Dear Advisory Committee Members

Welcome back to another year of Alaska’s fish and game regulatory process. Both boards are up and running with interesting topics ranging from emus to worms. Advisory committees around the state are also ramping up. As always we sincerely appreciate your service on your local advisory committee.

As you’ll read in this newsletter there are a few new things afoot. We have several new folks here at Boards Support including Janet Bavilla in the Western Region, Charity Lehman in the Southcentral Region, and Annie Bartholomew, the Board of Game publications specialist who also serves as the regional coordinator for our Northern Southeast region. We have another stellar suite of Excellence in Service award winners to announce.

Thank you again for your efforts and service to the fish and game resources in Alaska.

Glenn Haight, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Game

New Online Comments Submission Portal

Boards Support has developed a new online commenting system for Advisory Committees and members of the public to submit written comments. Created in partnership with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, this program provides an organized display for cross-referencing proposal comments and AC Minutes.

Feedback welcome, email: dfg.bds.webmaster@alaska.gov

Boards Support Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the New Regional Coordinators
AC Manual Update
Klawock Revitalized
Board of Fisheries News
Board of Game News
Excellence in Service Award Winners

Welcome back to another year of Alaska’s fish and game regulatory process. Both boards are up and running with interesting topics ranging from emus to worms. Advisory committees around the state are also ramping up. As always we sincerely appreciate your service on your local advisory committee.

As you’ll read in this newsletter there are a few new things afoot. We have several new folks here at Boards Support including Janet Bavilla in the Western Region, Charity Lehman in the Southcentral Region, and Annie Bartholomew, the Board of Game publications specialist who also serves as the regional coordinator for our Northern Southeast region. We have another stellar suite of Excellence in Service award winners to announce.

Thank you again for your efforts and service to the fish and game resources in Alaska.

Glenn Haight, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Game

Dear Advisory Committee Members

Welcome back to another year of Alaska’s fish and game regulatory process. Both boards are up and running with interesting topics ranging from emus to worms. Advisory committees around the state are also ramping up. As always we sincerely appreciate your service on your local advisory committee.

As you’ll read in this newsletter there are a few new things afoot. We have several new folks here at Boards Support including Janet Bavilla in the Western Region, Charity Lehman in the Southcentral Region, and Annie Bartholomew, the Board of Game publications specialist who also serves as the regional coordinator for our Northern Southeast region. We have another stellar suite of Excellence in Service award winners to announce.

Thank you again for your efforts and service to the fish and game resources in Alaska.

Glenn Haight, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Fisheries

Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Game

New Online Comments Submission Portal

Boards Support has developed a new online commenting system for Advisory Committees and members of the public to submit written comments. Created in partnership with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, this program provides an organized display for cross-referencing proposal comments and AC Minutes.

Feedback welcome, email: dfg.bds.webmaster@alaska.gov

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Boards Support
PO Box 115526
Juneau AK 99811-5526
boards.adfg.state.ak.us
Meet the New Regional Coordinators

**SOUTHCENTRAL REGION**
Charity Lehman moved to Alaska in 2012. Since then, she’s been employed by the Department of Fish and Game, where she owns and operates Shearwater Cove, a remote summertime fishing business, which she and her partner Jason built from the ground up.

**SOUTHEAST REGION** (North Frederick Sound)
Annie Bartholomew is from Juneau. She is the First Nations Community Water Support from the public radio world. She’s a graduate of the UAF Journalism Program and is a regular musical performer at the Alaska Folk Festival.

**WESTERN REGION**
Janet Bavilla is from the community of Platinum on Alaska’s western coast. She first began working at DFG when she was just 17 in a seasonal position. She has acquired years of experience in the divisions of Commercial Fisheries, Subsistence, Wildlife Conservation, and now joins the Boards Support section as a Regional Coordinator.

**Agenda Change Request Updates**

The BOF considered 12 Agenda Change Requests (ACRs) during the work session in Anchorage this October. Of the 12 ACRs, six were accepted. Four were scheduled for the Statewide King and Tanner Crab and Supplemental Issues Meeting in Anchorage this November. Two were scheduled for the Lower Cook Inlet Meeting which happened earlier this month in Seward.

At the Seward meeting, the BOF generated Proposal 283 regarding Aleutian Island Pacific cod season dates, which will be heard at the Kodiak Final Meeting.

