

Alaska Department of Fish & Game Boards Support Newsletter

Summer 2022

Dear Advisory Committee Members,

What a relief board and AC meetings were able to resume this past cycle without COVID causing too much havoc, although there certainly were significant challenges to deal with. We are very proud of our Boards Support team members for the accomplishments of introducing new technology and capabilities to the meeting process, making them very accessible for all participants. Behind the scenes, Boards Support staff members spent countless hours making sure the hybrid-style meetings would occur without a hitch. As many of you may know, the team received the Commissioner's commendation for their hard work and innovation. We thank them for their dedication and many achievements for the successful meetings.

We also recognize our team leader, Glenn Haight, who navigated us through these challenges, and have to say farewell as he has taken a position with the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. He will be dearly missed and we wish him well in his new role. As of the writing of this newsletter, the recruitment is underway to hire a new Executive Director for the BOF and we hope to have a replacement by mid-summer.

We appreciate everyone's contribution in this very important process of managing Alaska's fish and game resources. Enjoy your summer and we look forward to doing it all again soon for the next meeting cycle.

Sincerely,

Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director



The Board Support team (both in-person and remotely) comes together for a photo during a party to celebrate Glenn Haight and wish him well on his next adventure.

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Outgoing BOF Director Glenn Haight

BOF Director Glenn Haight Bids Farewell After 9 years of Service

It is with heavy heart that the Board Support Section says bon voyage to one of its most capable helmsmen, Glenn Haight. The outgoing Board of Fisheries Executive Director deftly led board members and staff through many contentious meetings with grace and aplomb.

Before his time with the board, Haight worked in several economic

development positions with the State of Alaska, including positions in fisheries development and the Community Development Quota program.

In May, Haight was appointed by Governor Dunleavy to serve as commissioner of the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. No doubt his knowledge and leadership will be a huge asset to the commission.

Sheep Survey Update

At the March 2022 Board of Game meeting, concerns were raised about Dall sheep populations in Alaska. The board asked ADF&G to provide an assessment of sheep populations at a special work session following summer surveys. ADF&G is gearing up to conduct the surveys in July. Once they are complete and the information analyzed, a presentation to the board will be scheduled. Boards Support will notify the public when the presentation is expected to occur.



AC members were recognized for excellence in service at this year's Board of Game and Board of Fisheries meetings. Appearing from left to right: ADF&G Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang, Sitka AC Chair Heather Bauscher, Board of Fisheries Chair Märit Carlson-Van Dort, Board of Game Chair Jerry Burnett, Middle Nenana AC Chair Allan Mortenson, Board of Game Chair Jerry Burnett, Matanuska Valley AC Vice Chair Dan Montgomery.

Advisory Committee Year in Review

Advisory committees (ACs) hit the ground running this fall after a hiatus due to the pandemic. As comment deadlines for board meetings loomed, many ACs had to hold elections to make sure their terms and membership were up to date. With the risks posed by COVID-19, committees adapted past practices to conduct meetings and elections remotely via teleconference and Zoom.

Despite these difficulties, ACs across the state rose to the challenge, and that is reflected by the numbers. 46 ACs submitted comments to the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game during the 2021-2022 cycle. Representatives from 34 different ACs participated in board meetings this year. And finally, 14 ACs drafted and submitted their own proposals to the boards for the upcoming 2022-2023 meeting cycle.

This work did not go unnoticed. ADF&G Commissioner Doug Vincent Lang and the chairs of the Board of Game and Board of Fisheries presented Excellence in Service Awards to 7 AC members for their outstanding contributions to the regulatory process. Joe Chythlook, Dan Dunaway, Heather Bauscher, Leif Wilson, Allan Mortenson, Dan Montgomery, and Jack Reakoff were this year's award winners.



The Board of Fisheries met in scenic Cordova for its Prince William Sound meeting at the end of 2021.

Regional Coordinators Bring New Innovations

The Boards Support Section welcomed five new regional coordinators to its team this year: Farí Sylvester, Georgie Phillips, Henry Leasia, Kyle Campbell and Savannah Hollingworth. Each brought a unique set of skills to the team that proved useful during an unprecedented meeting cycle.

As advisory committee members got back into the swing of their meetings, the regional coordinators were on hand to help facilitate travel, run elections and set up options for conducting meetings remotely.

