
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
Upper Cook Inlet Finfish
Anchorage | February 23–March 5, 2024

On-Time Advisory Committee Comments

Anchorage AC	AC01
Central Peninsula AC	AC02
Cooper Landing AC	AC03
Copper River/Prince William Sound AC	AC04
Eagle AC	AC05
Homer AC	AC06
Kenai/Soldotna AC	AC07
Matanuska Valley AC	AC08
Minto/Nenana AC	AC09
Mt. Yenlo AC	AC10
Prince William Sund/Valdez AC	AC11
Susitna Valley AC.....	AC12
Tyonek AC	AC13

**Anchorage Advisory Committee
February 6, 2024
William J Hernandez Hatchery**

I. Call to Order: [Time] by Kevin Taylor, Chair at 6:04pm.

II. Roll Call (12)

No	First Name	Last Name	Present/ Excused/ Unexcused
1	Kevin	Taylor	Present
2	Martin	Weiser	Present
3	Willow	Hetrick	Present
4	J R	Gates	Present
5	Ed (Harold)	Horton	Present
6	Joel	Doner	Present
7	Scott	Crowther	Present
8	Lynette	Moreno Hinz	Present
9	Bryce	Eckroth	Excused
10	Neil	DeWitt	Present
11	Matt	Moore	Excused
12	Ernie	Weiss	Present
13	Nicole	Schmitt	Present
14	Kneeland	Taylor	Present
15	Joni	Earp	Unexcused

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present: None

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brittnany Blain & Fari Fernandez.

IV. Guests Present: Mandy Migura, Deputy Director, Alaska Wildlife Alliance.

V. Approval of Agenda: Neil DeWitt moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ernie Weiss and carried unanimously.

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: N/A

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report: None
- b. ADF&G: None
- c. Others:

Joni Earp did a great job at the Board of Game Meeting in Kotzebue.

Ernie Weiss reported on the NPFMC. The Cook Inlet EEZ is under consideration.

VIII. Public Comment: Debra Call, Cook Inlet Tribal Fisheries (informal) group & John Ross Cook Inlet Tribal Fisheries (informal) group & Ocean Conservancy.

IX. New Business:

- Prepare comments for BOF UCI
 - Scott Crowther moved to accept the unanimous votes of the Fish subcommittee meeting, Nichole Schmitt seconded, and it carried unanimously. The unanimous votes in the Fish subcommittee meeting will reflect 12.
- Prepare comments for BOG Interior and Eastern Arctic Proposals
 - March 15-22, 2024 Board of Game representative. AC nominated Nichole Schmitt to testify on behalf of Anchorage AC.

X. Select representative(s) for board meeting:

- Upper Cook Inlet Meeting: Feb 23-March 5
 - Martin Weiser & Joel Doner will develop testimony for the meeting on behalf of the Anchorage AC & it is undecided who will provide the oral testimony.

XI. Set next meeting date: 3/5/2024 @ William Jack Hernandez Hatchery.

XII. Other: None

Adjourn: 9:20pm

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<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			

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75	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG.		
Support	11	0	<p>Increasing the size of kings that are counted and increasing the escapement at the same time makes it very difficult to meet escapement goals. Kings in general are smaller in size. SEG should be what is important and not sure why an OEG is needed. It seems that one user group is carrying the load for conservation. On the other side of the coin, what is the argument that 15,000 kings are enough for the river when the historical escapement levels are much higher? The number of kings returning has decreased so the goal has to decrease as well. Ocean environmental conditions have changed and we can't control that is one of the issues.</p> <p>Some members recommend sticking with the scientific escapement levels instead of the political OEG numbers. Stick with the science, not the economic and political reasons for an OEG.</p> <p>One abstention</p>
76	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
No Action	--	--	See 75
77	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
No Action	--	--	See 75
78	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
No Action	--	--	See 75
79	Create additional step-down measures to the KRLRKSMMP		
No Action	--	--	See 75
80	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan		
Oppose	0	11	<p>Asking for the SEG to be lowered, we are not in favor of that. The small king numbers need to be factored in when counting for the SEG. We recognize the east side set net fleet has been closed while everyone else is open. There needs to be an equitable sharing on conservation.</p>
81	Provide addition commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	11	<p>Reducing gear is an option for some set netters but not for all. Some fishermen don't have beach access. We would like to see an equitable solution. Against argument is we would rather see a management plan rather than a plan based on triggers. Something needs to change but we are not sure this is the answer. Circles back around to removing the OEG.</p>

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82	Repeal portions of intent language from the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> and shorten plan duration		
Oppose	0	11	It is difficult to count the smaller kings and distinguish them from the other species.
83	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan		
No Action	--	--	Very prescriptive and detailed, trying to rewrite the regulation book. Stick to one or two issues in a proposal, this proposal has too many moving parts for us to approve.
84	Close fishing for Kenai River late-run king salmon upstream of river mile 14 when the preseason forecast is below 20,000 fish		
Oppose	0	11	It has been a number of years since the preseason forecast was above 20,000. Managers have EO authority and we don't need this regulation on the books.
85	Prohibit use of motorized vessels in the Kenai River if the sport fishery is closed		
Oppose	0	11	One member believes that outboard motors do impact the spawning kings. This proposal will have a negative economic impact on the Kenai Peninsula. This would close the sockeye fishery also. This is an unrealistic proposal as people need to access homes on the river that do not have road access. One abstention.
86	Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through Oct 31 if the king salmon sport fishery is closed by EO.		
Oppose	0	11	EO works for this fishery, no need to put this in regulation
87	Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
Oppose	0	11	We agree something needs to change but this is not the answer. There is a healthy sockeye run that guides should be able to fish. At the same time the set netters should be able to fish also if there is a surplus of sockeye.
88	Prohibit nonresidents from fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River if the king salmon sport fishery is closed		
Oppose	0	11	Negative publicity for the tourism industry. Sockeye are not a stock of concern and this is not the answer.

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89	Prohibit nonresident anglers from participating in the Kenai River Late-Run king salmon fishery		
No Action	--	--	See 88
90	Expand weekly time-period “windows” where the commercial salmon fishery is closed		
Oppose	0	11	Longer windows are not the answer. EO is an option if a closure is needed. The commercial fleet has not been fishing much and this is not necessary.
91	Amend criteria for commercial set gillnet fishing periods, in the Upper Subdistrict, after August 1		
Support	11	0	Sometimes waiting for the actual OEG to be achieved causes the commercial fleet to miss fishing time. At the same time projections are not always met and there is a risk to allow commercial fishing before an escapement level is met. The confidence level of the projection is a factor that is not mentioned in the proposal. If fishing is allowed early some of the kings projected to escape might be caught causing the projection to not be met. Managers need to have discretion/EO ability.
92	Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ measures in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	Not enough knowledge for the AC to weigh in
93	Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ management measures within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	See 92
94	Modify allowable gear when the set gillnet commercial fishery is restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal		
Support	11	0	Trying to make it uniform and it makes sense.
95	Modify the amount of set gillnet gear that can be used in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal,		
Oppose	0	11	Added cost to a fishery that is already struggling. Having to change to 22 mesh gear would be expensive.
96	Modify operation of set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict,		
Oppose	0	11	Could allow for more fishing time as flagged gear will not fish as well as normal set net gear. Could be an option but we are not

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			sure how well it will work. It should be tied into some other restriction but should not be required.
97	Amend the Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional fishing opportunity in the sport and set gillnet commercial fisheries		
Support	9	1	Support because believe there is a political and biological difference in management schemes that needs to be addressed which would require a management plan revision. We are in favor of all user groups having an opportunity instead of one user group being shut down. A limited fishery would allow for opportunity until SEG is met. 1 abstention due to lack of knowledge.
98	Modify the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal		
Support	11	0	600 and 1200 foot open areas for set netters as an option. Equal opportunity is important.
99	Make numerous changes to the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	11	There is going to be different parts of these proposals adopted/discussed. This proposal has too many moving parts and we cannot approve it as written. The proposer raises the SEG which you cannot do.
100	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when Kenai River late-run large king salmon escapements exceed 13,500 fish		
No Action	--	--	Limited fishery based on escapement which would give some opportunity to set netters. There are a lot of fishermen that don't have access to the 600 foot limit or the 1200 foot areas.
101	Remove 'paired restrictive' time and gear exemption from the 600-foot commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict		
Oppose	1	10	Proposal wants to remove the exemption for hour and gear limitations to line up with the other fishery. Kasilof fishery is different because it is an enhanced run. The 600 feet already severely restricts Commercial fisherman as the nets go dry in those sections. EO can already manage for this. Support because one member likes the way it is and it's there to conserve king salmon.
102	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		

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Support	10	1	Provides opportunity for set netters to catch surplus sockeye. If the SEG is met for Kings then the set net fleet should be allowed to fish. The SEG should be the guideline used not the OEG. We are in favor of management having flexibility with EO. Opposition due to paired restriction w/ commercial and recreational.
103	Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery		
Oppose	0	11	This might work at the mouth of the river, hard to see how this will work miles away from the mouth of the river. Giving the commercial fleet dip net opportunities in the river would be a possible better option.
104	Adopt a new Kenai River late-run king salmon management plan for the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery		
No Action	--	--	
105	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when the Upper Subdistrict would be closed to conserve Kenai River late-run king salmon		
No Action	--	--	See 98
106	Restrict legal set gillnet gear when the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery is open within 600 feet of shore		
Oppose	0	11	29 mesh nets will still be on the bottom in most areas
107	Repeal the 600-foot Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery and create a new opportunity with shallow set gillnet gear more than one half mile offshore		
Support	11	0	This proposal makes sense because the nets ½ mile off shore will not be touching bottom like they will 600 feet of the beach. Nets will catch more sockeye and it gives more fisherman opportunity. Current will also push lead lines up and possibly allow more kings to pass. 29 mesh nets do catch less fish. Having multiple options is better than limiting everyone to 600 or 1200 feet.
108	Exempt the 600-foot set gillnet fishery from fishing time and gear restrictions in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	11	More kings would probably be caught. This would allow more sockeye to be harvested. Exempting the gear restrictions probably makes this proposal a tough one to pass.
109	Create new set gillnet commercial salmon fishing opportunity based on Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement		
Oppose	0	11	There is already a half mile fishery in place.

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110	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for set gillnet gear within the <i>Kenai River Late- Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	Some parts of the king salmon management plan will be adopted. This proposal has too many moving parts. We believe that there needs to be opportunity for the commercial set net fleet and that the OEG should not be used.
111	Adopt a Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		
Oppose	0	11	OEG for sockeye changes depending on the run size. It is not standard every year. The King OEG/ SEG takes precedent over the Sockeye OEG/SEG so when the king SEG is not met this proposal is tough to support.
112	Increase the upper bound of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal range		
Oppose	0	11	If the king plan was not in place this would reduce sockeye opportunity. There is no reason to increase the in river goals. 1.2M to 1.6M is a big jump and not warranted. One abstention
113	Adopt an optimal escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon		
No Action	--	--	See 111
114	Adopt an Optimal Escapement Goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon		
No Action	--	--	See 111
115	Modify intent of the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	11	Attempt is to try and make the management plan less complicated. The coho exploitation rate is hard to quantify. This can be an allocation issue with the Northern District.
116	Repeal mandatory weekly closures in the commercial set gillnet fishery		
Support	5	4	Windows keep managers from managing when needed. The river can over escape in the 48 hours of mandatory closures. The fish show up in pulses and the managers should be able to manage to those pulses. The commercial fishery is already restricted enough. Managers should be able to EO an opening if there are surplus salmon. Friday closure makes sense but not Sunday and 48 hours might be too long. Tides and number of fish don't fit into "windows" sometimes. One member likes to dip net 4 tides after a commercial opening because windows can let more fish into the river. Removing windows can give managers more flexibility. Weekend window has a purpose and some are in favor of that. We are in favor of flexibility. 2 abstentions.

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117	Repeal 'paired restrictions' from Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plans		
Support	7	4	Current paired restrictions are not truly "paired". The commercial set net fleet did not fish last year while the sport fishing and dip net fishermen were not restricted. Paired restrictions can work if the restrictions are fair and equitable. It can be a good way to manage a fishery if the restrictions make sense. Any fishery that incidentally catches kings should be restricted as the commercial set net fleet is. Zero mortality for kings is tough to manage and leads to inequities among the user groups.
118	Reduce the Kasilof River sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		
No Action	--	--	The Kasilof River has been over escaping Sockeye annually. Once again we have the dilemma of managing for kings or managing for sockeye. We are not able to manage for sockeye and ignore the king fishery. They want to pull out of the King plan. See113.
119	Allow the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to remain open when the remainder of the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict is closed		
Oppose	0	11	The kings in this fishery get hammered and not many get up the river when the special harvest area is open. Quality of fish is not as good in this fishery.
120	Repeal portions of intent language within the <i>Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	11	The original intent of the KRSMA was to protect Kenai Sockeye and now it is for conservation of kings. The exploitation of the Kasilof kings is very high with this fishery. The Kasilof sport fishery suffers when this fishery is open. A better option is to allow the set netters to fish their historical areas.
121	Modify intent language within the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan		
No Action	--	--	See 115
122	Repeal the 'one percent rule' in the Central District drift gillnet fishery		
Support	6	4	EO is a better method to manage the fishery than the 1% rule. On a really big year 1% can be a really large number that will be difficult to reach for the remaining fisherman to attain. There is also less effort after August 1 so it also makes the number hard to reach. The reason to have the 1% rule is to keep the commercial fleet from targeting other species. Reason not to have the rule is typically it is punitive to the local fisherman. On a small run year it is not as big of a deal. Coho protection is the biggest argument to keep the 1% rule. 1 abstention.

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123	Repeal the “one percent rule” from Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery management plans		
No Action	--	--	See 122
124	Repeal the “one percent rule” from Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery management plans		
No Action	--	--	See 122
125	Repeal sections of the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i> to provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with drift gillnet gear		
Oppose	0	11	We don’t have the data available to support.
126	Increase drift gillnet fishing opportunity in Drift Gillnet Area 2		
No Action	--	--	
127	Modify weekly fishing periods in the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	
128	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
Oppose	0	11	Commissioner already has the authority to open or close the fishery with an EO. Language does not need to be changed.
129	Increase Upper Subdistrict set gillnet commercial salmon fishing opportunity		
No Action	--	--	See 128
130	Lengthen Upper Subdistrict set gillnet commercial salmon fishing season		
Oppose	5	7	Support b/c opportunity to harvest later running sockeye salmon should be allowed. Runs throughout the state are trending later. The 1% rule will typically close down the fishery before August 15. Opposed b/c Argument against is to protect the coho run. Coho conservation is of the utmost importance.
131	Modify Northern District weekly commercial fishing periods		
Support	10	1	Goes against trying to protect the king runs giving the commercial fleet another day. Need more information to make an informed decision. The rest of the fleet will want 3 days also.
132	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity in Upper Cook Inlet based on salmon escapement		
Oppose	0	12	We are not in a single stock fishery. Tough to manage the fishery based on escapement of only sockeye.

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133	Modify weekly fishing periods in the Upper Subdistrict and adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures		
Oppose	0	10	We are open to increased opportunity, not sure this is the option. Making the closures punitive to all user groups is too complex and will be tough to manage and support. The openings in regulation are Monday and Thursday and they don't always show on either of those days. If one of those days is taken away and that is the day the fish show up it is more than a 50% reduction in catch/opportunity. 1 abstention.
134	Modify weekly fishing periods		
Oppose	0	12	This proposal wants regular inlet wide openings scheduled. Fish don't necessarily show up on those days. Managing by EO based on abundance makes more sense if the department will actually provide openings when warranted.
135	Close the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action	--	--	Not enough information
136	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action	--	--	Not enough information
137	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet		
Oppose	5	7	What happens to the owners of sites that are within the one mile limit? We are not sure how that would be implemented.
138	Allow use of a seine lead in the set gillnet fishery and define minimum distance between gear		
Oppose	0	12	Problematic for navigation and there are lots of logs, trash & current to deal with. Doesn't seem like a viable option.
139	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery		
Oppose	1	10	Selective way to fish is the pro for the proposal. Not sure if it is a practical option in the inlet with tides and weather. There needs to be alternative methods of harvest so we do welcome new ideas
140	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery		
Oppose	0	12	See 139
141	Restrict set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
Oppose	0	10	No scientific evidence that shallower nets catch fewer kings. There is not any science to support. This proposal is another way to restrict a gear type. Time and area is a better way to restrict the fishery. 1 abstention.
142	Establish new commercial fishery reporting requirements in Upper Cook Inlet		

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Support	12	0	This will differentiate the size of kings caught, more information is better for management. All the kings are counted in the commercial fishery but only the big kings are counted in the Kenai River now.
143	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year		
Support	12	0	Allows the commercial set netter to fish different areas if one area is producing better than another. Northern district fisherman will not like this as it could lead to increased competition for them.
43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
No Action	--	--	Argument for is the ocean environment could be overloaded with hatchery fish and it is negatively impacting the wild stocks. Question is Does the board have the authority to enact this proposal? Is there enough scientific evidence to support? We need to see the evidence before we can support or oppose the proposal.
144	Amend the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	Hoping to harvest pink salmon when the sockeye run is over. It is still a mixed stock fishery so it is difficult to manage. There has not been a pink salmon opener since this management plan was adopted.
145	Increase commercial fishing opportunity in the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action	--	--	
146	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon		
Support	12	0	Lines up the dates as needed.
147	Modify the Kenai River king salmon annual limit		
Support	12	0	This would protect some of the large kings when the fishery is open if only one a year can be caught. Argument against is member would rather the fishery be catch and release only. Better than current regulation.
148	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River		
Oppose	3	9	Oppose b/c adds more non power days only if you are fishing kings. Difficult to enforce when you are fishing other species. Support b/c takes power boats off the river 4 out of 7 days.
149	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon		

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Oppose	0	12	There is a big difference between catch and release as a management tool and a blanket statement that there is no catch and release ever. 90% survival rate on released fish; that should not be prohibited. This proposal is too restrictive. There are sport fishermen that don't catch and release because they want to keep the fish and take it home. Point of sport fishing is to provide opportunity, catch and release provides opportunity for sport fishermen.
150			Create a Kasilof River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan
Oppose	0	12	This proposal wants to mirror regs for the Kenai but they are very different river systems including the fact that the Kasilof has a hatchery component. We are not in favor of completely ignoring the Sockeye OEG to conserve kings that may or may not show up. A management plan might be needed but not this one. The two river systems need to be managed differently.
151	Add days and area to the nonmotorized restrictions on the Kenai River		
Oppose	4	8	There are already enough restrictions. A prop on 10 horsepower motor can make the same amount of noise as a 50 horse. See 148.
152	Prohibit motorized vessels on the Kenai River		
Oppose	0	12	Unrealistic
153	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays		
Oppose	0	11	Status quo is working, no need to change. Discussion was had that guides should not be allowed on the river on Sundays at all. Currently they can transport anglers on Sunday. If turbidity in the river is a concern, a day without guides on the river is good. Keeping the limit at 3 fish would help open up spots on the river. Keeping guides off the river for a day or two offers resident anglers more opportunity.
154	Allow guiding on the Kenai River without day and time restrictions if the king salmon fishery is closed		
Oppose	4	7	Restrictions allow unguided anglers more opportunity.
155	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays if king salmon fishery is closed		
Oppose	4	0	See 154
156	Allow sport fishing from a guided nonmotorized vessel on Mondays during May – July		
Oppose	0	11	No reason to differentiate between guides and private residents for nonmotorized vessels.

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157	Allow anglers to fish on the Kenai River on Mondays in August and September from a guided vessel		
Oppose	2	9	Allowing the river to rest for a day or two in August/September is still a valid concern. Pressure in August/September can be significantly lower on the river is a pro argument. Liberalizing coho fishing when all of the set net fleet cannot fish to protect kings is not fair. If even one king is killed it seems counterproductive. Guides can self-regulate and not fish in the known king areas.
158	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on Sunday and Monday with no hour restrictions		
Oppose	0	11	Current system is working.
159	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River on Mondays from August 1–November 30		
Oppose	0	11	Current system is working
160	Limit guided activities on the Kenai River from May 1–July 31		
Support	7	4	Pro: This will prevent the transporting of fisherman by guides on Sundays and Monday and hopefully give the river a break. There will still be illegal guiding going on but there will be less activity on the river. Nay: This could be a detriment to the economic health of Soldotna/Kenai. If there is a surplus of sockeye they should be fished. Some change is probably needed, parts of the proposal could be implemented.
161	Restrict guided shoreline anglers on the Kenai River to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., from July 1 to August 15		
Oppose	0	11	Discriminatory towards guides trying to make a living. Could congest the whole river during that time frame. Longer hours will spread guided fishing out on the river. Private fisherman will face a congested river during that 12 hour period. Not everyone wants to fish after 6 pm. Some other hourly restriction might work but not this one.
162	Allow guiding on the Kenai River prior to 6:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.		
Oppose	0	11	This proposal does not mention what happens when King Fishing is open so we are opposed. Status quo is working.
163	Reduce the time fishing from and anchoring a guided vessel is allowed in the Kasilof River		
Support	6	5	It will make the river more congested at 6 am, status quo works. Pro is it will give the private angler more opportunity.
164	Limit sport fish guiding in the Kasilof River		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
No Action	--	--	See 163
165	Allow sport fishing in the Kenai River with only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure from January – July		
No Action	--	--	Too many issues in one proposal.
166	Expand time and area waters of the Kenai River are limited to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure and redefine “artificial fly”		
Support	11	0	It is important to protect the Rainbow trout but they are typically done spawning by June 15. Different dates could be considered.
167	Expand time and area in waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure.		
Support	11	0	Fish can be caught without bait. We are ok protecting the rainbows in that section of the river.
168	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem on the Kenai River		
Oppose	0	11	Status quo works, fish are being caught with on fly.
169	Change the definition of “bag limit” for sockeye salmon in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers		
Support	9	3	Opens up opportunity for abuse. It is already happening but if it is legal it will be common practice. Pro is it will help anglers harvest more fish. River is managed for more harvest and helping fisherman be more efficient is good.
170	Allow backtrolling in a section of the Kenai River		
Oppose	0	11	The idea the fishermen/guides can self-regulate is not realistic. Status quo is working. There should be more protected areas not less.
171	Allow anglers to fish downstream of the Soldotna Bridge after taking a limit of coho salmon		
Oppose	6	6	There are not many rainbows below the bridge that time of the year. The intent of the regulation in our opinion is to prevent catch and release fishing for cohos. There must be regulatory simplicity. Support is to make the regulation uniform throughout the river. Opposed b/c there could also be incidental catch of king salmon during that time of the year.
172	Allow fishing from a vessel after retention of a limit of coho salmon on the Kenai River		
No Action	--	--	See 171
173	Modify regulations for the Kenai River August coho salmon fishery		
Oppose	0	12	End of July if retention of Kings is allowed bait opens Aug 1. This would put into regulation when bait is allowed. EO is managing the fishery fine, no reason to put this into regulation. The manager can determine

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			when bait will be allowed. Pro is fishermen will know on July 30 what the bait rules are. This makes it more difficult for the department to manage the fishery.
174	Regulate use of bait in Kenai River in August		
No Action	--	--	See 173
175	Reduce the coho salmon limits in the Kenai River to two fish after August 30		
Support	12	0	At the end of August guides are off the river, 3 coho for locals is reasonable. Cohos are not managed like sockeye and Kings and the amount of data available is not the same. Support is that 2 coho is enough for the resource and makes the limit consistent.
176	Reduce the coho salmon limit on Kenai River after September 1		
No Action	--	--	See 175
177	Modify Kenai River coho salmon season and bag limits		
No Action	--	--	See 175
178	Reduce the season for the Kenai River coho salmon sport fishery		
Oppose	0	12	Coho are caught incidentally in the sockeye fishery and catch and release for them does not work. If the fish are there they can be harvested. The resource does not need to be regulated this way. This proposal isn't about conserving coho.
179	Close additional waters to sport fishing in the upper Kenai River		
Oppose	0	12	It is already closed to coho fishing. Making something more illegal doesn't make sense
180	Close waters of the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway Bridge to Kenai Lake to sport fishing		
No Action	--	--	See 179
181	Close waters of the Kenai River to sport fishing from January 1 – June 10		
Support	12	0	Rainbow trout do need a break at some point. Angler pressure is increasing and the fish have been caught multiple times. Providing a sanctuary for these fish is not a bad idea.
182	Prohibit nonresident sport fishing on the Kenai River		
Oppose	0	12	Not realistic and could be challenged in court. This doesn't make sense.
183	Allow the department to take action sooner to harvest surplus in Russian River sockeye salmon runs		
Support	12	0	We support the department having more flexibility with bag limits. It is normal in other fisheries.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
184	Move 3-mile boundary marker to Old Kasilof Landing (river mile 4)		
Support	12	0	We support the department effort to improve the fishery.
185	Allow only unbaited, single-hook artificial lures in the Kasilof River		
Support	12	0	Protecting the wild stock makes sense. Most of the king fishing is below the bridge. We are in favor of Protecting the spawning areas
186	Update the stocked lakes list for the Kenai Peninsula Area		
Support	12	0	Makes perfect sense
187	Hidden Lake spawning protection		
No Action	--	--	Lake trout spawning protection in Hidden Lake is the proposal. We do not have enough information to comment. We do not have biological data to make an informed decision.
188	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake		
No Action	--	--	We do not have biological data to comment
189	Require personal use guides in Cook Inlet to adhere to sport fishing guiding requirements		
Support	12	0	Personal use guides should fall under the same rules.
190	Establish requirements to guide in Upper Cook Inlet personal use fisheries		
No Action	--	--	See 189
191	Adjust annual limits in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based on abundance		
Oppose	0	12	Support is that the current system is being abused. Opposition is that where will the fish go if not caught by the personal use fishery? The personal use fishery can be a tool to prevent over escapement. There is no biological concern for the reduction when the river is over escaping. If people wait for an EO for the limit to be raised, it will clump everyone into the same time period on the river
192	Close personal use fisheries based on commercial openings		
Oppose	0	12	If there is a biological concern and escapement is not being met, the personal use fishery should be closed. King conservation is a different issue and that is the reason the commercial fisheries are closed.
193	Require king salmon caught and released in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries not be removed from the water		
Oppose	0	12	Many fish have to be removed from the water to tell the difference especially if it is a small king. A 7 pound king is hard to differentiate until removed from the water.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
194	Allow retention of Dolly Varden in Kenai/Kasilof personal use dipnet fisheries		
Support	12	0	For reasons stated. No biological concern.
195	Restrict EO authority to only extend fishing time of the shore-based fishery in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
Oppose	0	12	The fishery is open 24 hours as a tool to prevent over escapement. No reason to differentiate between the user groups.
196	Prohibit personal use fishing on the Kenai River from an anchored vessel		
No Action	--	--	Can be a safety issue if everyone is drifting and one person is anchored in the middle of the drift zone. Support for reasons stated.
197	Prohibit retention of king salmon in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
Oppose	0	12	If kings are in abundance then kings should be allowed to be kept. Status quo is working fine.
198	Prohibit transport of Kenai River personal use fish by motorized vessel upstream of the Warren Ames Bridge		
Oppose	0	12	Not enough launch areas below the bridge to support the full demand of the fishery. People that have cabins above the PU area will be punished.
199	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
Support	12	0	A lot of non-motorized uses on the Kasilof. This makes sense.
200	Close the Kasilof personal use gillnet fishery when Kenai or Kasilof Rivers sport fisheries are closed		
Support	12	0	We agree with the proposer that if kings need to be protected this fishery should not be open. There is the possibility of kings being caught with the gill net fishery when nets are not checked in most cases until they go dry.
201	Close the Kenai River personal use fishery when drift fishery is restricted		
Oppose	0	12	Not realistic.
202	Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries		
Oppose	0	12	Could make sense when the fishery is open. Could be a non issue as it will be difficult to catch any fish with 6" gear. 5" gear will still work, 4 ¾" might be too small.
203	Move the regulatory markers for the Kasilof River personal use dip net fishery		
No Action	--	--	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
Oppose	0	12	Subsistence for kings with rod and reel opens opportunity for abuse of the resource.
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
No Action	--	--	Not enough knowledge for us to support or not support
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet		
Oppose	0	12	The department is already managing the fishery to these levels. If/when the fishery rebounds we do not want to reduce the harvest levels to a point that restricts the fishery. The fishery should be restricted based on the run size.
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
Oppose	0	12	Paired restrictions, if sport fishing is closed in the Deshka then commercial fishing is closed in the ND. There are other streams in the Northern District, one river should not determine what happens in an entire fishery.
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
No Action	--	--	See 207
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
Oppose	4	8	Opposed b/c disagrees with the proposer. Support b/c think the King Salmon in the Northern District are in peril.
210	Modify the Northern District Salmon Management Plan and Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
Oppose	1	10	Too many triggers in one proposal makes it too complicated to support. One trigger might make sense, 3 triggers too many. Managing with EO works. What happens to the traditional set net sites that are within ½ mile of the mouth? The triggers remove the opportunity to manage with EO. We are in favor of EO management. 1 abstention.
211	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
Support	8	4	Gear restrictions were mandated because the Sockeye were listed as a stock of concern. Once the stock of concern status was removed

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			the department should consider letting the commercial fishermen fish their full amount of gear. The department can manage with EO is necessary. Oppose vote is because if the full gear is allowed the Sockeye might again be a stock of concern.
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
No Action	--	--	Status quo works for us.
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
No Action	--	--	Personal use fishery is new
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i> .		
No Action	--	--	
215	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Support	7	4	Small area that is lumped in with the rest of the Northern District but they catch a different group of fish than the others. They want to be able to fish that group of fish. Biologist can open or close based on abundance. Opposition thinks that kings might be caught. 1 abstention.
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet		
Support	10	1	There is a lack of information on what the total run for smelt is and what the proper management for them is. Being cautious with the harvest makes sense. Knowing the history of the catch level would be helpful. There is no formal assessment on smelt. ESA trumps all regulations. Opposed because are still concerned that we do not have enough information to make an honest decision. More data is needed.
217	Repeal the Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan		
Opposed	2	10	Would reconsider if the commercial fishery was the only one that closed. Support for reasons stated.
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area		
Oppose	1	11	Opposed b/c there is a big difference between a 16" small jack and a 24" Jack. There will be mortality for the bigger kings and if the river is closed to king fishing you should not be able to fish for the

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			smaller fish that might spawn. All the management plans say that every king matters and we agree. Support because there are more male fish than females and the small males will not impact the total return from the spawning fish.
219	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
Oppose	0	12	This will punish the fishermen that are actually fishing legally for a different species.
220	Open additional waters in the Big River drainage to sport fishing for coho salmon		
No Action	--	--	That part of the river is closed because the sockeye spawn in this section of the river. We don't have enough knowledge to comment on the proposal otherwise.
221	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage		
Oppose	0	12	The commercial set net fleet and drift fleet are being limited to protect the Northern District coho stock. If we are trying to protect the Coho with restrictions on the commercial fishery then the same restrictions should apply to the sport fishery. There has not been a huge abundance of coho in this area, there is no reason to raise the limit.
222	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon		
Support	12	0	We think allowing an increased limit of pink salmon would not hurt the resource.
223	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna River Drainage Area		
Support	12	0	Increase regulatory complexity regarding when bait is allowed. Bait should be allowed on Sept 1 similar to the other rivers in the region.
224	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway.		
Support	12	0	Makes sense to protect the rainbows in the entire system.
225	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession		
Oppose	0	12	We strongly oppose this proposal.
226	Allow anglers to use two artificial lures in tandem in Susitna River Drainage waters.		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	2	10	It is an effective way to fish but it also makes the fisherman more successful. You can catch fish with one fly and we are in favor of protecting the trout fishery.
227	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4,		
No Action	--	--	
228	Close dip netting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River		
Support	12	0	We support the department efforts to protect a small run of coho on Anderson Creek.
229	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
Oppose	0	12	Will this increase the catch of coho? Making it open 4 days a week will increase incidental coho catch. This doubles the effort during the same time period. We like that the fishery closes July 31 unless opened by EO. If the goal is to reduce the amount of coho the commercial fleet catches why are we increasing opportunity for coho to be caught? One more day a week might be the better option to consider so that there are not consecutive days it is open (Friday, Saturday). Too large of an increase in opportunity, we support one extra day.
230	Increase the open season of the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
Oppose	0	12	We are opposed to the fishery being open after July 31 to protect the coho stocks.
231	Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery		
Oppose	0	12	See 230
1	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
Support	12	0	May 1 might be a better date than May 15. We support the department efforts.
2	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
Oppose	0	12	See proposal 1. We don't think they are all feeder kings.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
Oppose	0	12	The fisheries should be managed separately. They are two different fisheries and whether or not the set net fleet is fishing should not impact whether or not kings can be harvested. Kings are still a stock of concern.
4	Redefine the boundaries of the Upper Cook Inlet Area (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
Oppose	0	12	This will open waters that may have spawners in it. A bigger buffer is better. Going further north increases the chance of catching spawners.
232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		
Oppose	0	12	Proposal does not make sense and comparing sport fishing licenses to stacking commercial fishing permits is not viable because there is a limit on how many commercial permits there are.
233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process		
Support	10	2	Support b/c anyone can organize a derby right now. Some river systems have no stock assessment. It is a blanket proposal for no derbies at all. There are enhanced fisheries that have plenty of fish for a derby.
234	Clarify the northern boundary of the Knik Arm management area and the Palmer-Wasilla Zone and exclude certain flowing waters from the Palmer-Wasilla Zone		
Support	12	0	We support the department.
235	Reduce the size of the Palmer - Wasilla Zone		
No Action	--	--	
236	Update the stocked lakes list for the Knik Arm drainage area		
Support	12	0	We support the department
237	Allow bow and spear as legal gear for northern pike and Alaska blackfish year round in the Palmer- Wasilla Zone		
Support	12	0	We support eradicating pike.
238	Establish a motor size restriction for the Little Susitna River		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Oppose	0	12	Some boats access the Little Su from Anchorage, you need a bigger motor to cross the open water. DNR or a different entity should be making this decision, not the board of fish.
239	Establish a large king salmon escapement goal for the Little Susitna River		
No Action	--	--	
240	Increase the number of days bait is allowed in the Little Susitna River drainage		
Oppose	0	12	This liberalizes the use of bait in the river system which we oppose.
241	Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna River sport fishery based on location of commercial fishery openings		
No Action	--	--	See 240, we oppose increased use of bait.
242	Prohibit anglers from releasing coho salmon in the Little Susitna River		
Oppose	0	12	This proposal increases the chance of abuse.
243	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages		
Oppose	0	12	Commercial fishing has not been liberalized. We disagree with the proposer.
244	Define the mouth of Fish Creek		
Support	12	0	We support the department.
245	Allow sport fishing in the Fish Creek drainage 7 days a week		
Opposed	3	9	The current hours are working. This is too big of an incremental change. Would support if 2/3 more days were allowed. Support b/c some people work on weekends and this would provide more opportunity.
246	Update the lists of lakes where anglers may use five lines while fishing for northern pike through the ice in designated Northern Cook Inlet waters		
Support	12	0	We support the department and eradicating pike.
247	Prohibit chumming in Big, Mirror, and Flat Lakes		
Support	12	0	We support the department efforts.
248	Restrict Big Lake Arctic char to catch-and-release in the Fish Creek drainage		
Support	12	0	We support the department
249	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat		
Support	12	0	We support the department.
250	Modify the closure date for the Ship Creek king salmon fishery		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	12	0	There is no biological concern and we support the department when there are excess kings. If you catch a king it would be nice to be able to keep fishing for silvers if it is after July 13. It is also a terminal fishery so we are not worried about wild fish. Proposal makes sense.
251	Modify the Eklutna River drainage salmon bag and possession limits		
Oppose	0	12	Proposal to close all retention of coho and sockeye. There is tough access to fish the river and low numbers. Very low effort.
252	Increase the bag and possession for salmon, other than king salmon		
Oppose	0	12	Coho have low numbers in most streams. We oppose increasing the limit.
253	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem in a portion of Campbell Creek		
Support	12	0	No biological concern with these fish.
254	Add a portion of Chester Creek to the Anchorage Bowl Drainage special management areas for trout		
Oppose	0	12	Makes everything a special mgmt. area for rainbow trout and all catch and release except the lake and a small portion of the creek. Has stocked and wild fish. Why this section? Is it a sanctuary?
255	Create a personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the 20-Mile and Placer Rivers		
Oppose	0	12	Shore only, no boats. Tough spot for parking/access and traffic. Could increase number of accidents. No assessments of the population to determine if the river can support a dip net fishery. We cannot support without biological data. Having a dip net fishery that close to Anchorage could turn into a nightmare. Tides can be extreme in that area and we can foresee issues if this fishery is allowed.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Martin Weiser & Willow Hetrick
 Minutes Approved By: Kevin Taylor
 Date: 2/6/24

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

AC NAME: Central Peninsula

LOCATION (town): Wainichik, AK

DATE (of meeting): 1/8/24

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Vanek, David Martin,
Greg Encelowski, Gary Deiman, Danny Prestley,
Madeline Thompson, Gary Jackinsky,
Teague Vanek

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED:
Jeff Berger, Joe Simpson, Dave Blossom
Doug Blossom, John McCombe

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSED:

QUORUM PRESENT: YES X NO

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: Fari Fernandez

Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

Time Meeting Adjourned: 9:35 PM

Steve Vanek
Signature, Committee Secretary


CENTRAL PENINSULA ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the January 8, 2024 meeting

1. A report of the Lower Cook Inlet Meeting was given by David Martin.
2. Elections were held. David Martin nominated Steve Vanek, John McCombs, and Gary Jackinsky . Madeline Thompson nominated Torval Hanson as the Alternate. Steve Vanek moved nominations be closed. It was Second and passed unanimously.
Since there were no other nominees, no election was necessary.
3. It was moved and seconded that we keep the same officers. Passed unanimously. Chairman, Dave Martin, Vice Chair, John McCombs, Secretary, Steve Vanek.
4. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.
5. Steve Vanek moved that the Chairman or his designee represent the AC at all the Board of Fish and Game Meetings for all of 2024. Seconded and passed.
6. We started on the Upper Cook Inlet proposals.

Central Peninsula Advisory Committee Election Sign-In Sheet

January 8, 2024

Election Regulation- 5AAC 96.06 (5) Elections: Each committee member and each voting-age resident of the area served by the committee as defined in 5AAC 96.910(10) who attends the election may vote on a nomination for membership.

