals** [ESCAPEMENT GOAL] set by the hatchery operator and approved by the department for the Port Graham salmon hatchery. **The department will manage the sport fisheries in accordance with regulations in 5 AAC 47 – 5 AAC 75. The commissioner may issue emergency orders to liberalize or restrict sport fisheries based on achievement of broodstock goals.**

Proposal 84

5 AAC 21.XXX Trail Lakes Salmon Hatchery Management Plan. (a) The department, in consultation with the hatchery operator, shall manage the Resurrection Bay North Subdistrict, China Poot Subdistrict, Tutka Bay Subdistrict, and the Kirschner Lake Section of the Bruin Bay Subdistrict to provide for a common property fishery and achieve the hatchery harvest and broodstock goals set by the hatchery operator and approved by the department for the Trail Lakes Hatchery. **The department will manage the sport fisheries in accordance with regulations in 5 AAC 47 – 5 AAC 75. The commissioner may issue emergency orders to liberalize or restrict sport fisheries based on achievement of broodstock goals.**