

Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force

Governor Dunleavy created the Alaska Bycatch Review Task Force (ABRT) to help better understand unintended bycatch of high-value fishery resources in state and federal waters

Bycatch is defined as:

Fish which are harvested in a fishery, but are not sold or kept

Administrative Order #326 was signed on November 18, 2021

The ABRT shall:

- *Study what impacts bycatch has on fisheries.*
- *Evaluate and recommend policies informed by a better understanding of the issue of bycatch of high-value Alaska fishery resources.*
- *Ensure state agencies are leveraging available resources to better understand the issue of bycatch.*
- *Utilize the best available science to inform policy makers and the public about these issues.*

ABRT Membership

John Jensen, Chair

Tommy Sheridan, Vice-chair

Ragnar Alstrom

Jim Anderson

Kevin Delaney

Duncan Fields

Mike Flores

Brian Gabriel

George Guy

Linda Kozak

Stephanie Madsen

Karma Ulvi

Erik Velsko

Douglas Vincent-Lang

Non-Voting Members

Representative Bryce Edgmon

Senator Peter Micciche

Science, Technology and Innovation Committee

Tommy Sheridan, Chair

Ragnar Alstrom

Linda Kozak

Stephanie Madsen

Peter Micciche

The committee met five times with attendance ranging from 20-40 individuals.

Presentations were given by:

Basin Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI) Program

Alaska Blue Economy Center

Alaska Ocean Cluster

Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center

Western Alaska Salmon Committee

George Guy, co-chair

Stephanie Madsen, co-chair

Ragnar Alstrom

Bryce Edgmon

Karma Ulvi

The committee met ten times with attendance ranging from 20-30 individuals

Presentations were given by:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game

National Marine Fisheries Service

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Alaska Fisheries Science Center

United Catcher Boats

At-Sea Processors Association

Gulf of Alaska Halibut and Salmon Committee

Brian Gabriel, chair

Kevin Delaney Duncan Fields Mike Flores

Linda Kozak Raymond May

The committee met eight times with attendance ranging from 15-25 individuals

Presentations were given by:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game

International Pacific Halibut Commission

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Alaska Seafood Cooperative

Alaska Fisheries Science Center

Alaska Groundfish Data Bank

Groundfish Forum • Alaska Whitefish Trawlers

Alaska Charter Association

Fishing Vessel Owners Association

Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska Crab Committee

Linda Kozak, chair

Kevin Delaney Stephanie Madsen Erik Velsko

The committee met eight times with attendance ranging from 20-30 individuals

Presentations were given by:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

FishNext Research – Dr. Craig Rose

Alaska Pacific University/NOAA Fisheries/Cornell University

Alaska Marine Conservation Council

Alaska Whitefish Trawlers

Groundfish Forum

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers

Bering Seas Pot Cod Cooperative

Task Force and Committee Meeting Information

Full Task Force Meetings

Nine meetings from January 28 – September 20

Attendance ranged from 30-55 individuals

Presentations were made by:

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Alaska Department of Fish & Game

NOAA Fisheries – Alaska Regional Office

Sea State Inc.

SeaShare

Total Task Force and Committee Meetings

40 meetings with 42 agency/organization and industry presentations

Future Meetings and Schedule

October 18, 2022

November 15, 2022

Final report to be completed by November 30, 2022