No.	Last Name	First Name	Residence Community	Email (optional) To be notified for future meetings
1	Encelewsk.	Richard "Greg"		
2	Thompson	Madelene		
3	Mart. y	David		
4	Vaneck	Steve		
5	Deiman	Gary		
6	Jachinsky	GARY		
7	Vaneck	Teague		
8	Presley	Danny		
9				
10				
11				

cont. of 1/8/24 meeting
on 1/10/24
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

AC NAME: Central Peninsula AC committee

LOCATION (town): Niwilchik

DATE (of meeting): 1/10/24

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Martin, Steve Vaneck, Ron Vaneck
Madeline Thompson, Gary Deiman, Greg Encelowski
Gary Jackivsky, Keith Presley, Dan Presley
Dave Blossom, Doug Blissom

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED:
~~John McCombs~~ John McCombs

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSED:

QUORUM PRESENT: YES ☒ NO ☒

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: None

Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:05

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

^{continued}
Time Meeting Adjourned: 9:45 PM

Steve Vaneck
Signature, Committee Secretary

sign in sheet

11/10/24

Name		
Steve Vanek		
David Martini		
Wade R. Rye		
Keith Presley	Keith Presley	
Gary Deiman		
GARY JACKINSKY		
Greg Enkelenski	Greg Enkelenski	
Teague Vanek	Teague Vanek	
Dan Presley	Dan Presley	
Dave Blosson	Dave Blosson	
Doug Blosson	Doug Blosson	

continuation of 1/8/24

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

AC NAME: Central Peninsula

LOCATION (town): Ninilchik

DATE (of meeting): 1/11/24

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Vanek, Dave Martin,
Madeline Thompson, Lion Vanek, Gary Jackinsky,
Keith Presley, Gary Deiman, Dan Presley,
Dave Blossom, Doug Blossom

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED:
Toral Hansen, Greg Ennevelsky,

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSED:
Joe Simpson

QUORUM PRESENT: YES ☒ NO ☐

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: none

Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

Time Meeting Adjourned: 10:10 PM

Steve Vanek
Signature, Committee Secretary

Sign in sheet 11/11/24

Name		
Steve Vaneck		
David Martin		
Tracy Vark		
Madeline [Signature]		
GARY Jackinsky		
Keith Presley		
Dan Presley		
Gary Heiman		
Doug Blossom	Dy Blum	
DAve Blossom	Dave Blum	

Continuation of 1/8/24 meeting.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

AC NAME: Central Peninsula

LOCATION (town): Nimilchik

DATE (of meeting): 1/16/24

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Vanek, Dave Martin
Madeline Thompson, Dan Presley, Keith Presley
~~Greg~~ Gary Jackinsky, Doug Blossom,
Dave Blossom, Gary Dieman

MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED:
John McCamp, Greg Encelwshir, Ron Vanek
Torvald Hansen

MEMBERS ABSENT UNEXCUSED:

QUORUM PRESENT: YES ☒ NO ☐

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: None

Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:10 PM

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

Time Meeting Adjourned: 8:50 PM

Stephen Vanek
Signature, Committee Secretary

Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Doc:

Meeting Attendance Sign in Sheet

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

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
132	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity in Upper Cook Inlet based on salmon escapement		
	11	0	These weekly fishing periods would be the necessary abundance based real time management to harvest the surplus to achieve MSY management and BEGs escapement goals of all salmon species. Also see action and issue section on Proposal 134.
133	Modify weekly fishing periods in the Upper Subdistrict and adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures		
	No Action		See our actions, comments and issue sections on Proposals 132 and 134.
134	Modify weekly fishing periods		
	11	0	The issue section explains it well the need to pass at least this proposal, or it would be even more compliant to MSA to pass proposal 132, in order to harvest the surplus salmon for MSY management as ordered by the Courts through the Magnuson Stevens Act and other applicable laws.
135	Close the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict to commercial fishing for salmon		
	0	11	The Chinitna Bay chum and coho stocks are sustainable and are meeting or exceeding escapement goals. They are NOT drastically decreased as the author of this proposal falsely claims just to try to mislead the BOF in a back door approach to close this fishery for no reason. This author has a history of submitting allocative proposals that close or severely restricts commercial fisheries. There is no science or data to support this proposal. The Chinitna Bay fishery is only opened, usually after August 15, by emergency order when the Biologist confirms that, by areal survey, the chum salmon escapement into Clear Creek will be met. This fishery is very conservatively managed and is only open for two 12 hour fishing periods per week. The fishing effort is minimal, usually averaging from 2 to maybe 12 local Peninsula fishermen. But it is very important to these fishermen’s livelihoods. Chinitna Bay is a large bay 60 miles across the inlet on the west side of Cook Inlet. Bad August weather will inevitable prevent fishing some of the openings. This fishery catch is small,

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			sustainable and supplies salmon, through direct marketing, to local residents who wish to purchase salmon from the local fishermen.
136	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
	0	11	This is strictly another proposal, as a back door effort, to eliminate a hundred year historic commercial fishery by using false claims of poor salmon returns that are not supported by science or data. The current minimum distance has been appropriate for decades and was scientifically set by ADF&G and is the standard distance for streams of this size. This proposal would eliminate the commercial fishery because this area is littered with rocks allowing only a few places to fish without tearing the net up too bad. Also the low tides bare the beaches sometimes miles from the high water mark. This is a mid August fishery for a couple of weeks with only two 12 hour periods per week and only 2 to 12 local Peninsula fishermen participating. But it is very important to these fishermen. Bad August weather will inevitably prevent fishing some of the openings. The fishery catch is small, sustainable and supplies salmon, through direct marketing, to local residents who wish to purchase salmon from the local commercial fishermen.
137	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	11	There is no biological or scientific reason to change the closed water distance for these streams that was set by ADF&G decades ago. This is strictly allocative and unnecessary. The sports fishery is not closed within one statute mile upstream from the mouth.
138	Allow use of a seine lead in the set gillnet fishery and define minimum distance between gear		
	0	11	Not practical. This would be a new gear type when current allowable gear is sufficient to harvest the surplus if allowed to do so.
139	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery		
	0	11	Not practical. This would be a new gear type when current allowable gear is sufficient to harvest the surplus if allowed to do so.
140	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery		

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	0	11	See comments on proposals 138 and 139
141	Restrict set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
	0	11	Should be left at 45 meshes deep. Each fisherman can decide what depth works best for their site. There are no valid studies to say shorter nets catch less kings. The late 1980's ADF&G tagging study on Kenai kings showed only 13% of the kings ran along the shore in the set net area. The king OEG needs to be set at a 12,500 SEG and count all the kings to that SEG.
142	Establish new commercial fishery reporting requirements in Upper Cook Inlet		
	11	0	Yes we should distinguish between jacks and non-jack king salmon. The processors have been supportive of this and do it for pricing purposes.
143	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year		
	1	9	No leave as is. This was changed to area registration decades ago and it works well to keeping people from moving around and encroaching on other established set netters who remain in their area.
43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
	0	7	This was voted on when we acted on the LCI proposals and testimony was given at the LCI meeting. There is no conclusive scientific studies or data to support this. Only theory. This drastic reduction in aquaculture production would make most hatcheries go out of business and forgo the aquaculture projects and stockings that benefit all user groups. Cook inlet salmon stocks are making BEG escapements and some are grossly exceeding their goals. We also addressed this proposal when we took up the UCI proposals and had a one in favor, who gave no opinion, and eight opposed.
144	Amend the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
	No	Action	See action, comments and issue section on proposal 145.
145	Increase commercial fishing opportunity in the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
	9	0	The pink salmon exploitation rate is less than one percent of pink salmon returns on even years, which range between five million and 40 million.

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			The issue section explains well the wasted pink harvest and the need for supporting this proposal.
146	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon		
	10	0	We agree with the Department.
147	Modify the Kenai River king salmon annual limit		
	10	0	Yes, this would reduce the large king harvest.
148	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River		
	10	0	This would protect spawning kings and reduce habitat degradation created from boat wakes.
149	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon		
	9	1	The catch and release mortality is higher then the Department uses because the study they use is incomplete because it only followed tagged kings for five days and not to their spawning beds to determine if they spawned and if the eggs were viable do to the lactic acid buildup created from the catch and release stress.
150	Create a Kasilof River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	10	There is no science to justify this proposal. Only allocation. The inriver guided and sports fishery should be restricted first if there are king concerns. This system and run is small and has too much inriver fishing activity that can easily create king concerns. This would be management against the Magnuson Stevens Act and maximum sustained yield management. This would forgo harvest and waste surplus other salmon stocks and will be detrimental to the fishery.
151	Add days and area to the nonmotorized restrictions on the Kenai River		
	10	0	Yes. The issues section explains well the need for adopting this proposal. We would prefer proposal #152 for drift boats only in the Kenai River.
152	Prohibit motorized vessels on the Kenai River		

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	10	0	This needs to be seriously considered. Drift boats only fishing works well on the Kasilof River. It would protect spawning fish, prevent habitat and bank degradation caused by boat wakes, reduce crowding, create a pleasant experience. It would solve a lot of the Kenai River problems that are created by the unlimited guide industry for mainly non-resident anglers. Everyone would still be able to fish but in a more sustainable manner for the salmon resource and habitat. A ten horse power or less outboard would be allowed for traveling.
153	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays		
	0	10	Leave as is. The restrictions were put in to give the non-guided angler some non-crowded fishing days. And it is very much appreciated and successful.
154	Allow guiding on the Kenai River without day and time restrictions if the king salmon fishery is closed		
	0	10	The incidental catch of kings will be greater, resulting in larger catch and release mortality. All the crowding problems, impacts to the non-guided angler and habitat degradation from boat wakes will return.
155	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays if king salmon fishery is closed		
	0	10	See #154 action and comments.
156	Allow sport fishing from a guided nonmotorized vessel on Mondays during May – July		
	0	10	See #154 action and comments.
157	Allow anglers to fish on the Kenai River on Mondays in August and September from a guided vessel		
	0	10	See #154 action and comments.
158	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on Sunday and Monday with no hour restrictions		
	0	10	See #154 action and comments.

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
159	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River on Mondays from August 1–November 30		
	0	10	See #154 action and comments.
160	Limit guided activities on the Kenai River from May 1–July 31		
	10	0	Agree. The Issue section explains well the need to support this proposal.
161	Restrict guided shoreline anglers on the Kenai River to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., from July 1 to August 15		
	10	0	See #154 action and comments.
162	Allow guiding on the Kenai River prior to 6:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.		
	0	10	This will create more crowding, habitat and bank degradation and displace non-guided anglers.
163	Reduce the time fishing from and anchoring a guided vessel is allowed in the Kasilof River		
	10	0	This would help reduce the displacement of non-guided anglers. It will also reduce the high catch and release mortality on the wild kings. Many kings, in this small river, are caught and released more than once. Being caught more than once almost always leads to 100% mortality.
164	Limit sport fish guiding in the Kasilof River		
	10	0	This is a small king fishery that is being over-exploited by basically unlimited guide hours and trips. The issue section explains well the need to pass this proposal.
165	Allow sport fishing in the Kenai River with only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure from January – July		
	0	10	This still allows bait to be used later that will catch more spawning kings and kill them from catch and release mortality.
166	Expand time and area waters of the Kenai River are limited to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure and redefine “artificial fly”		

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	9	1	This will reduce the catch and therefor reduce the catch and release mortality on spawning kings and other salmon in this important spawning area. The no vote wanted to leave as is.
167	Expand time and area in waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure.		
	6	4	2 abstained: See #166 action and comments. The issue section well describes the problem and need for approving this proposal to stop the waste from sorting and catch and release mortality. Those opposed wanted to keep the use of bait because it will catch more rainbow trout that eat salmon fry and smolt.
168	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem on the Kenai River		
	1	9	The yes vote wanted to be able to use two flies. The no votes said this would put too much pressure on the Kenai which already has too much fishing pressure and will decrease trout populations.
169	Change the definition of “bag limit” for sockeye salmon in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers		
	0	10	Leave as current regulations. This would allow the guides to hook fish for their clients. Sports fishing is for sport and the angler should hook their own fish.
170	Allow backtrolling in a section of the Kenai River		
	0	10	This would bring back the problems with the guides monopolizing the fishing holes by being able to back troll and trade the hole off with their buddy. This was a big problem that displaced and discouraged the non-guided angler when back trolling was allowed.
171	Allow anglers to fish downstream of the Soldotna Bridge after taking a limit of coho salmon		
	0	10	This would increase the coho catch and release mortality below the Soldotna bridge.
172	Allow fishing from a vessel after retention of a limit of coho salmon on the Kenai River		

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	0	10	This would increase the coho catch and release mortality below Moose River.
173	Modify regulations for the Kenai River August coho salmon fishery		
	0	10	Allowing bait will catch spawning kings in the closed season for kings, after Aug 1, and will increase the catch and release mortality on salmon caught on bait.
174	Regulate use of bait in Kenai River in August		
	0	10	See action and comments of proposal #173.
175	Reduce the coho salmon limits in the Kenai River to two fish after August 30		
	9	1	The Commissioner can EO a larger bag limit if the run size warrants it. The no vote wanted to keep it as is now.
176	Reduce the coho salmon limit on Kenai River after September 1		
	9	1	We agree with this proposal and with the issue section. The no vote wanted to keep it as is.
177	Modify Kenai River coho salmon season and bag limits		
	9	1	Agree with the issue section. The no vote wanted to keep as it is.
178	Reduce the season for the Kenai River coho salmon sport fishery		
	9	1	This would reduce the incidental catch of king salmon and thereby reducing the catch and release mortality on kings that are staging and spawning on their spawning beds. The no vote wanted to keep it as is.
179	Close additional waters to sport fishing in the upper Kenai River		
	10	0	The winter coho run is very small and there is a rapidly growing sport and guide fishery on it that will probable make this small coho run unsustainable. There is very little data on these winter coho but they are very dependent upon by the local winter populations of eagles and other predators.

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180	Close waters of the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway Bridge to Kenai Lake to sport fishing		
	10	0	We agree with issue and proposal.
181	Close waters of the Kenai River to sport fishing from January 1 – June 10		
	9	1	We support the proposal but also considered that it might not be an issue. The no vote wanted to keep as is to be able to catch trout.
182	Prohibit nonresident sport fishing on the Kenai River		
	No Action		Needs better clarification.
183	Allow the department to take action sooner to harvest surplus in Russian River sockeye salmon runs		
	10	0	There should be commercial fishing on these stocks in May and June to harvest this surplus sockeye. This sockeye return almost annually grossly exceeds the escapement goal even with a large sports fish bag limit.
184	Move 3-mile boundary marker to Old Kasilof Landing (river mile 4)		
	0	10	Leave it as is. This will create more problems and they can stop fishing when they get to the new landing. There are also a vast numbers of commercial drift boats on mooring boeys in this section that will be waked more from increased boat traffic. No reason to create more problems.
185	Allow only unbaited, single-hook artificial lures in the Kasilof River		
	10	0	We agree with the issue.
186	Update the stocked lakes list for the Kenai Peninsula Area		
	10	0	Housekeeping
187	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat		
	10	0	Housekeeping

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188	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake		
	0	10	Not necessary. The bag limit is low on lake trout.
189	Require personal use guides in Cook Inlet to adhere to sport fishing guiding requirements		
	10	0	We are opposed to guiding for dip netting altogether but if it is allowed this proposal should be passed. The guides should be registered and licensed. This is only common sense and makes it enforceable. We agree with the issue section.
190	Establish requirements to guide in Upper Cook Inlet personal use fisheries		
	10	0	We are opposed to guiding for dip netting altogether but if it is allowed this proposal should be passed. This is only common sense and makes it enforceable. We agree with the issue section.
191	Adjust annual limits in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based on abundance		
	0	10	The PU fishery supposed to be for food. The Subsistence findings reported that the average subsistence household ate 12 salmon per year. The current personal use salmon fishery annual limit is already too high and by increasing it will just allow more fish to be wasted when people clean out their freezers in the spring.
192	Close personal use fisheries based on commercial openings		
	10	0	We agree. The commercial fishery is being unfairly treated. Salmon are being wasted by non-maximum sustained yield management that grossly over escapes the rivers. The PU fishery started out only being opened to prevent over-escapement on an escapement goal of 400,000 to 750,000 Kenai River sockeye and no boats were allowed. It did not open every year. It has been liberalized to the point of creating commercial fishing restrictions and closures that result in wasting millions of harvestable salmon and grossly over-escaping the rivers.
193	Require king salmon caught and released in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries not be removed from the water		

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	10	0	We agree with the issue and the statements in the issue section.
194	Allow retention of Dolly Varden in Kenai/Kasilof personal use dipnet fisheries		
	10	0	Yes. There are plenty of Dolly Varden trout.
195	Restrict EO authority to only extend fishing time of the shore-based fishery in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
	10	0	Boat wakes greatly erode the banks especially in this area and dramatically do so at high tides. Extending boat use would only increase boat wake habitat degradation and erosion of property owners land. The issue section explains it well. No need to increase the harm and intrusion on the local resident property owners. There is plenty of opportunity to get salmon without increasing the PU fishery to 24 hours per day. Should allow more commercial harvest.
196	Prohibit personal use fishing on the Kenai River from an anchored vessel		
	10	0	We agree with this proposal. The issue section explains it well. Anchored boat only create chaos and safety issues.
197	Prohibit retention of king salmon in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
	10	0	AMENDED: We amended to not ever be allowed to keep a king in the PU fishery. Unanimous on both the amendment and on the amended proposal.
198	Prohibit transport of Kenai River personal use fish by motorized vessel upstream of the Warren Ames Bridge		
	10	0	Agree with the issue section. Boat wake habitat degradation and bank erosion is greatly increased from the increased boat traffic during the dipnet season.
199	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
	10	0	The issue section explains it well. Local property owners are reporting greatly and rapidly increasing boat wake bank erosion and habitat degradation. This river is smaller then the Kenai and yet has less motor boat restrictions.

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200	Close the Kasilof personal use gillnet fishery when Kenai or Kasilof Rivers sport fisheries are closed		
	9	0	1 abstained: We agree with the issue section explanation to approve this proposal.
201	Close the Kenai River personal use fishery when drift fishery is restricted		
	10	0	AMENDED: We amended to include the set net fishery. It is only fair to close the PU fishery when the drifters or set netters are restricted or closed. The PU fishery started out to only be implemented when over escapement above the BEG was determined. Amendment and amended proposal passed unanimously.
202	Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries		
	1	9	The one in favor thought it would catch less kings. Those opposed said to leave it as is.
203	Move the regulatory markers for the Kasilof River personal use dip net fishery		
	0	10	Leave the markers where they are. By increasing the area it will just move all the negative issues, (trash and sand dune and beach grass erosion) of the PU dip net fishery into these expanded areas and make law enforcement more difficult. Also negatively affecting the birds and animals that inhabit these areas.
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
	0	8	Only Skwentna has the subsistence fishwheel. The rest of the Yenta River is not subsistence. If this proposal passed it would be hard to monitor harvest and enforce. There is low king salmon abundance now.
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	8	If this area is closed by regulation then it is almost impossible to get it opened again when stocks are healthy and this area would and

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			should be opened. It is not that big of an issue to close by EO and is the job of the Department. The use of EO's provides for flexible management.
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	8	If there is a harvestable surplus of kings then the commercial fishery should be allowed to harvest the 12,500 kings allotted. The modern day commercial fishing catch has been dictated by increasing restrictions and closures on commercial fishing. This would also prevent the harvest of other salmon species. The underlying angle is to close commercial fishing. This is not fair allocation to the commercial fishing industries and the consumers and is against Magnuson, interstate commerce and other applicable laws.
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	8	Unfair allocation. See comments on proposal 206.
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	8	Unfair allocation. See comments on proposal 206.
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	8	Unfair allocation. See comments on proposal 206.
210	Modify the Northern District Salmon Management Plan and Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	8	It is unreliable and unrealistic to manage all salmon species and all salmon systems based on Larson Lake or the Little Susitna weir that frequently washes out, and is 30 plus miles up river. Both have a large sports fishery in their river system and at their mouths. There are too many issues in this one proposal. Commercial harvest in recent times is low due to restrictions and closures. This will put some long time fishermen out of business for unfair allocation to the

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			in-river guide and sports fisheries. No science to justify, only allocation.
211	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
	8	0	Abundance based management is what the State is supposed to apply. This also complies with the Magnuson Stevens Act to harvest the surplus and not waste the valuable salmon surplus.
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
	0	8	Not scientifically supported. These are strictly allocative restrictions that are harmful to the fishery and prevents abundance based management to harvest the surplus. There are surplus salmon for all users to utilize.
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
	0	9	See actions and comments on proposals 211 and 212.
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i> .		
	0	9	See action and comments of proposals 211 and 212. Unfair allocation and no science to support.
215	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>		
	9	0	We agree and the issue section well explains the need to pass this proposal.
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	9	There is no science to justify this proposal. There are only speculations and opinions. The 2016 smelt biomass was estimated at 53,000 tons. The current 200 ton quota is .0037 % of that biomass. This is way below a scientific exploitation rate that is acceptable around 20%. Studies concluded that lack of food was not a factor in the beluga's slow recovery. The beluga whale initial collapse was due to over hunting that brought them down to low numbers that has made their rebuilding slow. Killer whales prey on belugas and

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			Anchorage sewage discharge has increased fetus aborting as evidenced from fetuses washing up on Anchorage beaches The 2023 beluga count showed more Belugas then in past years and concluded that they were slowly recovering.
217	Repeal the Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan		
	0	9	See action and comments on Proposal 216.
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area		
	0	9	Leave as is and count all kings.
219	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
	9	0	We agree with the issue section that this proposal protects spawning and staging king salmon by closing a loophole.
220	Open additional waters in the Big River drainage to sport fishing for coho salmon		
	0	9	Leave as is. This would allow fishing on spawning red salmon and on their redds. The catch and release mortality would be large. Leave spawning salmon alone.
221	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage		
	0	9	These organizations put in proposals to restrict commercial fisheries because they claim coho conservation concerns in the Northern District drainages yet they want to increase the sports fish daily coho bag limit because of abundant coho. You can't have it both ways. This is not, science only allocation. The commercial fisheries are highly restricted so liberalizing the coho sport fish bag limit would be an unfair allocation.
222	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon		

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	0	9	While the commercial fisheries are severely from harvesting pink salmon the sports fish pink bag limits should not be increased. This is unfair allocation and not based on science.
223	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna River Drainage Area		
	0	9	Leave as is. This would allow the use of bait and would increase the catch and release mortality.
224	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway.		
	0	9	Leave as is.
225	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession		
	9	0	The issue section makes sense if it is accurate.
226	Allow anglers to use two artificial lures in tandem in Susitna River Drainage waters.		
	2	7	Leave as is. Lots of fishing pressure so don't need to liberalize. The yes votes wanted to use two flies in tandem to catch more trout that eat salmon fry and smolt.
227	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4,		
	9	0	The issue section makes sense.
228	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River		
	9	0	Agree with the Department. Need to protect small stocks in their natal fresh water streams.
229	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
	2	7	Unfair allocation to increase dipnetting while the commercial fishery is greatly restricted or close. The yes votes stated that maybe the dipnetters would stay up there instead of going to the Kenai.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
230	Increase the open season of the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
	0	9	This would be dipnetting on spawning salmon
231	Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery		
	1	8	Leave as is. The commercial fishery is highly restricted and even further restricted in-season to achieve escapement goals. This would unfairly allocate away from a 100 yr. old commercial fishery. The yes vote said the dipnetters would stay up there instead of going to the Kenai.
1	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
	1	7	1 abstained: Can and should use EO authority as their job requires. Once it is in regulation it is hard to get it back out.
2	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
	5	4	The yes voted wanted to fish. The no votes said if the EESN is closed by pre-season forecast of kings, as it was in 2023, then the sports fishery should also be closed. That said. They should both be opened. No preseason closures.
3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
	0	9	No because the guides are targeting kings while the setnets are targeting sockeye.
4	Redefine the boundaries of the Upper Cook Inlet Area <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
	0	9	Leave as is and has been for a long time.
232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	0	9	The Alaska's fisheries are to be managed for harvesting the surplus through abundance based, scientifically defensible maximum sustained yield management. Not to be managed by having manipulated regulations to sale more sports license or to have two sport license per person for the purpose of generating more funds for the Sports Fish Department.
233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process		
	8	1	There should not be derbies on fish stocks that are not robust or that have commercial or sports fish restrictions placed upon them to meet escapements. The one voting disagreed.
234	Clarify the northern boundary of the Knik Arm management area and the Palmer-Wasilla Zone and exclude certain flowing waters from the Palmer-Wasilla Zone		
	9	0	Housekeeping
235	Reduce the size of the Palmer - Wasilla Zone		
	No Action		See action and comments on proposal 234.
236	Update the stocked lakes list for the Knik Arm drainage area		
	9	0	Housekeeping.
237	Allow bow and spear as legal gear for northern pike and Alaska blackfish year round in the Palmer- Wasilla Zone		
	9	0	This would help to harvest invasive Northern Pike and Blackfish especially when they are in shallow water spawning. The issue section explains well the need to pass this proposal.
238	Establish a motor size restriction for the Little Susitna River		
	9	0	We need to protect the habitat from boat wake erosion. The State is doing little to nothing to stop or even monitor habitat degradation. Current practices are not sustainable and the habitat degradation will reduce salmon production. Alaska is fortunate to have good salmon

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			habitat but fails dramatically in protecting that habitat for lack of the will to put the needed restrictions on the in-river fishing activities that are causing the habitat degradation.
239	Establish a large king salmon escapement goal for the Little Susitna River		
	0	9	Should count all kings as part of the escapement goal. Genetic policy includes all salmon in a run for genetic diversity.
240	Increase the number of days bait is allowed in the Little Susitna River drainage		
	0	9	Bait would be used longer on spawning salmon and the use of bait increases dramatically the catch and the catch and release mortality.
241	Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna River sport fishery based on location of commercial fishery openings		
	0	9	Not a science or biological based proposal. Escapement goals are being met and some are being exceeded. This would close a long standing commercial fishing area for no biological reason.
242	Prohibit anglers from releasing coho salmon in the Little Susitna River		
	9	0	The sports fishing pressure on this river is high and this proposal would sustain a viable sports fishery while eliminating any catch and release mortality. The issue section well explains the need to pass this proposal.
243	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages		
	0	9	The commercial fisheries are being severely restricted. This is an unfair allocation. Minimize does not mean eliminate. Stating conservation concerns on Northern District coho then asking to increase the sport fishing daily bag limit is hypocritical and unjust.
244	Define the mouth of Fish Creek		
	9	0	Housekeeping
245	Allow sport fishing in the Fish Creek drainage 7 days a week		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	0	9	The Department uses EOs to open and close the fishery based on salmon abundance.
246	Update the lists of lakes where anglers may use five lines while fishing for northern pike through the ice in designated Northern Cook Inlet waters		
	9	0	Agree with the Department.
247	Prohibit chumming in Big, Mirror, and Flat Lakes		
	8	1	The Department clarification is to close a loophole to get around the no bait restriction. The no vote wants to use them.
248	Restrict Big Lake Arctic char to catch-and-release in the Fish Creek drainage		
	0	9	This should be done by EO if needed. That is the Departments job. Once it is in regulation it is hard to get it out.
249	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat		
	9	0	Housekeeping.
250	Modify the closure date for the Ship Creek king salmon fishery		
	0	9	Should continue the use of EO extension if warranted. That is the Departments job.
251	Modify the Eklutna River drainage salmon bag and possession limits		
	9	0	We agree with the issue section.
252	Increase the bag and possession for salmon, other than king salmon		
	0	9	The commercial fisheries are still being severely restricted. This is an unfair allocation. Minimize does not mean eliminate. Stating conservation concerns on Northern District coho then asking to increase the sport fishing daily bag limit is hypocritical and unjust.
253	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem in a portion of Campbell Creek		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
	0	9	Keep the current regulation. Campbell Creek is a small system and has small runs and has the urbanized problems reducing salmon production.
254	Add a portion of Chester Creek to the Anchorage Bowl Drainage special management areas for trout		
	0	9	Leave as is. No need to change.
255	Create a personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the 20-Mile and Placer Rivers		
	0	9	The commercial fishery is severely restricted in time and area so adding a new fishery (dipnetting) is not justified. Also dipnetting creates habitat degradation and bank erosion. There are abundant opportunities to sports and dipnet under the current regulations.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Steve Vanek_____

Minutes Approved By: David Martin_____

Date: February 7, 2024_____

Cooper Landing AC Minutes
12/19/2024

Call to order: 10:15 AM

Roll Call- Josh Hayes, Lorraine Temple, Jason Lesmeister, Vince Beltrami, Billy Coulliete, JJ Brown, Tom Lessard, Jason Aigeldinger, Adam Swaine

Excused Absence: Mike Adams, John Pearson, Todd Donahue,

Un Excused Absences: Jeremy Lewis, Jeff Bryden

Guests: Chris Hayes

Fish and Game: Fari Sylvester

Forest Service: Ruth De Mako

Approval of Last Meetings Minutes: Approved unanimously

Approval of Agenda: Approved

New Business: Vote on Proposals

Proposal 180 - Unanimous Support

Proposal 179 - No action because 180 aligns with 179

Proposal 167 - Unanimous in support

Proposal 166 - Unanimous in support

Proposal 181 - Eight YES - One NO - Jason Lesmeister: The law would only protect a small population of fish. Data shows the largest population of trout are in the lakes in the winter months.

Proposal 154 - Two YES - Seven NO - Two YES votes: It would not change much due to the fact you can only fish trout from the boat.

Proposal 153, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 162 - No action due to our vote on Proposal 154

Proposal 151 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 152 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 75 - Opposed Unanimously

Voting from Proposal 76 on was without Lorraine Temple who had to leave the meeting.

Proposal 76. 77. 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 - Opposed due to the AC preferring to lean on the side of caution to continue lowering the OEG with conservation concerns of existing species.

Proposal 84 - No action. Fish and Game has the power to do so now.

Proposal 85 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 86 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 87 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 88 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 89 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 90 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 91 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 92 - Opposed Unanimously

Proposal 93 - No action due to Proposal 92

Proposal 94 - Opposed Unanimously as written

Proposal 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 102 - Opposed Unanimously - Respect the idea, but with low abundance of king salmon the idea needs more research and development.

Proposal 101 - Unanimous in Support

Proposal 103 - No Action

Proposal 104 - No Action

Proposal 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110 - Opposed Unanimously

Ended Meeting: 1:30PM

Next meeting - January 9, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Cooper Landing Advisory Committee
January 9, 2024

Meeting Called to Order at 10:05AM by Josh Hayes

Roll Call- Tom Lessard, Jeff Bryden, Billy Coulliette, Adam Swayne, Josh Hayes, Vince Beltrami, Jason Lesmeister, JJ Brown.

Excused Absences- Mike Adams, John Pearson, Jason Aigeldinger, Lorraine Temple

Un Excused Absences- Todd Donahue

Fish and Game and Forest Service employees present- Fari Sylvester, Heather Tham

Approval of Agenda-Unanimous

Old Business- Clarify our statement about proposals 76-83. The Cooper Landing AC is not in favor of lowering the OEG due to concerns with conservation to species in peril.

Proposal 90 was supported unanimously by AC in last meeting. Amend proposal 90 to supported unanimously

New Business- Vote on proposals

Proposal 255- 8 oppose

Proposal 252-8 Oppose

Proposal 246- 8 Support

Proposal 247-7 Oppose 1- Neutral(Jason Lesmeister)

Proposal 248-8 Support

Proposal 249-8 Support

Proposal 250-8 Support

Proposal 251-7 Support 1-Oppose(Josh Hayes)

Proposal 253-8 Oppose Mixed species fishery could allow anglers to take advantage of the two hook rule to illegally harvest sockeye salmon

Proposal 254-8 Support

Proposal 165- 8 Oppose

Proposal 168-8 Oppose

Proposal 169-8 Oppose

Proposal 170-8 Oppose

Proposal 171-8 Oppose

Proposal 172-8 Oppose

Proposal 173-8 Oppose

Proposal 174- 8 Oppose

Proposal 175,176,177- Opposed- The Kenai River silver salmon limits that already exist were made by AK Fish and Game through sound science.

Proposal 178- 8 Oppose

Proposal 182-8 Oppose

Proposal 183-8 Oppose The larger limits bring an unmanageable amount of people to Cooper Landing and the Russian River. When the huge masses of people show up to Cooper Landing and the Russian River it creates an unsafe environment, as well as devastates the Russian River ecosystem through over use in a short period of time.

Proposal 184-8 Support

Proposal 185-8 Support

Proposal 186-8 Support

Proposal 187- No action (see 249)

Proposal 188- 6 Oppose 2-Approve (Billy Coulliette, Adam Swayne) Adam and Billy want to see more conservation efforts for Hidden Lake because it's a special resource as it's a fresh water Lake Trout fishery as opposed to Glacial and they believe that it receives a lot of pressure from anglers)

Proposal 189-8 Support

Proposal 190-Take no action(see 189)

Proposal 191- 8 Oppose

Proposal 160-161-8 Oppose

Proposal 163-8 Oppose

Proposal 164-8 Oppose

Proposal 112-8 Oppose

Proposal 150- 8 Oppose

Set Next Meeting Date- To be Announced

Adjourn Meeting at 2:30 pm

Minutes taken by Jason Lesmeister

Minutes approved by Josh Hayes

Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee

January 23rd, 2024

CDFU Office and Zoom

Call to order at 7:01 pm.

Members present: John Renner, Dennis Zadra, Kyle King, Brett Bradford, Ardy Hanson, Harrison Cain, Rita Spann, Chelsea Haisman, Jamie Fode, Mike Collins, and Garrett Collins.

Members absent: Robert Mattson, Shawn Gilman, Matthew Myszka, Makenna O'Toole.

ADF&G members present: Arron Potter, Jeremy Botts, Britney Blaine-Roth, Matt Nameth, and Heather Scanell.

A brief summary of the Upper Cook Inlet proposals was provided by John Renner and a brief summary of game issues was provided by Dennis Zadra. The discussion on Cook Inlet was mostly on proposal #43 and the reoccurring nature of the hatchery issue.

The committee considered Proposal #43 with unanimous opposition. Comments included reoccurring issues, factual errors, economic devastation, record wild returns in the PWS/Copper River area during the hatchery era. There was discussion about allowing A.C. support to advance a proposal, to help deal with the large number of proposals considered by the board. The committee also considered proposals 191, 192, 201. The committee took no action on these proposals, but it generated a good discussion on personal use history and trends.

The CR/PWS AC then took up proposals for the board of fish cycle for our area. Two Coho proposals discussed for submittal covering the Copper River Delta, road accessible from Cordova. There was discussion about permit stacking in the commercial fishery and upriver reporting for the Copper River. Harvest percentages were discussed for the Copper River and the implications of a proposal. There was a discussion of Rock fish harvest in PWS commercial and sport.

We adjourned the meeting and set the next meeting for February 20th, 2024.

Meeting minutes approved by John Renner

Date: 2/12/24

Eagle Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 at 4:00 pm
Eagle Village Tribal Hall
and by web/teleconference

MEETING MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order:**
- II. **Members Present: Ulvi, Selman, Woodruff, Robins, Bassich**
Members Absent: Sager, McDougal, Helmer,
- III. **Fish and Game Staff Present:** Kyle Campbell, Jeff Gross, Aidan Hunter, Deeena Jallen, Christy Gleason, Mark Nelson, Jordan Pruszenski
- IV. **Guests Present:** A Potts, M Potts, Drink, H Gilmore, Malcome, Olivia Irwin, Jim Simon, Representative Rebecca Himschoot
- V. **Approval of Agenda: Motion: Bassich, Second Woodruff, Pass Unanimous**
- VI. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** April 13, 2023 – *deferred until next meeting*
- VII. **Reports**
 - i. Jeff Gross
 - ii. Aidan Hunter
 - iii. Deena Jallen
 - iv. Christy Gleason
- VIII. **Public Comment: none**
- IX. **New Business**
 - a. Board of Fisheries proposal 43 regarding hatchery production of salmon
A Bassich Motion to Support as presented to AC. and Draft letter of support. Second D woodruff. Passed Unanimous.
 - b. Fortymile Coalition Discussion: Jeff gross Report on Status of Coalition.and 40 mile Caribou herd. No formal Herd Size Target at this time.

Bassich request Caribou and moose presentation to be sent to AC members

 - c. Moose Survey presentation by Adian Hunter ADFG Southern 20 E
Comment for request ofr more info on 20e N Eagle region. noted that very few moose Spotted this winter in 20E north Community concerned on Very low Population
 - d. ADFG D Jalen Report on Summer Chinook and chum. Discussion on The Agreement between US & Canada on 71,000 chinook escapement goal and 7 yr no directed fishing for Chinook. AC supported as a very good measure for protection of Canada Chinook as they are near Extrepation.

Members are very concerned with Food Security locally, with loss of Salmon both Chinook and Fall Chum. and Caribou in Decline and not in local range for any harvest. these 3

Species represent 95% Subsistence food harvested in Eagle.

ADFG C Gleason gave report on Fall Chum. Likely no harvest this coming Fall

- e. Actions Eagle AC request a meeting of the Coalition ASAP to give input for herd Management by stakeholders

Draft letter to the Commissioner.

- f. House Bill 201 / Senate Bill 171 regarding residency requirements for hunting and fishing licenses

A Bassich Moved to Support Bill 201 as presented, and draft letter of Support. Second C Selman Motion passed unanimously.

- g. Proposal 43: A Bassich motion to support as presented, and Draft letter of Support. second D Woodruff Motion passed unanimously

- e. Planning for Election Meeting: Date February 27 2024 4:00 pm Eagle village.

