

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
MARINE PROTECTED AREAS POLICY DEVELOPMENT
#2002-217-FB

The Board of Fisheries is developing a deliberative process for considering and evaluating marine protected areas (MPA). This process will ensure close coordination with other agencies, other organizations, and meaningful participation and input from stakeholders and the public. At the request of the board, the department submitted a report at the October 2002 work session that contained recommendations and options for a board process for considering development of MPAs in Alaska. In accordance with the schedule set out in board finding 2001-207-FB, the board reviewed the department's report and received recommendations from the board's MPA Committee.

What

The board decided to begin development of a draft policy for MPA's that includes principles, criteria, guidelines, and public process for establishing MPAs. The draft policy will include implementation steps for the board and public.

Who

The board will empanel an MPA Steering Committee to develop the draft policy for full public review. The Steering Committee will be composed of two Board members, ten stakeholders that represent the various regions and interest groups in Alaska, and department staff.

The deadline for nominations for the stakeholder members of the Steering Committee is 5:00 p.m., November 27, 2002. Nominations should be sent to the Juneau Office of the Boards Support Section, ADF&G. The board will select the stakeholder representatives at its December 5-6, 2002 meeting in Anchorage.

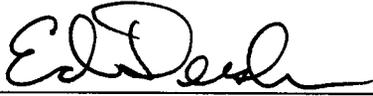
Methods

The department's MPA Technical Panel will provide to the MPA Steering Committee a revised version of the department's report to the board on public process as a starting point to begin drafting a policy.

When/Timelines

The Steering Committee will report back to the full board at its March 17-27, 2003 meeting in Anchorage.

ADOPTED: October 19, 2002
Anchorage, Alaska



Ed Dersham, Chair

VOTE: 7 - 0