

## On-Time Comment Index

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PC1

Organization: Elfin Cove Fuel and Elfin Cove Utility Commission

**Name:** Tanner Bingham

**Community of Residence:** Elfin Cove

**Comment:**

March 11, 2024

Chairman of the Joint Board of Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game

1255 W. 8th Street

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: PROPOSAL 16: 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees, and 5 AAC 97.005. Areas of Jurisdiction for advisory committees.

Dear Chairman,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Proposal 16, which seeks to eliminate the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee.

My name is Tanner Bingham, and I am deeply intertwined with the community of Elfin Cove. I live out here year-round, taking care of the fuel dock and power plant that are vital lifelines for our town. My intimate connection with the wildlife and fishing community goes beyond mere occupation; it is a way of life. Living here, I have developed a profound love for the fish and wildlife that is unique to our small fishing town.

Elfin Cove thrives on its fishing industry, which forms the backbone of our economy, particularly during the bustling summer months. As someone who witnesses firsthand the ebb and flow of these resources, I understand the delicate balance that must be maintained to ensure sustainability for future generations.



While it may have been inactive in the past, there is a renewed interest among community members and user groups to actively participate in the board process. As one of the stakeholders deeply invested in the sustainable management of Elfin Cove's resources, I am willing to serve as one of the required participants on the Advisory Committee. Together, we can work towards reinvigorating community involvement and ensuring that the voices of those directly impacted by decisions are heard.

Please consider the importance of local representation and the valuable insights that the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee can provide. I implore the Board to preserve this vital mechanism for community engagement and resource management.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tanner Bingham

*Proposal 1: Support*  
*Proposal 2: Support*  
*Proposal 3: Support With*  
*Amendments*  
*Proposal 4: Support*  
*Proposal 5: Support*  
*Proposal 6: Support*

*Proposal 7: Support*  
*Proposal 8: Support*  
*Proposal 9: Oppose*  
*Proposal 10: Support*  
*Proposal 11: Support*  
*Proposal 12: Support*  
*Proposal 13: Support*

*Proposal 14: Support*  
*Proposal 15: Support*  
*Proposal 16: Oppose*  
*Proposal 17: Support*  
*Proposal 18: Support*  
*Proposal 19: Support*  
*Proposal 20: Support*

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PC2



March 11, 2024

Chairman of the Joint Board  
Chairman of the Joint Board of Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game  
1255 W. 8th Street  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: PROPOSAL 16: 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees, and 5 AAC 97.005. Areas of Jurisdiction for advisory committees.

I am writing to **oppose proposal 16** as it eliminates the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee

My Name is Kelly Crump. I am the owner/operator of Waters Edge Lodge which is Elfin Cove's exclusive self-guided fishing lodge. The Elfin Cove Advisory Committee's aim is to represent all the different models/groups in our area.

It has recently come to my attention that there is a proposal before the board that would eliminate the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee due to inactivity.

As a vested user of the resources in Elfin Cove, and one just recently made aware of the latent advisory committee that represents my area, I am asking the Joint Board to refrain from eliminating our Advisory Committee.

I am willing to be one of the five required participants that sit on the Advisory Committee as we work on reinvigorate the involvement of community members and user groups in the board process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kelly H Crump".

Kelly H Crump

[Redacted address information]



Organization: Trapline Supplies , member of local AC

**Name:** Robert Jahnke

**Community of Residence:** Ward Cove

**Comment:**

#3 no it's fine the way it is. #9 no we need experience in our AC's #10 no resident consumptive users should have priority, mainly to feed their families. #15 yes when the board rejects an AC vote allow the AC representative to come back before the board and explain. #16 only if they can be re-booted. #17 yes the resident public needs to be involved.

*Proposal 1: Support*

*Proposal 2: Support*

*Proposal 3: Oppose*

*Proposal 4: Support*

*Proposal 5: Support*

*Proposal 6: Support*

*Proposal 7: Support*

*Proposal 8: Support*

*Proposal 9: Oppose*

*Proposal 10: Oppose*

*Proposal 11: Oppose*

*Proposal 12: Support*

*Proposal 13: Support*

*Proposal 14: Support*

*Proposal 15: Support*

*Proposal 16: Support With  
Amendments*

*Proposal 17: Support*

*Proposal 18: Support*



PC4

March 10, 2024

Chairman of the Joint Board  
Chairman of the Joint Board of Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game  
1255 W. 8th Street  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: PROPOSAL 16: 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees, and 5 AAC 97.005.  
Areas of Jurisdiction for advisory committees.

I am writing to **oppose proposal 16** as it eliminates the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee.