Elections and Joint board proposals only on the Agenda

X. **Select representative(s) for board meeting(s):**

BOG Interior and Eastern Arctic March 15-22 in Fairbanks: ____TBD_____

Joint Board March 25-28 in Anchorage: _____TBD_____

XI. **Set next meeting date and location: Feb. 27 4:00 pm Eagle village**

XII. **Other**

XIII. **Adjourn: motion S Robins, second D Woodruff passed unanimous 7:35 pm**

Alaska **Board of Fisheries** Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal 43		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	5, Support	0 Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), supported this proposal as presented to us
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
SUPPORT	Members, chair Ulvi Robins, Woodruff, Selman, Bassich		<p>There is a very Large number (several hundred) of peer reviewed papers world wide which clearly recognize (80% of them) the negative long term impacts to wild Salmon stocks due to large scale Hatchery production releases into the Marine environment, and additionally negative impacts due to Straying and interbreeding with wild stocks.</p> <p>Current science estimates that <u>40% of Bearing Sea Salmon biomass is Pink Salmon</u>. Given the short life cycle, rapid growth due to Voracious feeding habits, Pink Salmon are out competing for food forage creating a <u>Food Desert</u> in the Marine environment for many Salmon stocks, causing them to return <u>Smaller, Younger, and less Fecund</u>, as well as impacting the delicate food chain. This coupled with drastic climate change and a new paradigm forming in the marine system has many Scientist recommending a reduction of hatchery releases into the North Pacific and Bering Seas.</p> <p>We support this recommendation call for actions to insure long term Sustainable Wild Salmon stocks.</p>

Minutes Recorded By: Andy Bassich

Minutes Approved By: Karma Ulvi

Date: _____

**Homer ADFG Advisory Committee
1-16-24
At KBNERR 2181 Kachemak Drive 99603**

- I. Call to Order: 1803 by Morgan Jones
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Morgan Jones, Matt Hakala, Bob Nathanson, Dan Anderson, Doug Malone, Joey Allred, Thomas Hagberg, Corey Loos, Wes Humbyrd, George Matz, Josh Wickboldt, Corey DeCook, Dave Lyon (left at 1913)

Members Absent (Excused): Michael Craig, Tom Young, Andy Fetterhoff, Dan Miotke
Members Absent (Unexcused):
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
List of User Groups Present: ADFG
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Mike Booz
- IV. Guests Present: Janet Carroll, Ally Kintner
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report: We introduced ourselves and reiterated our interests and histories after the recent election
 - b. ADF&G: Mike Booz walked us through the Kenai River Late Run King Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan (special publication 23.11), a summary of options with relevant and corresponding data that ADFG will present to the BOF on February 23. It includes a laundry list of options that the BOF may wish to consider in regards to Kenai kings.
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment none
- IX. Old Business none
- X. New Business: The AC felt that we should weigh in on our preferences via voting on the myriad management options presented in the KRLRKSSAP for the different fisheries.
Votes are expressed as "#support- #oppose- #abstain"

1. The inriver sport fishery: The AC chose option E (close the season). Vote was 13-0-0. We felt that, sadly, it is time to close the Kenai River to sport king fishing due to many years of declining numbers.
2. The marine sport fishery: The AC chose option A (status quo). Vote was 11-2-0. Most of the AC agreed that the mixing of stocks in saltwater led to a very small percentage of Kenai chinook being taken. Those opposed pointed to the larger grim picture throughout the West Coast range of Chinook and wanted to be more proactive. So we voted on Option D(reduce season) as well. Vote was 4-7-2.
3. CDDGN Central District Drift Gill Net fishery: The AC chose option A (status quo). Vote was unanimous at 13-0-0. Our member drift fishermen catch only 2-3 per season.
4. ESSN East Side Set Net fishery: Took no action
5. Kenai Dipnet Personal Use fishery: The AC chose option C, nonretention of king salmon. Vote was 13-0-0. Best to let the few remaining kings pass upriver.
- 6: Kasilof Set Net Personal Use fishery: We unanimously supported option B (close the fishery) Vote was 13-0-0. We felt that although there are not many native chinook returning to the Kasilof, there is significant estuarine mixing of Kenai stocks, as well as significant people problems in the Kasilof fishery.

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting: N/A

XII. Next meeting date: January 30, 2024, at KBNERR @ 1800

XIII. Other

Adjourned at 21:22

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
111	Adopt a Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		
Support	12	1	The consensus in the room was too many sockeye may be harming the river and that the current OEG is too high, triggering less openings for the commercial fleet and its corresponding economic strain.
112	Increase the upper bound of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal range		
Oppose	0	12	Zero abstained. One member left before this vote. See comment on proposal 111
113	Adopt an optimal escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon		
Support as Amended	12	0	The AC did not like the strong language in the second sentence of the second paragraph " Meeting this escapement goal will take precedence over all other management decisions" An amendment was offered to strike this sentence, which passed 12-0-0.
115	Modify intent of the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i>		
TNA			
116	Repeal mandatory weekly closures in the commercial set gillnet fishery		
Support	10	2	Most felt that a return to historical opportunity was in order
117	Repeal 'paired restrictions' from Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plans		
Support	10	2	Most felt that a return to historical opportunity was in order.
118	Reduce the Kasilof River sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		
Support as Amended	12	0	The Ac amended this proposal to strike the strong language of "meeting this escapement goal will take precedence over all other management decisions" by a vote of 12-0. We think this language too strong for regulation
121	Modify intent language within the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan		
Support	9	0	3 abstained on proposal 121. The consensus was that the current language is outdated and unnecessary concerning coho. Fishermen want to catch more coho, and stocks appear to be good. Those abstained felt that they did not have enough information.
122	Repeal the 'one percent rule' in the Central District drift gillnet fishery		
Support	12	0	Not a good mathematical formula as much of the fleet leaves before season ends. Disenfranchises remaining (mostly) resident fishermen as the pool has

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			shrunk by then and the 1% is nearly unattainable. Let us fish in open areas during open season.
124	Repeal the “one percent rule” from Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery management plans		
Support	12	0	Not a good mathematical formula as much of the fleet leaves before season ends. Disenfranchises remaining (mostly) resident fishermen as the pool has shrunk by then and the 1% is nearly unattainable. Let us fish in open areas during open season.
132	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity in Upper Cook Inlet based on salmon escapement		
Oppose	3	5	4 abstained due to difficulty grasping details of the issue. Those in support wanted additional time to fish, those opposed did not see reason for the extra opportunity
135	Close the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict to commercial fishing for salmon		
Oppose	0 support 12 opposed The AC felt that the issue as presented was in fact a non-issue. Sometimes there is coho and sometimes not; this is not a result of overfishing.		
136	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
Oppose	0	11	1 abstention citing lack of knowledge. The AC thought the problem presented had too many hypotheticals. Additionally, we felt that interested and participating fishermen could fend for themselves with respect to bears.
141	Restrict set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
Oppose	0	11	1 abstained for lack of knowledge about this issue. Reducing net depth by a third will not catch less kings who run on the bottom, but will result in less sockeye caught and less money made.
142	Establish new commercial fishery reporting requirements in Upper Cook Inlet		
Support	10	0	2 abstained votes unfamiliar with fish ticket reporting requirements. The AC believes that better data equals better management, and immature chinook jacks should not be counted in the same box as returning spawners as is current practice. Jacks should be tallied separately
43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
Oppose	1	7	4 abstained feeling that they are not up to speed on the issue. Majority opposed due to loss of harvest for the commercial fleet.
146	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	12	0	We consider this proposal a “housekeeping” issue as the dates do not match seasons regarding filleting/ cutting of king salmon on the water within the Kenai Drainage in the regulation booklet.
148	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River		
TNA			
149	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon		
Support	13	0	This proposal was taken up first of the evening as the Homer AC is vehemently opposed to any sort of catch and release fishing due to mortality concerns and priority of food vs sport. A spirited issue. Note that we support a complete closure of the inriver Kenai king fishery in the larger picture.

Adjournment: 2122

Minutes Recorded By: Douglas Malone

Minutes Approved By: Morgan Jones

Date: 02/12/2024

**Homer Advisory Committee
1-30-24
KBNERR, 2181 Kachemak Drive 99603**

- I. Call to Order: 1800 by Morgan Jones, Chair
- II. Roll Call
 - Members Present: Tom Hagberg, Wes Humbyrd, Morgan Jones, Matt Hakala, Corey Loos, Corey DeCook, Josh Wickboldt, Dan Anderson, George Matz, Doug Malone
 - Members Absent (Excused): Tom Young, Dave Lyon, Joey Allred, Michael Craig, Bob Nathanson, Andy Fetterhoff, Dan Miotke
 - Members Absent (Unexcused):
 - Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
 - List of User Groups Present:
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Mike Booz, Jason Herreman
- IV. Guests Present: Janet Carroll, Tad Russell
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G : Jason Herreman gave a brief moose update and asked us to weigh in on P199, the local cow moose hunt. He pointed to a current 35:100 bull-cow ratio and good twinning rates as indication of good overall herd health. The department will be continuing to try to increase the numbers of any-bull permits.
 - c.
 - d. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business WE took up UCi proposals as well as BoG antlerless moose proposals

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting: The AC chose Thomas Hagberg to represent our interests at Board of Fisheries

XII.

XIII. Set next meeting date for march 12, 2024 at 1800 at KBNERRR

XIV. Other

Adjourn at 2004

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
150			Create a Kasilof River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan
No action			After a brief discussion, we decided to take no action 10-0
188	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake		
Support	10	0	Members felt that Hidden Lake is getting much use, best to be proactive in conserving the lake trout resource by a small reduction in methods and means as written.
189	Require personal use guides in Cook Inlet to adhere to sport fishing guiding requirements		
Support	10	0	The AC generally feels that with the amount of pressure from PU fishers, registration requirements for guides are appropriate, same as the sport fishery.
190	Establish requirements to guide in Upper Cook Inlet personal use fisheries		
Support	9	1	The AC generally feels that with the amount of pressure from PU fishers, registration requirements for guides are appropriate, same as the sport fishery. Opposition felt that guides should not be allowed in the PU fishery.
192	Close personal use . based on commercial openings		
Support	5	3	2 Abstained, citing messy issue and not comfortable weighing in. Those in favor argue that PU fish are taken from commerce- the Magnusen Stevens Act; and also that the commercial closures are based on projections inriver.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			One supporter voted yes only due to the fact that this proposal as written would appear to close ALL PU fisheries in Cook Inlet- if it was strictly concerning the Kenai River his vote would be the negative.
197	Prohibit retention of king salmon in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
Split	5	5	. King salmon on the Kenai river should be closed to all users. Some felt that keeping one would be ok
199	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
Support	9	1	Busy river, plenty of access, concerns about overuse and large HP boats, even though the river is not conducive to powerboating above RM 3.
201	Close the Kenai River personal use fishery when drift fishery is restricted		
Support	8	2	Most felt that 2 12hr days per week opportunity for commercial fleet does not comport with 24/7 opportunity for the PU fishers. A better way to approach might be to restrict time period for the PU fisheries.

Alaska Board of Game Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Proposals

March 15-22, 2024 | Fairbanks, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
197	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C		
Support	9	1	Support more meat opportunity. Opposed felt he, as a Homer AC member, represents lower Peninsula residents, is not representing the interests of Turnagain residents
198	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B		
Support	10	0	Herd health is good, no predators on Kalgin
199	Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 15C		
Support	10	0	The herd appears to be in good shape, we support the opportunity.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Douglas
Malone Minutes Approved By:
Morgan Jones Date: Feb 12, 2024

Kenai Soldotna Fish and Game Advisory Board
November 27th, 2023
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:30pm, by Chair Mike Crawford

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap	x		
Andrew	Carmichael	x		
Greg	Springer	x		
Scott	Daletas	x		
Dick	Dykema			x
Dyer	Van Devere	x		
Jerry	Strieby	x		
Joe	Thomas			x
Lisa	Gabriel			x
Jon	Essert		x	
Mike	Crawford - Chair	x		
Monte	Roberts	x		
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair			x
Scott	Miller	x		
Todd	Smith	x		
Will	Lee – Secretary			X
Karl	Dagel	x		
Ron	Petty			X

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Colton Lipka, Commercial fish Area Manager

IV. Guests Present:

V. Approval of Agenda

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

VII. Reports

- a. Chair's report
- b. ADF&G: Currently working through draft stock of concern action plan. Not sure when it will be done. It will basically identify why LRK's are a stock of concern and leave a lot up to the board. ADFG will present info and options. Status quo will be an option if current management plan is meeting criteria. Sounds like it will play out at board meeting, possible future working group or something. Nobody really knows.
- c. Others

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting

XII. Set next meeting date

XIII. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
151	Add days and area to the nonmotorized restrictions on the Kenai River		
Opposed	2	10	M: Monte S: Scott Q: Dire

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Oppose: Not worried about boat traffic. Kenai is hard to row. Not enough facilities. Support: We need more sideboards on unlimited activity on river. Drift days are great.
152	Prohibit motorized vessels on the Kenai River		
Opposed	0	12	M Monte S: Scott Q: Dire
166	Expand time and area waters of the Kenai River are limited to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure and redefine “artificial fly”		
Opposed	1	10 1 Ab	M: Monte S: Scott Q: Dire Oppose: Worried about chopping river up, with different regs and limiting opportunity for folks who want to fish trout with plugs. Support: Fishing plugs for trout is mid, and that’s a great fly fishing area and this makes it easier/better. Also this restriction only goes through July so it doesn’t affect Coho fishermen. Dire Abstained
167	Expand time and area in waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure.		
Opposed	0	12	M Monte S AI Q Dire This would close above Moose River to bait year-round. Huge plus for fly fishermen but would affect a lot of other users.
168	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem on the Kenai River		
Opposed	0	12	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry No real need for this on the Kenai.
169	Change the definition of “bag limit” for sockeye salmon in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers		
Opposed	0	12	M Monte S Jerry Q Dire
170	Allow backtrolling in a section of the Kenai River		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Support	11	0 1 Abstention	M Jerry S Monte Q Dire Committee generally did not have a problem with opening this up to backtrolling.
173	Modify regulations for the Kenai River August coho salmon fishery		
Support as Amended	0	12	M Jerry S Monte Q Andrew Motion to remove “Warren Ames Bridge” and insert “River mouth”, and to make the point that this is intended to be integrated into the Kenai River Late Run King Salmon Management Plan. M Monte S Scott Q Dire. Amendment Passed 0-12
175	Reduce the coho salmon limits in the Kenai River to two fish after August 30		
Support	12	0	
176	Reduce the coho salmon limit on Kenai River after September 1		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Jerry Q Dire ADFG Spoke to the lack of data on Coho. They had more data with logbooks, but with no logbook program, very little Coho harvest data now. Several folks spoke to the shifting of seasons – loss of early run King season, later Sockeye pushes, and no bait restrictions in August have shifted more Coho effort to September, further supporting a more conservative limit.
178	Reduce the season for the Kenai River coho salmon sport fishery		
Opposed	0	12	M Monte S Dire Q Andrew Not a lot of Coho fishing at this time, Coho can be tough to tell apart from Sockeye. Felt that no backtrolling proposals would be a more effective and less burdensome conservation measure.
182	Prohibit nonresident sport fishing on the Kenai River		
Opposed	1	11	M Monte S Dire

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Q Scott
183	Allow the department to take action sooner to harvest surplus in Russian River sockeye salmon runs		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry
184	Move 3-mile boundary marker to Old Kasilof Landing (river mile 4)		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry
185	Allow only unbaited, single-hook artificial lures in the Kasilof River		
Support	11	1	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry Support: Good conservation move. Oppose: Would affect spring fishermen.
186	Update the stocked lakes list for the Kenai Peninsula Area		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Dire
187	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry
189	Require personal use guides in Cook Inlet to adhere to sport fishing guiding requirements		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Dire
195	Restrict EO authority to only extend fishing time of the shore-based fishery in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
Support	11	0	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Makes sense to have a closed period on boats in this fishery. 1 Abstain
197	Prohibit retention of king salmon in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
Support	12	0	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry Only PU fishery where Kings retention is normally open.
198	Prohibit transport of Kenai River personal use fish by motorized vessel upstream of the Warren Ames Bridge		
			M Monte S Dire Q Crowding is an issue when there is a king fishery, but no king fishery now so most weren't as worried about crowding. Motion to table till we get more info on Kenai launch capacity. M Todd S Dire. Passed
199	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
			M Monte S Dire Q Motion to table till we get more info from ADFG on their capacity to regulate this. M Monte S Todd. Passed.
200	Close the Kasilof personal use gillnet fishery when Kenai or Kasilof Rivers sport fisheries are closed		
Support	10	2	M Monte S Dire Q Jerry

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned 9:45pm

Minutes Recorded By: Todd Smith Minutes

Approved By: Mike Crawford and AC

Date: 12/4/2023 @ AC Meeting

11/27/2023 Meeting

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
December 4th, 2023
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:30pm by Mike Crawford, chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap	X		
Andrew	Carmichael	X		
Dick	Dykema	X		
Dyer	Van Devere	X		
Jerry	Strieby	X		
Joe	Thomas			X
Jon	Essert	X		
Karl	Dagel	X		
Lisa	Gariel			X
Mike	Crawford - Chair	X		
Monte	Roberts			X
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair			X
Greg	Springer	X		
Ron	Petty	X		
Scott	Miller	X		
Scott	Daletas	X		
Todd	Smith	X		
Will	Lee – Secretary	X		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Colten Lipka, Comm fish

IV. Guests Present:

V. Approval of Agenda

- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes from November 20th and 27th have been approved
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting
- XII. Set next meeting date: Monday December 11th, 2023 at CIAA starting at 6:30pm
- XIII. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
102			Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict
103			Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
146	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon		
Support	14	0	Supported to align regulation to season length.
147	Modify the Kenai River king salmon annual limit		
Opposed	6	8	<p>Management already has tools available to restrict harvest. There are a lot of long term possibilities that this could create issue in future cycles.</p> <p>Great conservation idea that would allow to have two fish harvested still but one and over and one under 34 inches.</p>
148	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River		
Opposed	0	13	1 abstention – mixed emotions
149	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon		
Opposed	1	13	This would remove some paired restriction, which in turn affect commercial fishing as well.
188	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake		
Support	11	2	<p>1 abstention – not a participant and not enough information. The no votes were worried about losing bait for kokanee fishing and other fishing.</p> <p>With the 16-inch limit in place to protect the larger lake trout, there is no need for bait. This lake is a one of a kind lake on the peninsula and any fish being caught with unattended second lines or even sitting bait during the summer are increase overall mortality. Plenty of fish including kokanee and rainbows are caught without bait.</p>
190	Establish requirements to guide in Upper Cook Inlet personal use fisheries		
No Action			Based on 189
191	Adjust annual limits in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based on abundance		
Opposed	0	14	This would increase total harvest with higher numbers of sockeye being taken on good years. This would put a lot of extra work on fisheries managers as well.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>There are already tools in place to manage the fishery as needed. This is in the management plan and under the commissioner's authority.</p> <p>Discussion should happen around at bag limits and giving the department the ability to either decrease or increase as needed.</p>
192	Close personal use fisheries based on commercial openings		
Opposed	0	14	Allocative proposal, over the last 10 years there have been a number of different restrictions and a lot of overlapping management plans. This would be very difficult to manage.
193	Require king salmon caught and released in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries not be removed from the water		
Support	13	0	<p>Housekeeping rule that should go across all Cook Inlet Personal use fisheries. This is already language used in Kenai River EO for king salmon. Proposal 197 should be taken into consideration in conjunction.</p> <p>1 abstention</p>
194	Allow retention of Dolly Varden in Kenai/Kasilof personal use dipnet fisheries		
Opposed	1	13	No need to keep dolly varden in the personal use fishery.
196	Prohibit personal use fishing on the Kenai River from an anchored vessel		
Support	13	1	<p>This causes a lot of hassle and is a safety concern. Creates a disorderly fishery where you now have many boats trying to go around anchored boats. Including anchor rode and or floating rope.</p> <p>Singe No vote has concerns about commercial drift fishermen and stopping them from being able to dip a personal use fish while they are working on their boat.</p> <p>Language could be put in place main fishing channel. This would eliminate the large commercial drift boats that are anchored in the main river channel.</p>
202	Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries		
Support as amended	14	0	Amendment to change the maximum size from 4 ¾ to 5 inch maximum.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			Vote on amendment Support: 14 Opposed: 0
203	Move the regulatory markers for the Kasilof River personal use dip net fishery		
Opposed	0	14	Moving the north boundary point would put it inside of a commercial special harvest area.
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
Supported	9	4	Commercial fishing has been restricted and managed by EO over the last 10 years. Most people are supporting this due to King conservation. No need to close as the department is already managing this through the management plan and by EO. The close of this could take away another user group that would help keep an eye on how this fishery is managed. 1 abstention
232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		
Opposed	0	14	No need for additional limits or additional gear.
233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process		
Opposed	0	13	There is already derby approval though department of commerce 1 abstention – could possibly vote for it

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford and AC
Date: 1/8/24 @ AC Meeting

12/4/23 meeting

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
December 11th, 2023
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:30pm by Mike Crawford, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap	x		
Andrew	Carmichael		x	
Dick	Dykema	Resigned		
Dyer	Van Devere	x		
Jerry	Strieby	x		
Joe	Thomas	6:55pm		
Jon	Essert	x		
Karl	Dagel	x		
Lisa	Gariel	x		
Mike	Crawford - Chair	x		
Monte	Roberts			x
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair			x
Greg	Springer	x		
Ron	Petty	x		
Scott	Miller			x
Scott	Daletas	x		
Todd	Smith	x		
Will	Lee – Secretary	x		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Colten Lipka, Commercial Fisheries

IV. Guests Present:

V. Approval of Agenda

- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes from November 20th and November 27th have been approved.
- VII. Reports
- a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting
- XII. Set next meeting date: Tentative, January 8th & 22nd, 2024 starting at 6:30pm
- XIII. Other
- Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
179	Close additional waters to sport fishing in the upper Kenai River		
Opposed	0	13	Coho fishing is already closed to sport fishing. No real loophole on silvers.
180	Close waters of the Kenai River from the Sterling Highway Bridge to Kenai Lake to sport fishing		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Opposed	0	13	There is no biological concern to close sport fishing, though this proposal is regarding coho, it would close trout fishing as well. The Coho season fishing is already closed.
181	Close waters of the Kenai River to sport fishing from January 1 – June 10		
Opposed	0	13	There is no biological concern to close the river during this time. This is targeted at winter trout fishing, which is minimal in impact.
198	Prohibit transport of Kenai River personal use fish by motorized vessel upstream of the Warren Ames Bridge		
opposed	5	6	<p>Kenai docks are launching 250 to 300 boats per day during personal use. Fish and game does have the ability to implement rule change to effect change to this fishery.</p> <p>Overweight boats going upstream does cause some issue with wake and river erosion. This is also an issue as more people launch upriver and drive all the way down to the personal use area. There are already groups of people that are dropping fish and people off at different locations. During King fishing, the lower boat launches were over crowded between personal use, red salmon and king salmon fisherman.</p> <p>If there was a king fishery going this could possibly be valid. But the current amount of boat traffic is not currently as high. No crowding under current conditions.</p> <p>Need a better solution for an area to off-load fish and possibly drop off of people as well.</p> <p>1 abstention – like the idea, but would like to have a solution before passing something like this.</p>
199	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
Opposed	5	7	No motor restrictions except for sport fishing rule. The personal use fishery is still growing and trending in popularity. This is an attempt

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			to prevent future use of jet boats and unregulated horsepower boats in the personal use fishery. There is a possibility of a lower Kasilof boat launch opening that could help expand the use of boats in the personal use fishery. The ideas behind this proposal are valid.
228	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River		
Supported	13	0	When there is a conservation concern, we should error on the side of conservation.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
 Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford and AC
 Date: January 8, 24 @ AC meeting

12/11/23 meeting

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
January 8th, 2024
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:34pm by Mike Crawford, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap		X	
Andrew	Carmichael	6:40pm		
Dick	Dykema			Resigned
Dyer	Van Devere	X		
Jerry	Strieby	X		
Joe	Thomas			X
Jon	Essert	X		
Karl	Dagel	X		
Lisa	Gariel			X
Mike	Crawford - Chair	X		
Monte	Roberts	X		
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair	X		
Greg	Springer		X	
Ron	Petty	X		
Scott	Miller	X		
Scott	Daletas	X		
Todd	Smith	X		
Will	Lee – Secretary	X		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Colton Lipka, Commercial Area Management Biologist

IV. Guests Present: Jake Dye, Peninsula Clarion

V. Approval of Agenda

- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes from December 4th and 11th have been approved.
 - VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - c. Others
 - VIII. Public Comment
 - IX. Old Business
 - X. New Business
 - a. OEG established in 2020 – has never been met.
 - b. Current SEG 13,500 to 27,000
 - c.
 - XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting
 - XII. Set next meeting date: January 15th, and January 22nd, 2024
 - XIII. Other
- Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
75	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG.		
Oppose	3	10	<p>Keep the OEG as this is needed to keep the fishery sustainable and to rebuild a run. OEG gives us an extra buffer that is on the side of conservative.</p> <p>OEG has not been met since being implemented and changes the calculation for maximum sustained yield.</p> <p>SEG is currently 13,500 to 27,000 large king salmon.</p>
76	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
No Action			No Action Based on 75
77	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
Opposed	3	10	An OEG can be made below an SEG, see comments for proposal 75
78	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG		
No Action			No Action based on 77
79	Create additional step-down measures to the KRLRK SMP		
Opposed	4	9	<p>This takes away the OEG and is based on the SEG. This is also a longer opening period to fish 24 hours during a stock of concern.</p> <p>Allows for a limited commercial fish during low abundance. Does also allow in-river to fish.</p>
80	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan		
Supported	7	6	<p>Live day reporting and reporting of fish tickets to get count. This would equate to 400 total large kings being taken by commercial fish while the sport fish may not be fishing at all.</p> <p>In-River gets nothing in addition in this, but we already have tools in place to allow fishing in both commercial fishery and in-river fishery.</p> <p>600-foot fishery is estimated at 500 sockeye per king salmon of any size.</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>Data is roughly 150,000 sockeye salmon to 317 kings of any size from 2018 to 2022.</p> <p>Would like to see the large king cap lowered below 200 large kings per fishing area.</p> <p>Opposition: This would allow opportunity below the SEG. Post Season genetics are not available in a timely manner to manage the fishery</p>
81	Provide addition commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Opposed	4	9	<p>Better than Proposal 80, it is simplified, and the numbers are better aligned within the current management plan. The 600-foot fishery should be utilized more.</p> <p>Putting a commercial fishery out in front of a closed king salmon fishery. Believe in the OEG and that it serves a purpose. The 600-foot fishery was not used in 2023 due to the forecast being below the SEG.</p> <p>Fish need to come first and we need to make the OEG first and foremost.</p>
82	Repeal portions of intent language from the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> and shorten plan duration		
Opposed	2	11	<p>Opposing Votes: This would get rid of the OEG, we have supported the OEG as stated in other proposals. Need paired restrictions, but this would open up fishing too much.</p> <p>Also lowers SEG number and wants to get rid of the large king salmon count.</p> <p>Supporting votes: If this is being managed for sport-use then it is a special privilege. Supports it since it is coming from another local AC. Do not agree with the OEG and all kings need to be counted.</p>
90	Expand weekly time-period “windows” where the commercial salmon fishery is closed		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Opposed	5	8	<p>This might not be the best way to manage the sockeye fishery escapement. Eastside fishery is getting windowed to death, there are only so many given days to allow fishing now.</p> <p>There would give more time to allow fish to enter the river. Originally the windows were implemented to help the sport fishery.</p>
91	Amend criteria for commercial set gillnet fishing periods, in the Upper Subdistrict, after August 1		
Opposed	3	10	<p>Would like to see an achieved OEG before opening. Projections have been and could be incorrect.</p> <p>This would only affect very specific sections to be allowed to fish. Possibly allowing one extra day of fishing.</p>

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:58pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
 Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford and
 AC Date: 01/15/2024 @ AC Meeting

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
January 15, 2024
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:30pm by Mike Crawford, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap			X
Andrew	Carmichael	X		
Dick	Dykema	Resigned		
Dyer	Van Devere	X		
Jerry	Strieby			X
Joe	Thomas			X
Jon	Essert	X		
Karl	Dagel	X		
Lisa	Gariel	X		
Mike	Crawford - Chair	X		
Monte	Roberts	X		
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair		X	
Greg	Springer	X		
Ron	Petty	X		
Scott	Miller	X		
Scott	Daletas			X
Todd	Smith	X		
Will	Lee – Secretary	X		

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present:

- a. Colton Lipka
- b. Mathew Miller

IV. Guests Present: Jake Dye, Peninsula Clarion

V. Approval of Agenda

- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Meeting minutes for January 8th, 2024, are approved.
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report
 - b. ADF&G
 - i. Matt gave a short presentation on the Stock of Concern and the Action Plan
 - c. Others
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting:
- XII. Set next meeting date: Next Meeting is Monday January 22nd, 2024, at Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association. Meeting will start at 6:30pm. Tentative meetings February 12th and 19th.
- XIII. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
84	Close fishing for Kenai River late-run king salmon upstream of river mile 14 when the preseason forecast is below 20,000 fish		
Opposed	0	12	<p>Could possibly make it more of a pass-through fishery. While keeping any extra pressure off the spawning grounds. The proposal states fish, but does not specify between all fish or Large-Fish.</p> <p>The 20,000 number in the proposal seems to be arbitrary. There are already measures in place to keep fishing from the sonar to the Soldotna bridge. Currently there is no bait and no retention all season above the Soldotna bridge.</p> <p>There are still large fish below mile 14</p>
86	Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through Oct 31 if the king salmon sport fishery is closed by EO.		
No Action			No Action based on proposal # 173
87	Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
Opposed	0	11	<p>There are 26 miles of bank protections already in place where fishing cannot be done from the shore. There is no such thing as a shuttle service.</p> <p>Is it truly an equitable burden of conservation when one commercial fishing group is still allowed to fish while another commercial fishing group is not fishing.</p> <p>1 abstention</p>
88	Prohibit nonresidents from fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River if the king salmon sport fishery is closed		
Opposed	0	12	Guides already cannot fish with clients on board.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
89	Prohibit nonresident anglers from participating in the Kenai River Late-Run king salmon fishery		
No Action			No Action based on 88
97	Amend the Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional fishing opportunity in the sport and set gillnet commercial fisheries		
Opposed	3	9	<p>Trying to provide limited opportunity between SEG and OEG.</p> <p>This could potentially remove the OEG, though the OEG was put in place to help build the stock quicker. The date was of the 20th was used as it is when the projection confidence is much more clear.</p> <p>Is it possible to manage to two different goals with one fishery managed to an SEG and another managed to an OEG.</p> <p>Support for the OEG, as the purpose of the OEG is to help rebuild the run. So managing to the OEG is to help this stock of concern.</p> <p>Karluk king run has had poor returns but they still are fishing down there, which seems to be a contradiction on policy.</p>
153	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays		
Opposed	5	6	<p>Amendment: to only apply when king fishing is closed, this proposal would be in effect.</p> <p>Support: 8 Opposed: 3 Abstention: 1</p> <p>This would allow for more days to allow guides to spread out during the week. To lessen some congestion during high peak times.</p> <p>The original intent was to allow locals days on the river without guides, currently there is no limit on guide number.</p> <p>1 Abstention</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
154	Allow guiding on the Kenai River without day and time restrictions if the king salmon fishery is closed		
No Action			No Action based on 153
155	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays if king salmon fishery is closed		
No Action			No Action based on 153
156	Allow sport fishing from a guided nonmotorized vessel on Mondays during May – July		
Opposed	5	6	Trout fishing is closed till June 11 th but open from the lower Kiley river to the sterling highway. It is not tied to king fishing, and if king fishing were to be open this would still allow guided fishing on Mondays from a non-motorized boat. 1 abstention
157	Allow anglers to fish on the Kenai River on Mondays in August and September from a guided vessel		
Opposed	0	12	There is no assessment, no creel survey on coho. There is no need for additional time.
158	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on Sunday and Monday with no hour restrictions		
Opposed	4	6	2 abstentions
159	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River on Mondays from August 1–November 30		
No Action			No Action based on 157
160	Limit guided activities on the Kenai River from May 1–July 31		
Opposed	1	8	This would increase concentration and potentially increase more guides on the river during specific times. 3 abstentions
161	Restrict guided shoreline anglers on the Kenai River to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., from July 1 to August 15		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Opposed	3	8	it is not going to help a crowding issue and only concentrate more people during more popular hours. 1 abstention
162	Allow guiding on the Kenai River prior to 6:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.		
Opposed	5	7	Allow sockeye fishery and trout fishery to take place before 6am and after 6pm. No needs for extended hours
163	Reduce the time fishing from and anchoring a guided vessel is allowed in the Kasilof River		
Opposed	1	11	Tide timing does not work very well with a 6am to 6pm fishery. The fishery is currently an orderly fishery, not allow guides to anchor until 6am would create additional issues at the boat launch. Kasilof is too busy and the guide fishery is not managed at all.
164	Limit sport fish guiding in the Kasilof River		
Opposed	3	9	Something does need to happen. There is no reason to put in any time restraints.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
 Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford and AC
 Date: 1/21/24 @ AC Meeting

Kenai Soldotna Fish & Game Advisory Committee
January 21, 2024
Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association

I. Call to Order: 6:334pm by Mike Crawford, Chair

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Excused
Al	Belknap			X
Andrew	Carmichael	6:47pm		
Dick	Dykema	Resigned		
Dyer	Van Devere	X		
Jerry	Strieby	X		
Joe	Thomas			X
Jon	Essert	X		
Karl	Dagel	6:38pm		
Lisa	Gariel	X		
Mike	Crawford – Chair	X		
Monte	Roberts	X		
Paul A.	Shadura II – Vice Chair			X
Greg	Springer	X		
Ron	Petty	X		
Scott	Miller	X		
Scott	Daletas	X		
Todd	Smith	X		
Will	Lee – Secretary	X		

Members Absent (Excused): 8

Members Absent (Unexcused):

Number Needed for Quorum on AC:

List of User Groups Present:

III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Colton Lipka, Commercial Fish Area Manager

IV. Guests Present: 4

V. Approval of Agenda

VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Meeting Minutes from January 15th, 2024 meeting have been approved.

VII. Reports

a. Chair's report

b. ADF&G

c. Others

VIII. Public Comment

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

XI. Select representative(s) for board meeting

XII. Set next meeting date:
February 12th and 19th, 2024. 6:30pm at Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association.

XIII. Other

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
92	Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ measures in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Opposed	0	11	<p>the entire beach fishery is closed and by opening this section then starts to carve out specific fisheries.</p> <p>There are total number of kings caught, but no data on number of large kenai kings being taken in this section of the fishery.</p> <p>Management could fall under sockeye management plan that would not be paired with the king sport fishery</p> <p>2 abstentions</p>
93	Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ management measures within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action			Based on 92
94	Modify allowable gear when the set gillnet commercial fishery is restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal		
Support	10	0	<p>Just trying to change wording in regulation to allow total aggregate length with shorter nets.</p> <p>3 abstentions</p>
95	Modify the amount of set gillnet gear that can be used in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal,		
Opposed	0	11	<p>This would lengthen the total amount of gear in the water</p> <p>2 abstentions – no science behind the shallower net</p>
96	Modify operation of set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict,		
Opposed	0	12	No definition for flagged gillnet, there is no study showing that this would catch less king salmon or be a valid sockeye fishery.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>This could break loose and create additional issues within the fishery across multiple fisheries.</p> <p>1 abstention – no science behind the method</p>
98	Modify the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal		
	2	11	<p>Creates an opportunity to fish with restrictions and limited area.</p> <p>Too restrictive, more effort below the OEG</p>
99	Make numerous changes to the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
			Tabled till Paul comes back.
100	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when Kenai River late-run large king salmon escapements exceed 13,500 fish		
Opposed	4	8	<p>Trying to fish between the SEG and the OEG with limited gear and not targeting king. This proposal says that the in-river MUST exceed the SEG 13,500 number. This would most likely be August opportunity.</p> <p>Supporting this with a single net</p> <p>1 abstention</p>
101	Remove ‘paired restrictive’ time and gear exemption from the 600-foot commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict		
Support	7	5	<p>The 600-foot fishery has not been extensively used. The initial idea behind this fishery was to bring it back into a more traditional fishery along the beach. This has not been used enough to know have enough data to have a known effective rate.</p> <p>This would count the hours in the 600-foot fishery toward total accumulated hours during hours paired restriction.</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>This still has impact, and the 600-foot fishery does still harvest some Kenai kings. The idea is to account for the hours that are being used.</p> <p>1 abstention</p>
102	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
Opposed	3	8	<p>Give some opportunity with limited gear and a prescribed time. 600-foot fishery is tight to the beach.</p> <p>This is based on projections instead of in-river SEG numbers. This could allow fishing to happen and still miss the OEG. Would also now allow ample opportunity for in-river kings salmon fishing.</p> <p>81 and 102 are the same proposal.</p> <p>2 abstentions</p>
103	Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery		
Support	8	4	<p>A new permit or new gear type would need to be established. The boat limitation is to limit this to a common setnet boat size, but would exclude most boats in the drift boat fishery. This could also allow dipping from the beach.</p> <p>Don't like the idea or the precedence that it would set. This could create an entire new fishery and or crossover between personal use and commercial caught fish.</p> <p>It does provide an opportunity for commercial a targeted commercial fishery.</p> <p>This would only be allowed when the setnet fishery is closed. It is not paired to any current</p> <p>1 abstention – the idea is good out of the box thinking, but what are we missing that could be creating additional issues.</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
104	Adopt a new Kenai River late-run king salmon management plan for the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery		
Opposed	0	13	Proposal is too broad and cover too many details with not enough depth. The idea of having a TAC is not unheard of but not currently
105	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when the Upper Subdistrict would be closed to conserve Kenai River late-run king salmon		
Opposed	2	11	Another proposal trying to fish between the SEG and the OEG, but based on projection.
106	Restrict legal set gillnet gear when the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery is open within 600 feet of shore		
Opposed	0	13	We are reading this proposal as 29 mesh and 45 mesh instead of 29 inches and 45 inches. We want to be sure that this is being taken up under mesh and not inches.
107	Repeal the 600-foot Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery and create a new opportunity with shallow set gillnet gear more than one half mile offshore		
Opposed	0	11	To have the discussion to push the fishery out with shallow nets to allow more water under the nets and keeping them off the bottom. There is no data behind this or any study. 2 abstentions
108	Exempt the 600-foot set gillnet fishery from fishing time and gear restrictions in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
No Action			Based that it is already in rules and regulations.
109	Create new set gillnet commercial salmon fishing opportunity based on Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement		
Opposed	0	13	Doesn't address the king salmon management plan and only speaks to the sockeye plan.
110	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for set gillnet gear within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Opposed		10	This would be allowing opportunity when the OEG is not being met. 3 abstentions
111	Adopt a Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Opposed	0	13	There is no OEG for sockeye, current SEG is 750,000 to 1.3 million. This would make the OEG below the SEG.
112	Increase the upper bound of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal range		
Opposed	6	7	<p>Looking to change the in-river sockeye goals.</p> <p>There is no biological data to support the need to increase these goals. Over the last 5 years the Kenai River has been well above the in-river goal. If this were implemented this would also affect the Kasilof sockeye fishery and in-river goal.</p> <p>By increasing these goals this would decrease commercial opportunity. In-river harvest is already not taking the excess fish.</p> <p>Want to hear the biology on why this would be good or bad, would like to hear the discussion.</p>
113	Adopt an optimal escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon		
Opposed	0	13	1 abstention
114	Adopt an Optimal Escapement Goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon		
Opposed	1	10	<p>There is already an SEG and no BEG or OEG within the Kenai Sockeye Management plan.</p> <p>2 abstentions</p>
115	Modify intent of the <i>Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Opposed	0	10	3 abstentions
116	Repeal mandatory weekly closures in the commercial set gillnet fishery		
117	Repeal 'paired restrictions' from Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plans		
118	Reduce the Kasilof River sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal		
Opposed	0	10	3 abstentions
119	Allow the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to remain open when the remainder of the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict is closed		

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
Opposed	1	12	This is a terminal fishery that no one wants to see in action. It is a highly disorderly fishery and the fish are devalued as they are all beat up and mangled.
120	Repeal portions of intent language within the <i>Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan</i>		
Opposed	1	11	Would rather not see this fishery executed 1 abstention

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned @ 10pm

Minutes Recorded By: Will Lee
 Minutes Approved By: Mike Crawford over email
 Date: 2/11/2204

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Southcentral Region Fish & Game Advisory Committees

Herb Mansavage
Chairman
teamshadowridge@gmail.com

Anchorage	Mt. Yenlo
Central Peninsula	Paxson
Cooper Landing	PWS/Valdez
Copper Basin	Seldovia
Copper River/PSW	Seward
Denali	Susitna Valley
Homer	Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road
Kenai/Soldotna	Tyonek
Matanuska Valley	Whittier

February 12, 2024

Dear Chairman Wood:

We appreciate the opportunity for the Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (AC) to provide comments on the Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) Board of Fisheries (Board) fish proposals. We hope that you find these comments and positions helpful. Because of the large numbers of UCI proposals, the AC worked through a seven-member fish subcommittee that prepared the proposals to focus discussions and approve or develop positions on the selected UCI proposals. To complete its work, the subcommittee held eight meetings. Additionally, the AC met twice to consider the subcommittee's work. Ultimately, the Matanuska Valley AC developed positions on 103 proposals.