**LOWER COOK INLET MEETING**
Proposal 278 (ACR 7) Designate the Aleutian Islands Subdistrict an exclusive registration area for Pacific cod. This passed 7-0.

Proposal 282 (ACR 12) – Extend emergency order authority to include restriction of stocked waters to no retention (catch-and-release) in times of low hatchery production or if stocked waters become contaminated. This passed 7-0.

**STATEWIDE KING AND TANNER CRAB & SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES MEETING**
Proposal 277 (ACR 1) – Add the Crawfish Inlet Terminal Harvest Area and West Crawfish Inlet to waters that may be opened to a halibut fishery.

Proposal 279 (ACR 8) – Allow two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish concurrently from the same vessel.

Proposal 280 (ACR 9) – Allow use of set gillnets with 6” mesh to harvest salmon other than king salmon and other non-salmon fish species on the Kuskokwim River for subsistence purposes during times of king salmon conservation.

Proposal 281 (ACR 11) – Prohibit fishing in fresh water with 2020 Excellence in Service Award Winners

**Mike Tinker, Fairbanks AC**
Mike Tinker has been working with the Fairbanks AC and Alaska Department of Fish & Game for over two decades, and has served as AC Chair. He has a strong reputation for being a skilled leader and a tireless advocate for the needs of Alaska’s communities. Mike is recognized for his dedication to the subsistence community and for his leadership in supporting the goals and priorities of the AC.

**Kevin Taylor, Anchorage AC**
Kevin Taylor has served on the Anchorage AC for over 20 years. He has held a variety of positions within the AC, including Chair, Vice-Chair, and sub-committee chair. Kevin is recognized for his leadership, knowledge, and commitment to the subsistence community.

**Legislative Audit on Board of Game Regulatory Process Released 12/18/2019**

The Legislative Budget and Audit Committee released the audit on the BOG regulatory process which provided two recommendations.

1. The Board of Game should adopt the “reasonable public notice” and provide training to AC members.
2. Two updates to department reports on the BOG website need to be clearly identified.

Recommendation #1 will be addressed in the revised AC manual to encourage 7 day public notice for meetings.

Many thanks to those of you who participated in the audit process. Survey responses can expect to receive a copy of the audit. Otherwise it is available online at: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/about/legaudit/docs/11-30085-19

**Updated AC Manual on the way**

Look out for new revisions to the AC Manual arriving early next year. The latest version reflects changes from the Joint Board at their March 2019 meeting including the revised regulations governing ACGs (5 AAC Chapter 96). The manual contains material on how to conduct meetings, including submission of comments and testifying at board meetings. It also provides helpful information for AC members, tips for using Roberts Rules of Order, relevant forms, and contact information.

**REAL ID Deadline: October 1, 2020**

Next year Alaska residents will need a REAL ID compliant license/ID or passport to board commercial aircrafts. More information: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/divs/hq/ids/REAL2020.htm

**Board of Game News**

The Board of Game (BOG) heads to Nome this January where they will hold a one-day work session followed by the Southeast Arctic/Prince William Sound meeting. During the meeting, the BOG will review over 40 proposals for Game Management Units (GMUs) 18, 22, 23, and 26A, plus one statewide proposal resulting in the following ACRs. During the BOG meeting the board will receive informational reports from ADFG and address administrative business including meeting dates and locations for the next meeting cycle. The last BOG meeting in Nome was in November 2009 and they look forward to returning.

In March, the Board of Game will meet in Fairbanks to address over 160 proposals for Interior and Eastern Arctic: GMUs 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C.

**Agenda Change Requests:** The BOG considered 7 ACRs during a teleconference in late November. Of the seven ACRs, one was accepted and scheduled for the January 2020 meeting in Nome. ACR 5 is now pending approval from the regulatory process clarification that big game tags must be paid for and issued prior to hunting. This clarification was requested in response to a recent court decision.

**Klawock AC Revitalized**

In December, the Southeast Alaska community of Klawock held its first AC meeting since 2008. Around 25 people came to Klawock ANB Hall where they elected officers and scheduled three winter meetings to tackle issues including enforcement, resident and non-resident uses, low sockeye returns, herring fishery, and documenting historic uses.