My name is Haley Janttie, I am the general manager of a sport fishing lodge in Elfin Cove. I have lived in Elfin Cove for a portion of every year for the last 30 years. During this time I have accessed the natural resources in Elfin Cove in various ways. Historically, my family has been supported by both the sport and commercial fishing industries in and around Elfin Cove. Additionally, access to these resources for personal use, provides my family with enjoyment and helps sustain us through the winter.

It has recently come to my attention that there is a proposal before the board that would dissolve the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee due to inactivity.

As a vested user of the resources in Elfin Cove, and one just recently made aware of the latent and dormant status of the advisory committee that represents my area, I am asking the Joint Board to refrain from eliminating our Advisory Committee.

I am willing to be one of the five required participants that sit on the Advisory Committee as we work to revive the involvement of community members and user groups in the board process.

Sincerely,

Haley Janttie

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



March 11, 2024

Chairman of the Joint Board of Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game  
1255 W. 8th Street  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: PROPOSAL 16: 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees, and 5 AAC 97.005.  
Areas of Jurisdiction for advisory committees.

Chairman and members of the Board,

**I Support with Amendments proposal 16** by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, a proposal that seeks to eliminate SIX advisory committees in the Southeast Region due to inactive status.

#### Rationale

I am requesting that the Board except the amendment to Proposal 16 as included with this comment. This proposal was originally submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This amendment would remove the elimination of the Elfin Cove AC allowing for them to remain active.

#### **According to 5 AAC 96.040. Qualifications for members;**

*To qualify for membership on a committee, a candidate must have knowledge of and experience with the fish and wildlife resources and their uses in the area, and have a reputation within the community consistent with the responsibilities of committee membership.*

It was under this definition that qualified committee candidates were contacted and the commitment of the required five members obtained as stated in

#### **5 AAC 96.060. Uniform rules of operation. (e) Membership. (1)**

*Each committee must have at least five but not more than 15 members.*

The five users who have committed to sitting on the Elfin Cove AC represent the different user groups found in the port. They all have a rich history of participation as shown below.

Wayne Stauffer: Commercial fisherman and personal use fisherman/hunter living primarily in Elfin Cove, Alaska since 2000

Kelly Crump: Owner/Operator of Waters Edge Lodge. Elfin Coves exclusive self-guide fishing lodge.



Tanner Bingham: One of the Seven year-round residents spending the winter of 2023-2024 in Elfin Cove. He maintains and services the fuel dock and power plant. In his words “My intimate connection with the wildlife and fishing community goes beyond mere occupation; it is a way of life. Living here, I have developed a profound love for the fish and wildlife that is unique to our small fishing tow”.

Haley Janttie: She was raised on the docks of Elfin Cove and now is General manager of a Guided Sport Fishing Lodge. Her family has participated in both the sport and commercial fishing industries in and around Elfin Cove. Additionally, she states “...access to these resources for personal use, provides my family with enjoyment and helps sustain us through the winter”.

Hayden Meier: Current Chairman of Elfin Cove as well as Owner of Tanaku Lodge. He also commercially longlines for Halibut and Black cod and hand-troll for Chinook salmon and Coho salmon. He is a second-generation commercial fisherman and sport fishing guide. In his words “I can provide an unbiased opinion on the fishery from both sides to help conservation and management of natural resources”.

It was with great effort that contact with all user groups was made to build a well-balanced and sustainable Advisory Committee capable of providing educated and relevant information to the board process. I respectfully ask the Board to accept the proposed changes to Proposal 16 thus allowing the 5 committed members of Elfin Cove to participate in the board process as a functioning AC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Landeen".

Kim Landeen



Gustavus, Ak





**PROPOSAL 16**

**5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees.**

**5 AAC 97.005. Areas of jurisdiction for advisory committees**

Dissolve six advisory committees in the Southeast Region due to inactive status as follows:

**5 AAC 96.021(a) is amended to read:**

**Establishment of advisory committees.** (a) The following advisory committees are established:

(1) in the Southeast Alaska Region: Angoon, Craig, East Prince of Wales, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Juneau-Douglas, [HYDABURG, HYDER,] Icy Straits, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, [KLUKWAN,] Pelican, Petersburg, Port Alexander, [SAXMAN,] Sitka, [SUMNER STRAIT, TENAKEE,] Upper Lynn Canal, Wrangell, Yakutat;

**5 AAC 96.021(c)(1) is amended to read:**

...

(1) in the Southeast Alaska Region:

...

**[(D) SAXMAN (9) MEMBERS**

SAXMAN	2	REPRESENTATIVES
UNDESIGNATED	13	REPRESENTATIVES ]

...