The Matanuska Valley AC provides three proposal comment documents for your consideration and review. The first document is the positions and associated comments on each of the 103 proposals. Because we did not know how many of the proposals, we would be able to consider, we decided to partition the proposal categories into two subsets. The first subset consisted of the proposal categories that related to the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, Cook Inlet, Anchorage, and Turnagain Arm. These categories were considered our priorities. The second subset was everything else, which we took up in the order on the Board of Fisheries web page. Specifically, however, the most important proposals to the Matanuska Valley AC are as follows:

- A. Northern District Commercial Salmon:
 - 1. Proposal 207
 - 2. Proposal 208
 - 3. Proposal 210
 - 4. Proposal 212
 - 5. Proposal 213
 - 6. Proposal 214
- B. Fishing Seasons, Weekly Periods, Setnet Gear, and Registration
 - 7. Proposal 137
 - 8. Proposal 43
- C. Northern District Subsistence:
 - 9. Proposal 204
- D. Susitna River Personal Use Fisheries

10. Proposal 229

E. Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Plan:

11. Proposal 1

The second document is a list of the proposals the Matanuska Valley supported, as amended that included the amendments. The third document is the Departments list of proposals, Volume 1 and Volume 2, altered to include a page index of the AC's comment document, document one, along with the AC's position and vote.

We hope you find these comment documents helpful in your deliberations and decisions,

Sincerely,

Herb Mansavage
Chairman, Matanuska Valley AC

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK December 20, 2023				
Proposal Number	Proposal Description			
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes	
Proposal 204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage			
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	11	0	<p>INFO: No sport fishing licenses necessary.</p> <p>INFO: Harvestable surplus is necessary before subsistence fishing is allowed.</p> <p>INFO: Last restriction/closure to conserve king salmon was in 2019. 2-KS-2-17-19.pdf (alaska.gov). This restricted subsistence fishwheel fishing in the Yentna River to 2 days per week. It did not affect the Tyonek subsistence fishery.</p> <p>QUESTION: <u>The 2024 projection is for a very poor king salmon run; will all UCI subsistence fisheries be closed prior to the season</u></p> <p>QUESTION: does the Mat-Su non-subsistence area affect this proposal?</p> <p>QUESTION: How would the harvestable surplus be determined?</p> <p>CON: Concern that the area for this proposal would encompass the entire Yentna River drainage. This may result in a severe enforcement problem.</p> <p>CON: The current Yentna Area subsistence area is very small in contrast.</p> <p>CON: Proposal requests that the entire Yentna River drainage be open to king salmon subsistence fishing with rod and reel with a household limit of 3 king salmon.</p> <p>CON: Does not apply to Anchorage-Matsu-Kenai Nonsubsistence Area</p> <p>CON: ADF&G game unit 16A is within the nonsubsistence area. Does this include the Yentna River that forms a portion of the boundary of Unit 16A? Can subsistence fishers fish on the west bank of the Yentna River when the east bank is in the nonsubsistence area?</p> <p>CON: Portion of this stock is already harvested in the Tyonek subsistence fishery</p> <p>PRO: 3 king salmon per household permit is much less than the fishwheel harvest and also the Tyonek subsistence permit.</p> <p>PRO: Current Customary and Traditional (C&T) finding is for Yentna River salmon outside of the nonsubsistence use area.</p> <p>PRO: This proposal would be quite a change; allow much more participation in subsistence fishery.</p> <p>PRO: All Alaskans should be able to participate in subsistence fisheries.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK December 20, 2023				
Proposal Number	Proposal Description			
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes	
			AMENDMENT: Board should clarify when ADFG should close the Northern Cook Inlet subsistence king salmon fisheries because of conservation reasons . Vote: 11-0 support amendment.	
Proposal 218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.			
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>INFO: Unit 4 is the Yentna River drainage.</p> <p>INFO: all returning king salmon are mature and gravid and can fertilize eggs.</p> <p>CON: ADF&G: All king salmon count towards escapement goals</p> <p>CON: Problem with a 2-king salmon limit. Troubling.</p> <p>CON: ADF&G: weeding through fish for a particular size will increase hooking mortality to those released kings.</p> <p>PRO: Vast majority (>90 %) of king salmon less than 24 inches are male but not all of them.</p> <p>PRO: Good idea if we have any small harvest available; if we harvest anything we should be harvesting males since females account for the reproductive capacity of the escapement.</p>	
Proposal 219	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed.			
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>INFO: Unit 2 is the Parks Highway streams.</p> <p>INFO: Applies to Confluence areas only.</p> <p>INFO: Historically closed when King Salmon was closed.</p> <p>INFO: ADF&G: proposal to open fishing for other species when king salmon fishery is closed. Passed by the Board.</p> <p>INFO: Proposal would close those waters for half the summer.</p> <p>CON: Reduces fishing opportunity on top of very limited opportunity, if any to fish for King Salmon.</p> <p>salmon was closed passed during the last UCI Board meeting.</p> <p>CON: Can't stop criminals if they are going to do something against the law.</p> <p>CON: Enforcement issue; should not punish public for a few violators or people who target king salmon.</p> <p>CON: Several members of the public explained that when anglers are allowed to fish these areas for species other than king salmon, they provide the eyes that keep people from illegally harvesting king salmon.</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK December 20, 2023				
Proposal Number	Proposal Description			
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes	
Proposal 220	Open additional waters in the Big River drainage to sport fishing for coho salmon			
SUPPORT	11	0	CON: ADF&G: concerned about Sockeye salmon spawning in this area. Small clearwater area where Coho Salmon congregate. PRO: Opportunity to fish for Coho Salmon PRO: Sockeye salmon in poor condition (spawning) during the time Cohos arrives.	
Proposal 221	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage.			
SUPPORT	11	0	INFO: The Northern District Salmon Management Plan Prioritizes a full season of coho salmon harvest opportunity for sport, guided sport, and other inriver users, <u>while calling for minimizing the commercial harvest of coho salmon.</u> INFO: ADF&G: Sport Fish Div manages for escapement; late running into the Deshka and Little Susitna rivers. Inseason projection not available until first week of August PRO: Commercial has been liberalized for Coho Salmon while sport fishery bag limit has stayed at 2 Coho salmon. PRO: Already 3 Coho Salmon bag limit except in Unit 2, Deshka to Talkeetna. PRO: Commercial harvest is taking a higher percentage than historically. PRO: Commercial harvest has remained constant while sport harvest has declined dramatically. PRO: Sport Fish Division manages Coho Salmon when the fish enter into fresh water; manages left over fish from the commercial fishery harvest. PRO: Kenai River late run Coho salmon is 3 fish bag limit; .	
Proposal 222	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon.			
SUPPORT	11	0	PRO: Pink Salmon resource is underutilized; very low sport fish harvests. PRO: No biological problem with an additional 6 pink salmon bag limit PRO: Very little opportunity to harvest salmon in recent years. PRO: This is the regulation on the Kenai River. PRO: No biological concern: support increase in opportunity	

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

Proposal 223	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna River Drainage Area.			
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>INFO: Current bag limits, except for special management areas, rainbow trout, 2 per day, only 1 can be greater than 20 inches</p> <p>CON: Currently, bait is not allowed in all Susitna River units from September 1 through at least May 31.</p> <p>CON: Proposal asks for bait up to September 15,</p> <p>CON: Multiple hooks only allowed in Unit 1; otherwise, single unbaited artificial fly or lure in all other Susitna River Units.</p> <p>CON: This proposal would only affect Unit 1 as far as tackle restrictions.</p> <p>CON: Would prohibit harvest of rainbow trout during the period Sept 15 – May 15..</p> <p>CON: Probably limited participation and harvest on the Susitna River in the winter.</p>	
Proposal 224	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway.			
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>CON: Too restrictive.</p> <p>CON: Current regulations allow bag limit and possession limit of 1 rainbow trout, 16 inches or less. This is a conservative bag limit.</p>	
Proposal 225	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession.			
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>CON: Too liberal; some area listed are special management areas for rainbow trout</p> <p>CON: Not consistent how rainbow trout is managed every where else.</p> <p>CON: Proposal appears to be reaction to the poor or lack of a salmon fishery in the drainage.</p>	
Proposal 226	Allow anglers to use two artificial lures in tandem in Susitna River Drainage waters.			
SUPPORT	10	1	<p>CON: may open the door for 2 hooks on a line for all species.</p> <p>PRO: Common practice to use dropper flies in Western states and throughout the world.</p> <p>PRO: when trying to protect king salmon, management may restrict tackle to one unbaited artificial hook or lure.</p> <p>PRO: no biological concern for rainbow trout or other resident species by fishing 2 flies on a line; however, there may be a concern for king salmon under restrictive management scenarios.</p> <p>SUGGESTION: amend to hook size (gap) so to prevent king salmon hookup. When necessary, EO single unbaited hook for kings.</p>	
Proposal 227	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4,			
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>INFO: Yentna River</p> <p>INFO: All other units have same regulation, 5 per day, 5 in possession, <u>only 1 of which may be 12 inches or longer.</u></p> <p>QUESTION: Are there biological implications to the 12-inch limit?</p> <p>QUESTION: Is there a biological reason for the regulation that limits harvest of fish 12 inches or longer?</p>	

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Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			<p>PRO: Downward trend in catch and harvest may be more indicative of the dearth of salmon in the Susitna River rather than changes in population size.</p> <p>PRO: Growth may be extremely variable from the small golden fins in Upper Willow to fish residing in more productive waters.</p> <p>PRO: May want to consider changing this regulation in all Susitna units.</p>	
Proposal 228	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River			
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>PRO: Housekeeping proposal, this is now being done by Emergency Order;</p> <p>PRO: ADF&G should stipulate how far this prohibition extends out into the Susitna River;</p> <p>PRO: Everyone who dipnets there is comfortable with the restriction.</p>	
Proposal 229	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open			
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>INFO: Dip netting allowed from July 10 – July 31 on Wed and Saturday 6:00 a.m to 11:00 pm.</p> <p>PRO: This proposal would add two days a week to the schedule: Monday and Friday 6:00 am – 11:00 pm. Reasonable, since the fishery effectively starts around July 17.</p> <p>PRO: Good numbers of Sockeye salmon arrive in the area around July 20-22;</p> <p>PRO: Catch rate is 1 to 3 fish per permit day during in the first two weeks of the season.</p> <p>PRO: ADF&G has a concern for the Coho Salmon; coho salmon harvest is low through July.</p> <p>Mat Valley AC prefers this proposal over 231 (10-0-1)</p>	
Proposal 230	Increase the open season of the Susitna River dip net fishery is open			
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>INFO: Proposer requests dip netting 2 days a week from August 20 through September 30.</p> <p>CON: Department has a concern for Coho salmon.</p> <p>CON: Harvest during this time period may be mostly coho salmon.</p> <p>PRO: Harvest numbers are probably very small.</p> <p>PRO: Not many fish are harvested in this fishery.</p> <p>PRO: Historically, 75% of the Coho run passes through the Deshka River weir by August 20. This was designed to be a sockeye fishery.</p> <p>PRO: The current plan allows fishing through August if the coho salmon run exceeds the upper end of the escapement goal.</p> <p>PRO: Assume that fishery will not be prosecuted unless the upper end of the Sockeye and Coho salmon escapement goals are exceeded.</p>	
Proposal 231	Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery.			
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>INFO: Current period July 10 – July 31</p> <p>INFO: Proposed July 17 – August 7 period.</p> <p>IFNO: Additionally, if amended, some members would like to see fishing time reduced to 2 days during the first week of August.</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>	

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			<p>INFO: Some members wanted to see an amendment that would be much more liberal fishery by combining both 229 and 231: 4 days a week, from July 10 – August 7.</p> <p>CON: would result in the harvest of more Coho Salmon because of extension into August.</p> <p>PRO: During the week from July 10 -16 very low salmon harvest of all species has been reported each of the first 3 seasons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mat Valley AC prefers Proposal 229 (10-0-1) 	
			<p>Date of subcommittee meeting: <u>12/20/2023</u></p> <p>Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u></p> <p>Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u></p> <p>Date: <u>1/10/2024</u></p>	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals
February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

December 28, 2023

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 1</u>	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan <i>(This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting):</i>		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	11	0	<p>PRO: Gene Sandone asks for reconsideration of suggested regulatory action contained in the Mat Valley comments regarding this proposal provided to the Board at the Lower Cook Inlet meetings.</p> <p>PRO: Andy Couch moves to reconsider proposal; Neil DeWitt seconds; RECONSIDER VOTE: support 11-0</p> <p>NEW INFO: Approximately half of the Cook Inlet-origin king salmon harvested in this fishery originates in the Northern Cook Inlet streams.</p> <p>PRO: new amended regulatory language (below) would close saltwater fishery north of Bluff Point if preseason forecast or inseason projection falls below the low end of the Deshka River SEG. This is similar to the wording of Anchor River in proposal. Vote on Amendment: 11-0.</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

AMENDED LANGUAGE FOR PROPOSAL 1

Highlighted language is new amended language by Mat-Valley AC.

5 AAC 58.055. Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan.

5 AAC 58.055 is amended to read: ...

(g) if the Anchor River preseason forecast or inseason projection is less than the lower end of the sustainable escapement goal of 3,200 – 6,400 king salmon, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.) within a mile of shore shall be closed to the retention of king salmon from May 1 [15] to July 15; if the Kenai River is closed as specified in 5 AAC 57.160, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59 40) shall be closed to the taking of king salmon from May 1 [15] to July 15; if the Deshka River preseason forecast or inseason projection is less than the lower end of the sustainable escapement goal of 9,000 – 18,000 king salmon, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.) within a mile of shore shall be closed to the retention of king salmon from May 1 to July 15.

(h) if the Kenai River is closed to the taking of king salmon as specified in 5 AAC 21.359, the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point shall be closed to the taking of king salmon from June 20 through August 15.

The purpose of this new suggested regulatory language is to provide amended language for Proposal 1 that would provide protection to the Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stocks based on the preseason forecast or inseason projection of escapement to the Deshka River when these stocks are critically low.

Approximately half of the Cook Inlet-origin King Salmon harvested in the Upper and Lower Cook Inlet summer saltwater fisheries are destined to spawn in Northern Cook Inlet streams. However, Proposal 1, as submitted by ADF&G, does not address protecting migrating Northern Cook Inlet stocks. Therefore, we recommend the two following changes to afford some protection to these Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stocks:

1. Change the May 15 date in (g) to May 1 to protect migrating Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stocks because these stocks tend to migrate in the Cook Inlet earlier than more southern stocks; and
2. add a section to (g) for management of the upper Cook Inlet salt waters north of the latitude of Bluff Point based on the preseason forecast or inseason projection of the King salmon escapement to the Deshka River. The Deshka River King Salmon weir counts have been shown to be the best indicator stock for Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stocks.

The King salmon sport fishery in most Northern Cook Inlet streams was closed to all sport king salmon harvest starting on May 1 in both 2022 and 2023. Additionally, the King Salmon escapements to the Deshka River, the most productive King Salmon stream in Northern Cook Inlet, was 5,436 salmon in 2002 and 3,741 salmon in 2023. These escapements were 40% and 58%, respectively, below low end of the established sustainable escapement goal of 9,000 – 18,000 King Salmon.

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We believe that these amendments are necessary because:

1. the Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stock accounts for approximately half of the harvest of Cook Inlet-origin King Salmon in the Upper and Lower Cook Inlet summer saltwater King Salmon fisheries; and
2. These Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon stocks are currently experiencing very low runs and escapements are not being met.

Proposal 2	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan. Cook Inlet Saltwater king salmon fishery north of bluff point will remain open the entire month of May to harvest of 1 king per day and 2 per season, unless it is determined by actual sonar counts that escapement goals in the Kenai River and Anchor River won't be met (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
OPPOSE	0	11	CON: Liberalizes a fishery that should not be liberalized. CON: Too liberal considering poor king salmon runs. CON: open in May; passage data comes in in June. Does not conserve king salmon in a poor run.
Proposal 3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries. The late run king salmon sport fishery in Lower Cook Inlet along the beach from Anchor Point to Deep Creek will be open for harvest in July if the commercial set net fishery along the beach in Upper Cook Inlet is open		
OPPOSE	0	11	PRO: Some members like the paired restriction with commercial fishery. CON: Agree with department comments that allowing fishing in July from Anchor Point to Deep Creek salt waters may increase the harvest of late-run king salmon and other lower Kenai Peninsula roadside streams stocks.
Proposal 4	Redefine the boundaries of the Upper Cook Inlet Area. Move the regulatory point for Cook Inlet king salmon management purposes from Bluff point to Anchor Point. The line would a straight line from Anchor Point on the east to Sea Otter Point on the west side		
OPPOSE	0	11	CON: Agree with department's comments that allowing fishing in July from Anchor Point to Deep Creek salt waters may increase the harvest of late-run king salmon and other lower Kenai Peninsula roadside streams stocks. CON: Would involve a change in regulations for 7 miles that would increase king salmon bag and possession limit. CON: Too liberal for present king salmon stock status. CON: Bluff point has been in regulation forever; there is no reason to move it.
Proposal 232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		
OPPOSE	0	11	CON: Dire need right now for salmon; not appropriate CON: Stacked drift permits usually include drift permits that are not fished; does not add additional drift permits but additional sport licenses would add licenses. CON: But considering the lack of fish, wonders how many additional licenses could be sold.

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			<p>CON: Doesn't create a good situation when looking at the low runs of salmon.</p> <p>PRO: This is similar to stacked commercial set net permits that allow the use of an additional complement of gear in UCI.</p> <p>PRO: HOWEVER, stacked set net permits can fish two full complements of gear. This has put more commercial set net gear in the water.</p> <p>PRO: There should be a Board discussion regarding stacked set net permits. Regulations are too liberal.</p> <p>PRO: When commercial is restricted to one net; a person that stacks permits could fish 2 nets.</p> <p>PRO: The point is that sport fish would get more money for licenses sales.</p>
Proposal 233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process.		
OPPOSE	0	11	<p>INFO: Proposer is a commercial fisherman</p> <p>INFO: One member stated that he liked derbies for pike, especially in the Mat-Su Area but dislikes ice fishing derbies on some stocks, such as the Big Lake Arctic char population, when the temperature is way below 0. Exposure to ultra cold temperatures/weather probably injures the fish that are to be released.</p> <p>CON: Currently there are a few derbies in NCI. But mostly ice fishing or lake fishing derbies</p> <p>CON: derbies that there is no biological concern for the fish stock would be shut down.</p> <p>CON: It would make a cumbersome procedure. Expensive assessment then through Dept of Commerce. Intention is good.</p> <p>PRO: Many king salmon that won the former Wasilla Chamber Mat-Su King Salmon Derby came from Sheep Creek. Most coho salmon that won prizes in the former Trout Unlimited Mat-Su Coho Salmon Derby were taken from Little Susitna River. Past Mat-Su derbies placed additional exploitation on specific salmon stocks -- and particularly on stocks / locations with larger fish.</p> <p>PRO: Especially on stocks with larger king and Coho salmon.</p> <p>PRO: Largest king and coho salmon that won derbies have come from specific streams. This puts additional pressure on these stocks.</p>
Proposal 234	Clarify the northern boundary of the Knik Arm management area and the Palmer-Wasilla Zone and exclude certain flowing waters from the Palmer-Wasilla Zone		
.SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	11	0	<p>INFO: ADF&G proposal</p> <p>CON: More restricted than Proposal 235; this proposal does not include some drainages that the other proposer of 235 believes are pike infested.</p> <p>PRO: Designed to increase pike harvest in flowing waters within Palmer-Wasilla Zone</p> <p>PRO: Concerned about Cottonwood Creek;</p> <p>PRO: Modify Proposal 235 or work with proposer on 234</p> <p>PRO: Want to see more pike harvested</p> <p>PRO: Both proposers agree</p> <p>Amendment: Request that ADF&G to determine if ADF&G is willing to work with AC representatives to develop a combined or amended proposal on Palmer Wasilla Zone: Proposal 234 and 235. Vote on Amendment: 11-0</p>

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Proposal 235	Reduce the size of the Palmer - Wasilla Zone		
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>INFO: Boundaries between the two proposals, 234 and 235 are different.</p> <p>PRO: Designed to increase pike harvest in flowing waters within Palmer-Wasilla Zone;</p> <p>PRO: Good argument for adding additional areas over Proposal 234 to fish for pike in the spring.</p> <p>PRO: Nancy Lake system pike are getting spread throughout the system.</p> <p>PRO: Should change the regulation from closing the fishery in select flowing waters within the Palmer-Wasilla Zone to non-retention of rainbow trout in these select waters.</p> <p>PRO: Support both proposals and then have the two proposers work together on one proposals.</p>
Proposal 236	Update the stocked lakes list for the Knik Arm drainage area		
SUPPORT	11	0	PRO: housekeeping
Proposal 237	Allow bow and spear as legal gear for northern pike and Alaska blackfish year round in the Palmer- Wasilla Zone		
SUPPORT	11	0	<p>CON: Question if blackfish are invasive</p> <p>CON: They may be non native; cannot prove that blackfish are non native.</p> <p>PRO: Blackfish do prey on salmon fry</p> <p>CON: Wanton waste does not apply to pike in the Northern Cook Inlet; however wanton waste regulations do apply for blackfish.</p>
Proposal 238	Establish a motor size restriction for the Little Susitna		
OPPOSE	3	8	<p>INFO: Little Su has been listed as impaired. Most erosion on Kenai is caused by boat wake. Destroys habitat for salmon rearing.</p> <p>INFO: Regulations currently prohibit fishing out of a vessel that has a 2-stroke motor onboard.</p> <p>QUESTIONS: Erosion data from department? Turbidity?</p> <p>CON: slippery slope; boats used for fishing, hunting and transportation to cabins.</p> <p>CON: financial burden for some to downsize</p> <p>CON: windy river; not enough stretches to go fast with large outboard;</p> <p>CON: fishing participation way down because of the lack of salmon. Fewer people on the river results in a much-reduced safety concern.</p> <p>CON: Reducing outboard hp doesn't necessarily diminish wakes</p> <p>CON: Hull design and boat operator have a lot to do with the wake of the boat; not necessarily horsepower.</p> <p>CON: Air boats do not cause a wake but will be excluded under this amendment.</p> <p>CON: One member of the public says that he doesn't see bank erosion but does see turbidity increase with the boats travelling the river.</p> <p>CON: Floods on rivers cause much more erosion because of the debris in river.</p> <p>PRO: safety concern; many boat collisions</p> <p>PRO: Little Su is much smaller than Kenai River where 50 hp restriction is in place.</p> <p>PRO: banks are being eroded by wash of bigger boats;</p> <p>PRO: We need to slow down on the river for safety and erosion.</p> <p>PRO: Past survey indicated that public wanted a restriction on motor size..</p>

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			<p>PRO: Motor size has consistently gone up on the Little Su;</p> <p>PRO: Some members like the motor restriction on the Kenai at 50 hp but fishers could use a prop on the Kenai, whereas it is somewhat impractical to limit the horsepower in the Little Su because most anglers use jets outboards. Impractical to limit hp to 50 hp.</p> <p>PRO: Consider a date in the future to implement a motor size restriction.</p> <p>PRO: Little Su does not usually provide a transportation corridor for the Big Su.</p> <p>PRO: Maybe more of a safety issue than erosion issue.</p> <p>CON/PRO: Boat drivers may need to be educated on how to run a river; lots of operator error.</p>
Proposal 239	Establish a large king salmon escapement goal for the Little Susitna River.		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	<p>INFO: allow more females in the escapement by drastically reducing or eliminate all fishing for king salmon.</p> <p>INFO: ADF&G provided Deshka River ASL data (see below, Table 239-1) Deshka Weir count: 3,749 king salmon; sample size = 294 (Table 239-1); SEG 9,000-18,000</p> <p>INFO: ADF&G provided sex information, but these data are <u>useless</u> because it was determined through external characteristics and does not comply with known facts about the sex of king salmon at age.</p> <p>INFO: 76% of the 2023 king salmon sampled at the Deshka River weir were age-3 and age-4 fish; 24% were age-5; there were 0 age-6 king salmon (Table 239-1).</p> <p>INFO: ADF&G 2023 Deska River weir sampling data indicates that female king salmon comprise: 7.6% of age-3 king salmon, 65.1% age-4 king salmon and 68.6% of age-5 king salmon. ADF&G estimates that the weir sample contained 43% female king salmon (Table 239-1). Sex determination was conducted through examining external characteristics.</p> <p>INFO: In most king salmon populations, female age-3 king salmon are exceeding rare if they exist at all. Age-4 king salmon are usually less than 10% female, while age-5 king salmon are usually less than 50% female. A majority of age-6 king salmon are usually female. Using these data the female component would be much reduced over the ADF&G estimate of the number/proportion of females in the escapement.</p> <p>QUESTION: Possible for a hen (female) goal?</p> <p>CON: ADF&G says that it would be difficult and time consuming to establish a large king escapement goal. <u>Some members disagree.</u></p> <p>CON: Concern is when king salmon fishery is closed a fisherman may weed through the catch of many king salmon to harvest kings that are less than 20 inches.</p> <p>CON: Potential of increased traffic on river to fish for and retain king salmon less than 20 inches.</p> <p>PRO: The ADF&G Deshka River king salmon passage through the weir was 3,741 king salmon. This estimate is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 58.4% below the low end of the SEG of 9,000 king salmon, 2. Comprised of 42.9% female, or 1,605 female king salmon. 3. 46.5% below the number of females necessary to achieve the low end of the SEG, assuming that an appropriate percentage of females in the escapement is 33%. <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			<p>PRO: The Department needs to start differentiating between large king salmon and jacks. Should not count jacks as part of the escapement goal. Even if ADF&G continues to count all kings at the weir start differentiating between larger kings and jacks.</p> <p>PRO: This proposal would allow retention of king salmon under 20 inches, even when fishing or retention is closed by emergency order. Although gravid, these jack salmon provide nothing to the reproductive capacity of the escapement.</p> <p>PRO: Catch and release fishery on the Little Su River has very low participation. Most people don't want kings less than 20 inches.</p> <p>AMENDMENT: Prohibit retention of king salmon less than 20 inches when fishery is closed; allow retention of king salmon less than 20 inches when catch and release fishing for king salmon is allowed. Subcommittee VOTE: support amendment 5-2. This proposal was presented to full AC as the Amended proposal.</p> <p>CON: Some Subcommittee members voted against the amendment because they didn't want the retention of small kings.</p> <p>AMENDMENT: Establish Large king salmon escapement goals for the DESHKA & Little Su Rivers. Vote on Amendment: SUPPORT 12-0</p>
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Table 239-1. Deshka River Chinook salmon age, sex, size information from sampling conducted at the Deshka River weir, 2023. (ADF&G data or calculated from ADF&G data)

ADF&G Deshka Weir Chinook Age, sex and length, 2023									
age	age_lab	Sample size	Proportion (SE)	Number of females sampled	Female Prop. ^a	Weir Passage Est.(SE)	Mean Length (in)	Range (in)	
3	1.1	118	0.383 (0.028)	9	0.076	1,432 (105)	20.7	17.3	26
4	1.2	106	0.377 (0.029)	69	0.651	1,409 (107)	27.5	20.5	31.7
5	1.3	70	0.241 (0.025)	48	0.686	900 (93)	29.8	27.2	37.8
	All ages	294	1.000 (0)	126	0.429	3,741 (0)	25.4	17.3	37.8

^a Calculated from data provided by ADF&G.

Proposal 240	Increase the number of days bait is allowed in the Little Susitna River drainage.								
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: Pertains to coho salmon but fishers can catch kings above the weir and close to Parks Highway with bait.</p> <p>CON: Liberalizes the fishery when runs are low.</p> <p>PRO: Why do we have a commercial fishery 500 yards from the mouth of the Little Su and sport fishers cannot use bait in the sport fishery? Not a paired restriction.</p> <p>PRO: Sport fishery should go through the season without being restricted.</p> <p>PRO: Most places within Cook Inlet commercial fishers are restricted to at least 1 mile from mouth of rivers.</p>						

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Proposal 241	Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna River sport fishery based on location of commercial fishery openings		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: Can't support because of biological concerns but brings it to the Board's attention that the increasing in the proportion allocation that the commercial fishery takes, especially at the mouth of the Little Su river.</p> <p>CON: This proposal is written with absurd sport harvest limits to illustrate a similar absurdi level of the current commercial regulation for fishing near the Little Susitna stream mouth. This sport proposal should NOT pass and the current commercial opportunity provided near the Little Su mouth should be discontinued / adjusted, which is the REAL point.</p> <p>PRO: Commercial harvest at the mouth is much greater than sport fishery within the river.</p> <p>PRO: This proposal speaks to the disadvantage of having a commercial fishery harvest within 500 yards of the mouth of the Little Susitna River.</p> <p>PRO; The AC understands and sympathizes with the frustration of the proposer because commercial fishing regulations allow commercial harvest so near (500 yards) of the mouth of the Little Susitna River while the sport fishery is so very regulated in the river.</p> <p>PRO: The problem of commercial fishing within the mouth area of the Little Susitna needs to be addressed.</p>
Proposal 242	Prohibit anglers from releasing coho salmon in the Little Susitna River		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: Original study on Coho salmon catch and release in the Little Susitna River (1993) was done in the lower 10-15 miles of the Little Su River; reported a 69% mortality rate. Coho salmon are more susceptible to injury and death when caught with bait when they are in transition from salt to fresh water. May not be applicable for river 15 miles above the mouth.</p> <p>CON Weir is currently located at river mile 30.5.</p> <p>CON: Current Regulations When a sport fisher harvest a limit of salmon in the Little Su, a fisher cannot fish the rest of the day.</p> <p>CON: If required to keep a fish anywhere hooked, you would get a lot of people snagging</p> <p>CON: Not much catch and release in the Little Su River; suggest that the department bring that data to the Board</p> <p>INFO: Catch and harvest data are available in participation, harvest and catch database.</p>
Proposal 243	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	<p>CON: Northern Cook Inlet coho salmon runs into the rivers are not good. May not be able to sustain this sport and commercial harvest.</p> <p>PRO; Historically, 3 coho was the bag limit.</p> <p>PRO: Starting in 2000 a Coho conservation plan reduced sport to 2 coho salmon and limited commercial fishery harvest because of reduced run sizes, especially in early August. However, Commercial fishery has been <u>liberalized</u> since then.</p> <p>PRO: <u>If enough fish to liberalize the commercial fishery, there should be enough to allow bag limit to be liberalized to 3 Coho salmon in sport.</u></p> <p>PRO: 3 similar UCI proposals for the Susitna River, Turnagain arm, and Kink Arm that increases bag limit to 3 coho salmon.</p>

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Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

PRO: The Northern District management plan calls for minimizing commercial harvest of coho salmon, providing sport, guided sport, and other inriver users reasonable harvest opportunity over the entire run.

PRO: Commercial fishery is currently taking more harvest of Coho Samon than sport fishery (Figure 243-1). Also, note the percentage of the total commercial and sport harvest taken by commercia fishery has increased dramatically. It has gone from an average of 26% during the early period, 2003-2007, to the most recent 5-average of 58% (Figure 243-2)

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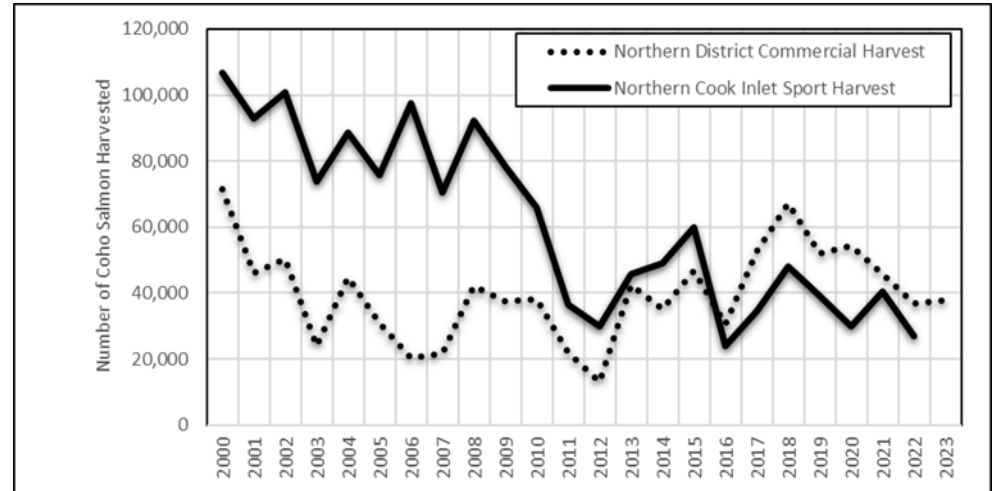


Figure 243-1. Comparison between the Northern District commercial and Northern Cook Inlet sport Coho salmon harvests, 2000-2023.

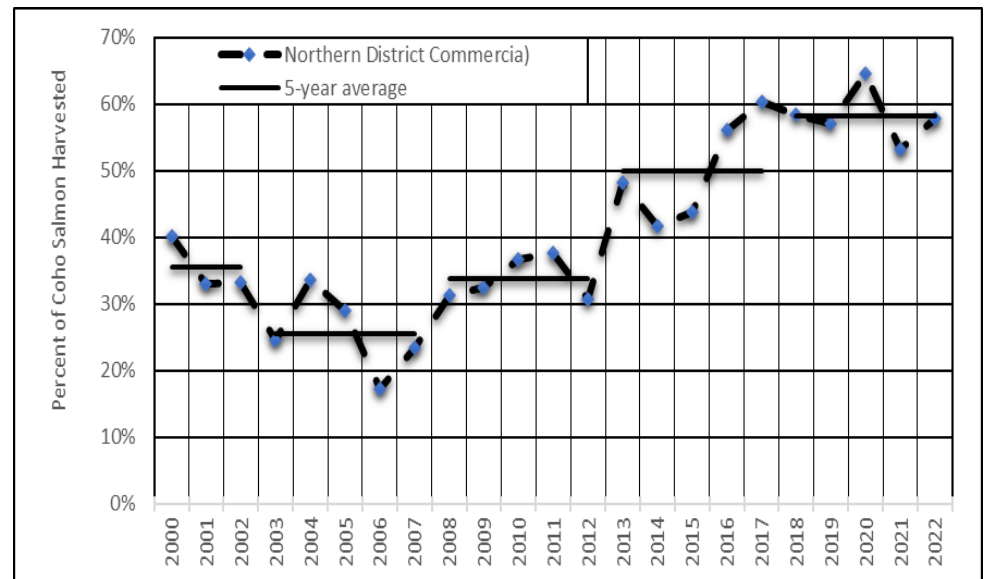


Figure 243.2. Percent of the total combined commercial and sport Chinook salmon harvest taken by the Northern District commercial fishery, 2000-2022.

PRO: Sport fishery not been allowed to harvest Coho salmon over the entire run because of the liberalizing of the commercial fishery.

PRO: Regulations do not follow the intent of the plan.

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PRO: Regulations do not allow reasonable opportunity for sport to harvest Coho salmon throughout the run.

PRO: Unauthorized reallocation of Coho salmon to commercial fishery.

5 AAC 21.358.

- (a) The purposes of this management plan are to **minimize the harvest of coho salmon bound for the Northern District of upper Cook Inlet** and to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. The department shall manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks for commercial and inriver uses to provide an opportunity to harvest these salmon resources based on abundance. **The department shall also manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho salmon, to provide sport and guided sport fisherman and other inriver users a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon resources over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions, or as specified in this section and other regulations.**

PRO: Participation in sport fisheries in the NCIMA is down 75% from the number of days fished in 2000 (Figure 243-3). Sport harvest of Coho salmon is currently also down 75% from the number harvested in 2000 (Figure 243-4).

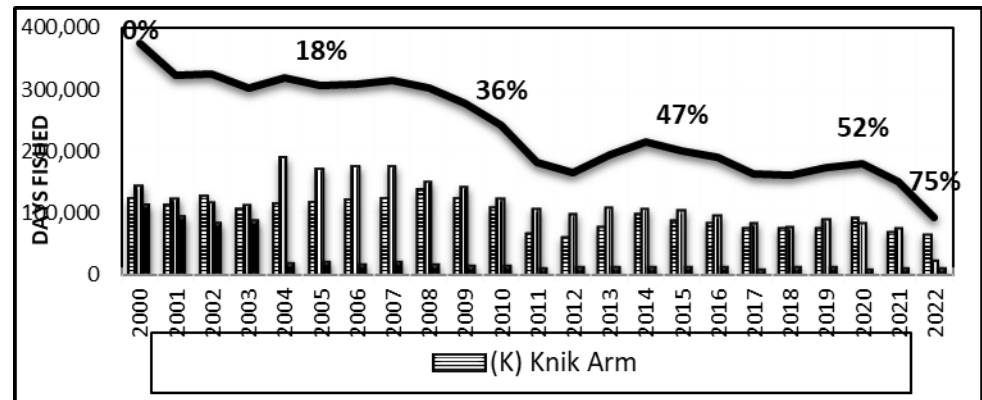


Figure 243.3. Participation (days fished) in the Knik Arm (K), Susitna River drainage (M), West Cook Inlet drainage (N), and the combined total, 2000-2022. Percentages above the total line indicate the percent decrease in total participation from 2000.

