



Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) Science, Technology, and Innovation Committee July 7, 2022, 9:00 AM (AST) Meeting Minutes

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Committee members: Ragnar Alstrom, Linda Kozak, Stephanie Madsen, Peter Micciche, Tommy Sheridan

- 1) Call to order: Chair **Sheridan** called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM and reviewed Administrative Order No. 326.
- 2) Roll call of committee members: Chair Tommy Sheridan, Linda Kozak, Stephanie Madsen, Madison Govin on behalf of Senator Peter Micciche, all present. Ragnar Alstrom joined the meeting late.

ABRT members: Mike Flores, Karma Ulvi, and ABRT Chair John Jensen were also in attendance.

- 3) Approve agenda: motion to approved amended agenda by **Madsen**, seconded by **Kozak**.
- 4) Approve minutes: May 27, 2022 – failed to approve, revisions are needed.

Madsen and **Kozak** provided suggestions for revisions to minutes.

- 5) Old business:

- a) Updates/requests from ADF&G: discussed potential to add more resources via links and documents to website.
- b) Updates/requests from ABRT committees:

Sheridan provided review of purpose of this committee and objectives. The committee was formed to explore specific issues and serve needs of other committees and to compile relevant available information. **Madsen** announced WAK Salmon committee meeting and overview of the topics and gave suggestions

regarding posting documents and links for ease of finding these resources.

Kozak announced BSAI/GOA Crab meeting with overview of the topics. Will present to the Science, Technology, and Innovation Committee the research needs identified that should be forwarded to the main ABRT task force. Believes research needs should go through STI Committee to sort through and ensure that there are not any unnecessary duplications.

6) New business:

a) [BECI](#) presentation by [International Year of the Salmon's](#) Mark Saunders, and BECI's Robert Day

Mark Saunders presented Basin-Scale Events to Coastal Impacts: An Ocean Intelligence System for a Changing World. Provided results from the International Year of the Salmon research on the high seas. Research objectives were to close the gap of understanding regarding what happens to salmon in the open ocean, develop collaborations across agencies and nations, and create large scale models to understand the whole ecosystem and help get the information needed for management. Results are from a collaborative study among the members of North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, which includes representation by Canada, United States, Russia, Japan, and South Korea.

Chair Sheridan opened to questions. Answered by **Mark Saunders**.

Alstrom: had a question regarding nearshore juvenile salmon mortality. **Saunders:** cannot speak to local studies in Alaska but understands the need for full assessment to link shore to open ocean conditions.

Kozak: regarding developing a model—how many years of data are needed to develop models that could be predictive enough to make meaningful predictions? **Saunders:** uncertain. Need to better understand the mechanisms not just a correlative relationship between a few indices.

Kozak: lack of international collaboration is an impediment to developing large scale models with large data sets. Is there hope for future stronger collaborations? **Saunders:** regional fisheries have developed good collaborative relationships. Ocean sciences are just beginning to collaborate with fisheries research and there is much more potential for international cooperation.

Madsen: Define a basin. How can large basin-scale events be synthesized down to small regional impacts and implications for management? **Saunders:** N. Atlantic or N. Pacific are examples. Current scale for BECI is the N. Pacific through GOA and west into the high seas. Hopeful to expand and combine multiple basins for analysis and modeling, such as N. Pacific in addition to the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean.

Madsen: What avenues are there for funding? **Saunders:** potential funding from multiple sources, including Federal, State, NGOs, and International. It will require greater collaboration among key stakeholders across several international agencies who are concerned about changing ocean conditions and managing fisheries. Around \$500,000 is needed to get started.

No additional comments or questions.

7) Public comment: three-minute (3) limit to individual comments: none provided.

8) Agenda Amendment (1): Discussion regarding issues for this committee to address in the future.

Kozak: is interested in how this committee can help other committees coordinate their research requests.

Recommends other committees present to this committee research and management requests, then create a concise list with no overlap for presenting to agencies for research priorities consideration.

Madsen: does not want to create another level of decision making or filtering other committees' work. Should provide clarity regarding the specific research gaps. Not an overarching research goal.

Sheridan: This in line with goal of this committee. Is appropriate and agrees that this is a good use of this committee.

Kozak: if proceeding with this idea, best to get feedback from other committee chairs before further action. If task force concurs this would be beneficial, important to have communication with committee chairs to get understanding of when they could provide this information.

Ulvi: In support of having the Science, Technology, and Innovation Committee organize and bring to task force.

9) Next Meeting Date: 8 AM on July 28, 2022.

10) Adjournment motioned by **Linda Kozak**, seconded by **Stephanie Madsen**.