**5 AAC 97.005. Areas of jurisdiction for advisory committees.**

**5 AAC 97.005(1)(A)(ii) is amended to read:**

(1) finfish

(A) Southeastern Alaska Area

...

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Angoon Advisory Committee, [TENAKEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HYDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SUMNER STRAIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau- Douglas Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, [KLUKWAN ] Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, [HYDABURG ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Icy Straits Advisory Committee, [SAXMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,]



Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, Port Alexander Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee;

**5 AAC 97.005(2)(A)(ii) is amended to read:**

(2) shellfish

(A) Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area

...

(ii) fish and game advisory committees with concurrent jurisdiction are Angoon Advisory Committee, Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, [TENAKEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HYDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, [KLUKWAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, [SUMNER STRAIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Yakutat Advisory Committee, [HYDABURG ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, [SAXMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Icy Straits Advisory Committee, Port Alexander Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee;

**5 AAC 97.005(3)(A)(i) - (v)(ii) is amended to read:**

(3) game

(A) Southeastern Alaska

(i) in Game Management Unit 1(A) described in 5 AAC 92.450(1)(A), the Ketchikan Advisory Committee, [HYDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, [SAXMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HYDABURG ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(ii) in Game Management Unit 1(B) described in 5 AAC 92.450(1)(B), the Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, [SUMNER STRAIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Kake Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iii) in Game Management Unit 1(C) described in 5 AAC 92.450(1)(C), the Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, [KLUKWAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Angoon Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, [TENAKEE



ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Kake Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(iv) in Game Management Unit 1(D) described in 5 AAC 92.450(1)(D), the Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, [KLUKWAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] and Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(v) in Game Management Unit 2 described in 5 AAC 92.450(2), the Craig Advisory Committee, Klawock Advisory Committee, Sumner Strait Advisory Committee, [HYDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Ketchikan Advisory Committee, Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, [SAXMAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HYDABURG ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vi) in Game Management Unit 3 described in 5 AAC 92.450(3), the Petersburg Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, [SUMNER STRAIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Edna Bay Advisory Committee, Sitka Advisory Committee, and East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;

(vii) in Game Management Unit 4 described in 5 AAC 92.450(4), the Sitka Advisory Committee, Juneau-Douglas Advisory Committee, Petersburg Advisory Committee, Pelican Advisory Committee, Wrangell Advisory Committee, Kake Advisory Committee, Angoon Advisory Committee, [TENAKEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Edna Bay Advisory Committee, [KLUKWAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE,] Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee, Icy Straits Advisory Committee, Elfin Cove Advisory Committee, East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee, and Port Alexander Advisory Committee have concurrent jurisdiction;



**Name:** David McHoes

**Community of Residence:** Skwentna

**Comment:**

Proposal 2. As chairman of the MT Yenlo AC ( not speaking for AC) this regulation change will not work for our meetings. Depending on meeting locations, phone and internet service is not reliable. I try to make phone or internet participation available when I can. The AC probably can't comply with a mandatory regulation. It is hard enough to get a meeting going with work schedules and weather related travel issues, now I have make sure the phones are working that day. It's not like job pays well.

Proposal 9. As chairman of the Mt Yenlo AC (not speaking for AC) I can't fill my committee right now and want me to throw a 3rd off every year? Real bad idea for my committee. Hat to tell you this, but new people don't know what is going on. You have explain the BOF and BOG process over and over to them. You have educate them on the history of the fish and wildlife resources and the all the action of the past AC that has failed over and over and the laws and regulations. There is something to be said people with institutional memory. When you are doing all educating again and again, you are not discussing fish and wildlife issues and proposals.

Proposal 17. What Mike is describing here ( nice to see Mike is still alive) is how the moose draw hunts in GMU16B came about in 2013. There were no proposals to create moose draws in GMU 16B in the proposal book. The public or AC's had no input prior to the BOG meeting. I guess the input from the public and the local AC's are not important when ADFG and the Boards don't want them. If I remember right the board, has lost lawsuits by not following the public process. There is a reason to follow the process.

*Proposal 2: Oppose*

*Proposal 9: Oppose*

*Proposal 17: Support*

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March 11, 2024



PC7

Chairman of the Joint Board  
Chairman of the Joint Board of Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of Game  
1255 W. 8th Street  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: PROPOSAL 16: 5 AAC 96.021. Establishment of advisory committees, and 5 AAC 97.005. Areas of Jurisdiction for advisory committees.