Regional coordinators adapted board meeting practices to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. They worked together to set up a registration system and devise a number of ways to participate in board meetings remotely. ADF&G staff were able to present to the board using Zoom and meetings were streamed live on YouTube so that the public could follow along from home. During some meetings, members of the public were able to testify by phone and could submit materials to the board via e-mail. These innovations allowed the boards to conduct business as usual while reducing the risk of an outbreak.



Board Support staff load up equipment for the December 2021 Board of Fisheries meeting in Cordova.



The Board of Game held its statewide meeting in March at the ornately decorated Pike's Waterfront Lodge in Fairbanks.

Board Meeting Results

Over the past meeting cycle, the Board of Game considered 237 proposals, adopting 88, including annual reauthorization proposals. The Board of Fisheries considered 283 proposals, adopting 95. Board actions on proposals are posted on each board meeting website as are the audio recordings of the deliberations. Please contact Boards Support staff for assistance accessing the information.

Joint Board Meeting

In March 2019, the Joint Board set a schedule for considering changes to AC regulations every five years, and changes to subsistence process-related regulations every 10 years. Both are expected to be considered during the 2023/2024 meeting cycle. Planning for the meeting dates, location, and the call for proposals will start this coming meeting cycle.

Boards Say Goodbye to Departing Members and Welcome New Appointees

Two members of the Board of Fisheries and one member of the Board of Game will leave their seats at the board table when their terms expire this summer.

Israel Payton and Gerad Godfrey wished their fellow board members well at their final Board of Fisheries meeting at the end of March. Payton served two terms starting in 2016 and Godfrey one term starting in 2019.

Orville Huntington participated in his final meeting with the Board of Game in March. He was appointed in 2019 and also served on the Board of Fisheries from 2012 to 2019.

Governor Dunleavy appointed three people to the Board of Fisheries to replace Godfrey and Payton, as well as former member Indy Walton, who resigned in December. The new appointees include Mike Heimbuch of Homer, David Weisz of Wasilla and Thomas Carpenter of Cordova, who served on the Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee for over 22 years. The governor also appointed Ruth Cusack of Chugiak and re-appointed member Al Barrette of Fairbanks to the Board of Game.

BOARD MEETINGS & DEADLINES

Real ID coming soon

Starting **May 3, 2023**, a REAL ID compliant license/ID card or another federally acceptable form of identification will be required to board commercial, domestic flights.

To acquire a REAL ID residents must provide the DMV with the following:

- Proof of Identity
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship, Permanent Residency, or other Lawful Status
- Proof of Name Change (if applicable)
- Two Documents Verifying Alaska Residency
- If you have no Social Security Number, proof from Social Security Administration

Visit doa.alaska.gov/dmv for more info.

Board of Fisheries Meetings

Work Session

October 25-26, 2022|Anchorage
Comment deadline: October 11, 2022

Pacific Cod

October 27-28, 2022|Anchorage
Comment deadline: October 11, 2022

Bristol Bay Finfish

Nov. 29-Dec. 3, 2022|Anchorage
Comment deadline: November 14, 2022

Arctic/Yukon/Kuskokwim Finfish

January 14-18, 2023|Anchorage
Comment deadline: December 30, 2022

Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian/Chignik Finfish

February 13-17, 2023|Anchorage
Comment deadline: January 30, 2023

Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues

March 10-13, 2023|Anchorage
Comment deadline: February 23, 2023

For more information visit:

<http://www.boardoffisheries.adfg.alaska.gov/>

Board of Game Meetings

Work Session

January 19, 2023|Ketchikan
Comment deadline: January 13, 2023

Southeast Region

January 20-24, 2023|Ketchikan
Comment deadline: January 6, 2023

Southcentral Region

March 17-21, 2023|Soldotna
Comment deadline: March 3, 2023

For more information visit:

<http://www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov/>

Agenda Change Requests

Agenda Change Requests (ACRs) are requests to consider proposals that are not part of the current meeting cycles for the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game.

ACR Deadline for the Board of Fisheries:

Friday, August 26, 2022.

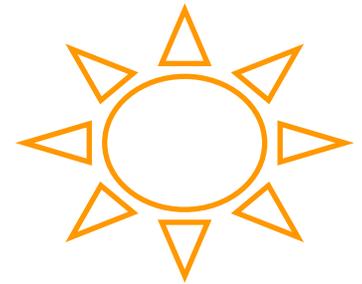
ACR Deadline for the Board of Game:

Monday, November 1, 2022

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Enjoy your summer!