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Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

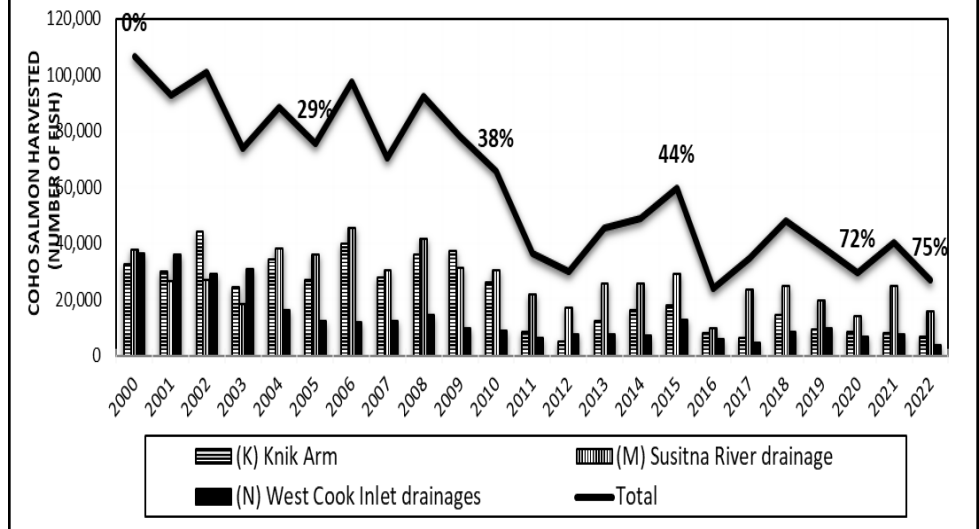


Figure 243.3. Sport Coho salmon harvest in the Knik Arm (K), Susitna River drainage (M), West Cook Inlet drainage (N), and the combined total, 2000-2022. Percentages above the total line indicate the percent decrease in total sport Coho salmon harvest from 2000.

AMENDMENT: IF THERE IS ENOUGH COHO SALMON TO ALLOW NORTHERN DISTRICT SET NET FISHERMEN TO FISH ADDITIONAL GEAR (permit stacking), THEN THERE IS ENOUGH FISH TO ALLOW 3 FISH BAG LIMIT FOR SPORT COHO SALMON FISHING. Vote on the Amendment: Support 12-0.

Proposal 244	Define the mouth of Fish Creek		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>INFO: Dept says it is neutral on allocation.</p> <p>INFO: There are numerous stream mouth definitions in Northern Cook Inlet</p> <p>QUESTION: What is the impetus for the proposal?</p> <p>CON: However, there are numerous proposals to restrict sport fisheries but can't recall similar proposals by department to restrict commercial fisheries.</p> <p>CON: Fish Creek consistently makes escapement.</p> <p>CON: No definition for Little Susitna River stream mouth (commercial fisheries).</p> <p>CON: This is an allocation issue if the department speaks to restricting stream mouth fishing for sport fisheries and no definition for commercial fisheries.</p> <p>CON: Enforcement issue, not a biological issue.</p> <p>PRO: Problems with location of markers because of large tidal fluctuations.</p> <p>PRO: Conserve Fish Creek-origin salmon. Different regulations for salt and fresh water</p> <p>PRO: More opportunity of liberalizing fishery in the stream</p>
Proposal 245	Allow sport fishing in the Fish Creek drainage 7 days a week		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO: Fishing area extremely small, pass through fishery, fish move through quickly.</p> <p>PRO: Wier is not in every year so ability for ADF&G to liberalize is sporadic when escapements are more than high end of the SEG.</p>

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Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			PRO: ADF&G has liberalized this fishery moreso than most any other fishery for sockeye. PRO: Escapements are usually achieved for coho salmon, low end of SEG is 1,200 Coho salmon. PRO: Coho salmon fishery participation during the week is usually low when allowed
Proposal 246	Update the lists of lakes where anglers may use five lines while fishing for northern pike through the ice in designated Northern Cook Inlet waters. 5 AAC 60.120.		
SUPPORT	12	0	PRO: Housekeeping proposal.
Proposal 247	Prohibit chumming in Big, Mirror, and Flat Lakes		
SUPPORT	9	3	INFO: Mirror and Flat lakes are connected to Big Lake. INFO: Enforcement has asked the department to propose this proposal. CON: Enforcement issue CON: Bag limit should be enforceable not chumming. PRO: This makes it easier for enforcement to enforce no bait restrictions. PRO: Biological concern? Indirectly, PRO: Conservation of the Arctic char is a big deal. PRO: Chumming = feeding frenzy; facilitates catching larger fish. PRO: There is a decline in overall size and catch rates of Arctic char in Big Lake. PRO: Makes sense to conserve Arctic char.
Proposal 248	Restrict Big Lake Arctic char to catch-and-release in the Fish Creek drainage.		
SUPPORT	12	0	PRO: Arctic char population size declining; catch rates have declined. PRO: Are there char caught in the other streams and lakes in the Fish Creek drainage? Not sure but probably not. PRO: Big Lake char are lake dwelling fish only. Spawn within the lakes. PRO: Look at drainage as a whole. PRO: Big Lake Arctic char are unique, lake dweller, lake spawner and confine themselves to larger lakes within the drainage.
Proposal 249	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat.		
SUPPORT	12	0	Housekeeping
			Date of subcommittee meeting: <u>12/28/2023</u> Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u> Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u> Date: <u>1/10/2024</u>

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 205</u>	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan.		
SUPPORT	12	0	CON: If closed need proposal, agenda change request or emergency petition. cumbersome CON: Removing a tool in the box for ADF&G PRO: sport fishery in this area was closed by board; 2011 stocks of concern. PRO: commercial is being closed by EO since 2011 at Board direction. PRO: Should be a paired restriction: sport and commercial. PRO: Should be cumbersome to authorize any fishery on the king salmon stock.
<u>Proposal 206</u>	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet		
SUPPORT	12	0	PRO: Change harvest limit from 12,000 to 2,000
<u>Proposal 207</u>	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
SUPPORT	12	0	PRO: 206, 207, 208 are similar proposals; prefer 207. May want to include additional triggers in 207, as stated in Proposal 208, to restrict ND commercial fishery, such as, king passage into the Susitna River Drainage Unit 2, Unit 4, Unit 5, and/or Little Susitna River PRO: Commercial harvest should not exceed 15% of the total sport and commercial fishery. PRO: King salmon is primarily a sport fish. Sport fishery HARVEST should dominate the harvest. PRO: Increased proportion of harvest going to commercial fishery PRO: When sport fishery is closed, no bait, or no retention the directed king salmon commercial fishery should be closed because of the very small or no harvestable surplus. PRO: Percent harvest taken by commercial fishery for the last 3 years was: 67%, 61% and 84% for 2020, 2021, 2022, respectively (Figure 207-1). PRO: 15% limit used as a report card; using a percent standardizes the commercial harvest over all run sizes, small and large. PRO: Figure 207-1 Begs the question: What percent should the directed commercial fishery take of the total harvest?

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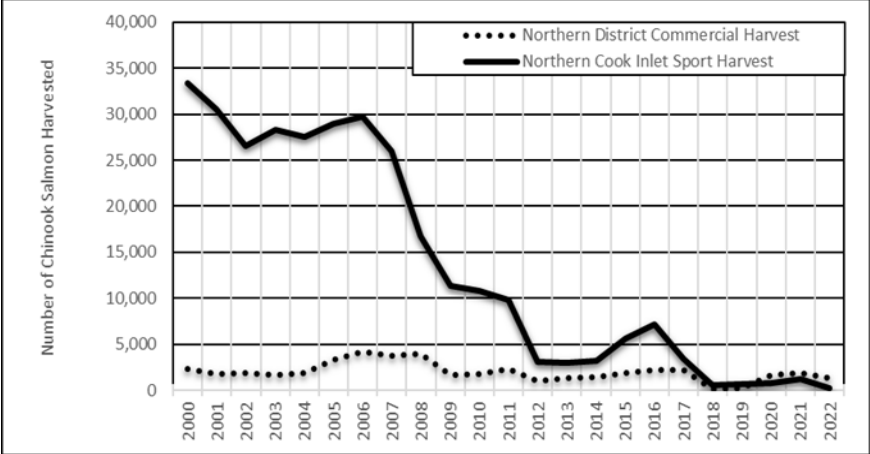
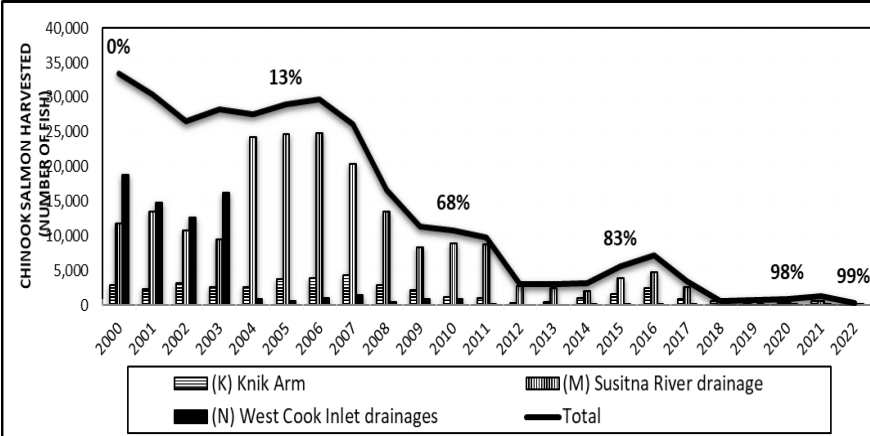
Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals
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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes																																																																								
			<p>PRO: The percentage of the total harvest taken by commercial fishery was 6% during the period 2000-2004. The most recent 5-year average is 50%, with the last three years of record, 2000-2003, accounting for 67%, 61%, and 84%, respectively.</p> <p>PRO: 15% limit could be initially translated into number of fish based on the preseason harvestable surplus forecast and then shift to inseason when information becomes more available. THIS CAN BE DONE.</p> <p>PRO: there has been an unauthorized allocation shift in favor of the commercial fishery.</p> <div><table><caption>Estimated data for Figure 207-1</caption><thead><tr><th>Year</th><th>Northern District Commercial (%)</th><th>5-year average (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2000</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2001</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2002</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2003</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2004</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2005</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2006</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2007</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>2008</td><td>15</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2009</td><td>15</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2010</td><td>15</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2011</td><td>15</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2012</td><td>15</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>2013</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2014</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2015</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2016</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2017</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2018</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2019</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2020</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2021</td><td>30</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>84</td><td>50</td></tr></tbody></table></div> <p>Figure 207-1. Percent of the total combined commercial and sport Chinook salmon harvest taken by the Northern District commercial fishery, 2000-2022.</p> <p>PRO: Paired restrictions currently favor commercial fishery when harvest is low (Figures 207-1 and 207-2).</p>	Year	Northern District Commercial (%)	5-year average (%)	2000	6	6	2001	6	6	2002	6	6	2003	6	6	2004	6	6	2005	6	6	2006	6	6	2007	6	6	2008	15	15	2009	15	15	2010	15	15	2011	15	15	2012	15	15	2013	30	30	2014	30	30	2015	30	30	2016	30	30	2017	30	30	2018	30	30	2019	30	30	2020	30	30	2021	30	30	2022	84	50
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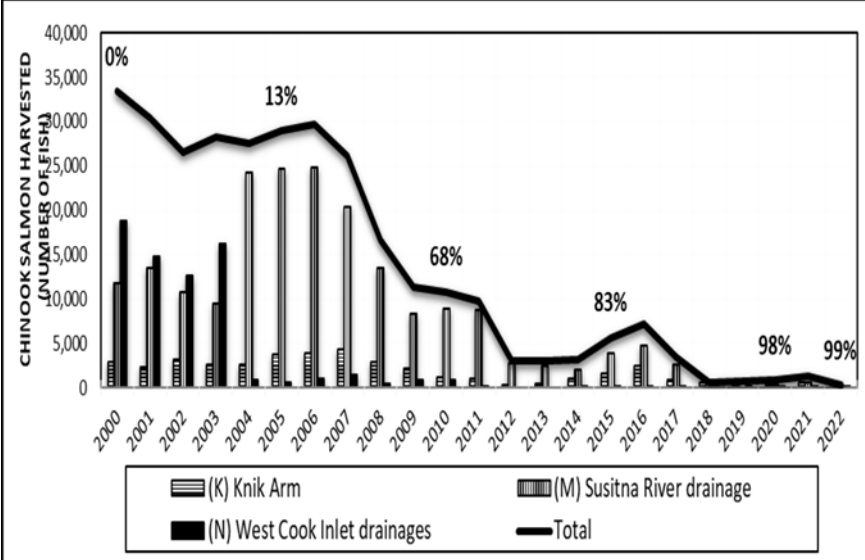
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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			 <p>Figure 207-2. Percent of the total combined commercial and sport Chinook salmon harvest taken by the Northern District commercial fishery, 2000-2022.</p> <p>PRO: The sport wild king salmon harvest in the NCIMA is now at 0. In 2022, the total NCIMA sport king salmon harvest was only 1% of that was harvested in 2000 (Figure 207-3).</p>  <p>Figure 207-3. Sport Chinook salmon harvest in the Knik Arm (K), Susitna River drainage (M), West Cook Inlet drainage (N), and the combined total, 2000-2022. The percentage above the total line indicate the percent decrease in total sport Chinook salmon harvest from 2000.</p>

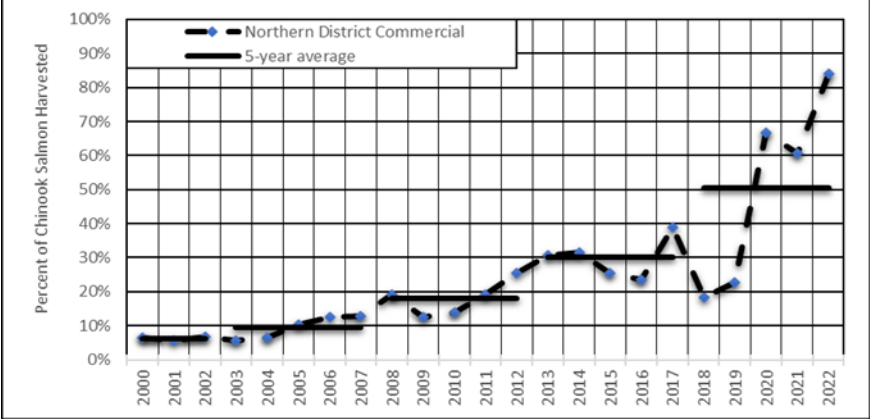
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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 208</u>	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO: Employs trigger for reduction in the Northern District king salmon commercial fishery in <u>Susitna River Drainage Unit 2, Unit 4, Unit 5, or Little Susitna River</u> in addition to the <u>Deshka River</u>.</p> <p>PRO: <u>Need to address reductions in sport fishery throughout the NCIMA, not only the Deshka River.</u></p> <p align="center">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>  <p>Figure 208-1. Sport Chinook salmon harvest in the Knik Arm (K), Susitna River drainage (M), West Cook Inlet drainage (N), and the combined total, 200-2022. The percentage above the total line indicates the percent decrease in total sport Chinook salmon harvest from 2000.</p>
<u>Proposal 209</u>	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>CON: may be difficult to reinstate the directed king salmon fishery if the stocks recover.</p> <p>PRO: When the ND king salmon management plan started, commercial fishers stated that if there was not enough kings for the sport fishery, then the commercial fishery could be closed.</p> <p align="center">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			<p>PRO: The board initially put in a provision in the plan that reflected the above statement.</p> <p>PRO: Subsequent board meetings removed that stipulation and greatly liberalized the fishery, especially at low run sizes.</p> <p>PRO: The allocation has greatly shifted to the commercial harvest without board consent (Figure 209-1).</p>  <p>Figure 209-1. Percent of the total combined commercial and sport Chinook salmon harvest taken by the Northern District commercial fishery, 2000-2022.</p>
<u>Proposal 210</u>	Modify the Northern District Salmon Management Plan and Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO/INFO: Current salmon management plan only uses 3 index weirs high in the Susitna River drainage, Larson, Chelatna, and Judd Lakes weirs.</p> <p>PRO/INFO: Because of budget cuts / staffing issues ADF&G has NOT operated Chelatna Lake weir during 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and has NOT operated Judd Lake weir in 2023. Data from these weirs is not timely for responsive actions in the commercial fishery.</p> <p>PRO: Passage data from the Little Susitna River weir is much timelier than the three weirs listed above.</p> <p>PRO: Allowing commercial fishing less-than-one-mile from Little Susitna River terminus, without adequate king, sockeye, and coho salmon passage through Little Susitna River weir, is not sound biologically, is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

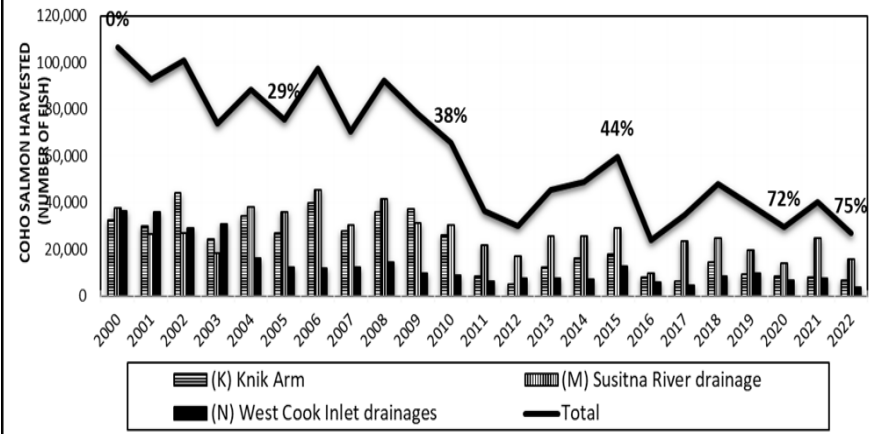
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			<p>inconsistent with how other terminus areas with ADF&G salmon escapement goals are managed in Upper Cook Inlet, has contributed to many inseason restrictions / closures to sport, guided sport, and commercial user groups, and has resulted in missed king and coho salmon escapement goals, most recently in 2023.</p> <p>PRO: Consistent with other UCI stream terminus areas with ADF&G escapement goals — there should be a defined / marked one-mile-or-larger radius waters-closed-to-commercial-fishing zone around Little Susitna River terminus.</p> <p>PRO: If commercial fishing is allowed within less-than-one-mile of the Little Susitna River terminus — it should only be triggered to be allowed based on king, sockeye, <u>and</u> coho salmon Little Susitna River escapements above goal ranges or targets, consistent with how Central District terminus areas like the Kenai and Kasilof have been managed.</p>
<u>Proposal 211</u>	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
OPPOSE	0	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CON: Liberalizes the commercial fishery CON: If there is a not a restriction on gear; then management would be based only on time and area. CON: Overharvest the stocks if not curtailed by time and area or closure.
<u>Proposal 212</u>	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>CON: one member thought that the proposal was too restrictive.</p> <p>PRO Current regulations are too liberal.</p> <p>PRO: Sport Coho salmon harvest has declined by 75% since 2000 (Figure 212-1).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

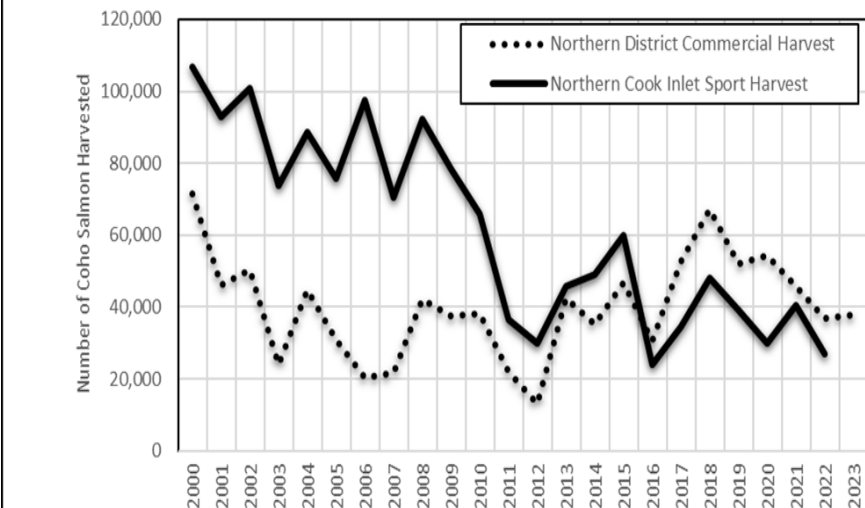
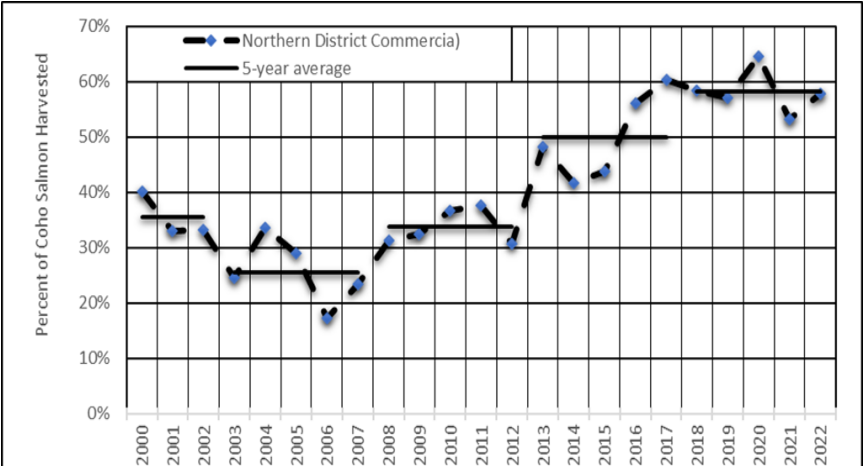
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			 <p>Figure 212-1. Sport Coho salmon harvest in the Knik Arm (K), Susitna River drainage (M), West Cook Inlet drainage (N), and the combined total, 200-2022. The percentage above the total line indicates the percent decrease in total sport Coho salmon harvest from 2000.</p> <p>PRO There have been consistently reoccurring restrictive EO on inriver users in recent years.</p> <p>PRO Inriver users have borne the brunt of conservation restrictions.</p> <p>PRO: Commercial harvest of Coho salmon now exceeds the sport harvest (Figure 212-2 and 212-3).</p> <p>PRO: During the time period, 2000-2012, the commercial harvest of Coho salmon in the Northern District has ranged from 17% of the total coho salmon sport and commercial harvest in 2006 to 40% in 2000, and averaging 31%, while the most recent 5-year average (2018-2022) has been 58% (Figure 212-4).</p> <p>PRO Limit commercial harvest to 30% of the total coho salmon sport and commercial harvest.</p> <p>PRO Could translate the 30% based on preseason forecast of the harvestable surplus and then adjusted based on inseason data.</p> <p>PRO 30% limit would standardize the commercial harvest during all run sizes, from small and large.</p> <p>PRO Could be used as a report card.</p> <p>PRO: Commercial fishers catch a lot of fish when using only one net.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>PRO : Stacking set net permits are allowed using 2 full compliments of gear</p>  <p>Figure 212-3. Comparison between the Northern District commercial and Northern Cook Inlet sport Coho salmon harvests, 2000-2023.</p>  <p>Figure 212-4. Percent of the total combined commercial and sport Coho salmon harvest taken by the Northern District commercial fishery, 2000-2022.</p>

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<u>Proposal 213</u>	Adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO This Plan is clearly broken and flawed.</p> <p>PRO This proposal in unique story-form illustrates why commercial regulations need to be more conservative.</p> <p>PRO: The commercial provisions within the plan need conservative-enough adjustment to provide a full season of reasonable salmon harvest opportunities for all user groups.</p> <p>PRO Should be managed for all users, not just for commercial fishers.</p>
<u>Proposal 214</u>	Adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the Northern District Salmon Management Plan.		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO Lots of information that the board can use (Figures 212-3 and 212-4).</p> <p>PRO Must provide more reasonable harvest opportunity for all users.</p>
<u>Proposal 215</u>	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>INFO: Information is from commercial fishermen</p> <p>CON: No assessment on stock</p> <p>CON: GSI does not separate this stock from other stocks. GSI group includes Yetna River sockeye stock.</p> <p>CON: Probably would harvest some stocks going to Susitna River.</p> <p>CON: NCIMA are end of roads users; unless there is GSI data that shows the harvest is that local stock. Opposed to this proposal.</p> <p>PRO: ADF&G: no biological concern; sockeye stocks are doing well in general.</p>
<u>Proposal 216</u>	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	10	2	<p>CON: Stable commercial fishery</p> <p>CON: Population is variable; but extremely large in some years</p> <p>CON: Suggested that Beluga whale problem of decreasing population may be more so related to decrease in salmon production; resulting in much poorer condition going into winter.</p> <p>PRO: Currently: 5 commercial permits; 140-ton average; hand dipnet fishery.</p>

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Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals
February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

January 4, 2024

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			<p>PRO: Single year of indirect assessment of the biomass prompted board to increase quota from 100 to 200 tons in 2017.</p> <p>PRO: No assessment since that one year of indirect assessment</p> <p>PRO: Concern for Beluga whale recovery in spring.</p> <p>PRO: Consider allowing commercial fishery in other areas where Beluga whales are not in jeopardy; Kenai River?</p> <p>AMENDMENT: <u>Create a new smelt commercial fishery in the vicinity of the mouth of the Kenai River. Transfer 100 tons of the Northern Cook Inlet smelt quota to this new smelt fishery in the vicinity of the mouth of the Kenai River. The Northern District smelt quota would be reduced by 100 tons. The new smelt fishery in the vicinity of mouth of the Kenai River would also have a quota of 100 tons. Vote on Amendment Support 10-2</u></p>
<u>Proposal 217</u>	Repeal the Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: If plan is repealed; no fishery because of forage fish plan.
<u>Proposal 250</u>	Modify the closure date for the Ship Creek king salmon fishery		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>INFO: Daily Time restriction through the 13, no time restriction after 14th.</p> <p>PRO: No biological concern: allow fishers to catch and keep excess king salmon after July 13.</p> <p>PRO: Catch your king you have to stop fishing if retained. Even after 14.</p>
<u>Proposal 251</u>	Modify the Eklutna River drainage salmon bag and possession limits		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>INFO: Already closed to kings.</p> <p>INFO: Not much public access</p> <p>PRO: Apparent low numbers of sockeye and coho in the stream</p> <p>PRO: Native Village of Eklutna (NVE) wants to temporarily close fishery to Coho and Sockeye salmon to rebuild stocks.</p> <p>PRO: Not much reported in SF statewide survey</p> <p>PRO: Low effort; low returns; poor access to the river to fish</p> <p>PRO: Should not be harvesting low numbers of fish</p> <p>PRO: Discussions ongoing regarding rehabilitation of Eklutna River habitat</p>

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			PRO: Probably affective fishers are from NVE. PRO: Educational permits harvest more pinks and chum salmon PRO/CON: No ADF&G assessment
<u>Proposal 252</u>	Increase the bag and possession for salmon, other than king salmon		
SUPPORT	10	1	INFO: Most recent GSI study 2017 CON: No ADF&G assessment on streams south of Bird Creek. Includes down to Boulder Point, includes stream on the Upper Kenai Peninsula. CON: No assessment on the Swanson Rive also. PRO: Changes to bag limit; can harvest 3 coho salmon instead of 2 daily. PRO: Commercial fishery often allows eastern subdistrict fish with more nets even though no stock assessment PRO: GSI: commercial harvest contains more Knik Arm fish PRO: More restricted in General because they harvest more fish. PRO: Permit stacking allowed; set net can use full complement of permit nets. PRO: Additional fishing restriction on sport fish while allowing "additional" fishing opportunity for commercial. PRO: Permit stacking allowed in this area. Additional fishing opportunity PRO: Current disparity between the liberal commercial fishing regulations and the more restrictive sport fish bag limits.
<u>Proposal 253</u>	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem in a portion of Campbell Creek		
SUPPORT	11	0	PRO: No biological concern. PRO: AC supported a similar proposal for the NCIMA.
<u>Proposal 254</u>	Add a portion of Chester Creek to the Anchorage Bowl Drainage special management areas for trout		
OPPOSE	0	11	CON: Stocked fish CON: Kids may want to harvest fish; same rationale as Willow Creek above Parks Highway to oppose CON: Stock fish are triploid; not gravid, sterile. PRO: Some wild production PRO: Catch and release lakes that are stocked in the Mat su Valley PRO: No biological concern

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 255</u>	Create a personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the 20-Mile and Placer Rivers		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	10	1	<p>CON: No assessment on these streams</p> <p>CON: Aerial surveys 15 years ago</p> <p>CON: No known surplus of salmon</p> <p>CON: don't know if the harvest would be sustainable.</p> <p>CON: Potential for large participation with no infrastructure.</p> <p>CON: Only assessment projects are Little Su and Fish Creek. No assessment in Turnagain Arm flowing waters.</p> <p>CON: Safety concerns; highway; poor access; conflict; parking; no infrastructure to support dipnet fishery.</p> <p>PRO: reports of small harvest of Sockeye in Sport Fish statewide harvest survey; may not be indicative of actual run size.</p> <p>PRO: ADF&G: 20-mile largest sockeye producing system in Turnagain Arm</p> <p>PRO: Possible spawning lakes in 20-mile and Placer River.</p> <p>PRO: Department could adjust conditions of dipnet fishery.</p> <p>PRO: Conservative proposal but still provides opportunity.</p> <p>PRO: Fish would pass through unmolested on most days.</p> <p>PRO: Still harvesting commercial without assessment; doesn't make a lot of sense.</p> <p>PRO: ADF&G: Commercial fishery uses indicator streams; can't manage for every system. However, <u>No assessment in Turnagain Arm</u></p> <p>PRO: ADF&G: No assessment in Turnagain arm; can't answer which stocks are being harvested in commercial fishery.</p> <p>PRO: Harvest can provide an indicator of run strength.</p> <p>PRO: If there is a harvestable surplus, an opportunity should be provided.</p> <p>PRO: legislature should provide access and parking area, etc. PRO/CON: Participation in this fishery would probably be correlated to the number of fish harvested.</p> <p>AMENDMENT: Reduce fishery to 1 day/week. Vote on the Amendment: SUPPORT 7-4</p>
			<p style="text-align: right;">Date of Fish Subcommittee meeting: 01/04/2024 Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u> Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u> Date : 01/10//2024</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK January 11, 2023			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 75</u>	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG.		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.</p> <p>INFO: Proposals 75-78 all seek to remove the OEG</p> <p>INFO: The OEG, set by the Board, is 15,000 to 30,000 large king salmon.</p> <p>INFO: the SEG, set by the Department, 13,500 to 27,000 large king salmon</p> <p>INFO: The difference at the low end is 1,500 large king salmon</p> <p>INFO: The metric by which the Department determines if the escapement has been met or not in a certain year, is the low end of the OEG, 15,000 large king salmon, if in effect.</p> <p>INFO: In 2021, 2023 the SEG was achieved but the OEG was not.</p> <p>INFO: The OEG is basically allocative because it reduces the opportunity for all user groups. No fishing until the OEG is achieved or projected to be achieved.</p> <p>QUESTION: If proposal passed, what level gets the late run out of the stock of concern achieving the SEG or the OEG?</p> <p>INFO: If the OEG is removed, the Board or the Department could specify that the achievement of 15,000 needs to be met for a number of years, before removing stock of concern status.</p> <p>INFO: Salmon appears to be returning at a younger and smaller size. Not sure if length at age is smaller.</p> <p>INFO: Climate has changed is negatively affected the king salmon throughout the state.</p> <p>CON: Removing the OEG will not get us out of a stock of concern status.</p> <p>CON: Putting more fish up the river may lead to more fish in the future.</p> <p>CON: Pressure by commercial fishery to remove OEG. PRO: putting more fish up the river may or may not provide more fish in the future. Marginal return/spawner from additional fish on the spawning grounds.</p>

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<u>Proposal 82</u>	Repeal portions of intent language from the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> and shorten plan duration		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.</p> <p>INFO: In 2021, 2023 the SEG was achieved but the OEG was not.</p> <p>INFO: Eliminates OEG</p> <p>CON: seeks to allows commercial fishery to operate at levels below the low end of the SEG.</p> <p>CON: this proposal additionally seeks to: Delete 5 AAC 21.359 (b); (C)(1);(d)(2);(d)(3)</p> <p>CON: this proposal does not remove 5 AAC 21.359 (d)(1), which closes the sport fishery in the Kenai River and Cook Inlet saltwater fishery for king salmon but removes closure language for the commercial fishery (d)(2),(d)(3) when <i>projected late-run king salmon escapement is less than 15,000 king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork and longer</i> .</p> <p>CON: removes paired restrictions. Puts the burden of conservation all on the sport fishery when the <i>projected late-run king salmon escapement is less than 15,000 king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork and longer</i>.</p> <p>CON: <u>REMOVES the bold strike out language in 5 AAC 21.359, as follows:</u></p> <p><i>The department shall manage the late run of Kenai River king salmon to achieve an optimal escapement goal of 15,000 – 30,000 king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork and longer as described in this section.</i></p> <p><i>(c) In the sport fishery,</i></p> <p><i>(1) if the optimal escapement goal is projected to be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, extend the sport fishing season up to seven days during</i></p> <p><i>the first week of August;</i></p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p> <p><i>(d) If the projected late-run king salmon escapement is less than 15,000 king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork and longer, the department shall</i></p> <p><i>(1) close the sport fisheries in the Kenai River and in the salt waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point to the taking of king salmon;</i></p> <p><i>(2) close the commercial drift gillnet fishery in the Central District within one mile of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline south of the Kenai River; and</i></p> <p><i>(3) close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict of the Central District.</i></p> <p>CON: This proposer did not present regulatory strike out language for the lines in the proposal. Therefore, the deletion would not be readily apparent. : Delete 5 AAC 21.359 (b); (C)(1);(d)(2);(d)(3), presented the proposal so</p> <p>CON: removes conservation language.</p> <p>CON: note that it appears that the closure of the sport fishery would not close the commercial fishery.</p>

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<u>Proposal 85</u>	Prohibit use of motorized vessels in the Kenai River if the sport fishery is closed		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: Impacts sockeye fishery CON: Will impact PU dipnet fishery for people putting in above the bridge at the Pillars or Eagle Rock boat launch CON: Affect cabin owners
<u>Proposal 86</u>	Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through Oct 31 if the king salmon sport fishery is closed by EO.		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	INFO: Sonar normally ends on August 20 and when Dept counts less than 1% of the total count INFO: In 2023 counted 900 – 1,000 kings salmon for an extra ten days. CON: King salmon fishery closes the end of July CON: Coho fishery starts August 1 CON: Department has EO prohibition of using bait until August 15 CON: Also extended EO prohibition through August 31 in 2023. CON: Some kings enter into the river in August. CON: A member of the public stated that he would not be opposed to a bait prohibition through mid September. CON: No info on incidental catch of kings during the coho salmon fishery, especially when drifting bait off shore. PRO: Very intense coho salmon fishery in lower river. AMENDMENT: PROHIBIT BAIT THROUGH AUGUST 31 IF OEG IS NOT ACHIEVED. SUBCOMMITTEE VOTE ON AMENDMENT: SUPPORT: 6-1 , presented to AC as amended proposal
<u>Proposal 87</u>	Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: Eliminates guide sport fishing for sockeye and trout fishing. CON: Overly restrictive
<u>Proposal 90</u>	Expand weekly time-period “windows” where the commercial salmon fishery is closed		
OPPOSE	1	11	INFO: Department is currently guided by the king plan INFO: Current plan for a 36-hour closure. INFO: Closure would close fishery on Friday and Saturday CON: Already restricted under paired restrictions CON: The 36-h window should allow fish into the river under current scenario. CON: Restricts department’s flexibility to commercial fishery when sockeye are entering the river on Saturdays. CON: tides affect fishing hours, putting in a larger window may affect commercial fishing efficiency. PRO: Provides more fish for PU and sport fishery on weekend. PRO: Would not affect the weekly commercial fishing hours.

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<u>Proposal 97</u>	Amend the Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan to provide additional fishing opportunity in the sport and set gillnet commercial fisheries		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: this allows limited sport and commercial fishing for for king salmon, if the <u>preseason projection</u> is between the low end of the OEG, 15,000 salmon, and the low end of the SEG, 13,500 salmon through July 20</p> <p>CON: allows fishing below the low end of the OEG, the escapement metric for determining if escapement if achieved.</p> <p>CON: projection on July 20 is not that reliable midpoint of the run is around July 28. More faith in projection occurs as the run progresses in time.</p> <p>CON: fishing occurs from the start of the season based on preseason projection through July 20</p> <p>CON: preseason projection has been biased high in recent years.</p> <p>PRO: Subsequent fishing after July 20 would be based on the inseason projection of the OEG. Both fisheries would close if the low end of the OEG was not projected.</p> <p>PRO: supports the use of <u>ONE</u> gillnet 29 meshes deep.</p>
<u>Proposal 100</u>	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when Kenai River late-run large king salmon escapements exceed 13,500 fish		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: allows fishing below the escapement goal of 15,000 salmon
<u>Proposal 103</u>	Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	<p>Info: very inefficient method of harvesting salmon compared to gillnet.</p> <p>Info: Fishermen on the Lower Yukon participated every day for 12 hours with a maximum of 4 dipnets per permit holder</p> <p>Info: limit on commercial fishing vessel to 25 ft may be targeting set net skiffs to participate.</p> <p>Info: Dipnet regulations apply: 60 inches diameter.</p> <p>Info: drifters may be fishing with gillnets. SO3H permit not allowed to operate nearshore. Set net permit SO4H.</p> <p>Info: drift gillnet fishers may not fish within 600 ft of shore. Therefore excludes these permit, SO3H, from fishing in this dipnet fishery.</p> <p>CON: 25ft limit may some set net fishermen</p> <p>PRO: open waters for a certain permit SO4H.</p> <p>PRO: Permit holder must be on the vessel, would not allow multiple vessels fishing with dipnets.</p> <p>PRO: Provides some commercial fishing opportunities when none with gillnets is allowed.</p> <p>PRO: assumes that the fishery would be limited to set net site fishers; SO4H</p> <p>PRO: assume damage to king salmon would be minimal</p> <p>PRO: There is a dipnet fishery with no retention of king salmon in the Yukon River chum salmon fishery.</p>

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			PRO: allows dipnet fishing every day in the Yukon River commercial fishery. AMENDMENT: allow 4 dipnets per permit holder; eliminate >25 ft boat restriction. Subcommittee Vote on Amendment: SUPPORT 7-0; Presented to full AC as amended proposal.
<u>Proposal 104</u>	Adopt a new Kenai River late-run king salmon management plan for the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery		
OPPOSE	0	12	PRO: Some very good ideas about harvest: suggest dipnets, use of 10 or 15 fathom gillnets CON: Rewrite management plan Info: TAC rather than escapement goal. TAC is essentially total allowable harvest which is those fish available above escapement goal. CON: Extremely complex, fishermen memo, panels, agreement among fishermen?, takes away choice, shared authority with ADF&G? CON: possibly takes away responsiveness of ADF&G.
<u>Proposal 106</u>	Restrict legal set gillnet gear when the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery is open within 600 feet of shore		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	INFO: currently fishermen use either more 29 mesh deep nets or less 45 mesh deep nets. Within 600 feet of mean high tide and 600 ft from other set nets INFO: Proposer uses 29" and 45" gillnets (assume proposer means mesh depth and not inches) AMENDMENT: The AC's intent is to limit the gillnets to 2 set gillnets, 29 mesh deep, 35 fathoms long. Fish Subcommittee Vote on Amendment SUPPORT: 7 -0; Presented to the AC as the Amended Proposal
			Date of Fish Subcommittee meeting: 01/11/2024 Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u> Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u> Date : 02/06//2024

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal 112</u>	Increase the upper bound of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal range		
SUPPORT	9	3	Info: Commercial fisheries are managed to the inriver goal Info: has implications for both set and drift gillnet fisheries Info: will affect lower and middle tier Info: without king concern, may result in restrictions on commercial fisheries to put more fish in the river. Info: inriver goal is highly allocative; puts more fish in the river for inriver users. Info: metric CON: looks a little greedy PRO/CON: reallocation: more fish for sport fishers
<u>Proposal 115</u>	Modify intent of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Remove regulator language that directs the department to minimize Northern District Coho, etc.		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: removes management for protection for northern district stocks from regulation CON: Assume that Common property fishery means commercial fishery CON: having a hard time getting fish into Northern District steams, this would exacerbate CON: coho salmon not making escapement goals in NCIMA; proposer states that coho exploitation rates are low.
<u>Proposal 116</u>	Remove windows from all management plans		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: windows DO work because windows pass fish through the fishery unmolested.
<u>Proposal 117</u>	Eliminates pair restrictions from Upper Cook Inlet management plans		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: removes paired restrictions; management CON: effort to remove allocation to sport fisheries CON: removes restrictions based on goals.