I am writing to **oppose proposal 16** as it eliminates the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee

My Name is Hayden Meier, I am Chairman of Elfin Cove as well as Owner of Tanaku Lodge. I am also a commercial fisherman as I longline for Halibut and Black cod and hand-troll for Chinook salmon and Coho salmon. I am a second generation commercial fisherman and sport fishing guide so I can provide an unbiased opinion on the fishery from both sides to help conservation and management of natural resources. I am dedicating my life to Southeast Alaska and plan to try and help in anyway I can.

It has recently come to my attention that there is a proposal before the board that would eliminate the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee due to inactivity.

As a vested user of the resources in Elfin Cove, and one just recently made aware of the latent advisory committee that represents my area, I am asking the Joint Board to reframe from eliminating our Advisory Committee.

I am willing to be one of the five required participants that sit on the Advisory Committee as we work on reinvigorate the involvement of community members and user groups in the board process.

Sincerely,

Hayden Meier





PC8

**Name:** Timothy O'Connor

**Community of Residence:** Craig

**Comment:**

Board members can serve only on 1 AC Board at a time, and not on other ac boards in the area.

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Joint Boards,



PC9

My name is Kurt Whitehead, I am a year round resident of Klawock, AK and the comments below are my personal comments for the Advisory Committee props. I currently serve as the Secretary for all three of the Prince of Wales AC's.

Prop 1: Oppose. There is nothing wrong with the current requirements and they work very well. If we had to give 14/30 day requirements it would make the job that much more burdensome.

Prop 2: Agree. Also think all AC's should be recorded/zoomed by ADFG so the meeting is accessible, accurate and easier for the Secretary to record.

Prop 3: Agree. That's the way the 3 PoW AC's have always done it and it works well.

Prop 4: Agree. It's often a team effort to get everything done and the Chair/Secretary are the two integral parts of the AC but the Chair needs to be the head coach that makes sure everything is accurate, timely, organized and completed.

Prop 5: Agree. The Secretary is the most burdensome position and the hardest to fill.

Prop 6: Neutral. I'm neutral only because I haven't studied this specific AC, however I am opposed to specific designated seats unless it is for a community. When there is more than one community on an AC, it is important to get folks from the those communities to participate at ALL the meetings and having an alternative makes sense.

The problem with designated seats is that the industry type can overpopulate the committee using the loophole of designated seats. For example, there are several AC's in SE AK that have nearly all seats as designated seats, but in reality most of them are all from the same industry, commercial fishing. Troll, seine, gillnet, dive/shellfish, set net, longline, processors are all commercial fisheries so on several of the AC's the commercial fisheries voices overrule everyone else and there is little room for other voices/concerns.

When a proponent of catch/release/fly fishing is in a room full of commercial fishers, I'm sure you know how that vote goes.

The best AC's are balanced and have representation from many diverse folks that are making decisions with the resource as their #1 goal, not the profit.

Many of these decisions are complex and difficult so when there are 7 comm. fishers, 2 sport fishers, 1 subsistence fisher, the vote usually goes the way of the AC's makeup.

Getting other community members involved is also difficult b/c the AC may not be open to that person's viewpoint so that person quits attending.

Personally, I wish the committee's did not have designated seats unless they are for the communities they represent and that members of the AC were voted on by the "best person for the job" guideline but that can also be difficult in larger communities.

Prop 7: Agree.



Prop 8: Neutral

Prop 9: Neutral. This could certainly work and help fix some of the problems with AC's that are dominated by a few voices but others would also need to step up and fill the void. The issue would be when the one or two folks that do most of the heavy lifting (Chair/Secretary) are not in attendance and no one else fills the void. Conversely, it could also work to refresh a stale AC.

Prop 10: Agree. I don't like designated seats but this prop can help fix some of the problems.

Prop 11: Neutral. I DO think the members of the AC need to have the resource as their #1 goal and it is hard to make good decisions about the resource if you don't know much about them.

For example, if a member of the AC doesn't have the background/experience to understand predator/prey dynamics of grizzlies/brown bear vs moose in NW AK and has recently just moved to AK, are they really qualified to be making those decisions?

Prop 12: Strongly agree. The best AC's have a varied, diverse, knowledgeable makeup and if a qualified person wants to be on an AC that is not full, there is no good reason to exclude them.

Prop 13: Agree.

Prop 14: Neutral. Participation in AC's will always be an issue but by requiring the meetings to be recorded, this makes participation easier and more accurate. If the meetings are recorded and can be attended electronically, this makes the absence even more glaring. There are members on AC's that only show up if there is an issue they feel is important to them and ghost the rest of the meetings. They also show up just enough to maintain their standing but they are also precluding others from being members.

I'm not sure this prop is the best way to address this issue but if meetings were all recorded and everyone had the ability to attend electronically, this would make it much easier to upgrade the participation rules and make room for folks who want to serve.