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<u>Proposal 119</u>	Allow the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to remain open when the remainder of the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict is closed		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: not used since 2021.</p> <p>Info: department still developing an escapement goal for late run Kasilof kings.</p> <p>CON: impact of exceeding escapement goal: not sure how exceeding the escapement goal affects yield. Kenai and Kasilof upper end may not be known presently.</p> <p>CON: if open, kings will be harvested in this fishery</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p> <p>CON: concern regarding second run kings in the Kasilof but no escapement goal on late run king salmon.</p> <p>PRO: additional opportunity to harvest MOSTLY Kasilof fish but would include some Kenai sockeye and kings.</p> <p>PRO/CON: provides commercial opportunity when there is none when Kenai in conservation mode for Kenai Kings.</p>
<u>Proposal 120</u>	Repeal portions of intent language within the <i>Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan</i>		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: Oppose for same reasons as Proposal 119.
<u>Proposal 121</u>	Modify intent language within the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: takes out regulatory language to protect Northern District salmon stocks.
<u>Proposal 122</u>	Repeal the ‘one percent rule’ in the Central District drift gillnet fishery		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: shifts fishery over to the west side where Northern District later fish in August. (Area 3 and 4)</p> <p>CON: has not restricted the drift fishery that much in recent seasons.</p>
<u>Proposal 123</u>	Eliminate the 1% rule from the management plans and manage on abundance using the most reliable science available		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: repeal 1% rule and manage on abundance using most reliable science available</p> <p>CON: eliminates language in the plan provides fish for Northern Cook Inlet users.</p> <p>CON: scientific information nebulous; what science do we want to use.</p>
<u>Proposal 124</u>	Repeal sections of the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i> to provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with drift gillnet gear		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: harvestable surplus where? Susitna, Kasilof, Kenai. Assume proposer is speaking of Kenai and Kasilof.</p> <p>CON: Need to consider Northern Cook Inlet salmon stocks too.</p>
<u>Proposal 125</u>	Repeal sections of the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i> to provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with drift gillnet gear		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: deletes the whole management plan
<u>Proposal 126</u>	Increase drift gillnet fishing opportunity in Drift Gillnet Area 2		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: this is part of the conservation corridor.</p> <p>CON: Area 2 is not fishable except early in season.</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			CON: would increase the harvest of Northern sockeye and coho as well as Kenai fish CON: negatively affects the Northern District set netters CON: fishing two times a week in this area will negatively affect the achievement of escapement goals in the Northern Cook Inlet streams and rivers.
<u>Proposal 127</u>	Modify weekly fishing periods in the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i>		
OPPOSE	0	12	Info: includes the Kenai and Kasilof expanded section CON: liberalizes fishery. Two periods in Area 1 and 2 each week. CON: Negatively affects Northern District salmon.
<u>Proposal 128</u>	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: removes flexibility for the department to manage the fishery. CON: takes away department tools CON: adversely affects Northern Cook Inlet salmon stocks, among other stocks.
<u>Proposal 131</u>	Modify Northern District weekly commercial fishing periods		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: liberalizes the Northern District commercial set net fisheries when escapements are not being achieved in Northern Cook Inlet streams and rivers AND sport fish restrictions are being implemented. CON: includes the entire Northern District CON: greatly affects in river salmon escapement
<u>Proposal 132</u>	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity in Upper Cook Inlet based on salmon escapement		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: worse than Proposal 131 as far as allowing salmon to escape to Northern Cook Inlet rivers and streams. CON: no consideration for king salmon escapement when sockeye runs are adequate CON: dramatically would increase commercial salmon harvest CON: negating dept inseason authority to manage commercial fishery and remove management for weak stocks. CON: The effect of this proposal would be substantial and remove allocative stipulations that have been inserted in plans. CON: removes a significant portion of the the dept ability to manage these fisheries. CON: negates previous work of Board and stakeholders in crafting the current plan. CON: no emergency orders to control commercial fisheries. Would decimates salmon stocks in Northern Cook Inlet
<u>Proposal 133</u>	Modify weekly fishing periods in the Upper Subdistrict and adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: not much discussion; obviously eliminates harvest of surplus fish by inriver users.

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<u>Proposal 134</u>	Modify weekly fishing periods		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: all species are not over escaping, as stated in proposal.</p> <p>CON: this would be too much harvest, especially for Northern Cook Inlet salmon stocks..</p> <p>CON: seems like the proposer does not recognize that there are spawning salmon streams in Northern Cook Inlet along with commercial, personal use, and sport fish user that are allocated to have some fish.</p>
<u>Proposal 136</u>	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>CON: no escapement goals</p> <p>PRO: good idea to limit harvest at the mouths of rivers and streams.</p> <p>PRO: no issues with chum salmon escapement goal in Chitina Bay</p> <p>Info: under the 500-yard prohibition for fishing at mouths of streams</p> <p>PRO: most streams with escapement goals have 1 mile prohibition.</p>
<u>Proposal 137</u>	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>Info: sport fish proposal: defining a closed section at the mouth of Fish Creek but there are no conservation issues for Fish Creek Salmon. Little Su salmon runs are very poor with many emergency orders to restrict or close sport fisheries. Why doesn't commercial fishery propose closure on the Little Su where salmon runs are poor; and the sport fishery has been restricted or closed.</p> <p>CON: two commercial fishers have sites within the mile of the terminus of the Little Su. None at the mouth of the Susitna River.</p> <p>CON: not good information on river terminus</p> <p>CON: with problems of determining terminus, how do we know that the commercial fishers are not fishing within 500 yards.</p> <p>CON: Susitna River terminus is about 6 miles across.PRO: need to define terminus with GPS.</p> <p>PRO: conservation issue, king salmon and coho salmon are not doing well in the Deshka and Little Su Rivers.</p> <p>PRO: There are no fish in streams; need more protection, especially at mouths of streams.</p> <p>PRO: no markers, need GPS coordinates</p>
<u>Proposal 142</u>	Require jack king salmon to be reported on commercial salmon fish tickets		
SUPPORT	1	11	<p>CON: escapement is assessed in all kings. No need to report small kings</p> <p>CON: extra work for commercial fishers</p> <p>CON: weir data give you age and length info from Deshka and Little Su</p> <p>CON: ADF&G will not use this information.</p> <p>CON: Against collecting data for data's sake.</p> <p>CON: King salmon caught in 6-inch mesh; probably not true jacks PRO: more information is better, good to know.</p> <p>PRO: not much info on commercial kings harvest;</p> <p>PRO: difficult to sample Northern District harvest in general</p> <p>PRO: mandate 411 to be used on fish ticket</p> <p>PRO: what is the purpose; more information is better.</p>

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<u>Proposal</u> <u>143</u>	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: once a fisher declares where he/she will fish, he/she must fish in that area</p> <p>CON: many sites are leased sites, especially the Kenai Peninsula and Northern District</p> <p>CON: probably increase in effort in Northern District and West side, fishing on Northern Cook Inlet stocks.</p> <p>CON: registration first put in by Northern District set netters because of king salmon fishery when the 12K fish was exceeded.</p> <p>CON: easy access for Northern District</p> <p>CON: Registration is a good thing</p>
			<p>Date of Fish Subcommittee meeting: 01/18/2024</p> <p>Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u></p> <p>Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u></p> <p>Date : 02/06//2024</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

February 23-March 7, 2024 | Anchorage, AK

January 25, 2024

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<u>Proposal</u> <u>141</u>	Restrict set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict		
SUPPORT	9	3	<p>Info: this proposal would limit the STANDARD amount of gear that the Upper Subdistrict would allow to fish;</p> <p>Info: ADF&G cannot increase gear unless directed by Board;</p> <p>Info: currently being done by Emergency Order through direction in the King Plan</p> <p>Info: current gear restrictions are already dictated in the King plan.</p> <p>Info: shallower mesh gillnets 29 meshes deep are thought to conserve kings when not on the bottom. 45 mesh deep nets are thought to harvest more kings because they are on the bottom.</p> <p>CON: this would reduce set net gillnet gear regardless of the numbers of kings returning to the Kenai watersheds.</p> <p>Does this need to be changed if there are ample numbers of all species?</p> <p>CON: this takes away from commercial even though there may be ample numbers of fish of all species.</p>

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			<p>PRO: would result with less gear in the water; possibly saving more kings</p> <p>PRO: if passed, a proposal could be submitted in the future to change the regulation to allow more gear when the time is appropriate.</p> <p>PRO: standard commercial gear has been static since 1971. If the set netters used gear that harvested less king salmon throughout the entire season, they would be less likely to be emergency restricted or closed partially through the season and may actually harvest more sockeye salmon throughout an entire season. The sport fishery has been restricted over the same time period. Also, reduce allowed commercial fishing hours because they are not being used.</p> <p>PRO: why restrict commercial fisheries when there is enough fish for everyone to harvest. Doesn't make sense.</p>
<u>Proposal 43</u>	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
SUPPORT	7	2	<p>3 members also abstained from voting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough info to make an informed decision. • Wanted to take no action of the proposal. <p>QUESTION: Does the Board regulate the number of eggs that a hatchery can take.</p> <p>Question: are we replacing wild fish with hatchery fish?</p> <p>INFO: should consider including changes to hatchery production in the Action Plan for Late Run Kenai King salmon.</p> <p>Info: Department states that the reduced king salmon runs is a saltwater problem. Especially in the first year of ocean life</p> <p>Info: Tuka Bay hatchery only hatchery producing pinks in Cook Inlet. Hatchery receives 90-95% for cost recovery. Unustainable model; only benefits a few fishermen.</p> <p>Info: proposes a 75% reduction in Tuka Bay; less for other hatcheries.</p> <p>Info: severe restrictions on many king salmon stocks as they return, but this does not address the root cause of the decline of returning kings.</p> <p>CON: question regarding jurisdiction of the Mat-Valley AC regarding this proposal. Suggest that we take no action.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			<p>CON: there is a process dealing with setting egg production goals Info: opinions clearly state that the Board of Fisheries can set egg production goals for hatcheries.</p> <p>CON: this proposal has failed 3 times prior. No new information.</p> <p>CON: proposal represents a 75% reduction in egg production.</p> <p>CON: tens of thousands of people would be affected if reduced</p> <p>CON: hundreds of millions of \$ invested based on hatchery production.</p> <p>CON: a 50% reduction in market price would result in an 100% increase in cost recover fish. With the cost of pink salmon 50% lower in 2023 it takes twice as much pink salmon to meet the same dollar value compared to when the price was better. We are expecting the same/similar low price in 2024.</p> <p>CON: proposal address Tuka Bay but the proposer may want to take this statewide.</p> <p>CON: many people are being affected, statewide 1000 seiners, 4 crew on each seiner; 40 processing plants; each plant has several hundred people working; 300 tenders with 4 to 5 employees; shoreside services, fuel, grocery stores, etc., laborers.</p> <p>CON: hatcheries are producing quite a bit more than in 2000.</p> <p>CON: many unsubstantiated claims about negative impacts of hatcheries on wild stocks. Theory until it is proven and none of this is proven.</p> <p>CON: pinks in the ocean only make up 3% of the foraging biomass in the ocean and most are wild pink salmon.</p> <p>CON: correlation does not necessarily mean causation.</p> <p>CON: trust ADF&G scientists</p> <p>CON: department opposes Proposal 43</p> <p>CON: Court finding: Board does not have authority to regulate eggs takes to impracticable levels.</p> <p>CON: there is great value to hatchery-based fisheries; coastal towns benefit greatly from these hatcheries;</p> <p>CON: fishermen gain value from being shareholders in fish processors.</p> <p>PRO: problem with king salmon runs throughout the state/ Cook Inlet and this may be caused through competition with hatchery pink salmon.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			<p>PRO: sees a negative correlation between the increase in pink salmon hatchery production and the decline in king salmon runs.</p> <p>PRO: have not looked at the result on king salmon if hatchery production was decreased to a level when kings runs were good.</p> <p>Info: long letter to Board by Fairbanks AC</p> <p>PRO: large hatchery production of pink and chum from Pacific rim nations may be contributing to lower productivity in the ocean</p> <p>PRO: main issue is the overproduction of pinks in the ocean.</p> <p>PRO: current system of establishing egg take goals is a closed system that includes only the Regional Planning Team (RPT) and ADF&G. Because of the possible negative implications to wild stocks of fish throughout a major portion of the state, this system of hatchery production goals needs be more open to other affected people.</p> <p>PRO: legislative process that would include an independent hatchery review that includes a cost-benefit analysis, along with an environmental review. This would bring together all the science and reveal the cost to the state and who is benefiting and who is not, may also provide information on king salmon run declines.</p> <p>PRO: there is new and continuing information. Science against hatcheries appears to be strong. Synthesis of 206 peer reviewed papers on hatcheries with only 3% being in support of hatcheries or no negative impacts on wild stocks.</p> <p>PRO: Many sport users have had whole fisheries closed to king salmon harvest in Upper Cook Inlet, and the Eastside set net fishery was closed for all of 2023, because of a shortage of Kenai River king salmon.</p> <p>PRO: before 1998, many salmon returned to Alaska rivers and streams; the ocean has changed, ocean may not be as productive as it once was. The vast majority of hatcheries have a negative effect on wild stocks. Need a precautionary approach. Need more stakeholders involved in hatchery production decisions. Stakeholders are those affected or thought to be affected, and do not only include the current Planning Team.</p> <p>PRO: significant straying in pinks; reducing genetic diversity of wild stocks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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			<p>PRO: many more people in the state depend on wild stocks.</p> <p>PRO: Sustainable Salmon Policy supports wild over hatchery salmon; if we do nothing the state is supporting hatchery salmon over wild salmon. Reversing the objective in the policy.</p> <p>PRO: in the case of uncertainty, use the precautionary principle to ensure that wild salmon are not negatively affected.</p> <p>PRO: very few commercial fishermen are benefiting from the salmon returning to Tuka Bay.</p> <p>PRO: this proposal addresses one hatchery in Cook Inlet, Tuka Bay</p>
<u>Proposal 144</u>	Amend the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
OPPOSE	1	11	<p>Info: ADF&G does not prosecute the plan often; allows an additional fishing period from August 1-August 15; increase in salmon harvest in East Side Set fisheries.</p> <p>CON: extra commercial effort during the coho salmon returning to the Northern Cook Inlet.</p> <p>CON: difficult to determine the coho salmon run strength during the fishery.</p> <p>CON: some kings would be caught in this fishery.</p> <p>CON: fishermen could be targeting other salmon species because of market price. Fishermen get much more money per pound for Coho salmon.</p> <p>CON: takes out a major portion of the management plan that protects Northern Cook Inlet Coho salmon.</p> <p>PRO: should allow fishermen to harvest excess pink salmon</p>
<u>Proposal 145</u>	Increase commercial fishing opportunity in the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON; guts the whole Pink Salmon Management Plan.</p> <p>CON: only manages the fishery based on pink salmon abundance to a set exploitation rate OF 60 TO 70%, which the department cannot do because there is no pink salmon assessment.</p> <p>CON: other salmon species cannot take that level of exploitation rate.</p>

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

<u>Proposal 151</u>	Add days and area to the nonmotorized restrictions on the Kenai River		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: too restrictive on motorized vessels. CON: no biological reason
<u>Proposal 152</u>	Prohibit motorized vessels on the Kenai River		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: more restricted than 151; way too restrictive; no biological reason. CON: same comments as 151
<u>Proposal 154</u>	Allow guiding on the Kenai River without day and time restrictions if the king salmon fishery is closed		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: too liberal for guides
<u>Proposal 155</u>	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays if king salmon fishery is closed		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: too liberal for guides. CON: more conflicts
<u>Proposal 156</u>	Allow sport fishing from a guided nonmotorized vessel on Mondays during May – July		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: want to keep no sport fishing from guided vessel on days and times already established. CON: very congested now; would add to the congestion.
<u>Proposal 157</u>	Allow anglers to fish on the Kenai River on Mondays in August and September from a guided vessel		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: although no anchoring allowed; guides take good spots and operate their motor, so they don't move. This practice should be prohibited Thank goodness for no guides on Monday.
<u>Proposal 158</u>	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on Sunday and Monday with no hour restrictions		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON: too liberal. Need guides off the river on some days. Give residents a break from the guided boats on river.
<u>Proposal 159</u>	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River on Mondays from August 1– November 30		
OPPOSE	0	12	Info: guides can transport fishermen to banks and back. They cannot fish from a guided vessel. CON: would allow fishing from a guided vessel from August 1 – November 30. Guts the regulation. CON: increase number of vessels on river; increase conflicts between private and guided fishers. Info: social issue CON: originally brought up by Kenai River homeowner's association; they wanted some opportunity without guide services. CON; probably would increase harvest of coho in August through October.
<u>Proposal 160</u>	Limit guided activities on the Kenai River from May 1–July 31		
SUPPORT	12	0	Info: (b) changes regulation from [SPORT FISH FROM A REGISTERED GUIDE VESSEL] TO <u>engage in guided sport fishing</u> on any Sunday from May 1 through July 31, and on any Monday in July.... CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			(c) From May 1 through July 31, guided sport fishing [SPORT FISHING FROM A REGISTERED SPORT FISHING GUIDE VESSEL] Info : would eliminate transport of fishermen to banks to fish for sockeye by guides. PRO ; often times cannot find a bank to fish for sockeye salmon because guides hold places on banks and keep cycling guided fishermen in and out.
Proposal 165	Allow sport fishing in the Kenai River with only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure from January – July		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON : oversimplifies regulations CON : dropper fly may snag fish in gills and eye CON : further restrictions on bait and multiple hooks CON : way too restrictive PRO : no reason not to use dropper fly; experience does not support snagging with second (dropper) fly.
Proposal 167	Expand time and area in waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure.		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON : expands the area that one unbaited single hook from 3 miles to 9 miles. And expands it to the entire year. CON : too restrictive. CON : homeowners in this area like using bait this would prohibit this. Should allow bait some time of year.
Proposal 187	Close Hidden Lake to fishing for Lake Trout from September 15th - November 30th		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	Info : spawning closure CON : reluctant to close fishing for all species to protect spawning lake trout. CON : little harvest; not much participation. PRO : good idea to have a spawning closure on large old-aged fish. PRO : spawning closures for lake trout are not uncommon. AMENDMENT: Prohibit retention of lake trout from Sept 15 – November 30. During this period gear is limited to one unbaited single hook artificial lure. Subcommittee Vote on Amendment: Support 7-0; presented to the AC as an amended proposal.
Proposal 188	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake		
OPPOSED	0	12	CON : based on the action taken on 187. CON : little harvest; not much participation. CON : overly restrictive.
Proposal 191	Adjust annual limits in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based on abundance		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON : reduces annual limit; no biological rationale CON : record sockeye runs; over escapement no rationale to reduce limit CON : fishers may wait until the limit is increased; which may focus harvest later in the season when the limit may be higher; may increase congestion. CON : this proposal addresses all PU fisheries throughout the Cook Inlet. One size doesn't fit all.

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Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			CON: all rivers that have personal use fisheries do not have an optimal escapement goal for kings or sockeye.
<u>Proposal 192</u>	Close personal use fisheries based on commercial openings		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: seems like this proposal is attempting to establish a paired restriction. Seems like a large sacrifice for personal use fishers for species for which there is not a concern.</p> <p>CON: personal use fishers have a season limit; commercial fishers are not limited during an opening. Limits are exceedingly different. Not an appropriate proposal.</p> <p>CON: personal use fishers fish a large number of days to get what they need or to limit out; commercial fisheries can harvest a large number of fish in an opening with no limits</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p> <p>CON: may have concern for one species, such as kings, but not for other species, such as sockeye salmon. Recently, commercial fisheries have been closed because of concern for king salmon which should have no effect on the personal use fishery which targets sockeye salmon and possibly other salmon species, exclusive of king salmon.</p> <p>PRO: proposer makes a good point. The state readily closes commercial fisheries when needed but is reserved to close sport fisheries and not personal use fisheries. One subcommittee member agrees with this proposal.</p>
<u>Proposal 195</u>	Restrict EO authority to only extend fishing time of the shore-based fishery in the Kenai River personal use fishery		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: no need to restrict to only shore base fishery</p> <p>CON: large area up to the bridge</p> <p>CON: don't believe that there is a safety issue with 24 hr fishery; may spread participants out over time</p>
<u>Proposal 198</u>	Prohibit transport of Kenai River personal use fish by motorized vessel upstream of the Warren Ames Bridge		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: many personal use fishermen use the Eagle Rock and Pillars boat launch this reduces the traffic at the city boat launch.</p> <p>CON; would cause more congestion at the boat launches at the Kenai city boat launch.</p>
<u>Proposal 199</u>	Prohibit transport of Kasilof River personal use fish by motorized vessel		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>CON: paired management for different species of salmon.</p> <p>CON: would close the personal use fishery for sockeye when the drift fishery was closed to conserve king salmon. Not appropriate.</p> <p>CON: commercial fleet is on a short time notification, possible as little as 12 hours; sport and personal use fisheries move slower, need more time to inform these fishers.</p>

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

<u>Proposal 201</u>	Close the Kenai River personal use fishery when drift fishery is restricted		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: ADFG: commercial fleet is on a short time notification, possible as little as 12 hours; sport and personal use fisheries move slower, need more time to inform these fishers.</p> <p>CON: paired management for different species of salmon.</p> <p>CON: This proposed regulation would close the Kenai River personal use fishery anytime the drift fishery was restricted or closed — even if there was NO conservation concern with the personal use fishery. Not appropriate.</p>
<u>Proposal 202</u>	Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	<p>info: 4 ¾ “ is humpy gear; 5 ¼ “ is sockeye gear.</p> <p>Info: proposer wants to target the smaller Kasilof sockeye salmon.</p> <p>PRO: will reduce the harvest of kings; may allow fishery to be prosecuted.</p> <p>AMENDMENT: REDUCE MESH SIZE TO 4 ¾ INCHE MESH AND 29 MESHES DEEP. Subcommittee vote on Amendment: SUPPORT 7-0; Presented to the AC as an amended proposal.</p>
			<p>Date of Fish Subcommittee meeting: 01/25/2024</p> <p>Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u></p> <p>Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u></p> <p>Date : 02/06//2024</p>

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals
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February 2, 2024

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<u>Proposal 140</u>	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery		
SUPPORT	9	3	<p>CON: is a reef net a fish trap? If so, illegal; ;need legislative action to allow fish trap.</p> <p>Info: ADFG seems like a trap; similar to a fyke net; lots of unknowns how to prosecute the operation of the reef net.</p> <p>Info: Board will dictate methods and construction of the reef net if passed.</p> <p>PRO: possible opportunity to harvest sockeye with live release of kings.</p> <p>CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p>

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February 2, 2024

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			<p>CON: reef net is longer; may catch a lot of salmon.</p> <p>CON: concern for coho salmon after July 31.</p> <p>PRO: may be altered in such a way where it would not be considered a fish trap</p> <p>CON: alternate method is to obtain a commissioner's permit</p> <p>CON: would prohibiting the retention of kings actually work? High value fish.</p> <p>PRO: require a camera-monitoring system to monitor operation of reef net to discourage retaining prohibited species.</p> <p>CON: apply for a commissioner's permit to test the gear and then come back to the Board with a proposal.</p> <p>PRO: approve proposal and Board will set operational methods and means, restrictions, number of permits.</p> <p>PRO: stipulate that this gear can only be used when king salmon numbers are low.</p>
<u>Proposal 146</u>	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon		
SUPPORT	12	0	PRO: Housekeeping proposal. Correct an error in regulation.
<u>Proposal 148</u>	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River		
OPPOSE	6	6	<p>CON: many resident fishers fish from motorized vessel not only guides</p> <p>CON: many people do not have drift boats.</p> <p>CON: adds two days that there is a prohibition to fish from power boat.</p> <p>CON: would allow 4 days where guides cannot fish from power boats.</p> <p>CON: increase number of bank fishermen; more congestion.PRO: would like another drift day on the Kenai.</p> <p>Info: ADFG: no fishing from a motorized boat on Monday.</p> <p>CON: may be an enforcement problem: allows fishing from motorized vessel for other species.</p> <p>PRO: good method of getting fish upriver.</p> <p>PRO: can fish for other species from bank.</p> <p>PRO: some members would support if the proposal if requested 1 day instead of two.</p> <p>PRO: Great tool for conservation of king salmon.</p> <p>PRO: enforcement is not a problem</p>

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Proposal 149	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon		
OPPOSE	0	12	CON: no discussion on this proposal; all members opposed CON: takes away opportunity.
Proposal 153	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays		
SUPPORT	0	12	CON: similar to other proposals that increase guided anglers on the Kenai River that Mat Valley AC opposed CON: sportfishing association opposes CON: need days with no guides on river
Proposal 161	Restrict guided shoreline anglers on the Kenai River to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., from July 1 to August 15		
SUPPORT, AS AMENDED	12	0	Info: social problem, not biological. Info: many non-guided fishermen fish later in the day. Suggestion: limit the number of trips a guide can make; however, this would result in an enforcement problem. CON: this proposal would increase congestion at boat ramps; would result in a race for gravel bars. PRO: guides would add boats to get around the limit on trips. PRO: currently, guides leave 2:30 am or 3:00 am to get to gravel bars PRO: sometimes very difficult to fish from gravel bars because they are all occupied by guided anglers. PRO: too many guides on river ~600; also guides are adding boats, guides hire young men to transport anglers; PRO: the Kenai River red fishery has turned into a very lucrative operation for guides resulting in more guides, more boats per guide and massive congestion on river gravel bars and boat launches. PRO: need to control number of guides on the river. PRO: when bag limit is increased, anglers need more time to catch limit, making the congestion problems worse. AMENDMENT: Prohibit guided shore-based angling on the Kenai River from 3:00 pm to 11:59 pm. Vote on the AMENDMENT: SUPPORT 12-0.

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

<u>Proposal 162</u>	Allow guiding on the Kenai River prior to 6:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.		
OPPOSE	0	12	<p>Info: regulation was established as a king conservation measure</p> <p>CON: encompasses the entire Kenai River; opens to guided fishing from a boat 24 hours a day.</p> <p>CON: what if the kings come back? If passed, a proposal would be needed to reestablish this regulation.</p> <p>CON: no daily hourly limitation on guided fishing from a boat</p> <p>CON: could have a no retention fishery for kings on the Kenai; should not expose kings to added stress by allowing guiding operations from a boat 24 hours a day.</p> <p>CON: too broad</p>
<u>Proposal 163</u>	Reduce the time fishing from and anchoring a guided vessel is allowed in the Kasilof River		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>Info: allow guided fishery to 6 am to 6 pm.</p> <p>Info: proposal prohibits anchoring until 6 am to eliminate guides from establishing their prime fishing spots in the river prior to the start of fishing time.</p> <p>Info: may want to consider eliminating one day of guided angling on the river.</p> <p>CON: will result in congestion at the boat launch.</p> <p>PRO: also, will reduce exploitation on natural king salmon population</p> <p>PRO: need to get a handle on this fishery or it will end up unlimited like Kenai River. Suggestion is to limit the number of guides that can operate on the river.</p>
<u>Proposal 168</u>	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem on the Kenai River between Kenai and Skilak Lakes		
SUPPORT	11	1	<p>Info: applies to the Kenai River between Kenai Lake to Skilak Lake (middle section in regulation), usually referred to as Upper Kenai.</p> <p>INFO: this proposal is specifically for resident species.</p> <p>CON: lots of fishing pressure on the rainbow trout population; may increase catch rate on rainbow trout.</p> <p>PRO: <u>does not apply</u> to Russian River fly fishing only area.</p> <p>PRO: most other states allow the use of a dropper fly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE</p> <p>PRO: includes a hook gap condition that would only allow small flies, for example it allows 2 hooks with an individual hook gap of 3/16 in. for a total hook gap of 3/8 in. effectively applies to trout fishing only.</p> <p>PRO: no biological concern of using a dropper fly. Snagging of fish in eye and gills has not been documented but used as a reason to prohibit this practice in flowing waters managed for trophy trout in Alaska.</p> <p>PRO: trout fishing in the spring (April and June) fish nymphs before the egg drop. Nymphs are very small flies, usually size 14 and less.</p>

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

<u>Proposal 169</u>	Change the definition of “bag limit” for sockeye salmon in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers		
OPPOSED	11	1	<p>Info: may increase sockeye salmon harvest</p> <p>Question: enforcement problem?</p> <p>CON: not limited to very young and old. Could be abused by very good fishers.</p> <p>CON: possible abuse in guided and non-guided group angler situations; party boat bag limit mentality.</p> <p>CON: makes regulation more complex.</p> <p>PRO: may be appropriate to benefit the very young and very old anglers who would have trouble hooking sockeye salmon.</p> <p>PRO: no biological reason not to support; get the fish out of the water. Social issue.</p> <p>PRO: would hate to see a dad ticketed for allowing his son/daughter to land a fish and have it go towards child bag limit.</p> <p>PRO: unique fishery, controlled snagging, on two unique rivers, not applicable to other rivers.</p>
<u>Proposal 176</u>	Reduce Coho limit from 3 to 2 on the Kenai River after September 1st.		
SUPPORT	0	12	<p>Info: <u>as written this proposal would allow a bag limit of 3 coho salmon on Sept 1, and then 2 coho salmon after Sept 1.</u></p> <p>Info: ADFG: no conservation concern with late run Coho salmon in the Kenai River; however, the Department does not want to see an increase in exploitation rate.</p> <p>Info: ADFG: many provisions in regulation to conserve Coho salmon in the commercial fisheries; commercial fishery ends on August 15.</p> <p>CON: use emergency order if necessary to reduce bag limit</p> <p>CON: anglers that travel from the Mat Su Valley would prefer to catch 3 coho salmon.</p>
<u>Proposal 183</u>	Allow the department to take action sooner to harvest surplus in Russian River sockeye salmon runs		
SUPPORT	12	0	<p>PRO: provides another tool for ADFG to take harvestable surplus.</p> <p>PRO/info: good correlation between small sonar targets at sonar and the passage at weir.</p> <p>PRO: gives the department an effective tool to harvest earlier and more fish on large sockeye salmon runs.</p>
<u>Proposal 200</u>	Close the Kasilof personal use gillnet fishery when Kenai or Kasilof Rivers sport fisheries are closed		
SUPPORT	10	2	<p>Info: consider that there is a proposal to change gill net mesh size to 4 3/4 inch. Current regulation allows gillnet mesh size up to 6 inch.</p> <p>INFO: no escapement goal for late-run (wild) king salmon.</p> <p>INFO: hatchery King salmon run earlier than wild king salmon.</p> <p>CON: taking a tool away from the department; takes away flexibility. Department uses EO authority to close this fishery.</p> <p>PRO: having a gillnet fishery when there is a conservation concern for king salmon does not make a lot of sense.</p>

Matanuska Valley AC Comments on select BOF UCI Proposals

			<div>Date of Fish Subcommittee meeting: 02/04/2024 Minutes Recorded By: <u>Gene Sandone</u> Minutes Approved By: <u>Mat-Valley AC</u> Date: 01/10/2024 and 2/6/2024</div>
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Matanuska Valley AC Upper Cook Inlet Support, As Amended UCI Proposals

(page number, p, refers to the Matanuska Valley AC Proposal Comment document)

Proposal 204, (p 1): Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage.

- Amendment: **The Board should clarify when ADFG should close the Northern Cook Inlet subsistence king salmon fisheries because of conservation reasons.**

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Proposal 231 (p 5): Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery. (p 6)

- Amendment: **Board should clarify when ADFG shall close the Northern Cook Inlet subsistence king salmon fisheries because of poor runs.**

Proposal 234 (p 9): Clarify the northern boundary of the Knik Arm management area and the Palmer-Wasilla Zone and exclude certain flowing waters from the Palmer-Wasilla Zone

- Amendment: **Request that ADF&G to determine if ADF&G is willing to work with AC representatives to develop a combined or amended proposal on Palmer Wasilla Zone: Proposal 234 and 235.**

Proposal 239 (p 11): Establish a large king salmon escapement goal for the Little Susitna River.

- Amendment 1: **Prohibit retention of king salmon less than 20 inches when fishery is closed; allow retention of king salmon less than 20 inches when catch and release fishing for king salmon is allowed.** Fish Subcommittee vote on the Amendment: 5-2. Proposal presented to full AC as the Amended proposal.
- Amendment 2: **Establish Large king salmon escapement goals for the Deshka & Little Su Rivers.**

Proposal 243 (p 13): Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages.

- Amendment: **If there is enough coho salmon to allow Northern District set net fishermen to fish additional gear (permit stacking), then there is enough fish to allow a 3 fish bag limit for sport Coho salmon fishing.**

Proposal 216 (p 26): Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet

- Amendment: **Create a new smelt commercial fishery in the vicinity of the mouth of the Kenai River. Transfer 100 tons of the Northern Cook Inlet smelt quota to this new smelt fishery in the vicinity of the mouth of the Kenai River. The Northern District smelt quota would be reduced by 100 tons. The new smelt fishery in the vicinity of the mouth of the Kenai River would also have a quota of 100 tons.**

Proposal 255 (p 29): Create a personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the 20-Mile and Placer Rivers

- Amendment: **Reduce proposed fishery to 1 day/week**

Matanuska Valley AC Upper Cook Inlet Support, As Amended UCI Proposals

(page number, p, refers to the Matanuska Valley AC Proposal Comment document)

Proposal 86 (p 32): Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through Oct 31 if the king salmon sport fishery is closed.

- Amendment: **Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through August 31 if the king Salmon OEG is not achieved.**

Proposal 103 (p 33): Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery.

- Amendment: **Allow 4 dipnets per permit holder; eliminate >25 ft boat restriction.**

Proposal 106 (p 34): Restrict legal set gillnet gear when the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery is open within 600 feet of shore. (p 36)

- Amendment: **AC's intent is to limit the gillnets to 2 gillnets, 29 mesh deep, 35 fathoms long.**

Proposal 187 (p 45): Close Hidden Lake to fishing for Lake Trout from September 15th - November 30th.

- Amendment: **Prohibit retention of lake trout from Sept 15 – November 30. During this period limit terminal tackle to one unbaited single hook artificial lure.**

Proposal 202 (p 47): Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries

- Amendment: **Reduce the legal mesh size to 4 3/4 in and limit mesh depth to 29 meshes.**

Proposal 161 (p 49): Restrict guided shoreline anglers on the Kenai River to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., from July 1 to August 15. (p 52)

- Amendment: **Prohibit guided shore-based fishing on the Kenai River from 3:00 pm to 11:59 p.m., from July 1 to August 15.**

Summary of the Mat Valley AC and Department positions on regulatory proposals for Upper Cook Inlet finfish Board meeting and the page index to the Mat Valley Board Comments; Anchorage, February 23–March 5, 2024.

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
204	1	SA	11-0	N	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage
205	18	S	12-0	N	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the <i>Northern District King Salmon Management Plan</i>
206	18	S	12-0	N	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet
207	18	S	12-0	N	Adopt additional restrictions in the <i>Northern District King Salmon Management Plan</i>
208	21	S	12-0	N	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District
209	21	S	12-0	N/O	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District
210	22	S	12-0	N	Modify the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i> and <i>Northern District King Salmon Management Plan</i>
211	23	O	0-12	N	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>
212	23	S	12-0	N	Adopt additional restrictions in the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>
213	26	S	12-0	N	Adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery
214	26	S	12-0	N/O	Adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>
215	26	O	0-12	N	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>
131	37	O	0-12	N	Modify Northern District weekly commercial fishing periods
216	26	SA	10-2	O	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet
217	27	O	0-12	O	Repeal the <i>Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan</i>
218	2	O	0-11	NA	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.
219	2	O	0-11	O	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed
220	3	S	11-0	S	Open additional waters in the Big River drainage to sport fishing for coho salmon
221	3	S	11-0	O	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage

Note: N = Neutral; S = Support; SA = Support, as amended O = Oppose; TNA = Take No Action; WS = Withdrawn Support.

Summary of Mat Valley and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 2 of 5)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
222	3	S	11-0	S	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon
223	4	O	0-11	O	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna Drainage Area
224	4	O	0-11	O	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway
225	4	O	0-11	O	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession
226	4	S	10-1	O	Allow anglers to use two artificial lures in tandem in the Susitna River Drainage waters
227	4	S	11-0	O	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4
228	5	S	11-0	S	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River
229	5	S	11-0	N	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dipnet fishery is open
230	5	S	11-0	N	Increase the open season of the Susitna River dipnet fishery
231	5	S	11-0	N	Modify dates of the Susitna River dipnet fishery
232	8	O	0-11	O	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in UCI
233	9	O	0-11	O	Establish sport fishing derby approval process
234	9	SA	11-0	S	Clarify the boundary of the Knik Arm management area and the Palmer-Wasilla Zone
235	10	S	11-0	O	Reduce the size of the Palmer-Wasilla Zone
236	10	S	11-0	S	Update the stocked lakes list for the Knik Arm drainage area
237	10	S	11-0	S	Allow bow and spear as legal gear for northern pike and Alaska blackfish year round in the Palmer/Wasilla Zone
238	10	O	3-8	O	Establish a motor size restriction for the Little Susitna River
239	11	SA	12-0	O	Establish a large king salmon escapement goal for the Little Susitna River
240	12	O	0-12	O	Increase the number of days bait is allowed in the Little Susitna River drainage
241	13	O	0-12	O/N	Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna sport fishery based on location of commercial fishery openings
242	13	O	0-12	O	Prohibit anglers from releasing coho salmon in the Little Susitna River
243	13	SA	12-0	O/N	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Knik Arm Drainages
244	16	S	12-0	S	Define the mouth of Fish Creek
245	16	S	12-0	S	Allow sport fishing in the Fish Creek drainage 7 days a week
246	17	S	12-0	S	Update the lists of lakes where anglers may use 5 lines while fishing for northern pike through the ice in designated Northern Cook Inlet waters
247	17	S	9-3	S	Prohibit chumming in Big, Mirror, and Flat Lakes
248	17	S	12-0	S	Restrict Big Lake Arctic char to catch-and-release in the Fish Creek drainage

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Summary of the Mat Valley AC and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 3 of 5)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
249	17	S	12-0	S	Remove the effective date of regulation pertaining to sport fishing from a motor driven boat
250	27	S	12-0	S	Modify the closure date for the Ship Creek king salmon fishery
251	27	S	12-0	S	Modify the Eklutna River drainage salmon bag and possession limits
252	28	S	10-1	N	Increase the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon
253	28	S	11-0	O	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem in a portion of Campbell Creek
254	28	O	0-11	O	Add portion of Chester Creek to Anchorage Bowl special management areas for trout
255	29	SA	10-1	N/O	Create a personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the 20-Mile and Placer Rivers
80				O	Modify the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
83				O/N	Modify the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
85	32	O	0-12	O/N	Prohibit use of motorized vessels in the Kenai River if the sport fishery is closed
86	32	S,A	12-0	O	Prohibit bait in the Kenai River through Oct 31 if the king salmon sport fishery is closed
87	32	O	0-12	O	Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Kenai and Kaslof Rivers when sport fishing for king salmon is closed
88				O	Prohibit nonresidents fishing from a guided vessel on the Kenai River if the king salmon sport fishery is closed
90	32	O	1-11	N	Expand weekly time-period “windows” where the commercial salmon fishery is closed
91				N	Amend criteria for commercial set gillnet fishing periods, in the Upper Subdistrict, after August 1
92				N	Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ measures in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
93				N	Exempt the East Foreland Section from paired restriction management measures within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
94				N	Modify allowable gear when the set gillnet commercial fishery is restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal
95				N	Modify the amount of set gillnet gear that can be used in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon OEG
96				N	Modify operation of set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict
97	33	O	0-12	N	Amend the <i>Kenai Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> to provide additional fishing opportunity in the sport and set gillnet commercial fisheries
98				N	Modify the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict when restricted to achieve the Kenai River late-run king salmon optimal escapement goal

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Summary of the Mat Valley AC and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 4 of 5)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
99				O/N	Make numerous changes to the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
100	33	O	0-12	N	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when Kenai River late-run large king salmon escapements exceed 13,500 fish
101				N	Remove paired restrictive time and gear exemption from the 600-foot commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict
102				N	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict
103	33	S	12-0	N	Allow use of dipnets in the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery
104	34	O	0-12	N	Adopt a new Kenai River late-run king salmon management plan for the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery
105				N	Allow a 600-foot set gillnet commercial fishery when the Upper Subdistrict would be closed to conserve Kenai River late-run king salmon
106	34	SA	12-0	N	Restrict legal set gillnet gear when the Upper Subdistrict commercial salmon fishery is open within 600 feet of shore
107				N	Repeal the 600-foot Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery and create a new opportunity with shallow set gillnet gear more than one half mile offshore
108				NA	Exempt the 600-foot set gillnet fishery from fishing time and gear restrictions in the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
110				N/O	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for set gillnet gear within the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
116	35	O	0-12	N	Repeal mandatory weekly closures in the commercial set gillnet fishery
117	35	O	0-12	N	Repeal paired restrictions from Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plan
109				N/O	Create new set gillnet commercial salmon fishing opportunity based on Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement
75	30	O	0-12	N	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG
76				N	Remove the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG
77				O	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG
78				N	Modify the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon OEG
79				N	Create additional step-down measures to the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
81				N	Modify the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
82	31	O	0-12	N	Repeal portions of the <i>Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i> and shorten plan duration

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Summary of the Mat Valley and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 5 of 5)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
84				N	Close fishing for Kenai River late-run king salmon when forecast is below 20,000
89				O	Prohibit nonresidents participating in the Kenai River late run king salmon fishery
146	48	S	12-0	S	Align the Kenai River Drainage Area method and means provisions with the season dates for Kenai River king salmon
147				O	Modify Kenai River king salmon annual limit
148	48	O	6-6	O/N	Prohibit fishing for king salmon from a motorized vessel in the Kenai River
149	49	O	0-12	O	Require mandatory retention of Kenai River king salmon
1	6	SA	11-0	S	Amend the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan</i>
2	8	O	0-11	O	Amend the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan</i>
3	8	O	0-11	O/N	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late- run king salmon fisheries
4	8	O	0-11	O/N	Redefine the boundaries of the Upper Cook Inlet Area

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Summary of the Mat Valley AC and Department positions on regulatory proposals for Upper Cook Inlet finfish Board meeting and the page index to the Mat Valley Board Comments; Anchorage, February 23–March 5, 2024.

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
111				O	Adopt a Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal
112	35	S	9-3	N	Increase the upper bound of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal
113				O	Adopt an optimal escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon
114				O/N	Adopt an optimal escapement goal for Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon
115	35	O	0-12	N	Modify intent of the Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan
118				N	Reduce the Kasilof River sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal
119	36	O	0-12	O/N	Allow the Kasilof River SHA to remain open when the remainder of the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict is closed
120	36	O	0-12	N	Repeal portions of intent language within the <i>Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan</i>
121	36	O	0-12	N	Modify intent language within the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Management Plan</i>
122	36	O	0-12	N	Repeal the ‘one percent rule’ in the Central District drift gillnet fishery
123	36	O	0-12	N	Repeal the “one percent rule” from Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery management plans
124	36	O	0-12	N	Repeal the “one percent rule” from Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery management plans
125	36	O	0-12	N	Repeal sections of the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i> to provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity with drift gillnet gear
126	36	O	0-12	TNA	Increase drift gillnet fishing opportunity in Drift Gillnet Area 2
127	37	O	0-12	N	Modify weekly fishing periods in the <i>Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan</i>
128	37	O	0-12	N	Provide additional fishing opportunity with set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict
129				N	Increase Upper Subdistrict set gillnet commercial salmon fishing opportunity
130				N	Lengthen Upper Subdistrict set gillnet commercial salmon fishing season
132	37	O	0-12	O/N	Provide additional commercial salmon fishing opportunity in Upper Cook Inlet based on salmon escapement
133	37	O	0-12	O/N	Modify weekly fishing periods in the Upper Subdistrict and adopt new ‘paired restrictive’ management measures
134				O/N	Modify weekly fishing periods
135				O	Close the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict to commercial fishing for salmon
136	38	S	12-0	N	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon
137	38	S	12-0	O/N	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet

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Summary of the Mat Valley AC and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 2 of 4)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
138				O/N	Allo+E203:E219w use of a seine lead in the set gillnet fishery and define minimum distance between gear
139				N	Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery
140				N	Restrict set gillnet gear in the Upper Subdistrict
141				N	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dipnet fishery is open
142	38	O	1-11	O	Establish commercial fishery reporting requirements in Upper Cook Inlet
143	39	O	0-12	N	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year
43	40	S	7-2-3	O	Amend Basic Management Plans <i>Cook Inlet Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan</i>
144				N	Amend the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>
145				O	Increase commercial fishing opportunity in the <i>Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan</i>
150				O	Create a <i>Kasilof River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan</i>
151				O/N	Add days and area to the nonmotorized restrictions on the Kenai River
152				O	Prohibit motorized vessels on the Kenai River
153	49	O	0-12	N	Allow guiding on the Kenai River on Sundays and Mondays
154				N	Allow guiding on the Kenai River without restrictions if king salmon fishery is closed
155				N	Allow guiding on the Kenai River Sundays and Mondays if king salmon fishery closed
156				N	Allow fishing from a guided nonmotorized vessel on Mondays during May–July
157				N	Allow anglers to fish on the Kenai River on Mondays in August and September from a guided vessel
158				N	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on Sundays and Mondays with no hour restrictions
159				N	Allow sport fishing from a guide vessel on the Kenai River on Mondays from August 1 through November 30
160				N	Limit guided activities on the Kenai River from May 1 through July 31
161	49	SA	12-0	N	Restrict guided shoreline anglers on Kenai River to 6:00 AM–6:00 PM July 1 to August 15
162	50	O	0-12	N	Allow guiding on the Kenai River prior to 6:00 AM and after 6:00 PM
163	50	S	12-0	N	Reduce the time fishing from and anchoring a guided vessel in the Kasilof River
164				N	Limit sport fish guiding in the Kasilof River

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Summary of the the Mat Valley AC and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 3 of 4)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
165				O	Allow sport fishing in the Kenai River with only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure from January to July
166				O	Expand time and area waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure, and redefine “artificial fly”
167				O	Expand time and area waters of the Kenai River that are limited to only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure
168	50	S	11-1	O	Allow anglers to use two artificial flies in tandem on the Kenai River
169	51	S	11-1	O	Change the definition of “bag limit” for sockeye salmon in Kenai and Kasilof Rivers
170				N	Allow backtrolling in a section of the Kenai River
171				N	Allow anglers to fish downstream of Soldotna Bridge after taking limit of coho salmon
172				N	Allow fishing from a vessel after retention of a limit of coho salmon on the Kenai River
173				O	Modify regulations for the Kenai River August coho salmon fishery
174				O	Regulate the use of bait in the Kenai River in August
175				N	Reduce the coho salmon limits in the Kenai River to two fish after August 30
176	51	O	0-12	N	Reduce the coho salmon limit on Kenai River after September 1
177				N	Modify Kenai River coho salmon season and bag limits
178				N	Reduce the season for the Kenai River coho salmon sport fishery
179				O	Close additional waters to sport fishing in the upper Kenai River
180				O	Close waters of the Kenai River to sportfishing from January 1 to April 1
181				O	Close waters of the Kenai River to sportfishing from January 1 to June 10
182				N	Prohibit nonresident sport fishing on the Kenai River
183	51	S	12-0	S	Allow the department to react to large Russian River sockeye salmon runs
184				S	Move 3-mile boundary marker to Old Kasilof Landing (RM4)
185				S	Allow only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures in the Kasilof River
186				S	Update the stocked lakes list for the Kenai Peninsula Area
187				S	Close Hidden Lake to fishing for lake trout from September 15 to November 30
188				O	Prohibit bait and multiple hooks in Hidden Lake

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Summary of the Mat Valley AC and department positions on regulatory proposals (Page 4 of 4)

Proposal number	Mat Valley Comments Page #	Mat Valley AC		Depart position	Issue
		position	vote		
189				N	Require personal use guides in Cook Inlet to adhere to sport guiding requirements
190				N	Establish requirements to guide in Upper Cook Inlet personal use fisheries
191				O	Adjust limits in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries based on abundance
192	46	O	0-12	O/N	Close personal use fisheries based on commercial openings
193				S	Require king salmon caught and released in Cook Inlet personal use fisheries not be removed from the water
194				O	Allow retention of Dolly Varden in Kenai/Kasilof personal use dipnet fisheries
195				N	Restrict emergency order (EO) authority to only the shore-based fishery in the Kenai River personal use fishery
196				O	Prohibit personal use fishing on the Kenai River from an anchored vessel
197				N	Prohibit retention of king salmon in the Kenai River personal use fishery
198				O	Prohibit transport of Kenai personal use fish by motorized vessel
199				O	Prohibit transport of Kasilof personal use fish by motorized vessel
200	51	S	10-2	N	Close the Kasilof personal use gillnet fishery when Kenai or Kasilof sport fisheries are closed
201				O/N	Close the Kenai River personal use fishery when the drift fishery is restricted
202	47	SA	12-0	S	Reduce the legal mesh size of a set gillnet in the UCI personal use fisheries
203				N	Move the regulatory markers for the Kasilof River personal use dip net fishery

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Minto/Nenana Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, February 2nd, 2024 at 3:00 pm

Native Movement Building
60 Hall Street, Fairbanks AK
and by web/teleconference

- I. **Call to Order:** 3:00pm (AK)
- II. **Members Present:** Carl Frank (co-chair), Olivia Irwin (co-chair), Kathleen Demientieff (vice chair), Charlie Titus Jr., Andrew Jimmie, Cameron Winfrey, Louis Silas, Victor Lord, Lawrence Ketzler, Eva Burk, Philip Titus (alternate)
Members Absent: Donald Charlie, Alex Hanna (alternate)
- III. **Fish and Game Staff Present:** Tony Hollis, Jeff Wells, Kyle Campbell, Alida Trainor
- IV. **Guests Present:** Jim Simon-TCC, Mark Richards- Vice Chair of FBKS AC and Resident Hunters of Alaska, Rep. Rebecca Himschoot, Sen. Jesse Bjorkman, Joe Felkl - Legislative Liaison for ADFG
- V. **Public Comment**
 - a. Jim Simon- I'm pleased to see our representatives and senators who put forward these bills. I want to provide my support. My father would contact law enforcement, not wanting to give Chitna dip permits to folks they know are not residents.
 - b. Cameron Winfrey- Thank you to everyone for being here
 - c. Victor Duke Lord- Bills to do with the fish coming here from Nome, I appreciate if they will listen to that bill in Nome
- VI. **Approval of Agenda** Approved
- VII. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** January 16th, 2024 -Approved
- VIII. **New Business**
 - a. House Bill 201 / Senate Bill 171 regarding residency requirements for hunting and fishing license
 - Rep Himschoot: We appreciate you, you all are volunteering your time for your community
 - i. Problem: People come in from out of state who are considered residents technically due to having a domicile (Could be a boat, a storage unit, etc.)
 - ii. Started in Prince of Whales- Folks taking advantage of resident bag limits
 - Will this affect Tribal member's ability to harvest Potlatch moose? No, 5 AAC 92.019 does not protect the right to harvest Ceremonial use to only Tribal members as the regulation exists, and section e specifies resident status must be held to go on the hunt

MEETING MINUTES

Motion Passed by Unanimous Consent for AC to submit Letter of Support to Legislature on HB 201/ SB 171

Additional Comments

Duke: We see this problem in Nenana, I think this is an excellent bill to adopt

- b. Moose discussion with Tony Hollis on moose counts, results, department concerns, means and methods, surveys, maps, and questions from AC members

(See attached [Preliminary 2023 Moose Count and Antlerless Harvest](#))

Eva: 20B Harvest Rates? Tony didn't have them with him and couldn't tell us the Harvest rates

Charlie: Lack of Moose- could it have been the antlerless hunts? Tony, no it was that hard winter of 2021

Tony: 2009, Moose in 20B was high 20,000 so we had an opportunity to have an antlerless harvest

Moose survey→ 45 minute arial fly, surveying one of those small blocks which represent randomly chosen areas to survey

Carl Frank: Can we have a Minto Flats Moose Management plan?

Eva Burk: Want to survey 20C!

Jim Simon: If our Tribes were able to secure funding, would the department be interested in a collaboration to do a more intensive count?

Tony: The problem is access to planes, we do have limited planes and a lot of people have to share them

Tony: We put 30 radio collars on Bulls to track them in the fall (so we know a better count) in September, exact location data is protected, Tony can share with us the range of where they were. Willing to take Carl and others out in Super Cubs

Carl: How will collaring bulls help the count?

Tony: It won't make the counts more accurate, but since we do surveys in Nov and people hunt in Sept we wanna see where they are when people are out hunting

Olivia: How can we be sure this real-time data isn't used for non-ethical purposes? This means that the department knows exactly where moose are within our Traditional territories at any given time, is there a guarantee that this won't negatively impact our communities?

Tony: I will have access to the data but it is protected by the department

Jim: Cited AAC Statute that ensure the department's protection of data

MEETING MINUTES

c. Joint Board Proposal 19- Fairbanks Non-Sub Area

1. Eva: Regulations are currently opening rivers for subsistence, folks up in the FBKS non-sub area would then be opened up to subsistence fishing that normally wouldn't be. Increased area open to subsistence area.
2. Charlie: Years ago Livengood made a proposal to open up an area of their community and it would have made everyone on the south side of the Yukon River subsistence fishermen, this proposal would
3. Jeep: Increasing opportunity for others outside our area?
4. "We can't afford any more nets in our river" Victor Duke Lord

d. 2023-2024 Board of Game Proposals – *comments due March 1st*

(<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook>)

i. Antlerless Moose Harvest Reauthorization for Unit 20B ([Proposal 178](#))

1. Chair asked for a motion to be made, motion, second, vote: Unanimous Opposition
2. Andy Jimmie made a motion to reconsider, Charlie Titus seconded
3. Discussion
 - a. Charlie- Only supporting because of the small area that's identified in the proposal
 - b. Jim- Tony please clarify, you said you couldn't open up the Minto Flats Management area for antlerless hunts. If the proposal passes, Tony is then permitted to open it up if he wants. Regulation that allows antlerless hunt will remain on the books
 - c. Tony- Will not open the antlerless hunt permits outside of the city
4. Votes:
 - a. Any Jimmie: Support
 - b. Charlie Titus: Support- Our culture doesn't support antlerless/cow harvests, but if people are getting injured or Tony says we need to use them in a small area then yes, I support
 - c. Kathleen Demientieff: Support
 - d. Eva Burk: Support, however I don't support antlerless hunts. I don't feel like we have enough information about numbers, but if Tony says he would only open the hunt in a small area of the Fairbanks Non-Sub Area to avoid road collisions then I support- Hesitant to support
 - e. Louis Silas: Support

MEETING MINUTES

- f. Carl Frank: Support, I'm voting with my Elders, but I don't really support cow hunts, it's not what we do in Minto, but if Tony says it's going to save people from moose collisions in that little area then I'll support- hesitant to support
- g. Cameron Whinfrey- Support
- h. Olivia Irwin: Oppose, our AC has historically opposed this hunt, its against our cultural and traditional beliefs, the department needs to find other alternatives to human problems such as road collisions, killing off cow moose that would otherwise be supporting the growth of the population is not a solution

5. [Proposal 210](#) - Unanimous Opposition

- ii. Other Board of Game Proposals as brought forward for consideration by AC members

Charlie Titus: There isn't enough communication between Minto-Nenana, people making decisions without us. It's not like it used to be, we used to meet all the time to talk.

Kyle: I will say the department doesn't have funds to support another in-person meeting of the AC

- e. Board of Fisheries Proposal 43 regarding hatchery production of salmon – *comments due Feb 8th*
(see attached [Board of Fisheries Proposal 43](#) and [RC021 Clarification on Proposal 43](#))
 - i. Gale Vick asking to reduce hatchery production
 - ii. Eva: Motion to support proposal 43
 - 1. Proposal 43, Passes, Unanimous Consent

- f. 2023-2024 Joint Board Proposals – *comments due March 11th*

- i. Unanimous Support- Proposal 6
(<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/regprocess/pdfs/jbmeetings/2024-03-25/proposals/jb-book.pdf>)

IX. **Select representative(s) for board meeting(s):**

BOG Interior and Eastern Arctic March 15-22 in Fairbanks: Eva Dawn Burk & Carl Frank

Joint Board March 25-28 in Anchorage: Carl Frank & Olivia Irwin

X. **Set next meeting date and location:**

MEETING MINUTES

XI. **Other**

XII. **Adjourn 5:27PM**

MEETING MINUTES

Alaska <u>Board of Fisheries</u> Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals			
February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
43	Amend Basic Management Plans as follows (<i>This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting</i>):		
SUPPORT	10	0	See Fairbanks Advisory Committee comments

Alaska <u>Board of Game</u> Interior and Eastern Arctic Region Meeting Proposals			
March 15-22, 2024 Fairbanks, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
178	Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B		
SUPPORT	7	1	See discussion in meeting minutes
210	Change the subunit boundary of Units 20A and 20C to the current river channel		
OPPOSE	0	8	

MEETING MINUTES

<u>Joint Board</u> of Fisheries and Game Meeting Proposals March 25-28, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
6	Allow advisory committees with community designated seats to appoint alternates for those communities.		
SUPPORT	8	0	<p>This proposal will allow advisory committees with many villages/communities represented to have designated alternatives per community. It is important that the department recognizes the ACs which maintain the burden of holding space for multiple communities (ex: Koyukuk River represents 6 communities) have as much access to department resources as an AC representing only 1 community. There is no more travel funding for meetings for Koyukuk AC than Fairbanks AC, for example. Hosting in-person meetings for ACs such as Minto-Nenana is difficult and inaccessible. Therefore, without consistent in-person meetings, lack of funding for ACs growth, and difficulties reaching quorum, our communities continue to face inequities in the AC process.</p> <p>Our AC sees adding additional alternatives as a partial solution to ensure when we meet we're able to reach quorum, young people and community members are able to join in the efforts as alternates and learn the process. We see this as an opportunity for AC success, mentorship and expansion of this knowledge and advocacy onto our young people and throughout our communities, and equitable opportunities for all ACs, rural and urban.</p>

Minutes Recorded By: Olivia Henaayee Irwin (Chair)

Minutes Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee

The chairman called the meeting to order a 11:00 A.M. on December 15, 2023 at McHoes' residence.

Members present Jody Payton, Matt Zelaney, David McHoes, Bonnie Childs, Tony Jacobson, and Payton McHoes

Members absent; (excused)
Cameron Edwards, Matt Stohr, and Joseph Frank.

Number needed for quorum 5.....6 members present.

No fish and game staff participated. Both Fish and Game biologist quit or retired. New game biologist Chris Brockman provided some information over phone to Secretary Payton prior to meeting.

Agenda was approved by 6-0 vote

Prior meeting meeting minutes were approved by 6-0 vote

Tier II history presentation was deferred to next meeting as the most interested member was not able to make meeting due to poor river conditions.

Chair explained to the committee the harvest-able surplus triggers that regulate the allowable seasons in GMU16B. Due to the bad winter of 2019-2020 and the increase in wolf caused moose mortality, and very poor summer calf survival since 2020 and a lack of restrictions of bull harvests in GMU16B middle the current harvest-able surplus of bulls in GMU16 B is likely under 199 bulls. Since GMU 16B North and GMU 16B South probably have at least 300 surplus bulls and GMU16B Middle has about a **negative** 100 surplus bulls, the problem is basically GMU16B middle where the majority of subsistence harvest occurs. Instead of going to Tier II unit wide, we suggest that ADFG goes to Tier II only in the Middle where bull numbers are depressed. Additionally there should be no increase in Tier II permits as required if the entire unit goes Tier II. We believe there is precedence in managing by count areas as we believe GMU16B North was excluded from the original any bull draws. It makes no sense to the committee to change regulations for the entire unit based on a problem that exists in 1/3 rd of the unit.

The committee next moved on to the proposals for upper cook inlet fisheries. See Attached votes and discussions at end of minutes.

The committee next discussed game proposals that the committee may like to submit for the BOG meeting in 2025. There were very limited ideas at this time. Removing black bear harvest ticket requirement was one idea.

The chairman was selected to attend the BOF meeting in February by a 6-0 vote.

The committee agreed to have the next meeting tentatively on Feb. 9 2024. prior to BOF meeting. The committee agreed to have Black bear harvest tickets, history of moose subsistence hunting in GMU16 and Elections of new members on the agenda for next meeting.

There was a motion to ajourn by the chair at 15:45 , seconded by Jody Payton and supported 6-0.

Proposal 216: Reduce the commercial smelt harvest level in the UCI.

The proposal was tabled 6-0 due to lack of data

Proposal 204: Allow hook and line attached to rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna drainage.

The proposal failed 0-6 as there is no harvestable surplus of mature King salmon.

Proposal 218: Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of Susitna drainage.

Members supported the idea that there is a harvestable surplus of immature male King salmon necessary to fertilize salmon eggs. However, discussion of how this can and will be abused and lack of enforcement led the committee to oppose 0-6.

Proposal 221: Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho in Susitna drainage.

Committee amended proposal to **reduce** Susitna drainage Unit 4 daily bag limit of coho salmon to 1 per day 2 in possession. Several members of the committee with long experience in salmon fishing and guiding have noted a downward trend in coho salmon and increasing pressure as King salmon opportunities remain restricted. After last years late response by ADF&G to the record low return of coho's to the Susitna Drainage the committee would like to start off conservative and open by EO if data supports and ADFG can find some reliable sources about run strength other than fishing lodge owners that indicate a normal run is occuring.

Proposal 221 Amended to read “ **The daily bag limit for Coho salmon for Unit 4 of the Susitna drainage is 1 coho per day 2 in possession.**” was supported 6-0

Proposal 222 : Increase the Susitna river drainage sport fish limit for pink salmon

The committee didn't feel it wise to kill extra pinks just because they are more abundant. Under current regulation, if somebody keeps 3 pinks, he will not keep 3 cohos. If somebody keeps 6 pinks under this proposal he will still be allowed to keep 3 less than abundant cohos too.

Failed 0-6

Proposal 225 : Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna drainage year round with a bag of 5 fish, 10 in possession.

The committee amended the proposal to make the limit of rainbow trout 5 per day 10 in possession with” **no retention of trout 18 inches or greater.**” The committee also amended the proposal to “**allow use of bait in Unit 4 from July 14 to May 15th**” in order that anglers can fish for trout throughout the winter months under the ice The committee thinks it is ludicrous to continue to protect over abundant rainbow trout populations from harvest when they probably have a negative effect on coho and King salmon freshwater survival. By allowing the removal of many smaller trout, it may even help achieve the departments goal of a trophy rainbow trout fishery, even though we are not sure the Unit 4 rainbow trout population will ever meet the criteria of a trophy rainbow trout fishery.

The proposal as amended passed 6-0

Proposal 228: Close dipnetting in vicinity of Anderson creek to protect coho salmon.

The committee amended this proposal to “ **Retention of coho salmon in this personal use fishery is prohibited**” That solves the Andersen Creek problem and the harvest of a salmon species that according to recent Deshka weir counts has no harvestable surplus. When the committee was pitched the proposal for a personal use dip net fishery it was supposed to be targeting the abundant chum salmon populations of the Susitna river drainage. Many supported the fishery on the premise the target species was, as in most personal use fisheries, sockeye salmon. Some members were concerned that this fishery may target the not so abundant coho salmon populations. This seems to be the case.

The proposal as amended passed 6-0

Minutes Approved by David McHoes
Date: 12/22/2023

PWS/Valdez Advisory Committee
11/09/23
Zoom

- I. Call to Order: 6:00 pm by Nicholas Crump
- II. Roll Call
 - Members Present: Nicholas Crump, Bruce Bowman, Dan Eames
 - Members Absent (Excused): Brett Wilbanks
 - Members Absent (Unexcused): Hope Roberts
 - Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3
 - List of User Groups Present: n/a
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Fari Fernandez, Glenn Hollowell
- IV. Guests Present: n/a
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report: no report
 - b. ADF&G: no report
 - c. Others: none
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. New Business: BOF Lower Cook Inlet Proposals
- X. Select representative(s) for board meeting: none
- XI. Set next meeting date: December 18, 2023
- XII. Other: none

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
2	Amend the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan</i> (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
4	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
5	Allow fishing from shore in the marine waters adjacent to Ninilchik River and Deep Creek year round		
No Action			
6	Create a management plan and establish a guideline harvest level for the lower Cook Inlet summer salt water king salmon sport fishery		
No Action			
7	Prohibit snagging and spear fishing for king salmon in Seldovia Harbor and Lagoon until June 24		
No Action			
8	Prohibit snagging in Seldovia Bay		
No Action			
9	Review management options in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan		
No Action			

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals November 28-December 1, 2023 Homer, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
10	Modify king salmon limits in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery		
No Action			
11	Allow Alaska resident anglers to use two rods for salmon		
No Action			
12	Modify the North Gulf Coast King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Pla		
No Action			
13	Create a management plan for the Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik River king salmon sport fisheries		
No Action			
14	Modify the Ninilchik River hatchery king salmon limits and season		
No Action			
15	Extend the area open to hatchery king salmon on the Ninilchik River		
No Action			
16	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
No Action			
17	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
No Action			
18	Modify rockfish bag and possession limits		
No Action			
19	Reduce rockfish limits in Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay		
No Action			
20	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No Action			
21	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No Action			
22	Establish a sport fishing closure for rockfish in Cook Inlet from June 1 - July 31		
No Action			
23	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet lingcod sport limits		
No Action			
24	Remove limits for spiny dogfish in Cook Inlet waters		
No Action			

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals November 28-December 1, 2023 Homer, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
25	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport rockfish harvest limits		
No Action			
26	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport lingcod harvest		
No Action			
27	Open the Cook Inlet commercial sablefish season earlier		
No Action			
28	Change gear group allocation in the <i>Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan</i>		
No Action			
29	Prohibit use of helicopters to transport anglers to select Cook Inlet waters		
No Action			
30	Add provisions to allow for subsistence harvest of herring spawn on kelp		
No Action			
31	Extend the China Poot personal use fishery season dates		
No Action			
32	Move the China Poot personal use dip net regulations under the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fishery Management Plan		
No Action			
33	Redefine the Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery area		
No Action			
34	Create a Kamishak Bay Purse Seine Fishery Management Plan		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion determined this proposal is redundant given that there are sufficient policies and management plan in place for ADFG to manage the Kamishak Bay Area.
35	Create a <i>Kachemak Bay Wild Fish Priority Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion determined this proposal is redundant given that there are sufficient policies in place for ADFG to manage the Kachemack Bay Area. The proposal lacks specific management measures and has the potential to create unnecessary complexity, as well as the potential to negatively affect LCI hatcheries.
36	Amend the Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion concluded unanimously that the potential to destabilize hatchery operations was concerning and that there are sufficient policies, regulations, and management plan in place for ADFG

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals November 28-December 1, 2023 Homer, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			to manage this fishery's distributed benefit to the hatchery and common property sector, specifically through the AMP process. The Committee felt that the AMP allows ADFG and hatchery managers to appropriately determine cost recovery goals preseason and remain interactive in-season to achieve those goals given the dynamic factors involved (fluctuating cost and values of the resources). It is noted that the common property fishermen have an opportunity to catch hatchery fish prior to entering the SHA and percentages of hatchery fish caught in the common property fishery historically have varied widely for the seine fleet (above and below 50%) and generally below 50% for the gillnet fleet. A mandated limit, dividing the resources 50/50 would be detrimental to hatchery operations and seems certain to invalidate the current management system and objectives.
37	Modify legal gear in the Trail Lakes salmon hatchery management plan		
No Action			
38	Modify legal gear in Lower Cook Inlet special harvest areas		
No Action			
39	Amend the list of waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet		
No Action			
40	Amend waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action			
41	Close a portion of Tutka Bay to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action			
42	Readopt the <i>Bear Lake Management Plan</i>		
No Action			
43	Amend Basic Management Plans (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Oppose	0	3	The committee discussion concluded that the current management of Hatcheries is extremely comprehensive and interactive to include the ADFG, stakeholders and hatchery PNP operators. This proposal seeks to compromise the current management approach without a basis in science or evidence that it would have any positive impact on wild stocks. Concern that a cap of 58.75 million eggs would destabilize and negatively affect hatchery operations and commercial fisheries was unanimously viewed as undesirable. Additional concerns were voiced regarding the

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			legality of this action lacking legitimacy, we aren't lawyers and further clarification would be helpful in this area.
256	Repeal the no bait regulation and allow the use of non-roe bait for salmon, other than king salmon (5 AAC 67.022). <i>Formerly ACR #9, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
257	Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with new methods to set catch limits adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission. <i>Formerly ACR #11, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
258	Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with changes adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission to maintain the troll and sport fishery allocations. <i>Formerly ACR 12, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
259	Manage the SEAK king salmon sport fishery to not exceed the annual sport fishery harvest allocation. <i>Formerly ACR #13, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Bruce Bowman

Minutes Approved By: Nick Crump

Date: 11/13/23

**Susitna Valley Advisory Committee
December 14, 2023
Talkeetna Library, Talkeetna, AK (5:00 pm)**

- I. Call to Order: 5:03
- II. Roll Call (Need 4 members for a quorum)
Members Present: Steve Harrison, Bryan Kirby, Mark Burcar, Robert Gerlach, Eli Hoffman
Members Absent (Excused): Todd Kingery, Tim Buechle
Members Absent (Unexcused): Dave Fish
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Via Zoom Sam Oslund, Oliver Quevin
- IV. Guests Present: Mike Wood
- V. Approval of Agenda Eli...Steve
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes Steve....Mark
- VII. Elections:
 - a. 3 Seats
 - i. Robert & Mark unanimously resealed. Mark Keeping his seat and Robert moving from advisory seat to Mike Woods vacant seat. Still have 1 Alternate seat open
- VIII. Appointment of officers:
 - a. Bryan Kirby Chair...Steve Harrison Vice Chair...Sec. Bryan Kirby
- IX. Reports
 - a. No reports
- X. Public Comment
None
- XI. Old Business
None
- XII. New Business
 - a. Current board of [Game Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposal 189 (Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemption.) Support 4-0
 - ii. Proposal 192 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13A) Support 4-0
 - iii. Proposal 193 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13C) Support 4-0
 - iv. Proposal 194 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13E) Support 4-0
 - v. Proposal 195 (Moose Antlerless Unit 14A & B) Support 4-0
 - vi. Proposal 196 (Moose Antlerless Unit 14C) Support 4-0

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- b. Current board of [Fish Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposal 131 Support 4-0
 - ii. Proposal 134 Unsupported 0-5
 - iii. Proposal 137 Unsupported 0-5
 - iv. Proposal 143 Unsupported 0-5
 - v. Proposals 204 Unsupported 0-4-1
 - vi. Proposals 205 Unsupported 0-4-1
 - vii. Proposals 206 Unsupported 0-5
 - viii. Proposals 207 Unsupported 0-5
 - ix. Proposals 208 Support 4-0-1
 - XIII. Select representative(s) for board meeting
 - Tabled till next meeting
 - XIV. Set next meeting date
 - Tuesday January 23rd with a back up day of Tuesday January 30
 - XV. Other
 - XVI. Adjourn at 7:00 pm

Draft minutes will be
approved 2/22/24

Susitna Valley Advisory Committee BOF UCI Votes and Comments

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
131	Modify Northern District weekly commercial fishing periods		
	4	0	Due to the actual small fishing window due to the strong tides fishing is not possible for 12 hours of time but more like 4-5 hours this would allow more fishing opportunities before the fishing restrictions happen on July 20th. (1 member shows up late so was not part of vote)
134	Modify weekly fishing periods		
	0	5	The inlet feeder waters are to varied to have a blanket management plan
137	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	5	There is also no science to support such a restriction. Moving from 1,500 feet to 1 mile is a drastic measure and would negatively impact fisherman who have had state leases for many years.
143	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year		
	0	5	This has the potential to create conflict between long time users and new fisherman who do not know where people have historically fished.
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
	0	4	The science is there that King Salmon numbers are low and as much as we would like to catch king salmon this is not in the best interest of the fishery (1 abstain due to not knowing if this person is native and has lived off the land)
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	4	Do not feel it is a clear proposal to understand what is being asked (1 abstone due to the amount of information to digest)
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	5	Do not support

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	5	Due to lack of actionable fish data we do not support
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	4	West side setnet is already closed to king fishing where Susitna Kings migrate. There is a plan in place for the east side commercial fishery when the sport fishery is under restrictions. (1 abstain because they didn't feel strongly one way or another.)

DRAFT Meeting Minutes Will be approved 2/22/23

**Susitna Valley Advisory Committee
January 23, 2024
Talkeetna Library, Talkeetna, AK (5:00 pm)**

- I. Call to Order: 5:05 pm
- II. Roll Call (Need 4 members for a quorum)
Members Present: Tim Buechle, Eli Hoffman, Robert Gerlach, Bryan Kirby, Zoom Steve Harrison, Todd Kingery, & Mark Burcar.
Members Absent (Excused):
Members Absent (Unexcused): Dave Fish
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present:
 - a. Sam Oslund
- IV. Guests Present:
 - a. Dan Page has a cabin in Kashwitna, and lives in Eagle River.
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Current board of [Fish Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposals 208-231
 - ii. Proposals 1-4 No action
 - iii. Proposals 232-249
- IX. Select representative(s) for board meeting
 - a. Tabled
- X. Set next meeting date:
 - a. January 30 5:00 pm Talkeetna Library
- XI. Adjourn meeting:
 - a. 7:21 pm

Draft Minutes will be approved Feb 22, 24

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	5	Due to lack of actionable fish data we do not support
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	4	West side setnet is already closed to king fishing where Susitna Kings migrate. There is a plan in place for the east side commercial fishery when the sport fishery is under restrictions. (1 abstain because they didn't feel strongly one way or another.)
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
		4	4 in vote not to support and 1 abstain voter due to conflict
210	Modify the Northern District Salmon Management Plan and Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
		5	This plan puts all of the changes on one user group and there is nothing noted for changes to guides who catch and release salmon causing mortality. It also does not address any concern about fishing on the salmon spawning beds.
211	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
	5		F&G can always do an EO if needed and so far it seems to be working that way
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
		5	Adding a percentage to the total harvest stock is unmanageable as there is no data out there showing how many salmon are actually caught in the sport fishery.
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
		5	Proposal is asking to allow more "Personal Use" (Dip Net) and when the fishery was introduced it was done so with the intent to target Sockeye not coho.
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i> .		
		5	
215	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>		
		4	1 abstain due to being a setnet.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet		
	5		The AC Feels that a reduction in harvest is a good idea when this is a major food source for king salmon as well as beluga whales
217	Repeal the Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan		
	2	2	2 people are in support due to providing more food for beluga whales and King salmon. 2 were opposed due to being a very drastic cut with no scientific data to back it. 1 abstain because they felt they didn't have enough information
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area		
		6	There is already a concern about king salmon showing back up and this would make it worse for future stock as you are taking more kings out of the system. Mark just showed up that is why there are now 6 votes.
219	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
	6		The AC feels that this will help with enforcement. As the salmon area will be closed to all types of fishing
221	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage		
		6	Over the last few years coho numbers have been down and even had EO restrictions. The AC feels that liberalizing the take will have a negative impact on the fishery.
222	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon		
	6		AC feels that Pink salmon are very plentiful and even to a point that they could be taking food from other salmon stocks.
223	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna River Drainage Area		
		6	The AC feels that this will restrict the ability to fish for other species during the winter months. (example would be burbot fishing)
224	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway.		
		6	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
225	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession		
		6	
226	Allow angler to use two artificial lures in tandem in Susitna River Drainage waters		
		6	
227	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4,		
		6	
228	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River		
	6		The AC supports this and would also like for the board to take into consideration changing the distance of the downstream marker to the point below the mouth of the stream. This landmark is very easy to see and fish start to pool up in that area and would provide a better sanctuary for the already small stock of coho.
229	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
		6	The rationale of accommodating people's personal schedules is not any reason at all to increase the number of days for fishing. By regulation there is a weekend and weekday fishery. No science behind this change.
230	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
		6	The dip net fishery was intended to be a sockeye fishery. Extending the days would allow for more coho fish to be harvested and against the plans intentions.
231	Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery		
		6	The dip net fishery was intended to be a sockeye fishery. Extending the days would allow for more coho fish to be harvested and against the plans intentions.
232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		
		6	When salmon are at the level of concern they are adding this could have a huge negative impact on the already lower salmon returns
233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process		
		6	

Tyonek Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

27 January 2024/ 12:00 PM / Tyonek Native Corp. Office and ZOOM

Attendees

AC Members - Chair - Donald Standifer Jr., Vice Chair - Alex Pfoff, Secretary - Ann Maire Standifer, John Standifer, Don Standifer Sr., Donald Standifer III, Terry Jorgensen

Guests - Nicole Schmidt - Alaska Wildlife Alliance, Fari Fernandez - ADF&G, Julie Bismark, Darleen Mishakoff, Lindsay Bismark.

Open floor to agenda additions. Nicole would like to speak on proposals 216 and 217. (Hooligan proposals)

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Discussion of Tyonek AC Proposals submitted. Proceed with current agenda items

New Business

2. Chairman's Report - Would like to focus on proposals related to our area and our fishery. Gives floor to Nicky Schmidt with AWA.
3. Nicky Schmidt, Alaska Wildlife Alliance - Goal for Beluga population is to return to stable/thriving. Submitted proposal 216 without knowledge of Tyonek AC submitting 217. Open to question - Donald Standifer Sr. asks if we can get support from AWA on Tyonek proposals 131 and 142. Donald gives a history of where Tyonek is coming from in motivation for these proposals. Nicky encouraged attendance to Anchorage AC meeting to any who would be available to speak on these matters. Nicky brings up recent study that indicates if Beluga have a clean environment with ample access to food the population could rebound. Don Sr. added that Tyonek is eligible to participate in the hooligan fishery but not one of the residents has. They do participate in personal/subsistence use. Followed by a discussion on history of the fishery, its participants and use of the resources. Discussion on comments of proposals 216 and 217, closure versus reduction. Discussion about wording of Proposal 217 to make it clear that it is to repeal commercial smelt fishery, but not affect personal/subsistence use.

4. Chair opens the floor to discussion on current proposals. Chair gives floor to Alex Pfoff, turns discussion to proposals in 206 - 218 range, and 121, 122 123 etc. Proposes starting with proposals starting at 204.
5. Proposal 204 discussion - Does hook and line imply attempting to snag fish with hook and line? Don Sr. brings up how historically Tyonek was pushed to use hook and line for subsistence, but Tyonek gets suspicious about referring to hook and line fishing as 'subsistence' use. Tends to be abused by non-residents and sport users looking to increase bag limits. Terry Jorgensen - discussion how power of the Tyonek AC is all about having a say in committee during board meeting, focus on your main proposals. Discussion on what AC member can represent the AC during the BOF meeting. Called proposal 204 to a vote. Motion by Don Sr. to oppose 204, second by Alex. Called to vote: Unanimous opposition.
6. Proposal 205 discussion - Motion to oppose 205 by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., Unanimous opposition.
7. Proposal 206 discussion - Cap on king salmon harvest reduction from 12500 to 2000. Alex - harvest cap is contradictory to current management status, Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don. Unanimous opposition.
8. Proposal 193 discussion - Doesn't allow for removal of catch and release king salmon to be removed from the water. Alex made motion to support proposal 193, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous support.
9. Proposal 207 discussion - Limit commercial harvest of kings to 15% of all user groups. Gives unnecessary dominance to sport users. Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous opposition.
10. Proposal 208 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John Standifer, Unanimous opposition.
11. Proposal 209 called directly to a vote by Alex, read by Don Jr., (Close the commercial king salmon fishery) Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie. Unanimous opposition.
12. Proposal 210 discussion - Weirs are located upstream of us and are not good management tools because counts occur too late. Motion to oppose by John, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous opposition.
13. Ann made motion to break, unanimous consent (Break), Meeting called back to order at
14. Proposal 211 - started discussion, withheld action and further discussion until we hear from Northern District Set Netters Association. Alex makes recommendation to hold off on taking action on proposal 211 until further feedback. No action on 211 unanimous.
15. Proposal 212 discussion - Motion to oppose proposal 212 by Alex, 2nd by John, unanimous opposition.
16. Proposal 213 discussion - Harvest determined by dipnetters not a good management strategy. Motion to oppose proposal 213 by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie, unanimous opposition.

17. Proposal 214 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John. Unanimous opposition.
18. Proposal 215 discussion - related to the Tyonek AC proposal, but Terry (author) is no longer present to discuss and explain the proposal. Decided to hold off on action until feedback from Terry and/or Kevin (authors). Motion to move on to 216, unanimous. No action on 215 currently.
19. Proposal 216 discussion - We would like to see the fishery repealed, should 216 be supported if 217 doesn't pass. Discussion of supporting 'half measures.' Don Sr. - the will of the people, abundance will decrease and enough is enough, I side with the Beluga and the King Salmon. Don Jr. - we should stick the proposal that we put forward, 100 ton is a lot and we say too much. Repeal the fishery. 216 called to a vote by Ann Marie, 2nd by Don Sr. . Support - 1, Oppose - 5. AC stands in opposition to proposal 216.
20. Proposal 217 - Motion by Alex to amend to clarify that this related to commercial use only, not subsistence or personal use. 2nd by Ann, unanimous consent. Further discussion, removing 'Beluga' from nomenclature of the AC name. ("The Tyonek/Beluga Fish and Game Advisory Committee") Motion by Alex to remove 'Beluga' from the title, 2nd by Donald III, unanimous consent. (2 spots on proposal)
21. Proposal 218 discussion - No action.
22. Chair opens floor to other proposals, Alex recommends scheduling another meeting to discuss other proposals and reopen previously discussed proposals to allow for input from authors and others. Discussion on meeting one week from today, allow others to go over proposal book. Don and John attended town hall meeting and represented Tyonek AC and our current proposals, and all passed unanimously. Don to Fari - How can we document as public participation? Fari - the council can submit their own comments to the BOF on their own behalf. Don - they whole heartedly endorsed our proposals and had a lot of good comments.
23. Deadline for ontime comments Feb 8th, discussion on scheduling a follow-up meeting. Chair Donald Jr. proposes- Feb 3rd 1200hrs? Unanimous consent. On agenda for this meeting - 215, 211, 126, 132, 136, 137, 143 & 43.
24. Discussion on how many people we can send to board meeting, per diem etc. Fari - will get back to us. Don Jr. suggested getting president of council to go to meeting.
25. Motion to adjourn by Don Sr., 2nd by Alex, unanimous consent.

Action Items

1. See attached document 'Action Items January 27th'

Next Meeting Agenda

Discuss and take action on proposals 126, 127, 132, 136, 137, 139, 140, 143, 43, 211 and 215

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (JAN 27th)

Proposal #	Proposal Description		
Action	# Support	# Oppose	Notes, Comments, Ammendments
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
Oppose		7	
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
Oppose		7	
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet from 12500 to 2000		
Oppose		7	
193	Prohibit removal from the water of catch and release king salmon		
Support	7		
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan to only allow commercial harvest to reach 15% of combined sport and commercial harvest		
Oppose		7	
208	Further restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District to not exceed 2000 king salmon		
Oppose		7	
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
Oppose		7	
210	Restrict the Northern District Salmon fishery and Northern District King Salmon fishery		
Oppose		7	
211	Remove gear restriction from the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
Wait on Action			
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan, restricting coho harvest		
Oppose		7	
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
Oppose		7	
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
Oppose		7	
215	Open set gillnet areas 247-10 and 247-20 for one additional period between July 4th and July 14th		
Wait on Action			
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet from 200 tons to 100 tons		
Oppose	1	6	Seen as a 'half-measure' compared to our proposal 217
217	Repeal commercial smelt fishery		
Ammend	7		Amend to clarify that this would only affect the commercial fishery, not subsistence or personal use. Also amend to remove 'Beluga' from 'Tyonek/Beluga Advisory Committee'
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage		
No action			

Meeting minutes recoded by: Alex P.
 Minutes approved by: Donnie
 Standifer Jr.
 Date: 2/9/2024

Tyonek Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

03 February 2024 / 12:00 PM / Zoom

Meeting called to order at 12:33pm

Members in Attendance: Chair Donald Standifer Jr., Vice Chair Alex Pfoff, John Standifer, Donald Standifer III, Don Standifer Sr., Terry Jorgensen

Members Absent: Ann Marie Standifer, Ernie Standifer

ADF&G Representatives: Fari Fernandez

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Minutes still need to be submitted and approved. Alex will come up with minutes this time, but proposes we need to fix the issue and have a secretary taking minutes in the future. Discussion on how to approve minutes over email through submission to the chair. Chair brings to a vote about minutes approval - unanimous consent to have Alex draft minutes for this meeting and last and submit to Chair for approval.
2. Donald Standifer Sr. adds to notes that Native Village of Tyonek has approved all of the AC's proposals at their last meeting and we should follow up to get a letter of support.
3. Discussion on participation for upcoming Board of Fish meeting. Terry - we should speak after NDSNA during public testimony.
4. Deadline for proposals to the Board of Game is May 1st.

New Business

5. Discussion on Proposal 211 - with sockeye not being a stock of concern, return gear status to full complement of gear during sockeye directed fishing. Motion to support by Don Sr., 2nd by Terry. Unanimous support.
6. Discussion of Proposal 215 - Terry presents his logic behind this proposal, to target a discrete run of sockeye that are headed up the Beluga River. Discussion of supporting if amended to be different date range, settled on amending to allow 2 additional periods rather than one. Motion to support as amended to 2 periods in place of one made by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous support.

7. Chair gives floor to Alex to discuss drift proposals. Discussion on whether or not the AC wants to submit comments of drift fishery proposals. We feel like the board has done a good job of managing the drift fleet to allow escapement to terminal harvest areas, we would like to see this not change. We no longer catch as many fish that are caught previously by the drift fleet. It is working well, and now is not a good time to change it.
8. Discussion on proposal 126 - Area 2 may not be our area, but these are our fish. Recommended take action on proposals that affect susitna bound fish. Called to vote
9. Discussion on proposal 127 - Called to vote by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous opposition
10. Discussion on proposal 132 - No Action
11. Discussion on proposal 136 - No Action
12. Discussion on proposal 137 - This removes many of our fellow Northern District fisherman's fishing grounds. (Terry) Move to oppose 137, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous opposition.
13. Discussion on proposal 143 - Fear that this will encourage fishermen from other areas to come into our area. Especially with other fisheries closing down. Motion to oppose 143 by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous opposition.
14. Discussion on proposal 43 - Why are we producing so many hatchery pinks? Not productive for the fishery as a whole. Motion by Terry to support proposal 43, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous support.
15. End of proposal discussion/action. Moved conversation to strategy for who we are sending to the meeting. Donnie Jr. (chair) will represent us at the meeting
16. Move to adjourn meeting, unanimous approval.

Action Items

1. See attached document "Action Items February 3rd Meeting"

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (FEB 3rd)

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (FEB 3rd)			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Action	# Support	# Oppose	Notes, Comments, Ammendments
211	Repeal restrictive measures that restrict gear in Northern District during the sockeye run		
Support	6		
215	Give an additional fishing opportunity in the period of July 4th - 14th to target a discreet sockeye run for areas 247-20 and 247-10		
Support w/ ammendment	6		Ammend to provide 2 additional periods, in place of one additional period
126	Increase drift gillnet opportunity in area 2		
Oppose		6	
127	Increase drift openers Inlet wide in 6 mile corridor		
Oppose		6	
132	Open all gear types for fishing Monday Wednesday and Friday in all of Upper Cook Inlet		
No Action			
136	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing around silver salmon creek and shelter creek		
No Action			
137	Close waters one mile from Susitna River and Little Susitna River		
Oppose		6	
143	Allow permit holders to fish in more than one registration area		
Oppose		6	
43	Reduce hatchery pink salmon production		
Support	6		

Meeting minutes recoded by: Alex P.
 Minutes approved by: Donnie Standifer Jr.
 Date: 2/9/2024

PWS/Valdez Advisory Committee
11/09/23
Zoom

- I. Call to Order: 6:00 pm by Nicholas Crump
- II. Roll Call
 - Members Present: Nicholas Crump, Bruce Bowman, Dan Eames
 - Members Absent (Excused): Brett Wilbanks
 - Members Absent (Unexcused): Hope Roberts
 - Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3
 - List of User Groups Present: n/a
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Fari Fernandez, Glenn Hollowell
- IV. Guests Present: n/a
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Reports
 - a. Chair's report: no report
 - b. ADF&G: no report
 - c. Others: none
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. New Business: BOF Lower Cook Inlet Proposals
- X. Select representative(s) for board meeting: none
- XI. Set next meeting date: December 18, 2023
- XII. Other: none

Adjourn

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
1	Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
2	Amend the <i>Upper Cook Inlet Summer Salt Water King Salmon Management Plan</i> (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
3	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
4	Amend the management plans for the Upper Cook Inlet Summer and Kenai River late-run king salmon fisheries (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
No Action			
5	Allow fishing from shore in the marine waters adjacent to Ninilchik River and Deep Creek year round		
No Action			
6	Create a management plan and establish a guideline harvest level for the lower Cook Inlet summer salt water king salmon sport fishery		
No Action			
7	Prohibit snagging and spear fishing for king salmon in Seldovia Harbor and Lagoon until June 24		
No Action			
8	Prohibit snagging in Seldovia Bay		
No Action			
9	Review management options in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan		
No Action			

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
10	Modify king salmon limits in the Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery		
No Action			
11	Allow Alaska resident anglers to use two rods for salmon		
No Action			
12	Modify the North Gulf Coast King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Pla		
No Action			
13	Create a management plan for the Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik River king salmon sport fisheries		
No Action			
14	Modify the Ninilchik River hatchery king salmon limits and season		
No Action			
15	Extend the area open to hatchery king salmon on the Ninilchik River		
No Action			
16	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
No Action			
17	Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery		
No Action			
18	Modify rockfish bag and possession limits		
No Action			
19	Reduce rockfish limits in Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay		
No Action			
20	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No Action			
21	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet rockfish sport limits		
No Action			
22	Establish a sport fishing closure for rockfish in Cook Inlet from June 1 - July 31		
No Action			
23	Reduce Lower Cook Inlet lingcod sport limits		
No Action			
24	Remove limits for spiny dogfish in Cook Inlet waters		
No Action			

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
25	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport rockfish harvest limits		
No Action			
26	Reduce Cook Inlet commercial and sport lingcod harvest		
No Action			
27	Open the Cook Inlet commercial sablefish season earlier		
No Action			
28	Change gear group allocation in the <i>Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan</i>		
No Action			
29	Prohibit use of helicopters to transport anglers to select Cook Inlet waters		
No Action			
30	Add provisions to allow for subsistence harvest of herring spawn on kelp		
No Action			
31	Extend the China Poot personal use fishery season dates		
No Action			
32	Move the China Poot personal use dip net regulations under the Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Fishery Management Plan		
No Action			
33	Redefine the Kachemak Bay Personal Use Dip Net Fishery area		
No Action			
34	Create a Kamishak Bay Purse Seine Fishery Management Plan		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion determined this proposal is redundant given that there are sufficient policies and management plan in place for ADFG to manage the Kamishak Bay Area.
35	Create a <i>Kachemak Bay Wild Fish Priority Management Plan</i>		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion determined this proposal is redundant given that there are sufficient policies in place for ADFG to manage the Kachemack Bay Area. The proposal lacks specific management measures and has the potential to create unnecessary complexity, as well as the potential to negatively affect LCI hatcheries.
36	Amend the Tutka Bay Lagoon Salmon Hatchery Management Plan		
Oppose	0	3	Committee discussion concluded unanimously that the potential to destabilize hatchery operations was concerning and that there are sufficient policies, regulations, and management plan in place for ADFG

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			to manage this fishery's distributed benefit to the hatchery and common property sector, specifically through the AMP process. The Committee felt that the AMP allows ADFG and hatchery managers to appropriately determine cost recovery goals preseason and remain interactive in-season to achieve those goals given the dynamic factors involved (fluctuating cost and values of the resources). It is noted that the common property fishermen have an opportunity to catch hatchery fish prior to entering the SHA and percentages of hatchery fish caught in the common property fishery historically have varied widely for the seine fleet (above and below 50%) and generally below 50% for the gillnet fleet. A mandated limit, dividing the resources 50/50 would be detrimental to hatchery operations and seems certain to invalidate the current management system and objectives.
37	Modify legal gear in the Trail Lakes salmon hatchery management plan		
No Action			
38	Modify legal gear in Lower Cook Inlet special harvest areas		
No Action			
39	Amend the list of waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in Cook Inlet		
No Action			
40	Amend waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action			
41	Close a portion of Tutka Bay to commercial fishing for salmon		
No Action			
42	Readopt the <i>Bear Lake Management Plan</i>		
No Action			
43	Amend Basic Management Plans (This proposal will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting)		
Oppose	0	3	The committee discussion concluded that the current management of Hatcheries is extremely comprehensive and interactive to include the ADFG, stakeholders and hatchery PNP operators. This proposal seeks to compromise the current management approach without a basis in science or evidence that it would have any positive impact on wild stocks. Concern that a cap of 58.75 million eggs would destabilize and negatively affect hatchery operations and commercial fisheries was unanimously viewed as undesirable. Additional concerns were voiced regarding the

Alaska Board of Fisheries Lower Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals

November 28-December 1, 2023 | Homer, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
			legality of this action lacking legitimacy, we aren't lawyers and further clarification would be helpful in this area.
256	Repeal the no bait regulation and allow the use of non-roe bait for salmon, other than king salmon (5 AAC 67.022). <i>Formerly ACR #9, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
257	Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with new methods to set catch limits adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission. <i>Formerly ACR #11, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
258	Amend the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan to align with changes adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission to maintain the troll and sport fishery allocations. <i>Formerly ACR 12, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			
259	Manage the SEAK king salmon sport fishery to not exceed the annual sport fishery harvest allocation. <i>Formerly ACR #13, accepted at the 2023 work session.</i>		
No Action			

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Bruce Bowman

Minutes Approved By: Nick Crump

Date: 11/13/23

**Susitna Valley Advisory Committee
December 14, 2023
Talkeetna Library, Talkeetna, AK (5:00 pm)**

- I. Call to Order: 5:03
- II. Roll Call (Need 4 members for a quorum)
Members Present: Steve Harrison, Bryan Kirby, Mark Burcar, Robert Gerlach, Eli Hoffman
Members Absent (Excused): Todd Kingery, Tim Buechle
Members Absent (Unexcused): Dave Fish
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present: Via Zoom Sam Oslund, Oliver Quevin
- IV. Guests Present: Mike Wood
- V. Approval of Agenda Eli...Steve
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes Steve....Mark
- VII. Elections:
 - a. 3 Seats
 - i. Robert & Mark unanimously resealed. Mark Keeping his seat and Robert moving from advisory seat to Mike Woods vacant seat. Still have 1 Alternate seat open
- VIII. Appointment of officers:
 - a. Bryan Kirby Chair...Steve Harrison Vice Chair...Sec. Bryan Kirby
- IX. Reports
 - a. No reports
- X. Public Comment
None
- XI. Old Business
None
- XII. New Business
 - a. Current board of [Game Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposal 189 (Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemption.) Support 4-0
 - ii. Proposal 192 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13A) Support 4-0
 - iii. Proposal 193 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13C) Support 4-0
 - iv. Proposal 194 (Moose Antlerless Unit 13E) Support 4-0
 - v. Proposal 195 (Moose Antlerless Unit 14A & B) Support 4-0
 - vi. Proposal 196 (Moose Antlerless Unit 14C) Support 4-0

- b. Current board of [Fish Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposal 131 Support 4-0
 - ii. Proposal 134 Unsupported 0-5
 - iii. Proposal 137 Unsupported 0-5
 - iv. Proposal 143 Unsupported 0-5
 - v. Proposals 204 Unsupported 0-4-1
 - vi. Proposals 205 Unsupported 0-4-1
 - vii. Proposals 206 Unsupported 0-5
 - viii. Proposals 207 Unsupported 0-5
 - ix. Proposals 208 Support 4-0-1
- XIII. Select representative(s) for board meeting
Tabled till next meeting
- XIV. Set next meeting date
Tuesday January 23rd with a back up day of Tuesday January 30
- XV. Other
- XVI. Adjourn at 7:00 pm

Draft minutes will be
approved 2/22/24

Susitna Valley Advisory Committee BOF UCI Votes and Comments

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
131	Modify Northern District weekly commercial fishing periods		
	4	0	Due to the actual small fishing window due to the strong tides fishing is not possible for 12 hours of time but more like 4-5 hours this would allow more fishing opportunities before the fishing restrictions happen on July 20th. (1 member shows up late so was not part of vote)
134	Modify weekly fishing periods		
	0	5	The inlet feeder waters are to varied to have a blanket management plan
137	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing in Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	5	There is also no science to support such a restriction. Moving from 1,500 feet to 1 mile is a drastic measure and would negatively impact fisherman who have had state leases for many years.
143	Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders to fish in more than one registration area per year		
	0	5	This has the potential to create conflict between long time users and new fisherman who do not know where people have historically fished.
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
	0	4	The science is there that King Salmon numbers are low and as much as we would like to catch king salmon this is not in the best interest of the fishery (1 abstain due to not knowing if this person is native and has lived off the land)
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	4	Do not feel it is a clear proposal to understand what is being asked (1 abstone due to the amount of information to digest)
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet		
	0	5	Do not support

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	5	Due to lack of actionable fish data we do not support
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	4	West side setnet is already closed to king fishing where Susitna Kings migrate. There is a plan in place for the east side commercial fishery when the sport fishery is under restrictions. (1 abstain because they didn't feel strongly one way or another.)

**Susitna Valley Advisory Committee
January 23, 2024
Talkeetna Library, Talkeetna, AK (5:00 pm)**

- I. Call to Order: 5:05 pm
- II. Roll Call (Need 4 members for a quorum)
Members Present: Tim Buechle, Eli Hoffman, Robert Gerlach, Bryan Kirby, Zoom Steve Harrison, Todd Kingery, & Mark Burcar.
Members Absent (Excused):
Members Absent (Unexcused): Dave Fish
- III. Fish and Game Staff Present:
 - a. Sam Oslund
- IV. Guests Present:
 - a. Dan Page has a cabin in Kashwitna, and lives in Eagle River.
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
- VII. Public Comment
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Current board of [Fish Proposals](#)
 - i. Proposals 208-231
 - ii. Proposals 1-4 No action
 - iii. Proposals 232-249
- IX. Select representative(s) for board meeting
 - a. Tabled
- X. Set next meeting date:
 - a. January 30 5:00 pm Talkeetna Library
- XI. Adjourn meeting:
 - a. 7:21 pm

Draft Minutes will be approved Feb 22, 24

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
	0	5	Due to lack of actionable fish data we do not support
208	Restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
	0	4	West side setnet is already closed to king fishing where Susitna Kings migrate. There is a plan in place for the east side commercial fishery when the sport fishery is under restrictions. (1 abstain because they didn't feel strongly one way or another.)
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
		4	4 in vote not to support and 1 abstain voter due to conflict
210	Modify the Northern District Salmon Management Plan and Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
		5	This plan puts all of the changes on one user group and there is nothing noted for changes to guides who catch and release salmon causing mortality. It also does not address any concern about fishing on the salmon spawning beds.
211	Repeal certain restrictive provisions of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
	5		F&G can always do an EO if needed and so far it seems to be working that way
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
		5	Adding a percentage to the total harvest stock is unmanageable as there is no data out there showing how many salmon are actually caught in the sport fishery.
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
		5	Proposal is asking to allow more "Personal Use" (Dip Net) and when the fishery was introduced it was done so with the intent to target Sockeye not coho.
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the commercial salmon set gillnet fishery within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i> .		
		5	
215	Provide additional commercial fishing opportunity for salmon within the <i>Northern District Salmon Management Plan</i>		
		4	1 abstain due to being a setnet.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet		
	5		The AC Feels that a reduction in harvest is a good idea when this is a major food source for king salmon as well as beluga whales
217	Repeal the Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan		
	2	2	2 people are in support due to providing more food for beluga whales and King salmon. 2 were opposed due to being a very drastic cut with no scientific data to back it. 1 abstain because they felt they didn't have enough information
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area		
		6	There is already a concern about king salmon showing back up and this would make it worse for future stock as you are taking more kings out of the system. Mark just showed up that is why there are now 6 votes.
219	Close fishing for all species within the confluence of Unit 2 waters when sport fishing for king salmon is closed		
	6		The AC feels that this will help with enforcement. As the salmon area will be closed to all types of fishing
221	Create a bag and possession limit of 3 coho salmon in the Susitna River Drainage		
		6	Over the last few years coho numbers have been down and even had EO restrictions. The AC feels that liberalizing the take will have a negative impact on the fishery.
222	Increase the Susitna River drainage sport fish limits for pink salmon		
	6		AC feels that Pink salmon are very plentiful and even to a point that they could be taking food from other salmon stocks.
223	Redefine the special management areas for rainbow trout in the Susitna River Drainage Area		
		6	The AC feels that this will restrict the ability to fish for other species during the winter months. (example would be burbot fishing)
224	Extend the special management areas for rainbow trout to include the portion of Willow Creek upstream of the Parks Highway.		
		6	

Alaska Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet Meeting Proposals February 23-March 7, 2024 Anchorage, AK			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
225	Open rainbow trout fishing in Unit 4 of the Susitna River drainage year-round with a bag limit of 5 fish, 10 in possession		
		6	
226	Allow angler to use two artificial lures in tandem in Susitna River Drainage waters		
		6	
227	Remove the length restriction on Dolly Varden in Unit 4,		
		6	
228	Close dipnetting in the vicinity of Anderson Creek during the personal use fishery on the lower Susitna River		
	6		The AC supports this and would also like for the board to take into consideration changing the distance of the downstream marker to the point below the mouth of the stream. This landmark is very easy to see and fish start to pool up in that area and would provide a better sanctuary for the already small stock of coho.
229	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
		6	The rationale of accommodating people's personal schedules is not any reason at all to increase the number of days for fishing. By regulation there is a weekend and weekday fishery. No science behind this change.
230	Increase the number of days the Susitna River dip net fishery is open		
		6	The dip net fishery was intended to be a sockeye fishery. Extending the days would allow for more coho fish to be harvested and against the plans intentions.
231	Modify dates of the Susitna River dip net fishery		
		6	The dip net fishery was intended to be a sockeye fishery. Extending the days would allow for more coho fish to be harvested and against the plans intentions.
232	Allow Alaska residents to sport fish additional gear and take multiple limits in Upper Cook Inlet		
		6	When salmon are at the level of concern they are adding this could have a huge negative impact on the already lower salmon returns
233	Establish sport fishing derby approval process		
		6	

Tyonek Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

27 January 2024/ 12:00 PM / Tyonek Native Corp. Office and ZOOM

Attendees

AC Members - Chair - Donald Standifer Jr., Vice Chair - Alex Pfoff, Secretary - Ann Maire Standifer, John Standifer, Don Standifer Sr., Donald Standifer III, Terry Jorgensen

Guests - Nicole Schmidt - Alaska Wildlife Alliance, Fari Fernandez - ADF&G, Julie Bismark, Darleen Mishakoff, Lindsay Bismark.

Open floor to agenda additions. Nicole would like to speak on proposals 216 and 217. (Hooligan proposals)

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Discussion of Tyonek AC Proposals submitted. Proceed with current agenda items

New Business

2. Chairman's Report - Would like to focus on proposals related to our area and our fishery. Gives floor to Nicky Schmidt with AWA.
3. Nicky Schmidt, Alaska Wildlife Alliance - Goal for Beluga population is to return to stable/thriving. Submitted proposal 216 without knowledge of Tyonek AC submitting 217. Open to question - Donald Standifer Sr. asks if we can get support from AWA on Tyonek proposals 131 and 142. Donald gives a history of where Tyonek is coming from in motivation for these proposals. Nicky encouraged attendance to Anchorage AC meeting to any who would be available to speak on these matters. Nicky brings up recent study that indicates if Beluga have a clean environment with ample access to food the population could rebound. Don Sr. added that Tyonek is eligible to participate in the hooligan fishery but not one of the residents has. They do participate in personal/subsistence use. Followed by a discussion on history of the fishery, its participants and use of the resources. Discussion on comments of proposals 216 and 217, closure versus reduction. Discussion about wording of Proposal 217 to make it clear that it is to repeal commercial smelt fishery, but not affect personal/subsistence use.

4. Chair opens the floor to discussion on current proposals. Chair gives floor to Alex Pfoff, turns discussion to proposals in 206 - 218 range, and 121, 122 123 etc. Proposes starting with proposals starting at 204.
5. Proposal 204 discussion - Does hook and line imply attempting to snag fish with hook and line? Don Sr. brings up how historically Tyonek was pushed to use hook and line for subsistence, but Tyonek gets suspicious about referring to hook and line fishing as 'subsistence' use. Tends to be abused by non-residents and sport users looking to increase bag limits. Terry Jorgensen - discussion how power of the Tyonek AC is all about having a say in committee during board meeting, focus on your main proposals. Discussion on what AC member can represent the AC during the BOF meeting. Called proposal 204 to a vote. Motion by Don Sr. to oppose 204, second by Alex. Called to vote: Unanimous opposition.
6. Proposal 205 discussion - Motion to oppose 205 by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., Unanimous opposition.
7. Proposal 206 discussion - Cap on king salmon harvest reduction from 12500 to 2000. Alex - harvest cap is contradictory to current management status, Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don. Unanimous opposition.
8. Proposal 193 discussion - Doesn't allow for removal of catch and release king salmon to be removed from the water. Alex made motion to support proposal 193, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous support.
9. Proposal 207 discussion - Limit commercial harvest of kings to 15% of all user groups. Gives unnecessary dominance to sport users. Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr., unanimous opposition.
10. Proposal 208 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John Standifer, Unanimous opposition.
11. Proposal 209 called directly to a vote by Alex, read by Don Jr., (Close the commercial king salmon fishery) Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie. Unanimous opposition.
12. Proposal 210 discussion - Weirs are located upstream of us and are not good management tools because counts occur too late. Motion to oppose by John, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous opposition.
13. Ann made motion to break, unanimous consent (Break), Meeting called back to order at
14. Proposal 211 - started discussion, withheld action and further discussion until we hear from Northern District Set Netters Association. Alex makes recommendation to hold off on taking action on proposal 211 until further feedback. No action on 211 unanimous.
15. Proposal 212 discussion - Motion to oppose proposal 212 by Alex, 2nd by John, unanimous opposition.
16. Proposal 213 discussion - Harvest determined by dipnetters not a good management strategy. Motion to oppose proposal 213 by Alex, 2nd by Ann Marie, unanimous opposition.

17. Proposal 214 discussion - Motion to oppose by Alex, 2nd by John. Unanimous opposition.
18. Proposal 215 discussion - related to the Tyonek AC proposal, but Terry (author) is no longer present to discuss and explain the proposal. Decided to hold off on action until feedback from Terry and/or Kevin (authors). Motion to move on to 216, unanimous. No action on 215 currently.
19. Proposal 216 discussion - We would like to see the fishery repealed, should 216 be supported if 217 doesn't pass. Discussion of supporting 'half measures.' Don Sr. - the will of the people, abundance will decrease and enough is enough, I side with the Beluga and the King Salmon. Don Jr. - we should stick the proposal that we put forward, 100 ton is a lot and we say too much. Repeal the fishery. 216 called to a vote by Ann Marie, 2nd by Don Sr. . Support - 1, Oppose - 5. AC stands in opposition to proposal 216.
20. Proposal 217 - Motion by Alex to amend to clarify that this related to commercial use only, not subsistence or personal use. 2nd by Ann, unanimous consent. Further discussion, removing 'Beluga' from nomenclature of the AC name. ("The Tyonek/Beluga Fish and Game Advisory Committee") Motion by Alex to remove 'Beluga' from the title, 2nd by Donald III, unanimous consent. (2 spots on proposal)
21. Proposal 218 discussion - No action.
22. Chair opens floor to other proposals, Alex recommends scheduling another meeting to discuss other proposals and reopen previously discussed proposals to allow for input from authors and others. Discussion on meeting one week from today, allow others to go over proposal book. Don and John attended town hall meeting and represented Tyonek AC and our current proposals, and all passed unanimously. Don to Fari - How can we document as public participation? Fari - the council can submit their own comments to the BOF on their own behalf. Don - they whole heartedly endorsed our proposals and had a lot of good comments.
23. Deadline for ontime comments Feb 8th, discussion on scheduling a follow-up meeting. Chair Donald Jr. proposes- Feb 3rd 1200hrs? Unanimous consent. On agenda for this meeting - 215, 211, 126, 132, 136, 137, 143 & 43.
24. Discussion on how many people we can send to board meeting, per diem etc. Fari - will get back to us. Don Jr. suggested getting president of council to go to meeting.
25. Motion to adjourn by Don Sr., 2nd by Alex, unanimous consent.

Action Items

1. See attached document 'Action Items January 27th'

Next Meeting Agenda

Discuss and take action on proposals 126, 127, 132, 136, 137, 139, 140, 143, 43, 211 and 215

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (JAN 27th)

Proposal #	Proposal Description		
Action	# Support	# Oppose	Notes, Comments, Ammendments
204	Allow hook and line attached to a rod or pole as subsistence gear to take king salmon in the Yentna River drainage		
Oppose		7	
205	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing for salmon in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan		
Oppose		7	
206	Reduce the number of king salmon that may be commercially harvested in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet from 12500 to 2000		
Oppose		7	
193	Prohibit removal from the water of catch and release king salmon		
Support	7		
207	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan to only allow commercial harvest to reach 15% of combined sport and commercial harvest		
Oppose		7	
208	Further restrict the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District to not exceed 2000 king salmon		
Oppose		7	
209	Close the commercial king salmon fishery in the Northern District		
Oppose		7	
210	Restrict the Northern District Salmon fishery and Northern District King Salmon fishery		
Oppose		7	
211	Remove gear restriction from the Northern District Salmon Management Plan		
Wait on Action			
212	Adopt additional restrictions in the Northern District Salmon Management Plan, restricting coho harvest		
Oppose		7	
213	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
Oppose		7	
214	Adopt new 'paired restrictive' management measures for the Northern District commercial salmon set gillnet fishery		
Oppose		7	
215	Open set gillnet areas 247-10 and 247-20 for one additional period between July 4th and July 14th		
Wait on Action			
216	Reduce the commercial smelt guideline harvest level in Upper Cook Inlet from 200 tons to 100 tons		
Oppose	1	6	Seen as a 'half-measure' compared to our proposal 217
217	Repeal commercial smelt fishery		
Ammend	7		Amend to clarify that this would only affect the commercial fishery, not subsistence or personal use. Also amend to remove 'Beluga' from 'Tyonek/Beluga Advisory Committee'
218	Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage		
No action			

Meeting minutes recoded by: Alex P.
 Minutes approved by: Donnie
 Standifer Jr.
 Date: 2/9/2024

Tyonek Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting

03 February 2024 / 12:00 PM / Zoom

Meeting called to order at 12:33pm

Members in Attendance: Chair Donald Standifer Jr., Vice Chair Alex Pfoff, John Standifer, Donald Standifer III, Don Standifer Sr., Terry Jorgensen

Members Absent: Ann Marie Standifer, Ernie Standifer

ADF&G Representatives: Fari Fernandez

Agenda

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Minutes still need to be submitted and approved. Alex will come up with minutes this time, but proposes we need to fix the issue and have a secretary taking minutes in the future. Discussion on how to approve minutes over email through submission to the chair. Chair brings to a vote about minutes approval - unanimous consent to have Alex draft minutes for this meeting and last and submit to Chair for approval.
2. Donald Standifer Sr. adds to notes that Native Village of Tyonek has approved all of the AC's proposals at their last meeting and we should follow up to get a letter of support.
3. Discussion on participation for upcoming Board of Fish meeting. Terry - we should speak after NDSNA during public testimony.
4. Deadline for proposals to the Board of Game is May 1st.

New Business

5. Discussion on Proposal 211 - with sockeye not being a stock of concern, return gear status to full complement of gear during sockeye directed fishing. Motion to support by Don Sr., 2nd by Terry. Unanimous support.
6. Discussion of Proposal 215 - Terry presents his logic behind this proposal, to target a discrete run of sockeye that are headed up the Beluga River. Discussion of supporting if amended to be different date range, settled on amending to allow 2 additional periods rather than one. Motion to support as amended to 2 periods in place of one made by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous support.

7. Chair gives floor to Alex to discuss drift proposals. Discussion on whether or not the AC wants to submit comments of drift fishery proposals. We feel like the board has done a good job of managing the drift fleet to allow escapement to terminal harvest areas, we would like to see this not change. We no longer catch as many fish that are caught previously by the drift fleet. It is working well, and now is not a good time to change it.
8. Discussion on proposal 126 - Area 2 may not be our area, but these are our fish. Recommended take action on proposals that affect susitna bound fish. Called to vote
9. Discussion on proposal 127 - Called to vote by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous opposition
10. Discussion on proposal 132 - No Action
11. Discussion on proposal 136 - No Action
12. Discussion on proposal 137 - This removes many of our fellow Northern District fisherman's fishing grounds. (Terry) Move to oppose 137, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous opposition.
13. Discussion on proposal 143 - Fear that this will encourage fishermen from other areas to come into our area. Especially with other fisheries closing down. Motion to oppose 143 by Alex, 2nd by Don Sr. Unanimous opposition.
14. Discussion on proposal 43 - Why are we producing so many hatchery pinks? Not productive for the fishery as a whole. Motion by Terry to support proposal 43, 2nd by Alex. Unanimous support.
15. End of proposal discussion/action. Moved conversation to strategy for who we are sending to the meeting. Donnie Jr. (chair) will represent us at the meeting
16. Move to adjourn meeting, unanimous approval.

Action Items

1. See attached document "Action Items February 3rd Meeting"

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (FEB 3rd)

TYONEK FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS (FEB 3rd)			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Action	# Support	# Oppose	Notes, Comments, Ammendments
211	Repeal restrictive measures that restrict gear in Northern District during the sockeye run		
Support	6		
215	Give an additional fishing opportunity in the period of July 4th - 14th to target a discreet sockeye run for areas 247-20 and 247-10		
Support w/ ammendment	6		Ammend to provide 2 additional periods, in place of one additional period
126	Increase drift gillnet opportunity in area 2		
Oppose		6	
127	Increase drift openers Inlet wide in 6 mile corridor		
Oppose		6	
132	Open all gear types for fishing Monday Wednesday and Friday in all of Upper Cook Inlet		
No Action			
136	Increase waters closed to commercial fishing around silver salmon creek and shelter creek		
No Action			
137	Close waters one mile from Susitna River and Little Susitna River		
Oppose		6	
143	Allow permit holders to fish in more than one registration area		
Oppose		6	
43	Reduce hatchery pink salmon production		
Support	6		

Meeting minutes recoded by: Alex P.
 Minutes approved by: Donnie Standifer Jr.
 Date: 2/9/2024